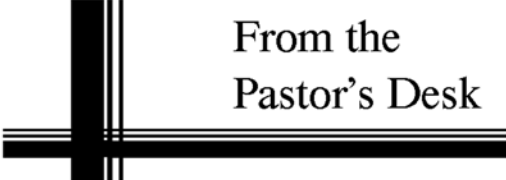

KOINONIA

“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

March 2019



From the Pastor's Desk

WARNING: Laws made group prayer on public property illegal back in the 1960's. Who outlawed group prayer in the church? Or has anyone besides yourself outlawed prayer in your own life? Personal and church neglect of prayer is as harmful as bad laws.

Fanny Crosby wrote:

“Oh the pure delight of a single hour
That before Your throne I spend,
When I kneel in prayer and with You, O God
I commune as friend with friend.”

Prayer is wonderful friendship with an Ever-Present Redeemer. The Lord is your greatest love and joy. Finding deeper friendship with God is only a prayer away.

“O God . . . I have seen You in the sanctuary and beheld Your power and Your glory. Because Your love is better than life, I will praise You.”

Psalm 63:1-3

Talk with the Lord in Your quiet time, in gathered church times, while you work, and through the watches of the night. Enjoy the Lord forever in the moment by moment friendship He offers.

CONNECTION SERVICE

Sunday, March 10, 2019

6:30 pm

Speaker: Ron Dornin

Worship: Norwin Alliance Worship Team



The following were discussed and/or approved at the Elder and Ministry Board meetings in February:

1. A missionary to Muslims in France will speak in the Morning Worship Services on April 14th.
2. Approved letters to Senators Casey & Toomey that discourage abortion to be available to the congregation to send.
3. Approved the following DMC activities: Teacher Appreciation luncheon on June 30; Samaritan's Purse Shoebox packing party on July 20; Promotion Sunday and possible Youth Sunday on August 18; Advent Festival on December 15.
4. Discussed planning/needs for Life Conference.
5. Creating a committee to evaluate how the church would implement a pre-school. Committee members: Marty & Lois, chairs; Pastor Bob, Cindy, Jeff & Becky, Frank, Lori
6. Bill and Ron to serve on the Ministry Board
7. Elected Jeff to serve as Lead Elder for 2019
8. Approved the following Outreach Events: Celebration of Music and Arts (April), Craft Extravaganza (May), Fishing Day for kids/families (June or July), Sports Camp (June or July), Outdoor family movie night (Aug), Revamped 'Neighbor Day' (Sept)

If you have concerns regarding the church, please see Brian or Lori, our Board Members at Large. They will bring the concerns before the board for discussion.



**“Making and Multiplying
Disciples”
Training**

Discipleship ~ When we read Matthew 28:18-20, we know we are commanded to do this, but does it **scare you**?

Do you feel **unequipped** to disciple the people around you? (Maybe even your own kids?)

Do you wish you had a **simple, easy format** to help you with discipleship?

Could you give up **3 Wednesday nights** in either March or April for **1 1/2 hours each week**?

If you **answered YES** to any of these questions, then **look no further!!**

“Making and Multiplying Disciples” Training is coming your way!!

March 6th, 13th and 27th and the same training being offered again **April 10th, 17th and 24th. 6:30-8PM each week @ Norwin Alliance Church.**

In just **3 weeks** you will have a chance to **observe, practice** and start to **multiply!**

Come check it out!

Any questions, contact **Rachel Wilson** (missionary with SIM USA) **724-289-7039** or rachel.wilson@sim.org



TRAUMA ~ It affects **all of us**, no matter who we are.

Do you wish you had the **tools** to help cope with **your own trauma**? Do you wish you had **tools to help others** deal with their trauma?

Then come to **one** of these **powerful day-long, BREAKTHROUGH** trainings being hosted at: **Norwin Alliance Church**

Saturday, April 6th (9AM-5PM) OR Saturday, May 4th (9AM-5PM)

To **register** contact:

Rachel Wilson (missionary with SIM USA)
724-289-7039 or rachel.wilson@sim.org

****Please call or email to register before March 29th (for April training) or before April 26th (for May training)**

* Snacks and lunch will be provided

The Women's Corner

By Janis Swope



First, I would like to thank everyone for the prayers and cards and food I received during my recent illness. It meant so much to me and I truly appreciate everyone's thoughtfulness. Please keep praying because I'm still not out of the woods yet!

Secondly, the Ladies Bible Study has resumed and beginning Monday, February 25th we will start looking at the book of Matthew. I'm very excited about this study because of the many insights about Christian living that are woven through the story of the Gospel. We meet each Monday in the Craft Room at 10:30 am.

Hope to see you there!

VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

In the month of March we begin the Lenten time period. As part of our devotional commitment, a hymnal written by Bernard of Clairvaux (1091-1153) will be connected to us. The words remind us of Jesus' crucifixion, His suffering, but definitely the love He expressed to mankind when He shed His blood on the cross for our sins. Jesus loves us; we are to demonstrate our love to Him and humanity. In the explanation of the hymn, Isaiah 53:2-3, Mark 15:17-20 and John 3:16-17 were given as recognition of Jesus' sacrifice and the intimacy of redemption.

Read, study, and personalize the message of: **O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED**, translated into German, and then into English. In the early 1700's, composer Johann Sebastian Bach used the chorale as a centerpiece in his famous oratorio THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW.

1. O sacred Head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down; Now scornfully surrounded With thrones, Thine only crown; O sacred Head, what glory What bliss 'til now was Thine. Yet, though despised and glory, I joy to call Thee mine.

2. What Thou, my Lord, has suffered, Was all for sinners gain; Mine, mine was the transgression, But Thine the deadly pain. Lo, here I fall, my Saviour! 'Tis I deserve Thy place; Look on me with Thy favor, Vouchsafe me to Thy grace.
3. What language shall I borrow To praise Thee, dearest Friend, for this Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end? O, make me Thine forever; And should I fainting be, Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love to Thee.
4. Be near when I am dying, Oh, show Thy cross to me; And for my succor flying, Come, Lord, to set me free: These eyes, new faith receiving, From Thee shall not remove, For he who dies believing Dies safely through Thy love.

This is a hymn we do not 'sing' on a regular basis. It would not be surprising if the younger generations had no recollection of this song at all. But the message of this hymn is very Biblical; the exact reason of Jesus coming to earth, giving His life for us on the cross, by shedding His blood for our sin, is the most important Scripture lesson that needs to be personal. Bernard's hymn way back in the Dark Ages is still very appropriate for us. Share the love of Jesus! Read John 11:25-26.



Keen-Agers
 (50 and over group)
 Thursday, March 28th
 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
 Lunch and Entertainment



March is GREEN month for St. Patrick's Day. Wear your green if you are of Irish descent, or if you just like wearing green to celebrate the month of March.

Lunch Menu ~ Chicken and Biscuits, Side Dishes, Green Desserts.

Entertainment ~ Tom Hughes, Food Pantry

Food Pantry Collection for the Salvation Army. Please bring any non-perishable items to our meeting.

All Senior 50 and over are invited to join us for our meeting.

Please bring a covered dish and your table service.

Hope to see you all at our meeting in March. We are looking forward to having a great afternoon together.

Sincerely, *Ruth Long*, President

“THE INDWELLING”

by: Brian Rendulich

No discussion of spiritual matters can be made without mentioning the fact that spiritual things are unseen and thereby invisible. These matters become more important since it is fairly well-established that spiritual things are lasting and more significant than material things. In other words, the things that we see are fleeting but the things that are not are eternal (2 Corinthians 4:18). Therefore, it behooves the ardent student to make sure he becomes well versed in the exposition of truth as it comes to us in the Bible and other trustworthy documents.

But what is “truth?” Pilate wanted to know. Did he have eternal life? Clearly, no. If spiritual things are invisible, then how can they be known? People experience all types of invisible qualities all their life. But when a person becomes a candidate for salvation, they are being introduced to the greatest virtue of all: forgiveness. Jesus is pleading to the individual to come and make relationship possible with Him. And in doing so, if the person agrees, Jesus will, by His Spirit, actually “invade” his life by coming into the heart. This is no small feat, but not

for God. He has been relating to man for centuries on the basis of His Spirit and consequently . . . in an unseen way. True, the, is what John stated in the first chapter of his gospel: “No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father has declared Him.” (v.18)

Are we, then, resigned to the fact that we cannot enjoy God if we cannot see Him? Heavens no! The spiritual things become real as we begin our walk with Him. And the more a believer cultivates his faith by reading and memorizing the Bible, as well as fellowshiping with others of like-minded faith, the more the ardent follower will “see” God. For understanding of the heart is the most wonderful acquisition a person can attain. Amid problems of this like, knowing God in this spiritual way gives one a sense of purpose and victory along with gain of eternal life in the offing.

Therefore, once this temporal physical life is done, there abides joy and peace in a place of eternal rest and the unseen, invisible world of God known as heaven will become reality.

*It's time to have **GAME NIGHT** again!*

If you haven't tried us yet, you're missing out! We laugh, smile, and chat while we play and eat.

*Come **Friday, March 15 at 7:00 PM** in the youth area. (Only the youth door will be open.)*

Bring something to share ~ snacks, appetizers, dessert, or family friendly drinks. If you don't have time to bring something, come anyway.

*Please plan to attend. Game nights are for **ALL** ages and abilities! Don't be shy, no one will be forced to play.*

