
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

May 2017



A recent Christianity Today video claimed that evangelism was coming on hard times because of the caustic nature of the culture and the lack of loving connection that Christians have with those who do not trust the Lord. The major theme of the message was that lost people generally do not feel anyone is listening to their questions and doubts.

Listening to a person before sharing the gospel with them is just as important as giving them the great news of Jesus. Here are some questions to ask others that God might use to have people be open to the gift of salvation.

1. Do you think there is a big reason behind your life, or is meaning something that people make up as they live?
2. Do you have a quiet desire to live forever? where do you think this comes from?
3. So you have a (Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist) background. How does a (Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist) get to heaven?
4. What do you think about Jesus saying from the cross, "Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing" when referring to those killing him?
5. What if God loved you, would you want to love Him back? How would you love him back?
6. What pains in your life keep you from trusting Jesus or believing in him? If he helped you in the pain and carried the pain with you, would you trust him then?
7. What good things have you heard about Jesus?

Pray for people as you listen to their doubts and spiritual hunger. As one Christian said, "do so with a love and enthusiasm not seen by mankind on a daily basis!" God is pursuing people with an invitation to know Him forever.



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.**

***Graduate Sunday is
June 11, 2017***



WOMEN'S SPRING LUNCHEON

Saturday, May 13, 2017
11:30 am

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

Program by Chalk Artist, Marty Means.



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

Bible Quizzing News!



Another District Finals competition for Western Pennsylvania Bible Quizzing has come and gone! "Districts" is where the highest scoring quizzers from each of the three area quizzing zones; Pittsburgh, Erie and Altoona, join together for a weekend of quizzing after the regular season has ended.

The regular season for 2016-17 was the best Norwin Alliance has had since quizzing was restarted up in 2012. Five Norwin quizzers qualified to attend: Benjamin, Emily, and Daniel Cox, and David and Hannah Hargraves. Districts was held April 21-22 at East Lake Alliance Church in Erie. Top scoring quizzers from the Pittsburgh area were placed into new teams created specifically for Districts. Trophies were awarded for top ten quizzers and top three teams for both juniors and seniors.

The Norwin quizzers' hard work paid off as each one earned an individual or team trophy based on scores earned during the Districts weekend: Daniel (on the 1st place Junior Team), Hannah (on the 2nd place Junior Team), David (#9 over-all Junior Quizzer), Emily (on the 1st place Senior Team), and Benjamin (#10 over-all Senior Quizzer).

While quizzing is highly competitive in the Pittsburgh area and earning points plays a big role, the most important part of quizzing is that these kids are learning God's word and "hiding it in their hearts." To see these quizzers – from those who finish near the top to those who finish near the bottom – build deep, meaningful friendships and speak about scripture in ways that show understanding and apply it to their lives makes all the hard work worth it.

The top senior quizzers from Districts move on to the Internationals competition, where all the top quizzers from the United States and Canada come together and compete over a period of several days. This year it takes place at Crown College near Minneapolis, Minnesota in July. For the first time since Norwin quizzing was restarted up in 2012, we'll be sending two quizzers to Internationals: Benjamin and Emily Cox.

We thank Norwin Alliance Church for all your prayers and support and ask that you continue to encourage all Norwin quizzers and congratulate them for a job well done!

Joe and Becky Cox



WORKDAY AT THE CHURCH

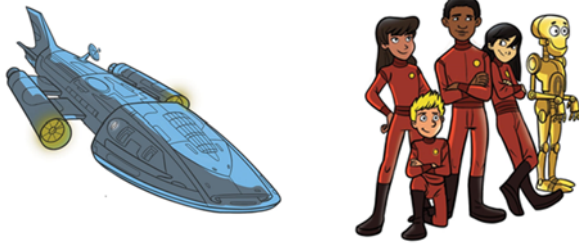
Saturday, May 6

9:00 - ? ?



CELEBRATE what the nation has, HONOR those who fought and now fight, and REMEMBER those who serve and have served.

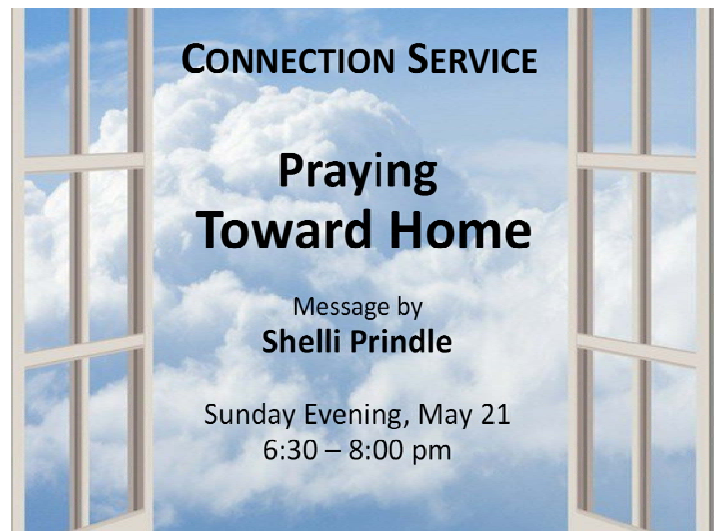
The Children's Choir presents
STAR QUEST
 ~ SEARCH FOR THE STOLEN SCRIPTURES ~
 Sunday, May 21st at 10:45 AM



The Christian crew of the starship "StarQuest J-316" is on a mission to boldly spread God's love in the greater Omega Galaxy! Paper has been outdated, and all written communication is now digital, as believers can only read their Cyber Bibles on the Intergalactic Bible Database. You will meet Captain Holly Grammar and her crew, who love to share the love of God throughout the galaxy but were never taught the importance of Bible memorization. The crew encounters a villain named Deletor, from the planet M-Nezia, who manages to use Zita the Droidbot to hack into and delete the entire Cyber Bible before anyone can stop him! The crew doesn't realize Zita has been compromised until she starts displaying some puzzling behavior! Fortunately, the crew encounters a planet whose inhabitants still employ the practice of Bible memorization, and they offer to help restore the lost scriptures, one verse at a time! This program includes 8 drama scenes and 8 songs, and each song is based on Scripture.

MAY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

- ★ **Sunday, May 7th**, 10:45 AM: Regular rehearsal during the service
- ★ **Sunday, May 14th**, 10:45 AM: Regular rehearsal during the service
- ★ **Thursday, May 18th**, 6:00 - 7:00 PM: **DRAMA ONLY** rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- ★ **Saturday, May 20th**, 9:30 - 11:30 AM: **FULL GROUP** dress rehearsal in the Sanctuary
 - 9:30 AM ~ Kids with speaking parts should arrive to be mic'd
 - 10:00 AM ~ Kids in the choir should arrive and everyone should be ready to begin rehearsal



KEEN-AGERS

Senior Group

Thursday, May 25, 2017
 11:30 am



Lunch for this month is: Ham Barbecue. Please bring a covered dish and/or dessert to compliment our meal. First time attendees do not have to bring any dishes, just come and join us for a time to Praise the Lord together, share lunch and enjoy socializing with each other. Please remember to bring your own table service.

Devotions will be presented by Howard Grove.

Luanne Baker will present: "*Story of Eve ~ The Beginning*".

All seniors 50 years of age and above are cordially invited to our Keen-Agers' meeting and luncheon. Please invite a friend or neighbor to our meeting.

If you have any questions about Keen-Agers, please call Joe and Pat Beyer (724-863-1441).



Monday, May 29, 2017



2017 NATIONAL PRAYER by Anne Graham Lotz

Hear Us...Forgive us...Heal us! For the Glory of Your Great Name

We worship You, God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are the living God of our nation's founding fathers: George Washington, John Adams, John Hancock, Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, and many others. When we pledge our allegiance, it's as one nation under You. Every time we use American money to buy or sell, we make the statement that in You we have placed our trust.

We acknowledge that You are the One who has set us high above all the nations on the earth. You have made us the head and not the tail. We have led the free world. The whole world has known that we are identified with You, and they have respected us.

Again and again, You have given us victory over our enemies. You have blessed us when we have gone out and when we have come in. You have blessed us in our bustling cities and in our beautiful countryside. You have blessed our "fruited plain" so that we have had an abundance for ourselves and for others. You have opened up the storehouse of Your bounty, and have blessed the work of our hands. You have given us unprecedented prosperity so that in the past we have lent to many nations but been debtor to none.

We now turn to You as the God of Our Fathers. You alone are our Hope for the future. If we as a nation do not get right with You, no one in Washington or in our state capitols can reverse the downward moral and spiritual spiral that has become a free fall and is provoking Your judgment. We approach You now with fear and trembling, as we confess our national sins:

We confess national addiction to sex. To money. To pleasure. To entertainment. To pornography. To technology. To drugs. To alcohol. To food. To television. To popularity. To ourselves.

We confess we no longer fear You, and thus we have not even the beginning of wisdom with which to handle the vast knowledge we possess.

We confess our foolishness of denying You as the one, true, living God, our Creator to whom we are accountable, living as though our lives are a cosmic accident with no eternal significance, purpose or meaning.

We confess our greed that has run up trillions of dollars of national debt.

We confess our arrogance and pride that has led us to think we are sufficient in ourselves.

We confess to believing that the prosperity of our nation has been great because we are great while refusing to acknowledge that all blessings come from Your hand.

We confess that we depend upon our military might and our weapons systems to protect us from harm and danger, while denying, defying, and ignoring You.

We confess that we have allowed the material blessings You have given us to deceive us into thinking we don't need You.

We confess that we live as though material wealth and prosperity will bring happiness.

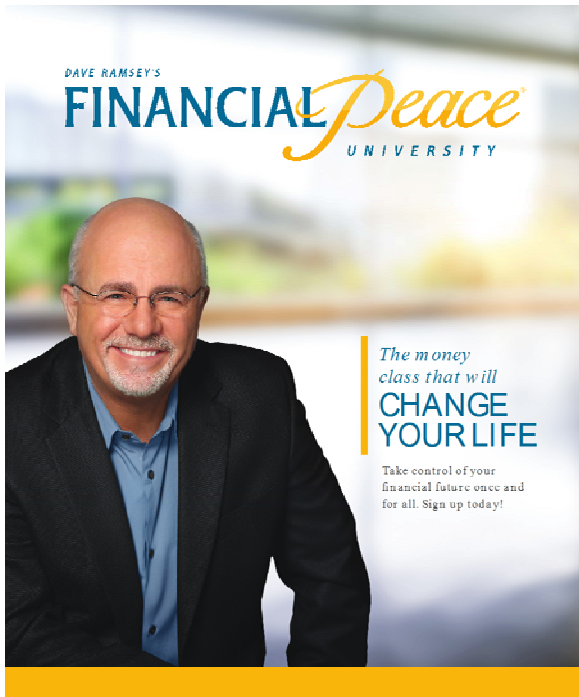
We confess that we have marginalized truth and mainstreamed lies.

We confess choices that reveal we would rather live in bitterness, resentment, and anger, rather than forgive those who have hurt us or acknowledge our own wrongdoing.

We confess that we have become one nation under many gods, divided and polarized, with license to sin and justice that no longer follows the rule of law.[2]

Therefore, we turn to You with tears of shame and a heart of fear for the judgment we are provoking. We repent of our sin. Please, God of Our Fathers, do not back away from us. Do not remove Your hand of blessing on us. As we return to You with humility...With sincerity...Out of necessity...With a desperate sense of urgency. Please! Return to us! Hear our prayer. Forgive our sin. Heal our land.

For the Glory of Your Great Name...JESUS. AMEN.



The money class that will CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

- Approximately 76% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck, regardless of their income. “Broke” has become the new normal in our nation, but this doesn’t have to be true for you.
- Taking control of your money starts with a plan, and *Financial Peace University* is that plan!
- *Financial Peace University* is financial expert Dave Ramsey’s **nine-week** money class. You’ll learn practical ways to pay off debt, overcome your fear of budgeting, and create a savings plan to replace retirement worries with financial peace.
- More than 4.5 million people have changed their futures with *Financial Peace University*. You can too!

Norwin Alliance Church is offering
Dave Ramsey’s *Financial Peace University*.

Summer session begins on:

Monday, June 5, 2017

6:00 pm

Childcare provided.

Cost: \$93 per household and includes workbook, envelope system, *Complete Guide to Money* by Dave Ramsey, online access to lessons, 90-day access to *EveryDollar* premium budgeting software, and lifetime FPU membership. **Scholarships are available.**

Please register at: <https://fpu.com/1040940>

Contact Lindsey Boone at lindseyrboone@gmail.com for more information.



- Carolyn Azevedo is looking for someone to demolish her damaged cabana and rebuild it. If you are able to help, or know someone who can, please contact Carolyn at 724-864-3763.
- The Widow's Ministry Group is looking for people who are willing to cut “crosses” out of wood. This is a project they are working on for people in the community and also for *Relay for Life 2018*. If you can assist, please contact Ruth Long or Carolyn Azevedo.



MUSIC BOOKS / SHEET MUSIC

Jean Weygant is downsizing her music. She has: Classical, Religious, Pop, Jazz, Etc.

If interested, please contact Jean at 724-861-6661.



Vignettes by Virginia

There are usually four holidays during the month of May that we recognize. Almost everyone celebrates Mother's Day. Cinco de Mayo is a holiday for people of a Mexican/American culture. Armed Forces Day, began on August 1949 under the Department of Defense to honor Americans in uniform who serve in the Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard and the Reserve Units during times of war and peace.

Some basic information for Memorial Day, that was originally known as Decoration Day, should remind us of the importance of this VERY special day and the reasons we LOVE the PARADES and PICNICS.

1. Memorial Day honors American veterans who gave their lives as the ultimate sacrifice for the United States.
2. The official birthplace for Memorial Day was May 5, 1866 at Waterloo, New York declared by the Federal Government.
3. In 1971 Congress established Memorial Day to be the last Monday in May, and a federal holiday.
4. Memorial Day originally began for the Civil War, 1861-1865 when 620,000 Americans gave their lives. (The combination numbers of lives given for all other wars has been 644,000).
5. Former President Bill Clinton signed the National Moment of Remembrance Act on December 28, 2000, giving the time of 3pm local to "stop" and "remember" veterans.

6. The flower, Red Poppies, are the symbols of remembrance.
7. Arlington National Cemetery remembered the beginning crowd of 5,000 people who came to honor veterans. Every year approximately 5,000 people attend the Memorial Day honorary services.

Just to remember a little of the history of this special day, keep in mind of the men/women you personally know who have served the United States in the military. Be extremely thankful for their willingness to serve!

To close, look at the words from a patriotic song: "*I Like the Sound of America*."

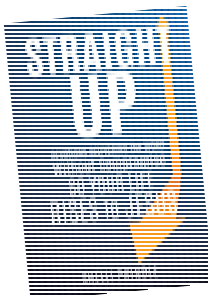
*"I like the sound of America.
I like the sound of America.
Best sounding word that I've ever heard,
That's America, America.
I like the sound of America,
The sight and sound of America.
Land of the free where I want to be,
That's America to me.
The sounds of people laughing
that you hear most every day,
The fac'tries and the farms
and the places children play,
The silence of the mountains
And the oceans mighty roar,
AMERICA!! AMERICA!!*

All Church Bowl ~ Wednesday, May 24, 2017

- Where:** Norwin Bowl
Center Highway
- Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Cost:** The church will cover the cost of the lanes and shoes
- Note:** Each family is requested to bring a snack to share. No outside beverages are permitted - Beverages may be purchased from the bowling lanes



Please sign the sheet in the narthex with the number of people attending.



"Straight up: Devotions Delivering the Word Without Compromise So Your Life Rises to Jesus" is a 232 page book of daily devotions based squarely on Scripture and written by Shelli Prindle.

The cost is \$15 hand-delivered at Norwin Alliance or \$15 plus \$5 shipping if mailed. Checks made payable to Hope & Passion Ministries.

To get your book, please contact Shelli Prindle or Bria Craycraft.