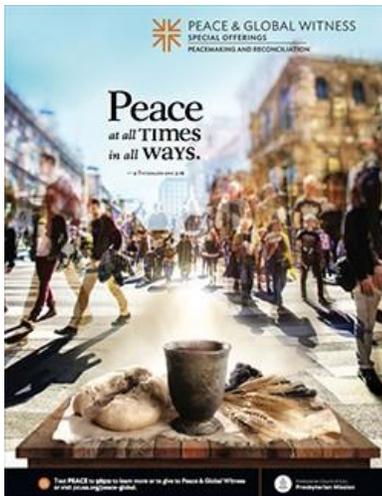


World Wide Communion Sunday

Elizabeth Hewins

“Sunday, October 7, is World Wide Communion Sunday which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. Paul tells us that we are to ‘discern the body’ when we



partake of Holy Communion, mindful that we note our relationship to all our brothers and sisters in Christ in the celebration. One is not to go hungry while another is drunk! (I Cor. 11:21). This is scandalous behavior opposed to the Way of Christ. Thus it is appropriate that World Communion Sunday is also a time when we receive the annual Peace and Global Witness Offering as a way of continuing the ancient Christian practice of sharing what we have with brothers and sisters in need.”

These words are taken from the PC(USA), Presbyterian Mission website. Today, World Wide Communion Sunday is celebrated around the world, demonstrating that the church, founded on Jesus Christ, peacefully shares God-given goods in a world increasingly destabilized by globalization and global market economies based on greed.

Northwood will be collecting the Peace and Global Witness Special Offerings on Sunday, October 7. It encourages the church of our time to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God’s mission with those around the corner and around the world, as we are active peacemakers at all times and in all ways. How is this peace offering used?

25% stays with our congregation to use in our Mission goals;

50% goes to the Presbyterian Mission Agency;

25% goes for the Mid Councils to engage in peacemaking and to build ministries of reconciliation;

In the past funds have been used to:

- fund educational assistance for Veterans,
- fund efforts working to eliminate all forms of human trafficking, (continued on next page)

Pastor’s Corner

This space reserved.
Prayers invited as we eagerly await the person God has chosen.



PW Circles in October

Judy Harris

Our three Presbyterian Women circles are up and studying in spite of all the rainy days and evenings. Anyone is welcome and invited to join any of our three Circles.

The Wednesday and Saturday Circles are using the Horizon Study: *God's Promise, I Am With You*. Our circle leaders have copies. The Wednesday Circle will meet October 10 at 10:00 a.m. in the Visions Room at the Church. The Saturday Circle will meet in the Church Parlor October 13 at 9:30 a.m. Both groups will be studying Lesson 2 in the Horizons Bible Study Book.

The Evening Circle will be meeting for dinner and study Monday October 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Sherryl Walsh. They are studying *Misreading Scripture With Western Eyes* by E. Randolph Richards and Brandon J. O'Brien. They will study Chapter 2. This book is available on Amazon for \$13.43.

Questions? Call Judy Harris, 210-602-7992.

A Parting Note

Hello all! It has been a pleasure being a part of this truly special congregation. I have been so honored to serve as a ruling elder this past year and as chair of membership and continuing education. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for welcoming and celebrating my family into your Northwood family. We will be moving to the little town of El Campo and plan to be active members of the Presbyterian Church there. We will miss you all tremendously.

Sarah Clapp

NOTE: Sarah, Liz, and Sam are moving this month. We'll miss them right back.

World Wide Communion

Sunday, continued from page 1

- begin a senior companion program that pairs senior citizens with volunteers to help with light chores or errands,
- support the work of a Mission Co-Worker, such as Charles and Melissa Johnson

Special envelopes will be in the pews for this Peace and Global Witness Special offering. Please prayerfully consider giving to this important Special Offering.

Many blessings in Christ

Your Mission and Service Team

Northwood Day School News

Martha Sherrod



One of the most exciting things happening at the Day School is what we have been able to do so far with the very significant grant we received from PreK-4-SA. Our teachers have been using the wonderful curriculum we have been able to purchase. Also, several of our teachers have completed the first six hours of specialized training offered by PreK-4-SA. They have come back from the training and begun to implement the information they learned. This training will continue throughout the year. PreK-4-SA will visit occasionally to observe and assist our teachers in any way they need. The grant has enabled us to do several things to upgrade the Day School playground. Ms. Rebecca has worked on completing the Year 1 needs assessment required for the grant. As you can see, receiving a grant is a fantastic thing! It also comes with lots of work...thanks Ms. Rebecca and teachers for working so hard to do great things with this wonderful grant.

The teachers will continue to get their learning on with Staff Development on October 8. The teachers will be conducting their first round of Parent Conferences this month as well.

In other fun news, the Tooth Fairy (from Kids Dentistry) will visit this month, showing our kiddos how to keep that wonderful smile healthy and bright. 😊 The San Antonio Fire Department will also visit, continuing to teach us how to stay safe. And just for fun, we have a Halloween Parade at about 9:30 right after chapel on the 31st! Folks are welcome to come see our cute little ghosts and goblins!

Always remember, if you would like to be a Reading Buddy or have an interest you would like to share with the children, please let us know!

The welcome mat is always out, so come and visit and see the great things happening in our Day School!

Seekers Class Studies Christian Mindfulness

The Seekers Class this fall is working its way through *Right Here Right Now: The Practice of Christian Mindfulness*, by Amy G. Oden. This is a biblically based examination of the roots and development of Christian mindfulness.

References to mindfulness practices as found in the Old Testament continue in the teachings of Jesus and throughout Christian history. Like the good handbook it is, in part, *Right Here Right Now* includes clear instructions for the practice of Christian mindfulness.

Seekers gather on Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the Activities Room with David Middleton leading the class.

Faith Café Is Open Every Sunday

Nick Roberson

Do you like coffee? Do you love Jesus? Well, come check out the Faith Café each Sunday morning at Northwood! The Faith Café is an adult Sunday School class where we will gather together each week to share our lives with one another and explore the ways God is working in them. Using the liturgical calendar as a guide, this class will set its members up at the beginning of each week with the upcoming scripture and some related questions to keep in mind over the course of that week. We know that God is constantly working for us and through us, and we are so excited to share this Good News with those around us! Join us this Sunday to share how you saw God at work in your life this week and, of course, to enjoy good coffee and great fellowship. We hope to see you!

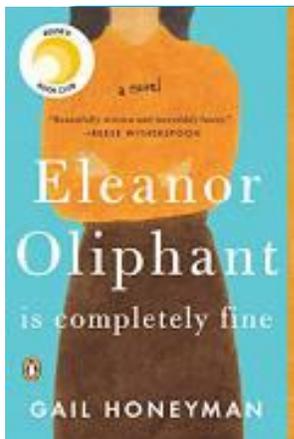
We will meet from 9:45-10:45 in the Parlor. Child care is available for children under three in the day school wing, while we encourage kiddos over three to join their own Sunday School classes.

I will post the scripture and the "food for thought" for the upcoming week on the Faith Café Facebook page.



House of Neighborly Service Invites You

HNS is inviting you to a Neighbors Together Luncheon on Friday, October 15 from 11:45 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. This is their Annual Fundraiser and replaces the Gala. Would you like to attend? Judy Harris has invitations and information. **(210) 434-2301.**



Contemporary Book Club

October selection is *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Hunnyman.

Sunday, October 28, 5:30 p.m. Dinner followed by book discussion.

Home of Donn and Linda Iverson, 3808 Arroyo Seco, Schertz

Non church members are welcome.



The Song of Justice

Owen Duggan

“For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind . . . No more shall weeping be heard . . . They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity . . . The wolf and the lamb shall feed together . . . They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.”

Isaiah 65:17-25

When do songs turn from love and other yearnings of the heart to calls to change the world? More often than you think. First the idea of change and renewal is embedded in our faith from the story of Exodus to the Emancipation Proclamation to the liberation of Europe by the free world in WWII. Bob Dylan’s prophetic warning of the ’60s that “the times they are a-changing” or songs like “One Tin Soldier” may not have stopped a terrible war of that time but they may have very well inspired those who did.

What does all this sociopolitical musing have to do with us you might ask? Well, we in the church have consciousness raising songs of our own. Julia Ward Howe’s “Battle Hymn” comes to mind, as does “We Shall Overcome,” a gospel song known from the civil rights movement. A new hymn by modern hymnist Rory Cooney entitled “Canticle of the Turning” bears mentioning.

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?*

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!
Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.*

*From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.*

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!
Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.*

Watch for this one at Northwood in the month of October. And watch out world! We have a song to sing.

SPAM!
SPAM!
SPAM!

SPAM!

The cast of Northwood Jr. Players
would like to announce this year's musical production

Monty Python's Spamalot young@part!

Come along on this gut-busting medieval journey
as we search for The Grail. *Will we find it?*

Show dates are November 8, 9, and 10 at 7:00 p.m.
and November 11 at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets go on sale exclusively to church and cast members on
Sunday, October 14, one full week ahead of the general public.



For more information, contact
jenn.rivera@gmail.com

SEE YOU THERE!

Are You on a Session Committee?

It's not too late to get more involved with Northwood by joining a Session Committee. Pick one that interests you from this list and see how you can be part of it.

Building and Grounds: Larry Finkel and Ryan Grogan

Christian Education: Sarah Clapp and Nick Roberson

Congregational Care: Norma Roberson

Fellowship: Jane Wright

Membership and Evangelism: Elizabeth Clapp

Mission and Service: Elizabeth Hewins

Personnel and Administration: Helen Smith, Chair; Cotton Clark co-chair

Stewardship and Finance: Bob Lord and Patty Clark

Worship and Music: Vanessa Mueller

Clerk of Session Report, September 2018

Ellen Patterson, Clerk of Session

Greetings, faithful servants of Northwood Presbyterian Church!



Your Session met on Tuesday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Activities Room, and the following motions were made and passed by the Session:

Day School: The NPDS Board moved that money raised at the School's 2019 spring fundraiser shall be allocated to playground improvements that are not approved by Pre-K for SA funds.

The NPDS Board moved that value of the fund earned in excess of \$100,000 from the school's investment in the Texas Presbyterian Foundation shall be allocated to the School's Tuition Assistance Fund for this school year of 2018-2019.

Wedding of Non-Members Jason Hagauer and Ashley Somers: It was moved and passed that the Session approve the Hagauer/Somers wedding on November 17 and that Rev. Michelle Veters shall officiate.

Interim Pastor Nominating Committee: The IPNC moved that the Session approve the proposed contract for an Interim Pastor with the understanding that the following adjustments may be made: the name and start date; the balance between cash salary and housing allowance; the percentage and amount of the Board of Pensions payment, depending on retirement status of the candidate; the adjustment of the SECA amount based on the actual cash salary. Discussion: \$93,000 ballpark should be the effective salary/cost to the church.

The IPNC moved that the Session authorize the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee to negotiate on behalf of the Northwood Presbyterian Church Session with the Committee's selected candidate.

Mission and Service Team: The Mission and Service Team moved that Northwood sponsor and organize a mission trip to Zambia. The purpose of the trip will be to visit and work with our Mission Co-Workers in Zambia, Charles and Melissa Johnson, and with their partner church CCAP/Z. The trip will occur most likely in April 2019. Discussion: Capped at 8 people.

Finance Team: The Finance Team moved to appoint signatories for each of these accounts: endowment, investment, savings and checking.

Scouts: Popcorn sales: It was moved and passed that the session authorize scouts related to the church to sell popcorn for two weeks in October.