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# 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

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**NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH**

**DECEMBER 2019**

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## Great Truths in the Bible - Book by Book

Here are some favorite verses in God's Word to build your faith in Him.

Esther      *“Who knows whether you have come to this kingdom for such a time as this.”* (4:14)

Job            *“The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away, may the name of the Lord be praised.”* (1:21)

Psalms        *“For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures through all generations.”* (100:5)

Proverbs     *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.”* (3:5)

Ecclesiastes *“When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God made the one as well as the other.”* (7:14)

Song of Songs *“He has taken me to the banquet hall, and his banner over me is love.”* (2:4)

Isaiah         *“And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”* (9:6)



## EVENTS

- Dec. 1      First Sunday of Advent  
                 A.C.T. Service - 6:00 pm
- Dec. 8      Second Sunday of Advent  
                 “Love Came for Me” ~ Christmas Cantata  
                 10:45 am
- Dec. 15     Third Sunday of Advent  
                 Children's Christmas Program - 10:45 am  
                 Advent Festival Luncheon - Noon
- Dec. 19     Keen-Ager's Christmas Dinner
- Dec. 24     Christmas Eve Candlelight Service -  
                 7:00 pm

## A.C.T. Service

Sunday, December 1  
6:00 pm



Speaker: Randy Brown

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### “Fluffing of the Greens”

Monday, December 2  
Noon

Bring a lunch and fellowship then help us as we prepare the wreaths and trees for decorating.

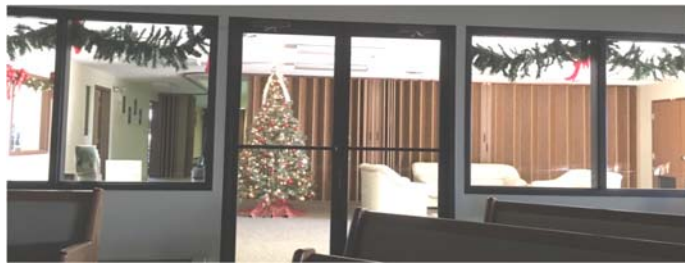
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### “Decking the Halls”

Tuesday, December 3  
6:00 pm

Come one, come all and join us as we gather together and sing Christmas Carols, “trim the tree” and “deck the halls” of the church for Christmas.

Pizza will be provided (If you would like to bring a snack to share, that would be nice).



### Operation Christmas Child

THANK YOU to all who participated in the Shoebox ministry. Renee’s jeep was overflowing with 147 boxes of “good news and great joy” for boys and girls around the world affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease.



*“ . . . I think about how very thankful I am for a Savior that is with me all year long; every day of the week, every minute and second of each day. We never have to wait for love when we are loved and cared for by our heavenly Father.*

*This Christmas, take time to sit in solitude and reflect on what your year has been like and how Jesus carried you through bad and not so bad times. How He loves to see you smile when thinking about all the good times and blessings He has given you.*

*I pray as we come to the end of a decade and begin another, you will fall more in love with Jesus than ever before.”*

Written by: LuAnne Baker, District AW Director

### CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
10:45 am



### “Love Came for Me”

Invite your family, friends, neighbors to hear our Adult Choir as they present their Christmas Cantata, “Love Came for Me”.

# Children's Choir Christmas Program

*"Imagine a Journey"*  
Sunday, December 15  
10:45 AM

A poetic reading of the story of Christmas, including 11 traditional Christmas carols and non-speaking drama roles to help tell the story of Jesus' birth.



**ADVENT  
LUNCHEON**

**Sunday,  
December 15<sup>th</sup>**

**NOON**

**ALL are invited  
to attend**

## CHRISTMAS CARDS



The window in the small narthex will be covered with paper so you can display Christmas cards to the congregation. You may sign one card to the entire church family and tape it to the "window".



Calling all senior citizens to attend the final 2019 meeting of Keen-Agers on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am for our Christmas Luncheon/Party.

The meal will be catered by Stratwood Catering and is by reservation only. The menu will be: ham with pineapple sauce, au gratin potatoes, vegetable medley, tossed salad, fruit cup, and dutch apple pie for dessert. The cost is \$12.00 and is due no later than December 8th.

Cheryl will bless us with her singing.

Everyone 50 and up is welcome to come join us. Hope to see you there and help us celebrate our Savior's birth.

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Officers for 2020 were elected at our November meeting and will be installed at our December meeting. The 2020 Officers are as follows:

President	Ruth
Vice-President	Norma
Secretary	Ruth
Asst. Secretary	Nora
Treasurer	Georgia
Asst. Treasurer	Bill



### VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

The Christmas season is an extremely exciting, spectacular time of the year. The celebration Jesus' birth reminds us of a special reason to remember people, having delicious meal, spending time together, giving an extraordinary gift even if it is just extra time in unison; and of course, listening to specific music that expresses the joyful message of Christmas.

Reading the Christmas message in the New Testament is a valuable habit. When children are small, adults can read to them; as they age, have the children read together as the entire family. That is a good practice to learn the truths about baby Jesus. We are very aware that He was born because of man's sin. His mother Mary, and earthly father Joseph, knew that their responsibilities as parents was very important (same as ours today).

The blessings of Christmas are displayed to us in many different ways; decorations hanging on the trees, wreaths on the windows, candles glowing, Nativity scenes, musical plays/chorales, snow, visits with friends/family, Santa Clause (what he represents), cookies and special food treats; the list could go on and on and on. BUT WHAT DOES CHRISTMAS REALLY MEAN TO YOU? It is a very busy time of the year; and sometimes we get distracted because of the weather, or illness. Allow time to read the message in God's Word. Listen to special songs that present a special Christmas theme. Visit a person(s) who may be lonely. Bake an extra dozen cookies for your next-door neighbor. Invite them to church during the Advent season.

Most important is to remember the real reason for Christmas. JESUS LOVES YOU! He left heaven, came to earth as a baby, grew up to an adult age and died for us - became our Savior. Christmas is only the beginning for the believer. Get ready for Jesus' return!

(Matthew 1:18-2:11, Luke 2:1-20, Ephesians 1:11-13, Isaiah 7:14)

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND GOD BLESS IN 2020.



### SAVE YOUR CANCELLED POSTAGE STAMPS

Used, canceled stamps (trimmed with a 1/4" border, please) are collected and sold to help fund Christian literature into Spanish for Central and South America. Half-a-million dollars has been raised since the project began with the Alliance in Florida.

Please save your stamps and deposit them in the box located in the narthex (on shelf above the coat rack).



### Norwin Alliance Preschool News

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. December's collection item: **CANNED MEATS** (TUNA, CHICKEN, SPAM etc.)

Thank you so much for any contributions you can make.



### Preschool Prayer Ministry

Prayer is the greatest support we can give our Preschool children.

A sheet is available on the shelf in the narthex with the names of our preschool children. Please put your name next to one of the preschooler's names and commit to pray for this child and their family for the remainder of the school year.

Cards of encouragement can be given to the church office and they will be passed on.

Please prayerfully consider being part of this ministry.

