
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



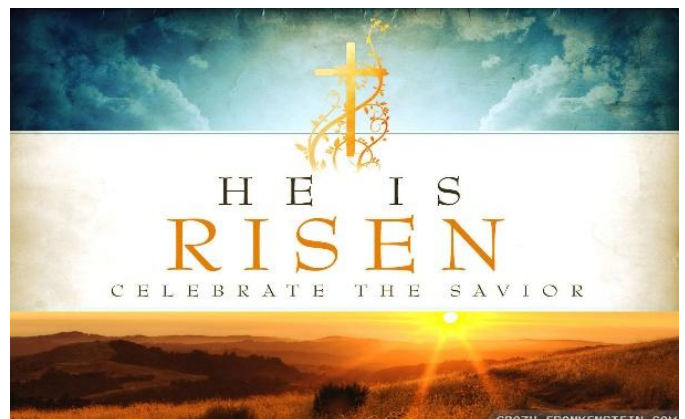
More than most winters, we probably all wished the especially cold winter of 2026 to end. As of this writing, the first day of spring has arrived, daylight savings has recently extended our evenings, and other than a potentially cold morning or two, our winter coats won't be needed until November. Aside from the weather, if you're like me you look forward to the Easter season. We know that the sorrow of the cross on Good Friday will be swallowed up in the joy on Easter morning when Jesus conquered Satan, sin, and death.

While Israel didn't face frigid Pennsylvania winters, the Passover season brought relief from the rainy season with muddy fields and gray skies. The wildflowers would bloom, the hillsides would turn green, and mild and pleasant temperatures would arrive. Also, the barley harvest would begin around Passover, providing a transition from scarcity to abundance. As one of the three big pilgrimages, (the others being Pentecost in early summer and tabernacles in the fall) Passover was something the people were joyfully looking forward to.

For Jesus, all the anticipation and activity leading up to the Passover would have been different that year. For him the Passover was the end of his time on earth. He would give his final instructions to the apostles and then endure the cross to save us all from our sin. In Luke 9:22, perhaps four to six months before his death he would say, "The Son of Man must

suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." Perhaps two to four months before his death, Jesus would say in Luke 12:50 "I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!"

While there is great value in embracing the day and focusing on what the Lord has for us to do in the moment, Jesus' death and resurrection has given us a reason to look to the future with hope. Yet, we do so with more permanence than the change of favorable seasons which will end a few months later. Likewise, our time until Christ returns will be marked with the literal change of seasons, as well as seasons of plenty and want, and hills and valleys. So let us follow the instruction of Hebrews 12:2, "look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."





APRIL PRAYER TIMES

Wednesday, April 8

7:00 pm

Thursday, April 9

11:00 am

* Please note: We are meeting one week later in April.

Mid-Week
Lenten Services

Norwin Ministerium and
New Hope Presbyterian Church
12727 Lincoln Way
N. Huntingdon

Wednesdays during the Lenten Season
11:30 am — 12:30 pm

The day begins at 11:30 am with a Hymn Sing.
A luncheon will be served at 12:30 pm
(free will offering accepted)



Easter Schedule of Events:

Thursday, April 2

"The Living Last Supper" ~ 7:00 pm
1st United Methodist Church in Irwin

Friday, April 3

Good Friday "Walk of the Cross" - Noon
(see schedule on page 2)

Good Friday Service - 7:00 pm



Sunday, April 5

EASTER Services:

Outdoor Sunrise Service

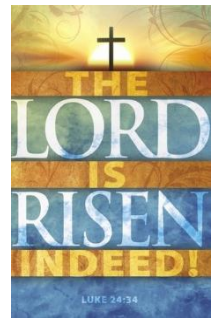
7:00 am

Continental Breakfast

7:30 am

Worship Services

8:30 & 10:45 am



GOOD FRIDAY

"WALK OF THE CROSS"



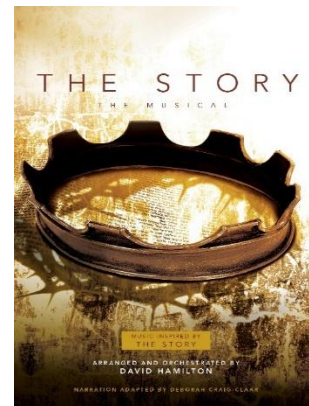
Friday, April 3, 2026

Noon

The Walk begins at the 1st Presbyterian Church in Irwin. The whole community is invited.

1 st Presby	THE GARDEN
Holy Trinity	THE BETRAYAL
1 st Assembly	THE CROSS
1 st Methodist	THE CRUCIFIXION
United Church of Christ	HIS FINAL BREATH

CANTATA



Saturday, April 18, 2026

6:30 pm

Sunday, April 19, 2026

10:45 am

FREE TO ALL!



Keen-Agers is for those at NAC and in the community
50 years of age and older

The April meeting of the Norwin Alliance Keen-Agers
will be on Thursday, April 23rd at 11:00 am.

The meal will be Baked Ham & Scalloped Potatoes
(provided)

Please bring a dish to share.

The program will be by Cheryl Dobrowolski.

*** * Food Pantry item is: MACARONI AND CHEESE**

We invite everyone 50 and over to join us.

Hope to see you April 23rd.

Breakaway 2026

April 17-19, 2026

*Breakaway is a weekend retreat at
Laurelville Retreat Center for senior high
students in 9th – 12th grade for them to be able
to experience God together and be challenged
to walk in greater intimacy with Him.*

Please be in prayer for our youth and leaders who
will be attending this retreat.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 11, 2026

9:00 – 11:00 am

At the Nazarene Church of Norwin (110 Clay Pike)

Speaker: MIKE ALFIERI

Theme: "Are you AFT'R more with Jesus?"

Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you are interested in
attending.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, April 13, 2026

7:00 pm

Baby Shower

Saturday, April 11th

11:00 am – 1:30 pm

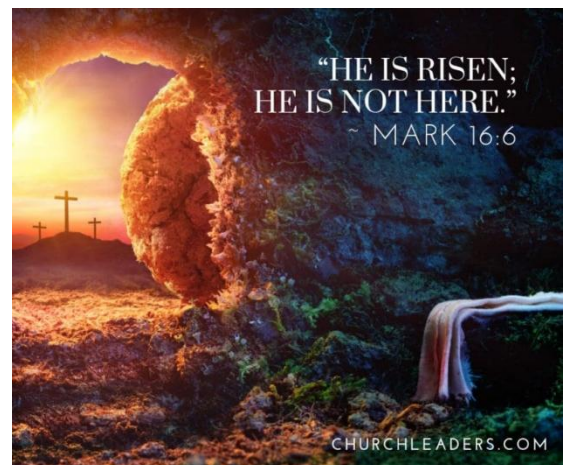


*All the women of the church are invited to
attend a Baby Shower celebrating Kate &
Baby Groop.*

*Please RSVP by signing the sheet in the
narthex or calling the church by April 3.*

*A gift registry for Baby Groop is available on
Amazon.*

*We hope to see you as we shower Kate & Baby
Groop with blessings!*





2025

National total = 12,205,900 boxes!

NOT just a number

IT's all about JESUS!

Mid-Atlantic North Region = PA + NJ

Total 674,578 boxes

Westmoreland County ~

Total 15,286 boxes

Norwin Alliance Church ~

148 boxes (this is the number to beat in 2026)

Build a Shoebox Online (BASO)

Special Access Boxes (these boxes go unmarked)

199 boxes from Westmoreland County.

No total yet for Mid- Atlantic North Region or National

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Shoe box ministry was started in 1993

Greatest Journey Discipleship Program started in 2010

- Over 52 million children have enrolled in the Greatest Journey
- Over 27 million children have made decisions to accept Christ as their Savior
- 2.6 million teachers have been trained

* Circle your calendars and join us for our annual Shoebox Packing Party on Saturday, July 18, 2026. Watch for sign-ups for donations.



FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) infect you?

Pi Day on Friday Celebration 2026

IF you weren't there, you missed it (it was a great night of "catapulting")!

Don't let that happen in 2027



Pi Day on Friday 2027

March 12, 2027

6:30-8:00 pm

Mark your calendars and ask yourself,

"Who shall I invite?"

Topic for 2027:

This is rocket science!

