



**Northwood Presbyterian Church**  
2875 State Road 580

**A Stephen Ministry Congregation**

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

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**Sent with Prayer to...**

## 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 who come to the church for help.

The need in our own community is overwhelming. 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:

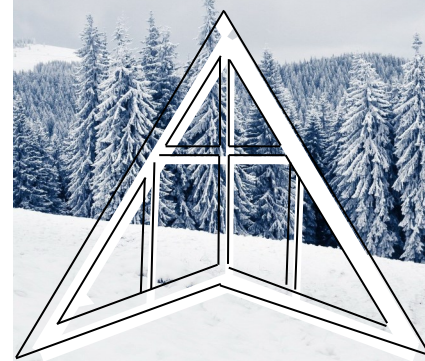
Canned Meat, Pasta Sauce, Beef Stew, Chili, Beef Ravioli, Spaghetti Sauce, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Tuna, Soup, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit



**A Stephen Ministry Congregation**

**Northwood Presbyterian Church**

Organized February 19, 1978



*The Window*

**Chartering Organization of  
Boy Scout Troop 413**

January 2025  
Volume 35, No. 1

2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761  
727-796-8090 Main Office ~ 727-723-7679 Preschool, Before & After Care  
[www.northwoodpc.org](http://www.northwoodpc.org)

### Music Ministry's Annual Garage Sale 2025

**January 16, 17 & 18**  
**8:00 A.M.– 2:00 P.M.**



The Music Ministry's Annual Garage Sale is just around the corner - January 16, 17 and 18, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. You are what will make it successful this year. Your generous donations along with those of your family, friends and neighbors amaze us every year and allow the annual miracle (as Pastor Chris calls it) to be so successful.

All donations are welcome – clothes, jewelry, furniture, household, linens, fine collectibles, electronics, holiday, books, tools, outdoor items, etc. Please no older tvs or entertainment centers. We also need wire hangers (like from the dry cleaners) or clip hangers along with oversize plastic bags (like from Macy's).

Collections at the church will begin on December 27, 2024 and continue through January 14, 2025. The hours are 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Special hours can be arranged. Pick-ups can also be arranged. Call Susan Curry (727) 709-8237 or [susankcurry@verizon.net](mailto:susankcurry@verizon.net) if you have questions or need pick-up help.

Cards are available in the narthex to hand out and post in your clubhouses. Your social media is an excellent way to advertise the sale.

Thank you, Stephanie Carson (Director of Music Ministries), Susan Curry (Chair)



# At-A-Glance

## This Month at Northwood

### January 2025

**Sunday, January 5:**  
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

**Sunday, January 12:**  
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

**Sunday, January 19:**  
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service  
9:45 A.M. Discovering Northwood Presentation  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

**Sunday, January 26:**  
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service  
12:00 P.M. Annual Congregational Meeting

#### 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
- Dylan Cantin, Assistant Dir. Youth & Families  
youthdirector@northwoodpc.org x2008
- Emily Cantin, Dir. of Communications x2001
- Mark Fettke, Bookkeeper x2005
- Roxane Fineo, Director of Schools x2010

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## The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church, Edited by Emily Cantin

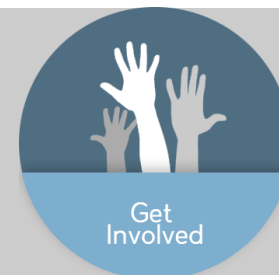
#### Submissions:

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



### Ring Sing & Mingle

Ring, Sing and Mingle is a highlight on the church calendar. Our three talented bell choirs performed with carol singing and an opportunity for audience participation. It was a fun time to mingle with friends and family and play games. There was a photo backdrop added for family photo ops. Many hands are involved in making this event a success. The team is thankful for all who helped.



Thank you to our Northwood Church Family for all your generous donations through our Angel Tree to support the Homeless Empowerment program and Beth-El.



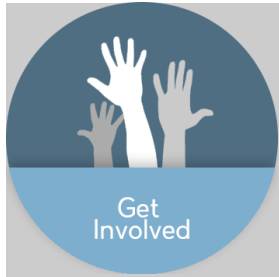
### Pledge Cards for 2025

Thank you for your faithful answer to God's call to give freely and wholeheartedly to support the ministry and mission of Northwood Presbyterian Church in 2024. If you have already submitted a pledge card for the coming year, thank you! If you have yet to do so, please do so as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available in the narthex and the church office. Thank you again for all God has done in and through your giving back to Him at Northwood Presbyterian in 2024. We look forward to the work God is preparing for us in 2025.

### 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!





# Around Northwood



## Caring for Our Church Family



### Discovering Northwood Presentation

A Discovering Northwood Presentation will be held Sunday, **January 19th at 9:45am 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 in-person or online in worship.

### The Project Group

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 January 22nd. 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.



### 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, January 14th 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](mailto:curtis.krueger@gmail.com) or [david@primeimagesinc.com](mailto:david@primeimagesinc.com).

### Annual Report Deadline

Annual Report deadline to the Session, Committees, Pastors & Staff is Monday, January 6th by noon. Please submit your electronic copy to [communications@northwoodpc.org](mailto:communications@northwoodpc.org). There are copies of last year's annual report in the church office if needed. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thanks!

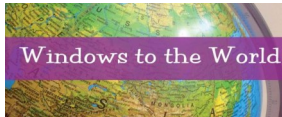
### Annual Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 26th. The Meeting starts at 12:00 pm in the Sanctuary. 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.

### Fun! Friends! Friday!

#### The Ren Crew

The Ren Crew Friday Fellowship will meet on Friday, January 10th at 10:30 in rooms 9 & 11. We are a group of adventurous, young at heart adults who enjoy sharing fun with friends, old and new. In keeping with the theme "Windows to the World," Carol Zieres will provide the program "France & Portugal". 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 727-796-8090 or email at [paul@northwoodpc.org](mailto:paul@northwoodpc.org).



### NPC Garden Club—Jan 18, 9am-12pm

Calling all friends, fellow Christians and green thumb enthusiasts! Saturday, January 18th, from 9:00am-12:00pm, Northwood will be hosting our next landscaping clean-up and fertilization day to help maintain our beautiful campus. Our focus will be landscaping the front areas of the church. We will have a potluck lunch to follow. Please contact Ritchie and Leslie Henley at [leslianne1968@icloud.com](mailto:leslianne1968@icloud.com) with any questions.

## NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

### Metropolitan Ministries

Thank you for your recent gift of \$1200. Your generosity is at work, providing essential meals, safe shelter, utility assistance, emergency care and more for our Tampa Bay neighbors. We are thankful for your congregation and ministry in action working together with Metropolitan Ministries as part of the body of Christ. With Heartfelt Gratitude, Tim Marks, President/CEO

### 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](http://www.northwoodpc.org) and click on the giving tab.
3. Click "Give" under the *ChurchLife* app menu options.

### Care Notes Ministry

Are you struggling to cope with grief or chronic illness? Are you overwhelmed with the challenges of care giving? *CareNotes* offer strength, help and healing for those who are hurting and provide a wealth of emotional, health, grief and eldercare support and information. *CareNotes* are also available for teens and children addressing such topics as bullying, social media safety and forgiveness. You will also find greeting cards if needed. These free resources are found in the racks in the narthex. They are supplied by the Deacons and refreshed by Deacon Eileen Nelson.

### Grief Recovery and God's Grace

Beginning Wednesday, January 8th and continuing through Wednesday, February 14th, Pastor Paul will lead a six-week educational seminar and support group for persons who are experiencing grief due to the death of a loved one or for those who are facing grief from other types of significant loss in their life. The time of the seminar is from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.. This is not a group therapy program, so while active participation is encouraged, it is not required. For more information, please contact Pastor Paul at 727-796-8090 or [paul@northwoodpc.org](mailto:paul@northwoodpc.org).

## Memorial Gifts

### In Memory of:

Loisanne Bilka  
Loisanne Bilka  
Bill Bitner  
Ken Tobiassen  
Ken Tobiassen  
Ken Tobiassen  
Ken Tobiassen  
Bill Bitner  
Emily McMullen

### Given by:

Carol & Jeff Hodes  
Kate Reza  
Patty & Bill Martin  
Patty & Bill Martin  
Jean Swintek  
Jeanette & Art Holloway  
JoAnne & Ray Spigarelli  
Jean Swintek  
Jeanette & Art Holloway  
Jeanette & Art Holloway

## Memorial Gifts

If you wish to make a gift to the church in honor or in memory of someone, please be sure to attach a 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.

## Prayer Ministry

Roger Adkisson, Elaine Beattie, Carol Anderson, Julie Bryant, Fred Inkles, Phillip Mackie, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Norman Phillips, David Smith, Gene Snyder.

## Prayers and Christian Sympathies to:

- Beverly Van Zyl upon the news of the death of her Mother, Betty Van Zyl, on December 2.

## Flower Arrangements

The flowers that are placed in the sanctuary are assembled into smaller arrangements to be distributed to those who are ill or in need of encouragement. The congregation is welcome to take one of these arrangements if needed. They can be picked up in the church office weekdays between 9am-3pm.

## Transportation Ministry

This ministry provides transportation for the 11:00am service. It is for members and friends who are unable to drive themselves to church. **Volunteer drivers are always welcome.** Paul Means is heading this ministry. If you need the service of this ministry, please call the church office at 727-796-8090.



# Christian Education



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women's Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 10:00am in room 5 of the Education Building. Our 9 month study books, "Let Justice Roll Down" are available for purchase for \$5.00. For more information about how you can be involved, contact Patty Martin at [bill.martin2@verizon.net](mailto:bill.martin2@verizon.net) or Sue Miskiewicz at [susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com](mailto:susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com).



The Presbyterian Women Sisters in Christ Circle held their monthly meeting and bible study on December 10. Circle members "filled the trunk" with donated food items for Metropolitan Ministries as their monthly charitable contribution. After the meeting, the ladies enjoyed a pot luck luncheon. Thanks to the Ring, Sing and Mingle committee for allowing us to use their beautiful decorations and also the picture background. We are so blessed.

## Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed meets on the first Friday of the month at 10:30am in rooms 5&7. Our next meeting will take place January 3rd. If you need a book or have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin at [LVNM1@hotmail.com](mailto: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. All are welcome! Bring your Bible. The class is studying 1 Corinthians. Please join us!

## 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.

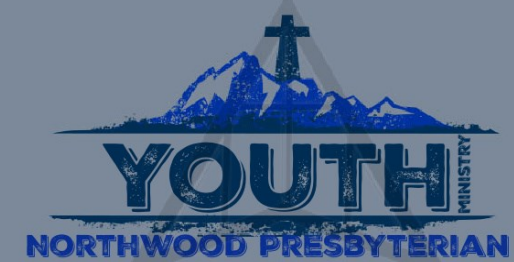
## Kids' Corner Preschool & Before/After School Care Program



On Wednesday, December 18th, each class had a Christmas Party. The children were treated with sugar cookies and a surprise visit from a jolly old man bearing gifts! Our Christmas Program was held on Thursday, December 19th at 5:30pm in the Sanctuary. The program included performances by the three-year old and the VPK classes. **If you are interested in registration or have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Roxane Fineo at [schooldirector@northwoodpc.org](mailto:schooldirector@northwoodpc.org) or 727-723-7679.**

## Worship/Communion

Due to our very limited participation with the gluten-free (GF) communion kits, along with concerns expressed re: taste and texture and lack of ease to use (sometimes even resulting in spillage), the Worship Committee will phase out the use of the kits as the current supply expires year end. Should the need for a gluten-free option grow and/or product offerings hopefully improve, we can and will certainly reconsider their use. In the meantime, please feel free to bring your bread of choice as you are welcomed to and encouraged to participate in communion during the worship service.



## Youth Ministry

Every Sunday morning, the youth, which includes middle school, high school and college age students, will meet for Sunday School at 10:00am in the youth room. Wednesday evenings we will have Youth Group meet at 6 pm in the youth room. Game night will meet on Fridays from 7pm-10pm in the youth room/FLC. **If you have any questions, please contact Dylan Cantin at [youthdirector@northwoodpc.org](mailto:youthdirector@northwoodpc.org) or 727-796-8090 x2008.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Youth Room  
Sunday @ 10-11 AM  
After Contemporary Service

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

The youth Sunday School meets every Sunday morning at 10:00am in the youth room. During this time, we will discuss the scripture and message and incorporate worship elements like music into our hour.

GAME NIGHT

BRING YOUR FRIENDS

Youth Room  
Fridays  
7-10PM

GAME NIGHT - We meet on Fridays from 7pm-10pm in the youth room/FLC to play a variety of games such as board games, video games and sports activities including pickleball, basketball and kickball.



ROCK THE UNIVERSE - Save the date! January 24-25. All youth and college students are invited to join in on this amazing weekend of fun and faith! This trip will include a hotel stay for two nights and a 2-day park pass. Stay tuned for a sign-up and cost information in our Youth & Families weekly email.

