



# Large Print Announcements

## **Announcements– December 7, 2025**

### **WELCOME GUESTS!**

Welcome to Northwood and welcome to those watching online! Let us know of prayer requests by filling out the friendship sheet or through the church website, and seek to give online, by text, by mail or through offering boxes located in the narthex. Contact our church office at [communications@northwoodpc.org](mailto:communications@northwoodpc.org) if you are interested in how to do all the above or wish to become a member or learn more about us. **Mark your calendar for the next Discovering Northwood Presentation, Sunday, January 18th at 9:45am.** Welcome!

### **Ring, Sing & Mingle – TODAY**

TODAY at 4:00pm, Northwood's three handbell choirs will present a variety of Christmas Music interspersed with Carol singing and ending with a cookie reception. At the festive reception there will be a photo booth backdrop, so bring your phones for pics and wear your Christmas finery to get some great family shots for your Christmas Cards this year. Please bring homemade cookies for the event. That's the best part!! Cookies may be dropped off this morning or this afternoon.

### **HEP- Angel Tree**

It's that time of year when we have the opportunity to help needy families with Christmas! This year, Presbyterian Women have chosen to assist families from HEP (Homeless Empowerment Program). The HEP ornaments are on the Christmas tree in the cafe and will be available until **TODAY**. Each ornament will have a gift item printed on it. Select as many ornaments as you like. UNWRAPPED gifts need to be returned to the church no later than **Wednesday, December 10**. Thank you so much for sharing the love of Jesus Christ in this way during the Christmas Season!

### **Christmas Cantata-December 14** **One Worship Service at 10:00am**

Our Christmas Cantata this year is called "Sing We Now of Christmas – a celebration of the gift of Jesus". It is a collection of 8 familiar Christmas Carols and songs with original narration by Rachelle Cox. This will be accompanied by 13 instruments and sung by our 40+ voice choir. It will be presented next Sunday morning, December 14. We have only one worship service that day at 10:00am. Come and enjoy the celebration of Christ's birth through music.

## **Poinsettias**

Do you have someone you'd like to honor or remember with a poinsettia in the sanctuary this Christmas? For just \$10, you can make that happen. Place your check designated "Poinsettia" and the completed sign-up form from today's friendship sheet (through December 14) in the giving station or drop off in the church office during regular office hours. If paying online, be sure to send an email to [communications@northwoodpc.org](mailto:communications@northwoodpc.org) with the names of your loved ones and whether it is in memory or honor.

## **Fun! Friends! Friday! Ren Crew— December 12**

The Ren Crew Friday Fellowship will meet on Friday, December 12th 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," Jill Manning, Linda Howard and Carol Zieres will provide the program "Pura Vida - The Best of Costa Rica." Following the program, we will enjoy lunch at Taco-Quila Mexican Kitchen, on the corner of US 19 and 590. All are welcome! 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 [paul@northwoodpc.org](mailto:paul@northwoodpc.org).

## **NPC Garden Club—December 20**

Calling all green thumb enthusiasts! Join the NPC Garden Team, December 20th, 9am-12pm. Our focus will be East main Entry Flower Bed, North Entry Flower Bed and Fall 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.

## **Women's Retreat– January 9-11, 2026**

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! Registration forms are available on the poster across from the kitchen. Deposits with room requests are now being accepted. Sign up early for best choice of rooms! If you have any questions, contact Jeanne at [jeanneestephen@gmail.com](mailto:jeanneestephen@gmail.com).

## **Paul's Retirement Celebration– Dec. 21**

We invite our church family and friends to celebrate the retirement of our Associate Pastor, Rev. Dr. Paul Means on Sunday, December 21st. The celebration will be held between services that Sunday in rooms 5 and 7 of the Christian Education building from 10:00-11:00am and 12:00-1:00pm. A continental breakfast buffet will be served. While Northwood's Session is providing Paul with a generous financial retirement gift, you are invited to bring your written appreciation of his ministry to place in baskets provided at the reception.

## **Music Ministry's Annual Garage Sale**

We sure hope you've been collecting for the 2026 Annual Music Ministry's Garage Sale! Drop-off will begin on December 27, 2025 and run through January 13, 2026. Please take a card from the narthex and invite your family, friends and neighbors to donate and attend the sale. The Garage Sale is scheduled for January 15, 16 and 17, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. We will have breakfast and lunch available for purchase all three days along with baked goods that will benefit our Youth Program. More details will follow later in December and January. If you have questions, please call Susan Curry (727) 709-8237.

## **Opportunities for Giving this Season**

### **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**

Sunday, December 21st, we will receive the annual Christmas Joy Offering. Your gifts make a difference in providing financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families and in opportunities for deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related ethnic colleges and schools. Your generous support of the Christmas Joy Offering will make a difference in shining the One True Light of Christ's love.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING**

During the 4:30pm & 7:00pm Christmas Eve Worship Services, the offerings received will be used to replenish Northwood's much-used Helping Hands Fund. These funds are used to purchase food to replenish our food pantry and to help someone in need with groceries at a near-by store – to help purchase milk, bread, or eggs. Thank you for your generosity in the spirit of Jesus' words in Matthew 25:31-46.

## **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 June 21-28, 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, children’s ministries in local churches and schools. If interested or to sign up, please contact John Sutphin (913-687-9410), [je.sutphin@gmail.com](mailto:je.sutphin@gmail.com)) or Pastor Chris Curvin.

## **Nursery Care Available**

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. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 727-796-8090 or [communications@northwoodpc.org](mailto:communications@northwoodpc.org)

## **Youth**

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 evening we have Youth Group that meets at 6:00pm in the youth room. Game night is every Friday evening from 7:00pm-10:00pm in the youth room/FLC. If you have any questions, please contact Dylan Cantin at [youthdirector@northwoodpc.org](mailto:youthdirector@northwoodpc.org) or 727-723-5984.

## **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](http://www.northwoodpc.org) and click on the giving tab.
3. Click “Give” under the *ChurchLife app* menu options

## **Greeter Ministry**

Northwood Presbyterian has a reputation for being a warm, friendly and welcoming church. Our Greeter Ministry plays a very important role in this reputation. Our greeters are volunteers who are the first point of contact for our visitors and members. Wouldn't you like to greet and be blessed as well? If you are interested in becoming involved in this very important ministry, please contact Cindy Gamble, the Deacon responsible for greeters in the 9:00 service at [gamblecindy3@gmail.com](mailto:gamblecindy3@gmail.com). The Deacon responsible for greeters in the 11:00 service is Barbara Forsyth. She can be reached at [gulfvu@hotmail.com](mailto:gulfvu@hotmail.com).

## **FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY**

### **GREETERS:**

- (9:00) Georgia Rounding & Louise Mylin
- (11:00) Lois Harber & Gretchen Worth

### **USHERS:**

- (9:00) Carol Zieres & Cindy Gamble
- (11:00) Edna Bartolucci & Barbara Moler

### **COFFEE SERVERS:**

- (9:00) Linda Granata & Keith Nadig
- (11:00) Leslie Henley & Joan Ross

## **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...**

- Sunday, December 7:* David Hamilton Jr., Laura Turner
- Monday, December 8:* Wanda Fanning, Barbara Jordan,  
Beverly VanZyl, Roger Snay
- Tuesday, December 9:* Joan Ross
- Wednesday, December 10:* Blake Estavil
- Thursday, December 11:* Eleanor Cicerchi, Emma Tighe

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

**Beth Linville & Mary Kreuziger  
In Loving Memory of Our Father, Robert L. Miller**

**Peggy & Terry Steele  
In Honor of Our Wedding Anniversary**

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](mailto: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!

**Attendance for 11/30/25 Livestream & In-Person**

**Person Contemporary— 55 In-Person Traditional— 123**

**Livestream from the Church Website: Contemporary—28**

**Traditional—22**

If you have technical difficulties viewing the online services through your home computer or phone, please view the church live streaming archives the next day. You can always call the church office and ask for help if you are having trouble viewing from your home device. We welcome and celebrate our online live viewers who worship with us!

**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.



## 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.

## Hearing Devices

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

## 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 members and friends of Northwood. During the worship service the attendance form may be completed, which has an area for prayer concerns. These prayer requests are sent to the Deacon in charge of the prayer chain by the Associate Pastor, Paul Means. The Deacon then sends the request out to the Prayer Chain volunteers. Prayer requests may also be given to the church office or Deacon Sue Miskiewicz at [susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com](mailto:susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com)

## Email Scam Alert

Some of our members and church staff have once again received fraudulent emails that appear to be from Pastor Chris. These email scams usually say that the pastor does not have time to talk by phone and wants to talk to you by email only. They always end up asking for you to discreetly purchase gift cards to assist the pastor in helping others.

**Our pastors will never solicit you for gift cards and do NOT send these emails.** Our pastors love to talk to you anytime but you do not need to call them to let them know you have received another suspicious email. The best way to deal with this is for you to block the sender and/or forward the email to the church office so that we can collect them for the police. It saddens us when anyone seeks to do harm and prey on the Christian kindness of our members. Be aware of such scams and do not respond to them!

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

### **Biblical TakeAways—10:00am Sundays in Room 8**

Led by Emily Sutphin & Earle Lusk, this adult Education Class/Bible Study **meets every Sunday morning at 10:00am in room 8.** All are welcome! We have begun a special series for Advent, going through 12/21 (No class on 12/14, due to the Cantata, and no class on 12/28.) We will be studying the Christmas story! Please join us!

### **Youth Sunday School—10:00am Sundays in the Youth Room**

Led by Dylan Cantin, 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. Wednesday evening we have Youth Group that meets at 6:00pm in the youth room. Game night is every Friday evening from 7:00pm-10:00pm in the youth room/FLC. If you have any questions, please contact Dylan Cantin at youthdirector@northwoodpc.org or 727-723-5984.

### **Presbyterian Women—2nd Tuesday of the Month at 10:00am**

Led by Patty Martin and Sue Miskiewicz, the Presbyterian Women's Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. **Our next meeting will take place December 9th at 10:00am in rooms 5&7 with a Christmas brunch to follow. Please bring a dish to share!** We are studying *"Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ"* by Rhashell D. Hunter. 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.

### **Fresh Brewed—First Friday of the Month at 10:30am**

Fresh Brewed meets on the first Friday of the month at 10:30am in rooms 5&7. **Our next meeting will take place January 2nd.** 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 or 727-787-9868.