
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

May 2012



God describes Good Shepherds and Bad Shepherds in Ezekiel 34:1-10. The shepherds are the leaders among God's people who are responsible for helping the sheep be healthy. God's list of the Bad Shepherds' sins include:

What They Did.

- Fed only themselves.
- Clothed themselves. (self-righteous self-interest)
- Ruled the sheep harshly.

What They Left Undone.

- Did not strengthen the weak.
- Did not help the sick and injured.
- Did not search for the lost. (from the book, "Escape from Church, Inc.")

As spiritual leaders at Norwin Alliance Church our primary responsibility is caring for the sheep, not feeding ourselves. God corrects us, ". . . so that the shepherds no longer feed themselves". (Ezekiel 34:10) Jesus points us outward, "feed my sheep . . . take care of my sheep . . . feed my lambs".

John Maxwell once said that today's Christians have studied Scripture way beyond their level of obedience. Mature Christians are committed to feeding God's flock and reaching the lost, not simply getting a spiritual high for themselves. Daily devotions with Jesus will feed you for a lifetime and grow you to be constantly looking out for the others.

Part of God's judgment in eternity will be "did you visit the sick . . . feed the hungry . . . welcome the stranger" and minister to Jesus like that? (Matthew 25) When we do this, we meet the Lord in powerful ways that count for eternity and are strengthened by The Bread of Life.

Feed His sheep!



1. TESTIMONIES are due in MAY ~
2. Various Disciplemaking Ministry workers and events were approved.
3. A Summer Outreach Event was approved with Bria Craycraft organizing the event.
4. Membership Classes began April 15th
5. Approved Green Dream Landscapes to maintain our church lawn.
6. The Trustees will solicit bids to repair and re-pave the church parking lot
7. It was approved to use Skuta Signs to design and install a new sign in front of NAC.

If you ever have any questions or concerns about what is happening at the church, please contact Pastor Bob or one of the Board Members:

Elders ~ Jeff Ewing (Lead Elder), Kevin Craycraft, Ron Dornin, Wes Hughes, Denny Irwin, Frank Kolar, Charlie Metzger, Bill Sarber

Elder-in-Training ~ Fred Angioleri

Ministry Board Members-at-Large ~ Bill Freise, Justin Metzger

Ministry Board ~ Cindy Barnhart, Jeff Ewing, Roy Koch, Charlie Metzger, Bill Sarber, Carole Sarber, Ken Simmons, Bob Tierney

"I remember my mother's prayers and they have followed me. They have clung to me all my life."

Abraham Lincoln

"The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother."

Author Unknown

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 3, 2012



"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."
Psalm 33:12

7x7

Take seven minutes to pray for the Seven Centers of Influence (pray one minute for each):

Government ~ Pray for our leaders (local, state, national), and those who are in authority over us, as well as the judges in our courts. Ask God to grant them wisdom to act with integrity, guidance and strength to fulfill their important roles.

Military ~ Pray for divine protection and guidance for our armed forces. Intercede for military chaplains and loved ones at home.

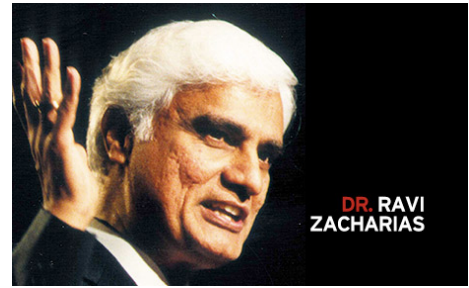
Media ~ Pray for truth and morality to be presented.

Business ~ Pray that God will raise up His ambassadors in the workplace.

Education ~ Pray for our nation's public school teachers, administrators and students. Ask the Lord to raise up a new generation of dedicated educators who will commit themselves not only to an honest, accurate presentation of all subject matter, but who will also serve as positive role models for their students. In addition, let's not forget to uphold our local school boards in prayer as they make decisions about the various curricula that are used across the country.

Church ~ Pray for the Lord to spark a revival throughout our nation, protect the witness of our pastors, and continue to sanctify and purify Christians around the world. Pray for unity and boldness in proclaiming God's Word.

Family ~ pray for the family to be preserved as the Lord intended - the marital union of one man and one woman devoted to each other and to raising the children in their home to be responsible, caring adults.



2012 National Prayer

by Dr. David Jeremiah, NDP Honorary Chairman

Heavenly Father, Every good gift and perfect gift comes from You. You are a faithful God and Your mercy endures forever.

You have promised to bless the nation that trusts in You. Our currency proclaims "In God We Trust," but in our culture we are far from You.

In the words of the prophet Daniel, "We have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments."

We come before You once more, seeking Your forgiveness and mercy. You, O God, are our only hope... Hear our prayer and, for Your honor's sake, shine Your face upon this nation.

Give our leaders the desire to seek Your wisdom and the courage to follow Your guidance... and watch over the men and women of our armed forces as they sacrifice for the cause of freedom.

We give You thanks for all You have done for us, and we earnestly pray that You will help us become, once again, a nation whose God is the Lord.

In the name of Your Son, and our Savior, we pray this prayer.

Amen

Pray for renewal in our hearts and repentance to come to America.





Adult Sunday School Classes

May 6, 2012

For the next trimester, which begins May 1st, two adult classes will be offered in addition to the Ascend Ministry ~ Ministry for ages 18 (those who have completed HS) - 49.

“A Walk Through the Bible” will be taught by Mark Lazzaro and Bill Swope. The study meets in Room 22 (down the ramp).

The second class will begin **May 13** and will study “The Body of Christ” This class will be taught by John Peles and will meet in the Sanctuary. “As believers in Jesus Christ, we are members of His body, the church . . . How does Christ intend the church, as a whole, to function in a dying world? What is our role as individuals in the church? These and many other topics related to the church will be addressed in this class.

Please be a part of Adult Sunday School.

We have classes for all ages.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER DINNER

“Take Time to Laugh”

Friday, May 11th
6:00 pm
Please RSVP by May 6th



Menu for the evening ~ roast beef, mashed potatoes, veggies, salad, dinner roll, dessert, and beverages.

Please circle FRIDAY, May 11th on your calendars and invite your mothers, daughters, sisters, cousins, aunts, grandmothers, and friends for a time of fellowship together.

Please sign the sheet in the narthex by Sunday, May 6th and include the number of people attending.



Keen-Agers

The Keen-Ager meeting for May will be held on Thursday, May 24th beginning at 11:30 am. The lunch will be a covered dish with Strawberry Sundaes for dessert. Watch the bulletins for more information on the program.

First time attendees are not asked to bring a covered dish, but we welcome all new comers. If you are age 50 or over, this is your special invitation to attend this meeting and all the ones to follow.



Better Moms make a better world...

Our MOPS group will be meeting on Sunday, May 20 at 6:30 PM.

We will continue to learn God's plan for Moms, share our joys and concerns...and a few snacks too! If you or someone you know would benefit from our group, please join us.

For more information, please contact Vicki Booher by phone (412) 398-1343 or email: musicdirector@norwinalliance.org



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Monday, May 7 at 7:00 pm in the Youth area. We will be discussing our High School Senior and “Relay for Life projects”. We are also a teaching group, so if anyone would like to learn to knit or crochet please join us.



Vignettes by Virginia

In the next few months we will celebrate family members; May - Mother's Day; June - Father's Day; July - Parent's Day; September - Grandparent's Day; and somewhere along the line is Children's Day, even though many children think every day belongs to them exclusively. With what types of "family" do we associate? Almost instantly we think of the church as family. Our work can also be a "family". We must not forget our biological families, as well as adoptive families. The list could go on and on.

What is a family? Webster defines family as a social unit, or household establishment; it can also be a group related by ancestry or marriage; a tribe or clan. Would you believe that the Mafia/gangs is considered a "family"?

How does God define a family?? "In Genesis 1 we see that God created Adam and Eve so that, through relationship with Him and on His behalf, they and their descendants would become the godly caregivers of all life on earth. God's kingdom, or reign, over the earth was to be exercised through Adam's family." "The family is the most widespread and enduring structure of human society - - the greatest source of joy for some and the greatest source of pain for others." "Families become both recipients and bearers of God's blessing. God takes seriously the commitments of heads of households to

Him. Family is not some construct that man designed. Earthly family reflects the very image of God's heavenly family!"

As we look around we see the tragedies many families face. In the late 19th century Charles Spurgeon noted that evil times had caused Christian families to have no family worship, no restraints, and no wholesome instruction and discipline. Mr. Spurgeon would be shocked to see the growth of destructive habits, attitudes and mankind's lack of spiritual sensitivities in today's world. Satan targets the family with negative and sinful desires. (Only 4% of the latest generation claims to be Bible-believing followers of Jesus) The Scriptures teach that the spiritual life of the family is directly tied to the Great Commission and filling the earth with worshippers (and followers) of Jesus. As individual families serve the Lord, other families will be blessed. A Biblical example is Abraham. Missionaries have reported how one family member has been a faithful testimony to other family members and over time, entire tribes have accepted the gift of salvation.

Remember our families. Pray for them; talk with them; laugh with them; hug them; share God's Word together; bring them to church with you.

(reference for this article is from [Mission Frontiers magazine](#), March-April 2012. The Center for World Missions.)

**Masterpiece
in the Making**

Women's Retreat
Sponsored by Alliance Women Ministries of Western PA

June 15-16, 2012
University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown

Cost = \$85.00
Due by May 20th
Sign up in the narthex.

Keynote Speaker & Worship Leader
Gwen Smith
(author, songwriter, and worship leader)

Guest Speaker
Shelli Prindle
(writer, educator, speaker)

Missionary Speakers
**Cathy Howard, Becky McCabe,
Christina Walker, Christy Volstad**



*** * * If you graduate from H.S. this year, please submit a picture to the Secretary's office asap. Include your name and school you are graduating from on the back of the picture. All pictures will be returned.**

*** * * Also, if you graduate from college this year, please give your name, college you are graduating from, and degree earned to the Church Office.**
Thank You!

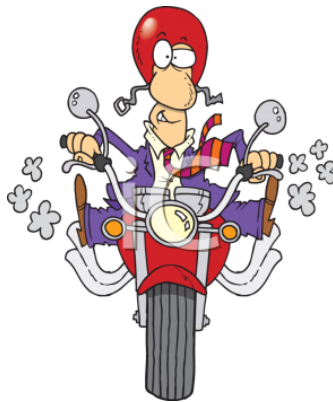
MOTORCYCLE FELLOWSHIP RIDES:

Are you a motorcycle enthusiasts? Would you like to fellowship with others who enjoy the ride? Circle these Sundays on your calendar . . .

- May 20
- June 3
- July 22
- August 19
- September 23
- October 21

All rides are open to anyone who would like to participate and are non-alcoholic rides. They begin at NAC following the 10:45 service on the designated Sunday. Please arrive at the church with a full tank of gas :-)

Watch for ride destinations and the sign-up sheets. If you have any questions, contact Ed or Kathy Sandsmark.



NAC Softball Schedule:



<u>Date</u>	<u>vs</u>	<u>Field</u>
Mon. 4/30	Heritage Baptist	Tinker's Run
Mon. 5/7	Heritage Baptist	Irwin Playground
Mon. 5/14	Hempfield Church	Tinker's Run
Sat. 5/19	Harvest Assembly	Bovard Field
Mon. 5/21	New Stanton CMA	Tinker's Run
Tues. 5/29	New Stanton CMA	Hunker Field
Mon. 6/4	First Presby	Tinker's Run
Mon. 6/11	Harvest Assembly	Tinker's Run
Tues. 6/12	N. Stanton Assembly	Loucks Field
Fri. 6/15	Word of Life	Lynch Field
Mon. 6/18	Greensburg	Tinker's Run
Tues. 6/26	Greensburg	Arona Park
Fri. 6/29	Hempfield Church	Lynch Field
Mon. 7/2	Word of Life	Tinker's Run
Fri. 7/6	Armburst Wesleyan	Arona Park
Mon. 7/9	Armburst Wesleyan	Tinker's Run

Playoffs will be Saturday, July 28, 2012
Field site TBD

You can keep up to date with scores by going to <http://www.norwinalliance.org/softball-team.php>



Church Picnic

Saturday, August 4, 2012

White Oak Park

Clearance Forms

Anyone who works with the children/youth of Norwin Alliance Church must have a Child Abuse Clearance form on file.

If you do not have a form on file, please send in for one asap. You can download the forms on-line at www.dpw.state.pa.us.

Turn your forms into the church office and Cindy will send them in for you - if you would prefer to send for the clearances yourself, turn in your cost for reimbursement and submit a copy to the church office for our files.



Memorial Day ~ is celebrated the last Monday in May (May 28, 2012) and honors Americans who gave their lives for their country in wars.

“. . . from these honored dead, we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve these dead shall not have died in vain . . .”

~ Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg Address

“Let us remember. Let us put the ‘memorial’ back into Memorial Day. The tranquility we enjoy was purchased dearly. May we never forget.”



Vacation Bible School

June 24-28, 2012

Ages 2 - 6th grade

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Earn Your Wings at
Amazing Wonders Aviation™



Encounter God’s awesome power as we fly to some of the world’s greatest natural wonders; Victoria Falls, the Northern Lights; the Matterhorn, the Great Barrier Reef, the Grand Canyon, Paricutin Volcano. Along the way kids will hear Bible stories about God’s awesome power and learn how God wants to give us everything we need through His power and to His glory!

In this one-week **Vacation Bible School** adventure, kids encounter God’s awesome power through Bible stories, crafts, motivating music, and games.

Begin planning who you will invite to VBS this year.

VBS Scripture ~ “Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.”

Psalm 147:5

Motto ~ Awesome God! Amazing Power!



2012 VBS Registration Form
Sunday, June 19 - Thursday, June 23
6:30 - 8:30 pm



Child's Name (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print) _____

Address _____

Phone Numbers:

Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

E-mail: _____

Age Information:

Birth date (for preschoolers) or last grade completed in school _____

Medical Information:

Medical or other information we need to know. (Please include any food allergies.)

Emergency Contact:

Name _____ Phone number _____

Name _____ Phone number _____

Dismissal Information:

Other Information:

Do you attend Sunday School? If so where?

If you are visiting our church, who are you a guest of?

I authorize Norwin Alliance Church to use photographs of my child for local publication, brochures, or web posting. Y___ N___

I authorize Norwin Alliance Church to use photographs of my child for posting throughout the church facility. Y___ N___

Signature of parent/legal guardian _____