

Large Print Announcements

Announcements– December 14, 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 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!

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 with the names of your loved ones and whether it is in memory or honor.

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.

Worship Schedule for Advent & Christmas Eve

December 21: Contemporary Worship at 9:00am & Traditional at 11:00am

December 24: Christmas Eve Contemporary Worship—4:30pm

Christmas Eve Traditional Worship— 7:00pm

December 28: Contemporary Worship at 9:00am & Traditional at 11:00am

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. 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!

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) or Pastor Chris Curvin.

Cedarkirk Women’s Retreat—Jan. 9-11

It’s not too late to register for anyone who is interested in attending the 2025 Women’s Retreat. You can pick up a brochure in the church office or register through our website under the Fellowship tab. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Stephen at jeanneestephen@gmail.com

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

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 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 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. The Deacon responsible for greeters in the 11:00 service is Barbara Forsyth. She can be reached at gulfvu@hotmail.com.

FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

GREETERS:

(10:00) Ann & Spencer Briggs

USHERS:

(10:00) Patty Adams, Mary Kreuziger & Barbara Moler

COFFEE SERVERS:

(10:00) Edna Bartolucci, Lois Harber & Polly Brown

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.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...

Sunday, December 14: Conrad Trunzo, John Sutphin, Paul Means
Wednesday, December 17: Melanie Brown, Chris Curvin
Thursday, December 18: Kelsey Propst
Friday, December 19: Jim Lumia
Saturday, December 20: Sandy Seckel, Polly Brown,
Jere Gunderman, Karen Gipson

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

Mary McCauley
In Honor of David McCauley's Birthday

Carol Rathmell
In Loving Memory of My Parents

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!

Attendance for 12/7/25 Livestream & In-Person

Person Contemporary— 63 In-Person Traditional— 146
Livestream from the Church Website: Contemporary—22
Traditional—27

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.

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

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 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. 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.