
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

JULY 2024



Romans 12:2 *“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

You may have heard of the Christian band called Switchfoot. In one of their songs, the main hook says, “If we’re adding to the noise, turn off this song.” We may be familiar with the concept of noise pollution, but unless you live in a particularly rural area, it is hard to get away from noise. Noise is part of 21st century life.

Much of the noise in our daily experience is unavoidable. Even in quiet neighborhoods the continual hum of vehicles on nearby roads is so constant that we forget it’s there. Yet, it’s harder to tune out noisy neighbors, lawn mowers, barking dogs, and ice cream trucks. In our homes, even if we are home by ourself, we hear the inevitable hum of the AC or furnace, or the often-needed washer, dryer, and dishwasher. The most distracting noise might be our televisions. Even muted cell phones with social media can fill every remaining possibility of quiet with messages, drama, commercials, cat videos, memes, jokes, and political fights.

For me, even my commute is filled with sound, including the part when it’s just me in the car. Maybe it’s a podcast or audio book, or even a song or album that is “adding to the noise.” Maybe even something edifying like a sermon from a famous pastor? Yet, I seldom want to turn off the song or other noises that have my attention. With all this noise, the unavoidable and optional, is there any room left for the renewal of our minds?

I don’t know about you, but I need a vacation from the noise. Maybe a break from the news and social media is just what my soul needs? Such vacations and technology fasts are great, but maybe what we need is more boundaries and time limits on a regular basis? Maybe, simply saying, “I need to spend less time playing with my phone” is not enough?

If we feel distant from God, if our passion for him is low, maybe the noise is a big part of the problem? Drowning every moment of our lives with noise would make sense if we did not know the love of the Father and had no hope. I get why unbelievers may prefer the constant distraction of noise to the terror of silence. But for us who have hope in Christ, we need the renewing of our minds if we are to be in and not of the world. We need the discernment that comes from the Holy Spirit.



**WEDNESDAY &
THURSDAY
PRAYER TIME**

There will NOT be prayer times this month. They will resume Wednesday, August 7 and Thursday, August 8.



Invite your family, friends, neighbors to our

Summer PETTING ZOO

Wednesday, July 17th

6:30 – 8:00 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME!

*** Come for FUN and FOOD**

(Grilled Hot Dogs, Kona Ice, Chips, Cookies)

Help is needed setting up tables outside for eating, manning the welcome table, parking assistance, general crowd control, and tear-down.

EVERYONE is encouraged to interact with our visitors.

Demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world through Operation Christmas Child.

** Please help with this great ministry ~ Sign the sheet in the narthex and donate items to go in the shoeboxes.

All donations may be dropped off at the church office.

Boxes will be available if you want to make individual boxes.



Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Packing Party!

EVERYONE is invited!
Saturday, July 27, 2024
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm



Join us for fun and fellowship as we pack items that have been donated into shoeboxes. Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you will be attending the party.

Our goal is 100 boxes!



MAHAFFEY CAMP

"A Christian Center for Spiritual Growth"

July 19-28, 2024

Opening Service begins	Friday, July 19 7:00 pm
Family Game Night	Tuesday, July 23 8:30 pm
Alliance Women's Day Alliance Women's Rally	Thursday, July 25 1:15 pm
Reception Gathering Honoring Ed & Nancy Depp	Thursday, July 25
Baptismal Service	Saturday, July 27 3:00 pm

Brochures are available on the shelf in the narthex with times and speakers. There are services and activities for all ages. Pick up a brochure today and plan to attend Mahaffey Camp July 19-28, 2024.



The July meeting of Norwin Alliance Keen-Agers will be on Thursday, July 25 at 11:00 am.

The meal will be Ham Barbecue (provided), Macaroni and Cheese and sides. Please bring a Macaroni and Cheese dish or other sides to share. Keller Animal Encounters will be our special program for the day.

* * Food Pantry item is: Personal Hygiene Products

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

Hope to see you on July 25th ~ we are looking forward to having a great afternoon together.



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 both narthex's. July's collection item: **Personal Hygiene Items** (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, mouthwash, etc)

Thank you so much for any contributions you can make.

