

# *the* Logger

Monthly Newsletter of Northwoods Presbyterian Church | *February 2020*



*Let There Be Joy*

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

## Save The Date! Women's Conference

"Let There Be Joy"

--GOD

--And it was so...

**Saturday, April 25, 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Cost \$15.00

Childcare available

Speakers: Pastor Ann Marie and Life Coach Carmalyn McCracken, MA

# FINDING HOME SUNDAY

## February 23rd!



Many of you have heard me say on more than one occasion that I am not worried about the state of Northwoods for the next five years, but I am very concerned about ten, twenty or thirty years down the road. Church affiliation, along with attendance, continues to decrease - - especially with younger generations.

Mainline denominations are growing smaller and older. Our New Covenant Presbytery has closed or lost over thirty Presbyterian churches in the last few decades. And we have seen it in our own congregation with members who have passed away, moved cities or stopped attending.

So, the question facing our congregation is what do we do with this church reality? Do we accept this decreasing witness of the church and slowly cut programs, personnel and lower expectations? Or do we decide Northwoods is going to buck the trend? The church has always faced challenges and difficulties. And whether society affirms it or not, I actually do believe what we say almost every week in our services – everyone needs a church home, an extended family!

Our recently adopted LOOK goals seek to counter this declining church trend: Live our faith, Offer community, Open doors and Kingdom build! Our programs and ministries are trying to connect people with God, each other and our world. These LOOK goals are not just limited to the staff and leaders, but for our whole church. They are all important goals. We all need to LOOK for ways to OPEN THE DOORS and invite others into our church community.

During the month of February our sermon series is Animate! – Bring Your Faith to Life. We will be using 4 popular PIXAR movies as parables to illustrate what a faithful life looks like: Toy Story, Coco, Inside Out and Finding Nemo. Our staff has planned some creative ways to make this series meaningful and memorable. One hope is that we live out Jesus' invitation for Peter as well as all disciples to fish for people. We want everyone in our church to think about someone they know who is not connected to a church family and invite them to our church. So during the first couple of weeks in the series, we want you to write his/her first name on a fish and attach it to a fishing net located in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. But more than that, we want you to actually OPEN THE DOOR and INVITE them to come to church with you on Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. That Sunday we have planned some extra special ways to welcome visitors: including food, fun and fellowship. The movie we will be focused on that Sunday is *Finding Nemo*, so we will call it FINDING HOME Sunday. We know this is not necessarily natural for all of us, but is something that all can and need to do if Northwoods will be around for our children and children's children.

So please pray that God would use you to be the OPEN DOOR to help someone experience the blessings of being part of God's extended family.

With much appreciation and love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul".

Pastor Paul

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE *Ministries*

Northwoods Prayer Chain  
“But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.” This quote from Psalm 66:19 is the heart of our prayer ministry. Judi Kenyon faithfully coordinates our prayer chain, e-mailing out requests almost daily to over 170 people who are committed to pray. Requests come through the prayer concern cards in the pews, through our pastors, and/or through members. If you would like to become active in this prayer ministry by receiving these e-mailed prayer requests and praying for our members and their family and friends, or if you have a prayer request you would like to be shared with our prayer chain please contact Judi Kenyon at [micah6dash8@comcast.net](mailto:micah6dash8@comcast.net).



## 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 (February 11) 1:00-2:30 in Oasis

Congratulations to Claire and Erik Garza on the birth of their daughter, Blase Mills Garza, on December 16, 2019.

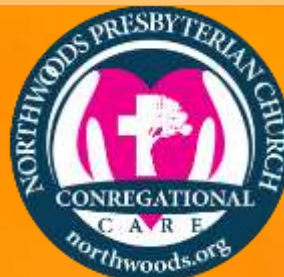
Congratulations to William and Erin Maxwell on the birth of their daughter, Emily Marie Maxwell, on December 25, 2019.

Sympathy is extended to Chris Randolph and her family on the death of her husband, Ed, on December 22, 2019.

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Bill Cowan who died on January 12, 2019.

Sympathy is extended to Doug and Jan Manchee on the death of Jan's brother, Jim Lewis, on January 1, 2020 and Doug's sister, Patsy Manchee, on January 9, 2020.

Sympathy is extended to Chuck and Chris Treleaven on the death of Chuck's mom, Cherry Treleaven, on January 12, 2020.



## Home Communion 2020

If you are unable to attend worship, our elders would love to bring communion to you. On the first Sunday of the month and the week following in March, June, October and December our elders will take communion to those requesting home communion. This is an extension of the bread and cup we share on Sunday morning, and is a physical reminder that we are one body. If you would like to receive home communion or you are an ordained elder and would like to serve please contact Pastor Ann Marie (281-444-8861 or [annmarie@northwoods.org](mailto:annmarie@northwoods.org)).

# February 2020

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 8:00 Quilters
2	3	4 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:45 Tai Chi ESL 10:30 & 6:30	5 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Spanish 1 7:00 Yoga	6 ESL 10:30 & 6:30 10:00 Spanish 2 10:00 Golden Gathering	7 9:30 Coffee Talk 10:30 Classics Class	8
9 Scout Sunday	10	11 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:45 Tai Chi ESL 10:30 & 6:30	12 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Spanish 1 7:00 Yoga	13 ESL 10:30 & 6:30 10:00 Spanish 2 10:00 Golden Gathering	14 10:30 Classics Class 	15
16 8:00 Blood Drive	17 Church Office Closed 7:00 Session Meeting	18 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:45 Tai Chi ESL 10:30 & 6:30	19 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Spanish 1 7:00 Yoga	20 ESL 10:30 & 6:30 10:00 Spanish 2 10:00 Golden Gathering	21 10:30 Classics Class	22 9:45 Parent's Day Out
23	24	25 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:45 Tai Chi ESL 10:30 & 6:30	26 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 Spanish 1 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service 	27 ESL 10:30 & 6:30 10:00 Spanish 2 10:00 Golden Gathering	28 10:30 Classics Class	29

# 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  
 Studies of Paul 9:30 AM | Room 211  
 Biblical Stories 10:00 AM | Conf. Room  
 Book of James 11:00 AM | Room 211  
 Contemporary Issues 11:00 AM | Chapel

## Weekdays

Mondays  
 AA 12:00 PM | Room 404  
 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  
 Spanish Class Level 1 10:00 AM | Oasis  
 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 Level 2 10:00 AM | Room 211  
 Fridays  
 Classics Class 10:30 AM | Room 211  
 AA 12:00 PM | Room 404



### SAFETY CORNER:

Be aware of the location for the First Aid Kits and the AEDs in all church buildings. First Aid Kits can be found at the welcome centers (Narthex and Journey), in the main kitchen, in the church office work room, and in the youth building. We have one AED in the Narthex down the hall where the bathrooms are located. The other AED is located right outside the glass doors into Fellowship Hall.



# Ash Wednesday

February 26th

Begin Lent with a Contemplative Service at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. It will be a service of quiet reflection, scripture, music, and the imposition of ashes.



# 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.

### **WHEN THE BIBLE IS ON BOTH SIDES**

Tuesdays January 21st through February 25th  
Led by Stewart MacColl and David Puig in Grace Place at 6:30 PM.

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

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., Room 211  
Led by David Puig  
Reading Biblical Literature: Genesis to Revelation

### ***SPANISH CLASSES***

Level 1 Class—Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Oasis (231)  
Level 2 Class—Thursdays at 10:00 a.m., Room 211

### ***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. 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***

***LETTERS FROM PAUL***—Led by David Gordon

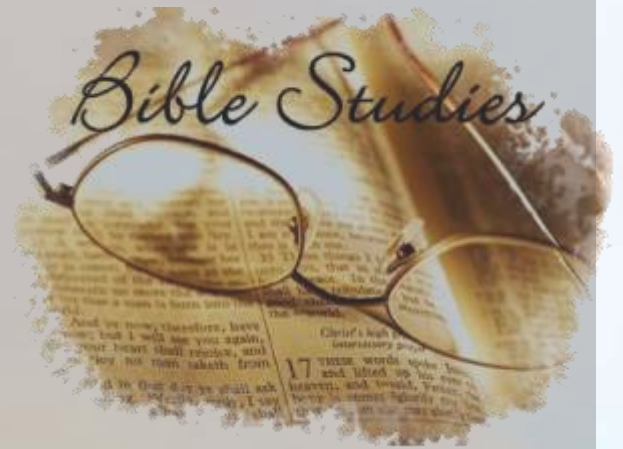
9:30 a.m. in Room 211

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

10:00 a.m. in Conference Room

***STUDY OF THE BOOK OF JAMES***— 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.

**Feb. 2nd - Ideas from the Better Business Bureau: Especially for Seniors.**

Candice Twyman, LMSW-SP, Executive Director, will let us in on the latest advice the BBB is offering seniors. This program is bound to make you a more discerning consumer and a more intelligent shopper

**Feb. 9th - So, a Love One Has Alzheimer's . . . making an informed choice on a facility and other helpful guidelines.**

Darci Daniel, a dedicated volunteer with the Alzheimer's Association, will share information she has picked up along the way about constructive ways to manage.

**Feb. 16th - Fifteen Years at Northwoods**

Senior Associate Pastor Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson will reflect on her fifteen years of work here at Northwoods, perhaps sharing something of the people, theologians, and experiences that have been influential in her development.

**Feb. 23rd - Report on the recent Madrid, Chile United Nations Climate Change Conference.**

Adrian and Debbie Shelly attended and will give us their impressions of this world-wide conference. (Google "Madrid Climate Change Conference for background information.")

## DISCOVERY WOMEN

Is there "An Artist Among Us?" Yes, we seem to have quite a few. These programs presented by Artist in our area have proven to be very interesting. Especially to those of us who can only dream of being one. In February 11th at 10:00 a.m., Kathy Gava will be presenting the program.

The meeting will be in Room 221 at Northwoods Presbyterian Church beginning at 10:00 a.m. with coffee. This program is open to everyone – men, women, neighbors. Please help us to spread the word to those who might be interested. If any questions, you can call Barbara Owen at 713-252-5655. We will be having a light lunch after the program to provide a time for visiting with one another. Hope you can plan to stay with us for that time.

## QUILTING

Quilts hanging in the Narthex: These quilts are crafted with loving care by Northwood's Quilters, given to clients of Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM) who are in need--whether women and families in shelters, families experiencing health issues, victims of flooding, etc.

Dedication of the Quilts: The awe-inspiring Interfaith Quilting Bee is Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> (off-site), 9-12 noon, where 17 churches across denominations, gather to finish and dedicate their quilts to NAM. Need more info on the Bee? Contact Amy Voss-Foster: 281-804-4569 or [amy-voss-foster@outlook.com](mailto:amy-voss-foster@outlook.com)

Northwoods' Quilters meet most regularly the first Saturday of the month, willing to train any volunteers. Sewing experience is not required. To join our Quilt mailing list, contact Jamie Shupe: 281-821-2162 or [amy-voss-foster@outlook.com](mailto:amy-voss-foster@outlook.com).

# MISSIONS *Ministries*



## *Missions Biblical Challenges*

"Where there is love there is God"

If we could pick only one scripture in the whole Bible that represents the core belief for our work in the Missions ministry, it would perhaps be the words of Jesus in Matthew 25: "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me... When you did this to the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me..."

We could spend a long time reflecting on this passage whose emphasis in the early church was primarily on the end of the world.

While the timing of this event has always remained as a mystery for our minds, the way Christians are called to be prepared for the coming of God seems here very clear.

Service to the least among us is in Jesus' words what makes us ready to encounter God. It becomes the most fundamental and practical way to love Jesus, the ultimate expression of love for God.

As much love we put into service, so much of Jesus' presence becomes real in our lives. As mother Teresa stated: "Where There is Love, There is God".

The same way that Jesus' words in Matthew have for centuries challenged Christians to put into practice their love for Jesus, so Mother Teresa's statement has inspired Christians to find God in serving others. As we approach Lent in this month, we will invite you to participate in our book discussion group on Tuesdays during the season of Lent, where we will be discussing the same book by Mother Teresa: "Where There is Love, There is God".

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR MISSIONS PARTNERS:

CEDEPCA is a Christian non-profit organization

headquartered in Guatemala City, serving Central America. It is an educational center that provides safe, accepting, creative spaces where women and men from many different Christian traditions can deepen their faith while strengthening their ability to confront the key

issues facing their communities. It also seeks to form thoughtful, compassionate disciples of Jesus Christ whose world is big enough to include all God's children and those who care for all of God's creation. The

ultimate goal of CEDEPCA is to offer people the tools to eradicate

violence and injustice in their world, especially violence against women and children. [www.cedepca.org](http://www.cedepca.org)



## Mission Ministries Events

Mondays and

Thursdays

February 3-27

Habitat Restore Work Team

Sunday

February 16

Blood Drive

Monday

February 17

Make/Serve lunch for Hope Center

Thursday

February 20

Golden Gathering

Saturday

February 22

NAM Day of Service  
Meals on Wheels

February 16-18

Texas Interfaith

Advocacy

Conference

This conference brings Texans of faith together for three days of advocacy and legislative training.

For more information:

[https://](https://texasimpact.org/texas-interfaith-advocacy-conference-registration-page/)

[texasimpact.org/  
texas-interfaith-  
advocacy-  
conference-  
registration-page/](https://texasimpact.org/texas-interfaith-advocacy-conference-registration-page/)

*"Somebody,  
somewhere is  
depending on you, to  
do what God has  
called you to do"*





# MUSIC AND WORSHIP

In my office, I have displayed a random collection of art, every bit of which was given to me as a gift. About half of it consists of hand-made items, from tapestries, to ceramic art, to paintings. The other half was given to me with the comment, “this made me think of you when I saw it.”

The latest addition falls into this latter category and it is a framed piece of art that depicts a piano keyboard with these words emanating from the keys: “When words fail, music speaks.” When I first read it, I giggled a bit as I thought back to something a music colleague of mine said in frustration to her employer priest who kept cutting music out of the worship experience, “Father, it’s not like people leave Mass humming the sermon!”

It’s true, though, isn’t it? Words can be very moving, inspiring, powerful, coercive, emotive. But the proverbial “ear worm” is never a word. It’s always a song. That thing that sticks around, that creeps into our consciousness, that plays on an endless loop as we’re drifting to sleep or sitting in traffic – it’s always a song. Songs are catchy. This is why they’re used in advertising, even singing the advertiser’s phone number to make it stick. This is why the Psalms are songs – so they’d be remembered, written on the hearts of believers and passed down from generation to generation.

There is a scene in one of my favorite silly movies (“Elf”), when spontaneous carol singing has broken out at Central Park and everyone appears to be singing with all they have. But the son looks at his dad and says, “You’re not singing. You’re just moving your lips.” The father protests, that it doesn’t matter if he’s actually singing. But the son insists, for the spirit of Christmas requires full commitment, not just lip service. As social as many of us are, it is often difficult to gather together and expose our inner selves and our faith through outward dialogue. I think it makes a lot of us feel uncomfortable to do so. But what about singing? What if the next time you gather in worship, you throw your head back and sing with all you have? How transformative might it be to speak sing aloud your beliefs? How glorious to be a part of a singing church. When words fail, music speaks!

I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Blessings,  
Jennifer Klein Salyer



# Children & Family *Ministries*

**“LIKE” us on FACEBOOK**

to receive updates and parent resources!

Check out our Northwoods website page!

Contact [valerie@northwoods.org](mailto:valerie@northwoods.org)



February 22nd

9:45 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Contact Teresa at  
[mstdjones42@gmail.com](mailto:mstdjones42@gmail.com)  
to sign up!



Join us for Sunday school in February as our preschool and elementary school friends learn about God's love.



We enjoyed celebrating  
Christmas Eve  
at Northwoods!"

# YOUTH *Ministries*

Contact [chelsea@northwoods.org](mailto:chelsea@northwoods.org)  
for any questions.



Heartfelt   
**THANKS**

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, attended, and helped make the Annual Cook-off such a success! We are incredibly grateful to each of you for all you do for our youth program.



Please join us for Youth Group on Wednesday nights, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. in the youth building. We always share a meal, have some fun, and gather together to learn more about the God who created us. We'd love to see you (if you're a 6<sup>th</sup> grader-12<sup>th</sup> grader) there!



# VOLUNTEER

We are in need of new volunteers! If you are looking for A GREAT way to serve- the youth dept. would love to have you. Please contact Chelsea for more details.

# Northwoods Presbyterian Church

3320 Cypress Creek Parkway  
Houston, TX 77068-3688

Next Logger Deadline – February 10th

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

Return Service Requested

## Dinner and a Movie Night

**February 7th: BORN YESTERDAY**

Judy Holliday & William Holden

**March 6th: THE LETTER**

Bette Davis

Friday Night Movies begin at 6:00 PM in Grace Place with a catered meal, followed by commentary by Debbie Shelley and screening of the film in the Chapel at 7:00 PM; please don't be late! All films will have closed captioning.

Reservations can be made in the Narthex before and after the 9:30 service for the two Sundays preceding the film. The cost is \$12 per person (cash, please – no checks), payable when you register.

