

---

---

# 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**

**NOVEMBER 2017**



Forever Thankful!

I have a neighbor who often says, "You can never say thank-you enough." This is a Bible truth we see clearly in heaven's worship. "Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks . . . be to our God forever and ever." (Revelation 7:12)

Every second God gives 10,000 blessings to us. As we give thanks to the Lord our worship increases, our faith gets stronger, our friendship with God becomes glad with the joy of God, and our human relationships improve.

According to the Scripture, giving thanks to the Lord:

- helps us remember God's love forever (Ps. 136)
- keeps us from worshipping self and creation. (Romans 1:21,25)
- is a major part of devoted prayer. (Col. 4:2)
- helps us know God when our theology is wrong. (Luke 17:16-17)
- is a great help in depression and grief. (Ps. 56:8-13)
- replaces anxiety and worry. (Phil. 4:6-7)
- helps us continue growing in Christ. (Col. 2:6-7)

May the Lord give you a heart of THANKS today and throughout all eternity.



**Connection Service**  
Sunday, November 12, 2017  
6:30 pm

**No Ghost**  
but the  
**HOLY GHOST!**



A message by SHELLI PRINDLE  
Connection Service  
Sunday, November 12 @ 6:30 pm

Are you, as an adult, confused about ghosts? Do you want to be able to talk rightly and biblically to your children about ghosts? Shelli will speak in a straightforward fashion to explain ghosts. This message is for adults, teens, and children accompanied by their parents.



**Irwin Male Chorus**  
and  
**Pie Social**



**Sunday, November 5th**  
**7:00 pm**

Circle the date on your calendars and invite your friends for an evening of music and fellowship.

A Love Offering will be collected.

A pie social will follow the concert. Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you are willing to donate a pie.

---

---



All shoeboxes should be returned to the church **Sunday, November 5<sup>h</sup>**.

Remember to:

~ ~ Enclose a check (made out to Samaritan's Purse \*note OCC on memo line) for **\$9.00** per box to cover shipping and handling cost.

~ ~ Attach the appropriate label (girl/boy) and mark the appropriate age category.

Boxes are still available on the shelf in the narthex. Please take one, fill it up, and return by Nov. 5th.



**Let's fill Renee's jeep to overflowing!**



### Thanksgiving Season

On Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Pastor Bob will lead us in a Praise and Worship service at 7:00 pm at Norwin Alliance Church.

Invite your family and friends to join us as we give praise to God for the bountiful blessings He has given us this year!



Decorating the Church for Christmas  
Monday, November 27, 2017  
Noon

Help is needed to decorate the church for Christmas. If we get lots of help, the work won't take long. There are 2 trees that need put together and decorated as well as wreaths and garland to hang.

Please come and join Joe and Pat Beyer on Monday, November 27th.



Remember to turn your clocks **BACK** 1 hour on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.



This year, celebrate Christmas at

## JINGLE BELL BEACH

with the Children's Choir!!

Sunday, December 3rd @ 10:45 AM

*"Musical singing groups from all over the country have traveled to JINGLE BELL BEACH to compete in this year's 'Jingle Sing' competition. The three finalists, the Starfish, Snowflakes, and Electrons, prepare and rehearse on the beach stage. When a storm ruins the contestants' plans for getting home in time for Christmas, things heat up to tidal wave proportions! The result? The announcement of a rare 'Reindeer Rumble'...a spontaneous, on-the-spot song competition to determine the winner of this year's event. In their eagerness to win the contest, it becomes clear that one of the contestants is struggling with her understanding of the meaning of Christmas. As the others share the story of Jesus, the spirit of competition quickly transforms into the wonderful spirit of Christmas! We are reminded that Christmas is about Emmanuel - God with us - and the Good News that Jesus came to be our Savior."*

### Remaining Sunday Morning Rehearsals (during the 10:45 AM services):

- ◆ October 29th
- ◆ November 5th
- ◆ November 12th
- ◆ November 19th
- ◆ November 26th

### Additional Rehearsal Dates:

Sunday Evening, November 26th @ 6:00 PM -  
DRAMA ONLY Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Saturday Afternoon, December 2<sup>nd</sup> @ TBD -  
FULL GROUP Dress Rehearsal in the  
Sanctuary

*~Please make every effort to have your  
child(ren) attend these remaining rehearsals.~*



The Keen-Agers will meet one week earlier in November. They will meet on Thursday, **November 16<sup>th</sup>**, for a catered Thanksgiving Luncheon beginning at 11:30 am

A Thanksgiving meal of: turkey breast, mashed potatoes/gravy, sweet corn, cranberry sauce, cornbread, apple and pumpkin pie will be catered by Boston Market. The price is \$9.50 per person, payable with your reservation no later than **November 5th** to Pat Beyer.

Shelly Denney will be our special guest. An election of officers for 2018 will take place.

Please note: the December meeting will also be the 3rd Thursday due to the Christmas holiday. Detailed information for the December meeting will appear in next month's Koinonia.

Please circle these dates on your calendar and plan to attend both meetings.

If you are age 50 or older, this is your cordial invitation to attend Keen-Agers. The programs begin at 11:30 am and conclude about 2:00 pm. Please set aside the dates, and make your reservations soon. We will look for YOU!!





**TEENS** in grades 6-12 are welcome to join us at Youth Group on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:15 pm. We grow in Jesus and have lots of fun together. The discussions are real, the prayer time eases our burdens, and the environment is emotionally safe. We have worship in music, lessons, and interactive games, too.

JOIN US!



### Vignettes by Virginia

This is a very personal 'testimony'. I spoke with Pastor Bob, asking his permission to share with you. I try to remind myself every day when I wake up to be thankful for life and breath. I am starting my fifth year with cancer. (When the doctor presented that diagnosis, he told me only 3 or 4 months to live. Believe it or not, the doctor was almost in tears as he talked to me.) Usually before I get out of bed I thank my Lord for salvation, protection, life, and blessings He has given to me. Even if I do not have a decent night's sleep, I need to remind myself that God is in control, He loves, knows what will happen that day, and no need to be afraid or worry. Trust - - Trust - - Trust.

I am so very grateful that God is my Healer and Great Physician. I know that I could be really ill; considering medical information, I have been mostly well and nothing seriously out of control. Actually this has been harder on me emotionally than physically. I am thankful for fantastic doctors and educated, skilled personnel of many different technologies.

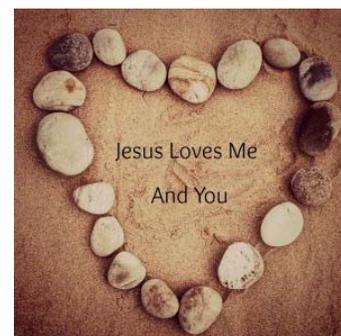
Satan tries to defeat and discourage me. (Does that ever happen to you?) I know Jesus is in control no matter how defeated I feel. I try to remember a special verse, or song that keeps me on top of emotions or discouragements. That is often, unfortunately. God is patient with us. This cancer 'disease' has really made me stop to remember my blessings and privileges. I ask God for patience and guidance, and thank Him for healing, protection, security, sacrifices, and love. My life verse is Isaiah 40:31; verse for 2017 is II Timothy 1:7. A special verse for the newly elected President and Vice-President is Romans 13:1.

I appreciate the prayers of so many people around the world. As mentioned above, I do not know WHY I am still alive when I have been very close to death several times. Growing up with a

blood disease and knowing if I pricked myself with a diaper pin when changing one of my baby's diapers way back in 1970's and 1980's (no disposables back then), I could bleed to death so very quickly and easily. I had to be extremely careful. Then we found out the same disease ran in the family. Son Jason spent a lot of time in the hospital; we had to be careful with the girls also. God was very loving in that situation also.

I could write more and more. When I read the daily newspaper I realize how short life can be - - and how blessed I really am. When I get discouraged, and it is often I miss my earthly family and friends, I know that one day I will see them again. This sounds sad; many folks feel that same way, have the similar emotions. Count your blessings ! ! ! Enjoy pleasant surroundings ! ! Recently I played the little chorus, "Jesus Loves Me" for the offertory. It is a basic song we teach little children, actually very easy to learn. BUT do we take that message into our life? John 3:16, the best of the best and something we need in our life to have peace, comfort, love, strength, and salvation.

As the new year enters our calendars, I will share a poem that I wrote in June 2017 and was very surprised to WIN in a poetry contest October 2017. I know that every one can personally be reminded of God's love and goodness. Salvation is a treasure and gift. Jesus will return very soon. Share God's Word. The poem I wrote is a constant reminder that Jesus is a source of exaltations. I trust that you can also recognize God's daily blessings. Be thankful. Jesus loves you. I know that He loves me!!!





Women's "Serene Classic" 26"  
Comfort Bike ~ 21 speed  
\$199.00  
Please contact Gordon Cumming if  
interested or for more information:  
724-863-5863




**HEARING AID  
BATTERIES**  
Size 13

Contact the church office if  
you are able to use these  
batteries.




The following items were approved at the Elder's and Ministry Board meetings in October:

1. Approved Shelli investigating taking the youth to the Ligonier Center again. Discussed the importance of still encouraging youth to attend the LIFE conference.
2. It was approved to purchase a new "server" for the church with 2 new back-up hard drives from NETtrak.
3. Our expenses in September were higher than our receipts by nearly \$7,000.00. This in part could be due to no offering being taken during Church in the Park and the many expenses for the day.
4. Trustees reported on the long list of items that need to be cared for in and around the church. A couple "mold" specialists have been contacted to look at the Sanctuary ceiling. 2 roof companies have also been contacted to look at the roof. We are still awaiting recommendations.
5. A concern came from the congregation that there are times when no greeters are present at the doors in the small narthex. This will be looked into.



**\*\*WANTED\*\***  
*Canceled/Used Stamps*

The income generated from the stamp ministry goes to support the preparation, publishing and distribution of a new Spanish language curriculum for Sunday Schools in Latin America. Please carefully trim your used stamps, leaving a 1/4 inch border around it. NOTE: Do Not remove the stamps from the paper.

In addition, please consider saving the following items: **Campbells soup labels, Labels for Education, and Box Tops.** These items benefit our local schools.

Please bring your contributions to the church and deposit them in the box above the coatrack in the narthex.

**Thank you** to Sheila Gilpatrick who has done a wonderful job sending off the stamps. She will be away this winter, is there anyone willing to fill in for Sheila until she returns? Please let the office know asap.