



The Breezeway

The monthly newsletter of Northwood Presbyterian Church

October 2020

A Return to Worship in Person

Friends,

Grace to you. It's truly been a strange summer for most of us. The pandemic has claimed too many lives. Political accusations assault our ears. We can't even worship in our sanctuary and see each other on Sunday mornings. Though we are already experiencing what is called the new normal, something is about to change again.

The Session voted on Tuesday night to resume Sunday Worship in person in the sanctuary, beginning Sunday, Oct. 18, at 11 am. Some of you have been asking and praying for this. Frankly, I'm glad and look forward to the joy of in-person worship.

But Sunday Worship will not be the same as pre-COVID services. People will be required to wear protective masks and social distancing will be practiced. We will not sing hymns together or have our normal passing of the Peace. The morning offering plates will not be passed. There will be no eating or greeting of others before, during or after the service, in the building. We'll be having a 45 min service, much like what we have now online.

We understand that not everyone is ready to attend in person. If you are not ready, please stay home, services will still be streamed on Facebook. We will be glad to see you when you are comfortable attending. We also realize some people are better advised to stay away. If you are in the "at-risk" category (age 65 or over, or with pre-existing health conditions) please enjoy the service at home. If you have a fever, sore throat, cough or other COVID symptom, please enjoy worship on line.

The Session's Safe Church Team, along with our Worship Team, is tasked with making final arrangements. They will also continually monitor health conditions within the church and the community. If numbers increase or there is an increased safety threat they will close the services again. They will be in contact with you over the next two weeks.

The Psalmist says, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go to the house of the Lord." I look forward to that joyful day when we can again worship together.

Blessings,

Pastor Dick

World Communion Sunday Worship on the Lawn

Oct. 4

6:30 PM- Gathering and picnic

7:00 PM - Worship with
Communion and music

Bring your own water, picnic,
Communion elements and chairs.

Day School is ready for Fall Fun

Martha Sherrod

Happy Fall, Y'all 😊 Our Fall Semester is rolling along in fine style and the kids (and teachers) are loving the cooler weather when we enjoy our Outdoor Learning Space!

We have two really fun Fall events planned.

Grace Jablonski, of Touch of Grace Photography, will be offering family photo mini-sessions Oct. 12-16. The sessions will be at Hardberger Park. Grace has photographed our families in the past and has done a fantastic job. Best of all, this will be a fundraiser for the Day School. You can contact the Day School for more information. The sessions fill up quickly. Check out Grace's website, Touch of Grace Photography.



Once again, we have scheduled River City Produce for a Farmers Market in the parking lot of the Day School on Friday, Oct. 9, 3–5 PM. (We love the rain and certainly need it, but let's hope the rain stays away this time!!) Come by for some fresh delicious produce!

Many things have changed about how all of us do things now-a-days...but there are some important things that stay the same. We greet the children with big smiles and hugs each day. High-quality, faith-based learning is going strong. Laughter can be heard, and smiles can be seen all throughout the Day School. We have spaces available, so spread the word to anyone looking for a great Day School.

PW Circles in October

Our three circles are meeting once again in October.

The Wednesday Circle and the Saturday Circles will be studying Lesson 2 from the Horizons Bible Study: *Into the Light, Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*. The Wednesday study will meet on the lawn at Northwood on Oct. 14 at 10:00 AM. Bring a chair and your own water or drink. The Saturday study will be Oct. 10 at 9:30 AM. This will be on Zoom. Elizabeth Hewins will be sending the zoom meeting numbers and password.

The Monday Circle will meet on Zoom on Oct. 12. They are studying *Life Lessons From 1&2 Thessalonians* by Max Lucado. Sherryl Walsh will provide the Zoom Link.

All women of Northwood and friends are welcome at our circles. Contact Judy Harris for information.





Contemporary Book Club

Sunday, Sunday, Oct. 25, at 6 PM on Zoom

The Dutch House by Ann Patchett

November, date to be announced

Daughter of a Daughter of a Queen by Sarah Bird

Everyone is invited to join us. If you have questions, contact Judy Harris.

October Session Highlights

Pastor Nominating Committee Report given by Elizabeth Hewins. Mission Information Form was completed by the PNC and approved by the Session. It will be forwarded to Mission Presbytery as the next step in calling a new pastor. Jim Mueller is chair of the PNC.

Finance Report given by Bob Lord, chair. All Session committees are under budget for the year, and discussion continues with the Day School regarding its payments to the church. Utility bills are up from last year and an energy audit is being considered. Northwood has a year-to-date shortage of \$1,817.

Safe Church Report given by Tommy Moreno, chair. The first live service will be Oct. 18 worship with protocols for social distancing, masks, hand sanitizer and overflow in fellowship hall. The service will not include congregational singing, passing of the peace, or passing the offering plates. Live streaming will continue for those who prefer to worship online. The Safe Church Team will disseminate protocols to the congregation. Owen requested use of the building for a recording session with a total of four people in the sanctuary. Session approved with caveat that he sanitize surfaces.

Personnel Report given by Cotton Clark, chair. Session approved a 5-month contract extension for Pastor Dick. Work continues with Broadway Bank on converting the PPP loan to a grant.

Interim Pastor Report given by Interim Pastor Dick Kreutzer. Pastor Dick clarified responsibilities that fall to the congregation, session, and committees. The report reviewed his term at Northwood, provided an overview of our present situation, and requested renewal of his contract through Easter of 2021.

Elections for 2020-21: Jane Mannock as Clerk of Session; Bob Lord with Scott Shepherd, Treasurer/-Accountant; Anne Little, Officer Nominating Committee chair

Called Meeting: A special meeting of the Session will hear from the class on structural racism. Class members will share what they have learned in the course and actions they believe are important for Northwood.

