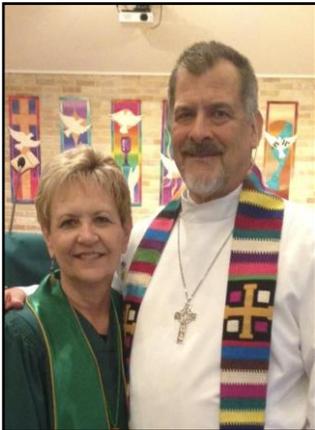


The Breezeway

Dear Friends,



Time flies when you're having fun. Here we are almost half way through Lent and well on our way to Jerusalem, Holy Week, and Resurrection. Lent has always been a time of deep emotion for me. Remembering Jesus' journey through the desert, Galilee and Samaria, and on to Judea and Jerusalem has been an annual occasion for reflection and meditation. Jesus' passion on the cross, that first Good Friday, and his glorious resurrection have elicited in me great sorrow and joy, grief and glory. But this year will be more intense for me. This year I will celebrate Lent and Easter with you for the last time. As many of you know, Easter Morning will be my last Worship Service with you. Where has the time gone? Yet, I'm excited that (weather permitting) we will celebrate Easter Morning Worship on the lawn at Northwood. This should be another occasion for us to gather and worship and fellowship again.

Words fail to describe what an honor it has been to serve as your interim pastor, and how deeply blessed Betty and I feel to have shared these 2-1/2 years with you. We have been welcomed by your hospitality. We have been encouraged by your acceptance and inclusiveness of each other and of us. We have discovered a family of faith with great gifts and great passion for each other, for the world, and for God's Word. We have encountered Christ in you, and through you, and we have rejoiced to be part of such a wonderfully loving extended family.

We are already a little sad about leaving you and we know it will be tougher for us when the time actually comes. This is the third church we are leaving and it will be the hardest for us to leave (you would think we would have learned how to leave more easily). However, we are also happy to be leaving, because while our work here is done, God is ushering you into a new and promised land. We are enthused to hear the excitement and anticipation in the words and voices of PNC members as they talk about your new pastor. God is good. The old is passing away, but the new is coming.

Be assured, you will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. For your sake, I will stay away so that, along with your new pastor, you can discern and set the course forward, that God has opened for you. I am sure our paths will cross again, since we all serve in the same Presbytery and live the same City.

So for now, we simply wish you Godspeed, and we eagerly await continuing Good News from our friends and companions at Northwood Presbyterian Church.

Blessings,

Pastor Dick



**Holy Week and Easter
Services**

All on Facebook Live

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 2, TBA

Easter Sunday, April 4, 11:00 a.m. TBA

Pastor Search Process Update

Step 1 - Pastor Traci Announces her Departure to the Northwood Congregation	Step 2 - Congregational Meeting to Dissolve the Pastoral Relationship with Pastor Traci	Step 3 - Mission Presbytery concurs with dissolution
Step 4 - Congregation hosts a farewell event for Pastor Traci	Step 5 - Session Appoints the Interim Search Committee	Step 6 - Contract with Interim Pastor Dick approved by Session and Mission Presbytery COM
Step 7 - Northwood Congregation participates in Mission Study and Interviews	Step 8 – Session Completes Mission Study Report	Step 9 - Mission Presbytery COM approves Mission Study Report
Step 10 – Congregation elects the Pastor Nominating Committee	Step 11 - PNC Prepares the Church Information Form	Step 12- Session and COM approve the Church Info Form
Step 13 - PNC Reviews Pastoral Personal Information Forms	Step 14 - PNC Submits Names for Reference Checks by General Presbyter and Stated Clerk	Step 8 – Session Completes Mission Study Report
Step 16 - Northwood Congregation Elects New Pastor	Step 17 - Mission Presbytery Approves the Call	Step 18 - New Pastor Begins Ministry at Northwood
Step 19 - Mission Presbytery Conducts Service of Ordination/Installation	Step 20 - One year review by Church and COM	

At its February meeting, the Session of Northwood approved the Terms of Call. The candidate must pass examination by Mission Presbytery, after which a congregational meeting will be scheduled. At that meeting, the PNC will introduce the candidate and the congregation will vote.

Please continue to include the PNC and the new pastor God will send us in your prayers.



News from Northwood Day School

Martha Sherrod

Baby it was COLD outside, wasn't it!! The Day School officially has an Angel among us! When the sun returned and we opened back up after the Great Deep Freeze, the Day School and Church had a serious water pipe break. One of our dads, Eddie Hernandez, is a contractor and he jumped into action. He came, assessed the problem, found the needed part, and repaired the Day School/Church water to working order. He is a true Hero!! Thank you so much Mr. Hernandez. Side note: Eddie, wife Penelope, and children Salome and Lucas are regular Northwood church attendees!

During March we will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday as we join in Reading Across America! The week of March 1-5 we will have fun dress up activities each day. March 26 will be our Books Alive dress up day when we will all dress as our favorite book character.

Why is it so important to read to children?

- *It helps develop children's brains, ability to focus, concentration, social skills, and communication skills.

- *It helps children know sounds, words, language, and literacy skills.

- *It sparks the imagination and stimulates curiosity.

No app can replace your lap! So, gather up those kids and start reading!! 😊

Open Enrollment continues.

Please call if you or someone you know needs high-quality, faith-based child care!

Session Meeting Highlights

From the Session meeting held on Feb. 23,

Pastor Nominating Committee report presented by Jim Mueller. A call was offered to and accepted by a candidate. Terms of Call were agreed to by the candidate and representatives of Northwood, and the Session approved the terms.

Elder training continues at Session meetings; Pastor Dick invited members to discuss a confession of the PC(USA) that is meaningful to them.

Pastor's Report presented by Pastor Dick. Recently three members and mothers of two members have died. We are reminded to continue to pray for those who have lost loved ones.

Annual Reports are being collected from Session committees and other groups for presentation at the Congregational Meeting which will be scheduled. A congregational meeting will also be needed to vote on the PNC's candidate.

Building and Grounds report presented by Jennifer Rivera. Cost of converting locks on additional doors will be reviewed by session members.





For Scout Sunday, Northwood proudly welcomed Benton Ward as worship leader and Ryan Mueller who provided music.



What a Sight!

Days of sub-freezing temperatures that are being called The Big Freeze demanded cooperation and caring from people all over San Antonio. Northwood members were no different and the Congregational Care Committee went into action to check on everyone.

Callers found that NPC members opened their homes to members who were without heat and/or water. Some members chose to stay home even if they were cold and did not have water. One member, that we know of, went to a local hotel that opened its doors to allow folks to warm up while they waited to get news about when their heat might come on. Some members moved in with friends or family members while others opened their homes to friends or family.

Once again, the community came together during this time of need.



...and thanks to Libby who stepped in when the *Breezeway* editor's technology failed!