
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

FEBRUARY 2018



Love in the Psalms ~ God's Valentine Word

Love is big in the Bible. Love is especially big in the Psalms. One Hebrew word for love is Hesed and is used 90 times in God's songbook. Hesed is heroic love like family love. It is both committed and emotional like romantic love between husband and wife. In our English Bibles, Hesed is translated:

Steadfast love	Lovingkindness	Mercy
Unfailing love	Loyal Covenant	Favor

Hesed is far superior to contractual obligation where we do this and God does that. It is love that rescues the helpless and undeserving.

God's love is often mocked by the world and even by Christians who feel God's love is too weak to stop sin and defeat evil. But the Bible shows us that Hesed expresses Omnipotence.

Here is some of God's love for you in the Psalms:

- “by Your steadfast love I come into Your house.” (5:7)
- “show the wonder of Your steadfast love.” (17:7)
- “by Your steadfast love he is not shaken.” (25:10)
- “Your steadfast love extends to the heavens.” (36:5)
- “I sing of Your steadfast love in the morning.” (59:16)

- “Power and steadfast love belong to God.” (62:12)
- “Your steadfast love is better than life.” (63:3)
- “I will sing of Your steadfast love forever.” (89:1)
- “Your steadfast love, O Lord, held me.” (94:18)
- “The Lord is abounding in steadfast love.” (103:8)



The following items were discussed at the Elder Board meeting in January (the Ministry Board did not meet):

1. Approved Men's dinner being held Feb. 9th. Randy Nelson will be the speaker. The name of the event may be changed due to lack of wild game.
2. New Ministry ideas will be brought up at the Congregation Meeting.
3. Approved Ben and Harley to attend Youth Group until May.
4. Approved the Youth Group to go snow tubing at Boyce Park on Feb. 16
5. Discussed Elder and Deaconess candidates for 2018.
6. Discussed Security Procedures for Sunday mornings.

Connection Service

When Faith
Doesn't Bring
What You Expect

A message by SHELLI PRINDLE
Sunday, Feb 11 | 6:30 – 8:00 pm



Does your faith seem to have let you down? Has life not turned out the way you expected it would? Are you disappointed with the circumstances you face as a believer? Just exactly what does biblical faith promise to us?

All those who are hurting or feel that faith did not bring what you expected, please come and let Jesus do a healing, restorative work in your heart.



KEEN-AGERS



Do you have the mid-winter blahs? You have not tried coming to Keen-Agers have you? Try us!! There's time to talk and visit; we'll put a smile on your face, feed you, and send you home with lifted spirits.

Join us on Thursday, February 22nd at 11:30 am. Lunch will be Italian dishes, salads, and cherry pie ala mode. The program will be a portrayal of RUTH by Luanne Baker.

Please contact Joe/Pat Beyer (Co-Presidents of the Keen-Agers) if you have any questions.

If you are 50 years of age and older, we'll be expecting you!

MEN'S PIZZA and BEAST FEAST

Friday Feb. 9th, 2018
6:30pm

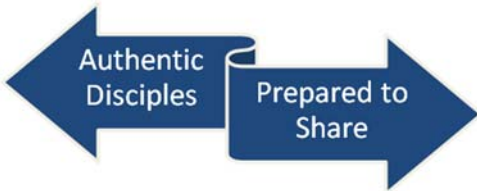
Speaker:
RANDY NELSON

Norwin Alliance Church
Farview Drive, North Huntingdon

Call To Register By Feb. 5th
724-864-1570

NORWIN ALLIANCE YOUTH

“Teens who are Loving God, One Another, and Discipling Other Teens”



SNOW-TUBING!

(Weather permitting)

Friday, February 16, 2018

- Where: Boyce Park
- Dinner: 4:30 - 5:30 pm
If you want to eat dinner with everyone prior to tubing, please meet at the Irwin McDonald's
- Tubing: 5:30 - 9:30 pm
We will leave McDonald's at 5:30 pm for Boyce Park. Estimated arrival back at NAC is 9:30 pm (youth will call parents when close to church).
- Cost: \$16 (ages 13 and up) for tubing PLUS money for McDonald's
\$10 (age 12) for tubing PLUS money for McDonald's
- Required: An updated 2018 NAC Medical/Permission Slip must be on file with the youth office and an Allegheny County Parks Waiver must be brought to a youth leader by night of tubing. No student will be able to attend without these forms.

RECENT AND UPCOMING YOUTH SERIES



Who Am I?

The Creator of the universe knows your name. To truly know yourself, you need to know Him, and He gives you a place to belong.



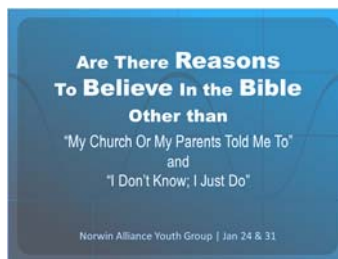
Make It a Habit

Time with God grows your relationship with God. It's important to share your story and love others to grow in your relationship with God.



Restored

Sin has consequences, but Jesus can restore what's broken. You have a mission to fulfill as a part of His plan of restoration.



January 24 & 31

Reasons to Believe in the Bible

Are there reasons to believe in the Bible other than "My church told me to" or "My parents told me to" or "I don't know; I just do"? We need to own our faith by understanding the reasons behind it. Find out what solid evidence exists to show that the Bible really is the Word of God and not a book of human invention.

The Women's Corner

By Janis Swope

Hey there! I haven't written anything for a while because it seemed that I just couldn't get a handle on it. Before I knew it the deadline for getting my article in to Cindy came and went in a blur and it never got written. The months have flown by and here we are in 2018. I have finally started to write again and am hoping that this year I can complete more articles.

Every year I look forward to the new year so that I can have a clean slate in front me to plan and set goals. I don't always meet those goals (just ask the ladies in Bible Study). But I still like to set them for myself. I don't like to call them resolutions because I know I will break them. If I set goals and don't meet them then I can look at how close I have come and figure out what I need to do to achieve it. It's just a matter of words, but the word "goal" just feels better to me. So toward that point I have decided this year to just change things a little.

A few years ago a friend told me that her motto was "I'm doing the best I can." I liked that so much that I adopted it. When I feel overwhelmed or feel down on myself I just say, "You are doing the best you can." It really helps. This year I'm adding to that with "Every day is special" and I will act accordingly. Every day I am walking with Jesus is special. I'll wear that necklace or that scarf even if I have nowhere to go. When I get dressed every day I'll dress right down to my shoes and wear any top or shirt I wish to wear, even if it has been hanging there waiting for a Sunday or a special event. Why not put out nice napkins and the "good" dishes when I want. Once I set the table with our "good" dishes and Bill asked me why. I told him that when we die no one will think twice about these dishes and probably get rid of them so why not enjoy them. I believe Jesus wants us to live our lives with contentment, enjoyment, happiness and peace. Of course difficult times come to all of us. (You will find that out if you join Ladies Bible Study as we look at the book of Job!) In Philippians Paul urges us to rejoice in God no matter what condition or state we find ourselves in. Believe me, it is tough to

rejoice and praise God when you are faced with tough times. But once you do, your attitude will begin to change. You will realize He is right with you and will be by your side no matter what. So lighten up on yourself a little. You are doing the best you can and every day is special for the child of God because He will be walking through that day with you right by your side.

The Women's Sunday School Class is looking at "Cults and the Essentials of the Christian Faith." The doctrines of the church universal can be dull or difficult to grasp, but they teach us just how great and awesome is our God. If you are interested, please join me and others in the Craft Room at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

The Ladies Bible Study has been studying the Book of Job. Some people have found this book to be depressing while others have found it to be their favorite book of the Bible. What do you think about this unique book of the Bible? If you are wondering about Job, please consider joining our study. We meet Monday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in the craft room and end at noon. And as usual, we'll have the coffee on!

The Last Word

"The best way for a woman to have a few minutes to herself is to start doing the dishes."

From Wanda E. Brunstetter's "Amish Friends Cookbook, 2007, Barbour Publishing, Inc.



VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

Most of us can remember the words of songs or choruses written by Ralph Carmichael, would you believe basically in the late 1960's. A few titles - to give a reminder are: *"Reach Out to Jesus"*, *"The Savior is Waiting"*, *"He's Everything to Me"*, *"A Quiet Place"*, and *"We are More than Conquerors"*.

Ralph, the son of a Pentecostal minister, was born in Quincy, Illinois in 1927. He learned to play the violin and enjoyed listening to the radio. At age 17 he entered Southern California Bible College, now known as Vanguard University. When a graduate, he became a preacher. His music was not basically accepted in a church; but shortly afterward (1951) he scored a film for Bill Graham. He also was well-known for music on television programs. For example: he arranged Christmas music for Nat King Cole, Bob Hope, and many others even though his "Gospel" music was not accepted. Instruments especially were not allowed in the church. Guitars and drums were hidden behind curtains if they were brought into the church. During the time of 1960's and 1970's he was called a heretic because he used a guitar, even though he was a "father" of contemporary Christian music. He had already begun working with Andre Crouch, George Bev Shea and Kurt Kaiser to publish music. It was not until 1985 that he was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame. In 2001 he was entered into the National Religious Broadcasters Hall of Fame. His autobiography was written in 1986: **He's Everything to Me.**

Despite his musical talents, he was excluded from sharing the numerous songs he had written including patriotic and Christmas themes. No guitars and drums were allowed to be played in various church services. When the

song were eventually introduced, the words became so very meaningful and worshipful. Thinking of the book of Psalms and other Old Testament books, how different instruments are so very meaningful to worship for King David and others. We can still apply that in our lives today.

Closing with the words of a less familiar song: *"You Can Touch Him"*

1. The God that made the world out yonder and others yet unknown,
Reached out his hand in mighty power and spoke from heaven's throne.
"Let there be earth, Let there be man, and give Him all therein"
But all too soon man chose the pathway that leads to death and sin.
2. He reached again, this time in mercy with gentle hand so kind,
To heal the man of sin and sickness to soothe his angry mind.
And still today with hands now reaching
The Savior stands near by, and you can touch His hand of healing if you will only try.

Refrain:

The mighty God of all creation is the loving God of our salvation.

And you can touch His hand of healing.

You can touch Him now, if you'll only try.

