

MUSIC NOTES: "Joy to the World" Isaac Watts, 1719

What's up with that, you say—singing Christmas hymns in May? This hymn was part of Watts' major work, *The Psalms of David, Imitated in the Language of the New Testament*. Shortly after his appointment to a London church he became ill and had to resign his post. He accepted an invitation to recuperate at the guest house of Sir Thomas Abney for a few weeks. He stayed 36 years! During his time there he completed his *Psalms of David...* which included "Joy to the World" It was originally titled "The Messiah's Coming and Kingdom" and was not intended as a Christmas hymn. It is really appropriate for the entire year whenever the theme of the "Kingdom" is observed. Today we sing it to an alternate tune which I think will help us more fully focus on the text based on Psalm 98. Watts has been called 'the father of English hymnody' for he, along with Charles and John Wesley, popularized "hymns of human composition." Even seventy years later some at the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America despised these hymns calling them "the worst form of heresy."

The youth choir ends its season today. Those singing in the choir this year have included: Robert Wood, Jeremy Stephen, Mitchell Johnston, Shaun Flaherty, Heather Wood, Sarah Flaherty, David Hamilton, Bryce Fulford, Lindsey Peterson, Carissa Johnston, and Gemma Briggs.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by



Nancy Johnson
In Memory of
Kathryn Wells



Friends of Northwood

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2015 Flower Reservation Chart" on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Thank you to those providing flowers each week in Honor/In Memory of someone or an anniversary/birthday!

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

- Sunday, May 17th:** Kenny Giese, Adrienne Roberts
- Monday, May 18th:** Leslie Heycock, Bill Mylin, Mike Nigels
- Tuesday, May 19th:** Nathan Barry
- Wednesday, May 20th:** Char Segesman
- Thursday, May 21st:** Nancy Johnson, Bill Martin, Michele Nigels
- Friday, May 22nd:** Sandy Estavil, Mimi Judd, Jim Roberts, Christopher Youngblood
- Saturday, May 23rd:** Harriet Jackson

If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen them in church recently, give them a call!

FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

ACOLYTES:

- (8:15) James Birch
- (11:00) Graham Thompson

GREETERS:

- (8:15) Fred & Charlotte McQuown
- (11:00) Evelyn & Pete Towns

USHERS:

- (8:15) Janet George, Ellen Stoup, Bill Lewis, Bob MacFall
- (9:30) Bill & Louise Myline
- (11:00) Doug & Georgianna Winder, Jon Mills, Steve Winder

VAN DRIVER: Ed Puschmann



Acolytes



Greeters & Ushers

EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (2014/15 School Year), Room 3, join us in the multi-age Sunday School worship class after the Children's Message.

Teacher: Nathan Rodewald

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-Kindergarten (14/15 School Year) Room 3

Teachers: Melissa Long & Jeremy Stephen

1st & 2nd Grades Room 16

Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 16.

Teachers: Todd & Kathleen Pope

3rd-5th Grades Room 8

Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 8.

Teacher: Melissa Patel & Pam Jeffre

11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds - 5th grade (14/15 school year) join us as we bring the Bible to Action through games and activities in room 3 beginning at 11:00. Should your child like to attend worship up until the Children's message, they can join in on the fun in room 3 after the Children's Message or remain in worship with their parents.

Teacher: Barbara Englehart & Nancy Stevens

Children Welcome to the Lord's Table

Parents, if you wish for your children to receive communion please have them remain with you in the worship service on Communion Sundays. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact Elder Dawn Winder, Chair of Worship Team. (Communion is normally celebrated on the first Sunday of each month).

Middle & High School Christian Education

Come join us for combined middle/high school Sunday school. We will be studying the "Elements" of our faith. Through new and exciting curriculum, we will learn how to grow in our walk with God.

- 9:30 AM Youth Room
- 11:00 AM Youth Room

9:30 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY

Class has ended for the summer. Join us at Rally Day on Sunday, September 13 for information on our study for 2015-2016.

TCI (Today's Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11

TODAY: We will be looking at the relationship between *truth* and *change* and dealing with the questions: "If something is true, how can it change?" and "If something changes, how could it have been true in the first place?" We will be seeing how we might face these questions both as members of the church and members of society. Garry Justice will be leading the discussion. Coffee and cookies are available.

11:00 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EXPERIENCING GOD - Rooms 13 & 15

TODAY: We are studying Nehemiah—a story that begins with his fellow Jews reporting that the walls and gates of Jerusalem were in terrible shape. God put it on his heart to rebuild the walls. Join our class to find out just how Nehemiah went about accomplishing this feat and how God's love and faithfulness works in our lives on a daily basis.

**Welcome To
Northwood Presbyterian
Church**

A Stephen Ministry Church

May 17, 2015

Dear Northwood Family,

In February I shared information with you about the planned renovations to the Pre-school and Church restrooms located in the main building. Since that time, the bid process has been completed and the bid awarded to the Coastal Reconstruction Group. Demolition of the existing space will begin on Tuesday, May 26.

I want to thank you for your faithful support of this much needed renovation and the many ways it will help us accommodate all those who come here to grow in faith. As of today, we have pledges (some fully paid and some still outstanding to be paid by yearend) and non-pledge gifts (already received) totaling the estimated \$80,000 cost that was projected when this process began. This is a wonderful accomplishment all to the glory of God. Without your faithfulness we could not have moved forward.

Now, if you've ever done a project like this at your own home, you know how these things unfold. The costs that you began to identify in that very first trip to Home Depot or Lowes came more and more into focus as the tradesmen needed were identified and the time to complete the project was nailed down. Our project, here at the church, is no different. The lowest and best bid that came to the table was from the Coastal Reconstruction Group for \$108,000.00. With this information in hand, the Stewardship/Property/Finance Ministry Team agreed to move forward with purpose and in faith knowing that we could essentially borrow the money from ourselves with no need to seek outside financing. Your church is financially healthy and we are very blessed that this is an option.

However, one of the ways we remain financially healthy is to make you, our members and friends, aware of our financial needs so that you might respond as you personally are lead to do. We have a \$28,000 gap between pledges/gifts and the amount of the contract. Whether you have completed a pledge specifically to the building renovation fund, are in the process of doing so or have yet to do so, we invite you to prayerfully consider helping to fill the gap with an additional pledge or gift as you feel led. Again, thank you and if you would like a pledge card or information about how to make your gift online, please call the church office. If you'd simply like to make an additional gift, please mark your check or envelope for the "Building Renovation Fund."

Please remember that in general, during the time of construction, there will be no access to the Library, the Pre-School classrooms or Pre-School office, the children's playground and the Men's or Women's restrooms in the main building. From time to time, parts of the side walk between the church office and the playground will be closed as well. We ask for your patience. Once the construction begins, those areas must be available to the contractor so that the work is not delayed but more importantly, for the ongoing safety and protection of all involved. Restrooms will be available in the Church Office and in the Family Life Center. Additional signage will be in place to help direct you to these areas.

Chris Hurst
Business Administrator

Ministers: All Members of the Church

E. Chris Curvin, Pastor
Paul Means, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission

Northwood Presbyterian Church

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Order for the Public Worship of God
May 17, 2015
7th Sunday of Easter
8:15 & 11:00 AM Worship Services
WE GATHER

*(Let the congregation be silent, and in prayer as the music begins.
Please silence electronic devices.)*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

OPENING VOLUNTARY

(8:15) "Come to the Music" Joseph M. Martin
Westminster Youth Choir
(11:00) "Rejoice Greatly" Susan E. Geschke
Celestial Handbells (3rd-5th grade)

(Acolytes symbolically bring in the light of Christ & then take it out into the world.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

(Please complete the bulletin insert, "FRIENDSHIP SHEET," and pass it toward the center aisle.)

***HYMN #260** "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" HYFRYDOL

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

O God of holy mystery and eye-opening grace, we give thanks that You take seriously the hard questions about life and faith. Sadly we often don't take those questions as seriously as You do. Life gets busy and there is always one more person to see, one more thing to do, and one more place to go. Forgive us when we confuse busyness with faithfulness. When life circumstances push us to wrestle with questions of faith, doubt, life and death, forgive us for trusting the wisdom of this age rather than You and Your Word. By Your grace, may we never hesitate to come to You with questions that press upon our hearts. May we trust that there is nothing that can separate us from your love that is found in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581** GLORIA PATRI
"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen."

ANTHEM "In Thee Is Gladness" arr. Daniel Kallman

*In thee is gladness, gone is all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By thee are given the joys of heaven, thou the only Savior art.
To serve thee ever, forsake thee never, we bow before thee, love and adore thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!*

*In him is gladness, gone is all sadness, he who once was dead is raised.
Jesus is giving life to the living, now and ever let him be praised!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN *(Children age 3 (by 9/14) through fifth grade may go to Room 3 for Children's Sunday School.)*

WE UNITE IN PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

"Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

WE SHARE

CALL TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING "Spirit, Like a River" David Lantz III
Westminster Youth Choir

*Spirit, like a river flow in my heart, gently guiding my soul
Let your living water run through my life, come and take control.
Spirit, like a river come and set your course in me.*

*Spirit, like a cool wind, blow through my life, gently guiding my soul.
Let your calming breezes move through my heart; come and take control.
Spirit, like a cool wind come and set your course in me.*

*One holy family, one holy place sharing in the unity of God's grace.
He has provided for us from above His Spirit of love.
Spirit, like a river come and set your course in me.*

--words by John Parker
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***DOXOLOGY—#606** OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (page 503) Psalm 139:1-7 (NRSV)

***HYMN #266** "Joy to the World" RICHMOND
(Please Stand.)

SCRIPTURE READING (pages 863-864) John 3:1-10 (NRSV)

SERMON Paul Means, Associate Pastor
"A Clandestine Q & A"

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN #321** "The Church's One Foundation" AURELIA

***BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"Our Help Is in the Name of God" Flor Peeters
(based on the tune at #330 in Glory to God) (1903-1986)

(You are invited to remain for the final act of worship, the closing voluntary. A closer look is welcomed if you wish to come stand next to the organ console.)

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

**Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.*

ignite

ignite is a contemporary worship service at 9:30 that delivers the message of Jesus Christ through Powerful Music, Media & Scripture Based Sermons.

COUNTDOWN

"Rejoice Greatly"

Susan E. Greschke
Celestial Ringers (3rd-5th grade)

**MEET & GREET
PRAISE SONGS**

"Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed"
"Good to Be Alive"

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

"No One Like You"
Pierced Youth Praise Band

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

(1st-5th Grade Children move to Sunday School)

**CALL TO OFFERING
OFFERTORY**

"Spirit Like a River"
David Lantz III
Westminster Choir

VIDEO— "New"

SCRIPTURE

John 3:1-10 (NRSV)

MESSAGE

"A Clandestine Q & A"
Paul Means, Associate Pastor

SONG OF DEDICATION

"Come As You Are"

GOD'S BLESSING TO YOU

Sermon notes...

that Ignite Action!