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# 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

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**NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH**

**FEBRUARY 2014**

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Friendship, Fellowship, and Marriage Builders.

Here are a few quotes I have found that strengthen relationships with one another. As a church this year, we want to facilitate healthy relationships centered around Christ. So love as Christ has loved us empowered by His Spirit. John 13:34

- ◆ God is the friendship Maker. God is the marriage Maker.
- ◆ In coming to Christ it's often friendship first followed by conversion.
- ◆ Only Christ can combine our hearts in One.
- ◆ The false fellowship permits no one to be a sinner.
- ◆ The true fellowship assumes sin followed by forgiveness and repentance.
- ◆ The main enemy of friendship, fellowship, and marriage is sinful self-centeredness.
- ◆ Divorce invades creation in Genesis chapter 3 as Adam and Eve break relationship with God.
- ◆ Self-fulfillment is an idol in friendship, fellowship, and marriage.
- ◆ Friendship, fellowship, and marriage are often like hugging a cactus.
- ◆ The Bible begins with the marriage of Adam and Eve. The Bible ends with the marriage of Christ to His people.

## **MEN'S DINNER**

**Friday, February 21, 2014**

**6:30 pm**

**Speaker: Officer Albert Carson  
North Huntingdon Police Department**

Officer Carson has a very strong walk with the Lord by God's grace. Come out and hear his story.

Please sign the sheet in the narthex by February 16th if you plan to attend. Area churches will be registering February 17th & 18th. Seating will be limited to 150 so sign-up early.

If you have any "wild" game to share, please let the church office know.

If you are able/willing to help with set-up and tear-down, please sign the sheet in the narthex.

**LADIES** ~ help is needed in the kitchen (setting tables, cooking, serving, clean-up), if you are able, please sign the sheet in the narthex. Also, cakes will be needed. A sign-up sheet will be coming in the next week, please watch for it and sign-up to bake a cake.

**THANK YOU** in advance for your help with this very popular dinner.

## **"Going Deeper" Conference**

we are invited to a free "Going Deeper" Conference at Somerset Alliance Church on Saturday, March 8 from 9 am - 5 pm. The purpose of the teaching will be to continue the journey of deeper intimacy with God. Sign-up in the foyer. We would like to carpool, so check if you can drive. Teachers will be Dr. Rob Reimer, Dr. Martin Sanders, Dr. Ron Walborn, all of Nyack College. We will eat lunch and supper at local restaurants in Somerset.

**CONGREGATION MEETING**

Wednesday, January 22, 2014



The following were elected as Officers and Staff for the year 2014 during the Congregation Meeting in January:

**Ministry Board Secretary**

Cindy Barnhart

**Church Treasurer**

Dave Cain

**Assistant Treasurer**

Roy Koch

**Board Member-at-Large (2-year term)**

Harold Lawhorne

**Trustee (4-year term)**

David Fetterhoff

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- ◆ At the Congregation meeting it was approved to have a "Kitchen Coordinator". This person will be responsible for making sure the kitchen is well stocked and straightened up. This person will not be in charge of the Fellowship Committee or of any meals.
  - ◆ Emphasized Outreach Event Focus ~  
1st ~ Touch the heart in friendship  
2nd ~ Touch a need in compassion.
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The following items were discussed at the Elder and Ministry Board meetings in January:

1. Approved several DMC events
2. Approved Joe Cox and Bill Swope to serve on the Ministry Board ~ approved Jeff Ewing as lead Elder, who will also serve on the Ministry Board
3. Game Dinner ~ Pastor Bob to lead. Help is needed

**Ministry Board Members**

The Ministry Board is made up of the following positions and people:

- \* Secretary (Cindy Barnhart)
- \* Treasurer (Dave Cain)
- \* Assistant Treasurer (Roy Koch)
- \* Lead Trustee — (Brian Denney)
- \* 2 Board Members-at-Large  
(Renee Himler and Harold Lawhorne)
- \* DMC Director (Carole Sarber)
- \* Lead Elder (Jeff Ewing)
- \* 2 Elders (Joe Cox and Bill Swope)
- \* Pastor Bob

Duties of the Board Members at Large ~  
*Members at Large are elected by the congregation to round out representation of the congregation on the Ministry Board. They are on the Board as elected representatives, not as those who are on the Board because of their office of service, such as Treasurer, Elder, etc. All Ministry Board members are amenable to the membership of the church, and are representatives of it.*

If you have a concern about anything happening within the church or you have a program you would like see started, please bring your concerns and ideas to one of the Board Members-at-Large. They will in turn bring these to the Ministry Board meetings on your behalf.

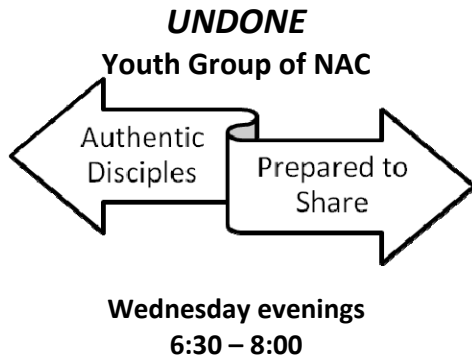
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**Elder Board Members**

- † Fred Angiolieri
- † Joe Cox
- † Kevin Craycraft
- † Jeff Ewing
- † Wes Hughes
- † Frank Kolar
- † Bill Sarber
- † Bill Swope
- † Pastor Bob

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Extra Annual Reports are available on the shelf in the narthex. If you would like to read more about the ministries of the church in 2013, please pick up a copy of the report.



**Who Is God?**

Our young people have been studying the core attributes of God. As we explore wonderfully rich passages of Scripture (such as Isaiah 40), we are learning to properly articulate the characteristics of God. Though statistics indicate many American, church-attending teens cannot rightly explain basic Christian doctrine; we at NAC are attempting to defy those statistics!

As our teens continue to grow in their understanding of God’s attributes, they are better equipped to live rightly. Our recent and continued emphasis on the third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, has blended beautifully with our new study of God’s main characteristics. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit plus right biblical knowledge is a blessing beyond description.

Our worship in music and our prayer time is phenomenal. Students continue to pray with sincerity, on a scriptural basis, and boldly. We balance corporate prayer time with small group intercession.

Please commit our young people and our youth leaders to regular prayer. Kevin and Bria Craycraft and I are the regular teachers of the Word for each session. Paul and Stephanie Tierney work with us, so that we have a team of adults whose goal is to see your teens grow in their relationship with Jesus.

REQUEST: If you already do, or would agree to pray for our youth group on a regular basis, consider sending a note to us that we can share with the whole group (whether anonymously or not). I am sure it would uplift everyone to know that the adults are in our corner when it comes to regular prayer.

Thank you for your support and – most of all – your example of discipleship for the next generation!

**Activities:**

- Snow-tubing (TBA)
- Breakaway (March 28-30)

In His Service –  
Shelli Prindle

**KEEN-AGERS**



Do you have the mid-winter blahs? You have not tried coming to Keen-Agers have you? Try us!! There’s time to talk and visit; we’ll put a smile on your face, feed you, and send you home with lifted spirits.

Join us on Thursday, February 27th at 11:30 am. Lunch will consist of Italian food and cherry pie for dessert. Shelli Prindle will present the program.

Why not start the New Year with

Please contact Betty Kunkle (President of the Keen-Agers) if you have any questions.

If you are 50 years of age and older, we’ll be expecting you!

**CHOIR ~ CANTATA**



The Choir is already planning the Easter Cantata for Easter Sunday morning. "Mercy Came Running" made popular in the 90's takes on new significance in the context of Easter as we visualize God running to save us through Christ's death and resurrection in this just released cantata.

Please prayerfully consider joining us in this venture. When you experience Easter from this side of the platform, it is a different blessing than watching and listening. We would love to have you join us for the presentation that will deepen your faith and understanding in what Christ accomplished on the cross for us.

Rehearsals begin on January 30 at 7:45; however, you are always welcome to join us at 7 for the regular weekly rehearsals. We meet in the sanctuary and there are no auditions. You simply need to come on Thursday. We supply the printed music and a listening CD to listen and practice on your own. We throw in a few fun times too!

We hope you'll join us soon!

### Children's Choir News

Thank you to all the children who participated in "We Three Spies" on December 22. The kids did an amazing job to make the program a success. We truly appreciate all their hard work!!

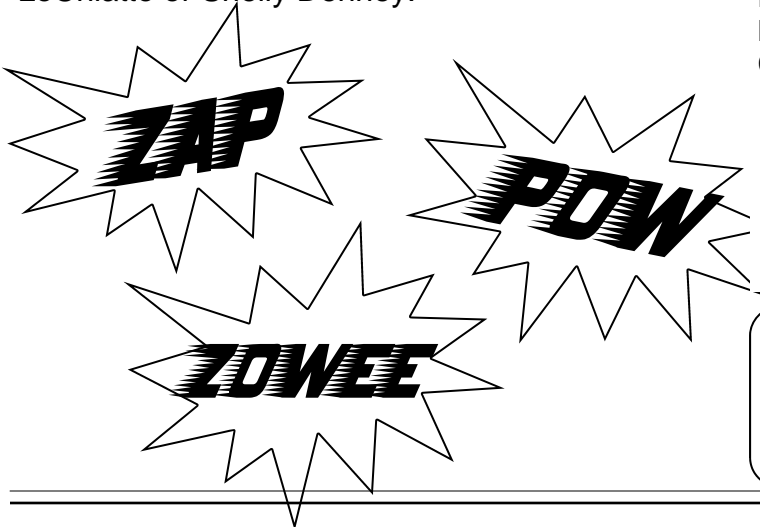
It is time, once again, to begin making plans for our Children's Spring Program, to be presented in May. We all had so much fun doing a musical/drama for Christmas that we decided we would like to do another one for Spring! It is a high-octane story with "Zap", "Pow", and "Zowee Fun", and the life-changing truth of God's Word!

We will be introducing the program sometime soon, so watch the bulletin and your e-mail for more information.

After the introduction, we will begin weekly rehearsals during Children's Church in the 10:45 am service. Children's Choir is for all kids age 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. But we would also like to extend an invitation to kids through age 13 to join us, if you are interested in participating.

Be sure to join us on introduction Sunday to find out what the program is going to be!! Until then, it's a secret!! Thank you for the opportunity to work with your children!

If you have any questions, please contact Chris LoChiatto or Shelly Denney.



### PRAYER CHAIN

New Prayer Chains are in the process of being put together.

What is the Prayer Chain and what does it do?

Those members and adherents of Norwin Alliance Church who wish to be prayer intercessors for the church family are placed on Deaconess' lists. When the intensive prayer chain is activated (for emergency or critical needs of our immediate church family), your Deaconess will call you for your prayers. This chain is also activated to inform of service closings. All other prayer requests are circulated through the Deaconesses and Elder for prayer.

Not all prayer requests go through the intensive prayer chain. As stated above, only emergency or critical needs of our immediate church family are placed on the intensive chain ~ unless the family specifically requests that the full chain be activated. Some prayer requests are of a personal nature and only the Elders and Deaconesses are contacted for prayers.

When calling in prayer requests, if you want the intensive prayer chain activated, please indicate this when calling. In the same manner, not all requests are printed on the Praise and Petition sheet. We try very hard to honor everyone's privacy. If you would like your request printed on the Praise and Petition sheet, please state this when calling in for prayer.

When called to prayer ~ pray as though the need was for a member of your own family ~ we are all a part of God's family.

If you are not already a part of the Norwin Alliance Prayer Chain and would like to pray for the needs of your church family, please see Judy Himler, Lead Deaconess, so she can add you to a list. Also, if you have any questions about the Prayer Chain, please contact Judy or Pastor Bob.



*Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:17*

## VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

“Worthy is the Lamb”, a hymn by Johnson Oatman, Jr (1856-1926) and George C. Hugg (1848-1907), is found in our pew hymnals on page 110. In the days we used this hymn to worship and honor the Lamb. Read and study the message found in this fantastic musical rendition.

1. “Worthy is the Lamb,” the hosts of heaven sing, As before the throne they make His praises ring; “Worthy is the Lamb the book to open wide’ “Worthy is the Lamb who once was crucified.”
2. “Worthy is the Lamb,” who shed His precious blood To restore a world to happiness and God’ When no eye could pity and no arm could save, Jesus, for our ransom, Himself freely gave.
3. “Worthy is the Lamb, the bleeding sacrifice, Who for Adam’s race paid such a fearful price; Worthy is the Lamb, the paschal Lamb of God, For the world received redemption through His blood.
4. “Worthy is the Lamb,” let men and angels sing; “Worthy is the Lamb,” let hallelujahs ring; And when life is past, up on the golden shore, “Worthy is the Lamb,” we’ll shout forever more.

CHORUS: Oh, this bleeding Lamb, oh this bleeding Lamb, Oh, this dying Lamb, He was found worthy; Oh, this bleeding Lamb, oh, this bleeding Lamb, Oh, this dying Lamb, He was found worthy!!!!

Turn to page 110 some Sunday before the worship service; meditate on this message; let it penetrate your heart and soul.

Be thankful for the Lamb!!!!

**The Women’s Corner**

by Janis Swope

*St. Valentine’s Day will be here before you know it. Does anyone remember decorating boxes in grade school to receive the valentines from your classmates? Each student’s box was put on display on their desk and near the end of the school day a few minutes were set aside so everyone in the class could run around and deposit their valentines in the special boxes. Have you ever wondered how St. Valentine’s Day came about? I have heard different stories about St. Valentine’s Day, but the one I like is that Valentine was a Christian in the early church who performed marriages. In those years under Roman rule, Christian marriage was something that was uncommon in the popular culture. It was a loose society in which polygamy and affairs were common. For Christians, God set the standard higher. One man and one woman devoted to God and each other with Christ as the third party in the relationship. This went against the common practice in a society where it was not even good for some segments of society to be married, such as soldiers. But Valentine performed these marriages against the wishes of the emperor, Claudius, and therefore came under persecution. In 296 A.D. he was sentenced to execution for his faith in God and his persistence in performing the Christian marriage ceremony. Happy St. Valentine’s Day to everyone and don’t forget to remember who the real St. Valentine was.*

*As I write this, the Ladies Bible Study has just finished reading and discussing bad girl Delilah and we will be learning about Sapphira in the New Testament. Although Delilah was interesting, I came away being more impressed with the lesson that even though Samson had many flaws, one of which was an interest in questionable women (Delilah for example), he was still God’s chosen man for the moment and God’s plans to defeat the Philistines was brought about through his actions. What does this tell me? That even though I am imperfect God can still use me to further his plans for his kingdom. I said that God can use broken vessels, but the ladies were quick to correct me and said cracked pots! If you wish to be a part of Ladies Bible Study attended by cracked pots, we meet each Monday morning at 10:30 in the Craft room.*

**RETREAT NEWS**

*The annual Women’s Retreat will be held March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at the Mars Alliance Church, Cranberry, PA. The Keynote speaker is Kirsten Hart. Kirsten is a*

*singer who lives in Branson, Missouri and has been a backup singer for several Christian artists and has appeared on television and in hundreds of churches. She has spoken in churches and for Women's Ministry Events across the country for the past twenty years. Pamphlets providing all the information for this event are on the shelf in the narthex (in the clear brochure holder). Just as last year, you will be responsible for making your own hotel reservations and will be on your own for dinner Friday and breakfast Saturday. If you have any questions consult the pamphlet. For more information and registration forms see [www.washingtoncma.org/gcwretreat](http://www.washingtoncma.org/gcwretreat). All registrations must be submitted by March 15, 2014 per the website.*

### The Last Word

*No matter how crazy or nutty your life has seemed, God can make something strong and good out of it. He can help you grow wide branches for others to use as shelter.* Barbara Johnson, Christian author

### Bible Quiz Meet Saturday, January 4, 2014 At NAC



### Quiz Team Members

Coaches: Joe and Becky Cox  
Sr. A Team: Benjamin and Emily  
Sr. B Team: Luke, Mike, Charlie, Michael

## Become a Hospice Volunteer

*Volunteer at hospice and change a life!*

Senior Independence Hospice is seeking individuals who would like to volunteer their time to help serve those who are going through the final stages of their lives.

Hospice volunteers provide a variety of support for patients and their families including:

*Friendship* – visit patients in their own homes or in a facility for conversation, reading, music, a movie, or a cup of tea or coffee; help with light housework, meal preparation, or shopping.

*Respite* – being present with a patient to give family members or a caregiver time to rest or take care of business or errands.

*Bereavement* – supporting family members for a year through phone calls, visits and cards after the loss of their loved one.

*Office support* – help with mailings, filing, phone calls, or other office duties to support the hospice program.

We will work to find a volunteer opportunity that “fits” based on your experience, comfort level, and availability.

If you are interested, please call Kathy Pehanich at 724-864-7388 ext. 488 or email at: [kpehanich@redstonehighlands.org](mailto:kpehanich@redstonehighlands.org).

