

NewsNotes

A Publication of Northwood Church

May 2022



Northwood Presbyterian Church

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Facebook:

Northwood Presbyterian Church

Twitter: @NPCSilverSpring

Worship with us on-line on Sundays
at 10 A.M. at:

<http://bit.ly/NorthwoodLive>

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Hermione Brown
- 7 Folly Folivi
- 10 Clara Kennedy
- 13 Keneisha Montgomery
- 16 Christine Brumfield
- 16 Elmer Lantz
- 17 Bernard Stinson
- 18 Paul Brumfield
- 26 Les Henig
- 28 Bob Lawson

MUSINGS FROM MAGGIE

Preparing to leave this loving community is a bittersweet time for me, as each of you have had a significant impact on my life. I will say more at the appropriate time, but what I want to say now is that the future of Northwood Church lies within your hands. You are situated in a significant location in the Silver Spring area amidst tremendous growth, opportunity, and need. For some, Northwood is one of the few places where they are welcomed, cherished, and made to feel at home either in worship, the day care, or one of our many community groups that gather in our building. It will take the effort of all of you to help the Session, the Vision and Redevelopment Team, and your new pastoral leadership to determine what influence and good you can do for Christ. Pray on these things.

I'm not really sure I want to admit it, God,
but I am a person with gifts.

Oh, I'm not one of those super-talented, can-do-it-all, people,
but there are things I'm good at,
things that might even be useful to You and others.

But, here's the problem – if I admit it, then I have to do something;
then there are no more excuses;
no more comfortable inadequacies to hide behind.
If I acknowledge the abilities and strengths You have placed in me
I'm going to have actually use them;
I'm going to have to serve, and be accountable,
and maybe even make commitments...
and stick to them.

But, if I pretend that I'm not gifted at all,
I lose something of myself,
I allow myself to be less than I really am,
to experience less, to learn less,
to be less alive.

So, thank you, God, for making me a gifted person,
and thank you that my gifts can make a difference,
can, in some small way, help
to make Your dream for my world a reality.

Amen.

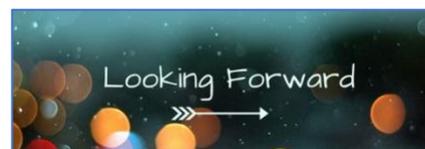
Maggie

**PILGRIMAGE PRESENTATION
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY, MAY 1,
FOLLOWING WORSHIP, KNOX HALL**

The *Alabama Civil Rights Pilgrimage* to Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma, Alabama organized by the Reverends Maggie and Larry Hayward was a remarkable seven day journey shared by six pastors, in addition to twenty-four combined church members and friends of the congregations of Northwood, Westminster in Alexandria, New York Avenue, and Takoma Park. The three representing the Northwood congregation were Fred Fauntleroy, Jacqueline Barber, and Eulalie Kintenga. It was a somber, joy-filled, and inspiring trip. Please stay for a 45 minute presentation in person **this Sunday, May 1 at Noon**, in the Knox Hall Section of the Northwood sanctuary. Anyone is welcome in person. We will be sharing our experiences with our congregation and friends. Snacks provided.



**VISION AND REDEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE
An invitation for all to join our vision and redevelopment meeting
on 5/4/22 at 7:15-8:15pm**



Anyone present will be able to:

- Get brought up to speed on what is occurring with the Vision and Redevelopment Team,
- Understand what will occur over the next year,
- Get clarity on the opportunities and implications for Northwood, and
- Have the opportunity to ask questions about the process in general.

Two things are going on simultaneously:

- 1: **Visioning:** The process of identifying the essence of who we are and what our direction will be in terms of our mission statement and prioritizing what programs we offer, and what causes we lift up.
- 2: **Redevelopment:** The process of taking the priorities from the visioning process and using that info to drive what our facility/space needs are as we are identifying and selecting possible developer partners in our future construction project.

Below is the Zoom login info:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5783871396>

Meeting ID: 578 387 1396

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,5783871396# US (Washington DC)

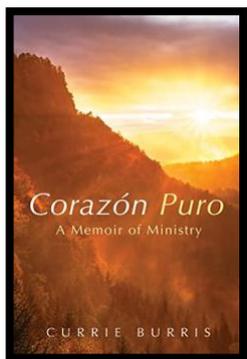
+13126266799,,5783871396# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 578 387 1396

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kAZ5jhfZv>



BOOK PRESENTATION AND CHAT

Sunday, May 15, following worship, Connie Gordon Lounge

Northwood's Parish Associate, Reverend Doctor Currie Burris, has written a memoir entitled *Corazón Puro* (Pure Heart). A reflection of his life as a son, father, grandfather, and pastor, Currie shares his experience, wisdom, and pastoral sensitivity in situations of grief, loss and joy and his passionate heart for concerns of social justice and equity among all persons. *Corazon Puro* is a memoir of a lifetime in ministry in the Christian faith. Currie reviews his life experience from his initial profession of faith as a seven-year-old Baptist in a revival service, through his education in the academic study of religion, seminary studies in systematic theology, ordination to a ministry of peace and justice activism, to thirty years of pastoral ministry in the Presbyterian Church. Throughout this faith journey, the author struggles with the character, identity and purpose of God in the light of pervasive human experience of pain, suffering, and death. Where is a loving God in the face of devastating suffering and horror universally lived by every human being? What is the role of a pastor in the midst of suffering and loss?

FAREWELL TO MAGGIE MAY 22nd

Please join us, in person if possible, for a farewell celebration for Rev. Maggie Hayward on **Sunday, May 22nd after worship**. If you are interested in participating on the planning team or would like to contribute food for the meal, please see Alison Crichton, Keneisha Montgomery, or Christine Brumfield.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Five new pledges were received this in April totaling 37 pledges for \$150,616. It is never too late to submit a Pledge Card and doing so is one sign of our level of commitment to Northwood's future. Stewardship brochures and Pledge cards can be found on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. Thanks, all!

MISSION TEAM

Thanks to all who contributed to this month's special offering – *One Great Hour of Sharing* – we raised \$1,075 for this mission that supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster (including the nation of Ukraine), through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

EDUCATION

Children & Youth

Sunday school for children and youth together is now being held in person weekly after worship, following singing time.

We have started learning about a new spiritual discipline, Hope. The children and teens met together on April 24th:

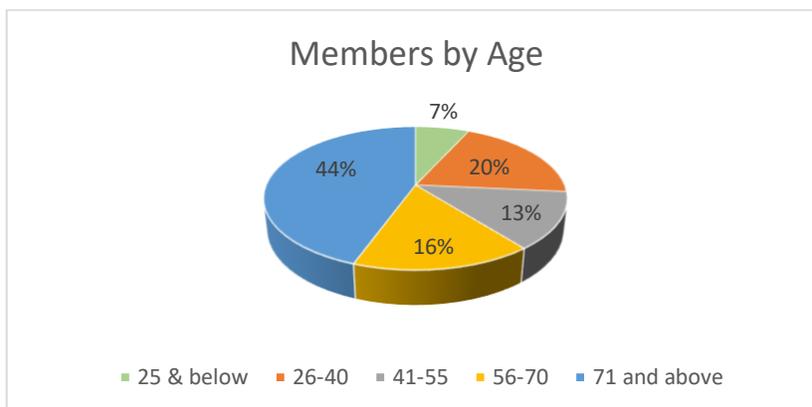
- **Isaiah 40:28-31 (Hear Hope)** - This session introduced this unit on hope as a spiritual practice. The Bible is full of searching people yearning for home, looking for comfort from God's presence and protection. Children were introduced to the definition of hope, waiting in faith for the promises we know God will keep through Jesus Christ.

The remaining lessons in this discipline are:

- **John 1:1-14 (See Hope)** - This session focuses on the imagery of God's hope and faithfulness through light and through Jesus Christ, God-incarnate. God doesn't just offer us hope through God's promises. God gave us the gift of God-with-us, hope brought to human life and to earth through the life of Jesus Christ.
- **Luke 1:16-55 (Share Hope)** - This session shifts the focus from noticing and experiencing hope through Jesus Christ—an internal practice—to sharing that hope within a community—an external practice. This session explores how communities share hope with one another.
- **Luke 2:1-20 (Proclaim Hope)** - This final session in the Hope unit utilizes the children's newfound understanding of hope: waiting faithfully as God fulfills God's promises to us through Jesus Christ. Instead of just keeping this hope to ourselves, it is one of our most important callings as people of God to proclaim this hope to the world, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ as the angels and shepherds did long ago.

Clerk of Session

I work for the federal government, and we are always talking about a day when we will have mass retirements. However, many people remain long past the age when they are eligible to retire. They have things to contribute, and they enjoy the work, their community, and their sense of purpose.



I sometimes hear people worry about the aging of our congregation. I still see our members in their 90s mentor, encourage, and participate in the spiritual life of our church. If there is one thing the pandemic has taught me, it is that our members can be engaged even when they can't be physically present. I'm glad to be in a church that welcomes all ages and abilities.

In April, we lost Leonard Ramroop, who had a gift of connecting with and supporting our pastors. His kindness, wisdom, and spirituality will be greatly missed.

The Flaherty's left Northwood; we are grateful for Greg's work on the Session and on the Vision and Redevelopment Task Force and Emily's leadership in Christian Education for our youngest children.

We have been blessed with 3 new members in the past 2 months. Fred Fauntleroy, brother of Jacqueline Barber, has been a regular participant and usher in worship and attends our fellowship activities. Mary Elise Sheets, daughter of the Brumfields, and her husband, Andy have been participating virtually during COVID, with Mary Elise frequently serving as liturgist, and it is great to see them in the sanctuary.

With all of the changes going on, the Vision and Redevelopment Task Force will be having listening sessions monthly to hear your thoughts and to answer your questions. You can always reach out to George Johnston, the Task Force Chair or to me as the Clerk of Session, if you would like to speak privately.

Yours in Christ,
Alison Crichton



THE PATHWAYS SCHOOLS IS CELEBRATING ITS 40TH YEAR IN 2022-2023!

We owe everything to the members of the Northwood Presbyterian Church who formed our corporation, served as the founding board members, and opened the doors to our first school in 1982. It was at that time that they saw the need for special education students to have a place to learn as students and grow as individuals to become contributing members of our communities. It is because of the church's mission, we have changed the lives of hundreds of students across the Maryland and DC area. Check out our latest newsletter to see Cliff's story about how Pathways made a difference in his life:

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Spring-activities-bloom-at-Pathways-----.html?soid=1102885321073&aid=wAl2xUN3oTM>.

During the years, the depth and drive of our mission and work has remained strong through many transitions and changes. We recognize both the challenges and excitement that come with transitions, such as those you are currently experiencing within the Northwood Presbyterian Church community. As the needs of our students, families and communities change and evolve, we have found our openness to change and growth to be valuable so we can continue to make a difference as we did for Cliff. Consider buying a raffle ticket to support our special activities and to have a chance to win cash and other prizes: <https://go.rallyup.com/4eb10a>



PRAYER CONCERNS

- *Vincent Queen*, hip replacement surgery, May 17.
- *Courtney Gage*, Kendra Queen's young friend whose cancer has returned.
- *Taylor Courtright*, a young friend of Maggie Hayward diagnosed with Werner's Syndrome.
- *Paul Brumfield*, recovering from knee surgery.
- *Judy Fink*, onset of adult asthma causing breathing issues.
- *Irma Ramroop and family*, comfort following Leonard's death on April 8.
- *Donna Sgaggero*, continuing concern for her grandson Jordan with lung issues.
- *Northwood Church*, search for new pastoral leadership and decisions concerning the future of the Northwood property.
- *Elvie Barbour* and her son Tony, physical comfort and stamina.
- *Audrey Norris*, prayers of gratitude for her improved health.
- *Northwood members currently unable to attend worship*, Clara Kennedy, Dottie Whitt, Rose Wong, Setsuko Simmons, and Louise Beers.
- *Ukraine*, suffering the afflictions of war, and prayers for the difficult decisions that individuals and families are having to make, and for the wisdom and response of the NATO countries.

If you would like to submit a Prayer Request, please contact Gail Oakes or Rev. Maggie.

STAYING CONNECTED TO NORTHWOOD

EMAIL: office@northwoodchurch.com WEBSITE: northwoodchurch.com

FIND NORTHWOOD ON TWITTER:

@NPCSilver Spring

See this link on how to get started using Twitter,
and how to start following Northwood:

<https://help.twitter.com/en/twitter-guide>

FIND NORTHWOOD ON FACEBOOK:

Northwood Presbyterian Church

See this link on how to get started using Facebook, and start following Northwood:

<https://socialplanner.io/blog/how-to-use-facebook/>

FIND NORTHWOOD ON YOUTUBE.COM

See this link on how to get started using YouTube, and start following Northwood:

<https://www.lifewire.com/how-to-use-youtube-2655498>

SUNDAY WORSHIP ON YOUTUBE VIDEO

(VIDEO BROADCAST): Sunday 10:00 A.M. Live-stream Worship: bit.ly/NorthwoodLive

SUNDAY WORSHIP ON ZOOM AUDIO

dial +1 301 715 8592 and insert Passcode: 3212021

FINDING NPC 8:00 P.M. THURSDAY DEVOTIONALS:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86517994764?pwd=YjBIUEgzYnE2ZktHK2lieTZFN1I0UT09>

Meeting ID: 865 1799 4764

Passcode: 121431

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,86517994764#,,, *121431# US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 865 1799 4764

Passcode: 121431

REMEMBERING OTHERS

Please remember in prayer and in correspondence these particularly vulnerable members and friends of Northwood Church. Thank you.

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