

Worship Wars

Dr. Tom Long has written a helpful book with the title *Worship Wars*. Dr. Long was my professor of preaching and worship back at Princeton Seminary. The book looks at differences in styles of worship that are available today and the anxiety and conflicts that sometimes arise out of those differences and styles. The book concludes that the important thing is the quality of worship (whether that be contemporary or traditional or blended) and its focus upon the living God. For visual (and younger) persons screens are obviously a great addition to worship.

About a week ago someone called me and related that she had heard several concerns about the video screens now mounted in the sanctuary and how they would be used in worship. In my experience, screens can be used to enhance worship or to detract from it. At Holy Trinity (my last pastorate) we began using screens and the experience overall was good. We had moments for mission presented on the screen. We had hymns and songs on the screens (hymnals were also available to those who preferred them). It took some time to get used to but soon most of us found singing with our heads up, seeing the larger print on the screen, and not holding heavy hymnals or turning pages was preferred. We occasionally had a sermon illustration too, but screens were not used during the sermon on a regular basis. The big challenge with screens is having the information ready ahead of time, having someone to prepare the content, and having someone who can do the presentation during worship.

So what about the screens at Northwood? The answer is I don't know for sure. As I understand it, the screens were purchased from a personal gift to the church, not out of the operational budget we support with our pledges each year. But how they will be used in worship has not been agreed upon. We did use the screens in worship back in May when we heard the report of our Missionaries (Patty and Martha), when they returned from Zambia. That seemed to work well. I'm setting up a meeting of people involved with the screens and with worship to set some guidelines of how we want to use the screens. I'll keep in touch. If you have concerns or suggestions about how we might best use these instruments for worship, please let me know.

Blessings,
Pastor Dick



GOBBLE, GOBBLE Thanksgiving Potluck!

Join us on Thanksgiving Day for a potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall. We'll pass the hat to cover the cost of turkey, and each person is asked to bring a side dish to share. Please sign up in the narthex if you wish to participate. Tell us how many people are coming and what dish you will make.



A Special Advent Offering

The Session has approved a special offering be taken during the Advent season, the Advent Gift. The Congregational Care Team suggested that funds be raised for distribution to Northwood families in need throughout the year. Watch for special offering envelopes in the pews at church, or you may send an offering by mail to the church office. Please label your check or envelope as Advent Gift. And thank you to all who are able to support this Gift.

Schedule for PW Circles

Our three Presbyterian Women circles are into their third meetings. The Morning Circle will gather at 10:00 A.M. in the Visions or Activities Room at church on Wednesday, Nov. 13 to study Lesson 3 of our book *Love Carved Out of Stone*. The Saturday Circle will meet Saturday November 9 at 9:30 A.M. for breakfast in the Church Parlor and study Lesson 3.

The Evening Circle is studying C.S. Lewis's book *Mere Christianity*. They will meet Monday, Nov. 11 at 6:30 P.M. for dinner and discussion at Stephanie Balderas's home.

All women are welcome to join our meetings! If you would like a Horizon's study book, call Judy Harris.



Notes from ENotes:



MEN'S Breakfast
Saturday Nov. 9



ALL COMMITTEE SUNDAY

Nov. 17 after worship in Fellowship Hall
A light lunch will be provided



Bell Choir

Anyone interested in playing handbells during this holiday season, please join us for rehearsal on Wednesday nights at 6:15 P.M.
For more information, contact Owen Duggan

If you don't receive the weekly ENotes:
subscribe by entering your email address on the Northwood web page: npcsa.org

Stewardship

Stewardship is a time to reflect on the gifts you have been given and on your gifts that you give to God.

Giving God my Day – To be still reveals a willingness to value personal quiet time with God. Time with God each day allows us to know that we are treasured, loved by God. What are your challenges to claiming a personal quiet time with God? What connections have you discovered between a receptive quiet time and abundant joy and overflowing generosity?



Giving God my Worship – The benefits of gathering regularly with other believers in worship and hearing God’s word are incredible. What do you value most about worship with other believers? Where in worship do you glimpse God’s abundance and generosity?

Giving to God of my Spiritual Gifts – We have been called to be people through whom Christ has eyes to see, ears to hear, feet to approach, hands to touch, hearts to feel, and souls to respond. What opportunities do you see to serve in your wider community? How can you be joyful and generous in serving others?

Giving to God of my Income – We are invited to give joyfully and generously. God will make it possible for all to overflow in generosity. What habits have you developed in your giving? How can you further develop your giving as a faithful practice in Christian discipleship?

Please prayerfully consider your commitment to Christ’s church and the ministry of Northwood. Bring your Commitment Cards to worship on Sunday, Dec. 1 for Consecration Sunday.



News from Northwood Presbyterian Day School

Martha Sherrod

Well, it looks like October was the month for giving to NPDS.

First, a wonderful young man named Ben chose NPDS for his Eagle Scout project. He donated his time, energy and resources to install two basketball goals and a Triple Shoot goal along with balls!! Our kids are having a “ball” playing with the new goals.

It’s one more wonderful thing on our play yard for the children’s motor skills, team building, and just plain fun. Thanks, Ben, for your time and effort.

Next, our students participated in a Trike-A-Thon to benefit St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital. They had a blast riding their two and three wheeled bikes and trikes while raising money for a great cause.

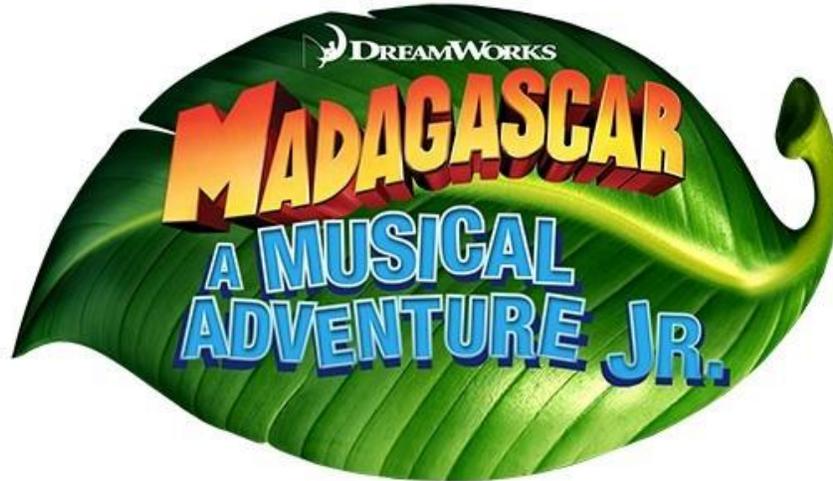
On Saturday, Nov. 2, Northwood’s own Tommy Moreno will conduct a Car Seat Safety event for the parents of NPDS in his role a safety specialist for TexDoT. Thanks, Tommy, for giving our Day School parents such important safety information.

Our students will get into the Thanksgiving spirit on Nov. 21 by enjoying a special Thanksgiving “feast” (snack☺). Always fun to share a special meal with friends!!

Please put on your calendar: Monday, Dec. 9, 6:00 P.M. – Our Annual Day School Christmas Program. Everyone is welcome. What a wonderful way to ring in the Christmas season.



Northwood Jr Players Presents



Based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion
Picture Book by Kevin Del Aguila

Original Music and Lyrics by
George Noriega & Joel Someillan

Director & Choreographer

Jennie Badger

Musical Director

Julie Zapata

Nov 14th @ 7pm

Nov 15th @ 7pm

Nov 16th @ 7pm

Nov 17th @ 2pm

Tickets are \$7

MADAGASCAR JR

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorize performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.MTIShows.com Accompaniment & Rehearsal COs / Student Rehearsal CD Language for Disc Label:

Madagascar-A Musical Adventure JR. Audio Perusal © 2016 MTI Enterprises, Inc.

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