

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...

Tuesday, December 30: Doug Winder, Kaleb Adkisson
Wednesday, December 31: Mark Johnston, Nancy Turner
Friday, January 2: Sally Keith, Cambia Woodford, Robert Wood
Saturday, January 3: Rocky Davis



If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen them in church recently, give them a call!

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

Jean Swintek

In Loving Memory of My Parents Mae & John Merelo



Kay Scheuermann
In Loving Memory of My Mom



Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2025 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) Margie Gott, Sherri & Cliff Voege
(11:00) Hazel Vernon & Nan Robbins

USHERS:

(9:00) Louise Mylin & John Hildebrandt
(11:00) Edna Bartolucci & Mary Kreuziger



There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Luke 2:36-38

Large Print Bibles, Hymnals & Bulletins

Large print Bibles, hymnals and bulletins are available. If you need assistance locating one of these, please ask an Usher.

Hearing Devices

Hearing devices are available for use during the worship services. Please ask an usher if you are in need.

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 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



Transportation Ministry

Northwood provides transportation for those who need it to and from the 11:00 AM worship service. Call the church office, 796-8090, before noon on Thursdays to reserve a seat on the van.

Rides Available

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 our staff. If you don't see a phone extension, other information is listed. 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/Head of Staff x2007
Paul Means, Associate Pastor x2006
Stephanie Carson, Director of Music x2009
Taryn Lumia, Director of Contemporary Music, taryn@northwoodpc.org
David Furr, Organist, dmfurr35679@gmail.com
Emily Cantin, Director of Communications x2001
Mark Fettke, Bookkeeper x2005
Roxane Fineo, Director of Schools x2010
Dylan Cantin, Assistant Youth Director x2008 (cell 727-723-5984)
Aidan Murray, Facilities/Maintenance, x2002
Drew Milano, Sound & Tech, worship@northwoodpc.org

Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

*A Stephen Ministry Church
Organized February 19, 1978*

December 28, 2025



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 Fax (727) 797-8276
www.northwoodpc.org



Like us on Facebook!
facebook.com/npc.clearwater

Order for the Public Worship of God
December 28, 2025
1st Sunday of Christmas
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY “The Birthday of a King” arr. Roger Wilson
(Let us quietly prepare our hearts for worship during the opening voluntary)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Eli Jeffre

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;
People: 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 #143 “Angels From the Realms of Glory” REGENT SQUARE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(together)*
God of love, as we reflect back on this past year and look forward to living lives of faith in the upcoming year, we confess our weaknesses, failures, and transgressions, our broken promises, our selfishness, and our lack of faith in your goodness and grace. O Dear Lord, for these sins of commission and omission, may you show us mercy, grant us forgiveness and by your grace empower us to live faithful lives that make a difference for Jesus’ sake in whose name 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.**

ANTHEM “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” Longfellow/Marks
Soloist, Darrell Cooper
*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day their old familiar carols play,
and wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to men.
I thought as now this day had come, the belfries of all Christendom,
had rung so long the unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men.*

*And in despair I bowed my head: “There is no peace on earth,” I said,
“For hate is strong and mocks the song
of peace on earth, good will to men.”
Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
“God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
with peace on earth, good will to men.”*

*Till, ringing singing, on its way, the world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, of peace on earth, good will to men!*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORDS 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.

CALL TO OFFERING
(Church offerings are given through the giving stations in the hallway, online or through the mail.)

*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

*HYMN #146 “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:25-32, 36-38 (NRSVUE)

SERMON “It IS a Christmas Carol”
Kaaren Nesmith, Guest Preacher

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN “There’s a Song In the Air” CHRISTMAS SONG
*There’s a song in the air! There’s a star in the sky!
There’s a mother’s deep prayer and a baby’s low cry!
And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!*

*There’s a tumult of joy o’er the wonderful birth,
For the virgin’s sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.
Ay! The star rains its fire while the beautiful sing
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!*

*In the light of that star lie the ages impearled;
And that song from afar has swept over the world.
Every hearth is aflame, and the beautiful sing
In the homes of the nations that Jesus is King!*

*We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song
That comes down through the night from the heavenly throng.
Ay! We shout to the lovely evangel they bring,
And we greet in his cradle our Savior and King!*

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY arr. Mark Hayes
“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

(You are invited to reflect on the worship service during the closing voluntary. If you must leave before the end of the service, please respect those who remain and leave quietly.)

*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.

Please ensure all electronic devices are on silent during the service.

Stephanie Carson, Music Director; David Furr, Organist

IGNITE

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

“Born Is the King (It’s Christmas)

MEET & GREET

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG

“O Little Town of Bethlehem

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“A Strange Way to Save the World”
Dan Jeffre

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:25–32, 36–38 (NRSVUE)

SERMON

“It IS a Christmas Carol”
Kaaren Nesmith, Guest Preacher

SONG OF DEDICATION

“Go Tell It On the Mountain”

GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU

Taryn Lumia, Director of Contemporary Music