

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

AUGUST 2021



Key Quotes from Solid Christians

Here is some inspiration to stir us up to love and good works.

“The gospel is the only way to get people to heaven. It’s also the only way to get people to God. If you don’t want God above everything, you have not been converted.” John Piper

“As a Christian you smell like Jesus and you smell like sin and you cannot get rid of either one.” Steve Brown

“Do what only you can do. God will do what only God can do.” Adrian Rogers

“See God in everything, including your worst pain and suffering.” Eugene Petersen

“After a century when 50 million people were killed by war, humanity still believes it can get its act together without God.” Chuck Swindoll

“We help others more from our brokenness than from our success.” Tim Keller

“Prayer helps us cease from sin and sin makes us cease from prayer.” John Bunyan

“I am going to heaven, and I am taking someone with me.” R.C. Sproul



The Norwin Alliance Preschool

is accepting registrations for the 2021-2022 school year.

The **3yr old class** meets Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00—11:30 am OR 12:30—3:00 pm. Child must be potty trained and be 3yrs old by September 1st.

The **4yr old class** meets Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9:00—11:30 am OR 12:30—3:00 pm. Child must be 4yrs old by September 1st.

You may contact the church office to register or fill out the form below and return to the office.

A \$50.00 registration fee is required to reserve your spot.

Norwin Alliance Church Preschool

REGISTRATION

724-864-1570



Parent’s name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone : _____

Email address: _____

Child’s Name: _____

Child’s birthday: _____

Please register my child in the: 3 year old class _____

4 year old class _____

Class time preference: AM _____ PM _____

Class preference will be decided by the date the registration form AND the \$50 registration fee are received. You will be notified if your preference cannot be granted.

**Checks may be made payable to:
Norwin Alliance Church**



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18th
Pavilion at Indian Lake
4:00 - 9:00 pm

Please save the date and plan to attend.

The Fellowship Committee will provide chicken, coleslaw, rolls, water, and plates, napkins, plastic eating utensils.

Each family attending is asked to provide a side of your choice, or dessert, or munchies, and your own beverage. Please sign the sheet in the narthex under the food item you would like to bring. Please include number of people attending and specify the side or dessert you are bringing.

We will be in the pavilion - this is close to the parking lot off Brokers Lane so you will not have far to walk.

There will be games to play, a children's play area, fishing, and of course you can always walk around the track ☺

Please consider joining us on August 18th for food, fun and a great time of fellowshiping with our church family (don't forget to sign-up ☺)



You are invited to join us on Wednesday, August 25th as we start a new AWANA year.

Our AWANA program meets Wednesday nights from 6:45 to 8:00 pm. Children ages 3 through grade 5 are encouraged to come enjoy lessons, snacks, and games with their friends.

Registration is free. You may register on August 25th, fill out the form on last page of this newsletter or pick one up from the shelf in the small narthex, and return to the church, or register on-line at www.norwinalliance.org starting in August.

Please join us on August 25th.



PROMOTION SUNDAY

On Sunday, August 22nd, our young people who are age 2 ~ preschool age ~ entering Kindergarten ~ entering 3rd grade ~ entering 6th grade will receive new Bibles:

- Harvey Clough
- Gary David Hitchins
- Anthony Isaiah Morris
- Zach Bryer

If you know of another young person who should receive a Bible, please let Carole Sarber know.

SEPTEMBER 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

This year's **DAY OF JOY** is scheduled for Sunday, September 12th.

The day includes an outdoor service, lunch, and games. Plan now who you will invite. If you can help in any way with the day, please let Vicki Booher know. Watch for more information.

What do you know about Sunday school?

By Janis Swope

What do you know about Sunday school? Did you go to Sunday school when you were a kid? Sunday school is not mentioned in the Bible so where did it come from? Hope you're interested because here we go! A big tip of the hat to Timothy Larsen for his article "When did Sunday Schools start?" which appeared in the August 2008 edition of *Christianity Today* and Pamela Kestor's article "The Sunday School Movement" for Encyclopedia.com for much of the following information. The first thing you need to know is that Sunday schools were originally literally schools: They were places where poor children could learn to read. For a long time, these schools were the only way working-class families could receive an education. Sometimes even parents would attend to learn how to read. Teaching the tenets of the faith was not part of the curriculum. The Sunday school movement began in Britain in the 1780's and once organized, however, their popularity and influence in spreading literacy and moral values while providing lessons on Christianity became very popular. The Sunday school movement inspired some of the greatest minds of the age-among them the economist Adam Smith (1723-1790), the philosopher Thomas Malthus (1766-1836, and the Methodist theologian John Wesley (1703-1791- to see and note its virtues in promoting popular education generally. Adam Smith is noted as saying "No plan has promised to affect a change of manners, with equal ease and simplicity" as did the morals-based literacy training provided in eighteenth century Sunday school.

The first actual Sunday school was established by Hanna Ball in Buckinghamshire, England, in 1769. Robert Raikes (1736-1811), an Anglican believer, was a publisher and editor of the *Gloucester Journal* and saw the need of the many poor children living in England's slums who found their way into crime. Working with a local pastor, Raikes established a Sunday school for the poor and orphaned in July 1780 and promoted it in his newspaper. It soon had hundreds of students. In the beginning only boys were enrolled, but by the following year girls were also invited to attend. By 1800, 200,000 children were enrolled in English Sunday schools and thus began the organized and faith-based education for children.

The movement soon spread to America. Denominations and non-denominational organizations caught on to the idea and the first school modeled on Raikes's system was begun by William Elliott in Accomac County, Virginia, in the mid-1780s. Soon Sunday schools were being created in other areas. Within decades, the movement had become extremely popular. By the mid-1800's attendance in Sunday school was a near universal aspect of childhood. The instruction of slaves became a unique outgrowth of the Sunday school movement in the United States beginning in Virginia. Soon other states in the South established schools for black slaves. Not long after, adults were attending Sunday school.

So all of this finally gets me to my reason for this article. Most of you are probably glad to see this history lesson come to an end. I get it. Not everybody liked History in school. So my point is... we have really wonderful Sunday School classes at Norwin Alliance! They are for your benefit, please take advantage of them! You will learn more about God the Father, Jesus the Son and God the Holy Spirit. You will get to know your brothers and sisters in Christ better and I guarantee you will learn more of God's Holy Word. Sunday School has a wonderful heritage to fall back on, but there is still much more that can be gleaned from attending the present day Sunday school.

At Norwin Alliance there are three adult classes. John Peles teaches each Sunday in the Sanctuary. He is currently focusing on the book of Genesis and just finished up teaching about Noah. Jeff and Becky Ewing and Ron and Elena Dornin are teaching in the Fellowship Hall. Their focus is on the family and everything that goes along with it, children, parenting, and elderly parents. I am in the craft room with my Women's class. We finished II Thessalonians, looked at some basic teachings for new Christians and will soon be starting on Romans. Our children's Sunday school has fine teachers in Beth Buchanan and Sue Hoffman. Also, don't forget our Men's and Ladies Bible Studies that meet in the Youth Area and the Craft room at 10:30 Monday morning. The men are working their way through Genesis and the women are on the 17th chapter of Matthew. Please don't neglect your own Christian education and that of your children. All of us teachers would love to see you in class!

VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

I Timothy 6:17 reads: *“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their HOPE in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their HOPE in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”* Notice the challenging word—HOPE. What is the meaning of hope? Hope is trust or reliance; to desire with expectation of fulfillment. Some synonyms used out in public for the word ‘hope’ might surprise us: ambitions, aspirations, beliefs, dependence, desires, experiences, messages, promises, reliance, security, testimony, wishes, and witnesses.

God’s Word has numerous passages using the theme of hope. Excellent examples are found throughout the entire Bible. A brief reminder: Naomi talking to Ruth and Orpah; prophets Ezekiel and Jeremiah; many, many times Jesus talked/healed the people He loved; our ‘first’ missionary Paul. And this tiny list is a ‘push’ to study God’s Word so we can share the HOPE we have in Jesus. The Book of Psalms has many verses to encourage us to have HOPE, like David. He had a very rough life at times; but he loved God the Father. (Psalms 31:24; 33:22; 39:7; 42:5 and 146:5) The New Testament has interesting encouraging verses (Titus 1:2; 2:13 and 3:7) The very few ideas given are suggestions to study as much as you so desire.

A friend, Pete Hamilton, pastor almost 40 years and getting ready to retire, is a writer and theology teacher online. He had to become more active using the computer when COVID hit. He is an excellent Bible pastor, but most often felt that his primary spiritual gift is teaching the Master’s level courses he became more involved in during the virus.

Pete wrote *“You’ve Got to Have Hope”*, using the Scripture I Timothy 6:17 and Romans 15:13 **ABOUND IN HOPE**. His message continues, *“Find hope in Jesus. Cry out to Him. He will hear you.”* And, *“Do I thirst for God? Keep pursuing a growing relationship with God. Take definite steps.”* Matthew 5:6


(Pete and Joyce’s daughter/husband/children were missionaries in Brazil. Came to USA because of COVID and have not been able to return to Brazil. BUT where the live in the states have a ministry to the Brazilians who just happen to live in the same area. Wow. Talk about how God know so much!)


In conclusion, Julian of Norwich wrote: *“O man, believe in God with all your might, for HOPE rests of faith, love on HOPE, and victory on love.”*


I Peter 3:15 CEV version: *“Honor Christ and let Him be the Lord of your life. Always be ready to give an answer when someone asks you about your HOPE.”*

Music Notes

August is already here, and our summer is coming to an end. We have some exciting times coming up soon in the music department.

 The adult **choir** will begin rehearsals again on **Thursday, August 26 at 7 PM**. We would love to have some new members this year. We meet in the sanctuary. You do not have to be a soloist to join. We love ensemble members too. Choir is for anyone 12 years old and up. Our first week to sing will be **September 5 at 10:45**.

 **Bell choir** continues to ring on. For most of us, this is still new. You do not need to read music to be a member. Just be willing to attend rehearsals. We have been meeting on **Thursdays at 6:30** to [This](#) rehearse. (The time may change after summer.)

 Do you play an instrument or sing? Would you enjoy being in a small group of singers? I would like to have more folks for **special music**. Even if it has been a while, I would gladly work with you to get you practiced up and ready to be a part of the music

ministry. (To clear up any confusion, this is a part of the music ministry and there is no charge for my help.) If you need accompanied, I can help you with that as well.



Dates for your calendar:

Oct. 31 - *Festival of Hymns* – all music Sunday with hymn sing-along

Dec. 12 – *Christmas Cantata* @ 10:45 AM

Think about who you can invite to these events. It is always a great week to invite someone to meet the Lord!

Please contact Vicki Booher #412-398-1343 or email me at musicdirector@norwinalliance.org if you would like to participate in any of these ministries.



2021-2022 Registration Form

Family Information: Parents - please complete all information for each child who is registered.

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Home Number _____ Cell Number _____

Email _____ Church affiliation _____

Emergency contact _____ Phone # _____

How do you prefer to be contacted if AWANA needs to cancel a meeting? Phone call _____

Text _____ or Email _____

Kids Information

Name _____ Date of birth _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Known allergies (including food) _____

Special Needs _____

What else would you like us to know about your child?

I authorize Norwin Alliance Church to use photographs of my child(ren) for local publications, brochures, or web posting.

_____ Yes _____ No

I authorize Norwin Alliance Church to use photographs of my child(ren) for posting throughout the church facility.

_____ Yes _____ No

Parent Signature _____