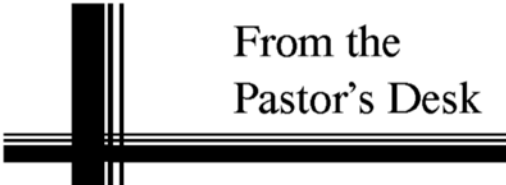

KOINONIA

“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 2020



From the Pastor's Desk

Great Truths in the Bible - Book by Book

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

Haggai *“Be strong and work for I am with you says the Lord Almighty. And my Spirit remains among you.”* (2:4-5)

Zechariah *“Let us go at once and ask the Lord and seek the Lord Almighty. I myself am going.”* (8:21)

Malachi *“He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.”* (4:6)

Matthew *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations. . .”* (28:18-19)

Mark *“The time has come, the kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news.”* (1:15)



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

1. Bill and Dornin to serve on the Ministry Board
2. Jeff to serve as Lead Elder for 2020
3. Kim to lead a few new ministries (tba).
4. Approved the following DMC recommendations: Youth Sunday to coincide with Promotion Sunday on 8/23/20; VBS being centered on the following parables ~ The Sower, The Lost Coin, The Prodigal Son, The Good Samaritan
5. Bookcases to be built in the Board room by Jim to hold additional library books.
6. Painting and new flooring downstairs will occur when the preschool lets out this school year. *Do you like to paint? Please see one of the Trustees or contact the church office.*

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



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. March's collection item: **Boxed Cereal**

Thank you so much for any contributions you can make.





Calling all Men and Boys ~ Circle March 6th on your calendars, invite your friends and family, and come enjoy an evening of good food and fellowship. Some "wild game" will be available to taste.

Our speaker, Ed Nieman, has an evangelism ministry called "Open Air Campaigners" and is pastor of a church in Monroeville.

Please sign the sheet in the narthex (with the number attending) by Sunday, March 1st.



First United Church of Christ ~ Downtown Irwin

Music and Singing -11:30 am

Service - Noon

Each Wednesday of Lent.

Theme: *How God Led People Out of the Wilderness*

Seven different speakers speaking about: Abraham, Moses, Israelites, Elijah, David, John the Baptist, and Jesus.

Psalm 107:7 *"He led them by a straight way until they reached a city to dwell in."*

A.C.T. Service

Sunday, March 8, 2020

6:00 pm

The DVD *RISEN* will be shown.



Roman military tribune Clavius remains set in his ways after 25 years in the army. He arrives at a crossroad when he's tasked to investigate the mystery of what happened to Jesus following the Crucifixion. Accompanied by trusted aide Lucius, his quest to disprove rumors of a risen Messiah makes him question his own beliefs and spirituality. As his journey takes him to places never dreamed of, Clavius discovers the truth that he's been seeking.



March is GREEN month for St. Patrick's Day. Wear your green to celebrate the month of March.

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

Entertainment ~ *The Love Tones*

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

All seniors 50 and over are invited to join us for lunch, fellowship, and entertainment.

Please bring a covered dish and your table service.

Hope to see you all ~ we are looking forward to having a great afternoon together.



Daylight Savings Time

Please be sure to turn your clocks **AHEAD** one hour before retiring for the night on Saturday, **March 7th**. Daylight Savings will begin at 2:00 am Sunday, **March 8th**.

VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

Robert Grant, a man with a Scottish ancestry born in India, wrote the hymn “O Worship the King” in 1833 with six stanzas, in reference to Psalm 104. The music for the hymn was given by Johann Michael Haydn.

Robert Grant, a lawyer, became a member of the British Parliament in 1818, was knighted in 1834, and sponsored a bill to remove civil restriction on the Jews. He returned to India after being appointed Governor of Bombay where he served until his death in 1836 at the age of 57.

What is the significance of worship as noted in hymns? What is the meaning of worship?

1. Reverence paid to a divine being
2. A form of religious practice with its creed and ritual
3. Admiration for, or devotion to, an object of esteem (esteem = high regard)
4. Honor, respect, devotion to a divine being.

Reading in the Psalms, we are reminded of praise to God the Father, often in prayers, art, music, preaching and testimonies. Psalm 95:6 “Come, let us bow down in worship” shows a very definite physical response in a way we could demonstrate our devotion, relationship, admiration and love to God. We could kneel in prayer. When we have the

celebration of communion, the Lord’s Supper, remember the depth and meaning of that act of obedience. Be thankful for Jesus’ sacrifice for each and every one of us; take time to worship and glorify Jesus.

The message of the hymn: “O Worship the King”

1. O worship the King, all glorious above, And gratefully sing His wonderful love: Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
2. O tell of His might and sing of His grace, Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space: His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
3. Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light, It streams from the hills, It descends to the plain, And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.
4. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail; Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end. Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend. AMEN

* * * * *

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN



Kitchen ✓ list

When using the kitchen, please be sure to do the following:

- ✓ Turn OFF coffee pots - don't just unplug. Clean the pots and make sure to THROW AWAY the coffee filter.
- ✓ Put water pitchers away - do not leave in the refrigerator or in the dish strainer.
- ✓ DO NOT leave left over food in the refrigerator or freezer. If you do leave food, please mark with your name and date it.
- ✓ Please do not leave things expecting someone else to take care of it.

The Women's Corner

By Janis Swope

Happy March everyone! I like March because it has one of the best days of the year in it – The First Day of Spring! Granted, so far winter hasn't been too bad. There was only one Sunday we couldn't make it to church. But it just seemed so gloomy most days. The sunny days seemed rare. Here's to seeing sunnier days ahead!

I have a question for you. Have you ever been a little disappointed that things weren't working out quite like you expected? Did you ever try a new recipe, follow it to the letter, and then it didn't look like the picture in the cookbook? (By the way, most of the recipes I've tried never look like the picture that comes with them!) In Matthew chapter 11, John the Baptist is in prison having been arrested by Herod Antipas for making comments that made Herod very uncomfortable. Something about a little matter of Herod getting rid of his wife so he could marry his brother's wife. While John was in prison his disciples were keeping him up to date on what Jesus had been doing. Jesus had been busy casting out demons, healing the sick, making the lame walk and the blind to see. John liked hearing all of this but was just a little disappointed because he thought the Messiah would be doing other things as well like ushering in the Kingdom of God, setting all things right, and freeing the captives in prison. So he had a moment of second guessing himself and asked a few of his disciples to find Jesus and ask him if he was really the Messiah. He never lost his faith in Jesus as the Messiah, but things weren't working out like he thought it would. Unfortunately, John never lived to see Jesus crucified, resurrected and taken up to heaven to sit at the Father's right hand. Today, as Christians who know the good news of Jesus' resurrection and ascension, and are recipients of His grace have fuller picture of the Kingdom of God than John had. But still we sometimes getting little nagging thoughts about God's Kingdom. We may become anxious and think that Jesus will never return to earth again like the Book of Revelation tells us. Maybe we've prayed about a certain circumstance and the outcome didn't work out like we thought. Maybe we find it hard to believe that God could love us as much as he does because we feel unworthy. Let me tell you something. God is holy, infinite, loving, trustworthy, all things good and completely sovereign. He has a plan for everything and he has chosen not to reveal that whole plan to us. He

wants us to come to Him as a child and trust that however things work out it is His plan and for our good. It may not always be the way we want things go, but we must believe that. John never stopped believing Jesus was the Messiah. His faith remained strong. Please be like John and remain strong in your faith even though the recipe doesn't turn out like you thought it would.

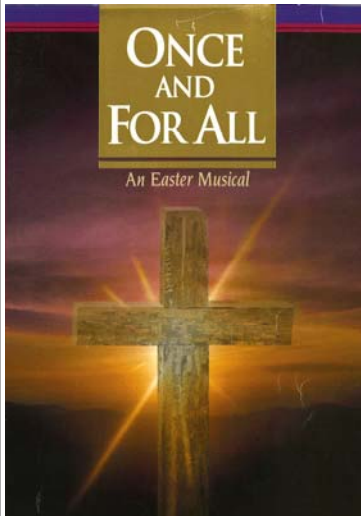
The Women's Sunday School Class has been studying 1 Peter. I hope you'll give our class a try. We have some extra books if anyone is interested in joining us. You can see us in the Craft Room at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday.

The Ladies Bible Study has been studying the Gospel of Matthew. We'd be pleased to you join us in the Craft Room at 10:30 a.m. on Mondays. The Men's study is in the Youth area at the same time so tell your husband and make it a date. All are welcome! We will have the coffee on!

The Last Word

I'm not a Christian because it "works" for me. I had a life prior to Christianity that seemed to be working just fine, and my life as a Christian hasn't always been easy. I'm a Christian because it is true. I'm a Christian because I want to live in a way that reflects the truth. I'm a Christian because my high regard for the truth leaves me no alternative.

J. Warner Wallace, Cold-Case Detective and former atheist



**ONCE
AND
FOR ALL**
An Easter Musical

LOOKING AHEAD

The Choir will present their Easter Cantata/Musical on Easter Sunday, April 12th at 10:45.

Mark your calendars, invite your friends, and come be blessed by the music on Easter morning.