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# 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

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**NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH**

**May 2016**

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## 100 Year's of God's Faithfulness in Missions.

Jesus told the new convert Zacchaeus, "the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." (Luke 19:10. The Lord also reminded the apostles that He came to "give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:28)

Jesus has been true to His Word once again in this last century in drawing many people to new life with Christ. The following missions good news shows that Lord consistently working through His sent children with the good news that Jesus is Lord.

	<u>1900</u>	<u>2016</u>
China	2% Christian	10% Christian
India	2% Christian	10% Christian
Sub-Sahara Africa	5% Christian	50% Christian

God has a responsibility for you and I to tell the good news in word and action to those around us. No one comes to the Father unless God draws them and God uses prayers, testimony, church life, sacrifice, the Bible and works of love through His people to bring about the ransom of many. Let us do our part in co-laboring with God in seeing many of His loved ones put their faith in Christ. God does more than you pray or imagine through your walk with Him.



1. Pastor Bob attended a "Together for the Gospel" conference in Louisville, KY from April 11-14.
2. Approved Ryan Curran leading a team from NAC at the *Relay for Life* event at Norwin High School on June 4-5, 2016.
3. Approved changes to the Deacon Ministry Description.
4. Assigned families to Elder's list.
5. Approved DMC activities and events.
6. It was approved to donate money to the *Relay for Life*.

## WOMEN'S SPRING LUNCHEON

Saturday, May 7, 2016  
11:30 am

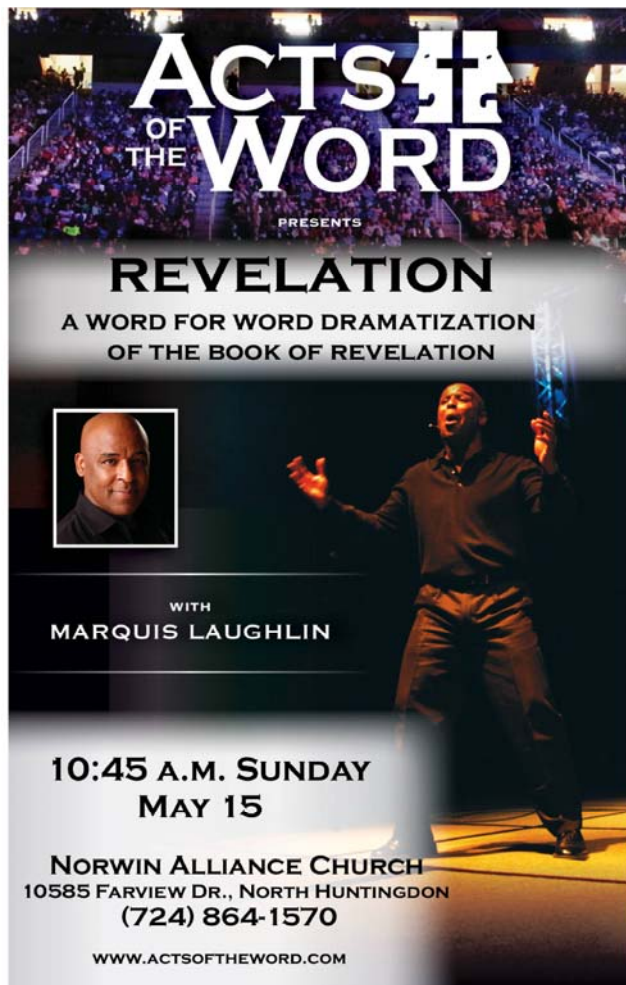
Menu: Beef, Turkey, Ham Sliders; Salads; Veggie Tray; Dessert and Beverages

Program by Shelli Prindle.

Please plan to join us for a fun-filled day ~ sign-up today.



**Marquis Laughlin**  
**Sunday, May 15, 2016**  
**10:45 am**



Marquis Laughlin is the founder of "Acts of the Word" Ministries, a non-profit, non-denominational ministry dedicated to transforming people's lives through the words of the Bible. He is a performance artist whose life's work is enabling audiences to hear, see, and feel the God of the Bible, through the words of the Bible. His uniquely compelling dramatic solo Scripture presentations include seven different books of the Bible, highlighting the epic story of God's relationship with man; Genesis, Exodus, Ecclesiastes, Daniel, John's Gospel, Acts of the Apostles, and Revelation. His one-man show has been presented all over the world.

Marquis and his wife Theresa have three children and live in the Pittsburgh area.

Marquis will recite Revelation 12-22 on Sunday, May 15th in the 10:45 service. Please invite your family and friends and come "hear" Marquis Laughlin as he "acts out" the Word of God. Flyers are available on the shelf in the narthex to use as invites. If more invites are needed, please contact the church office.



**Saturday, May 21, 2016**  
**9:00 am - 11:00 am**

Please begin gathering up items you would like to donate to the "giveaway". Watch your bulletins for more details.

HELPERS wanted: a sign-up sheet will be available the first of May.





## Bible Quizzing News!



On April 9<sup>th</sup>, the Pittsburgh Area finished up its regular quizzing season with a Quiz Meet and Awards Banquet at Allegheny Center Alliance Church. The Norwin quizzers had a really great season this year and came home with several awards.

In the Senior B division, Mike Ewing's team came in third place and in the Senior A division, Benjamin and Emily Cox's team took second place.

On an individual level, David Hargraves was the 5<sup>th</sup> place Junior quizzier, Emily Cox was the 8<sup>th</sup> place Senior A quizzier, and Benjamin Cox was the 7<sup>th</sup> place Senior A quizzier for the year.

Other kids who quizzed with Norwin this year are: Hannah and Brynn Hargraves, Christian and Maleah Beatty, Emily Croyle, and Andrew Wallace.

David, Benjamin, Emily Cox, and Christian will all be moving on to the District Finals competition in Erie, PA on April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

The kids spent the year learning the books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians.

Please continue to encourage these kids for their efforts and time spent in quizzing and in learning the Bible.

WAY TO GO, NORWIN! !



### KEEN-AGERS

Seniors 50 and over

Invite a Friend

I hope all the snow is gone, no more late snowbursts like we had in April. It should be safe for all our Keen-Ager/Snowbirds to come back home to good old Pennsylvania, we have missed them all.

In April the Greensburg Red Cross gave us all updated information on how to reduce theft and injury. They also signed up anyone that wanted smoke alarms installed into their homes.

Our lunch menu was ham and scalloped potatoes with lots of great side dishes and yummy desserts.

Our May lunch menu will be ham barbeque for Mother's Day and Memorial Day. Bring a covered dish and/or dessert to compliment the entrée. First time attendees do not need to bring anything. Don't forget to bring your own table service.

Gary Means, sketch artist, will be our program for May. Devotions will be presented by Sophie Orell.

Come join us for a great lunch and entertainment. It is a great time to spend with a bunch of wonderful people.

We meet every 4th Thursday from 11:30 am - 2:00 pm ~ except in November and December when we meet on the 3rd Thursday due to the holidays.

Hope to see you all on Thursday, **May 26<sup>th</sup>** at 11:30 am.

There will not be a *Connection Service* in May so you can enjoy Mother's Day with your family.

Please Note: the next service will be **JUNE 26<sup>th</sup>** with Shelli Prindle speaking.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us on June 26<sup>th</sup>.





**Monday, May 30, 2016**



**THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2016**



***“Shout it aloud, do not hold back.  
Raise your voice like a trumpet.”***

*Isaiah 58:1a*

### **2016 NATIONAL PRAYER by Dr. Tony Evans**

*Dear Heavenly Father,*

*We come to You today as a humble people desperate for Your supernatural intervention on behalf of our beloved nation. First, we thank You for all the blessings You have bestowed on our land, blessings that have allowed us to bring so much good and benefit to not only our own citizens but also to the rest of the world. The very ideals upon which this country was founded were based on biblical truths, no matter how some try to rewrite history to deny that very fact today.*

*This is why our hearts are so broken over how You continue to be marginalized and dismissed by both our people and our institutions. We are also saddened by the fact that Your people have contributed greatly to the spiritual apathy that now engulfs us. Our satisfaction in remaining religious without being fully committed to living out the truths of Your Word has caused us to become co-conspirators with the forces of evil that are destroying us as a society.*

*It is for this reason that we personally and collectively*

*repent of our carnality and recommit ourselves to becoming visible and verbal disciples of Jesus Christ. Enable us, by Your Spirit, to no longer be secret agent Christians but rather to publicly declare and live out Your truth in a spirit of love so that You feel welcome in our country once again.*

*Thank You for Your promise to hear our prayers when we call to You with hearts of repentance and obedience, which is how we are appealing to You today, Father. On behalf of Your church, we affirm afresh the priority You are to us that You would fill every dimension of our lives as we seek to bring You glory through the advancement of Your kingdom in our personal lives, our family lives, and in the lives of our churches and our government leaders. We confidently invite heaven's intervention into all the affairs of our nation and we praise You in advance for Your answer.*

*In Jesus' name we pray.*

*Amen*



**Respite Care**

Do you need a break from caring for your loved one? Would you like to be able to go grocery shopping, the bank, or out to lunch without worry about leaving your loved one alone?

The Widow's Ministry Group would like to help. They will come sit with your loved one so you can get out.

Please contact the church office with your need. This will be passed on to the Widow's Ministry and someone from the group will contact you.

**NEWS from the  
COMMUNITY:**

**Crimson Creek Apiaries, LLC**  
 100% Pure Honey  
 Honey Stix ~ Whipped Honey  
 Honey Favors for all occasions:  
 Wedding ~ Baby Shower ~ Retirement ~ Anniversary  
**Linda Lachimia ~ "Queen Bee", Owner**  
 linda@crimsoncreekapiaries.com  
 crimsoncreekapiaries.com  
 724.309.4805 ~ Irwin, PA 15642



**Comfort  
Keepers.**

Comforting Solutions for In-Home Care™

Comfort Keepers is a provider of outstanding and compassionate in Home Care. We work proactively with our clients to keep them happy and healthy at home, while offering the assistance they may need in order to maintain their lifestyles. We are seeking people who are passionate about working with older adults, providing companionship, personal care, and most importantly, your human touch. We have offices located in South Hills and Monroeville, and cover areas very near to your homes. If you've ever considered this might be the field for you, please give us a call at 412-457-0880. We'll be happy to answer any questions you may have. All interested individuals must have a car and current car insurance.



Norwin Community Resource Center is an upscale "Boomer" type Center for folks 50 and up! We are located at 231 Jennie Drive, North Huntingdon.

There are many activities available for folks in the Norwin and surrounding areas: Exercise Programs, Card Clubs, Sign Language, Monthly Breakfasts and Luncheons, Bible studies, Grief Share, Book Clubs, Quilting groups. Come check us out ~ We are certainly not "Your Grandmother's Senior Center"!

For more information call 724-382-5133 and we would be glad to send you our calendar of events!

**YOU'RE INVITED!****FLEEK**

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**Followers Leading  
Everyone,  
Everywhere  
to the King**

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**May 7, 2016  
7:00 pm**

**SPONSORS**

J. Renee Himler  
 Frank & Dannette  
 Kolar

If you have  
 questions, call  
 J. Renee Himler  
 724-832-0667 or  
 e-mail  
[JReneeHimler@  
aol.com](mailto:JReneeHimler@aol.com)

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday every  
 month unless  
 otherwise noted!

### Vignettes by Virginia

*The Cross and the Switchblade* is a movie that records the ministries of David Wilkerson in New York City and surrounding areas. In 1958 a 'burden' and concern was very prominent for the men and women who were unfortunately involved in gangs, drug addictions, severe crime and desperate living. As God's love was presented, young people were introduced to Jesus. Nicky Cruz, one of the guys whose life was changed, joined the ministry and gave a victorious message of the Gospel to youth around the world.

David Wilkerson began Times Square Church in Manhattan, NY in 1987. Hundreds of his messages have been shared in books, a pulpit series, pastor conferences, and other sources of contact. One of David's greatest concerns was the need for prayer—prayer for spiritual growth and the needs of our families and friends. (James 5:14-16) David prayed about a burden that attacks families, leading to broken homes and divorce, and especially divorce of 'Christian' couples. "Start by praying for all Christian marriages and all of God's saints. Your prayers don't have to be long. Simply state your request, and trust God to hear you. Mighty deliverances take place when God's saints seek Him diligently with childlike faith for their brothers and sisters' needs." (II Corinthians 1:9-11)

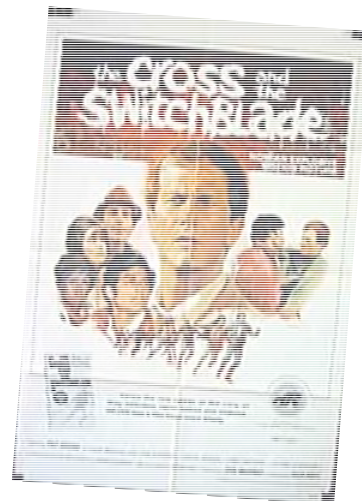
Another interesting PROBLEM that David addressed concerns "Christians who have bad days. The Christian life is not a life of clear sailing. Every believer is going to have bad days, no matter how holy he may be. In fact, I believe the more godly a person is, the more trying and excruciating his bad days will be." We are reminded that our earthly lives are frail, can be weak, easily broken and easily tempted. The Bible calls these infirmities, maybe of the mind (guilt, fear and anxiety). God's Word reminds us that our heavenly Father KNOWS what we are going through. He promises NEVER to leave us. Be patient and HOPE. We are joint heirs with Jesus. (Philippians 4). "There are also riches of His goodness, strength, wisdom and grace, as well as the riches of His full assurance of salvation. Study His majesty, power and glory." Jesus Christ is the essence of the Father; essence meaning the basic element of anything, not cruel or grim. He wants to reconcile you to Himself. He wants you to be one with Him - - enjoying His blessing and favor. God takes great pleasure when we trust him without needing evidences for belief. Resign all things into

His hands, with full trust and confidence. God's very nature is LOVE. (I John 4:8, 9, 16, 19) He seeks to reconcile you to Himself. Accept His love - - and will you love Him in return? "The Lord's searchings are not vindictive, but redemptive. If you have a true walk with Christ you are not the devil's punching bag."

The above writings of David Wilkerson are a limited selection from his ministries. He always had a deep burden for the THOUSANDS of people who needed a touch from God. He always knew that the POWER OF PRAYER addressed burdens around the world; but especially for intimate family relationships that needed a touch from the heavenly Father.

David's wife Gwen suffered from cancer and went to heaven in July 2012. However, before Gwen's passing, David was killed in a car accident in April 2011. You can check for an updated report on the ministry of World Challenge, Inc. You can still download messages - - and daily devotionals - - that will encourage you, teach you, and remind you that GOD IS LOVE!!! David's son Gary encourages pastors and leaders through *World Challenge Expect Leadership* Conferences, headquarters in Linsdale, Texas. Carter Conlon became the senior pastor at the Times Square Church in 2001. Over 8000 people are attendees there. Watch the movie, or read the fantastic message in *The Cross and the Switchblade*.

This writer has the movie in, would you believe, a DVD. You can borrow it if you so desire.



## The Women's Corner

by Janis Swope

I'm just going to ask you outright. Are you a friend of God? It is a question that I never saw coming. Today I was reading an article about prayer (Table Talk Magazine, March 2005, Ligonier Ministries). The article said that we gain wisdom when we pray to God. The article also mentioned that while it is part of the elder's responsibilities to pray for the people in the church, it is the work of the entire church to pray for our brothers and sisters in the church. Not only are we called to pray for one another, James 5:16 tells us that "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." But one caveat came up. There was a warning. James 4:4 warns us against seeking friendship with the world partly because such a friendship produces ineffectual prayer (vv. 1-3). This was when I read the part of the article that made me stop reading and the boom came down. I read that I must be friends with God! I never thought much about being friends with God. I always looked at God as my heavenly Father. I always loved, respected and honored my earthly father. Therefore, I love, respect and honor my heavenly Father. My view of God often is that of Creator of the universe and everything in it. Who am I but a speck in the grand scheme of things. I think of Jesus as my brother and High Priest who intercedes on my behalf before God the Father. I know the Holy Spirit lives in me because of His guidance. But being FRIENDS with the triune

God of the universe? "Oh boy", I thought "am I in over my head?" I prayed and started doing some digging. I found out that Abraham was known as God's friend (2 Chron. 20:7). God talked to Moses face-to-face as you would talk to a friend (Ex. 33:11). Jesus called those who believe in and are obedient to him his friends (John 15:14). Therefore, I AM friends with God. Not only is He God the Creator, God the great I AM, God the Holy, God the Provider. He is also God the friend of Janis. Wow, I can truly say I have friends in high places! If you haven't accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, I hope you will do so soon. He wants to be your friend, too. Come and join the circle of Friends!

The Ladies Bible Study would like to invite you to join us. We have begun our study of Exodus. As I write this we have finished chapter 1 and are reading to dive into chapter 2. If you would like to join us we would be happy to have you. 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

*"Remember then frequently to retire into the solitude of your heart, even while you are externally occupied in business or society. This mental attitude need not be hindered even though many persons are around you, for they only surround your body, not your heart, which should remain alone in the presence of God."*

— Francis De Sales (1567-1622) a French bishop, evangelist, spiritual advisor, and writer of several devotional classics, was widely known for his compelling preaching and wise personal counsel.

On the darkest days when I feel  
inadequate, unloved and unworthy,  
I remember whose daughter I am  
and I straighten my Crown!



## GRADUATES

**\* \* \*** If you graduate from H.S. this year, please submit a picture to the Secretary's office asap. Include your name and school you are graduating from on the back of the picture. All pictures will be returned. Also include the college where you will be attending in the fall.

**\* \* \*** Also, if you graduate from college this year, please give your name, college you are graduating from, and degree earned to the Church Office.





Celebrate.

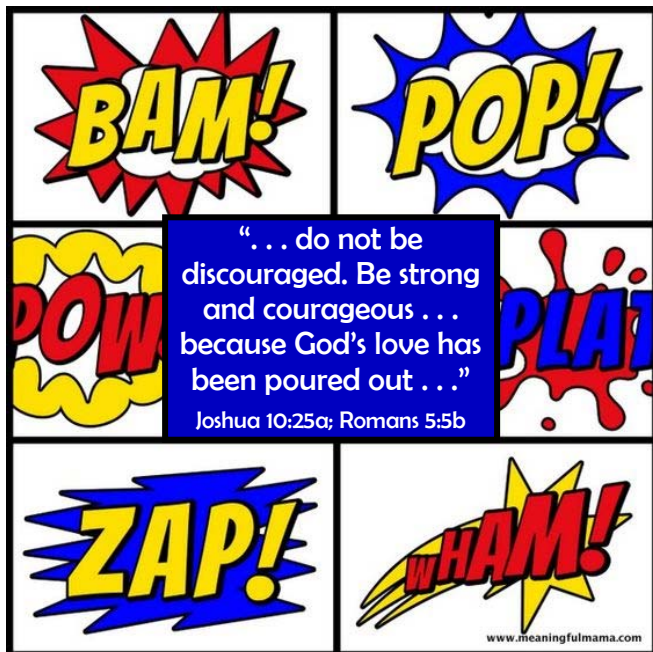
Remember.

Fight Back.

Norwin High School Stadium

Saturday, June 4, 2016 -  
Sunday, June 5, 2016

10:00 am



You can join the **NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH Team** online at: [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org)

Scroll down until you see: **SUPPORT A PARTICIPANT OR TEAM** ~ Type "Norwin Alliance Church" in the **Team** box. This will bring you to another screen. Scroll down until you see **Norwin Alliance Church** (Ryan Curran, Team Captain) ~ click **Join**. The following screens will walk you through the registration process.

Luminaries will be available for you to decorate. All donations from the luminaries go to the American Cancer Society.



Saving the world from cancer,  
one lap at a time!

Too many people will be touched by cancer this year. RELAY for LIFE events are our opportunity to inspire HOPE by raising funds and awareness to help those facing the disease.

Consider joining team **NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH** in the fight against cancer.

We need your help!

1. "Cancer never Sleeps" ~ We are looking for people to walk with us during this 24-hour event. A sign-up sheet is available on the shelf in the narthex. Please pick a time slot that is good for you.
2. Help with the booth/activities ~ please sign the sheet in the narthex.
3. "Survivors" ~ You are the reason we Relay. A survivor is anyone who has heard the words "You have cancer." All cancer survivors are invited to be guests of honor at the "Relay for Life". A special reception will be held in honor of you and your caregivers. Also a "Survivors Lap" will allow you to celebrate what you have overcome while inspiring and motivating us to fight. If you are a cancer "survivor" you are encouraged to participate in the "relay". Please let the church office know if you are willing to participate so we can register you in the events.