
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



While attending Mahaffey camp, Alliance President Jonathan Schaeffer shared a study from the American Bible Society & Harvard University. Using a scale from 1 to 100 on being hopeful, there was a clear correlation between how frequently Americans read their bible and their sense of hopefulness.

Those who read their Bible just 3-4 times a year had an average score of 42. Those who read the Bible monthly averaged 59. Those who read their Bible weekly averaged 66, and those who read the Bible multiple times a week averaged 75. While it is frequently pointed out that correlation isn't causation, it is not difficult to reach the conclusion that regular engagement with God's word provides a regular reminder of the hope we have in Jesus.

Paul instructs us in Colossians 3:2, "Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth." If we are not regularly spending time with God in His word, we easily forget the hope that we have in Jesus. We may not forget in the absolute sense, but the message the world has for us is one of fear. Without regular reminders of what God is like and who we are in Him, we quickly shift our hope to other things. To the world, hope is rooted in the political victories, the economy, and the ever-changing circumstances in our personal lives, among other things. While these things matter and have relevance to us, the hope we have in Jesus is far greater.

As followers of Christ, we need to abide with Him in His Word on a daily basis.

We don't need to live in a bubble without awareness of legitimate concerns in the world. However, we need daily and even continuous engagement with God's word to process all the noise we experience in our daily lives.

The best way to commit to reading God's word regularly is to have a plan in place. There are of course many Bible reading plans in existence. The best are ones that will take you through the entire Bible. Whether you get through such a plan in a year or several years, the most important part is regular engagement with God's word. If you would like help finding a plan, please reach out to me. I'd love to help you find a plan to read God's Word so that you can have that daily reminder of who God is.



Norwin Alliance's Mission:

Making disciples who grow, serve, and witness through word and action.

Our Vision:

To see a Spirit-empowered church of all generations making disciples who make disciples.



**AUGUST
PRAYER TIMES**

Wednesday, August 5

7:00 pm

and

Thursday, August 6

11:00 am



Saturday, August 8th

At NAC

2:00 pm

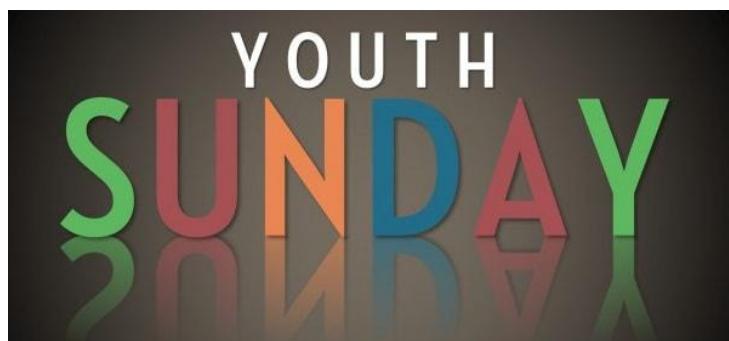
Come one, come all and enjoy a time of food and fellowship with your church family!

Chicken will be provided – each family is asked to bring your favorite picnic food to share. Bring along your lawn chair – weather permitting, some activities will be held outdoors.

Do you have an adult size corn-hole game that you would be willing to bring – or would you like to help with the picnic, please contact Lori Deliman

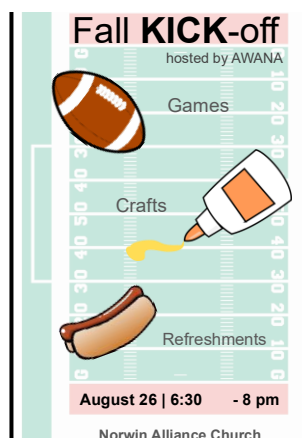
Please sign the sheet in the narthex by August 2 so chicken can be ordered.

Circle August 8th on your calendars and plan to join the fun.



Sunday, August 9, 2026

Both Worship Services



Wednesday, August 26, AWANA will host a sports themed “K.I.C.K.”- off night (**K**ids **I**mitating **C**hrist’s **K**indness). The kids will have a short lesson on imitating Christ’s kindness, then rotate through several stations with sport themed activities and crafts. We will also be serving “concession style” snacks. The event is open to all children aged 2 years through 5th grade.



AWANA Program for kids ages 2 yrs through 5th grade

Wednesday Evenings ~ 6:45 – 8:00 pm

Join us for Bible lessons, games, and snacks

Our new AWANA year will be starting Wednesday Sept 2. The program is open to children from age 2 years through 5th grade. It meets Wednesday evenings from 6:45 - 8:00 during the school year. Kids enjoy Bible lessons, games, and snacks. They also engage in Scripture memory, music and activities during the evenings.

Registration is available online at the church website (norwinalliance.org), with the QR code to the right, or paper forms are also available on the last page of this newsletter and on the shelf in the small narthex.



Do you want to learn God's Word, have fun, and make new friends? Bible Quizzing is a great way to do all three. This year the students will be studying the book of John. Team-style competitions occur monthly from October to April with other Bible Quizzers in the Pittsburgh area. We will be starting up a new season of Bible Quizzing on August 23 at 6:00 PM. The program is open to students in 3rd–12th grade.



Please join us on the fifth Sunday in August (8/30) for an all-church fellowship hour held between the two services. This will be an opportunity for all ages to enjoy time with our church family on a larger scale. We will be holding the service at 6:00 am. Contact us for more information.



Keen-Agers

Keen-Agers is for everyone age 50 and over.

Our August meeting will be Thursday, August 27 at 11:00 am.

Menu: Heritage Foods and sides

Program: Women's Choice Network ~ Baby Bottle Campaign

Food Pantry Item: Canned Meats (tuna, chicken)

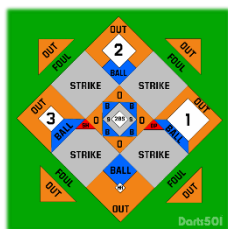


Prayer, plans, and preparation are underway for this year's DAY OF JOY on Sunday, Sept. 13!

This year DAY OF JOY is revised to MOVING THE INWARD JOY, OUTWARD starting with an Indoor Worship Service, then heading out to serve our local community and neighbors.

We need the congregation's help and prayers to help spread the Joy of Jesus in our community. While some of us will be heading out from the church to serve, we also need some to stay at the church and pray for our volunteers and those people who God places in our path that day. Would you like to help prepare for this day? Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you would like to volunteer. Thank you in advance for prayerfully considering serving for DAY OF JOY.

Also, please pray as we seek God's direction for this year's plans and projects as we share our joy with others! We look forward to worshipping and serving with you!



DARTBALL FELLOWSHIP

The Dartball League games begin Monday, August 17th (schedule to come).

Games are held on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm at various, local churches.

If you are 12 years old and older, there is room for you. Girls, you can join also.

Please see Scott Blair if you would like to join.



Saturday, December 5, 2026

Plans are underway for our Christmas Outreach. *"Families will be transported back in time to the town of Bethlehem to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It has been some years since that special night, and the miracle baby has gone on to do some truly incredible things. The citizens of Bethlehem can't stop talking about Jesus and his incredible life on earth."*

VOLUNTEERS are needed to make this event a success – STATION LEADERS & HELPERS (all crafts are set, we just need you to implement), REGISTRATION TABLE, TOWNSPEOPLE, DECORATING HELPERS, PARKING 'PATROL', PHOTOGRAPHER, ADVERTISING LEADER

Items needed for the stations ~ if you are able to donate any of the following items, please let the church office know: WORSTED WEIGHT YARN (whites, creams, tans), OLD WOODEN CUTTING BOARDS (will be using rocks on them to crush frankincense).

It might seem like there is plenty of time before this event but there is much that needs to be organized to make it a memorable and successful event and we need your help.

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please see Mardy Rogers, Lori Nelson, or Cindy Barnhart or sign the sheet in the narthex.



NO Bible studies in August

The Men's and Women's Bible studies will continue their break the month of August.

Bible studies will resume in September



It's ALL about JESUS!

THANK YOU! For Giving to the Lord...

July 18, twenty-three volunteers attended NAC OCC (Operation Christmas Child) Packing party to jump start this ministry for 2026. Thanks to the generosity of NAC, 100 boxes were stuffed and await National Collection Week, November 16-23, 2026.

FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) - NOT on this one! Boxes will be available in the narthex for any and all to participate. This makes a great learning opportunity for families to teach the children that "Missions" is our middle name!

In 2025, NAC collected 148 Boxes! Can we top that?

*Please return ALL boxes to NAC by **November 8, 2026**. We will dedicate them November 15.*

For many children, this is the first gift they receive. Each box, packed full of school supplies, personal care items (NO soap, NO liquids) and toys, becomes a tangible glimpse of God's love for them.

* Remember NO food, NO war/military items, NO money or seeds. Postage \$10/box.



Praying over the boxes

