



# The Breezeway

The monthly newsletter of Northwood Presbyterian Church

January 2019

## Stewardship

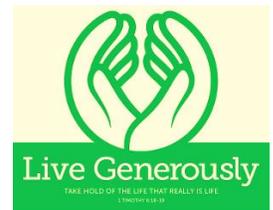
Many of Northwood's members have turned in their pledge cards, for a total of over \$134,000. Our annual expenses are around \$322,000 annually. Where does the difference come from? It comes from other giving, building use fees, endowment interest, and savings.

Our pledges are down from last year. One reason is because of the transitional situation of the past few months. Another reason is the natural transition of membership through moves and deaths. If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please prayerfully consider what this church, Northwood, means to you.

Stewardship is not just about church budgets, it is also about taking care of what God has so generously given to us. Be looking for our annual "Time & Talent" survey in the new year, where you can offer your time, your energy, your love, your commitment to the ministry of Northwood Presbyterian Church.

*1 Timothy 6:18-19 (NRSV)*

*They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.*

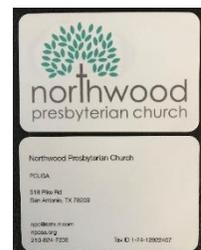


## Did you know? Northwood is tax-exempt...

Have you ever bought items for Northwood and then turned in your receipts for reimbursement? Whether for kitchen supplies, for mission project items or for building needs, items that are purchased for Northwood are exempt from Texas sales tax. And, if you do pay tax, you can only be reimbursed for the sales amount, not for the tax amount!

*So, how do you go about getting the tax exemption on purchases?*

It really is as easy as telling the store clerk "This is tax exempt!" Depending on the store, the clerk will either ask for Northwood's phone number or have you fill out a brief form with Northwood's name and address. You don't need a Tax ID number! But, if you would like, you can pick up a Northwood business card in the office with the Tax ID number and the information needed. And, if you are ever traveling for Northwood, for example to a Presbytery meeting, the Texas hotel tax is also partially tax exempt. In that case, you will need to take a form.



*And when you donate?*

One more note – if you donate items to Northwood that you have bought, you may ask for a letter documenting the donation of the items.

If you have any questions about this, please ask a Session member on the Finance team – Patty Clark or Bob Lord.

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# Annual Congregational Meeting

Immediately after worship on  
**Sunday, January 27**

**This will be a time to consider  
“Where has Northwood been?” and  
“Where is Northwood headed?”**

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## Days for Girls meetings

The San Antonio North Central Days for Girls team will continue to have a regular work day the first Saturday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Over the next three months, we will be preparing kits and supplies to take to Zambia in April! We took a break in December (but did get a lot of work completed in November) and need to ramp up again in January. Of course, this is a busy time, but please put the date in your calendar.

Come every time all the time, or for just an hour or two when you can! All are welcome, and there will be tasks for sewers and non-sewers alike. If you have any questions, please ask one of the committee members: Patty Clark, Stephanie Balderas, Anne Detweiler, Judy Harris, Blanche Ryan, and Jane Huffstickler.



The first three meetings of 2019 are:

- Saturday, Jan. 5
- Saturday, Feb. 2
- Saturday, March 2

Bring any scissors or sewing machines you have, but don't let the absence of them be a deterrent. Come at 9:00 or whenever the coffee kicks in.

Some women a few thousand miles away are counting on our help.

## Circle Meetings for January

Our three Presbyterian Women circles celebrate the New Year by continuing their studies. The circles that meet on Wednesday and Saturday use the Horizon Bible Study: *God's Promise, I Am With You* and are on Lesson 5. Copies of the study book are available at meetings.

Day Circle will meet Wednesday, Jan. 9 at 10:00 a.m. in the Visions Room at the Church.

Saturday Circle will meet in the Church Parlor on Jan. 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Evening Circle will meet for dinner and study Monday, Jan. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Stephanie Balderas's home. The lesson is chapter 5 of *Misreading Scripture With Western Eyes* by E. Randolph Richards and Brandon J. O'Brien.

Questions? Call Judy Harris, 210-602-7992. Anyone is welcome to attend any of our three Circles.





## “It’s the Best Time of the Year”

*Owen Duggan, Music Director*

*and lecturer in Sacred Music at Our Lady of the Lake University*

Writing this a few days before Christmas I find myself happy and grateful. Happy because it is my favorite time of the year, and grateful to have been a part of all the gifts of time and service given at Northwood during the past month or so. While planning for music ministry for the new year, I would like to take a moment to thank the choir and others for all the splendid music and warm seasonal spirit of fellowship!

The choir at Northwood puts in at least 3-4 hours a week to lead our congregation in meaningful song and sung prayer, supporting the message of the scriptures. That’s not counting the time for special activities like our very first Lessons and Carols at the Lake and the CD of Christmas music for our shut-ins, with Ray Tolbert recording it for us. Add to that our handbell ringers for Potpourri: Patty Clark, Anne Detweiler, Tim Lee, Gayle Millard, and Martha Sherrod; our fearless ‘band’ leader, Vanessa Mueller and her Northwood Instrumentalists; Ron Prichard who produces the Vibe services and who went above and beyond to give us a perfect sound mix for the Bluegrass ‘Mass’; Libby Overholt for more worship bulletins than you can shake a stick at; and Jamie Ward’s corralling the wee ones for the Advent 4 children’s processional and hymn offering. Our pianist-organist Deborah has put in many extra hours and shown us her best this past year with styles from Bach to bluegrass and a hearty serving of good-old-time gospel!

All through this busiest of times we had only cheerful giving, mutual support, and cheerleading from everyone involved! My heartfelt thanks and best wishes for another great year of music at Northwood!

Yours in Christ,  
Owen

## Northwood Day School

It’s hard to believe that the school year is not yet half over and we are already looking to next year. Enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year starts this month!! In-house enrollment begins Jan. 22 with current families getting the opportunity to continue to secure a place for their child. Those on the waiting list will have a chance to enroll beginning Feb. 1, and open enrollment for the community begins Feb. 19. If you know a family who is looking for a high-quality, faith-based place with caring and dedicated teachers, spread the word!! The Day School is truly one of the greatest ministries of our church.

The Day School board and Northwood Church continue to work to improve the security of the Day School facility and the church. As we know, our building is used by many groups for lots of events—which is great!! We all need to be vigilant when we are here to make sure everything is safe and secure for our kids and the everyone else. As they say, “If you see something, say something!”

As always, we welcome everyone to stop by and see all the great things happening in the Day School!



# Session Report, December 2018

*Patty Clark, Acting Clerk of Session*



The Session gathered at 6:00 p.m. for fellowship and dinner. Rev. Kreutzer led a prayer before the meal. The meeting was called to order at 7:52 p.m. and opened with prayer by Rev. Kreutzer. Rev. Kreutzer has given each Session member a PC(USA) calendar for 2019. In addition to dates, there are many church resources in the calendar.

Rev Kreutzer reported that he has started thinking about ways to lead Northwood in developing our MIF (Ministry Information Form). Nick Roberson presented the idea of a ‘town hall’ meeting to hear from the congregation on how they feel about Northwood. Another suggestion was to have small group meetings, with guided discussion and a small group moderator. The consensus was to go ahead with looking for a Director of Faith Formation. It was agreed that the Congregational Meeting on Jan. 27 would be a good time to introduce these ideas. Jane Wright moved to re-schedule the next Session meeting to Jan. 22, following the committee meetings on Jan. 20. The motion passed.

Larry Finkel, co-chair of Building and Grounds, presented a report concerning ADA compliance as required for churches. The Committee is accepting bids for exterior repair, prep, and painting and was asked to continue work on scope of the bid having the work done on the entire building. The company chosen for that work and Samuels Glass which will replace the doors in Fellowship Hall will coordinate the work.

Patty Clark, co-chair of Stewardship and Finance, presented the proposed 2019 Budget. She informed the Session that pledges are down, in part because of the transitional situation of the past few months. Our budget will be balanced by the grace of our endowment and our savings. Expenses remain steady. The budget will be fine-tuned and will be voted on at the January Session meeting.

## Join us this Sunday!

We want to see you every week.  
Every week is a new chance to meet the Living God in worship.  
Every week we learn something new.  
Every week God speaks to us.

## Calling All Canes and Ables Sunday, Feb. 10

All you Canes and Ables (anyone 50+)– save the date!  
We are having another BUNCO Party in Fellowship Hall following worship. Light lunch will be served. Watch for more details in the February Breezeway, but mark your calendars NOW! You don’t want to miss this one!

## How has God been generous to you? How is God calling you to live generously?

If you have not yet turned in your pledge card for 2019, please do so–in the offering plate or to the office. Having a pledge from all members helps us to create a generous budget to support our programs and ministries!

## Meet and Greet Sunday, Jan. 13

Your Fellowship Team invites you to gather in the breezeway following worship to “meet” someone you’ve seen but not met and/or to “greet” your brothers and sisters in Christ while enjoying a treat or two.

# NPC Family Photos 2018

As it is every year, the Sanctuary was beautifully decorated for Christmas by the Worship Team. The Fellowship Team decked out Fellowship Hall.



The Incredibles were a big hit at Trunk or Treat.



Vibe means sharing, prayer, and lots of music to get us in the Spirit!



Sadly, these two chairs in the children's library were irreparably damaged. They are a reminder to take care.



Children had fun (and cupcakes!) at the Birthday Party for Jesus. The portrait shows parents also enjoyed the celebration.