



Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church

Organized February 19, 1978



The Window

Chartering Organization of
Boy Scout Troop 413

May 2024
Volume 34, No. 5

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

Playground Upgrades

Throughout the month of April, both of our playgrounds will be upgraded with some new structures and supplies, including fresh mulch. The main playground will have a new sandbox, a water table, a "fire truck," a set of flower-shaped chalk boards, and a "Harmony Park." Upgrades to the toddler playground include a new climbing structure, a crawling tunnel, new playhouses, and a sand box. Both playgrounds will be well stocked with new sand toys, trucks, and water toys.

The work is scheduled to begin the week of April 1st and should be completed by May 3rd. During this time, the children will enjoy their gross motor playtime in our full-sized gymnasium.



VPK & 3 Year Old Playground
Under Construction



2 Year Old Playground
Under Construction

At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

May 2024

- Wednesday, May 1:**
Kings Kids, 4:00 P.M.
- Sunday, May 5:**
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service
- Wednesday, May 8:**
Last Day of Kings Kids, 4:00 P.M.
- Sunday, May 12:**
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
10:00 A.M. Discovering Northwood Presentation
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service
- Sunday, May 19:**
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service
4:00 P.M. Northwood's Got Talent
- Sunday, May 26:**
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service
- Monday, May 27:**
Memorial Day, Church Office Closed

Playground Update	1
At-A-Glance	2
Caring for our Church Family	3
News from the Mission Field	3
Christian Education	4
Children's Ministry	5
Around Northwood	6
Around Northwood	7

Church Staff Contact Information

Staff members are available to answer any questions you might have regarding church related programs through our office phone system. Provided below are the phone extension numbers for most of our staff who are full-time. If you don't see a phone extension we provide an email contact for you. If you call the church office when the lines are busy or the office is closed, you will be prompted to use the Dial By Name Directory **OR** the staff member's extension number to leave a message. The church number is still 796-8090.

- Chris Curvin, Pastor x2007
- Paul Means, Associate Pastor x2006
- Stephanie Carson, Traditional Music x2009
- David Furr, Organist
dmfurr35679@gmail.com
- Taryn Lumia, Contemporary Music
taryn@northwoodpc.org
- Jennifer McManus, Children's Ministry
x2002
- Emily Cantin, Dir. of Communications
x2001
- Mark Fettke, Bookkeeper x2005
- Roxane Fineo, Director of Schools x2010

The Window

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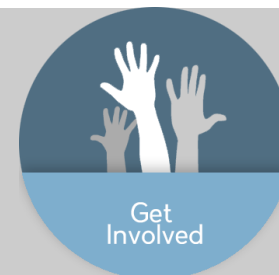
Submissions:

If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, e-mail communications@northwoodpc.org, or place it in Emily Cantin's box in the church office. The deadline is the 3rd Monday of the month.

Church Office Hours

We will be open Monday-Friday from 8:30am to 3:00pm. All staff members continue to be available via email or phone regardless of the office schedule.

Around Northwood



Northwood Food Pantry
The Northwood Presbyterian Food Pantry is a mission that is supported totally by monetary gifts and donated non-perishable food from the congregation. Dedicated volunteers purchase food and also fill bags that are then given out to those less fortunate residents that come to the church for help. Northwood depends on the generous support from all of us in order to sustain this ever growing demand. Please help us continue this important mission by donating whatever you can and as a caring congregation we together can feed the multitudes as Christ did. Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry and mission of Northwood Presbyterian Church.

Food Pantry items needed:

- Canned Meat
- Pasta Sauce
- Beef Stew
- Chili
- Beef Ravioli
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Tuna
- Soup
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruit



Northwood Scholarship Application 2024
NPC members who are high school seniors, college/vocational students or grad students are encouraged to pick up guidelines/applications from Emily Cantin, online, or in the church office now. **Applications must be returned to JoAnneSpigarelli at jpspig1@gmail.com. Applications must be received by June 1, 2024.** Applications will not be accepted in the church office. Applicants need to be involved in the life of the church (either here or at college/Seminary). This scholarship can only be received twice. We give thanks to the Bakers, Gordons, Wrights and others whose generosity to Northwood was reflected in their last will and testament. Scholarship funds come from interest earned from the following: (1) The Fred and Kay Baker Scholarship Fund, (2) The Walter and Catherine Gordon Educational Endowment, (3) Clarence and Florence Wright Scholarship Fund, (4) Monies received from other sources.

Attention Graduating Seniors
Attention all graduates, please submit your graduation picture, a short write-up of your accomplishments and plans for after graduation. This information can be dropped off in the church office or emailed to Emily Cantin at communications@northwoodpc.org.

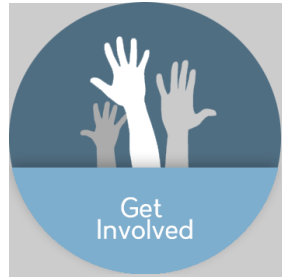


Landscaping Group & BBQ—May 11, 8am-1pm

Calling all friends, fellow Christians and green thumb enthusiasts! Saturday, May 11th, from 8:00am-1:00pm, Northwood will be hosting our next landscaping clean-up and fertilization day to help maintain our beautiful campus. Please do not feel you need to stay the whole day. Come when it's convenient for you and you'll receive tasks to help make way for our healthy plants, lawn and garden. At 1:00pm we will have a potluck lunch at the west lawn picnic tables. If you plan to attend lunch, please bring a favorite side dish or dessert. Ritchie will be smoking bar-b-que chicken on site. Let us know if you have an interest in joining us so that we may plan appropriately. Please contact Leslie Henley if interested at leslienne1968@icloud.com



Pictured are Cynthia & David Lawrence and Carol Zieres cleaning up the raised plant beds in the entrance to freshen them up for Easter.



Around Northwood



Spotlight on Deacons' Ministries

Prayer Chain Ministry

The prayer chain is a vital ministry that uses the power of multiple people praying at once for the urgent needs of the body here at Northwood Presbyterian Church. During the worship service, the attendance form may be completed, which has an area on the back for prayer concerns. These prayer requests are sent to the Deacon in charge of the prayer chain by the Associate Pastor. The Deacon then sends the request out to the prayer chain volunteers.

Cedarkirk Retreats—Save the Dates
Please save the dates for these Cedarkirk events on your calendar! The Fall Church Retreat will be held on Oct. 11-13, 2024 and the Women's Retreat will be held on Jan. 17-19, 2025. Registration info for the Fall Retreat will be available in May.

Northwood Photo Group
Would you like to start taking better pictures, and use photography as a way of exploring God's beauty? Please join us for the regular monthly meeting of the Northwood Photo Group on Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00pm in rooms 11 & 13. All are invited whether you're a beginner or an expert. If you have any questions, contact curtis.krueger@gmail.com or david@primeimagesinc.com.

Discovering Northwood Presentation
A Discovering Northwood Presentation will be held Sunday, **May 12th from 10:00am to 11:00am in Room 4** for those wishing to learn more about Northwood and consider church membership. Please know you are welcome to attend if you have been visiting us online or in person in worship.

Northwood's Got Talent—Save the Date
Save the date for an afternoon of talent, fun and laughter! The date for this year's NGT is Sunday, May 19th at 4:00pm. If you are interested in participating, please contact Babs Bailey at dixiechick411@gmail.com or 727-512-9476.

Fun! Friends! Friday! The Ren Crew
The Ren Crew Friday Fellowship will meet on Friday, May 10th at 10:30 in rooms 11 & 13. We are a group of adventuresome, young at heart adults who enjoy sharing fun with friends, old and new. In keeping with the theme "Windows to the World," John & Emily Sutphin will provide the program, "The Beauty and Charm of Spain and its Culture." Following the program, we will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. All are welcome! Transportation is gladly provided for those needing a ride. Join us and treat yourself to a Friday filled with fun and friends! For more information, you may contact Pastor Paul Means at paul@northwoodpc.org.

The Project Group—May 28
If you sew, knit, crochet or craft with a mission purpose (e.g. make greeting cards), you are invited! The project group meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:00am in room 13. We will meet May 28th. We make little dresses for Haiti, lap robes, walker bags, and stuffed teddy bears. The latter go to the ER at Countryside. New members are always welcome. Contact Marti Huff 727-503-3783 or Evelyn Towns 727-785-3743 with any questions.

Jane Sutton Book Club—May 27
The Jane Sutton Book Club will be May 27th. The group meets the 4th Monday of the month at 10:00am in room 13 of the Christian Education building. If you are interested in joining or for more information, please contact Eleanor Cicerchi by email at ecicerchi@gmail.com or by phone 607-382-1781.

Email Scam Alert
You may be aware that some of our members have received scam emails in the past month, and once over a year ago, that appear to be from Pastor Chris. The emails request financial support in the form of gift cards. Our pastor does NOT send these emails although the email address is very similar to his. This email scam is also happening to pastors in other churches in our area. Please know that your pastors and the church staff will never solicit any funds in this manner. Simply forward the message to the church office so they can be collected for the police. It saddens us when anyone seeks to do harm but especially when they prey on the kindness and Christ-like hearts of our members.

NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Foundation for International Missions
Thank you for your generous donation of \$250 given in support of our mission at the New Hope Clinic in rural Honduras. This is a generous and thoughtful way to support this mission which depends on all of us for its continuation. Each gift makes it possible for Dr. Davila and his staff to provide life-saving medical care to those who would otherwise have no access. We are so grateful to share this mission with you in the name of Jesus Christ. Sincerely, Frances Mikuta

Alliance for International Reforestation
Thank you for your faithful donation of \$200 to AIR-Guatemala (Alliance for International Reforestation). We never forget that none of the work we do is possible without the support of friends in the US and the grace of God. For many years now, you are members of a powerful team.
Anne M. Hallum, Founding President, AIR, Inc.

Thornwell
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Thank you for helping Thornwell be a beacon of hope for more children and families. Your faithful support is a gateway to healing for those we serve. You are cherished! Sincerely, Joseph Murrey

Thank you
Thank you to everyone who has prayed for and sent messages for my daughter Lori Ann who passed away recently. It means so much. Jessie Loy

Your Giving Matters
For in-person worship, the offering plates will not be passed, however, offering boxes are located in the narthex. For those worshipping online, your giving matters too. Please commit to maintain your regular schedule of giving by mailing your gift or using one of the online platforms below for giving electronically:
1. Text NPCHURCH to 73256 and follow the prompts.
2. Visit www.northwoodpc.org and click on the giving tab.
3. Click "Give" under the *ChurchLife* app menu options.

Prayer Ministry
Roger Adkisson, Carol Anderson, Julie Bryant, Darrough Diamond, Kay Ferguson, Fred Inkles, Phillip Mackie, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Norman Phillips, David Smith, Gene Snyder.

Memorial Gifts
If you wish to make a gift to the church in honor or in memory of someone, please be sure to attach the blue Memorial Gift form to your contribution. Completing the form ensures that we have all the information necessary to properly direct the gift and acknowledge it to both you and the recipient. Forms are located near the memorial book in the Narthex or in the Church Office. Thank you for your assistance.

Prayers and Christian Sympathies to:

- Jessie Loy and Family upon the news of the death of Jessie's Daughter, Lori Ann Loy on April 20.
- The Lawrence Family upon the news of the death of Violet Lawrence on April 21.
- Polly Hamilton and Family upon the news of the death of Polly's husband Don Hamilton on April 25th.

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 is \$35.61 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!

Christian Education



Presbyterian Women
 The Presbyterian Women, Sisters in Christ, meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month with our next meeting on May 14th for our Birthday Celebration and brief study of chapter 9 in our book *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus in Luke-Acts*, by Olive Mahabir. The final lesson and presentation will be held in the **sanctuary at 10:00am**. Following the lesson, we will meet in rooms 5,7,9 for a potluck luncheon. Please plan to join us! If you have any questions, please contact Patty Martin at bill.martin2@verizon.net or Sue Miskiewicz at susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com.



Last month we hosted an event which included a church service, meeting and lunch. Approximately 50 women from our Presbytery attended. Michael Cromwell and the kitchen crew outdid themselves. Look at the beautiful lunch plates! After lunch Rosalie Pareja spoke to us about her past experiences at/with Cedarkirk. She also spoke of future plans for expansion there.

Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed meets on the first Friday of the month with our next meeting on May 3rd at 10:30am in rooms 5&7. We are reading the book, *Prayer, Does It Make a Difference?* by Phillip Yancey. If you need a book or have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin at LVNM1@hotmail.com or 727-787-9868.

Bible Takeaways

The adult Sunday School/Bible Study meets every Sunday morning at 10:00am in room 5. We are studying the Easter Resurrection appearances of Jesus in the Synoptic Gospels and the Gospel of John. All are welcome! Bring your Bible.

Kids' Corner Preschool News



The Generosity of Neighbors

Through the generosity of Harborside Christian Church in Safety Harbor, Kids' Corner Preschool's classrooms have new shelves, couches, tables, and toys. Harborside Christian Church is undergoing a renovation project, and instead of discarding these items, they offered them to local churches and schools. On March 21st, under the guidance of Andrew Frazier, Marketing Director at Harborside Christian Church, volunteers from Northwood Presbyterian Church – Susan Curry, Max Krause, Gary Granata, and Randy Bell - helped Ms. Roxane move the items to Kids' Corner. Please take a moment to say a prayer of thanksgiving for the generosity of our neighbors in Christ at Harborside Christian Church and our committed volunteers from Northwood Presbyterian Church.

Summer Camp

Kids' Corner Preschool will be offering 4 weeks of summer camp for children that are going into VPK or Kindergarten in the fall. It is a great way to keep your child engaged in the classroom setting during the summer months. The program is scheduled to run during the weeks of June 17-21, June 24-28, July 22-26, and July 29-August 2. The camp fee will be \$125.00 per week, If you sign up for 3 weeks, the 4th week will be free!



Registration for 2024-2025 School Year

Registration is underway for the 2024-2025 school year. If you are planning to register your child and need an enrollment packet, please stop by the office, or reach out to your child's teacher. If you need assistance in applying for a VPK Certificate of Eligibility, feel free to call the office. Please submit your completed paperwork as soon as possible.

Children's Ministry



Vacation Bible School 2024



VBS—Save the Date! July 15-19

Invite kids to put their trust in God!

During Vacation Bible School, join first-time Camp Counselor Sam and Lumen, "Lu," the lightning bug puppet, for a summer adventure at *Camp Firelight*. Campers accompany Counselor Sam and Lu during each assembly session and learn to face their fears while trusting in God. Each day, Campers see Counselor Sam face new challenges, from as simple as leading Campers on a hike to as intimidating as meeting a new and wise nature expert. With the help of Lu, the Lightning Bug, and the Camp Counselor Guidebook, Counselor Sam and the Campers explore timeless Bible stories showing how Old and New Testament Campers trusted God, faced their fears, and went on to do great things in God's name.

King's Kids

We are now more than halfway through our Spring King's Kids program. Each Wednesday afternoon, our Northwood Child Care students participate in bible study, crafts, games and other activities. The children have learned that they are loved and valued by Jesus; they have explored the importance of faith and friendship; they have learned about repentance, forgiveness and redemption; and they have learned that they can find comfort in Jesus when they are afraid. The children have really enjoyed all of the fun activities, games, and crafts that tie into each lesson (our popsicle Jesus and Zacchaeus figures were a big hit). And they especially look forward to Miss Elaine sharing her parables, songs, and blessings with them each week. Our spring King's Kids program will end on Wednesday, May 8th. We hope to see even more children attending in the fall!



Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School for ages 4 through 5th grade is held weekly during both Worship Services (9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.) in Room 14. Children's Sunday School will pause for the summer on Sunday, May 26th and will resume again on Sunday, August 11th.

Nursery

The Nursery is available for childcare during both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services. Our staff are screened and trained to provide safe, caring and entertaining supervision to your little ones while you attend Worship.

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed

Summer is just around the corner and planning for Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2024 is underway! Northwood has always had an exceptional VBS program that enriches our children and brings them closer to God...and that is because of the invaluable service provided by our volunteers. We are inviting all past volunteers as well as any new volunteers to join us for this incredible week of bible study, crafts, activities, fellowship and fun!

For registration or information, please contact: Jennifer McManus, Director of Children's Ministry
childrensministry@northwoodpc.org 727-796-8090 x2002