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# KOINONIA

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“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

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**NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH**

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**APRIL 2015**

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## Prayer to Our Risen Lord

from Lloyd Ogilvie, former U.S. Senate Chaplain

*“Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins to set us free from guilt and condemnation. We know we are loved and forgiven forever.*

*You rose from the dead as our victorious conqueror over death. You liberate us from the fear of death and all lesser fears that kept us from living with freedom and joy.*

*Lord, you have promised to abide in us and we abide in you. We invite you to be first in our thoughts, think your thoughts through us, take charge of our will, direct our emotions, and love through us.*

*Jesus, by your grace we have been resurrected from self-centeredness and worry to love others. By your mercy we follow you in trusting obedience in all our responsibilities and relationships. For us to live is Christ. We are truly alive with you now and forever. Amen.”*

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## CONCERT of PRAYER

**Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 pm**

## Passion Week Schedule of Events

### Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:45 am Worship Service
- 1:30 pm Cantata Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Concert of Prayer



### Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

- Noon Community Mid-Week Lenten Service at the First United Church of Christ, on Main Street in Irwin
- 6:30 pm Youth
- 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

### Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### *Good Friday*

- 12:15 pm “Walk of the Cross” in downtown Irwin
- 7:00 pm Good Friday Service at NAC

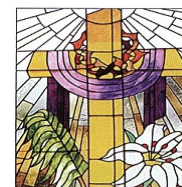


### Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

- 12:30 pm Children’s Easter Celebration  
~ Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Barrell Rides ~ Candy  
~ Message by Shelli Prindle
  - 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
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## Easter Sunday Activities

- 6:45 am Sunrise Service
- 7:15 am Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 am Morning Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
- 10:45 am Cantata ~ **“Christ is Risen Indeed”**



**GOOD FRIDAY  
"WALK OF THE CROSS"**



**FRIDAY, April 3, 2015**

**THEME: *Implements of the Passion***

- 12:15PM      *"The Whip"*  
Matthew 27:24-26  
First United Church of Christ  
400 Main Street  
724-863-0430
- 12:45PM      *"The Crown"*  
Mark 15:16-20  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
502 Main Street  
724-863-7350
- 1:15PM        *"The Robe"*  
Matthew 27:57-61  
First Presbyterian Church  
617 Main Street  
724-863-5910
- 1:45PM        *"The Cross"*  
Luke 23:32-47  
First Assembly of God Church  
501 Oak Street  
724-863-2500
- 2:15PM        *"The Spear"*  
Luke 23:44-49  
Bethel AME Church  
304 Walnut Street  
724-863-5254
- 2:45PM        *"The Shroud"*  
Mark 15:42-47  
First United Methodist Church  
310 Oak Street  
724-863-6858



The following items were discussed at the Elder and Ministry Board meetings in March:

1. Interviewed potential members.
2. The Missions Conference falls on the same weekend as the Sr. Youth Retreat *Breakaway*
3. Approved the youth to go to Lancaster to see "Joseph" at Sight-n-Sound
4. Approved Renee to hold a CPR/AED training session March 21st
5. Appointed Bill and Joe to serve on the Ministry Board
6. Appointed Jeff Ewing as Lead Elder
7. Approved proposal for Children's Easter Celebration on April 4th (petting zoo, pony rides, barrel rides)
8. Approved purchasing a new laptop for the Treasurer.
9. Memorial Fund donations in honor of Becky will be used for the Life Fund.
10. Approved replacing our current Sharp copier with a Xerox WorkCentre 7845. This will save substantial cost over the life of the agreement.
11. Approved the purchase of two new wireless mic systems for the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.
12. Candidates for the custodian job were interviewed.
13. Parking situation on the driveway that parallels Farview was discussed. Parking will be prohibited on this driveway during Sunday services. Drop-offs are allowed.
14. New Child Abuse and Criminal clearances are needed every three years. Those who have had clearances earlier than 2013 will need to obtain new clearances. This is a new State mandated law. If you work with children or youth these clearances are needed.



**High School Graduates**

If you are graduating from High School this year, please submit the following to the church office asap:

1. School graduating from
2. High School picture
3. College you will be attending
4. Degree you are pursuing

# METOCHE 30



*A sharing, communion, fellowship*

**"Met-okh-ay"**

Greek for  
"a sharing, communion,  
fellowship"

30-College, career under  
the age 30

So, graduated from high  
school to the age of 30!

**April 4, 2015 7pm - ? ?**

monthly meetings with devotion, activities as planned!

**Norwin Alliance Church,**

sponsors: Frank & Danette Kolar, J. Renee Himler

Plan to join us for fellowship and study of Francis  
Chan's "Crazy Love."

***Pizza provided!***

## QUESTIONS: CONTACT

J. Renee Himler

724.832.0667 | JReneeHimler@aol.com |

## CONNECTION SERVICE

**Sunday, April 12th  
6:30 pm**

**Speaker: Jeff Ewing**

**Worship: Mike and  
Rachel Beckstrom**

**Come for worship and fellowship!**

**CHILDREN'S EASTER CELEBRATION**  
Saturday, April 4th • 12:30pm

GOOD NEWS MESSAGE  
BARREL TRAIN RIDES  
PETTING ZOO  
PONY RIDES  
CANDY





## KEEN-AGERS

**Seniors 50 and over ~** Come to the Keen-Agers meeting on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30 am for Good Food, Good Fun, and Good Fellowship.

"The Keen-Agers is an organization of the Norwin Alliance Church intended to provide opportunities for Christian-based fellowship to those who are fifty (50) years of age or older from both this congregation *and the community at large*." Invite your friends and join us.

Our menu this month is: baked ham, scalloped potatoes, vegetable, salad, and strawberry sundaes. Shelli Prindle will present the program.

We would love to see you at our meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Long,







**MISSIONS CONFERENCE**  
**April 18 & 19**

**WHO? WHAT? WHERE? WHEN? WHY?**

**WHO** ~ Patrick Walsh serving the Dalat International School in Penang, Malaysia. Mr. Walsh will speak before our “Souper” Lunch, both services Sunday morning and to our youth and adults during Sunday School

**WHAT** ~ MISSIONS CONFERENCE

**WHERE** ~ Norwin Alliance Church

**WHEN** ~ Saturday, April 18th beginning at 11:00 am followed by a “Souper” lunch; 8:30 and 10:45 services on Sunday, April 19th and Sunday School at 9:45 am

**WHY** ~ Because we serve a wonderful Savior, we all need to let others know about Christ. Patrick and his wife, Ellen, do that in Malaysia. We need to hear about their ministry and develop our own.

**BE SURE TO COME!**

**PRAY • SERVE • GIVE**

**LIBRARY**

The library is gradually being organized more. It is downstairs, to the right. Once there, on the left wall are FICTION books (novels and stories), on the right are NON-FICTION books (true to life, personal, biographies), straight ahead are study guides.

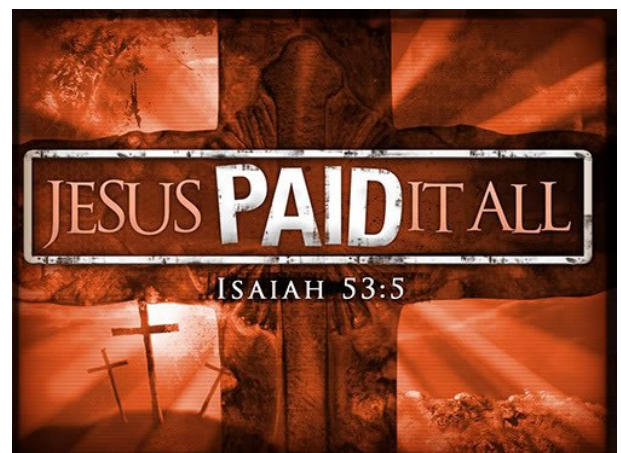
Borrow books and write down your name and the book's title.

Of special note:

1. There are Family and Children's videos and book to borrow.
2. Wholesome comedy

Anyone want to write a review of a Christian book or movie? Leave note at the office for “Library”.

If you have any questions, please contact Sara Masters at 412-266-5821



**VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA**

Since we have a special mission's emphasis in April, this writer is reminding you through songs with a missionary theme of the importance of the Great Commission Jesus gave to us in Matthew 28:18-20.

The first song, "To the East, To the West", was written in 1938. Please keep that in mind so that you will not be caught off guard and maybe be offended by the words. The message is still important and appropriate for us in 2015.

1. In the east, thousands are dying each day; Needing the Bread of Life. In the west, thousands are crying each day, "give us the Bread of Life."
2. In the north, many are longing today; Longing for peace of heart. In the south, many are searching today, Searching for peace of heart.
3. In the world, millions are utterly lost; looking for lasting life. We must go, not counting what it will cost; They must have lasting life.

Chorus: To the east, to the west, to the north and the south We must go, We must go with the Gospel of Christ. To the black, to the white, to the yellow and brown, we must go, we must go with the Gospel of Christ.

Song #2, "Does it Make Any Difference to you?" (written in 1960)

1. Does it make any difference to you? Does it make any difference to you? If a soul dies in sin, God has told you to win, Will it make any difference to you? Will His blood be required at thy hand? Do you warn the lost as He planned? Do you make plain the way? Do you work while it's day? Is the Lord working daily through you?
2. When we meet on that wonderful shore And the trials of life are all o'er, Will you find there a soul Whom the Savior made Whole? Will it make any difference to you? Will His blood be required at thy hand? Do you warn the lost as He planned? Won't you make plain the way? Won't you work while it's day? Does it make any difference to you?

**The Women's Corner**

By Janis Swope

*It appears that the weather is breaking and we are finally seeing signs of spring. The red-wing blackbirds are back at our feeder. They are always the first birds of spring to show up at the feeder and they are always a welcome sight. Do you look for signs of spring each year? I think we all do. There is something else I search for signs for and that is the return of Jesus! When I think about this event I get as excited as a child anticipating Christmas. I was listening to Joni Erickson Tada on the radio the other day and she told of a recent day when she and her husband were having their devotions. She had been having a difficult and uncomfortable day due to her physical disability and it had made her cranky and short tempered. Then her husband read a Bible passage that talked about the return of Jesus and she said it made her put her disability and crankiness into perspective and turned her attitude around. Just thinking about Christ's return to take us to be with Him reminded Joni of the hope that we as Christians have in the resurrection of Jesus. We will be like Jesus, with bodies that do not hurt and give us pain; we will be praising and giving God all the glory. Like Chris Tomlin says in the lyrics to one of his most popular songs, "We fall down, and throw our crowns, at the feet of Jesus..." It speaks of the hope we have in the return of Jesus which is able to get us through even our toughest times. Easter speaks of that same hope that we all share "that soon and very soon" we will see the return of Jesus coming in the clouds.*

*We recently had a discussion during one of our Monday morning studies about the resurrection and what it means to Christianity and to us as individuals. Then on another Monday we discussed what non-Christians believe about the resurrection. It made us realize that we have a responsibility to the next generation of believers to inform them of the importance and truth of the resurrection. If you would like to join us for Ladies Bible Study and get in on these and other discussions, we would love to have you. We meet Monday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in the craft room. And as usual, we'll have the coffee on!*

The Last Word

*"I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Everyone was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world-and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible." – Charles Colson*