
KOINONIA

“That the communication (Koinonia)(pronounced:coy no nee a) of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.” Philemon 1:6

NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH

JANUARY 2010



Happy New Year

Jesus is faithful and true in 2010. Having prepared good works in advance for us to do through His grace, the Lord calls us to co-labor with Him and one another.

Since Rev. Ted Sauve spoke to us in November, the Elder and Ministry Boards have thought about Christ's vision for Norwin Alliance Church. Here are some first step ideas:

We have a growing love for Christ. This is expressed in worship, devotions, Bible study, prayer, and living in His Presence. Henry Blackaby comments: "Worship is not based on our activities but on our character (our heart). Genuine worship originates from our hearts." Our life together becomes a praise to the Lord overflowing from grateful hearts. Be consistent in heart and attendance.

We have a growing love for the Body of Christ. This is fellowship with one another. "A place for everyone and everyone in place" is Biblical. Love God's people in Sunday School, small groups, fun times, in trials, and fellowship meals at church and in homes. Blackaby comments: "God designed you to be a part of a caring community. Be the source of support and encouragement that those around you need."

We have a growing love for all people. This is service, evangelism, outreach, and missions. Blackaby writes, "Our job is not to transform people into Christians nor to convict them of their sin. Our job is to bring them to Jesus and He will perform His divine work in their lives." "The Lord added to their number . . ." Acts 2:47

Notice the common commitment: Christ . . . Love . . . People . . . Growing. Jesus is committed to building His Church. The Lord invites us to be a part of that. Are you into Him?



YEAR END REPORTS

ALL DEPARTMENT HEADS.....from KEEN-AGERS, ALLIANCE WOMEN, ALLIANCE MEN, DMC, LEAD ELDER, LEAD TRUSTEE, TREASURER, ASST. TREASURER, YOUTH...All End-of-Year reports are due to Cindy Barnhart **NO LATER THAN JANUARY 10th**. Please make sure that your report includes a financial report also. If you chose to do your report on a computer, please put it on a CD and give it to Cindy (She will provided the CD if needed) or you may e-mail it to the church at ncma@norwinalliance.org.

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CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a meeting of the congregation on Wednesday, January 20th.

Even though only members are permitted to vote, everyone is invited to attend the meeting.

Please make every effort to attend.



KEEN-AGERS

The first Keen-Agers meeting of 2010 will be Thursday, January 28th at 11:30 am. All those who are 50 years of age and over are invited to the Keen-Agers in this New Year for a covered dish lunch and time of fellowship and fun.

Watch your bulletins for more information.

Outreach Forum

Sunday, January 3rd
9:45 am

Important new Outreach initiatives will be presented and your questions will be answered. NO Adult Sunday School classes will meet so all can attend this very important meeting ~ please plan to attend.



The Ministry Board discussed the following at their December meeting:

1. Financing Outreach programs
2. The purchase or rental of a new church van
3. A new sign for in front of the church (by Farview Dr.)
4. Change the By-laws to include a Superintendent of Nursery to the DMC. This will require a vote by the church members at the Congregation Meeting January 20th.



Mahaffey Camp
Volunteer Work Days



You are invited to go and serve the Lord at Mahaffey Camp by assisting with small projects such as painting, repairs, electrical, plumbing, and remodeling work. Housing is provided in Dorm 5. Meals are provided in the Dining Hall. Ladies are welcome to attend and work on projects in the Dining Hall. Please let the camp know a few days in advance if you are willing to go to assist.

Work days are Thursdays and Fridays:

January 21, 22
February 18, 19
March 18, 19

Adult Sunday School Classes

Resumes January 10th with new topics

Dare to Discipline ~ Effective Biblical discipline will continue as the course content.

Teachers: Kevin Craycraft and Jeff Ewing

Bible Study ~ "The Fulfillment of Christ" will be the emphasis.

Teachers: Mark Lazzaro and Bill Swope

The 21 Most Effective Prayers of the Bible

by Dave Earley. This class will be open to men and women.

Teacher: Connie Niedermeyer



DIRECTORY INFORMATION

We would like to print an updated Norwin Alliance Church directory and need your help. Please fill out the form below and return to the church by Sunday, January 25th. Please be sure to include your name, birth date and birth year to aid in keeping track of the age-groups of our church family.

Whether you have been here 30 years or have just begun to attend, we would like you to fill out one of these forms. Please feel free to contact the church if you have any questions.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Home phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Birthday (mo/dd/yr) _____

(please include name **AND** year)

Spouse's birthday _____

(please include name **AND** year)

Anniversary _____

Child/Children's Names

Birthdate

Thank you for your help!

VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

In reflecting on the "New Year" this writer had chosen the theme of **conflict**. When the main idea was initiated, she had no idea what conflict(s) would come into her life before the article was written. Please allow this writer to share her personal dilemma and challenges.

By this time most of you are aware that our son Jason, age 24, died in November 2009 from complications of swine flu. He was so very, very ill. He was given the best medical care at Presbyterian Hospital in Pittsburgh. However, God called him home.

That does not take away the grief, or the emptiness of heart that many of us feel. (Only a person who has lost a child can know the depth of that grief) But even as Jason slept in an induced coma in ICU, I had a peace that I cannot understand or explain. One of those days before we went into Pittsburgh I awoke with the words of the song "*Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*" on my mind. I felt so secure that Jason was being held in the arms of Jesus. When a parent knows he/she cannot do or say anything to change the situation for their child, it is at that time he/she must lean VERY HARD on Jesus.

So, how does this fit in with conflict? ? A conflict is a struggle, a challenge, or emotional tension. No one knows what 2010 holds. Each of us will face some kind of challenge, or conflict, in 2010. I still have questions concerning Jason's death. Maybe I always will. But I can only find the peace I need in this 'conflict of heart and soul' by responding to the love of God. I know it will not be easy. And that is why I am so very grateful for all the prayers in recent weeks that have been uttered for our family. **All of us** need to earnestly pray for each other. Psalms 42 has been a source of comfort to me at this time.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR LOVE, THOUGHTS, KIND WORDS, FLOWERS, MONETARY GIFTS, FOOD - - BUT MOSTLY THANK YOU FOR THE PRAYERS THROUGH MY RECENT TIME OF CONFLICT!!

