



Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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2024 Wonderful Wednesdays Series

October 30 - November 20
6:00pm

Fall Program-
“Northwood in Mission & Ministry”

Our Wednesdays and You (W.A.Y.) meal gatherings are back! They provide a happy harvest of friendship and opportunity for the whole family. Reservation forms will be located in the church office or sign-up on the bulletin board in the church hallway. On the tables at each meal will be our 3-cents-a-meal jars which benefit the hungry locally and worldwide. Please remember to invite your friends, family and neighbors to join you. For more information on any of our Wednesday programs contact the church office at (727) 796-8090. Come and get involved in a Wonderful Wednesday activity filled with fellowship and friends. Here is some of what is going on each Wednesday.

- Dinner and Program 6:00-7:00pm
- **Youth Group** in the Youth Room (following the dinner)
- **Chancel Choir** rehearsal 7:00-8:30 pm.



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church

Organized February 19, 1978



The Window

Chartering Organization of
Boy Scout Troop 413

November 2024
Volume 34, No. 10

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

Portraits of Generosity

“I Will Give and Pay Back”

Stewardship Dedication Sunday is November 10th

Dear Members and Friends of Northwood,

Each Fall, and at other times of the year, we emphasize the importance of our financial giving to the church. Giving is one of the hallmarks of a Christian’s commitment. Our 2025 sermon stewardship series to help us consider our giving for the coming year is entitled, PORTRAITS OF GENEROSITY.

As we prayerfully consider our financial commitments to Northwood for the coming year, the first portrait I offered was of Zacchaeus who gave generously from his encounter with Jesus and said, “I will give and pay back!” Our Stewardship Team prays that for 2025 you will take a step of faith by increasing your pledge/gift to the church. The wonderful things done in and through Northwood in the name of Jesus Christ are not accomplished without the support of significant volunteer and financial commitments by so many of you.

We need everyone to consider turning in the enclosed 2025 pledge card on Sunday, November 10th or soon thereafter. Your pledge can be adjusted at any point by contacting the church office and speaking to Mark Fettke, Northwood’s Bookkeeper. Every pledge card turned in helps us in our planning for the coming year and every gift counts!

Finally, there are a growing number of people who give regularly to Northwood by utilizing our electronic online giving. All you need to do to take advantage of this method of giving is to go to the church website, www.northwoodpc.org and click on the “Giving” tab at the top of the page. There are good instructions there to lead you through making a gift online. Contact the church office if we can help with any questions. Thank you to those who continue to faithfully use the Giving Stations in the hallways and mail your gift as well.

As we all plan our giving to Christ’s church for the coming year, let me say on behalf of our Session and Stewardship Team, thank you for your generosity in the coming year.

Your Pastor and Friend,
Chris Curvin

At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

Sunday, November 3:
All Saints Day/Blanket Sunday
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 6:
 6:00 P.M. WAY Dinner and Series

Sunday, November 10: Dedication Sunday
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 13:
 6:00 P.M. WAY Dinner and Series

Sunday, November 17:
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 10:00 A.M. Discovering Northwood Presentation
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 20:
 6:00 P.M. WAY Dinner and Series

Sunday, November 24:
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29:
 The church office will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving

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

November 2024

Letter From the Pastor	1
At-A-Glance	2
Caring for our Church Family	3
News from the Mission Field	3
Christian Education	4
Youth Ministry	5
Around Northwood	6
Around Northwood	7
W.A.Y. Dinners	8

The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church, Edited by Emily Cantin

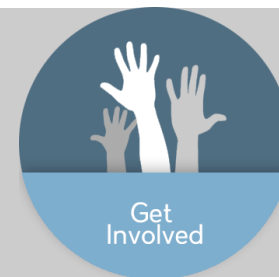
Submissions:

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

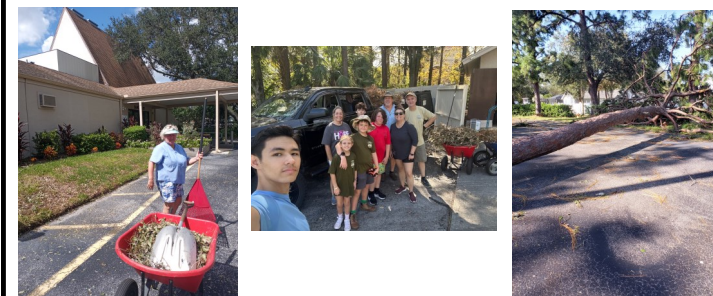


Around the Church Campus

As part of a few prioritized projects for 2024, the gymnasium floor has been stripped of 10 or more years of wax and dirt, lines painted for 2 pickleball courts and basketball 3 point line, waxed, and baseboards installed. It was also painted and closets cleared of years of clutter. Getting through the storms delayed the project a few times but it is complete and looks beautiful.



We thank God that our church made it through 3 storms with manageable damage. Each storm brought different challenges including flooding into the sanctuary and choir room, a large pine tree down across the driveway, shingles blown off the peaked roof and gym roof, tons of tree branches on the property and water blown in at various places on the ceilings. We've been blessed to have a few faithful servants and our scout troops cleaning up after each storm. Their commitment is so appreciated. The SF&P team is getting estimates for the damaged roofs. It appears that a couple of our roofs will need to be replaced. Our insurance policy does not cover the cost for this so we will be working on alternatives for funding the work. We pray that all our members and friends who were impacted are on the road to recovery.



Music Ministry's Annual Garage Sale



Our annual Music Ministry Garage Sale is just around the corner. The sale will take place on January 16, 17 and 18, 2025. Your donations and the donations you request from family and friends is so important to the success of the sale. Drop-offs will begin on December 27, 2024 so please hold those items just a little longer. Your generosity continues to amaze us and the Music Program benefits greatly. More information will be coming about the drop-off times and pick-up opportunities in later publications. Contact Susan Curry (727) 709-8237 or e-mail susankcurry@verizon.net if you have any questions.

Blanket Sunday— November 3

Blanket Sunday is November 3, 2024. Please start thinking about donating new and gently used blankets to the migrant workers' families at Beth El. Every year we collect blankets for these families who live in such poor and challenging conditions. They use the blankets for more than warmth. They use them as room dividers and other means of privacy. Due to the recent hurricanes, Beth-El is also in need of bottled water and canned food. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions to such a worthwhile cause. Please call Pastor Paul @ 727-796- 8090 x2006 if you have any questions.

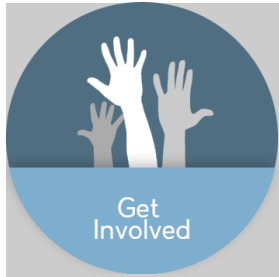


November 3

Christmas Music Events- Save the Dates!

- Celtic Christmas— December 1st at 4:00pm
- Ring, Sing & Mingle— December 8th at 4:00pm
- Christmas Cantata— December 15th at 10:00am
(one worship Service)
- Christmas Eve Services—
December 24th at 4:30pm & 7:00pm





Around Northwood



Caring for Our Church Family

Jane Sutton Book Club—November 25

The Jane Sutton Book Club will be held November 25th. 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.

The Project Group—November 26

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 November 26th. We make little dresses for Haiti, lap robes, walker bags, and stuffed teddy bears. The latter go to the ER at Country-side. New members are always welcome. Contact Marti Huff 727-503-3783 or Evelyn Towns 727-785-3743 with any questions.



Angel Tree

It's that time of year when we have the opportunity to help our adopted families with Christmas! Again this year, we will have "angels" on our Christmas tree in the narthex so that you can choose a gift to provide for a family in need. This year we are working with families from the Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry and HEP. Sunday, **November 24th** there will be angels on the tree with general items that are helpful to the families. Dates of when all gifts will need to be returned to the church will coordinated with Beth-El and HEP. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Paul at 727-796-8090 x2006.



Advent Wreath Lighting

Lighting the Advent Wreath during the weeks prior to Christmas is a great way for us to honor our Christian tradition of preparing for the Christ child. Would you like to take part in this meaningful Northwood tradition? The Worship Team needs groups of two or more (friends, family members, Sunday School classes, etc) to light the candles of the Advent Wreath during each worship service of Advent.

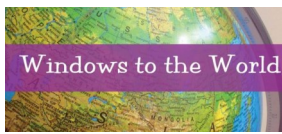
If you are interested in volunteering, please call Linda Feller at 727-385-5629 or email her at bikingringer@gmail.com.



Fun! Friends! Friday!

The Ren Crew

The Ren Crew Friday Fellowship will meet on Friday, November 8th at 10:30 in rooms 9 & 11. We are a group of adventure-some, young at heart adults who enjoy sharing fun with friends, old and new. In keeping with the theme "Windows to the World," Rachele Cox will provide the program "The Ancient British Isles, a Mystical Journey through Time". Following the program, we will enjoy lunch at Cricketer's British Pub in Dunedin. 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.



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, November 12th 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.

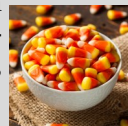


Hurricane Response

As we as a congregation pray for the safety of our brothers and sisters who have been impacted by the Hurricane, we are gathering information about how we as a church can help. Checks should be made payable to Northwood Presbyterian Church with "Hurricane Relief" in the memo line. Contributions can also be made online through the church's website or delivered to the church office or delivered during normal business hours (9:00am – 3pm M-F).

Halloween Candy for Music Ministry

If you have leftover Halloween candy or find some good BOGO deals, the music ministry will gladly accept your donations. We use the candy as incentives in our children's choirs. Thank you for your generosity! Questions? Contact Stephanie Carson, 727-796-8090.



NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Beth-El

Northwood Presbyterian church, thank you for your gift of \$200. It allows Beth-El to offer financial assistance and connect workers with the resources they need to rebuild after the storms. Thank you for being a part of this journey! Sincerely, Dr. Teresita Matos-Post, Exec. Director

Peace and Global Witness Offering

Thank you for participating in this year's Peace & Global Witness Offering. From the \$535 received eighty percent will be divided between Bridging Freedom and Samaritan Village, both organizations fighting against the sex trafficking of women and providing victims safety, healing and hope. The PCUSA will receive 20% of the offering. Thank you for giving generously.

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.

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



Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:

Loisanne Bilka
Loisanne Bilka
Loisanne Bilka
Kay Ferguson
Loisanne Bilka
Loisanne Bilka
Loisanne Bilka
Loisanne Bilka
Loisanne Bilka
Loisanne Bilka
Raymond Linville

Given by:

Joanne & Ray Spigarelli
Jeanette & Art Holloway
Patty & Bill Martin
Jessie & Earle Lusk
Jean Swintek
William Bullet
Roselle & Marc Sunnucks
Nancy Turner
Bunny & Bill Bitner
Bunny & Bill Bitner



Prayers and Christian Sympathies to:

- Cynthia Lawrence and Family upon the news of the death of Cynthia's father, Robert Kimsey on September 24.
- Shawn Davis and Family upon the new of the death of his mother, Cordillia "Emma" Davis on October 18.

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.

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!

Christian Education



Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women's Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 12th 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 or Sue Miskiewicz. We hope to see you there! 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.



Presbyterian Women enjoyed a well attended meeting on October 8. Land Justice was the second lesson in our study titled, Let Justice Roll Down. Our charitable donations went to women at The Haven. Envelopes for the PW Thank offering were distributed. Our next meeting is November 12. 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 November 1st. 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. We will have a brief study of Revelation, then move into Corinthians. Please join us!

Cedarkirk Women's Retreat— January 10-12, 2025

Join the women of Northwood for a spirit revitalizing weekend of fellowship, games, crafts, canoeing, and leisurely walks in the woods. Enjoy the great outdoors while staying in air-conditioned lodges. You won't want to miss this amazing weekend! **DEPOSITS ARE DUE NOW!** Registration forms are available on the poster across from the kitchen. If you have any questions, contact Jeanne at jeanneestephen@gmail.com.



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.

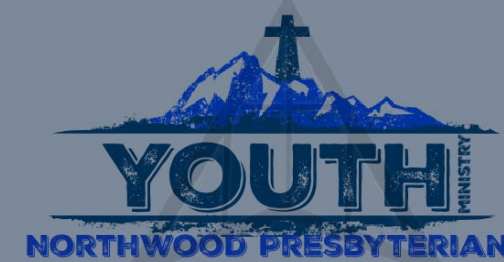
Nominating Committee

NOMINATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED. Do you know of someone you would like to see serving as Elder or Deacon and 2025 nominating committee? The Nominating Committee will accept nominations for Church Officers now through **November 3**. Remember to get the person's permission before nominating them. Nomination forms may be returned to the church office or given to the Nominating Committee Chair, Dennis Rasmussen.

I have the permission of _____

to nominate him/her for the office of Elder or Deacon or serve on the Nominating Committee 2025
(Please circle one)

Nominating Committee: June Arnold, Polly Brown, Linda Feller, Curtis Krueger, Dennis Rasmussen, Jean Swintek



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.



Thank you to the youth for spending a Wednesday youth group cleaning up our campus after the storms!

Kids' Corner Preschool & Before/After School Care Program



We are so excited to welcome Margaret McDonald to our staff as the Lead Teacher for our Toddler (2's) class. Ms. Maggie has an Associates Degree in Mass Communications, a Bachelors Degree in Human Development, and 25 years of experience in childcare. She enjoys reading, yoga, the beach, and weekends at Disney World. She is looking forward to getting to know the children and their families and having a fun and educational year!

The 3-year-old class was hard at work planting the first seeds of the new school year! Throughout the school year, the children will be planting an assortment of vegetables and flowers. We are all excited to see the seeds sprout!

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.