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Sent with Prayer to...

Craig Courtney in Concert with Northwood Chancel Choir Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 4:00pm

On Sunday, March 30, church music composer Craig Courtney will be presenting a concert with our choir in the afternoon at 4:00pm and will be present in worship service that morning. Mr. Courtney's published works include more than two hundred choral octavos, nine vocal collections, a piano solo collection and six extended works for choir and orchestra. Compositionally, Mr. Courtney combines his training and background as a pianist, a cellist, a vocal coach, an accompanist and a choral director to create words that bear his unique style. We have 40 of his compositions and arrangements on our own shelves and greatly look forward to meeting him in person and delving into the stories behind his songs.



**Craig Courtney will be at both worship services, Sunday March 30th,
9:00am & 11:00am**

No charge for the afternoon concert —free will offering.

For additional information, please contact Stephanie Carson:
stephanie@northwoodpc.org or 727-796-8090 x2009

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church

Organized February 19, 1978



The Window

Chartering Organization of
Boy Scout Troop 413

March 2025
Volume 35, No. 2

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

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

DINNER 6:00 pm – WORSHIP 6:45 pm

On Wednesday, March 5th, Northwood will be serving our final spring WAY dinner followed by our Ash Wednesday worship service. On the menu will be Ham & Turkey Hoagies with Potato Soup. The meal will begin at 6:00 pm in the Christian Education building. The cost is \$6.00 per person and you may sign up by filling out the reservation form in the hallway or you may contact the church office. The Ash Wednesday service will begin at 6:45 following the meal. If you have any questions, please contact the church office 727-796-8090.

A PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY (Adapted from Psalm 51)

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my sins. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Restore me to the joy of your salvation. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare praises to you. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit, which God will always accept. Pour out us, O Lord, your mercy, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.



What's the purpose of Ash Wednesday?

It marks first day of the 40 days of Lent, a roughly six-week period (not including Sundays) dedicated to reflection, prayer and fasting in preparation for Easter. It ends on Holy Thursday, the fifth day of Holy Week (the week leading up to Easter) that marks the Last Supper.

What do the ashes mean?

The ashes, applied in the shape of a cross, are a symbol of penance, mourning and mortality.

At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

March 2025

Sunday, March 2: Communion Sunday
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Blood Mobile
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, March 5: Ash Wednesday
6:00 P.M. WAY Dinner
6:45 P.M. Worship Service

Sunday, March 9:
Installation of Officers (11:00)
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, March 16:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
9:45 A.M. Discovering Northwood Presentation
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, March 23:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, March 30:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service
4:00 P.M. Craig Courtney Composer Concert

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
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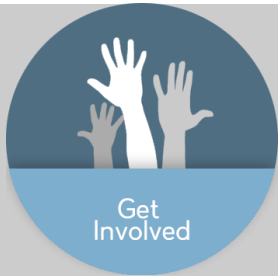
Submissions:

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



Resolution of Appreciation for Claudia & Jack Alwood

Good Morning. I am Dee Rivers, and I am an active member of Session, and I serve as the current chair the Membership and Evangelism Team. I would like to take a moment for us to recognize, with gratitude, the service and dedication of Jack and Claudia Alwood. As you know this is their last Sunday with us before they move to Jacksonville to be closer to family.



There are hundreds of uses of the verb “to serve” in the New Testament. But the one that most closely resembles service in ministry, or literally “to serve others” is “diakonia”. The word and its variations is used more than 30 times in the New Testament alone. It is central to the teaching about the church and its followers. In Luke 22 verse 27, Jesus tells his disciples:

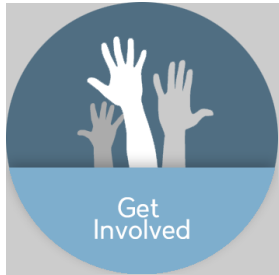
“For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves?
Is it not the one who is at the table?
But I am among you as one who serves.”
Jesus' words compel us to be the ones who serve.

Jack and Claudia Alwood have been a wonderful example of God’s love and Jesus’ heart for service at work here at Northwood. Among other things, they have been invaluable members of the Membership and Evangelism Committee. They have led the Biblical Takeaways Sunday school class, and presented for the Ren Crew. Jack has preached from our pulpit and sung with the choir. Claudia has served as a deacon, shepherd, greeter and usher.

Jack and Claudia, we would like to thank you for teaching, guiding, planning, inspiring, preaching, be-friending, singing, and uplifting. But most of all, we thank you for bringing us closer to Christ by your service and example. May you always know what a difference you make and how much you are appreciated.

Godspeed, dear friends and know that you will be greatly missed and that our arms are always open to you when you travel back to visit.

Read by Dee Rivers in Worship Service on February 23, 2025



Around Northwood

Discovering Northwood Presentation

A Discovering Northwood Presentation will be held Sunday, **March 16th** from **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 online in worship.

The Project Group— March 25

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 March 25th. 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, March 11th 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.

Jane Sutton Book Club—March 24

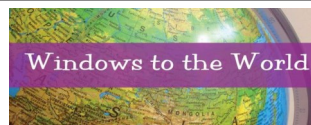
The Jane Sutton Book Club will be March 24th. The group meets the 4th Monday of the month at 10:00am in room 13 of the Christian Education building. If you are interested in joining or for more information, please contact Eleanor Cicerchi by email at ecicerchi@gmail.com or by phone 607-382-1781.

NPC Garden Club March 15, 9am-12pm

Calling all friends, fellow Christians and green thumb enthusiasts! Saturday, March 15th, 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 with any questions.

Fun! Friends! Friday! The Ren Crew

The Ren Crew Friday Fellowship will meet on Friday, March 14th at 10:30 in the sanctuary. 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," seven adventurous Northwooders will provide the program "Tales From Tanzania—an African Safari". Following the program, the Kitchen Krew will provide lunch in the Christian Education Building. Please RSVP for the lunch by Tuesday, March 11th to Pastor Paul at paul@northwoodpc.org or 727-796-8090 x2006. 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.



Blood Drive—March 2



Sunday, March 2nd from 10:00am-12:00pm the blood mobile will be located in the Northwood parking lot. All donors will receive a \$20eGift card, a One Blood T-shirt and a wellness check up including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening.

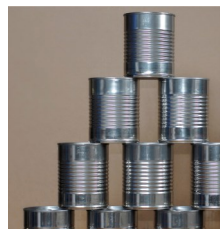
Northwood Food Pantry

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



Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:

Brian McNay
Terry McNay
Polly Hamilton
Polly Hamilton
Emily McMullen
Bertha Lucas

Given by:

Wilai & Evan McNay
Wilai & Evan McNay
Dr. & Mrs. McDaniel
Jackie Rice
Jean Swintek
Lorrie Janusik

In Honor of:

Claudia & Jim Ferguson

Given by:

Jon Mills

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, Norman Roffey, David Smith, Gene Snyder.

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.

Home Communion

If you or someone you know is unable to attend church, either short-term or long-term, to receive communion, Northwood's Home Communion Ministry Team would be happy to bring Home Communion to you. We want everyone to know that the church cares and we are glad to provide this connection of love and care through the sacrament of Holy Communion with Jesus. No preparation on your part is needed, we bring everything. We visit homes, rehab centers, hospitals, etc. For more information or an appointment, please contact Jackie Koski at Jackie.koski2014@gmail.com.

NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Ministry Engagement and Support

Thank you for your contributions of \$3416.00, which include Peace and Global offering and Hurricane Disaster Response. On behalf of the of Presbytery Missions, please convey our appreciation to your Missions Committee, Pastor, Session and Congregation for your gracious and faithful support. Your contribution changes lives for the sake of the gospel around the world. You are a valued partner!

Yours in Christ, Sy Hughes, Ministry Engagement Advisor

Maximo Presbyterian Church

Thank you so much for your generous gift to our hurricane recovery fund. We are continuing our ministry while working to overcome the damage to our beloved church. We are heartened by the support and prayers of caring friends like you. May God bless you! Peace, Pastor Bobby

Foundation for International Ministry

My name is Rick Smith. I am the development Director of the Foundation for International Ministry in St. Petersburg. I want to thank your congregation and its mission leaders for their generous support of FFIM and its clinic in central Honduras. Your generosity is helping our mission to thrive. With your help, we are making an impact on the general health and welfare of the people in central Honduras.



Many thanks goes out to our fantastic scouts who collected hundreds of food items for the Northwood Food Pantry. The "Scouting for Food" project was a huge success and the pantry is grateful for this enormous donation which will help provide much needed food to our community. Thank you!

Many thanks goes out again in January to Joan Davis and Briar Creek for the hundreds of canned food items that they donated to the Northwood food pantry. We are truly blessed by your continuous generosity in helping feed those that are hungry in our own community. Thank you!

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.

Christian Education



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women's Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 11th 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 or Sue Miskiewicz at susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com.



The Sisters in Christ PW Circle met on February 11th for Bible study, fellowship and giving. This month's donations were cleaning supplies for HEP (Homeless Empowerment Program). For March, we will be collecting clothing for Clothes to Kids. All church women are welcome to attend.

Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed meets on the first Friday of the month at 10:30am in rooms 5&7. Our next meeting will be March 7th. 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. 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.

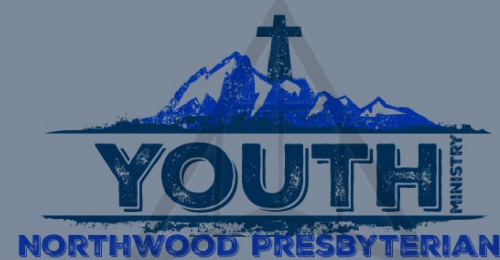


Kids' Corner Preschool & Before/After School Care Program

Registration is underway for the 2025-2026 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. **If you are interested in registration or have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Roxane Fineo at schooldirector@northwoodpc.org or 727-723-7679.**

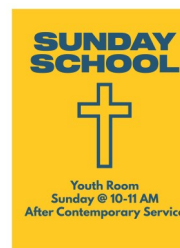
Worship/Communion

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. 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 or 727-796-8090 x2008.**



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.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation classes will continue Sunday mornings at 10:00am and run until Confirmation on April 13th. If you'd like more information, please contact Dylan Cantin.



**GAME
NIGHT**

Youth Room
Fridays
7-10PM

BRING YOUR FRIENDS

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.

