
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

JANUARY 2019



With a New Year, the Lord leads people to draw close to Him or to receive Him for the first time. God does so as people run out of steam with new resolutions, new exercise times, new eating habits and post-Christmas exhaustion or depression.

God told the Apostle Paul about the pagan city of Corinth: “Do not be afraid, keep on speaking . . . for I am with you . . . for I have many people in this city.” Acts 18:9-10

God has many people in this community. The Lord reaches them through you and me.

Three things are true about sharing the good news of Jesus with others.

1. God gives priority to the person over methodology. His Spirit indwells and works through people, not techniques says Ravi Zacharias.
2. Personal relationships count more than strategy. God's love in you will make the best billboard from Him.
3. Prayer counts more than our efforts but is not an excuse for inaction. Prayer is an indication of a living, energetic relationship with God. How do you measure up? How does Norwin Alliance pray together?

Charles Spurgeon shares this encouraging word: “God has people who must be saved. When you take God's Word to them you do so because He has ordained you as His messenger of good news. Souls are not yet regenerated, but regenerated they must and will be. Go and take God's life-giving Word to them.”

YEAR END REPORTS

ALL DEPARTMENT HEADS.....from KEEN-AGERS, DMC, LEAD ELDER, LEAD TRUSTEE, TREASURER, ASST. TREASURER, YOUTH...your End-of-Year reports are due to Cindy Barnhart no later than Sunday, January 13th. Please make sure that your report includes a financial report (if applicable).

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CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a meeting of the congregation on **SUNDAY**, January 27th at **11:30 AM**.

Even though only members are permitted to vote, everyone is invited to attend the meeting.

Come hear how NAC did in 2018.

CONNECTION SERVICE

Sunday, January 13, 2019

6:30 pm

Speaker: Joe Cox

Worship: NAC Worship Team



**A
NEW YEAR
FOCUSED
ON JESUS**

“HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE KNOWN IN HEAVEN?”

by: Brian Rendulich

Where is Jesus . . . now? Do you believe that He ascended to heaven and sits (He could be walking around heaven, couldn't He?) there at God's right hand? Why is He there? Did you ever wonder why? Why didn't He stay on the earth and establish, say, Jesus University? Is that absurd? What can't He do? What will He do? Isn't He going to reward you? For what? What do you want Him to give you? Authority over ten cities, five cities (Luke 19). Do you actually know what He is going to give you? Does anybody know? How do you want to be known in heaven then?

At this festive time of the year, people are presumably in the spirit of giving. Generosity is in full swing . . . or so it seems. But the True Giver wants to bestow on you, a born again believer, His blessed reward. But is this gift automatic? Do all believers obtain it equally? In a sense, Jesus Himself is every believer's crown or reward. However, I Corinthians 3:8 says, “. . . every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.” Therefore, all believers should be striving for that reward by being active soul winners and building up other believers.

When I was an athlete, I played to win. Why should the Christian life be so removed from an athletic contest? Indeed, the battle for men's souls is even more engrossing and dire. The pursuit of it is the quintessential objective of all humanity. Christians should be at it with more vigor than all other life's pursuits. The joy of serving Christ by sharing the gospel and imploring men to come to salvation is by far the greatest privilege a Christian can be involved with. And the degree to which a soul winner is successful is how they will be known in heaven. Every believer will experience the golden streets and the pearly gates, let's say. But will every saint be able to say like Paul when he told Timothy, “I fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the LORD, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.” Seek, then, to be included in that company.



KEEN-AGERS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

There will not be a Keen-Ager meeting in January as the weather is too uncertain. Our next meeting will be February 28th at 11:30 am. Please watch future bulletins and newsletters for the program and menu.

If you are 50 or over, plan to include Keen-Agers in your 2019 calendar. We meet the fourth Thursday of each month, except November and December when we meet the third Thursday for our Thanksgiving and Christmas luncheons.

If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Long, President or Norma Wood, Vice-President.

We look forward to seeing you in February.



The following items were approved and discussed at the Elder's and Ministry Board meetings in November:

1. The Elder's and Ministry Board continue to read and share insights from the book “*Gospel Fluency*”.
2. DMC recommendations: February 10—Youth S.S. to make gifts for widows, widowers, shut-ins; June 9-12 Vacation Bible School.
3. Elder, Elder-in-Training, Deaconess, Deacon candidates were discussed
4. Much discussion was had by both boards how we can reach more people into active service at NAC. Current ministries will be reviewed and possible revamping will be considered.

VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

HOPE OF A BEGINNING

Welcome - - a new year
 Open the doors
 Accept challenges
 mysteries
 routines
 suspense
 Moments and minutes
 Adding together
 Not knowing what can happen!
 Smile, frown, CRY, laugh
 Hug somebody - - maybe.
 Read the paper
 Watch the news
 PRAY for
 families
 next-door neighbors
 countries across the ocean.
 Glance out the windows
 Observe birds, rabbits, deer
 Dark CLOUDS as they open up
 To the SUNSHINE
 Or heavy WINDS, RAIN and SNOW.
 Do you hurt?
 WHERE? WHY?
 How much time?
 Answers to emotional pain?
 Somebody really cares
 About you!!
 Say THANK YOU!

Relationships with others
 Bring HOPE
 JOY
 PEACE positively
 When we grab
 The ANCHOR of our soul, JESUS.
 Safety, security, encouragement,
 Confidence, honor, salvation.
 Reminders in worship and song.
 Great expectations in a new year
 Keep glistening affirmatives
 And expressive memories.
 Treasure God's great LOVE.
 Acquire moments anew to share
 With the upcoming generation.
 Remember HOPE in Jesus
 Study the precious Word.
 We are held securely, constantly.
 Anticipation of a day-to-day
 Celebration of life.

