

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



WWW.NORTHWOODS.ORG



A Word from our Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

In 2024, we have celebrated God's grace, faced challenge, and journeyed together in faith, service, and community. I am humbled and honored to serve as your pastor and share a few highlights from this past year.

Worship

"Come, let us bow down in worship. Let us kneel before the Lord, our maker." – Psalm 95:6

We continued to see people return to in-person worship. This year, we explored several sermon series to deepen and inspire our faith:

- "Game On" connected faith in life with sports.
- "Famous Last Words" focused on the important last statements of Jesus on the Cross.
- "Living Right in a Wrong World" offered a different way to live as followers of Christ.
- "Sacred Connections" looked at common beliefs amount the other major world religions.
- "Return on Investment" reminded us of the blessings that flow from investing in God's Kingdom.
- "Finding Christmas in Unexpected Places" revealed that God often works through ordinary people in unexpected ways.

During my renewing summer sabbatical, former pastors, and members who became pastors, inspired us to remember God's faithfulness throughout the years.

Music Ministry

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord!" – Psalm 100:1

One gift delivered to Northwoods in 2024 was Clara Lewis, our Choir Director. Her passion and experience with choral directing has aided our choir to sing beautiful weekly anthems as well as two incredible and inspiring concerts! Todd Nolde continues to skillfully accompany on organ and piano and coordinate our Advent Noels. There was a noted increase in members who brought neighbors and friends to hear gifted musicians and share a meal. Besides Todd's excellent musicianship, he also composes some wonderful meals for our Lenten Lunches and Advent Noels. Ryan Thibodeaux stepped up this past year in coordinating our band and their wonderful weekly offerings. Northwoods is blessed with terrific singers and musicians, and it is refreshing to see multiple generations make a joyful noise to the Lord.

Children and Youth Ministry

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." – 1 Timothy 4:12

The youth and children's ministries continue to move forward with engaging programs and activities including Sunday School, mission trips, retreats, and the snow-filled, Christmas Around the World. We are not only sowing seeds of faith in the next generation, but we are witnessing their example to live in God's kingdom.

Mission and Service

"Just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me." – Matthew 25:40

In 2024 we definitely made a difference in the lives of people in our community and throughout the world. Sleep in Heavenly Peace delivered over 2,000 beds to families in our area! Our Guatemalan Mission Team provided medical care for hundreds of people in need. Our missions team continues to partner with various mission groups and have added some new ones. Our Make a Difference Day was one of the best ever. We made over 35,000 meals, delivered dozens of gifts bags to our members who are not able to attend worship along with some precious artwork from children, and sewed quilts to offer care and love.

Hurricane Beryl

"Then Jesus got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm." – Matthew 8:26

One event that was not on the planning calendar was Hurricane Beryl. It brought destruction, disorder, and disrupted power and our ministry! Moving our Early Learning Center Preschool to the Youth Building and back, required a monumental effort! Many thanks to all who stepped in to help out. In the rebuilding effort we were able to fix some nagging property issues that needed to be addressed. And the outpouring of extra gifts enabled us to meet the over \$70,000 repair bills.

Our ministry throughout the year would not have been possible without the dedication of our gifted staff, leadership team, volunteers, and every member of this church family. You have poured your time, talents, and treasures into helping us fulfill our mission to be Christ's disciples, celebrating God's grace, creating community, and making a difference!

With much joy, appreciation, and love,


Pastor Paul

Membership Data

New Members	8
Baptisms	3
Deaths	17
Dropped from rolls	8

MEMBERSHIP	2023	2024
Female	555	550
Male	368	356
TOTAL	923	906

Northwoods Session

CLASS OF 2025

Jeff Buck
Taryn Castellanos
Ron Garner
Bill Ginder
Kathy Kasper
Nancy Trennel

CLASS OF 2026

Lisa Aytes
Eli Hinson
Dennis Moore
Maria Potts
Kes Taylor
David Wallace

CLASS OF 2027

David Gibbs
Gary Long
Billy Maxwell
Anne Swisher
Sara Thomas
Zina White

CLERK OF SESSION

Nancy Trennel

TREASURER

Bill Strange

Northwoods Staff



The Rev. Dr.
Paul Nazarian
Senior Pastor



The Rev. Jacqueline
Hannan
Parish Associate

Maria Aguilar - Janitorial Facilities Assistant
Nicole Castillo - Executive Assistant
Norma Laughlin - Business Administrator
Joyce Leggio - Associate Director of the ELCP
Clara Lewis - Worship Director
Bambi McWhorter - Director of the ELCP
Todd Nolde - Organist
Armando Ramirez - Facilities Assistant
Teresa Jones - Director of Children's Ministry
Heidi Smith - Financial Secretary
Mary Meghan Thomas - Director of Youth Ministry

Adult Ministry Team

TEAM MEMBERS:

Maria Potts - Chair/ Elder
Bill Calvert
Tom Franklin
Sharon Geiger
David Gordon
Nancy Ingram
Nancy Strange
Anne Swisher
Rev. Phin Washer
Pastor Jackie Hannan - Staff

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Contemporary Issues: Earth Care Workshop and brunch. Speakers were Adrian Shelley, Debra Caldwell, Jenna Armstrong Bridges, and Nancy Ingram-Hinman.
- Youth Cookoff: 1st Place Winner. Theme- Mexican train dominos.
- Monthly Environmental Tips for Sustainability: Rev Phin Washer
- Coffee Talk: Socks for Seniors

GROUPS:

Adult Bible Study:
David Gordon & Tom Franklin
Monthly Book Club: Cindy Hinson
Classics Class: Bill Calvert
Coffee Talk: Margaret Rodriguez
50 Plus: Anne Swisher
Presbyterian Women: Nancy Kauffman
Women & Word: Sharon Geiger



Church Life Ministry Team

TEAM MEMBERS:

Suzan Burch – Elder & Chair
 Joyce Attaway
 Lisa Aytes
 Nancy Baker
 Cindy Davis
 Daniel Spencer
 Jacqueline Hannan – Staff



HIGHLIGHTS:

Church Life team lives out “Creating Community” and “Making a Difference.” It brings us such joy serving and participating in events with our Northwoods family.

- Hosted the Veterans Day celebration lunch attended by our Northwoods community and their guests, including veterans from around Houston. We know “it takes a village” and we are thankful for partners Carmen & Angela Gonzalez, Paula Cameron, Sam Andrews, Gary Long, Cindy Hinson, David Gordon, Teresa Simpson, and Bonnie Yough.
- Participating in the Youth Cookoff is always one of our favorites. This year, inspired by the gameboard Clue, Church Life brought a modern twist to the characters, and hors d’oeuvres from their mansion for guests to sample.
- We are always game for a new opportunity to assist the Youth. Church Life was honored to be one of the steering committee members in planning the fall’s Harvest Festival. This family event provided a great afternoon of food, games, and fun.
- Family grows closer around the table. Along with the Lenten and Advent lunches, Church Life hosted two potluck dinners this year.
- The final event, hosted by Children’s Ministry, is a favorite to support. At “Christmas Around the World” we highlighted England with a Christmas card-making craft and English candies, and Italy with traditional Italian Christmas cookies and a Nativity craft.

Children's Ministry Team

TEAM MEMBERS:

Tracy Bean
Angela Gonzalez
Teresa Jones (staff)
Jan Manchee
Erin Maxwell (Chair)
Elizabeth O'Neil
Dan Spencer
Jonathan White (Elder)

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Bi-weekly Chapel for ELCP.
- Hosted Rise Up family event and Butterfly Release for Easter weekend.
- Children sang in Palm Sunday parade for worship.
- Participated in Youth Cook Off.
- Blessing of the Backpacks.
- Make a Difference Day - assembled 150 Manna bags for homeless & created greeting cards for homebound NWP members.
- Third Grade Bible Presentation.
- Parents Night Out.
- Christmas Around the World family event.



Congregational Care Ministry Team

TEAM MEMBERS:

Rev. Jacqueline Hannan - Staff
 Kathy Kasper - Elder and Chair
 Diane Browning
 Pat Justice
 Ron Ledbetter
 Anne Swisher
 Roy Eggenberger
 Roxi Tyler
 John Younker



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Maintained an almost daily Prayer Chain for our members with requests for prayers and also celebrations.
- Kept in contact with members throughout the year through our Northwoods Callers program and our subcommittees to support and connect with our congregation.
- Offered and delivered our wonderful Home Communion program quarterly to our members who are unable to attend service regularly.
- Participated in our Youth Cookoff fundraiser with a "Checkers" game theme.
- Care Meals volunteers provided meals to our members as necessary.
- Maintained our medical equipment loan program to members as requested and available.
- Sent personal greeting cards during the year to members for bereavement, Easter, Home Touch and Christmas.
- Delivered 57 personal baskets on Make A Difference Day to our seniors and homebound members.
- Celebrated members and grieved with them at our memorial services and receptions.



Early Learning Center Preschool

TEAM MEMBERS:

Nancy Trennel - Chair and Elder

Lois Andrews

Diane Browning

Sue Due

Billy Maxwell

Robert Nuelle

Bambi McWhorter - Staff



HIGHLIGHTS:

- **School Closure:** In July the ELCP was closed because of power outages from Hurricane Beryl. We reopened for a few days only to be closed again due to roof and water damage. At that point the ELCP building was closed and we were moved into the Youth Building in order to reopen for our families. Many church volunteers, including youth and office staff, helped with the cleaning and disinfecting of classrooms and furniture, while most classroom materials and supplies had to be thrown out. A "wish list" was created to help us resupply items such as books, art supplies, and much more. The church response was overwhelming as members quickly stepped up to help. In September we began slowly moving classes back into our clean and freshly painted new rooms and by October 10, we were all happily back together in the ELCP.
- **Financial Update:** 2024 saw us struggling financially each month. Mostly due to inflation, we found that our tuition was not sufficient to cover payroll, supplies and operating expenses. In March we tried a small tuition increase of \$20 per month. It was quickly obvious that it was not sufficient. After the storm damage in July, we had to replace large classroom items which caused us to fall considerably behind in our budget. We did several fundraisers during the year, including a Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A, the sale of ELCP Summer t-shirts, a book fair and Breakfast with Santa. Finally, in November we announced a significant tuition increase that would go into effect on January 1, 2025. We are hopeful that this will help us meet and stay within our budget for the new year.
- **Enrollment:** The ELCP started January 2024 with 63 children enrolled. We saw our highest enrollment during the month of May, 2024 with 84 students. During the summer months of June and July we had 77 children enrolled from Infants through K-Club. By the end of the year our numbers were low again, ending December with 64 children. Families moving, financial situations, or children graduating out of our program are the primary reasons that children leave throughout the year.

- Texas Rising Star Certification: We have been approved as a Texas Rising Star site and will begin working on certification during 2025. This will allow us to take children receiving government subsidies to help pay for child care. That should help us to keep our enrollment higher while also helping families in the community. Becoming TRS certified will also help the ELCP shine as an outstanding school providing quality care in the area.
- Social Media: During 2024 one of our talented teachers, Ms. Michelle, helped us remake and update our website, Facebook and Instagram pages. Many of our new families reached out for tours and more information after visiting our social media sites.
- Staff: The ELCP is currently staffed with 17 teachers, an Associate Director and a Director. In May Ms. Deepa retired after 22 years of teaching 2-year olds at the ELCP. In August Ms. Carmen retired after seven years working with our infants. Most of our teachers attended the Preschool Teachers Adventure Conference (PTAC) in July 2024 to receive 18 hours of training. Our two youngest teachers, Ms. Josilin and Ms. Sarah, are college students working on their education degrees.
- Graduation 2024: In May 2024 the ELCP Pre-K had a Graduating Class of twelve (12) students. These graduates started Kindergarten at public and private schools in the fall. Several families have returned to visit in 2024, sharing smiles and hugs as they tell us about their new school. We are always happy to know that we shared in building a strong foundation for the many years of learning ahead.
- K-Club: Many of our graduating students stayed through the summer and participated in K-Club. This program is specifically designed for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade. Ms. Sue and Ms. Heather led a class of 16 students, including alumni and siblings, through a summer of learning, singing and dancing. This year focused on the importance of the Bible in our daily life as Christians. The musical, "The Bible – the True Treasure", was presented to a standing-room-only crowd in mid-July. At the end of the summer, we sent all of our young friends off to a new school year with reminders to visit often.

GOALS FOR 2025:

Financial: Thanks to the tuition increase, we should be able to meet our monthly budget. We will continue to do small fundraisers to help cover unusual expenses, including CPR/First Aid training for all of our staff in August.

Staff: We would like to give our staff at least a cost-of-living raise in 2025. That will depend entirely on our financial situation as the year progresses.

Social Media: In August Ms. Michelle left the ELCP. That has left us with no one to keep our website and Facebook page updated as new events take place. Finding the right person to do this, without costing us an extra expense, is a challenge we face as we move into 2025.

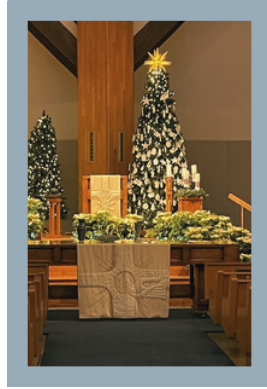
Enrollment: We are always looking for ways to increase our enrollment. Parents receive a \$200 discount on a month's tuition for referring a family who enrolls with us. We would like to maintain an enrollment of 80+ in order to meet our monthly expenses. This is a hard number to hold onto because of both expected and unexpected changes in the lives of our families.

Scholarship Fund: In late November one of our families was approved for a Tuition Scholarship. After the tuition increase was announced, another family applied and was approved for a partial scholarship. We will need to get our Scholarship Fund replenished when possible.

Missions Ministry Team

TEAM MEMBERS:

Chris Treleaven - Chair
Kes Taylor - Elder
Sandy Roberts
Bette Chenault
Nancy Kral



HIGHLIGHTS:

Our "Make a Difference Day" on September 7th was another opportunity to fulfill our mission statement that we are Christ's disciples, celebrating God's grace, creating community, making a difference. Over 100 Northwoods volunteers served on that day as Christ's hands and feet to help others by assembling over 35,000 meal packs for underdeveloped countries. Our church also contributed with \$14,100 to pay for the ingredients. We made several quilts, 100 Manna meal bags, most delivered to the Hope Center for distribution to the homeless, greeting cards for those in the hospital, and gift baskets for over 40 NPC members who are home bound. Miracles happen when we work together! In December, we hosted our annual Giving Tree, an opportunity for church members to make financial donations to six organizations: Bonding Against Adversity, Finishing Touch Ministry, Living Water International, The Landing Houston, and funds to NAM to purchase toys for kids. \$22,165 was collected for these fine organizations doing God's work in our community and around the world! A special thanks to our outstanding Missions team!

Special thanks to all volunteers in our church who faithfully contribute with their time, talents, and resources to make a difference through all these projects.

Personnel Ministry Team

HIGHLIGHTS:

TEAM MEMBERS:

David Chenault
 Larry Hitt - Elder
 Ron Ledbetter - Chair
 Paul Nazarian – Staff
 Melissa Nelson

- Hired Clara Lewis to be the Choir Director.
- Hired Samantha Nodine and Roy Herrera as Summer Youth Interns.
- Hired Emily Sims as Summer Children's Intern.
- Sabbatical for Paul Nazarian.
- Celebrated Anthony Mireles when he retired as the Facilities Manager in May.

Property Ministry Team

HIGHLIGHTS:

TEAM MEMBERS:

Ron Garner - Elder and Chair
 Anthony Mireles - Staff
 (through May 2024)
 Gary Akin
 Mike Browning
 David Shupe
 Jane VanNort

- In July, the church sustained damage from Hurricane Beryl including many fallen trees, flooding in the choir room, Hardie board being blown off above the fellowship hall, damage to the communication device for the electronic sign, etc.
- During the cleanup process, some preexisting water damage issues were highlighted in the Chapel, the ELCP, and in the bathrooms outside the fellowship hall.
- The ELCP had to be temporarily relocated into the Youth building, which took a lot of time and effort from staff and a dedicated group of volunteers.
- The remediation and reconstruction work (including roof repairs, duct work, sheetrock installation, carpet installation, siding replacement, tree removal, etc.) were contracted out. However, much of the cleanup and prep work was done by volunteers and staff. We were also able to save some money by having our Facilities Assistant, Armando Ramirez, paint the classrooms in the ELCP and clean all of the floors before they moved back in.
- Expenses for the repairs totaled over \$79,000. We received grants totaling \$8,000 and donations of almost \$62,000. The remaining expense was covered by money in the Capital Fund and our Emergency Fund at Texas Presbyterian Foundation.
- Continued to work on regular repair/maintenance, including parking lot asphalt patches, replacing light fixtures, painting exterior doors, power washing/ repainting parking lot lines, sprinkler repairs, replacing exit sign and emergency lights, etc.



Worship Ministry Team

TEAM MEMBERS:

Dennis Moore - Elder

Clara Lewis, Sanctuary Choir Director

Todd Nolde, Organist

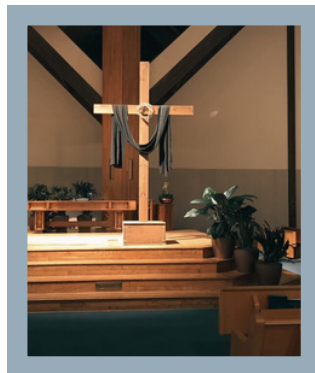
Roy Eggenberger, Music Librarian

Joyce Attaway, Assistant Music Librarian

Kathy Haring, Assistant Music Librarian

Jeanette Reyenga, Robe Chairperson

Donna Sadler, Handbell Choir Assistant



HIGHLIGHTS:

- 34 Very faithful choir members participating on Sundays and in our Spring 2024 and Christmas 2024 Concerts. (Includes 7 new and/or returning former choir members. (Number does not include guest singers.)
- Band and Choir offering music at our blended worship services year-round.
- "For the Beauty of the Earth" Earth Day Concert choir & orchestra, Sun. Apr. 21, 2024 Program.
- "Christmas Joy" Christmas 2024 Concert with choir & instruments, Sun. Dec. 8, 2024 Program.
- Sanctuary Choir Participation in "Spring Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Celebration Combined Choirs," Thursday, November 21, 2024, led by Clara Lewis, Northwoods Presbyterian Sanctuary Choir director.
- Lenten Series Luncheons: Todd Nolde prepared weekly Lenten luncheons 2024.
- Advent Noels: Noon Concerts arranged by Todd Nolde along with Soup and Salad lunches prepared by Todd.
- Cloud Wang, Marimba, December 4, 2024
- Dr. Joanna Elliott Whitsett, Harpist December 11, 2024
- Shannon Jacobson, soprano, Dr. Roger Keele, accompanist, December 28, 2024



The Worship Ministry Team also:

- Provided special decorations for seasons of the church.
- Decorated the Narthex and Sanctuary for various sermon series and for Lent, Palm Sunday, Easter, Pentecost, World Communion, Reformation, Thanksgiving, Advent/Christmas (including the “family wreath” project to beautify the Narthex Gallery walls, with special help from Don and Kathy Drover, and the manger display for Christmas Eve designed by Margaret Rodriguez).
- Donated grains and beans to the Northwest Assistance Ministries Food Bank in our partnership with Missions Ministry Team to provide for Bountiful Harvest.
- Prepared and served communion each month and provided weekly ushers.



We continued live-streaming our worship services and memorial services, relying on Media Techs: Chance Simpson, Chase Simpson, Courtney Simpson, Executive Assistant Nicole Castillo, David Serna, and volunteers Joe Foster, Mike Browning, Lance Lincoln, Rob Trennel, and Tyler Curtice to assist with our media content and audio engineering.

Youth Ministry Team

TEAM MEMBERS:

Virginia Herrera - Elder & Chair
Taryn Castellanos - Elder
Rob Trennel
Zina White
Tami & Stephen Jones
Mary Meghan Thomas - Staff



This year our youth ministry has ventured out and tried new experiences together. We attended the Intercultural Youth Conference at Mo Ranch for the first time, hosted a Fall Festival at Northwoods, and explored the salt flats of La Sal de Rey on our mission trip to McAllen and Hidalgo. We also hosted a youth work day this summer, inviting all the youth groups in our presbytery to a build day at SHP which 36 youth attended and we are proud to have 10 youth serving in leadership positions in our church and presbytery -with many more serving our church and community in other various roles. Our College student/ Young Adult ministry has really developed into a place that feels like home for our youth after graduation and meets several times over the summer -and are included in our Christmas events while they're home for the holidays. We are so grateful to our leaders, chaperones, and our congregation that make all of this possible!

This year our youth group also celebrated the life of John Millette, who was like a grandfather to our youth and who we will cherish in our memories. Our times spent with him on mission trips, at SHP, during visits and musicals will be held in our hearts.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Jonathan White became an elder:** In January 2024, Jonathan was installed as an elder and is currently serving on Childrens Ministry Team.
- **Spring retreat:** 28 of our youth attended our Spring Retreat in March 2024 at TrinityPines. It was a wonderful weekend **led by our Krew (Youth Leadership Team)** with the theme Fairytales and fables (faith discovery through stories). Krew youth leadership team also led 2 worship services in the youth building with 20-25 in attendance.
- **Presbytery involvement:** 15 of our youth attend Conclaves youth retreat at Camp Cho-yeh and 16 attended Youth Rally at Atascocita Presbyterian. We currently have 4 youth on PYCC.
- **Youth Sunday:** Had a wonderful Youth-led service in April with 18 youth involved and celebrated a graduating class of 5 seniors! We also celebrated our seniors with our Senior sprinkle event to show our appreciation for each graduating class and pray over them in their last semester.
- **All Church Cook-off:** Thank you ministry teams for participating in our all church cook-off!! This year our theme was Board games and **we were able to raise over \$3,000 thanks to everyone's delicious and creative efforts!**
- **Confirmation:** Ziggy Zepeda, Layla McIntyre, and Charlie Thomas completed Confirmation and became members in May!
- **Summer Lock-in:** 28 Youth attended our Summer lock-in in June here at the church. We enjoyed games, fellowship, bible study, and a giant inflatable slide -Special thanks to our many chaperones: Suzan Burch, Carmen Gonzalez, Angela Gonzalez, and Kes Taylor.
- **Summer interns:** Samantha Nodine and Roy Herrera, who both grew up at Northwoods served as our summer interns! As our summer interns, they planned lock-in activities, led our youth group at the Intercultural Youth Conference, led 4 Swim & Studies and Wednesday night games and bible studies, assisted with Golf tournament planning, led small groups, and organized and led Mess Fest 2024.
- **Hurricane Helpers and Cleanup:** After hurricane Beryl, we had 15 youth come to help with cleanup during their last two weeks of summer. We are so grateful for them and for them lending the youth building to the ELC Preschool this fall.
- **Mission trip:** 8 youth (including one of our college students) attended our High School mission trip to McAllen and Hidalgo this summer. Thank you David Gibbs and Kes Taylor for chaperoning!
- **Mo Ranch:** In July Roy and Samantha took 28 of our youth to Mo Ranch for Intercultural Youth conference. It was a wonderful camp experience for them and a great time for them to bond and learn about other cultures. Thank you Daniel Spencer, Catrina Zepeda, & Rob Trennel for chaperoning and to the Brownings for driving!
- **Synod Youth Workshop:** The following week we attended SYW with 11 of our high school students. The theme was We are Enough (from the new Barbie Movie) and it was a memorable week filled with new friends and wonderful keynote messages. Thank you Rosy Murphy and Kes Taylor for chaperoning and chauffeuring!
- **Golf Tournament:** Had a successful golf tournament in October with 19 participating teams and raised \$18,800. A huge thanks to this year's golf committee and auction helpers: Larry Fricke, Norma Laughlin, Paul Thompson, The Green family – and to our sponsors and auction donors!
- **Christmas hayride:** Held our second Annual Christmas hayride through Prestonwood to see the Christmas lights! It was well attended by 20 youth and college students. Thank you Carmen Gonzalez, Carlos Carrizales, and David Gibbs for driving.
- **Fall Retreat Night:** Hosted a fall retreat night in the youth building with Andruw Jones led us in some faith-sharing and the Harris County Health Department came to speak with our youth group about the dangers of smoking and vaping.
- **Other fun fellowship events:** Supported Brooke Butler at her Mamma Mia musical, hosted a youth movie night and youth skate nights for fellowship time at Champions roller World that 18 youth attended. Also hosted coffee & gelato with our senior class.
- **Involvements and Leadership:** Our youth also assisted with SHP deliveries, Make a Difference Day meal packaging project, helped serve at The Table lunches and with Audio/Visual and Easter and Christmas Around the world Childrens events. We also had kickball nights, a cooking night thanks to Connie Saint, craft nights and youth group at the park.
- **College/Young adult ministry:** Hosted a Badminton and Bible study afternoon for fellowship time this summer. Invited our college group to attend our summer kickoff event, **Swing into Summer** at Topgolf and hosted a college and young adult Bowling and bible study night this summer. We sent college care packages, visited with our college students over Christmas break, and had a successful college Sunday with 7 college students involved.

Northwoods Dollars at Work 2024 Benevolences



Missions Budget

10% of Northwoods Income	114,214
Special Offerings	46,622
	<hr/> 160,836 <hr/>

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA

Presbytery of the New Covenant Support	30,000
PC (USA) Per Capita Apportionment	9,114
PC (USA) Worldwide Support	2,500
PC (USA) Theological Institutions	4,500
Presbyterian Missionary Support	1,500
Presbyterian Peacemaking Offering	750

TOTAL PC (USA)

48,364

LOCAL

CanCare	2,000
Fe & Justica Worker Center	1,500
Habitat for Humanity (NWHC)	1,000
Hope Center	3,740
Interfaith Care Partners	1,500
KAIROS of Texas Prison Ministry	3,000
Make a Difference Day	946
Northwest Assistance Ministries	7,000
Northwoods Mission Operating Fund	348
Northwoods Mission Scholarships	600
Northwoods ELCP Scholarships	2,890
Pinecrest Presbyterian Church Youth Employment Program	2,000
Presbyterian Prayers of the People	3,000

TOTAL Local

29,524

STATE / NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL

CEDEPCA - Central America	2,500
CUPS Mexico /U.S. Border Grant	1,500
Faith in Practice	3,000
First Presbyterian Church Havana	2,000
Hand in Hand School-Israel	1,500
International Seafarers Center	2,000
Northwoods Staff Trip Leadership/Mission Trips	2,226
Presbyterian Pan American School	2,000
Rise Against Hunger	14,100
Sidewalk School (Texas Border)	1,500
Su Casa de Esperanza	1,500
Texas Impact	2,500
TOTAL State / National / International	36,326

TOTAL MISSION OPERATING BUDGET **114,214**

SPECIAL OFFERINGS & GIVING PROGRAMS

Giving Tree	
Bonding Against Adversity	3,325
Finishing Touch Ministry	1,220
Living Water International	9,450
The Landing Anti-Trafficking Organization	3,325
Sleep in Heavenly Peace	3,445
NAM Toys	1,400
Christmas Eve Offering	
Presbyterian Joy Gift (PCUSA)	2,604
Presbyterian Children's Home and Services	2,604
SOS Food Drive	1,375
Soup-er Bowl of Caring - Food Pantry	1,579
One Great Hour of Sharing	15,445
Disaster Relief	850
Total Special Offerings	46,622

160,836

2024 Benevolences

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35

Our Missions Ministry Team funded the following grants for our Northwoods Benevolences on behalf of our congregation. Some of our Partner Ministries that receive financial support from Northwoods also receive direct, hands-on involvement by servants in our congregation:

Bonding Against Adversity – BAA was created as a non-profit Texas corporation to provide free and low-cost community outreach programs for disadvantaged residents with an emphasis on healthy living, safe living and reducing secondary school dropout rates. They help people in the United States who are here legally complete their path to citizenship. Our church supports BAA through the Giving Tree.

\$4,663

CanCare - This ministry matches cancer survivors with those who are receiving treatment to provide support and hope. As a partner congregation, we provide benevolent support, and survivors in our congregation serve as CanCare volunteers.

\$2,000

CEDEPCA (Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America) - Presbytery of New Covenant and Northwoods have a long-standing partnership with this ecumenical ministry which is based in Guatemala. Our grant helps support its Women's Pastoral Program with courses that promote the dignity, self-esteem, and leadership of women, the elimination of violence against women, and biblical training.

\$2,500

CUPS (Comunicados Unidos Pro Salud)– CUPS is a Christian ministry assisting communities in northeastern Mexico and the Rio Grande Valley to improve health and education, to foster a sense of community, and to provide volunteers an opportunity to serve and be served.

\$1,500

Fe & Justicia Worker Center – This ministry provides a safe place for low-wage workers to learn about their rights in the workplace and advocates improving working conditions on the job. The center also attempts to obtain earnings that are due to workers from their employers.

\$1,500

Faith in Practice – Faith In Practice is a non-profit, ecumenical Christian organization that seeks to improve the physical, spiritual, and economic conditions of the poor in Guatemala through integrated surgical, medical, and dental mission trips and health-related educational programs.

\$3,000

Finishing Touch Ministry - This is a faith-based ministry providing home furnishings to individuals and families who have a place to live, but little or no funds to furnish it. Donated gently used furniture, lamps, art, etc. are meticulously arranged by Finishing Touch volunteers.

Clients are referred through partnering agencies and interviewed and evaluated by Finishing Touch. Funding was provided through the Giving Tree program.

\$1,220

First Presbyterian Church of Havana – Our benevolence assists our sister church in Cuba to offer helping outreach ministries to poor families and at-risk children in its surrounding community.

\$2,000

Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Harris County - Our Habitat affiliate builds affordable housing for families in need, provides repairs and renovations to existing homes, homebuyer education and resources and disaster preparedness.

\$1,000

Hand-in-Hand School - Hand in Hand nurtures an equal, shared, and inclusive society in Israel through educational and community-building programs. They are the only school network providing integrated, bilingual Jewish-Arab education in Israel. They have grown to six school campuses serving thousands of Jewish and Arab students.

\$1,500

Hope Center Houston (formerly 1960 Hope Center) - The HOPE Center was formed to offer basic human services to our homeless brothers and sisters. The facility offers shelter from inclement weather, clean restrooms, hot showers, laundry service, hot breakfast and lunch and other necessities. Beyond the temporary basic needs, there are also mental health providers, support groups, and mentoring to help men and women get out of homelessness.

\$3,740

Interfaith Care Partners - This ecumenical ministry oversees congregation-based care teams that minister to families caring for older loved ones. Our grant helps to cover the costs associated with their Gathering Place, Second Family and Common Ground programs.

\$1,500

International Seafarers Center Houston - The Houston International Seafarers' Centers are a "home away from home" for seafarers visiting the Port of Houston. There is a team of ministers on duty, including two Presbyterian chaplains, and our grant helps to pay the salary of these two chaplains.

\$2,000

Kairos of Texas – Kairos is a Christian faith-based prison ministry which addresses the spiritual needs of incarcerated men, women, youth, and their families. By sharing the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ, Kairos hopes to change hearts, transform lives, and impact the world. Currently serving in 50 units in the state.

\$3,000

Living Water International - Exists to demonstrate the love of God helping communities acquire desperately needed clean water, and to experience living water – the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our church supports LWI through our Giving Tree offerings.

\$9,450

Make a Difference Day – NPC's Annual Day of serving around our community as well as globally. We place great value on giving not only money to support ministry but giving our time and ourselves to service.

\$946

Northwest Assistance Ministries - Our ecumenical coalition provides services to meet the basic needs of persons in Northwest Harris County. In addition to these funds, our Giving Tree offering provides toys for kids and funds for toys, which is included in this amount.

\$8,400

Northwoods Mission Operating Fund - Our operating account covers expenditures such as mission project supplies, study materials, and emergency help for members.

\$348

Northwoods Mission Leadership – Our Pastors provided leadership for our mission trips and international partnerships.

\$2,226

Northwoods Mission Scholarships – Provides funding assistance for members' participating in church mission trips.

\$600

Presbyterian Children's Home and Services – PCHAS provides Christ-centered care and support to children and families in need: Foster care and adoption services, transitional living for young adults, single parent support, counseling services and youth outreach. Funding is provided from our Christmas Eve offering.

\$2,604

Presbyterian Joy Gift – The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired PC USA pastors in their time of need and developing future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. Our Christmas Eve Offering is split between the Joy Gift and the Presbyterian Children Homes and Services.

\$2,604

Presbyterian Pan American School – Is a Christian international, college-prep, boarding school in Kingsville, TX. The school has strong relationships with several countries throughout the world who send their students to PPAS.

\$2,000

Peace and Global Witness Offering – Northwoods helps to support peacemaking programs and efforts of our Presbyterian Church (USA).

\$750

Pinecrest Presbyterian Church - This sister church is in the Fifth Ward and developed the Youth Employment Program to provide at-risk youth with job skills. Ten youth are placed in part-time jobs for 6 weeks. This benevolence provides the "salary" for two youth for six weeks of "employment" in a supervised work setting.

\$2,000

Prayers Of the People (POP) – The primary focus of Prayers of the People (POP) is providing spiritual care to patients, families and healthcare professionals in the healthcare systems with whom it partners. Lay Ministers are trained to provide spiritual care and offer prayer and solace to those in need.

\$3,000

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) - As a connectional church, Northwoods helps to support the ministries, missions, and work of our denomination. Our funds support Presbytery of New Covenant; Synod of the Sun, and PC(U.S.A.).

\$30,000

Presbyterian Seminaries – Our grant supports the national church seminary program and two specific seminaries: the Austin Presbyterian Seminary and the Center for Innovation at San Francisco Theological Seminary.

\$4,500

Rise Against Hunger – The vision of this international hunger relief agency is to end hunger, and it distributes food and lifesaving aid to the world's most vulnerable. This money paid for the food, staff support, and transport of over 35,000 meal packets which over 90 of our volunteers assembled on "Make a Difference Day."

\$14,100

Sidewalk School - The Sidewalk School for Asylum Seekers offers five days of schooling to children facing displacement in the Matamoros Tent City, a refugee camp in the border zone between the US and Mexico. They offer school five days a week and teachers are asylum seekers. People are facing displacement in the Matamoros Tent City for months, some remaining there for over a year as they await the verdict of their asylum application to the United States.

\$1,500

Sleep in Heavenly Peace – This chapter of SHP begun at NPC in 2018. SHP is the only charity providing bunk beds to children who do not have a bed of their own. Our church supports SHP through our Giving Tree Offering.

\$3,445

Su Casa de Esperanza - This Presbyterian ministry improves the lives of families in the south Texas border region by providing prenatal education, after-school programs, parenting skills, health care, nutrition, and basic job skills. Our grant supports the Early Childhood Development Program to provide parent education and family support in order to give their children the best possible start in life.

\$1,500

Texas Impact – This statewide religious grassroots network works to advance state public policies that are consistent with universally held social principles of religious traditions, serving as a voice for the voiceless.

\$2,500

The Landing Houston - This organization is a faith-based non-profit serving women, men and children who have experienced the sex trade. Programs include: a daytime drop-in center to get counseling and a meal, youth advocacy and assistance, and engaging with various outreach efforts with the goal of increasing victim identification and connecting survivors with services. NPC supported this through the Giving Tree program.

\$3,325



ANNUAL FINANCE REPORT

INCOME	2024 Actual	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Pledges	840,663	842,700	838,736
Non-Pledged	258,979	245,800	245,000
Plate Offering	8,523	11,000	11,000
New Member	2,445	6,500	6,500
Building Use	29,600	32,000	32,000
Miscellaneous	1,927	4,000	4,000
	1,142,137	1,142,000	1,137,236
Special Offerings	46,622	54,500	54,500
Total Income	1,188,759	1,196,500	1,191,736
EXPENSES			
Missions	114,214	114,200	113,724
Special Offerings	46,622	54,500	54,500
Personnel	716,740	720,725	716,580
Church Office	51,763	53,200	45,500
Worship	11,481	11,250	11,800
Property	218,586	214,190	222,072
Congregational Care	1,458	1,400	1,400
Outreach	0	700	600
Children's Ministry	4,270	4,500	3,500
Youth Ministry	2,946	2,700	2,700
Adult Ministry	0	450	400
Church Life	9,361	7,685	7,610
Stewardship	8,103	7,500	8,700
Session	609	500	500
Child Care	1,756	3,000	2,150
Total Expenses	1,187,910	1,196,500	1,191,736
Excess of Income over Expense	849	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS	Dec. 31, 2023	Dec. 31, 2024	
Cash	155,136	176,243	
Due from GEM Fund	16,474	2,540	
Due from ELCP	7,527	72,874	
Total Current Assets	179,137	251,657	
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	76,742	80,062	
Line-of-Credit /Operating	0	94,711	
Funds from ELCP	0	0	
Internal Activity Funds	193,115	166,754	
Due to GEM Fund	0	0	
Total Liabilities	269,857	341,527	
OPERATING FUND BALANCE	(90,720)	(89,870)	

Contact us



281-444-8861



www.northwoods.org



3320 Cypress Creek Pkwy
Houston, TX 77068

