

### MUSICAL NOTES

*Morning Star* tells the Christmas story with dramatic music and evocative narration. There are familiar carols as well as newly composed music by Joseph M. Martin. In ancient cultures, the coming of winter meant darkness, hardship, even death. As knowledge of the seasons' cycles grew, people understood that light would return after the winter solstice. As Christianity spread, Advent became our period of waiting for the Light, and Christmas Eve became the turning point—the longest night—after which Christ would bring his Light into the world.

In astronomy, the morning star is the brightest star, seen in the eastern sky just before the break of dawn. At that moment, the surrounding night is darkest and the morning star appears brightest against its ebony sky. So it is with us—at the end of our long night, the Morning Star appears.

All the organ music today is based on music heard in the cantata.

### BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

**Sunday, December 18th:** Helen Burke, Carol Hersh, Nicole Makal, Kelsey Propst  
**Monday, December 19th:** Jan Risberg, Stephen Williams  
**Tuesday, December 20th:** Jacqueline Cole-Graziano, Sandy Seckel, Polly Brown, Jere Gunderman, Karen Gipson  
**Thursday, December 22nd:** Sharon O'Donnell, Steve Rickrode, Jonathan Luther  
**Friday, December 23rd:** Larry Grennan, Greg Brinkman  
**Saturday, December 24th:** Keith Kelly



If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen them in church recently, give them a call!

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by*



**Friends of Northwood**



Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2016/2017 Flower Reservation Chart" on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Thank you to those providing flowers each week in Honor/In Memory of someone or an anniversary/birthday!

### FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

#### ACOLYTE:

(11:00) Claire Cantin

#### GREETERS:

(8:15) Ellen Stoup, Don Morrison  
(11:00) Ed Puschnann, Polly Brown

#### USHERS:

(8:15) Dick & Connie Evans  
Patty Martin, Gene Baker  
(9:30) Kim & Lindsey Peterson  
(11:00) Elaine Cornillaud, Sue Miskiewicz  
Steve & Dawn Winder

**VAN DRIVER:** Cynthia Lawrence



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

### 8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**3 Yr. Olds-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** (16/17 School Year)

Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School worship following the anthem.

### 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**3 Yr. Olds- Kindergarten, Room 3**

Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Melissa Long & Joyce Curvin.

**1st-2nd Grade, Room 2**

Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Nancy Stevens & Amy Kemerer.

**3rd-5th Grades**

Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. They will remain in service today with Melissa Patel & Jean Swintek.

### 11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**3 Yr. Olds-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** (16/17 School Year)

Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School worship following the anthem.

*Parents, if you wish for your children to receive communion please have them remain with you in the worship service on Communion Sundays. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact Elder Dawn Winder, Chair of Worship Team.*

### 9:30 AM MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Middle & High School Sunday School during the 9:30am service will meet in the sanctuary to worship together for the first 30 minutes, then move to the youth room for the lesson with Youth Director, Jon Drawdy.

## ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### 9:30 A.M. TCI (Today's Christian Issues) Class & Serendipity Class

With Castro's death will there be changes? A discussion of the Cuban situation in the light of scripture will be led by Fred Heider. As always, coffee and cookies will be available. Please come and join us. **PLEASE NOTE:** TCI class will not meet December 25 or January 1. Lively discussions, fueled by coffee and cookies, will resume January 8, 2017.

### 11:00 A.M. Experiencing God Class

in room 15 led by Vicki Krueger.

### 6:30-7:30 P.M. Bible Study in rooms 12 & 14

Will resume on Sunday, January 15. Please contact Cindy at (727) 409-8727 if you have any questions.

# Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

*A Stephen Ministry Church*

## December 18, 2016



FOURTH SUNDAY OF  
**ADVENT**

**Ministers: All Members of the Church**

E. Chris Curvin, Pastor  
Paul Means, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission

**Northwood Presbyterian Church**  
2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761  
(727) 796-8090 Fax (727) 797-8276  
www.northwoodpc.org



Like us on Facebook!  
facebook.com/npc.clearwater

**Order for the Public Worship of God**  
**December 18, 2016**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**  
**8:15 & 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service**

**WE GATHER**

*(Let the congregation be silent, and in prayer as the music begins.  
Please silence electronic devices.)*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Jon Drawdy, Director of Youth and Family Ministry  
Leader: Welcome, saints of God, to this time of celebration;  
**People: We come to this holy place seeking a blessing.**  
Leader: Sing to God a new song; sing to God, all the earth.  
**People: We sing of light that reduces shadows,  
and a joy that comes with promises fulfilled.**

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” Max Drischner  
*(based on the title tune of today’s cantata)* (1891-1971)  
*(Acolytes symbolically bring in the light of Christ & then take it out into the world.)*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chris Curvin, Pastor

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and pass it toward the center aisle.)*

**\*HYMN #143 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”** REGENT SQUARE

**THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE**

Lighting the Candle  
(8:15) Nancy, Don & Carey Stevens  
(11:00) Barbara, Meagan & Kelly Jordan

**HYMN #654 “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”** Taize, 1986  
*(sing three times)*

**PRAYERS OF ADORATION, CONFESSION AND SUPPLICATION**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** *(unison)*

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**CALL TO OFFERING** Paul Means, Associate Pastor

**MUSICAL OFFERING** “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” arr. Dale Wood  
*(based on the Huron Indian Christmas carol, #142)*

**\*DOXOLOGY** GLORIA

Sing we to our God above, praise eternal as God’s love.  
Praise God, all ye heav’nly host, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**“Morning Star”**  
By Joseph M. Martin  
  
**Creation**  
*“Joy to the World”*

**Behold!**  
*“There Is A Star”*

**Waiting**  
*“O Loving Father of the Stars”*

**Praise**  
*“Rejoice, Rejoice, Ye People”*

**Mary**  
*“And the Stars Sang”*  
Michele White, Soprano

**Angel**  
*“Shepherd Carols”*

**Glory**  
*“Sing We Now of Christmas”*

**Wise Men**  
*“Follow the Star”*

**Ahead**  
*“Just Beyond the Manger”*

**Light**  
*“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

“Toccata on WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET” David Cherwien  
*(based on the chorale at #827)*  
*(You are invited to remain for the final act of worship, the closing voluntary. A closer look is welcomed if you wish to come stand next to the organ console.)*

Stephanie Carson, Music Director  
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

*\*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.*

**“Morning Star”**  
by Joseph M. Martin

Director: Stephanie Carson  
Organist: Tom Huffman  
Narrator: Georgia Rounding

Flute:	Adrienne Clover	<b>Alto</b>	<b>Tenor</b>
Flute II:	Ingrid Warren	Muriel Antonakes	Steve Lang
Oboe:	Darlene Davis	Tracey Birch	Bill Martin
Clarinet:	Theodore DeCorso	Emily Cantin	Dennis Rasmussen
Clarinet II:	Kay DeCorso	Janet Dudley	Roger Winder
Bassoon:	Robin Benoit	Susan Gajentan	Steve Winder
French Horn:	Kurt Klotz	Cindy Huffman	Robert Wood
Percussion:	Diane Suris	Barbara Jordan	

	<b>Soprano</b>		<b>Bass</b>
Pat Callan	Gail Rothrock	Marie Purcell	Russ Birch
Rachelle Cox	Mickey Stewart	Bailey Shields	Art Callan
Susan Curry	Barbara Washburn	Candy Spoenlein	Dick Casper
Gale Dufresne	Michele White	Gloria Whitfield	Peter Gajentan
Jill Friedman	Dawn Winder	Georgianna Winder	Art Holloway
Jessie Lusk	Heather Wood		John Schenk
Debby Lang	Carol Zaffiri		Joe Zeigler
Vickie Mills	Mary Ellen Zeigler		

# ignite

*ignite is a contemporary worship service at 9:30 that delivers the message of Jesus Christ through Powerful Music, Media & Scripture Based Sermons.*

**COUNTDOWN**

**WELCOME**

**PRAISE SONGS**

*“The First Noel”*

**MEET & GREET**

*“He Has Come for Us”  
“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE**

*Steve, Emily, Dylan, Claire & Ellis Cantin*

*“What Child Is This?”*

**SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER**

*For more information and classroom assignments for Children’s Sunday School, please see Children’s Ministry News on the back panel of this bulletin.*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*“A Strange Way to Save the World”  
Duet: Dan Jeffre, Will Parker*

**VIDEO**

*“Joseph’s Dream”*

**SCRIPTURE**

*Matthew 1:18-25*

**MESSAGE**

*“What are You GIVING for Christmas This Year?”  
Chris Curvin, Pastor*

**SONG OF DEDICATION**

*“It’s Christmas”*

**GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU**