
KOINONIA

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship (Koinonia) of the Holy Spirit be with you all."
2 Corinthians 13:14

NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH

April 2025



As we move closer to Holy Week, before we celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter, we remember His death on Good Friday. Paul says in Romans 6:3-4: *"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."*

We rightly highlight the importance of Jesus' substitutionary death - His death in our place - and His resurrection: that as Christ has risen, we can receive eternal life. However, our identification with Christ in His death and resurrection goes even deeper than that. Paul later writes in Romans 12:1-2, *"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."*

Jesus' death is more than a means by which our sins are forgiven - it is also a pattern for us to follow. This pattern extends beyond a willingness to suffer or even die for our faith. Paul's command to present our bodies as a living sacrifice includes the ongoing call to repent from sin - something the Holy Spirit is both willing and able to help us with.

Though the cross was the ultimate dying to self, Jesus modeled a life of daily sacrifice. There were things He could have done with His time on earth that He gave up for the sake of the mission the Father gave Him. If we are to identify with Jesus in His death and resurrection, there are things we too will be called to put to death.

Recently the Holy Spirit led me to make some adjustments in how I use my free time. He prompted me to turn the TV off and go to bed earlier so that I could get the rest needed - to stay healthy and to begin my morning quiet time with Him earlier. This wasn't the first or the last time the Spirit led me to make changes - to "put something to death" in order to make room for something better.

What might the Holy Spirit be asking you to put to death in order to make room for new life? Perhaps there is a hobby or material focus that has pushed your life out of balance. Perhaps He is leading you to step away from political consumption. Often, the Spirit leads individual believers to give up - or limit - things that may not be sinful, but have become distractions or even idols.

This offering of ourselves is not a one-time event, but a daily act of worship. The specifics of what we are called to lay down will vary in different seasons of life. But in doing so, we position ourselves to identify with Christ not only in His death, but also in His resurrection and life. We allow Him to clear the clutter from our lives so that we can better discern His will and be ready for the work He calls us to.



APRIL PRAYER TIMES

Wednesday, April 2
7:00 pm

Thursday, April 3
11:00 am

Join us for a time to pray for: one another; our church family; the mission, purpose, staff, and leaders of Norwin Alliance Church; the church universal; our community; our nation; and the world.

"Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

- Matthew 18:19-20

Mid-Week Lenten Services



Norwin Ministerium and
New Hope Presbyterian Church
12727 Lincoln Way
N. Huntingdon

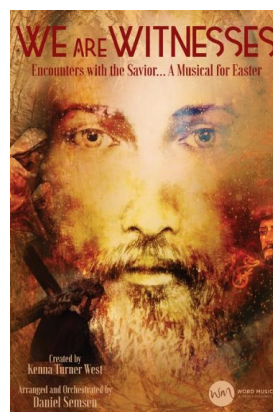
Wednesdays during the Lenten Season
11:30 am — 12:30 pm

The day begins at 11:30 am with a Hymn Sing.
A luncheon will be served at 12:30 pm
(free will offering accepted)



HE is RISEN!!

Easter Cantata



Saturday, April 12
6:30 pm

PALM Sunday, April 13
10:45 am

FREE TO ALL!

Easter Schedule of Events:

Saturday, April 12

Easter Cantata
6:30 pm

Sunday, April 13

Palm Sunday
NO 8:30 service

Easter Cantata
(NO Children's Church)
10:45 am

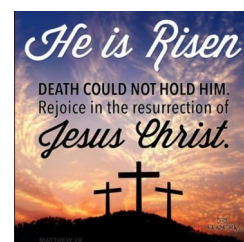
Friday, April 18

Good Friday Service
7:00 pm

Sunday, April 20

EASTER Services

Sunrise
7:00 am
Continental Breakfast
7:30 am
Worship
8:30 am & 10:45 am



KEEN-AGERS

The April meeting of Norwin Alliance Keen-Agers will be on Thursday, April 24th at 11:00 am.

The meal will be Baked Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetables, Salad, Dessert.

Our program will be by Shelly Denney.

We invite everyone aged 50 and over to join us.

Hope to see you on April 24th.



Each month we collect items for the Irwin Area Food Pantry. April's collection item: **Macaroni & Cheese.**

If you would like to contribute, a box is available in both narthexes.

Thank you so much for any contributions you can make.



Saturday, July 19, 2025
6:30 pm

Join us for fun and fellowship as we pack items that have been donated into shoeboxes.

Our goal is 100 boxes!

Demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world through Operation Christmas Child.

We will once again be collecting items to fill shoeboxes for OCC. A sign-up sheet is available on the shelf in the narthex. Please sign under the item(s) you would like to donate. Please read the sheet carefully. Ex: if you sign on the line under box of crayons - be aware you are signing up to bring 5 boxes of crayons for each line you sign. Do NOT sign in any of the greyed out sections.

Boxes will also be available soon if you would like to pack individual boxes yourself.

Emily Rose, the Westmoreland County student relations coordinator for OCC, has issued a challenge for 2025:

- * Build a box/month!
- * Over-all Goal: increase Westmoreland County by 10%

In 2024, NAC delivered 148 shoeboxes ~ a 10% increase will be 163 shoeboxes! Can we meet the challenge?

Watch for a sign-up sheet for attending the Packing Party. This will be an evening of packing, celebrations, food, and fun!

If you have any questions, please contact Renee Himler.

SENDING THE GOSPEL
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH



LIFE is a gathering of the next generation Alliance family to experience God and expand His kingdom locally and globally. We seek to:

GLORIFY God in worship, word, and community.

INTRODUCE Jesus Christ into the whole life of each student.

EXPOSE God's heart for the lost.

INSPIRE students to join the global Alliance family.

LIFE Conference is for high school students—anyone who is age 13 on July 4, 2025 or completed 8th grade and no older than 19 or just graduated from high school as of July 2025.

Each day will consist of Worship, Seminars, Off-Site Service Projects, Activity Time, Small Group Time.

If you would like to help defray the cost of our youth attending this LIFE altering conference, you may do so by marking your envelope with LIFE 2025.

Please see Joe Cox if you have any questions.



Sunday, April 6, 2025
Noon

The youth are hosting a Spaghetti Dinner to help raise funds for LIFE 2025. Please plan to stay after church on April 6th and enjoy a nice lunch with friends while supporting the youth.

Although donations are welcome, they are not necessary to come to the luncheon.



Mark your calendars! We are planning a "Garage Sale Giveaway" for Saturday, May 3.

We will once again have separate rooms for different categories of donated items to help with overcrowding. One of the rooms is a Christmas room. If you have any left-over Christmas items you no longer use, consider saving them and donating them to our giveaway.

We do not have room at the church to store items but wanted to make everyone aware that we will be having the giveaway this year so you can start saving items.

DONATIONS NEEDED! All donated items need to be clean. Suggested items for donations are: books, dishes, glassware, pots and pans, kitchen utensils and appliances. If donating bedding, such as sheets/blankets, please mark with size. Baby items such as strollers, play pens (is there such a thing nowadays), high chairs and of course toys and games, are always in demand. If any small appliances or tools are donated, they must be in good working condition.

Please note that we are not able to accept the following items: TV's, knick-knacks, clothes or large furniture items.

Please try to make sure your donations can be useful.

Please watch for a sign-up sheet for people to help set-up tables in rooms, collect and organize the donations into the different rooms, greet and assist our guests on May 3rd, and clean-up.

If you have any questions, please contact Mardy Rogers or Cindy Barnhart.



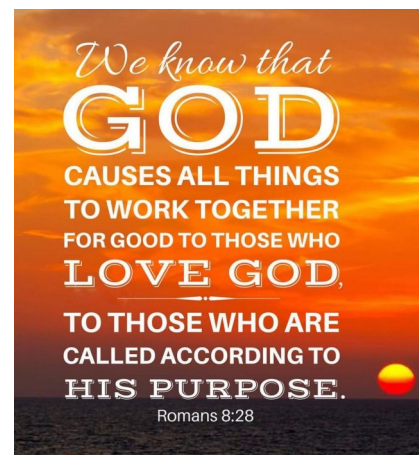
WHAT'S YOUR TRIGGER?

Roy Rogers's horsey was named Trigger. Born in 1934, the beautiful golden Palomino Stallion co-starred with Roy in 88 movies and 100 TV episodes. The word "trigger", I think of a gun part, a horse and today's language refer to something, good or bad, that brings a memory.

During my 48 year walk with God, he has tenderly pressed triggers onto my heart, onto my soul. As I'm sure he has done for you. One word, maybe a musical note or fragrance stirs us. These come softly, so unexpectedly, like a letter or card in your mail box.

Recently, a few musical notes on a TV ad transported me back 25 years or more. So hauntingly beautiful I froze, my ears craving to hear the notes and words. After much searching through my memory banks, the first words and melody arrive. A partial Scripture song found in Isaiah 66:1-2. If you want to listen, it can be found on YouTube. "Heaven Is My Throne" by Connie Leivon. Here are the words:

Heaven is my throne
 And earth is my footstool
 Where is the house you will build for me?
 Whom of you will hear the cry of my heart
 Where will my resting place be?
Here Oh Lord
Have I prepared for You a home
Long have I desired for you to dwell
Here O Lord
Have I prepared a resting place
Here Oh Lord I wait for you alone



Know that you know.

Blessings, Deborah D.