




# The Logger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | NORTHWOODS PRESBYTERIAN | NOVEMBER 2019

## FAMILY fun

Yeehaw



Church Life invites everyone, young and old, to our Fall Family Hoedown on Saturday, November 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This event will be very similar to the Valentine's Day Family Dance we hosted last year. Admission is 1 non-perishable food item for NAM per person. Even if you don't dance there will be yummy snacks and excellent people-watching opportunities. We hope you can join us! RSVP to [valerie@northwoods.org](mailto:valerie@northwoods.org).

## Church Events

- Nov 3rd Habitat Build
- Nov 3rd Fall Back Time Change
- Nov 16th Fall Family Hoe-down
- Nov 17th Congregational Meeting
- Nov 17th Get to Know Northwoods Lunch
- Nov 23rd NAM Day of Service
- Nov 23rd Habitat Build
- Nov 28th and 29th Church Office Closed



## The Next Step...

Scottish minister Alexander Whyte was known for his uplifting prayers in the pulpit. He always found something for which to be grateful. One Sunday morning the weather was so gloomy that one church member thought to himself, "Certainly the preacher won't think of anything for which to thank the Lord on a wretched day like this." Much to his surprise, however, Whyte began by praying, "*We thank Thee, O God, that it is not always like this.*"

Reverend Whyte had a grateful heart! He was actually living out what the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18, "*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*" Nice three point sermon: rejoice, pray, and give thanks!

During the month of November we are reminded to give thanks. What are you thankful for? I am making my list:

A wonderful wife, children and GRANDCHILDREN!

Good health and friends – Each day is a gift

A generous congregation – I am so thankful for the commitment and dedication of our members

A capable and gifted staff who are passionate about ministry

Our Make a Difference Day and all the different ways to help others

Our Day of Renewal and growing in faith with Tom Tewell

Our Children and Youth who worship with us and bring energy and enthusiasm to our church

This month I invite you to memorize 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18, "*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*"

With much appreciation and love,

Pastor Paul



# Congregational Care



*Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Tonna Lowery whose mother, Myrtle Cunningham, died on August 4, 2019.*

*Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Lenore Slovacek who died on September 27, 2019.*

*Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Melissa Garner whose father, Zane Cash, died on October 1, 2019.*

*Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Nancy Baker whose mother, Clara Collins, died on October 8, 2019.*



## **On-going Support Groups:**

AA—Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at noon in Room 404

SAA—Tuesday Evenings, 6:30-8:30 in Room 404

RheumaTALK—Second Tuesday of the month (November 12) 1:00-2:30 in Oasis

## **Northwoods Care Meals**

Prayer and food seem to be the best ways we Presbyterians show our care when someone in our church family is going through a tough time. Our Northwoods Care Meals Ministry reaches out to members in times of illness or crisis and arranges for the preparation and delivery of food. We contact team members who live in the neighborhood of families who need a "Because we care meal" to make delivery easier. Meals can be homemade or bought from a grocery store or restaurant. If you would like to be a volunteer for this important ministry please contact Anne Swisher ([antomswish@aol.com](mailto:antomswish@aol.com)).



# November 2019

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

					1 9:30 Coffee Talk 10:30 Classics Class	2
3	4	5 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:45 Tai Chi ESL 10:30 & 6:30	6 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Yoga	7 ESL 10:30 & 6:30 9:30 Presby Women 10:00 Spanish 7:00 Women's Wine & Word	8 9:00 Quilters 10:30 Classics Class	9 8:00 Quilters
10	11	12 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:45 Tai Chi ESL 10:30 & 6:30	13 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Yoga	14 ESL 10:30 & 6:30 10:00 Spanish	15 10:30 Classics Class	16
17 10:30 Congregational Meeting 12:00 Get to Know Northwoods	18 7:00 Session Meeting	19 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:45 Tai Chi ESL 10:30 & 6:30	20 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Yoga	21 ESL 10:30 & 6:30 10:00 Spanish 10:00 Golden Gathering	22 10:30 Classics Class	23
24 Advent Decorating (before & after services)	25	26 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:45 Tai Chi ESL 10:30 & 6:30	27 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Yoga	28  <b>Church Office Closed</b>	29	30

# Calendar & Events

## Sundays

### Worship Services

Chapel Service	8:15 AM   Chapel
Traditional Service	9:30 AM   Sanctuary
Modern Service	11:00 AM   Fellowship Hall

### Sunday School

Elementary	9:15 AM   Grace Place
Preschool	9:15 AM   Yellow Room
Family Fellowship	10:30 AM   Grace Place
Youth Sunday School	9:30 AM   Youth Bldg.
World Craft Store	10:30 AM   By Oasis

### Bible Studies & Other Classes

1 Corinthians	9:30 AM   Room 211
Biblical Literature	10:00 AM   Conf. Room
Minor Prophets	11:00 AM   Room 211
Contemporary Issues	11:00 AM   Chapel

## Weekdays

### Mondays

AA	12:00 PM   Room 404
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### Tuesdays

Men's Bible Study	6:30 AM   Room 211
Tai Chi	8:45 AM   Gym
ESL Class	10:30 AM & 6:30 PM   Rooms 213 & Scout Bldg
AA	12:00 PM   Room 404
RheumaTalk (2nd Tuesdays)	1:00 PM   Oasis
SAA	6:30 PM   Room 404

### Wednesdays

Biblical Literature Study	9:30 PM   Room 211
AA	12:00 PM   Room 404
Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM   Choir Room
Youth Group	6:00 PM   Yth. Bldg.
Yoga	7:00 PM   Room 211

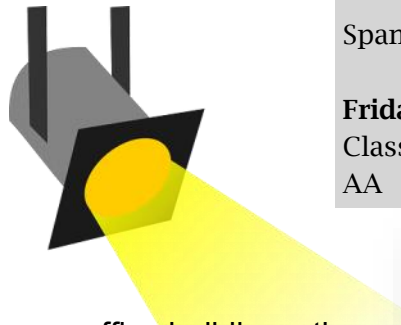
### Thursdays

ESL Class	10:30 AM & 6:30 PM   Rooms 213 & Scout Bldg
Spanish Class	10:00 AM   Rooms 211 & Oasis

### Fridays

Classics Class	10:30 AM   Room 211
AA	12:00 PM   Room 404

## SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

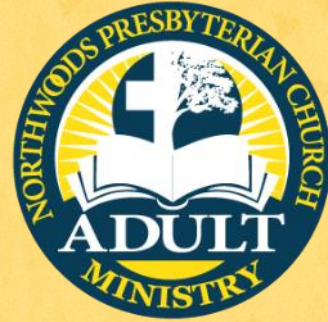


When you are visiting stores, office buildings, theatres, churches, restaurants, etc., be sure to know where the exits are. If something happens, you will have an easier time making your way to safety if you know where that safety is located.



**The Worship Team needs help decorating the Church for Christmas and the Advent celebrations.** Since November 30th is part of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, we need help to decorate on Sunday November 24th after the services. There will also be poinsettia envelopes in the pews for anyone who wishes to order one. Please contact Sylvia McLarty at 832-928-6437.

# ADULT *Ministries*



## **MIDWEEK CLASSES**

### ***MEN'S BIBLE STUDY***

Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m., Room 211

Led by Pastor Paul

### ***ESL CLASSES***

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Rooms 213 & Scout Bldg.

Classes Start September 3rd

### ***WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS***

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., Room 211

Led by David Puig

Reading Biblical Literature: Genesis to Revelation

### ***SPANISH CLASS***

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m., Rooms 211 and Oasis (231)

### ***CLASSICS CLASS***

Fridays, 10:30 a.m., Room 211

This class enjoys learning together by bringing professors into the classroom through DVD classes offered by The Great Courses company. Starting November 2nd—Western Literary Canon in Context. The lectures include a couple from the bible, some of the ancient Greek authors to modern English authors.

## **SUNDAY CLASSES**

### ***BIBLE STUDIES***

***1 CORINTHIANS—Led by David Gordon***

9:30 a.m. in Room 211

***NARRATIVE BIBLICAL STORIES THAT HAVE SHAPED YOUR FAITH— Led by David Puig***

10:00 a.m. in Conference Room

***STUDY OF MINOR PROPHETS— Led by Tom Franklin***

11:00 a.m. in Room 211

# CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Sundays in the Chapel at 11:00 am

The Contemporary Issues Class invites all interested to meet most Sundays in the chapel (in the same building as the sanctuary), 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon. Here is the line up for November's programs.

**Nov. 3.** Making Sense of Modern and Contemporary Art. Or Not. Eric Timmreck, a long time docent at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, will share his understanding of today's art, based his years of study and passionate interest in the subject.

**Nov. 10.** Art in Pastel Chalk. Member Ron Ledbetter will give a demonstration of creating art with pastel chalk as he explains to us the difference between chalk and other mediums and discusses related matters.

**Nov. 17.** Why I am a Baha'i. Established in 1863, The Baha'i Faith first grew in Persia and the Middle East. It is estimated that today there are 5 to 8 million Baha'is spread through out the world. Baha'i teaches the worth of all religions and the worth and unity of all people. Kathy Huntsman will discuss her understanding and devotion to Baha'i.

**NOV. 24th - TBA.**

## DISCOVERY WOMEN

November 12th

Our group is in for a treat in November when we go as a group to hear the Sam Houston State University Choral Group at John Wesley Methodist Church. We will meet for lunch at 12:30 p.m. at Carrabba's on FM1960. Lunch is on your own. After lunch we will travel to John Wesley Methodist Church. The program begins at 3:00 p.m. If you did not previously sign-up and pay \$10 for your ticket at the October meeting, you can purchase a ticket through the F.A.C.E. program. If you would like to have transportation or have any questions, contact Barb Owen 713-252-5655 or Charlotte Warwick at 713-320-9445.

## Presbyterian Women

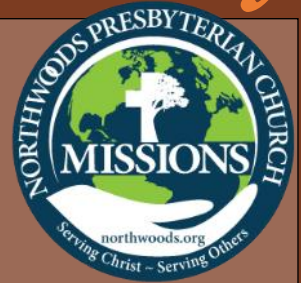
November 7th at 9:30 am Room 221. We are continuing our study of the 10 Commandments-"Love Carved in Stone" with #4 "Keeping the Sabbath". This is a challenging one and we should have much discussion. Remember to bring toiletries for HOPE Center and donations for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. See you there!



All women are invited to join us for Wine & the Word on Thursday, **November 7th** (this is one week earlier than our originally scheduled date) at 7 p.m. at Saints Restaurant as we meet our new leader (So exciting! Who can it be?) and fellowship over snacks and drinks. **Child care will be available at the church** starting at 6:30 p.m. for kids 0 through 5th grade, so our young moms have a chance to join in the fun. RSVP to [valerie@northwoods.org](mailto:valerie@northwoods.org) for child care.

# MISSIONS *Ministry*

## Missions Challenges



In our quest to achieve a mature spirituality, Christians are reminded very often that quality which so completely characterized the life of Jesus Christ, the quality of unselfish servanthood. Jesus said, "Whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. For even the son of man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20: 27, 28)

The apostle Paul, in one of the oldest texts of Christianity, went on with this idea when he wrote, "Each of you should be concerned not only about your own interests, but the interests of others as well" (Phil. 1:4). And then pointing to Jesus, the Lord as our great example, he quickly added, "You should have the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had."

These scriptures challenged early Christians and still challenge the primary concern of our society whose focus seems to be frequently on our own personal happiness and comfort. The church then and now represented an alternative to the different negative patterns in the society. Where can we begin? It can be as simple as a small gesture of generosity and compassion.

### Mission Ministries Events

Sunday November 10  
Veteran's Day Project

Monday November 18  
Make/Serve Lunch for 1960 Hope  
Center

Thursday November 21  
Golden Gathering

Saturday November 23  
NAM Day of Service

Saturday November 23  
Habitat Build

Sundays Nov 24- Dec 22  
Giving Tree

### Upcoming 2019 Dates to Remember

Sunday December 15  
Blood Drive

Thursday December 19  
Golden Gathering

Tuesday December 31  
Make/Serve Lunch for 1960  
Hope Center

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR MISSIONS PARTNERS: SU CASA de ESPERANZA

One of our Mission Partners here at Northwoods is Su Casa de Esperanza, a family education center serving migrant and indigent people living in Las Milpas (South Pharr) and Progreso. Their mission is to improve the spiritual, emotional, physical, economic, intellectual and social well-being of families in the Rio Grande Valley. Their overall goal is to improve the lives of the people it serves to break the cycle of adolescent pregnancy, child abuse, literacy, and poverty. They work hard to live up to their name, which translated means "your house of hope".

Su Casa has been in existence for 37 years with an annual budget of \$230,250 mostly funded from foundations, individuals and religious groups. Living month to month, they attribute their survival to their faith in the generosity and goodness of donors and truly putting it all into God's hands.

Northwoods Presbyterian Church has worked with and financially supported Su Casa for many years. Our funds are used to help respond to the needs of the community through support of early childhood development programs, parent training, employability and life skills programs. Su Casa serves an average of 459 persons per month.

Go to <http://www.sucasadeesperanza.org/> for more information and to see how you might get involved.



# MUSIC & WORSHIP

Well, here we are in the throes of what my former pastor colleague called “Hallowthanksmas” – that blur of a period that runs from about October 15 through the end of the year. We go from sugar highs to turkey food comas to the how-to-be-joyful-when-I’m-over-scheduled-and-so-stressed-out sweats.

Last year, our staff spent a lot of time talking about the burdens that this period can be on so many of us—how stretched thin we are and how difficult it can be to truly feel thankful for our blessings or to embrace the spirit of Advent and Christmas when we are constantly bombarded with requests for our time and attention.

In an effort to recognize how full our calendars are and how hard it can be to slow down, our worship staff and leaders are working to create special opportunities to help in your quest to have holiday spirit, hopefully without overburdening your schedule.

On Sunday, November 24 in all worship services, we will celebrate our rich blessings through A Bountiful Harvest, in which we thank God for our good gifts, even while sharing our gifts with others. Nothing is required of you but a heart open to consider how God has blessed your life. The choir will offer a wonderful anthem featuring one of our youth on cello.

Our Advent Noels will continue this year. These free mini-concerts begin at noon on Wednesdays, December 4, 11, and 18 and are followed by a soup and salad lunch. What a perfect way to be fed both spiritually and physically, all within an hour.

This year, instead of inviting you to return to church for a holiday musical event, we encourage you to be in worship on Sunday, December 8. We will hold two worship services (9:30 and 11:00) in the sanctuary, where the Sanctuary Choir and Journey Worship Band will combine forces to present We Have a Savior. This cantata will surely help you enter the Advent Season prepared to Worship Fully.

Finally, our Longest Night Contemplative Service will be held on Sunday, December 15 at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. The hustle and bustle of the holidays can be especially difficult for those of us who are experiencing personal struggle or loss. This is a service of centering prayer and reflective music, designed to meet us where we are emotionally and spiritually.

If you do find yourselves with additional time to be blessed and enriched this season, I encourage you to consider a couple of civic events:

The Spring Interfaith Council will hold an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Thursday, November 21 at 7pm at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church. If you are able to attend, this is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for our country, community, family and friends and to give thanks for the beauty we see in each of us.

Symphony North of Houston will present its free Holiday Concert, featuring the winners of its Young Artist Competition on Sunday, December 8 at 4pm right here in the Northwoods Sanctuary. At this annual performance, they also have a silent auction fundraiser – the perfect opportunity to support Symphony North and get some holiday shopping done!

Blessings,

Jennifer Klein Salyer  
Director of Music and Worship  
jennifer@northwoods.org

# YOUTH Ministries

## Last month was a flurry of activity in the youth department!

We had so much fun spending a day worshipping and serving together at our Fall Retreat. 20+ students and leaders gathered together to learn more about God's purpose for their lives. A HUGE "thank you" to our KREW students for putting on such a wonderful event. We also enjoyed a spooky night at our Halloween party. We made glow-in-the-dark slime, had a costume contest, and ate up all sorts of delicious spooky treats.



## Here's what you need to know for November:

- Please join us on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 11am for the PYCC rally, hosted at Northwoods. It will be a wonderful worship service put on by all the PYCC youth in our denomination. For more information, contact Chelsea.
- This month's RISE service is on Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm-8:30pm.



## Golf Tournament

What an amazing show of support for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Northwoods Golf Tournament at Gleannloch Pines! We were able to raise over \$16,200 toward our goals of supporting Northwoods Youth Ministry and Boy Scout Troop 331. We would like to express our sincere thanks to all who made the event a success: sponsors, silent auction donors, golfers, participants, and volunteers. We could not have done this without you!

# Children and Family Ministries

While the adults learned about LIFE during Day of Renewal, the kids completed challenges and followed clues all over our campus to recover our sweet treats that were stolen by the Dessert Diva! (our very own Youth Director Rev. Chelsea Ham)



Children, youth, and their families celebrated the grand finale of the Sesame Street sermon series with a cookie party on October 6th.



Families with children in elementary school and younger are invited to join us for Family Fellowship every Sunday after parents pick kids up from Sunday school (about 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.) in the Oasis room. We usually celebrate birthdays in a given month on the first Sunday, so on that day cupcakes are allowed before lunch!



Preschoolers and elementary-aged kiddos will continue to sit with their families for the beginning of the 9:30 service in the sanctuary, and then we will all go to the classrooms together after the Word on the Street.



# Northwoods Presbyterian Church

3320 Cypress Creek Parkway  
Houston, TX 77068-3688

**Next Logger Deadline – November 11th!**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Spring, TX  
Permit No. 361

Return Service Requested

Save  
the  
Date

**Advent Noels**—Wednesdays in  
December at noon.

**Christmas Eve Services**—  
December 24th at 4:00 pm  
7:00 pm and 9:00 pm.

**College Sunday**—December 29th.  
One Service at 11:00 am in the  
Sanctuary.