
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

AUGUST 2014



FELLOWSHIP

Part 6

Here are some of my church experiences before and after receiving the Lord.

B.C. days

- ~ too much silence; too much sitting.
- ~ too much singing; too much standing.
- ~ the preacher looked angry; the people looked sleepy.
- ~ too many hurdles to meeting God.
- ~ everything was in slow motion.
- ~ definitely the longest morning of the week.
- ~ fellowship meant looking at the backs of heads.
- ~ I felt guilty; I felt bored.
- ~ I didn't love God; I didn't love people.

A.D. days

- ~ Jesus is definitely there.
- ~ God's Spirit changes everybody.
- ~ we sin more than I thought.
- ~ we obey God more than I thought.
- ~ people are joyful; people are hurting.
- ~ people love; people help; people sleep.
- ~ I hear God's Word; praying is good.
- ~ we sing to the Lord; we give to the Lord.
- ~ I never know who is going to be there.
- ~ we love Christ; we are disinterested in Christ.
- ~ we are flawed; we are perfect in Christ.
- ~ we are brothers and sisters forever.

Love God's people on earth as you will in heaven.

THREE RIVERS

FESTIVAL OF HOPE

WITH FRANKLIN GRAHAM

CONSOL ENERGY CENTER AUGUST 15, 2014

We will leave NAC on Friday, August 15th at 4:00 pm on a chartered bus.

The bus is now full. If you signed-up, please be at the church by 3:45 pm so we can leave promptly at 4:00 pm.

Ladies Night Out



Tuesday, August 19, 2014

Colonial Grille
Main Street, Downtown Irwin

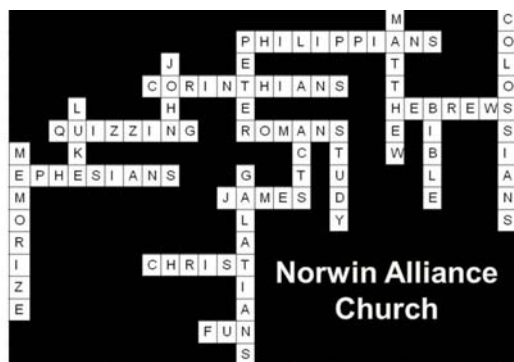
6:30 pm

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

Join us for Bible Quizzing!



Bible quizzing is a program for kids grades 3 to 12. They study and memorize scripture, then compete in monthly meets with kids from other CMA churches in the Western PA area from October to April. We have weekly practice here at Norwin.



Junior quizzing: grades 3—6

Senior quizzing: grades 7–12

This year we will be studying the book of Acts.



We are planning a start-up movie time in August for returning quizzers as well as those interested in learning more.

More details to come!

For more information contact:
Joe or Becky Cox: (724) 863-3943
joenbeckyc@verizon.net

NEW DMC YEAR BEGINS AUGUST 18

Promotion Sunday ~ August 17th

Children and Youth will receive new Bibles if they are entering these grades:

Age 2

Kindergarten

Grade 3

Grade 6

Grade 9

Please call Carole Sarber if your child should receive a Bible.

AWANA and Youth

AWANA and Youth will begin on Wednesday, August 20. Registration forms are available for AWANA across from the nursery and also on the last page of this newsletter. This year a 2yr old has been added.

Adults

New Adult classes will begin on Sunday, September 28th. Watch the bulletins for the class descriptions.



KEEN-AGERS NEWS

On Thursday, August 28th the Norwin Alliance Keen-Agers will meet for a luncheon of hamburgers and hot dogs and corn-on-cob (if available). Various other picnic foods will be served also.

The meeting will begin at 11:30 am with lunch beginning at 11:45 am. Everyone age 50 and over is cordially invited to attend this and all meetings of the Keen-Agers. First time attendees do not have to bring anything, but everyone should bring his/her own table service. Regular attendees will be called as to what they choose to bring from the menu selected. If you're not at home when the call is made to you, please return the call to your contact person.

Program: "The Bird Man"

JOIN US FOR FOOD,
FUN, and FELLOWSHIP

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28th



The Women's Corner

By Janis Swope

Have you ever heard the saying "Grow where you are planted?" Well, one side of our brick front porch is smack up against our driveway. Unbelievably, one little pink petunia found a spot in the cracked cement between the porch and the driveway to grow and bloom. What a sight to see this little flower all by itself thriving in such inhospitable surroundings! We never noticed it growing there until one evening; Bill was taking CJ out through the garage for a stroll around the yard. Next thing I know Bill is hollering for me to come and see what he had found. You can imagine my surprise to see this beautiful flower growing out of the cement. The little bloom has made us smile every time we see it. What a testament to overcoming adversity. That petunia is a wonderful example to us of growing where God plants us. It doesn't matter what our circumstances or environment we are in, we can grow and develop the beautiful Christian character that reflects the Son to the rest of the world. We like our little petunia and thank God that He can teach us through such a small thing. May we grow in the grace of God wherever we are planted so that we can shine the light of Jesus to the world around us.

We have been blessed this summer to have some new faces joining us in the Ladies Bible Study ~ Joan O'Roark, Dannette Kolar and an old friend of mine, Terri Wilson. For the month of August, Connie Niedermeyer is taking over the reins of teaching. The Ladies will look at the New Testament books of Philemon and Titus. I will be returning in September when we begin the Christian classic, Basic Christianity by John Stott.

If you are interested to know more about God's word, we would be delighted to have you. We meet Monday mornings at 10:30 in the craft room. And as always, we'll have the coffee on!

The Last Word

Hearts never lose touch; friendships linger forever in a place that no words could ever describe. Anonymous



VIGNETTES BY VIRGINIA

Hymn Series IV

Take My Life and Let It Be

by Frances Ridley Havergal



"Take My Life and Let It Be" was written by Frances after she felt that something was missing in her Christian experience and walk. In 1873 she read the book "All for Jesus" and desired that Christ be the King in all of her life. On Advent Sunday, December 1873, she saw the 'blessedness of true consecration' and gave full surrender of her life. She became a witness to others and wrote this particular hymn. This was the date of her consecration. As a secular vocalist, she decided that she no longer should perform professionally and began to sing only as a sacred musician. She gave away her wealth and money to the church missionary society and had a complete consecration of her talents, wealth, and life. She kept only a brooch from her family. This hymn is based on Philippians 3:8.

1. Take my life and let it be Consecrated Lord to Thee. Take my hands and let them love, At the impulse of Thy love, at the impulse of Thy love.
2. Take my feet, and let them be Swift and beautiful for thee. Take my voice, and let me sing Always, only for my King. Always, only for my King.
3. Take my lips, and let them be Filled with messages for thee. Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold, Not a mite would I withhold.
4. Take my love, my God I pour At Thy feet its treasure store. Take myself and I will be Ever, only all for Thee. Ever, only, all for Thee.

Connection Service

Sunday, August 10th

6:30 pm

"If God is Good . . ."

How can there be so much suffering and evil in the world if a good God exists and is in control? Let's grapple with this question - one that atheists love to ask and Christians secretly ponder.

Speaker: Shelli Prindle

Special Music: Rachel Wilson

DON'T YOU QUIT

By Rev. Paul Cope, Assistant District Superintendent

I hope you are enjoying summer to the fullest. I love these warm days, and opportunity to do my favorite sport...swimming. There are so many spiritual implications here. Let me show you some:

Probably the best reason I like to swim on a hot day, it is very ***refreshing***. Just to dive into a nice cool lake or pool is very relaxing to me. Well do I remember the year a group of us went to Ecuador, South America on a mission trip. The weather there was very hot, well over 110 degrees each day. After doing construction work at Camp Nehemiah, most of the group who were with us walked down to the sandy beach of the Pacific Ocean. Within minutes, the cool waves were cooling our tired and overheated bodies. It was refreshing. God wants to refresh us: in our physical bodies . . . but also in our spiritual lives. It is good to plunge into the “. . . water of the word” (Ephesians 5:26). God’s word wonderfully refreshes us. This summer be sure to read His word, the Bible, every day. It is refreshing to our souls.

Swimming requires ***discipline***, powerful kicking of the feet, long strokes with the hands, and rhythmic breathing, coordinated together. It is a skill we must learn. I’m thankful for my dad who loved to swim himself, but also made time in his busy life to teach me how to really enjoy swimming. He influenced me for good. Each of us can influence others for good and have fun doing it.

With swimming, *you ***can’t quit****, mid-stream. Once a swimmer dives into the water he must be committed to getting to the other side. It requires commitment, even when your muscles ache from the exertion . . . or when you are out of breath. Christian living is a lot about commitment. A little plaque I picked up at my daughter’s garage sale reads:

Don’t quit!
When things go wrong,
As they sometimes will,
When the road you’re trudging

Seems all up hill,
When the funds are low,
And the debts are high,
And you want to smile,
But you have to sigh.
When care is pressing you down a bit
Rest if you must,
But don’t you quit!

Romans 8:18: “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

With swimming, you must get ***totally involved***. Just putting your feet into the water isn’t swimming, it’s called wading. You can’t swim without getting your whole body into the sport. Sometimes Connie tries to swim without getting her hair wet . . . it’s quite a sight . . . but not very relaxing. As for me, I just dive in and enjoy!

In the Christian life, like in swimming, get totally involved, stay committed, help others learn, and stay refreshed so that you and those you influence for good will experience “. . . the glory which shall be revealed in us.”



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