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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.

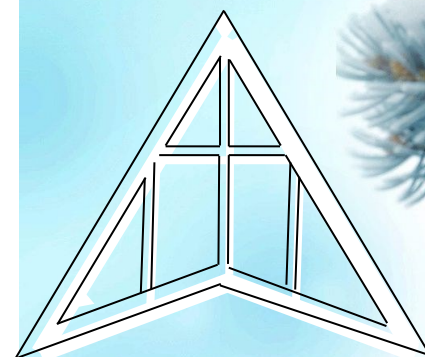
The need in our own community is overwhelming. Northwood depends on the generous support from all of us in order to sustain this ever growing demand. Please help us continue this important mission by donating whatever you can and as a caring congregation we together can feed the multitudes as Christ 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**



**Chartering Organization of  
Boy Scout Troop 413**

**Northwood Presbyterian Church**

Organized February 19, 1978

*The Window*

January 2026  
Volume 36, 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)



**January 15, 16 & 17**  
**8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

## **MUSIC MINISTRY'S ANNUAL GARAGE SALE**

It is so close! Our annual Music Ministry Garage Sale will take place January 15, 16 and 17, 2026. Drop-offs at the Family Life Center will begin December 27, 2025 through January 13, 2026. Large items and furniture can be picked up either Saturday, January 3 or January 10 by calling Susan Curry (727) 709-8237.

Boxes and bags can be arranged for pick-up anytime. We can't take entertainment centers, beds (unless brand new), old tv's or electronics. If you donate electronics, please make sure cords are available and passwords have been removed.

We will have Breakfast and Lunch available for purchase all three days along with baked goods to benefit our Youth Program.

Our Music Ministry Garage Sale enhances our already wonderful music program with special music presentations, orchestras, music camp and equipment needs. Thank you for your amazing generosity. Please advertise the sale on social media and hand out information cards to family and friends. The Garage Sale is not successful without you.

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 2026

**Thursday, January 1:**  
Office Closed in Observance of New Years Day

**Sunday, January 4:**  
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

**Friday-Sunday, January 9-11:**  
Women's Retreat at Cedarkirk

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

**January 15-17: Garage Sale**  
8:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.

**Sunday, January 18:**  
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service  
9:45A.M. Discovering Northwood Presentation  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

**Sunday, January 25:**  
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

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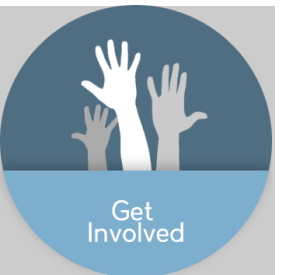
Food Pantry 8

#### 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
- 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
- Drew Milano, Sound & Tech, worship@northwoodpc.org
- Aidan Murray, Facilities/Maintenance x2002

# Around Northwood

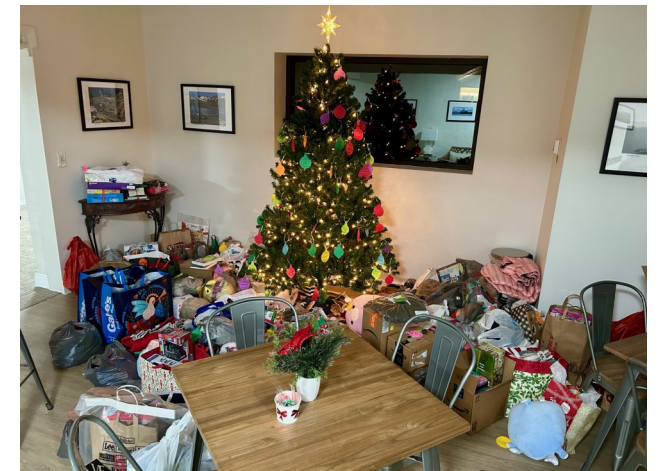


#### Ring Sing & Mingle

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.



#### 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. Your continued faithfulness to the mission and ministry of Northwood through your giving is critical as the church's expenses do not stop. Please commit to maintain your regular schedule of giving throughout this time 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.

#### Pledge Cards for 2026

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 2025. 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 2025. We look forward to the work God is preparing for us in 2026.

## The Window

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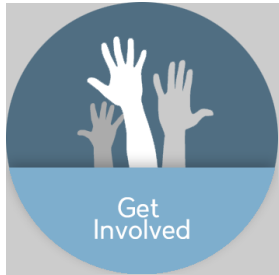
#### Submissions:

If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, e-mail [communications@northwoodpc.org](mailto: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



## Discovering Northwood Presentation

A Discovering Northwood Presentation will be held Sunday, **January 18th 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.

## Northwood Photo Group—January 13



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 13th 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).



## NPC Garden Club—January 17

Calling all friends and green thumb enthusiasts! Join the NPC Garden Team, January 17th, (third Saturday) 9am-12pm. Our focus will be East Main Entry Flower Bed, North Entry Flower Bed and Fertilization. If you have any questions, please contact Ritchie and Leslie Henley at [leslianne1968@icloud.com](mailto:leslianne1968@icloud.com) or [rhenley67@icloud.com](mailto:rhenley67@icloud.com) or 813-833-1108.

## Mission Opportunity to Honduras

The Mission and Outreach Committee is offering an opportunity for the Northwood members to participate in a mission trip organized by First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg. The dates are 21-28 June 2026. The group will fly to Comayagua, Honduras and travel by chartered bus to The New Hope Clinic in San Francisco, Honduras to participate in health screenings and children's ministries in local churches and schools. If interested or to sign up, please contact John Sutphin [je.sutphin@gmail.com](mailto:je.sutphin@gmail.com) or (913-687-9410), or Pastor Chris Curvin.

## Jane Sutton Book Club—January 26



The Jane Sutton Book Club will meet January 26th. 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 the church office at 727-796-8090.

## The Project Group—January 27

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 27th. 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.



## Annual Report Deadline

Annual Report deadline to the Session, Committees, Pastors & Staff is Monday, January 5th 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—Jan 25

Mark your calendars for the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 25th. 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.



## Save the Date!

### Kirkin' O' the Tartan—Feb. 22

On February 22nd, we will have two exceptional worship services of celebration at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. featuring Dunedin High School Pipers and Drummers. There will be music for the pipe and drum along with hymns and anthems of our Scottish heritage. If you would like the honor of carrying a tartan in procession at one of the services, contact Leslie Henley at [leslianne1968@icloud.com](mailto:leslianne1968@icloud.com) or the church office (727)796-8090 [communications@northwoodpc.org](mailto:communications@northwoodpc.org)



# Caring for Our Church Family

## Memorial Gifts

### In Memory of:

Ellen Stoup  
Jan Hewlett

### Given by:

Jill Loomis  
Janet Till,  
Lynne & Beth Hewlett

## NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

### Bridging Freedom

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$222. Your support means more than you know and we are truly grateful for your commitment to helping our girls. Because of your kindness, the girls are able to have lots of fun and educational activities and experiences. This month they learned how to make home-made sugar scrubs and their own tie dye shirts. Your contribution makes these hands-on and joyful experiences possible and they will be remembered for a long time.

Sincerely, The Bridging Freedom Team

### Email Scam Alert



You may have received or are aware that some of our members have received scam emails and texts either today, in the past month, or even over a year ago, that appear to be from Pastor Chris. The emails and

texts request a "brief" or "confidential" conversation with the pastor or financial support in the form of gift cards or other means of help.

DO NOT REPLY! Our pastor does NOT send these emails and texts, 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 or ask for private conversations. 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.



The NPC food Pantry would like to thank the Briar Creek Community for their monthly donation of food. Joan Davis has been bringing an SUV loaded with food each month and this has been instrumental in helping our pantry serve the community. Thank you for your generous donations!

This year again the Northwood Food Pantry has been the recipient of the most generous donation of much needed food items. This outstanding yearly donation comes from Linda and David Feller and the pantry is so grateful for their commitment to the Northwood Pantry, Thank you!!

## Prayer Ministry

Roger Adkisson, Julie Bryant, Jeannette Holloway, Fred In- kles, Phillip Mackie, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Dave Pelham, Norman Roffey, David Smith.

## 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 given to Deacon Sue Miskiewicz, and then she sends the request out to the prayer chain volunteers. It is our joy and privilege to pray for you!

## 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.

## 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.** If you need the service of this ministry, please call the church office at 727-796-8090.

## 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.



# Christian Education



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN



## Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women's Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. **Our next meeting will take place January 13th at 10:00am in rooms 5&7.** We are studying "*Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*" by Rhashell D. Hunter. Study books are available at the meeting and can be purchased for \$7.00. 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 Sisters in Christ PW Circle met on December 9th for Bible study, fellowship, giving and a beautiful Christmas brunch. This month's donations were baby and kids clothing for the Clothes to Kids. In January we will be collecting toiletries for the Haven. 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 take place February 6th.** We will be taking the month of January off. Our book study is "One Thousand Gifts" by Ann VosKamp. If you have any questions or need a book, please contact Louise Mylin at [LVNM1@hotmail.com](mailto:LVNM1@hotmail.com) or 727-787-9868.

## Bible Takeaways

Led by Emily Sutphin & Earle Lusk, this adult Education Class/Bible Study **meets every Sunday morning at 10:00am in room 8.** Beginning January 4th, we will begin a 12 week study of the Psalms. Books are \$5 and can be purchased from Earle Lusk. Books aren't required, but helpful. All are welcome! 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.

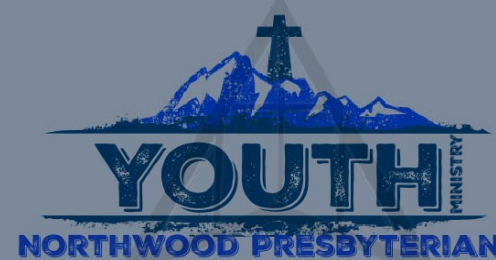
## Kids' Corner Preschool & Before/After School Care Program

**Kids' Corner Preschool's Open House**— On Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00am to 12:00pm, we will be hosting our Annual Open House. Prospective families will have the opportunity to meet our teachers, visit the classrooms, play in the playground, and learn about our NAEYC accredited program. Please spread the word!

**Community Helpers**— For two weeks during the month of March, the children will be learning about community helpers. The classroom lessons and activities will focus on people who use their skills and talents to serve the needs of others. If you or someone in your family would like to come and speak to the children, please reach out to your child's teacher, or call the office.

**NAEYC Accreditation – What does it mean?**— Kids' Corner Preschool has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) since 2018. This accreditation is the result of a voluntary review process that is performed by a nationally recognized agency designed to improve the quality of preschool programs. The accrediting agencies have high standards that often go above and beyond our state's minimum licensing requirements for childcare centers. A preschool that is accredited is guaranteed to offer its students a high level of care in a safe, cheerful academic environment that meets NAEYC's 10 Standards for a high-quality program. The staff at Kids' Corner Preschool is proud to be accredited by NAEYC. We recognize the hard work that went into receiving this significant achievement and we are committed to maintaining the high standards associated with the accreditation.

**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.**



## 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.**



## **YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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



## **WEDNESDAY YOUTH GROUP**

Youth Group meets every Wednesday at 6pm in the youth room. There will be a lesson, group discussion, music and food.



**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.



## **COSMIC BOWLING**—

All youth invited! January 30th, we will have a night of fun bowling at Maple Lanes beginning at 10:00pm, after game night. The cost will be \$20 per person. Please let Dylan know if you are interested in going.

