

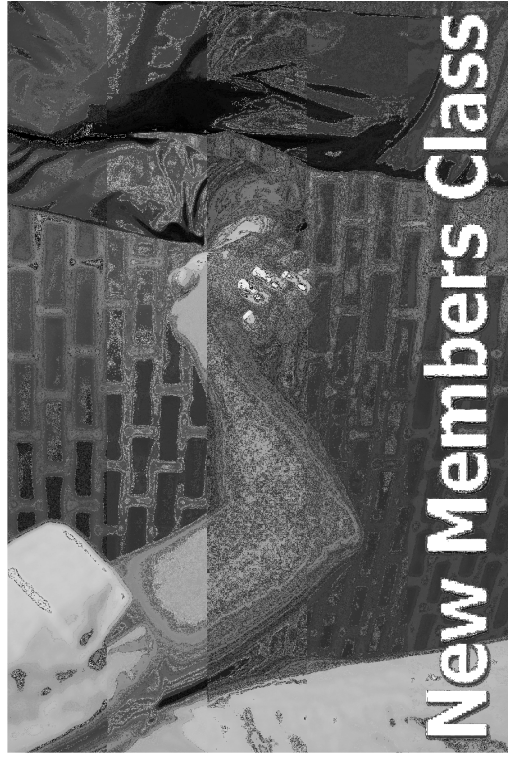


Northwood Presbyterian Church
 2875 State Road 580
 Clearwater, FL 33761
 A Stephen Ministry Congregation

**DO NOT DELAY
 TIME VALUE DATA
 EXPEDITE!!!**

NON-PROFIT
 ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT NO. 8088
 TAMPA FL

Sent with Prayer to...



New Members Class

Are You New to Northwood?

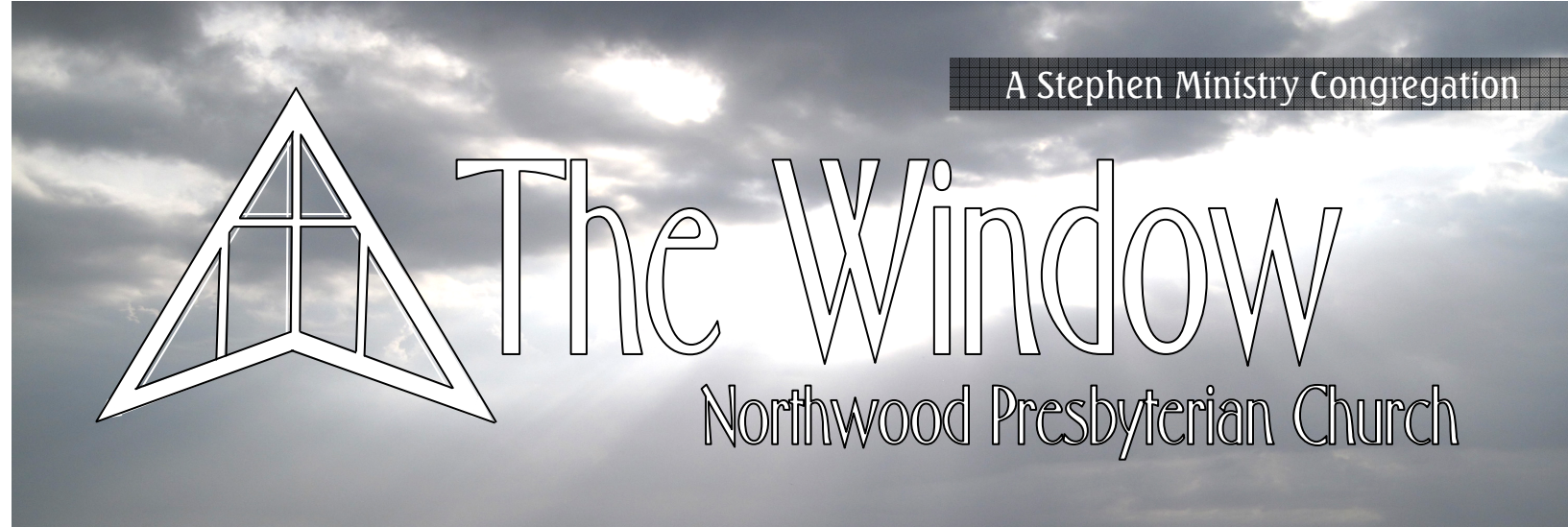
Join us for our Discovering Northwood Class on Sunday, January 20th at 11:00am in room 4. We meet one Sunday and discuss what it means to be a Presbyterian, the diversity of our Church, the role of membership, and more.

If you have any questions or would like to talk more about becoming a member of Northwood, please contact Pastor Chris Curvin at chriscurvin@northwoodpc.org or the Membership Coordinator, Katie Pacana at katie@northwoodpc.org. Both Pastor Chris and Katie can be reached at the church office, 796-8090.

We hope to see you there!

Discovering Northwood Class
Sunday, January 20th, 11:00 am in Rm. 4

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 E-mail: _____



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

January 18, 2013
 Volume 23, No. 1

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

An Angel Tree Letter

Angel Tree Volunteers,

You made it possible for my children to receive gifts with my name on them and for that I can never thank you enough! The other thing I wanted to thank you for is a gift you gave my children of the Word, a Bible! The best gift a person can ever receive! Thank you!

The volunteers also went out of their way and gave them groceries! These people who volunteer to help the children of inmates are truly angels!

I've been locked up going on three years and never knew the Lord until I went to jail! I am at a pre-work release center where I'm getting rehabilitated for drug use. I would like to start building a foundation in the church. I am hoping to get a job where I can prove myself and keep. I want to establish myself and get to visit with my kids more.

Again thank you to your church and all the volunteers who make it possible for all the prisoners children to receive gifts! You have big hearts! Thank you for your time and efforts I know my kids were excited! They play their games often! God bless you! I'm praying for you!

Your sister in Christ,
 Amanda

(See page 7 for more letters of thanks from the Mission field.)

Annual Congregational Meeting & Luncheon
Sunday, January 27th @ Noon
Celebrating 35 Years of Ministry

At the Annual Meeting we will hear reports from the Session, the Deacons and their Ministry Teams. We will also be electing new officers, as the Officer Nominating Committee brings its nominations.

We will seek to elect the following new Elders and Deacons:

ELDERS
(Class of 2015)
 Babs Bailey
 Louise Mylin
 Norm Roffey
 Jane Sumwalt
 Lou Weislogel

DEACONS
(Class of 2015)
 Carl Corrello
 Carol Justice
 Pamela Peters
 Vicki Phillips
 Ed Puschmann

We will also elect members to the Nominating Committee and the Memorial Garden Board.

A Covered Dish Luncheon follows: Please sign-up on the friendship sheet bulletin insert or the Covered Dish Luncheon sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the kitchen.

Bring the following:
A-F—Dessert; G-K—Salad; L-Q—Side Dish; R-Z—Entree

A Glance At The Window

January 18, 2013

This Month at Northwood

Sunday, January 20th:

8:15 Traditional Service
9:30 IGNITE Service
11:00 Traditional Service
11:00 Discovering Northwood Class

Sunday, January 27th:

8:15 Traditional Service
9:30 IGNITE Service
11:00 Traditional Service
12:00 Congregational Meeting & Lunch

Sunday, February 3rd:

8:15 Traditional Service
9:30 IGNITE Service
11:00 Traditional Service

Wednesday, February 6th: W.A.Y.

6:00 Mardi Gras Dinner
6:35 Program

Sunday, February 10th:

8:15 Traditional Service
9:30 IGNITE Service
11:00 Traditional Service

Wednesday, February 13th: W.A.Y.

6:00 Lenten Dinner
6:35 Program

Sunday, February 17th:

8:15 Traditional Service
9:30 IGNITE Service
11:00 Traditional Service

Wednesday, February 20th: W.A.Y.

6:00 Dinner
6:35 Program

Sunday, February 24th:

8:15 Traditional Service
9:30 IGNITE Service
11:00 Traditional Service

Annual Congregational Meeting	1
At A Glance	2
From the Pastor's Desk Effective Structures	3
Christian Education	4
Youth Ministry	5
Children's Ministry & King's Kids	5
Around Northwood	6
Vitals	7
New Member Class	8

The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church
Edited by Katie Pacana

Submissions:

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

E-News:

If you are interested in receiving the bi-weekly Monitor via our e-news system, please send an email with your name and request to katie@northwoodpc.org.

From the PASTOR'S DESK

Rev. E. Chris Curvin, Pastor

EFFECTIVE STRUCTURES

The 4th Key Characteristic

(A series of articles on the 8 Key Characteristics of the Natural Church Development or NCD)

Dear Church Family and Friends of Northwood,

The 2013 year is well begun as I write this letter to you. The first month of this year will offer plenty of opportunities for us to enjoy many activities as a church family. Just this past weekend we already enjoyed the annual miracle of the church-wide garage sale and heard news of it's success because of so many who gave things they no longer needed and so many volunteers who organized and worked hard for the big sale on Saturday. Thank you! Programs and education classes have also begun and we have enjoyed meaningful and effective worship together. We warmly welcome back all our annual "snowbirds!" We are off to a strong start in 2013!

For those who don't know us, we are a Presbyterian church of just over 1,000 members, democratically organized to embrace the faith that is common to most Christians. As such we are a diverse body of Christians who seek to invite others to come and join our fellowship and celebrate our oneness in Jesus Christ. We gather each Sunday as well as other times to grow and learn from God's Word. Then, we prepare to follow Jesus' instruction to go in mission and service in His name... "Come, Grow, Go!" These three words continue to remind us of what we are about at Northwood.

On January 27th we will gather at Noon in the Sanctuary for our Annual Meeting which will be followed by a celebratory covered dish luncheon in the education building. On the cover of this newsletter you will see the basic agenda for our meeting which will also include the distribution of the annual report for the past year.

I want to briefly mention here the fourth key characteristic of the Natural Church Development (NCD) Model that we have been studying as we seek to continue to be a healthy and vital congregation. Thus far we have reviewed the first three characteristics: (1) Empowering Leadership (2) Gift-Based Ministry and (3) Passionate Spirituality. The fourth characteristic essential to the growth and health of a Christian congregation is "Effective Structures."

The research of the NCD model indicated that while some Christians, they name "spiritualists," are skeptical of organization and structures, organization which is effective and promotes an ongoing multiplication of ministry is a key factor in growing churches. A good illustration of this can be seen in looking at God's act of creation. There is an intimate connection between structure and life which was expressed first at creation. The act of creation was an act of forming and shaping. Whenever God breathes the Holy Spirit into formless clay, both life and form spring forth. A comparative creative act occurs wherever God pours out his Spirit within the church today – and thus giving it life, structure and form.

May God continue to breathe the Holy Spirit into the way we are democratically organized and utilize elected leaders to oversee the life of our congregation.

Your Pastor and Friend,
Rev. E. Chris Curvin, Pastor

(Next month we will review quality characteristic #5 "Inspirational Worship")



Christian Education

Joan Baker, Christian Education Team Chair

Thursday Morning Prayer Group

Thursday morning prayer group begins at 10 a.m. in the church parlor. New participants are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanette Holloway at 937-3640.

Fresh Brewed Woman's Bible Study

We meet the first Friday of the month at 10:30am in Room 4. February 1, 2013 we'll be starting a new book: Dramatic Encounters with God: Seven Life-Changing Lessons of Love, by Nicole Johnson. Consider joining our study! You are in charge of getting your own book for this study. Contact: Sally Uhler, 796-7563, Barbara Englehart, 791-4648, or Sandy Seckel, 787-1667.

Marriage Alive February 2nd

Our Marriage Alive group will meet on Saturday, February 2nd from 6-8pm at Northwood. We will continue our DVD series with Drs. Les and Leslie Parrot called "The Secret to the Marriage You Want." All of our members agree that this series is extremely clever and insightful. This is a great time to strengthen your marriage for the new year....and all couples, regardless of whether they attend Northwood, are invited to attend. If you are a member and haven't been in a few months, this is a great time to come back! We also have childcare available for those who need it...just contact us in advance. For more information, call Spencer Briggs at 726-9111.

EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 yrs. old – 1st Grade Room 1

Teacher: Barbara Englehart

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3-5 Yr. Olds Room 3

1st & 2nd Grades Room 16

3rd – 5th Grades Room 8

11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children over three may go to the nursery for age appropriate activity or remain with their parents in worship.

Middle & High School Youth Christian Education

Teacher: Sarah Mattheus, Director of Youth & Young Adults

9:30 am Youth Room

11:00 am Youth Room

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

9:30 AM

SERENDIPITY– Rooms 13 & 15

Join us as we enter a new study-Peter from learner to Leader. We're studying clues from Matthews and Acts seeing that he often times seems far from leadership of the church. In our study, we might also see ourselves. Class starts at 9:45. Come a little early 10:30 for coffee and a time to chat.

TCI (Today's Christian Issues): Rooms 9 and 11

Join this class for weekly discussions on current events. The class is led by a group of teachers who rotate weekly. The class meets in rooms 9 & 11 with coffee and cookies.

ADULT EDUCATION

11:00 AM

EXPERIENCING GOD – Rooms 13 & 15

If you are interested in joining our class, stop by! We are studying "The Story" through DVD and group discussion. Please contact Vicki Krueger if you have any questions.



Youth & Young Adults

Ken Andreassen, Team Chair ~ Troy Harris, Elder ~ Gene Weitz, Elder
Sarah Mattheus, Director of Youth & Young Adults

The New Year in the Youth Department has started with a bang! We are once again in full swing with weekly activities and exciting events to take place now through the summer!

We started off with a Family Dinner on Sunday January 6th that included fellowship, a time to give out information about exciting things to look forward to this semester, and an opportunity for the students to show their parents and other adults how much they have been learning through a game of Bible Trivia, in which the students were the victors!

We also just received our brand new Sunday School Curriculum called Re:Form published by Augsburg Fortress. This is a fresh and innovative way to teach the Bible to students at all levels. The study includes engaging videos, activities that challenge the students' minds, as well as gets them up and moving. All of which is based on Biblical truths and answers foundational faith questions such as "Who wrote the Bible, God or

humans?" "How can God be "three-in-one?" and "If Jesus was God why did he have to die?"

These foundational faith questions then lead to a group of tougher questions that many of our students face today such as "Why does God let bad things happen?" "Is it okay to be angry with God" and "What if my friends aren't Christians?" The reviews from the students and parents are unanimous – everyone is glad that we are offering this to our students!

The Youth Team, the students and I are also looking forward to a fantastic spring schedule which includes Confirmation, the annual "All Youth Retreat," 30 Hour Famine, Acquire the Fire, Spring Break events and our big Mission Trip to Conyers, GA.

Thank you for continuing to be in prayer for our youth, volunteers, teachers, youth team and me as we work to impact the youth of our church in the ways that Jesus has called us to do.

Upcoming Events

- Youth Christian Education – Every Sunday 9:30am or 11:00am
- January 13th: Youth Group 5-7pm
- January 18th: Game Night 7-10pm
- January 20th: Youth Group 5-7pm
- All Youth Retreat – January 25th – 27th (No Game Night or Youth Group)
- February 1st: Game Night 7-10pm – Bowling
- February 3rd: Youth Group 5-7pm
- February 8th: Game Night 7-10pm – Outside Game Night
- February 10th: Youth Group 5-7pm
- February 15th: Game Night 7-10pm – Open Gym
- February 17th: Youth Group 5-7pm
- February 22nd-23rd: 30 hour Famine – Learn about fasting, serving the poor and world hunger, while raising money to support local mission – this will be a lock-in with a twist. More details to come!



Children's Ministry

Joan Baker, Christian Education Team Chair
Marcy Kemerer, Interim Volunteer Point-Person

King's Kids

Back to King's Kids on January 16, 4-6pm!

Worship Preparation Classes

Worship prep classes for children in 1st grade (or those in 2nd & 3rd grades who have not attended) are on hold until there is a new Director of Children's Ministries.

Changes Happening!

As of January 6, 2013, the 11am Children's Church (during the 11am service) and the F3, in the Family Life Center, are no longer available. Children's Church is still offered by Barbara Englehart, during the 8:15am service.

*If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, King's Kids, or VBS, please contact Marcy Kemerer at marcykem07@gmail.com, or call/text 727-455-2583.

Around Northwood



Our prayers and sympathy go out to:

- Connie Zaccari and family on the news of the death of her husband, Angelo Zaccari on December 28, 2013.

Northwood Photo Group February 12th

We meet on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm in rooms 13 & 15. All ages and experience levels are welcome. For more information contact David Lawrence at david@dlawrence.com or 727-734-3884.

Flower Sign-Up Sheet

Flower sign-up sheets for January through April are now available on the Bulletin Board across from the Kitchen. The cost is \$27.50 and after the service, the flowers are re-arranged and distributed to those in the hospital or sick at home. Please be sure to fill it out completely and write legibly. Thank you!

We're Still Collecting Pull Tabs

Presbyterian Women are collecting aluminum pull tabs/pop tops for the Shriners. Please carefully pull tabs from empty cans and place only tabs in the labeled basket in the collection center in the South narthex. The profit from recycling is used to purchase hospital equipment. For questions contact Loisanne Bilka.

Next Blood Drive, March 24th

The Blood Mobile will be here Sunday, March 24th. Mark your calendar! Thank you to all those who participated in the January 6th Blood Drive!

Do You Like to Garden?

We'd love your help watering plants and helping make the church grounds beautiful! If you're interested, please call Bill Sutton at 726-9112.

Prayer Shawls

The Women's Sewing Group has several beautiful handmade Prayer Shawls. If you know of a member or friend who is in a situation where they are in need of a Prayer Shawl, please contact Evelyn Towns (785-3743).

W.A.Y. Dinner Dates

Mark your calendars for the 2013 Spring W.A.Y. Dinner Series starting February 6th and ending March 13th. The dinner menu will be made available in the coming weeks as will sign up information.

You're Invited!

Thursday, January 24 @ Noon.
The Mission Team invites you to have pizza with Greg Callison. Greg and his wife Chris are longtime missionaries in Iraq. Join us as Greg shares about their work and what God is doing in Iraq.

KID'S CORNER NEWS

It's registration time again for Kid's Corner Pre-school. In-House (Currently enrolled, siblings of currently enrolled and Church Members) are eligible to register the week of Feb. 4-8. Public Registration will begin the week of Feb. 11-15. Currently enrolled students will have their registration forms sent home and they only need send them back to school with their child. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Vicki Conolly at vickie@northwoodpc.org or 727-723-7679

GOD'S TOOL BOX

God's Tool Box is willing to assist you with minor household repairs or errand running. If you are in need of a helping hand, the ministry of God's Tool Box would like to help. Contact Dan Gipson at 791-7871 to request assistance.

Deacon's Prayer Chain

This is a network of members who are committed to prayer. The importance of the prayer chain is that it intercedes on behalf of others in need by lifting up specific requests or concerns. You may call the church office with your request or you may contact the chairperson, Carol Rathmell, at 813-854-1470. If you choose, you may send an email to csrathmell@aol.com.

Deacon's Greeting Card Ministry

This ministry sends cards to families who have lost a loved one, those who are sick and recovering, or anyone else in need. To have a card sent you may call the church office and ask to have the information put on the board, or you may contact Carol Rathmell at 813-854-1470. You may also send the information via email to csrathmell@aol.com.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Ken Andreassen; Alex Archibald; Larry Cornillaud; Doris Croasman; Ginny Drawbaugh; Dorothy Dykstra; Barb Finn; Beverly Hanson; Rees Heycock; Lou Hortobagyi; Barbara Hunt; Kelly Jordan; Jane Kaempfer; Bea Kimball; Diane Luke; Mildred Martin; Robin MacLennan; Annie McElveen; Curtis McLeod; Helen Meier; Melissa Mortin (Daughter of Pamela Peters); Diana Murray; Ron Nisk; Pamela Peters; Marian & Walter Rather; Helen Rice; Don Simcoe; Barbara Smith; Betty Smith; David Smith; Charline Snow; Gene Snyder; Jane Sutton; Lucille Talbot; Pat Thygerson; Marge Votta; Alice Wilson.

Please keep the following who are serving in the military in your prayers. Addresses have been included should you wish to send cards of support.

Erik Desilets
2571 A Valencia Dr.
Holloman AFB
New Mexico 88330

Capt. Daniel Doverspike
2044 Pratt Court
Evanston, Illinois 60201-3116

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Honor of:

Fireside Bible Study
Stephanie Carson
Tom Huffman
Michael Cromwell
Charlotte McQuown

Given by:

Nancy Ericson
Bill & Patty Martin
Bill & Patty Martin
Bill & Patty Martin
Bill & Patty Martin

VITALS

Weather: Beautiful
Sunday, January 13, 2012
(8:15) 142
(9:30) 129
(11:00) 143
Total: 414

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE
CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.**

THANK YOU'S FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Foundation for International Missions

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your faithful contributions to the Foundation for International Missions. We have received your contribution of \$250. We are so grateful for your steady stewardship and contribution to this ministry.

Sincerely,
Beth A. Houghton
Treasurer

Beth-El

Thank you for your donation of hundreds of blankets along with shoes and luggage. We are quite grateful for your generosity and support of our ministry.

Blessings,
Dave Moore
Executive Director

Angel Tree

Jean & Members of Northwood,

Thank you for helping my girl's Christmas involve me. Your kind and thoughtful ways touch the deepest place in my heart. It's very hard during the holidays because of the separation from the ones I love and it hurts being a father that can't provide a smile to my precious little girls. Because of you they know they're on my mind and I'm doing what I can. Thank you, God bless and may your New Year be the best one yet.

Jason

HEP

Dear Northwood:

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors at Homeless Emergency Project, I gratefully acknowledge your gift of \$578.00, through the Special Peacemaking offering.

Sincerely,
Barbara Green
President & CEO

Clearwater Free Clinic

Dear Members of Northwood:

Thank you for continuing to support the Clearwater Free Clinic's Annual Fund with your \$250 gift. Because of your kindness, more families will have access to critical health care. We thank you.

Sincerely,
Jeannie Shapiro
Executive Director

Isaiah's Inn

Dear Northwood,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$250. We need and appreciate your donations!

Sincerely,
Robert E. Crown
President

Beth-El

Dear Northwood,

Thank you for your donation of \$250. We are grateful to have supporters that continue to assist Beth-El as we provide physical and spiritual nourishment to farm workers. Thank you.

Blessings,
Dave Moore
Executive Director.