

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



When Jesus gives instructions related to prayer, we should take note. One of those passages is Matthew 9:37-38, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." We rightly emphasize our individual need to be witnesses in our own personal lives as we all have unique opportunities within our circles of influence. Of course, Jesus wants us to be one of these laborers! And yet, the laborers are few and Jesus is connecting prayer to the need for laborers. How should this imperative affect our prayer lives?

First, is who we are praying to. God is the Lord of the harvest. This ties in with the Lord's prayer, that His kingdom would come. We are asking for His rule and reign to break into the world. His Spirit has prepared hearts that are ready to respond to the gospel. He's the one who sends out workers.

Second, our prayers for laborers are to be earnest. Our prayer life is not either/or, but as we earnestly lift up our own needs and the needs of those close to us, we must also be earnest to pray for the advancement of the kingdom, the church's mission. Otherwise, we can become stuck in an it-is-well-with-my-soul mindset. The assurance of our future eternity in heaven should be a comfort in the hard seasons of life. However, earnest prayer for the church's mission and laborers shapes us and reorients our own awareness of the harvest field around us. The Father desires other souls to be made well and His Spirit is

actively making hearts ready to be respond. Both our eternal security and seeing God's Kingdom advance now are our comforts when trials come.

Finally, we pray specifically for God to send and use others we know. While we can and should offer this general prayer for God to be raising up laborers, we should also pray for specific people—maybe some of the same people that we are lifting up for their own needs and trials. We can mistakenly place people in one of two prayer categories: those who have physical, relational, mental, and other personal needs, and those we think are "in a good place to be sent." But, what if these two lists were one? What if those of us who are in a trying season of life are also perfectly positioned to be used to advance the kingdom? Trials do create limitations, but they also position us to be witnesses to others that we wouldn't be in proximity with otherwise.



SEPTEMBER PRAYER TIMES

Wednesday, September 3

7:00 pm

and

Thursday, September 4

11:00 am



Annual Meeting

Congregation Meeting

SUNDAY, September 28, 2025

11:45 am

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

1. Nominating Committee members will be chosen.
2. The 2026 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 2026 budget.

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 (Janis Swope or Harold Lawhorne), Lead Elder (Jeff Ewing), or Pastor Mike.

MISSION & VISION



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.



INVITE A FRIEND

to Day of 

Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025

9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast followed by Worship on the Lawn, Lunch, & Fellowship

If you would like to help, please contact Vicki Booher.

Please pray for this special day and who you can invite to attend! Join us in praying for our neighbors, family, and friends as we reach out to them and who God leads to worship and fellowship with us.





NURSERY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers during Sunday School hour and Worship times. This is not a weekly commitment.

Please contact Elena Dornin if you are able to help take care of our youngest children.



The Prayer Shawl group will meet on Monday, September 8th at 7:00 pm in the back Youth Area. We meet once a month. There will be a short devotion before working on any project you might bring.

All crocheters and knitters are welcome to attend. If anyone is interested in learning to crochet or knit, please attend and we can make plans for a workshop.

Looking forward to meeting again.

Mardy Rogers'



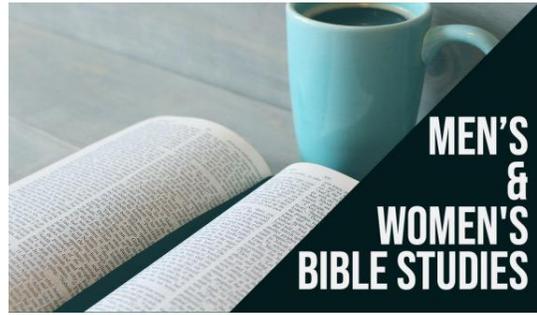
Do you have old magazines you do not read anymore? A nursing home aide is looking for magazines for her residents to look at to calm them down. Birds, Flowers, Cars, etc . . .

If you have magazines you would be willing to donate, please place them in the basket outside the Secretary's office. THANK YOU!



Each month the preschool children collect specific food items for the Irwin Area Food Pantry. If you would like to contribute, a box is available in the narthex. September's collection item: **Boxed Cereal**

Thank you so much for any contributions you can make.



Bible studies resume

The Men's and Women's Bible studies resume Monday, September 8th at 10:30 am.



Keen-Agers

Keen-Agers is for everyone age 50 and over.

Our September meeting will be Thursday, September 25 at 11:00 am.

Menu: Heritage Foods and sides

Program: "Stay Tuned" Quartet

Food Pantry Item: Boxed Cereal

Hope to see you on September 25th for a great day together.



Preschool classes for the 2025-2026 school year begin Thursday, September 4th for the 3 year-olds and Friday, September 5th for the 4 year-olds.

Teachers: Nicole Biedrycki and Becky Platt

We will once again have prayer buddies for the students and teachers as soon as we get all the permissions back. Please keep the children and teachers in prayer as the new school year begins.

BACK to SCHOOL

Be still, and know I am God. Psalm 46:10

All things God works for the good. Romans 8:28

Cast all my anxiety on Him. I Peter 5:7

Know whose I am! I John 3:1

Trust in the Lord with all my heart. Proverbs 3:5

Open my eyes to see the truth. Psalm 119:18

Show me your ways, Lord. Psalm 25:4

Create in me a clean heart. Psalm 51:10

He who is in me is greater. I John 4:4

Obey the Lord my God. Deut. 27:10

Oh Lord, you are my strength & shield.
Psalm 28:1

Let love and faithfulness never leave me.
Proverbs 3:4

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Lord, I am filled with awe! Habakkuk 3:2

AWE

SEE YOU AT THE POLE™

GLOBAL DAY OF STUDENT PRAYER

SEPT | 24

See You at the Pole™ is simply a prayer rally that occurs yearly on the 4th Wednesday of September where students meet at the school flagpole before school to lift their friends, families, teachers, school, and nation up to God. See You at the Pole™ is a student-initiated, student-organized, and student-led event.

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”

I Timothy 4:12



Our FOURFOLD MISSION is:

1] Encouraging passion for the Word of God through biblical teaching, discussion and fellowship. 2] Promoting a rich and sincere prayer life while introducing biblical thinking into everyday endeavors. 3] Providing examples of service and discipleship in joyful relationship with God through Jesus Christ by the strength of the Holy Spirit. 4] Creating opportunities through weekly studies, local events and getaways for teens to grow deeper in their faith and to begin proclaiming their faith and to begin proclaiming their trust in Jesus.



“Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed” 2 Timothy 2:15

AWANA is our children’s program for ages 2 through 5th grade. We meet Wednesday evenings at 6:45 pm during the school year. The children read and learn God’s word, memorize Bible verses while having fun and enjoying games.

Sept 3, we will begin our new AWANA year with a-MAZE-ing Grace night at 6:45. Kids ages 2 years - 5th grade are invited to attend.

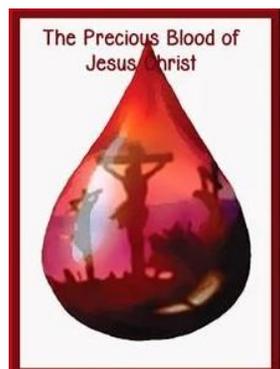
Registration forms can be found in the small narthex on the shelf, on our website (norwinalliance.org), or on the last page of this newsletter.

Looking forward to the start of another great year.

ALRIGHTY, , , I RECKON that the suffering of this present time are not worthy to be compared with glory which shall be revealed in us. Romans 8:18 KJV. Sometimes unexpected diagnoses arrive, and we are yanked off the narrow path. Though the scenery changes, it remains the narrow path. Learning the double-edged sword of chemo, I find that the patients' blood levels are checked to see if they can handle this treatment. One component in the blood is hemoglobin. If it is too low, chemo is postponed until a blood infusion is done. We found ourselves in the infusion center learning about this process. My thoughts meandered to Calvary and His shed blood. Our particular blood had been triple cross checked and was under refrigeration. Finally, the precious life strengthening blood "pouch" arrived and was "hung" and began its slow journey. The name on the pouch was "Volunteer Donor", I was so humbled and near tears. I prayed for this individual and asked God to somehow bless them. Over the next 3 hours, I was mesmerized by the rhythmic drip of the beautiful crimson life blood into the small tube, representative of Christ's shed blood (I'm sure the color remains the same). It was crazy to me, for what had brought us to this path became a comforting time with the Lord.

Beautiful hymns, singing of the crimson blood: *"When I See the Blood"*, *"Nothing but the Blood"*, *"The Precious Blood"*, *"Washed in the Blood"*, *"There is Power in the Blood"*.

Blessings, Deborah D.



Boxes are available in the narthex outside the Sanctuary for you to personally pack. Please return boxes by **November 9th**. There is no limit to the number you can fill.

Cost for each box is \$10.00. You may give on-line or mail a check in the postage paid envelope attached to the pamphlet.

You may also "Build a Box" on-line: samaritanspurse.org/operation-Christmas-child/buildonline. Once on the page, click on "create a goal page" and then type in Norwin Alliance Church. You can then start "building/filling" your box. The cost is \$25.00 which includes the \$10.00 postage fee.

Please have your boxes back to the church by Sunday, November 3rd. Don't forget to put a band around your box and put a label on. Also, please don't forget to send in your \$10.00 postage.

All boxes will be dedicated on Sunday, November 16th.

Let's fill Renee's jeep and make a difference in a child's life that they will remember for a life-time.





FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 18
11:00 am – 3:00 pm



- Events: Trunk and Treat
- Barrel Rides
- Games & Crafts
- Chili Lunch
- Square Dance Fun



“Trunk & Treat” is a family friendly, safe alternative to traditional trick-or-treating.



Immediate Need: We need people to offer their decorated “trunks” and pass out candy or treats. Please let Mardy or Cindy know ASAP if you are willing to participate in this way. A Sign-up sheet is also in the narthex for people to make Chili and Pumpkin desserts.

Please see Cindy or Mardy if you have questions.



DARTBALL FELLOWSHIP

The guys and gals have been meeting all summer for fellowship and Dartball fun.

The Dartball League games begin Monday, September 8th at Irwin Methodist.

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 Terry Blair if you would like to join.



Background Checks for Volunteers



If you work with our children and youth, updated background clearances and child abuse clearances need to be turned into the church office before you can start.

Criminal Background Check:

<https://epatch.pa.gov/home>

Click on “New Volunteer Record Check”

Make sure you print out the “No Record” or “Record” response and return a copy to the office and you keep a copy in your files.

Child Abuse Clearance:

<https://www.compass.dhs.pa.gov/cwis>

Make sure you indicate this is for Volunteers – there will be no charge. Contact the church office if you need a paper application.

Once you receive this clearance back, either in the mail or on the computer, make a copy and return to the office. Make sure you keep a copy for yourself.