



THE BREEZEWAY

The monthly newsletter of Northwood Presbyterian Church May 2018

Pastor's Corner

Dear friends, during the worship service on April 22nd, I shared that I will not renew my contract at Northwood. My final day is May 15th.

Last year, a number of us took a safari to Malawi and Zambia, specifically to experience the work being done by the Johnsons. That trip was so much more enjoyable because of the quality of our travelling companions. I can say the same about my journey these past two years as a part-time staff member here at Northwood. It began when Traci invited me to become what



our tradition calls a "parish associate." Not an associate pastor. That is a more formal position. A parish associate's work is approved by Session, but it is primarily tied to the Senior Pastor and her or his desire.

Traci and I met each other while serving on Mission Presbytery's General Council and struck up a friendship. She knew that with her coming maternity leave, she needed someone to anchor the congregation in her absence. Someone she could trust. I'm humbled that she gave me the invitation. And even though I was already in semi-retirement, I agreed.

After her maternity leave, I stayed on to help in a few areas of this church's ministry. I also served as a sounding board and confidant for Traci. Every pastor needs at least one. I know we all say this about our chosen professions, but pastoring has a unique set of stresses.

Now, after two years, I see that the areas assigned to me are humming along.

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Kudos!



The "Inside Out" event with Jennifer Knapp was a great success. Many thanks to Sarah Clapp and others who helped with Northwood's sponsorship of this weekend. What an example of how the people of God can help raise the consciousness of the world around them!

HAPPY Mother's DAY



Sing to the Lord a New Song (Psalm 96:1), by Owen Duggan

Seems simple enough. Pick a song or two for worship based on the date of the copyright. OK, that may not be the best way to match the music to the sermon, readings or church season.

Music in worship is intended to underscore the message. Fortunately, there are plenty of good hymns and songs from which to choose. Unfortunately, there are plenty of good songs from which to choose. Thousands to be exact, just within the Presbyterian world. So how do we find the trees amid the forest? I say *we* because all of us are participants in worship.

It's important we like what we sing or hear at worship. If we don't, it doesn't matter how spiritual, prayerful or enlightening the words are. Agreed? But...if *liking* the songs and instrumental music is one of the main criteria, how on earth do we reconcile the tastes of church goers age 4 to 94, especially given our different cultural backgrounds? A little for everyone perhaps? The problem with that approach is you might end up pleasing some of the people some of the time while positively annoying most of the people most of the time.

Or...we can look at church music as an avenue for discovery. New and old hymns, psalms and spiritual songs, all have the potential to take us somewhere we haven't been before. Familiarity is important of course for hearty and joyful singing, but the one thing we all share no matter what our age or walk of life is the enjoyment of having something new for dinner. As much as we love mashed potatoes, imagine if that was all we had every night. OK, not the best analogy. I'd probably like that too. But hopefully you see my point.

The best part of an adventure is taking it with someone. Let's go on a worship adventure and try lots of new things over the next little while and see where we land. Let Traci and me know what moves and stimulates you, challenges and edifies, uplifts and soothes. My goal is to build an authentic repertoire of Northwood music, for us and by us. All kinds of songs, singers and instruments. For God's glory and for a total worship experience that we look forward to repeating. Every Sunday!

Seekers Presents an Inspiring Program on Discipleship

What would lead a first-century rabbi to travel thousands of miles by sea and land, to be beaten, imprisoned, and ultimately beheaded for his faith? It was a CALL to turn the world upside down by living the new life so powerfully modeled by Jesus. This is the story of the Apostle Paul, a man second only to Jesus in his impact and influence on the Christian faith. Paul's life and witness defined what it means to be a follower of Jesus the Christ

Come and meet Adam Hamilton (in six DVD lessons) as he takes us on the following journey: 1) The Call to Follow Christ—Paul's background and conversion; 2) The Call to Go—Paul's first missionary journey; 3) The Call to Suffer—Paul's second missionary journey; 4) The Call to Love—Paul's second missionary journey (2); 5) The Call to Give—Paul's third missionary journey; 6) The Call to Be Faithful—Paul's Death and Legacy.

All meetings begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. in the Activities Room, The Seekers expect this fascinating material to carry us forward until the summer break. Everyone is warmly invited to again take up the study of biblical lives.—*David Middleton*

COME ONE COME ALL! EVERYONE IS INVITED!!

You are cordially invited to the **Northwood Day School Annual End of the Year Family Dinner and Silent Auction!**

When: Friday, May 11, 5:30 – 7:00

Here is just a sampling of the Silent Auction items you will have a chance to bid on:



- ◆ Gift cards to many yummy restaurants
- ◆ Sea World tickets
- ◆ Splash Town tickets
- ◆ Missions Baseball game tickets
- ◆ Natural Bridge Caverns tickets
- ◆ Music Together gift certificates
- ◆ Vera Bradley items
- ◆ Tiffany items (yes, the real thing!!)
- ◆ Lawn services
- ◆ Many, many more items!!

All items will be on tables in the **Church Breezeway Hall from May 7 – 11**. Come by any time and bid!

On-line bidding will be on BiddingOwl.com, May 7 – 11. Log on, check out the items and bid!

All items will be at the dinner on May 11. All proceeds will benefit our Tuition Assistance Program.

It has been a fantastic year at the Day School. Come join us for dinner on May 11 and share in the joy and fun as we celebrate a wonderful year. Check out all the great Silent Auction item and thanks millions for all the support and prayers for our great school, teachers and children!

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And frankly, in my semi-retirement I'm finding more and more options to travel and write, my two greatest passions.

I won't be a stranger. My family is staying in San Antonio. If you need someone to fill the pulpit in the future, I'm available. Meanwhile, I want to thank all of you! Thank you for the love, hospitality, and companionship you have shown me on our journey together! ***Blessings, Pastor Krin***

Presbyterian Women

Women's Sunday is **May 13th**. Yes, Mother's Day! Our theme is: *Women Called to Lead with Love*. Our women will be leading our worship service to the glory of God. Please come join us!

It's never too soon to put things on the calendar, so here's another PW opportunity. The **San Antonio Fall Cluster Gathering** will be on August 25th at Cross Roads Church (formerly John Calvin at Midcrown and Walzem) from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Stay tuned for more information.

Your Coordinating Team is looking for leaders—a Moderator for this next year, 2018-19 as well as a Program Chair (new position). After prayerful consideration, if you are interested and/or know some who might be, please talk with Jane Wright, current Moderator.



CIRCLE NEWS: It's the final lesson for the Circles. Congratulations to all the diligent Circle members on completing nine months of study! The Day Circle will meet at the church in the Visions Room on Wednesday, May 9 at 10:00 AM for snacks and Lesson 9. The Saturday Circle will meet Saturday, May 12 at 9:30 AM for breakfast and Lesson 9. The Evening Circle will meet at 6:30 PM Monday, May 14 for dinner at the home of Jane Huffstickler and is studying Chapter 10 of their book, *Reading the Bible for the First Time*. All are welcome at any circle. The new Horizons Bible Study, *God's Promise, I Am With You*, is here. You can obtain a copy from Judy Harris for \$11.00. Questions? Call Judy Harris, Bible Study Leader.



Men's Ministry

Join us for our monthly Men's Breakfast on Saturday, May 12, 8:00 a.m. The food will be scrumptious and the conversation lively. Special thanks to Tommy Moreno who led our discussion in April. Please RSVP to Joe Montagna by Thursday, May 10: jam@syscomsa.com; 710-1123.

Clerk of Session Report, April 2018, by *Ellen Patterson*

On April 17, 2018, your Session passed the following action items:

- ◆ Confirmands, by Affirmation of Faith, were received by the congregation of Northwood Presbyterian Church on April 1, 2018: Isabel Holland, Maria Elyse Holland, Katy Herrick, Reed Grogan, Phoenix Lopez, Samuel Mueller, Ryan Mueller, Maude O'Brien, Ruby O'Brien, Caleb Wales, and Benton Ward were voted to be received into membership by the Session. New Members Virginia Dibrell with Eleanor and Annabel (youths); as well as Sarah Higgins were also received by the congregation on April 1, 2018, by Reaffirmation of Faith. Also by Reaffirmation of Faith: Angela Pena with Abby (youth), Sarah Barrientes were voted to be received into membership, to be examined in a New Member's Class on April 29.
- ◆ Day School: Rebecca Cranfill, Day School Director, reported the following activities for the Day School: Tejano music, Teddy Bear Portraits, Mariachi group, Scholastic Book Fair; May 7-11 Silent Auction (goal is \$10,000.00 to go towards those who need tuition assistance); Graduation, May 31, 2018 for Pre K. Enrollment goal: 103 children are currently enrolled, so the current membership goal has been met. The Day School received 200 books in a grant from HEB. The Day School's new school year starts on July 1, 2018. The following motions were made and passed: That the Day School submit financials on a quarterly basis going forward. That the Session approve the Day School budget as presented by Rebecca Cranfill. (Available upon request from church office).
- ◆ Cotton Clark from the Personnel and Administration Committee made a report, which included some action items which were discussed, modified, and passed by the Session, these items originally suggested as changes to NPC's current policies by Peter and Suzanne Crouch, Consultants:
 - New Employees of Northwood Presbyterian Church or its affiliates hired after the effective date, April 17, 2018, shall be ineligible for membership at Northwood Presbyterian Church (NPC), as long as employed.
 - Current members of NPC shall not be considered for employment at NPC or any NPC affiliate.
 - Current members of Northwood Presbyterian Church shall not be eligible to submit bids for any services of a contract nature consumed by NPC or its affiliates to include, but not limited to: website design or administration, financial or accounting services, janitorial services or security/ alarm services. Short term contracts for under \$1,000.00 shall be exempt from this policy.
- ◆ Sarah Clapp from the Membership Committee presented a suggested logo for NPC. The logo was adopted as the church's official logo with some modifications by the Session, specifically, that the word "church" be added to it.
- ◆ Other Business: Committee Meetings are now officially moved from Sunday, May 20, 2018 to Sunday, May 27, 2018. The next Session meeting will be on May 15, 2018 at 6:30 pm in the Activities Room.



Five Things to Know about Pentecost

On Pentecost Sunday, May 20th, Christians around the world will celebrate with symbols of flames, a dove, and wind. Here are five things you should know about this important day.

1) Pentecost is recorded in Acts, chapter two. The Bible tells us “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the houses where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, and the spirit gave them utterance.”

2) The languages spoken by the early Christians were heard by thousands of Jewish pilgrims who were in Jerusalem to celebrate Shavuot, and those languages were intelligible. Those who were there spoke of the miraculous messages connected with God’s mighty works. While those who heard the messages in their own languages were amazed, others thought the Christians were just drunk, particularly because it was a feast day for the Jews.

3) Many Christians recognize Pentecost as the birthday of the church because it marks the beginning of the Apostles spreading Jesus’ message. With the descent of the Holy Spirit, a New Covenant is inaugurated. It is one of the most ancient feasts in the Church, mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles (20:16) and Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians.

4) Before Jesus was crucified, he told the disciples that the Holy Spirit would come after him. Jesus said: “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you” (John 14:16-18). Just as Jesus said, 50 days after the resurrection, the promise was fulfilled when Peter and the early Church were in Jerusalem.

5) The English word “Pentecost” is translated from the Greek work pentekostos which means “fifty”. This comes from the ancient Christian expression “pentekoste hemera” which means “fiftieth day”. In fact, Christians borrowed the phrase from Greek-speaking Jews who used the phrase to refer to a Jewish Holiday known as the Festival of the Weeks. Leviticus 23:16 instructs people to count seven weeks (50 days) from the end of Passover to the beginning of the next holiday. Jews celebrate Pentecost 50 days after the end of Passover. Christians observe the day 50 days after Easter.

