
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 2024



1 Timothy 2:1-4 *“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”*

In Paul’s first letter to Timothy, he urges him, and us by extension, to pray for all people. For added emphasis, Paul specifically mentions kings and those in high positions. He says this will lead to having a peace and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. Paul also makes the point that God desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. It is easy to see how this command is applicable to us today.

As of this writing, in less than two weeks our country has experienced an assassination attempt on President Trump, J.D. Vance chosen as his running mate, President Biden dropping out of the presidential election, and Vice President Harris seems likely to get her party’s nomination.

We of course need to pray for peace if we are experiencing election anxiety. Yet may I suggest that we take Paul at his word and pray for our leaders. Could I challenge us also to commit to pray for whomever becomes the next president? We need not pray for their success, if success means advancing policies that we believe are immoral or harmful to our country. However, we should pray for their souls and that they would govern in a way that would please God.

Ephesians 6:12 says, *“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”*

Whatever we feel about the next president and the many other leaders that impact our lives, country, and world, they are not our true enemy. The reality is that our earthly kings, rulers, presidents, and the people advising them are prime targets for spiritual attack.

If it’s a struggle to give prayers of thanksgiving for certain candidates, can I encourage us to pray for their salvation and/or spiritual growth? Let’s pray for their protection, their families, and that they would lead with integrity. Let’s not limit our prayers to just praying that they do the things we want them to.

One thing we can be sure of after the next president is sworn in, there will be a large amount of criticism from many. While we as citizens can participate in voicing our opinions, our speech should always honor Christ. What might happen in our country if the millions of believers prayed fervently for our leaders and candidates?



AUGUST PRAYER TIMES

Wednesday, August 7

7:00 pm

and

Thursday, August 8

11:00 am

BIBLE QUIZZING

The CMA held its International Bible Quiz in Stow, Ohio from July 9-13. 17 teams from 13 districts met to compete on the books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians. Western PA sent 2 teams to the competition. We had 3 individuals in the top 10, including the top rookie. Our teams came in 4th and 8th place. Of the 9 kids representing WPA, 6 of them were competing at the International level for the first time. Every one of our quizzers made a significant contribution to their team. In addition to the quizzing competition, each morning started off with a time of worship. We heard some great devotions, including one by CMA president, John Stumbo. In the evening, the kids had time to fellowship with one another and get to know some of their brothers and sisters around the US and Canada. It was definitely an amazing week. Thanks to everyone who kept this event in prayer.

Daniel Cox



With a new school year starting, a new Bible Quiz season is also beginning. This fall we will dive into the book of Luke. This program is open to anyone in grades 3 - 12. Junior quizzing is for those in 3rd-6th grade and senior quizzing is for 7th-12th grades. Norwin Alliance holds our practices every Sunday evening from 6:00-7:30 pm. Competitions are usually at 9:00 am the first Saturday of the month from October to April at various CMA churches in the greater Pittsburgh area. The Norwin quizzers will hold our first meeting on Sunday, August 25th. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome to attend this meeting to learn more. Please encourage any young people in your life who may enjoy studying God's Word with fun and fellowship to come check it out.



Age 3 - grade 5

AWANA is hosting the **Wild World of Animals** on Wednesday, August 28th at 6:30 pm. They will be presenting an animal demonstration which will be followed by ice-cream in the Fellowship Hall. The event is open to everyone of all ages at no cost. The following week, September 4th, will start our new year of AWANA.

AWANA meets every Wednesday nights from 6:45-8:00 pm. It is open to kids aged 3 years through the 5th grade. Every week we spend time together learning God's Word, playing games, eating snacks, and having lots of fun with each other.

Whether you are a Cubbie (pre-K), Sparks (K-2), or T&T (gr 3-5), we hope to see you there.

Registration is free. You may register at the church or online www.norwinalliance.org. Please join us on August 28th.



NO Bible studies in August

The Men's and Women's Bible studies will be taking a break the month of August. Bible studies will resume September 9th and will meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 10:30 am.



“The true beauty of music is that it connects people. It carries a message, and we, the musicians, are the messengers.” Roy Ayers



Bell choir has been on a small break, but it's time to start again. If you know your left hand from your right, can count to 6, and you can see colors...you can play the bells! Bells is a 30-minute commitment on Thursday from 6:30 - 7 PM. Meet us in the fellowship hall beginning again on August 29th.

It's time for choir!

Choir season will begin again on Thursday, August 29 at 7 PM in the sanctuary.

Come make a joyful noise with us. You don't have to be a soloist, read music, or try out; just come! Want to come, but have little ones, please contact Vicki ahead of time, we'll do our best to have a sitter.

Choir is a 90-minute practice on Thursday, singing weekly at the 10:45 AM service on Sunday.

Can't make that commitment for weekly, try our Christmas Cantata. Rehearsals begin Sept 19 at 7:45 for 45 minutes. Cantata is scheduled for December 7th and



On Sunday, August 25th, our young people who are age 2 ~ entering Kindergarten ~ entering 3rd grade ~ entering 6th grade will receive new Bibles:

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

August 25th is also Youth Sunday! The youth will present a program for the entire church. All children and teens (except the Nursery age children) will remain in the service that day.

If you have any questions, please contact Carole Sarber.



This summer, we will continue to collect items for the Irwin Area Food Pantry.

If you would like to contribute, a box is available in the narthex. August's collection item: **Canned Meats** (tuna, chicken, spam, etc)

Thank you so much for any contributions you can make.



The August meeting of Norwin Alliance Keen-Agers will be on Thursday, August 22 at **11:00 am**.

The meal will be Hot Dogs and Hamburgers on the grill, sides, cupcakes, fruit. Please bring a side dish to share.

* * Food Pantry item is: Canned Meats (tuna, chicken, spam, etc . . .)

Everyone age 50 and over is invited to join us for lunch and fellowship.

Hope to see you on August 22nd ~ we are looking forward to having a great afternoon together.



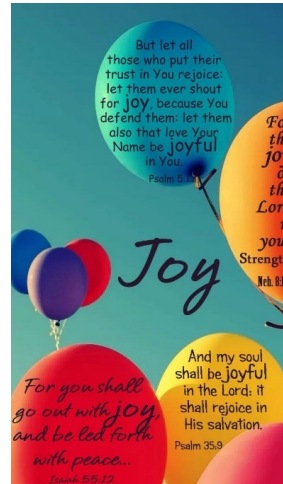
SHOEBOX MINISTRY

THANK YOU to all who participated in the OCC Packing Party - whether by donation and/or packing.

There is still an opportunity to participate in the Operation Christmas Child ministry. Boxes are available on the shelf in the narthex for you to take and fill.

Please be sure to pick up a pamphlet with the labels. 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.

Watch your bulletins and future Koinonias for drop-off date.



Day of Joy

This year's day of Joy will be September 15. As in other years, we will be meeting outside under the tents, weather permitting. We will have a Sunday service, including worship music, a message and lunch! Please plan to come and bring a friend or 2. More details will follow so watch your bulletins to see the plan unfold. Be in prayer for the day, how you will be involved, and for who you will invite. More details to come.

| <u>YOU SAY</u> | <u>GOD SAYS</u> | <u>BIBLE VERSES</u> |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| You say: "It's impossible" | God says: All things are possible | (Luke 18:27) |
| You say: "I'm too tired" | God says: I will give you rest | (Matthew 11:28-30) |
| You say: "Nobody really loves me" | God says: I love you | (John 3:16 & John 3:34) |
| You say: "I can't go on" | God says: My grace is sufficient | (II Corinthians 12:9 & Psalm 91:15) |
| You say: "I can't figure things out" | God says: I will direct your steps | (Proverbs 3:5-6) |
| You say: "I can't do it" | God says: You can do all things | (Philippians 4:13) |
| You say: "I'm not able" | God says: I am able | (II Corinthians 9:8) |
| You say: "It's not worth it" | God says: It will be worth it | (Roman 8:28) |
| You say: "I can't forgive myself" | God says: I Forgive you | (I John 1:9 & Romans 8:1) |
| You say: "I can't manage" | God says: I will supply all your needs | (Philippians 4:19) |
| You say: "I'm afraid" | God says: I have not given you a spirit of fear | (II Timothy 1:7) |
| You say: "I'm always worried and frustrated" | God says: Cast all your cares on ME | (I Peter 5:7) |
| You say: "I'm not smart" | God says: I give you wisdom | (I Corinthians 1:30) |
| You say: "I feel all alone" | God says: I will never leave you or forsake you | (Hebrews 13:5) |



2024-2025 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 # _____

Preferred method of receiving notifications: 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 _____