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

John and Janet George
in honor of
our 42nd Wedding Anniversary

Friends of Northwood

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the “2014-15 Flower Reservation Chart” on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Thank you to those providing flowers each week.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

Sunday, December 7th:       David Hamilton, Jr., Holden Patel,
Monday, December 8th:       Dave Cody, Wanda Fanning, Sue Glauser,
                           Barbara Jordan, Roger Snay, Sr.,
Wednesday, December 10th:   Blake Estavil
Thursday, December 11th:    David O’Leary, Mark O’Leary,
                           Amy Saperstein, Marle Whitten

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

EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

8:15 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (2014/15 School Year), Room 3, join us in the multi-age Sunday School worship class after the Children’s Message.
Teacher: Jazmine Rausz

9:30 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds-Kindergarten (14/15 School Year)   Room 3
Teachers: Jana Davis & Diane Musto
1st & 2nd Grades Room 16
Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 16.
Teachers: Melissa Patel & Jean Swintek

3rd-5th Grades Room 8
Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 8.
Teachers: Andy & Stephanie Strelcheck

11:00 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds – 5th grade (2014/15 school year) join us as we bring the Bible to Action through games and activities in room 3 beginning at 11:00. Children will move to room 3 at 11:20 where they can be picked up after service. Should your child like to attend the service up until the Children’s message, they can join in on the fun in room 3 after the Children’s Message or remain in worship with their parents.
Teacher: Barbara Englehart

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Come join us for combined middle/high school Sunday school. We will be studying the “Elements” of our faith. Through new and exciting curriculum, we will learn how to grow in our walk with God.
9:30 AM Youth Room
11:00 AM Youth Room

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 Jackie Koski (jackieandjerry@verizon.net), Chair of Worship Team.

9:30 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY—Rooms 13 & 15
TODAY: Join us as we study different Biblical Figures each week! Coffee and cookies are provided!

TCI (Today’s Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11
TODAY: The TCI class is filled with great discussion based on current events. We invite you to join us each Sunday as we take on a new current issue. Coffee and cookies will enhance the conversation.

11:00 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
EXPERIENCING GOD – Rooms 13 &15
TODAY: Led by Vicki Krueger.

WORSHIP NOTES: The season of Advent abounds with symbolism of faith, hope and joy. Many of our Christian customs originated as pagan rites and customs. Our advent wreath probably came from the ancients lighting candles on a wheel in the hope that the one who controlled the sun would turn the wheel of the earth’s orbit to the sun once more. Used first in the Christian home, the circle of evergreens reminded everyone of the everlasting life found in Christ, the four candles lighted progressively each week represent “light out of darkness.” The candles are purple or deep blue—the color of the season of Advent. (Some wreaths have a rose colored candle for the third week for churches that celebrate Gaudete Sunday which means “rejoice”). A newer custom is to give attributes to each candle (hope, peace, joy, love). At Northwood the seasonal colors are highlighted in the pastors’ stoles, the paraments (cloths) on the communion table, and the new seasonal banners hanging at the right in the choir loft and in the narthex.

EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

Welcome to Northwood Presbyterian Church
A Stephen Ministry Church
December 7, 2014
Order for the Public Worship of God
2nd Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2014
8:15 & 11:00 AM

WE GATHER
(LET THE CONGREGATION BE SILENT, AND IN PRAYER AS THE MUSICbegins.
Please silence electronic devices.)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

OPENING VOLUNTARY
Timothy Albrecht
“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”
(CD Acclamation: “Comfort, Comfort Now My People”
(Based on the closing hymn #87)
(AColytes symbolically bring in the light of Christ & then take it out into the world.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*HYMN #88
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
Veni Emmanuel.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE
(Choir)
An empty stable was where they stayed
the night our Lord was born.
The lantern shone upon his face while Mary kept him warm.
Lighting the Candle and Prayer
(8:15) Pete and Minu Judd
(11:00) Doug and Georgiana Winder
All sing:

[Music]

WE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS
Isaiah 40:1-5 (NRSV)
Mark 1:1-8 (NRSV)

SERMON
Chris Curvin, Pastor

“Some Final Answers for This Christmas”

*HYMN #87
“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”
Genevan 42

WE UNITE IN PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER
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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP
(To symbolize our unity in Christ, we hold the bread until the Elders and Deacons are served and then all partake as one body. To symbolize our personal relationship with the Lord, we drink of the cup, as the Spirit leads.)

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” Flor Peeters
“Creator of the Stars of Night” Wilbur Held

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #88
“Some Final Answers for This Christmas”

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #88
(Stanza 7)

ANTHEM
“Pacem” arr. Patrick M. Liebergen

Joyful singing we are bringing to the child, Emmanuel!
See the holy infant lowly who came down on earth to dwell!
Dona nobis pacem.
Joyful singing we are bringing, now the star shines high above;
Born is the holy child, King of Peace and Love.

FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN
(Children age 3 (by 9/14) through first grade may go to Room 3 for Children’s Worship.)

WE SHARE

CALL TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING
*Savior, of the Nations Come”
Anton Knilller

*DOXOLOGY #606
OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*KINGDOM ANTHEM
*HYMN #347
“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”
Venetia

VENI EMMANUEL

*HYMN #87
“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”
Genevan 42

BENEDICTION

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

1st-5th Grade Children dismissed to Sunday School

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Offering (Christmas)”

MUSIC AT COMMUNION
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
arr. Joel Raney

SONG OF DEDICATION

“Our God (with ‘O Come, All Ye Faithful’)"