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# KOINONIA

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to the fellowship (Koinonia), and to the breaking of the bread, and to prayer”. Acts 2:42*

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**NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH**

September 2014

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## FELLOWSHIP

Part 7

Sometimes I wonder which church fellowships in history were the most healthy. The New Testament Church experienced some of the following:

Devotion to teaching, fellowship, and prayer.  
*Acts 2:42*

The Lord added people to them. *Acts 2:47*

Healing and miracles. *Acts 3 Acts 12*

People who lied to God. *Acts 4*

Persecution and murder of Christians.

*Acts 5 Acts 7 Acts 12*

Legalism, back-biting, and a counterfeit gospel. *Galatians*

Immorality and division. *Corinthians*

Being lukewarm towards Christ. *Revelation*

Fellowships today experience some of the same. Every sin in the world will be found in the church. Jesus knows this and leads us to repentance.

Deitrich Bonehoffer in his book *Life Together* gives us this wise counsel: *“Christian fellowship breaks down when it springs from a wish-dream. In fellowship we eventually become disillusioned with others and with ourselves. Then we turn to Christ and we receive forgiveness for others and for ourselves. Grace and mercy replace rejection of God’s flawed people.”*

God’s grace shatters our imaginary church and gives us a real one. We trade in the pipe-dream fellowship for a New Testament fellowship of recovering sinners. This fellowship is down and dirty, loving and Christ-centered.

Be devoted . . . to the fellowship.



## NEIGHBOR DAY

**Sunday, September 21**

**9:45 am - 2:00 pm**

**Mark your calendars** ~ Sunday Sept. 21 will be Neighbor Day! Be sure to **INVITE** your friends, neighbors, family members, co-workers, or anyone looking for a new church home. We will have a day full of fun and activities for all. Starting at 9:45, we will have donuts, coffee, and fellowship. This will be followed by a worship service at 10:30 and lunch served after that. After lunch there will be games and activities for people of all ages. Come out and enjoy the fun! And please **PRAY** about whom you can invite.

Please **SIGN-UP** on the sheet in the narthex if you would like to help in any way. Many hands make light work AND a great day ☺

**Ministry leaders** ~ don’t forget to make a poster to hang during Neighbor Day. This should include the name of your ministry ~ day and time ~ who can participate . . . Anything to draw attention and get people excited about your group. Please turn your completed poster in to the church office by Sunday, September 14th. These can be 1/2 or whole sheet of poster board. ~ any color.



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

1. Approved moving the Congregation Meeting from Wednesday, September 24th to SUNDAY, Sept. 28th at 11:45 am.
2. Approved Pastor Appreciation for October 19th. Lunch will be served by the Elders ☺ Joe Cox will preach in both morning services.
3. Approved workers for the DMC year (8/17/14 - 8/16/15)
4. Approved DMC Curriculum
5. Approved the following people as DMC Council Members: Renee Himler (Asst. DMC Director), Sue Hoffman (Treasurer), Bria Craycraft (Secretary), Ruth Long (Supt. of Senior Adult Ministries), Virginia Wilson (Supt. of Adult Ministries), Beth Buchanan (Supt. of Children's Sunday School), Lindsey Boone (Supt. Nursery), Bill Sarber (Small Groups Coordinator. Shelli Prindle, Director of Youth/Young Adults as serves on the DMC Committee.
6. The 2015 Budget was presented. The Ministry Board will approve a final budget at their September meeting at will present it to the congregation at the Congregation Meeting SUNDAY, Sept. 28th

**Congregation Meeting**  
**SUNDAY, September 28th**  
**11:45 am**

Please make every effort to attend this meeting. Some items of business that will be discussed are:

- ~ Nominating Committee members will be chosen.
- ~ The 2015 Church Budget will be presented and voted on.

Don't be left in the dark ~ stay and hear what is happening at Norwin Alliance Church and let your voice be heard. \* \* A quorum is needed to approve the 2015 budget.

**SPECIAL SPEAKER**  
**Wednesday, September 24, 2014**  
**7:00 pm**

**BROTHER BASSAM** will be speaking to our youth and adults on Wednesday, September 24th.

Brother Bassam is a Palestinian Christian and partner of Gospel Network for East-West Services (G-NEWS) in West Bank, Israel. For the past 25+ years, Brother Bassam has been the Director of a Mission agency in West Bank where his responsibilities included: correspondence with Muslims living in the Holy Land; dispatching literature throughout the land; personal visitation; follow-up and discipleship of converts; teaching; conducting seminars/conferences; research and writing. In addition, Brother Bassam is a Pastor for a church in West Bank. Bassam also has a Masters of Divinity from a seminary in Indiana; he also taught classes at a Bible College in Bethlehem and is married with four adult children. The Lord has used Bassam mightily in overcoming his affiliation with the Palestinian Communist Party and Islamic influences by reaching out to Muslims for Jesus.

Please plan to attend on Wednesday and hear how Brother Bassam is reaching Muslims for Christ.

Responsibilities of the Nominating Committee:

~ Nominate Officers of Norwin Alliance Church (Ministry Board Secretary, Church Treasurer, Asst. Church Treasurer, Board Members at Large) to be elected at the January Congregation Meeting.

~ Nominate "positions of serving" to be appointed by the Elder Board.

~ Consider nominees from the Elder Board for the position of Elder and if desired, make Elder nominations to the Elder Board.

If you have any questions, or would like to suggest a person for an office, please contact the Board Members-at-Large (Renee Himler and Harold Lawhorne), Jeff Ewing (Lead Elder), or Pastor Bob.

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR NEWS

Weekly rehearsals for Children's Choir will begin on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> in the 10:45 AM service. We are excited to introduce this year's Christmas Program:

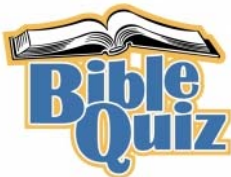


## ISAIAH JONES and the Seekers of The Lost Christmas Treasure

It includes 8 songs and 8 drama scenes. Aside from all the great musical and creative aspects, there is an important message that shines through: in giving us His Son, God gave us His most precious Gift. The secret to "winning the game of life" and finding your true purpose is living a life that is used by God's Spirit to give His love away to others.

Children's Choir is for all kids age 4 through 13. Please encourage your child to attend on September 7<sup>th</sup> to hear this exciting program.

We look forward to getting started!!



Any child/youth in grades 3 - 12 are invited to join our Bible Quiz Team. We practice every Sunday from noon to approximately 1:00 pm. This year we are studying the book of ACTS. Monthly meets are held the first Saturday of the month from October through April.

Coaches: Joe and Becky Cox

### Ladies Night Out



Tuesday, September 16, 2014

Café Supreme  
Main Street, Downtown Irwin

6:30 pm

Please sign the sheet in the narthex and join the ladies for an evening of food and fellowship!



If your picture is not included on our Family Photo Wall, please contact the church office to set-up a Sunday that you are available to have your picture taken.

If you consider Norwin Alliance as your church home, we would love for you to be included.

### CONNECTION SERVICE

Sunday, September 14, 2014

6:30 pm

Speaker:  
Connie Niedermeyer

### "See You at the Pole"

Wednesday, September 24, 2014



"See You at the Pole" (SYATP) is an annual gathering of Christian students of all ages at a flagpole in front of their local school for prayer, scripture-reading and hymn-singing, during the early morning before school starts. The American SYATP events occur on every fourth Wednesday of September.



## Norwin Alliance Church Grocery Giveaway

Saturday, October 11, 2014  
9:00 am - 11:00 am

You are invited to help spread God's love to 200 local families. Our guests will be welcomed with upbeat Christian music and testimonials. After some refreshments and fellowship they are invited to "shop" in the grocery area.

There are many ways to volunteer ~ WATCH for a sign-up sheet in the narthex. One way to volunteer is by donating food for the grocery area. Grocery gift cards are also helpful to enable us to purchase any necessary items.

Collection boxes will be in the narthex

Top items needed (expired no sooner than Jan 2015):

Toilet Paper    Paper Towels    Kleenex  
Diapers    Cereal  
Packaged or Canned Meat / Seafood /  
Veggies / Fruit  
Pasta & Pasta Sauces

If you have any questions, or would like to help, please contact Katie Barnhart-Smith 724-433-5524.

### VIGNETTES BY VIRGINIA

Hymn Series V

#### Another Year Is Dawning

by Frances Ridley Havergal



Another hymn of Frances Havergal was written as a prayer for the beginning of 1874. It is a prayer of deep consecration, being originally used as a greeting card for Christmas.

Frances longed to become an author; however the publisher she had chosen became bankrupt in the stock market crash of 1873. Frances prayed, "Thy will be done", not as a sigh, but only as a song. "Another Year is Dawning" is based on Psalms 51:10.

1. *Another year is dawning; Dear Father let it be, In working or in waiting. Another year with Thee. Another year of progress, Another year of praise, Another year of proving Thy presence all the days.*
2. *Another year of mercies, Of faithfulness and grace; Another year of gladness In the shining of Thy face; Another year of leaning Upon Thy loving breast; Another year of trusting Of quiet, happy rest.*
3. *Another year of service. Of witness for Thy love; Another year of training For holier work above. Another year of dawning Dear Father, let it be; On earth or else in heaven, Another year for Thee.*



### KEEN-AGERS

Calling everyone age 50 and over to join with those who are already a part of the Senior Citizens' group of Norwin Alliance Church, and friends from the community who meet the 4th Thursday of each month except November and December when the meetings are the 3rd Thursday due to the holidays.

On September 25th we will enjoy a variety of ethnic foods. Our program will be by the State Police.

A cordial invitation awaits you. First time attendees do not need to bring anything for the meal, but others will be contacted as to their choice. Everyone is asked to bring his/her own table service. We will look for YOU!

**NAC PRAISE PARTNERS**

On Sunday August 10, the Praise Partners visited Redstone Highlands to sing and visit with some of the residents. We stopped at Wendy's for lunch and were welcomed at Redstone with a sign announcing our visit and a group of people assembling in the Terrace room. The Praise Partners enthusiastically sang their favorite Sunday School songs many of which are actual scripture verses. Keilah and Teya Craycraft, Jaden and Luke Charney and Allie Angioleri performed and blessed all in attendance that day. We encouraged the residents to sing "Jesus Loves Me" and the "B-I-B-L-E" with us and several people sang along making the shared event very special. The Praise Partners handed out craft items they made then Janice Lazzaro closed us in prayer and Sue Hoffman recorded some video for us. After singing we were invited to visit Becky Germy in her room and then her next door neighbor who had a new dog. I'm always amazed how an hour visit can make a difference for both the residents and for us. We truly felt the Holy Spirit working during that time we were there and look forward to more visitations in the future.

Beth Buchanan, Janice Lazzaro and Sue Hoffman



**DARTBALL  
2014-2015 Season**



The NAC Dartball season will be starting soon. We are in need of more players for our team or we may not have enough to play. Games are played on Monday evenings. This is for men/boys at 12 years old. No special skills or athletic ability is required. This is a great way to enjoy fellowship with other in our church and neighboring churches.

If you have any questions, please see David Fetterhoff, Dale Matthews, or Terry Stec or just come to our first practice on September 8th at 7:00 in see what it is all about. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall



**Adult Sunday School Classes  
9:45 am**

New Adult Sunday School classes will begin Sunday, September 28th.

Why attend Sunday School?

1. S.S. establishes total involvement in the local church
2. S.S. embodies the practice of the Great Commission
3. S.S. encourages through small group fellowship
4. S.S. embraces what Christ began with His disciples
5. S.S. equips the believer for ministry and discipleship
6. S.S. expresses our love for Christ and His church.