



Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580
Clearwater, FL 33761
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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Sent with Prayer to...

Ring, Sing & Mingle



Sunday, December 10, 2017
4:00 p.m.
**A free Handbell Concert
& Sing-a-long**

All five of our Handbell Choirs will be ringing. There will be tons of great music, carols, snacks, and more! There will be an opportunity for a freewill offering.



November 20,
2017
Volume 27, No. 9

2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761
727-796-8090 Main Office
727-723-7679 Preschool, Before & After Care
www.northwoodpc.org

How to get involved this Advent Season!



Beth-El Angel Tree

Northwood will be supporting the Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry in Hillsborough County again this year. The gift requests will be on multicolored angels on the Christmas tree starting November 26. Gifts range from \$1.00 up. Please bring unwrapped gifts and place under the tree by December 11th. For information contact Evelyn Towns (727) 785-3743.

Beth-El Adopted Families' Angel Tree

It's that time of year when we have the opportunity to help our adopted families with Christmas! On Sunday, November 19th, we will have "angels" on our Christmas tree in the narthex so that you can choose a gift to provide for a family in need. (Gifts should cost \$15-\$20) Please make sure you sign out the angel in the church library before taking it home. Gifts should not be wrapped and should be returned to the Christmas tree area by Sunday, December 3rd. For information contact Pam Means at (727) 386-0747 or Nancy Johnson at (727) 366-7705.



Poinsettia Orders

Do you have someone you'd like to honor or remember with a poinsettia in the sanctuary this Christmas? For just \$9, you can make that happen. Place your check designated "Poinsettia" and the completed sign-up form from Sunday's friendship sheet (through December 10) in the offering plate or drop off in the church office during regular office hours.



Hope you will join us and invite friends and family to all the special services we have planned!



Sunday, December 10

9:30 AM Ignite Contemporary Service
Special Christmas Program

8:15 & 11:00 AM Traditional Services

4:00 PM Ring, Sing & Mingle
Handbell Concert and Carol Sing

Sunday, December 17

8:15 & 11:00 AM Christmas Cantata:
"Carol Suites" by Mark Hayes
Choir and Instruments

9:30 AM Contemporary Worship

Sunday, December 24th

10:00 AM One Morning Worship Service
with Communion

4:30 PM Family Candlelight Service

7:30 PM Traditional Candlelight Service
with Choirs & Carols

Childcare available for all services.

At-A-Glance

November 20, 2017



This Month at Northwood

The church office will close at Noon on **Wednesday, November 22** and will reopen **Monday, November 27**.

Sunday, November 26:

8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, December 3:

Youth Pancake Breakfast
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, December 10:

8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service
4:00 P.M. Ring, Sing & Mingle

Sunday, December 17:

8:15 A.M. Traditional Service— Cantata
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service— Cantata

Sunday, December 24:

Christmas Eve Services
10:00 A.M. One Morning Service
4:30 P.M. Family Candlelight Service
7:30 P.M. Traditional Candlelight Service with Choirs & Carols

The church office will be closed **Monday, December 25th & Tuesday, December 26th**. The office will re-open Wednesday, December 27th.

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The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church
Edited by Tracy Donovan

Submissions:

If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, e-mail communications@northwoodpc.org, or place it in Tracy Donovan's box in the church office. The deadline is the 2nd Monday of the month.

E-News:

If you are interested in receiving emails with upcoming church events, please send an email with your name and request to communications@northwoodpc.org.

Drop N' Shop

Parents, save the date for Saturday, Dec 2nd for our annual Drop N' Shop! You are welcome to drop your children off 9:00 A.M.- 12:00 P.M. so you can get some time to yourself or get some Christmas shopping done if you want! While you are away, your children will be having a Christmas celebration with crafts, games and a lesson about Jesus. This event is \$10.00 per child with a max of \$30.00 per family, for ages birth – 5th grade. Sign up on the Children's Ministry bulletin board or contact Justine Ruisz for more information: childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.

Kids & Youth Wanted:

Do you play a Musical Instrument?

Kids and youth (ages 1st grade through 12th grade), come play your instrument on Christmas Eve...your gift to the Lord! If you have a sacred song to play during our pre-service concert at 4:00 P.M. please contact Justine Ruisz at (727) 796-8090 or childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.

Alternative Gifts for Christmas!

Are you challenged to find a perfect, affordable gift for someone who has everything? Do you want to show your children and grandchildren that you believe the greatest gift is helping others? Consider an Alternative Gift! For as little as \$5.00 you can honor a loved one with a donation to a local, national or international benevolence. The women of Lydia Circle will be in the Narthex during Advent (December 3, 10, 17 and 24) to help you select a PERFECT alternative gift. Questions? Contact Barbara Englehart (743-4886 or waspfifinella@yahoo.com) or Nancy Johnson (366-7705 or njohnso1472@gmail.com).

Pancake Breakfast

Mark your calendars! Sunday, December 3rd after all three services, our youth will be hosting a pancake breakfast in the Christian Education Building to help fund the youth summer trip. Come hungry to support our youth!

Per-Capita Apportionment

Every church shares in the administrative costs of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) through the annual per capita assessment. Northwood's per-capita assessment for 2017 is \$30.75 per every active member and confirmed youth (communicant member). Please consider paying this administrative cost above and beyond your annual pledge/offering. You can contribute to the per-capita apportionment at any time during the year. To do so just write "per-capita" on the memo line of your check or mark an envelope accordingly. Thank you for your gift.

Cedarkirk Women's Retreat

January 19-22

Join the women of Northwood for a spirit-filled weekend of fellowship, games, crafts, and canoeing. Enjoy the great outdoors while staying in air-conditioned lodges. You won't want to miss this amazing weekend! Info can be found on the bulletin board across from the water fountain. Mark your calendars and sign up TODAY!

Fun! Friends! Friday!

Ren Crew 2nd Friday Fellowship will meet on December 8 at 10:30 in rooms 9 & 11. We continue the popular theme "Windows to the World" with Associate Music Director and Organist, Tom Huffman providing a program of Christmas Carols from around the World. Following the program we will enjoy lunch at Olive Garden. Join us as we share fun with friends, old and new. Questions? Contact Pastor Paul at 796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Our 2018 Music Ministry Annual Garage Sale is approaching quickly. The sale is scheduled for January 12 and 13, 2018.

How can we top the record sales from 2017? With your help! We sell almost everything – furniture, jewelry, kitchen items, clothes, shoes, toys, holiday items, tools, collectibles, books, linens, outdoor items and decorations. Please no tvs or entertainment centers. We will have another plant area this year, too.

We have a source for plastic bags, so we will not need those this year. If you have already been collecting bags we would be glad to take them now. Hangers are always welcome.

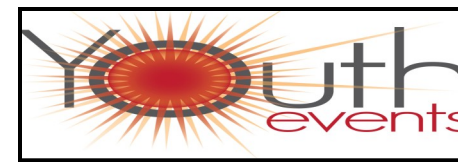
Please ask your family, neighbors and friends to donate items. We will have space at the church to start collecting after Christmas. Pick-up of furniture and other items you need help with will be available. More details about times will be available in the next Window.

If you have any questions, please call Susan Curry (727) 709-8237.

Thank you, Stephanie Carson (Director of Music Ministries), Susan Curry and Carol Rathmell (Co-Chairs).

Christian Education

Bob Meier, Christian Education Team Chair



- Fri, Dec 1:** Game Night 7:00-10:00 P.M.
- Sun, Dec 3:** Pancake Breakfast after all services
Youth Group 5:00-6:30 P.M.
- Wed, Dec 6:** Bible Study 6:30-7:30 P.M.
- Fri, Dec 8:** Game Night 7:00-10:00 P.M.
- Sun, Dec 10:** Sunday School 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Christmas Party after Ring, Sing & Mingle
- Wed, Dec 13:** Bible Study 6:30-7:30 P.M.
- Fri, Dec 15:** Game Night 7:00-10:00 P.M.
- Sun, Dec 17:** Sunday School 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Youth Group 5:00-6:30 P.M.

Upcoming Events:

- Pancake Breakfast on December 3rd after all 3 services. Donations are appreciated as this will help fund the faith building summer trip for the youth.
- Youth Holiday Party on December 10th after Ring, Sing & Mingle. We'll have food, cookie decorating, and a white elephant exchange.
- Outreach opportunity with Feeding Tampa Bay on December 27th from 1:00-4:00pm

Volunteers Needed:

- Drop and Shop on December 2nd from 9:00am-noon (we need 6 youth volunteers)
- Pancake Breakfast on December 3rd after all 3 services (we need youth and adult volunteers)
- Youth Holiday Party on December 10th after Ring, Sing & Mingle. (We need 3 adult volunteers)
- Feeding Tampa Bay on December 27th from 1:00-4:00pm (we need youth and adult volunteers)

(Please see the weekly Sunday bulletin for more updates.)

Vanessa Celotto, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
youthdirector@northwoodpc.org

Think on These Things An Intelligent, Imaginative, Hospitable Reading Group

This group, led by Pastor Paul, will meet on Monday, December 18 from noon to 1:15 in rooms 13 and 15. The theme for the group is "Engaging books a thoughtful Christian ought to read." This month we are reading and will discuss *Handel's Messiah: Comfort for God's People* by Calvin R. Stapert. People are welcome to bring a lunch or snacks. For more information, contact Pastor Paul Means at 727-796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org

Children's Ministry

Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry

King's Kids

Our last King's Kids for 2017 met on Wednesday, November 15th and will take a break for the holidays until Wednesday, January 17th and then run through Wednesday, April 4th. This is our Wednesday program for children ages 3 through 5th grade. It runs from 4:00 to 5:45 p.m. throughout the school year. This is a mid-week program to help build friendships in a Christian environment, and strengthen faith, bringing children closer to God.

Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry
Childrensministry@northwoodpc.org
(727)796-8090 Cell/text- (727)641-8140



Train children in
THE RIGHT WAY,
and when old, they
WILL NOT STRAY.

Proverbs 22:6, NRSV

Church Photo Directory

Space is filling up! Be sure to sign up soon.
Next sign-up date is Sunday, December 10!

Remaining photography dates are:

- *December 27 (12:00- 7:00 P.M.)*
- *Added to accommodate visiting students/relatives*
- January 24 (1:00- 8:00 P.M.)
- January 25 (10:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M.)
- January 26 (1:00- 8:00 P.M.)
- January 27 (10:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M.)
- February 6 (1:00- 8:00 P.M.)

Without you, our new church directory will not be complete!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

8:15 AM Children's Christian Education

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (17/18 School Year)
Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School 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.

1st-2nd Grade, Room 2

Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour.

3rd-5th Grades, Room 8

Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 4.

11:00 AM Children's Christian Education

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (17/18 School Year)
Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School 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 9:30 AM service will meet in the sanctuary to worship together for the first 30 minutes, then move to the youth room for their lesson.

Adult Ministry

TCI Class

(Today's Christian Issues)
Sundays at 9:30 AM, Rooms 9&11

Experiencing God Class

Sundays at 11:00 AM, Room 15



Women's Ministry

Event Schedule

A Woman of Wisdom, by Dee Brestin

- Fresh Brewed: Friday, December 1, 10:30am, rooms 4-6
- Christmas luncheon will follow, at a nearby restaurant

Cloud of Witnesses, by Melissa Bane Sevier, the Presbyterian Women's Bible study for 2017 - 2018.

- Tuesday, December 5, 9am, rooms 5-7
- Naomi Circle: Tuesday, December 12, 1pm, member home
- Esther-Elizabeth Circle: Tuesday, December 12, 9:30am, rooms 5-7
- Lydia Circle: Monday, December 18, 7pm, rooms 5-7

Questions?

Contact Patty Martin
(813) 855-0851 or
bill.martin2@verizon.net

Presbyterian Women Invitation

All women of Northwood Presbyterian Church are invited to come and see what Presbyterian Women Circles are all about.all women, all for Christ. Please join us on Tuesday, December 5, at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Chris will be teaching the Horizon Bible Study "Cloud of Witnesses," Lesson 4. Coffee and pastries will be served. Bring a friend! Contact Patty Martin (813-855-0851) or Sue Miskiewicz (727-799-6767) for additional information.



Kid's Corner Preschool & Northwood Child Care

The School Ministry at Kids' Corner and Northwood Child Care are thankful for the Blessings that God has given us. Our schools are growing thanks to the friends and families of this church community. We are bridging the community with our schools through various means. The students have taken on Community Service Projects each month that coincide with the theme they are learning. The children were introduced to proper care of pets and have collected items for the Humane Society of Pinellas County. Both schools demonstrated how to be kind to each other by providing basic items to C.A.S.A.. We participated in Blanket Sunday along with many of the members of the church. Our School Calendar and Newsletter is posted each month, so feel free to stop by the office and take a tour and see how God helps our children Come, Grow, and Go at Northwood Presbyterian Church through our Schools.

Kids' Corner has held events to include Donuts with Dads which was attended by many of our Dads and Granddads. The D.w.D. event was held on the playground where there were many new friends made. More recently, we had a "Trick or Treat" event during the school day. The children dressed in costume while friends and families participated by handing out treats and assisting with the cookie decorating afterwards. The week before Thanksgiving, the children presented their interpretation of The Thanksgiving Story followed by an Art Show and Feast! None of these events could occur without the assistance from staff and parent helpers and volunteers. Our next event will be Thursday, December 14 at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary, in which the children will present a Christmas Concert followed by a Cookie Party. Please feel free to attend our concert and fellowship with the families of our schools.

Angelina Miele Surowiec
Acting Director of Schools

Thank You!



Wow! Many thanks from Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry, the Presbyterian Women and NPC's Mission Team for your wonderful response to the mission outreach effort. Through your generous giving 227 blankets, 20 suitcases and totes, along with pillows, bath towels, other items and \$350.00 were collected. Thank you for sharing the love of Jesus in this

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and visits for Carmele Andrews these past 10 months. She loved her NPC family very much.

The Family of Carmele Andrews

Thank you for your generosity in giving \$1,240.00 to the Peacemaking Offering on World Communion Sunday. These gifts will make a difference in supporting the ministries of the Homeless Empowerment Project, Religious Community Service and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Mission Agency.



Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:
Doris Jean Adair
John George
Lois Marsh
Carmele Andrews

Julie Leduc
In Honor of:
Art & Jeanette
Holloway

Given by:
Anonymous
Esther-Elizabeth Circle
Esther-Elizabeth Circle
John & Elizabeth Witlow
Nancy Kennedy
Allen & Jill Holloway
Lydia Circle
Peggy Fagan
Jane Urban
Polly & Don Hamilton
Given by:
Bill & Patty Martin

Caring for Our Church Family

Congratulations!

- Jessica Robicheau, on the birth of Lorelei Edith Robicheau born on October 16 weighing 6 lbs, 11 oz. and 19 inches long.
- David and Tracy Donovan, on the birth of Quinn Emerson Donovan, born on November 1 weighing 6 lbs, 13 oz. and 20 inches long.

We extend our prayers and Christian sympathies to:

The family and friends of Ruth Greene who died on October 16, 2017.

Prayer Ministry

Ken Andreassen; Doris Croasmun; Shirley Gleason; Howard Green; Fred Inkles; Kelly Jordan; Jane Kaempfer; Mildred Martin; Robin MacLennan; Helen Meier; Norman Phillips; Marian Rather; David Smith; Gene Snyder; Al & Ethel Holden; Bill & Jane Sutton; Bonnie Beyer

On Sunday, November 6 we celebrated All Saints Sunday. We remembered all those who have lost loved ones and friends that we may, without fear, trust those who are dear to us to God's never-failing love.

The following names are from the membership roll of Northwood November 1, 2016—October 31, 2017

Rees Heycock	11/17/2016	Harriet Jackson	07/08/2017
Betty Biddlestone	11/19/2016	Bob Thygeron	07/11/2017
Barbara McCausland	12/14/2016	Gene Ecker	07/27/2017
Kay Flanary	01/05/2017	Margaret Mawhinney	08/05/2017
Jim Hunt	01/27/2017	*Tom Colclough	08/14/2017
Bob Swartz	02/24/2017	John George	08/29/2017
Burt Benziger	03/22/2017	Corinne Winder	08/29/2017
Nancy Holleman	03/31/2017	Carmele Andrews	09/20/2017
Steve Sturdevant	05/21/2017	Lois Marsh	09/21/2017
Larry Grennan	05/27/2017	Polly Jensen	10/09/2017
Peach Richardson	05/31/2017	Ruth Greene	10/16/2017
Lee Ecker	06/19/2017		
Elinore Geer	06/23/2017	*Former church staff	

NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Beth El

Thank you for your donation of \$1,000. We simply could not assist the local farmworker community without wonderful supporters like you!

The Outreach Foundation

I am writing to thank you for your recent gift of \$250 to The Outreach Foundation. We are most grateful for your generosity and heart for mission.

FFIM

Thank you for your generous donation of \$250 given in support of our mission at the New Hope Clinic in rural Honduras. We are grateful to share this mission with you in the name of Jesus Christ.

Habitat for Humanity

Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$640. Your investment helps families in our community achieve what they thought was just a dream.

RCS

Thank you for your generous gift of \$496 to The Haven of RCS. Your gift helps us to celebrate 50 years of service to Pinellas County.

Clearwater Free Clinic

On behalf of the Clearwater Free Clinic and it's patience, I want to thank you for your recent gift of \$250 supporting our mission. Your donation will make a positive impact on the lives of the low-income, uninsured families the Clinic is dedicated to serve.

HEP

On behalf of the HEP staff and Board of Directors, we gratefully acknowledge your generous gift of \$746. Your donation will help provide food, shelter, clothing and support services to homeless and very low-income individuals and families in 2017 and years to come.