BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...

Sunday, January 7: Deb Clarkson, Mia Bullis

Monday, January 8: Joe Cernansky

Tuesday, January 9: Susan Gajentan, Cody Carson, Steven Cole

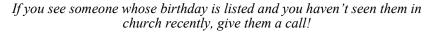
Wednesday, January 10: Patrick Turner, Riley Nigels

Thursday, January 11: Elaine Findley, Shannon Dipolito,

Andrew Carlstedt

Friday, January 12: Michele White

Saturday, January 13: Alice Nisk



The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by



Linda & Mike O'Leary In Loving Memory of Dan O'Leary



Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2024 Flower Reservation Chart" on the bulletin board across from the kitchen, or you may send your information directly to communications@northwoodpc.org

Please remember to mark "flowers" and the date on your \$30 donation. Thank you to those providing flowers each week In Honor/In Memory of someone or an anniversary/birthday!

FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

GREETERS:

(9:00) Jill Manning & Kim Blackmore

(11:00) Barbara Smith & Lois Harber



USHERS:

(9:00) Carol Zieres & Cindy Gamble

(11:00) Martha Tobiassen & Mary Kreuziger

"In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage."

Matthew 2:1-2

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Presbyterian Women, led by Patty Martin and Sue Miskiewicz

The Presbyterian Women, Sisters in Christ, meets on the second Tuesday of the month with our next meeting on January 9th at 10:00am in rooms 5 & 7. We are studying *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus in Luke-Acts*, by Olive Mahabir. Books are available for purchase in the office. The cost is \$5. Please plan to join us!

Fresh Brewed,

Fresh Brewed meets on the first Friday of the month with our next meeting on February 2nd at 10:30am in rooms 5&7. We are studying 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.

Biblical TakeAways, led by Claudia Alwood

The adult Sunday School/Bible Study will resume this Sunday, January 7th at 10:00am in room 5. We will study the healing of the women with the flow of blood and the raising of Jairus' daughter in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and John. All are welcome! Bring your Bible.

Our Mission Statement: "Come! Grow! Go!"

We are to COME to Christ in worship and fellowship together.

We are to GROW spiritually through education and learning as we commit our time, talents and finances to Him.

We are to GO out in mission and service in the name of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Citylight Schedule

Sunday 1/7

9:00 am - Contemporary Service 10: 05 am - 11:00 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Traditional Service

Wednesday 1/10

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Citynight

Thursday 1/11, Friday 1/12, Saturday 1/13 7:00 am - 1:00 pm - Church Garage Sale,

Youth Volunteers needed!

Sunday 1/14

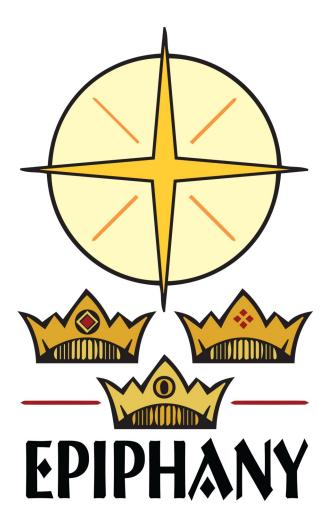
9:00 am - Contemporary Service 10: 05 am - 11:00 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Traditional Service

Rosalie Pareja has resigned from her role as the Director of Youth & Family Ministries. Sunday, January 14th will be her last day with her Northwood family. All are invited to a light reception following the contemporary service to say goodbyes next Sunday.

Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Church Organized February 19, 1978

January 7, 2024



Ministers: All Members of the Church

E. Chris Curvin, Pastor Paul Means, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission

Northwood Presbyterian Church

2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761 (727) 796-8090 www.northwoodpc.org



Order for the Public Worship of God January 7, 2024 Baptism of the Lord 11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY "There's a Song in the Air" arr. Choplin

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION Composer Weekend, Stephanie Carson

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Let us proclaim the gracious deeds of God;

People: for the steadfast love of the Lord is great.

Leader: Now we have seen the saving love of the Lord,

People: the glory of God's people and a light to all.

Leader: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts;

All: in faith let us worship God!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

(Please complete the bulletin insert, "FRIENDSHIP SHEET," and pass it toward the center aisle.)

*HYMN #147 "The First Noel"

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. Refrain

This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem in took its rest, And there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently upon their knee, And offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord, That hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought. *Refrain*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

THE FIRST NOWELL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

Almighty and loving God, You do not change with the changing years, but we are creatures of time. As we look back at the road we have traveled, we give thanks for Your faithful mercies along the way. Where the road has been dark, You have not failed us though we have often failed You. Forgive us we pray. You are our guide and our goal, our strength, and our stay. In this new year, may we trust in You and lean not on our own understanding. In all our ways may we acknowledge You, confidentially trusting that You will lead us on our life's journey in faith, hope and love. In Jesus' name and for his sake we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen

*APOSTLES' CREED (Together, see Ignite)

ANTHEM

"Rise Up, Children Arise" Mary McDonald Mike Wood, Soloist

(incorporating spirituals "Rise Up Shepherd" and "Go, Tell It on the Mountain")

CALL TO OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY—#606

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-12 (NRSV)

SERMON "An Epiphany of Hope and Meaning for the New Year" Paul Means, Associate Pastor

*HYMN #141 "On this Day Earth Shall Ring" PERSONENT HODIE

WE UNITE IN PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP

(To symbolize our unity in Christ, we hold the bread until the Elders and Deacons are served and then all partake as one body. To symbolize our personal relation ship with the Lord, we drink of the cup, as the Spirit leads.)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #151 "We Three Kings of Orient Are" KINGS OF ORIENT We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign. Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh; Prayer and praising gladly raising, worshipping God Most High. *Refrain*

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia! Alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies *Refrain*

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" arr. Weber

 $\hbox{*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.}$

Stephanie Carson, Director of Traditional Music; David Furr, Organist



ignite is a contemporary worship service at 9:00 that delivers the message of Jesus Christ through Powerful Music, Media & Scripture Based Sermons.

WELCOME

PRAISE SONG

"We Three Kings"

MEET & GREET

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG

"What Child Is This"

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

*APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"A Strange Way to Save the World"

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12 (NRSV)

SERMON

"An Epiphany of Hope and Meaning for the New Year"

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

HOLY COMMUNION

SONG OF DEDICATION

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

GOD'S BLESSING TO YOU

Taryn Lumia, Director of Contemporary Music