

## Summertime



“Summertime, and the living is easy...,” so say the lyrics of a familiar old song. When I was school age, I remember being out for the summer. So much time and so little to do. There were some fun things to do and family vacation, but there was so much time, I occasionally got bored. The Bible suggests that rest and Sabbath are God’s gift to us. I don’t know about you, but I have to confess that I don’t always receive that gift with the joy it deserves. There’s always something going on, nowadays. Another thing is that the Texas heat makes me want to stay

inside with the A/C cranked up, rather than do all those outdoors activities, like riding a motorcycle or bicycle, that I love to do.

In July, Betty and I will be attending the Transitional Ministry Seminar at Zephyr Point Conference Center at Lake Tahoe. Although that week will be mostly work, I hope there will be a little time to relax and hopefully take a hike in those beautiful mountains there. I’m pleased to announce The Reverend Karen Stocks, a former member of Northwood Presbyterian Church, will be here on July 14 and 21 to lead worship and preach.

July will also mark the beginning of our 40-Days of Prayer endeavor and our Self-Study groups. Prayer Guides for the 40 Days are being prepared as I write this and should be available for you Sunday, July 7. Northwood’s Self-study will be an opportunity for us as a congregation to give thanks for the journey behind us and to discern together the leading of the Spirit for what lies ahead. I hope you will be involved in both the prayer and the conversation aspects that are part of this transition and preparation for calling the next pastor.

I also hope you will find some extra time for rest, relaxation, and Sabbath as we move through the summer months.

Blessings,  
Pastor Dick

### Weekly eNotes will keep you up to date

Northwood sends out weekly (or so) eNotes with upcoming events. You’ll find them in your email Inbox if you are signed up.

If you are not receiving eNotes, sign up on the web page <http://npcs.org/>.

It’s easy! Just scroll to "Subscribe to Receive Weekly E-Notes" and submit your email address!

# Session Highlights

The Session met on Tuesday evening, June 25. Here are highlights of the meeting:

- Buildings and Grounds, headed by Larry Finkel and Ryan Grogan, accomplished some important tasks like getting emergency exit signs replaced, as well as all the bulbs in the breezeway. Even the dumpster is new!
- Boy Scout Troop 345 cleared brush in the alley.
- Session approved a Day School proposal to upgrade the security system in the Day School wing.
- Session congratulated Rebecca Cranfill, Day School Director, and the Day School Board on receiving 4 Star Accreditation, with Texas Rising Star.
- Fellowship has been coordinating with the HOA (for our Northwood neighbors) to plan the annual July Fourth event.
- Pastor Dick is working with Personnel and Administration to complete staff reviews this summer.
- Stewardship and Finance, led by Patty Clark and Bob Lord, has overseen the recently completed high-level external financial review of the church and Day School records for 2015, 2016, and 2017. Our financial records are in good shape!



★ **Fourth of July** ★

★ **Community Celebration** ★  
on the Northwood Lawn

*The FUN Begins at 9 a.m.*

★ **Parade**   ★ **Games**   ★ **Cupcake Walk**

★ **Bouncy House**   ★ **Food**   ★ **Dog Station**

and ★ **More!** ★

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

## Who Is My Neighbor? Learning to Live Like Jesus

**Who:** Children 3 Years through 5th Grade. 6th Grade and up are invited to be Assistants

**What:** Bible Learning through Music, Crafts, Drama, Group Time, and Snacks

**When:** August 5-9, 9 a.m.-noon

**How:** Registration Forms are available in the Church Office and Narthex. Cost is \$10 per child.

### We need your help!

It takes a lot of people to make VBS a special time for our children. How can you help? Call Director of Faith Formation Debbie Owen and volunteer today.

**Group Leaders and Assistants**

**Worship Leader**

**Drama Leader**

**Response Leader (Active, Bible, or Creative)**

## What's Happening at the Day School

*Martha Sherrod*

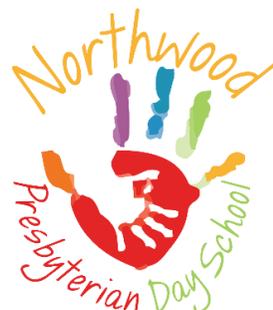
WE DID IT!!! Northwood Presbyterian Day School has achieved TEXAS RISING STAR 4-STAR PROVIDER CERTIFICATION!!! Yes, this is a big deal! For the last almost two years, the Day School has worked on classroom learning centers, staff development, lesson plans, outdoor learning environment, parent engagement, and much more.

Last week the TRS evaluators came and stayed for three days. At the end of the week we were informed that the Day School had achieved the highest TRS rating; 4 Stars! Only a few childcare centers in San Antonio have a 4 Star rating by TRS. Now we are one of them!

We can truly say that Northwood Day School offers some of the highest quality child - care in the city. Thank you, teachers and staff, for your diligence and hard work. Thank you especially to Ms. Rebecca who kept us on track through thick and thin, who believes in us, and who never let us take our eyes off the prize! We love and appreciate you!

With this rating comes a couple of other perks. The Day School will receive more funds from PreK-4-SA and from Texas Rising Star for new and updated curriculum for our Infant, Toddler and Two-Year-Old classrooms. Additional funds will be used for parent engagement, teacher training, classroom enhancement, and our outdoor learning environment.

Our Day School is truly a Shining Star! As always, please come on down and visit anytime. We appreciate everyone's prayers, love and support.

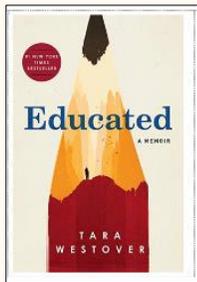


## Finance and Stewardship

# Financial Review Completed

Northwood has recently completed a 2015-2016-2017 high-level external financial review of the Church and Day School records. All in all, our financial records are in good shape. The reviewer did make a few suggestions for improvements:

- enhanced monthly reconciliation of NPDS bank account
- validation of online tuition payment account
- improved categorization of miscellaneous expenses
- clarification on reports of transfers between accounts
- track NPDS investment account in Quick Books
- track NPDS budget in Quick Books
- use Quick Books feature for staff to view paystubs online
- create written financial and investment policies
- monitor tax impact of building use by outside groups
- review finances of other groups (PW, scouts, players)



## Contemporary Book Group

The Contemporary Book Group is reading nonfiction for the summer. All are invited. Check announcements in the worship bulletin and eNotes for meeting information.

**July 20** – *Educated* by Tara Westover. Location to be announced.

**August** — *Dinner at Mr. Jefferson's: Three Men, Five Great Wines, and the Evening that Changed America* by Charles A. Cerami. Date and location to be announced.

## Circles Studies for This Fall



Our Presbyterian Women circles concluded their studies in May. Now we look forward to beginning a new study in September.

The Horizons Bible Study is *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments* by Rev. Eugenia Gamble. The Sol Center at

University Presbyterian Church is offering a three morning preview with Rev. San Williams, August 6-8 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Cost is \$40.00 per person. You may register on line or by calling the church at 210-732-9927.

The Evening Circle have chosen *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis as their study this year.

If you would like a copy of the Horizons study book, call Judy Harris, 210-602-7992.

Sherryl and Drew Walsh invite you to meet newly-weds Mackenzie Walsh Stern and Elliott Stern who married June 22. You can wish the couple well at a reception at Hearthstone, July 20, 4-6:30 p.m.



# **Save the Date !!**

## **WOMEN'S BEACH re-TREAT**



**October 11-14, 2019**

**Friday evening through Monday morning  
Columbus Day Weekend**

**3 days and nights of relaxation at the beach  
in Corpus Christi with your Northwood sisters.**

**Bring a friend, bring a sister, and enjoy fun in the sun!**

Hi All Beach Lovers,

We are planning another Northwood PW retreat this October to Island House in Corpus Christi...just steps away from the beach. We went there in 2017 and loved that the condos are beach side. There is a big, lovely pool, and we will be renting two-bedroom, two-bath condos with full kitchens.

The dates are Columbus Day weekend, Friday, October 11 thru Monday, October 14. We're hoping this will allow everybody to enjoy a three-day weekend. If you have to be back on Monday, you will be able to stay late on Sunday and enjoy the day without having to leave at 11:00 checkout time.

More information to come, but spread the news and put the date on your calendars.

Bev Grounds for Northwood PW

**This is the third year  
Beverle has found a  
beachy location for our  
annual Women's  
Retreat. Thanks to her  
for scouting out  
great spots for us.**