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# KOINONIA

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*“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 2025**

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Beginning April 27 and throughout the month of May, we will be sharing Mission and Vision statements for Norwin Alliance Church. The elders and other leaders in the church have been praying about our mission and vision and are excited to share this with you. However, before sharing these statements, it's helpful to know what mission and vision statements are.

A mission statement defines an organization's purpose and reason for existing. It communicates what the organization seeks to accomplish on a continual basis. It gives guidance to its daily operations, decisions, and priorities. A strong mission statement provides clarity, focus, and a sense of shared responsibility among members of the organization.

A vision statement describes the desired future or ultimate impact an organization aspires to achieve. It offers a compelling picture of what success will look like over time. It helps inspire and motivate people toward a shared long-term goal. A clear vision statement helps an organization align their efforts and endure challenges with a sense of hope and direction.

Having such statements for a church must be formed on God's clear commands. These statements should never just be OUR mission and OUR vision of what WE want to do or become. Rather, they are to reflect the mission and vision that GOD gives to us. Such statements must not contradict or neglect God's timeless and universal call for his church. At that same time, such statements guide specific local expressions of Christ's church to fulfil His unique calling for them in their local context.

Therefore, such statements are not timeless but reflect the current cultural climate. Just as our denomination's global mission strategies consider the ever-changing mission fields, so must we. New statements do not invalidate past statements. Rather, new statements reflect changes in the internal and external culture that an organization or church finds itself in. As culture and

context changes over time, God leads His people to reexamine the specific call He has for us.

Our Mission and Vision statements are intentionally short and memorable, while the included Discipleship Map helps unpack the specifics of these statements. Our prayer is that our church, of which Christ is the head, moves forward together in unity—that these statements are not just clever branding, but are tools that help us fulfil both God's universal call for His church and the specific ways He desires to use us to impact His kingdom. Would you join us in praying for our church? Here are our Mission and Vision statements, as well as our Discipleship Map:

## **Norwin Alliance's Mission:**

Making disciples who grow, serve, and witness through word and action.

## **Our Vision:**

To see a Spirit-empowered church of all generations making disciples who make disciples.

## **Our Discipleship Map:**

**Who:** We are all called to be disciples who make disciples.

**What:** We obey Jesus in love, embracing His command to make disciples.

**When:** We make disciples from conversion onward, our witness deepening as we grow in Christ.

**Where:** We make disciples locally, regionally, cross-culturally, and to the ends of the earth.

**Why:** We make disciples because this was the mission that Jesus gave His church.

**How:** We grow as disciples through worship, God's Word, prayer, intergenerational community, service, and incarnational witness.





## **Live Streaming Change**

Beginning **Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 AM**, we will switch to **YouTube** for live streaming of our worship services, instead of on Facebook.

***Why are we changing live streaming platforms?*** Effective February 19th, 2025, Facebook has made a change in how they store archived videos that were live streamed to Facebook. They will now only store videos for 30 days. Thereafter, they will automatically be deleted. This change affects all users who live stream to Facebook. We will continue to maintain our Facebook page with announcements and posts.

## **We now have a YouTube channel!**

Norwin Alliance Church now has a YouTube channel to live stream our worship services to. You can also find and view past live streams, dated back to January 7th, 2024. Here are some ways you can access the Norwin Alliance Church YouTube channel. Once you're there, be sure to click on the "LIVE" tab to view current and upcoming live streams.

**Direct NAC YouTube URL:** [www.youtube.com/@NorwinAllianceChurch](https://www.youtube.com/@NorwinAllianceChurch)

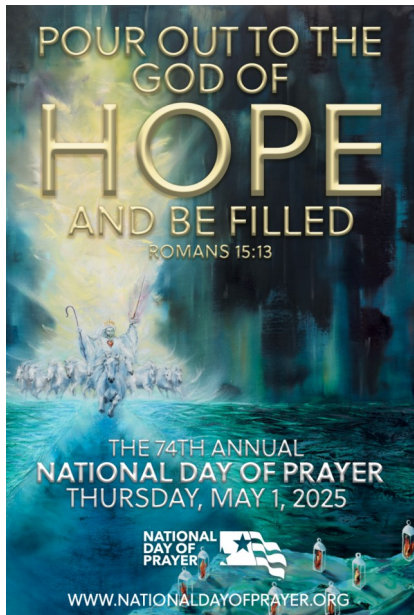
**General YouTube Webpage:** [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) - search for Norwin Alliance Church in the search

**NAC Facebook Page:** [www.facebook.com/NorwinAllianceChurch](https://www.facebook.com/NorwinAllianceChurch) - We will share direct access live stream links each week on our Facebook Page once they are available.



Thank you for your patience and understanding as we make changes to provide better access to our worship services online!



**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER****Thursday, May 1, 2025****Time of Prayer Together ~  
11:00 am in the Sanctuary**

*"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13 NASB*

**2025 National Prayer**

*God of hope, fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

*You have caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; therefore, we hope in what we do not see.*

*This world is not our home or reality, but the Lord is our Rock, our Truth, our certainty.*

*God of hope, we pour out our praise and are filled with Your powerful presence.*

*We pour out repentance of sin and are filled with forgiveness and righteousness.*

*We pour out pain from the attacks of the enemy—  
anxiousness, fear, anger—and You fill us with courage,  
assurance, and love.*

*We pour out our needs, the desires of our hearts, and are  
filled with Your Kingdom provision and purpose.*

*We pour out our hearts for our nation, for the people and  
places, relationships and responsibilities the Lord has  
established: the Church, Family, Education, Business,  
Military, Arts, Entertainment, Media, and Government. May*

*all who live, serve, and steward in these be filled with  
Your purpose, wisdom, strength, and truth.*

*Let Your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, as we have  
hoped in You.*

*In abounding hope, anchored by our hope in the name of  
Jesus, we pray. Amen!*

Written by NDP Task Force  
President, Kathy Branzell

**How to Pray for America**

God is sovereign and nothing comes as a surprise to Him. Whether we face fluctuating economics, threats from abroad, unrest at home, or other troubling circumstances, our Heavenly Father is not caught unaware. Through prayer, we are able to tap into His wisdom, strength, protection, and peace. He stands ready to respond to our needs when we humbly ask for divine intervention in the affairs of men.

As we Pray for America whose pledge of allegiance recounts that we are "one nation under God," and whose currency states that it is "in God we trust," we want Americans to encounter the God who rules over their country. "He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals His thoughts to man, He who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the LORD God Almighty is His name." —Amos 4:13 NIV

He is the One who gave us this promise in 2 Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." As we humbly and diligently seek Him, we'll be changed, and we'll see transformation in America through prayer!

Pray for:

**GOVERNMENT** (Federal, State, Local): *"Pray for your leaders, as well as the judges in our courts. Ask God to grant them wisdom to act with integrity.*

**MILITARY:** Perseverance to endure hardship; Wise leaders who inspire respect from those under their command; Protection and support for the families they have left behind.

**MEDIA:** The decision makers to realize they can make a profit producing uplifting projects.

**EDUCATION:** Safe atmosphere conducive to learning; Excellence in educators; Equal opportunities for every student to achieve their full potential.

**CHURCH:** The church would find a new zeal and commitment to the mission and purpose of Jesus Christ; Unity with and among churches that reveal God's love to the world; Integrity—that God's people look and act differently from the world.

**FAMILY:** *"If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand."* Mark 3:25. Unity and love in individual families that reach out in hospitality toward others; Establish healthy relationships between parents and children.



**Garage Sale Giveaway**  
 Saturday, May 3rd • 9:00 am-Noon  
 Come for **FREE** stuff & fellowship  
**Norwin Alliance Church**  
 10585 Farview Dr, North Huntingdon  
**724-864-1570**  
[www.norwinalliance.org](http://www.norwinalliance.org)



**DONATIONS NEEDED!** All donated items need to be clean. Suggested items for donations are: books, dishes, glassware, pots and pans, kitchen utensils and appliances. If donating bedding, such as sheets/blankets, please mark with size. Baby items such as strollers, play pens (is there such a thing nowadays), high chairs and of course toys and games, are always in demand. If any small appliances or tools are donated, they must be in good working condition.

Please note that we are not able to accept the following items: TV's, knick-knacks, clothes or large furniture items.

Please try to make sure your donations can be useful.

**COLLECTION DAYS** ~ We will collect donations Thursday, May 1st from 4-8 pm and on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:00 am - 8:00 pm.

**HELP NEEDED!** We need people to help us set-up for the Giveaway on Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 2:00 pm.

We also need **HELP** collecting the donations and setting them up in the right rooms, people Saturday to greet and assist our guests, and then people to help clean-up and put the church back together after the giveaway.

We also need folks with trucks who are willing to take left overs to Goodwill or the Salvation Army.

Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you are able to help with this great event.

If you have any questions, please contact Mardy Rogers or Cindy Barnhart.



### Ladies Tea

Saturday, May 17th  
 11:00 am

Attention Ladies!

Come and join us for a Ladies Tea!

Saturday, May 17, 2025 in the Fellowship Hall.

Doors open at 11:00 am

Guest Speaker: Our own Kate Groop!

Sign-up now in the narthex to reserve a seat!

Food, Fellowship, and Fun

Sponsored by the Fellowship Committee and the Ladies Bible Study.



### KEEN-AGERS

The May meeting of Norwin Alliance Keen-Agers will be on Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 am.

The meal will be **CHICKEN** and **BISCUITS** and sides. Please bring a dish to share.

Program: Cathy Rhodes

\* \* Food Pantry item is: Laundry & Dish Soap

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

Hope to see you on May 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ we are looking forward to having a great morning together.



Pittsburgh Area Bible Quizzing ended its regular quiz season April 5th with a final quiz and end-of-year awards banquet at Allegheny Center Alliance Church.

The two Norwin Senior teams took first and second place, with Daniel Cox as the number one individual senior quizzier - way to go Daniel!

Four of our senior quizzers and one of our junior quizzers will be advancing on to District Finals the first weekend in May.

Congratulations Norwin quizzers on a fantastic Quiz season.



**LIFE is a gathering of the next generation Alliance family to experience God and expand His kingdom locally and globally. We seek to:**

GLORIFY God in worship, word, and community.

INTRODUCE Jesus Christ into the whole life of each student.

EXPOSE God's heart for the lost.

INSPIRE students to join the global Alliance family.

LIFE Conference is for high school students—anyone who is age 13 on July 4, 2025 or completed 8th grade and no older than 19 or just graduated from high school as of July 2025.

Each day will consist of Worship, Seminars, Off-Site Service Projects, Activity Time, Small Group Time.

If you would like to help defray the cost of our youth attending this LIFE altering conference, you may do so by marking your envelope with LIFE 2025.

Please see Joe Cox if you have any questions.



### Preschool News

We are down to the final month of school, the year has flown by! We have had a wonderful school year with our students. Mrs. D'Angelo and her family welcomed a baby boy, Nico, to their family in February. Everyone is doing well!

In the month of May, we will be practicing daily for our end of the year programs. The 3-year-old class will be having a Luau and the 4-year-old class will be having a Patriotic Graduation Celebration. At both programs, the boys and girls will be singing and dancing to some of their favorite songs from the school year. The 4-year-olds will also receive a Bible at their program from the Norwin Alliance Church.

Mrs. Biedrycki and Mrs. Platt are in the planning stages for our summer camp program that will take place in June. It was a huge success the last two years and we are looking forward to another successful camp this summer! We have current, past, and present kiddos attending, we also have opened a limited number of spots to the public.

Looking ahead to the fall ~ our 4-year-old AM class is full and we have a waiting list that we hope will turn into a PM class. The 3-year-old class is also full for the fall.

Thank you to our prayer buddies for praying for all of us over the school year! I know many of our families really enjoy the sweet cards and notes their child receives.



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. May's collection item: **Laundry & Dish Soap.**

Thank you so much for any contributions you can make.



Saturday, July 19, 2025  
6:30 pm

Join us for fun and fellowship as we pack items that have been donated into shoeboxes.

Our goal is 100 boxes!

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

We will once again be collecting items to fill shoeboxes for OCC. A sign-up sheet is available on the shelf in the narthex. Please sign under the item(s) you would like to donate. Please read the sheet carefully. Ex: if you sign on the line under box of crayons - be aware you are signing up to bring 5 boxes of crayons for each line you sign. Do NOT sign in any of the greyed out sections.

Boxes will also be available soon if you would like to pack individual boxes yourself.

Emily Rose, the Westmoreland County student relations coordinator for OCC, has issued a challenge for 2025:

- \* Build a box/month!
- \* Over-all Goal: increase Westmoreland County by 10%

In 2024, NAC delivered 148 shoeboxes ~ a 10% increase will be 163 shoeboxes! Can we meet the challenge?

Watch for a sign-up sheet for attending the Packing Party. This will be an evening of packing, celebrations, food, and fun!

If you have any questions, please contact Renee Himler.

**SENDING THE GOSPEL**  
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH



**Norwin Alliance Church**  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**June 11th, 18th, 25th, & July 2nd**  
**6:30 – 8:00 PM**



**THE FOUR-FOLD  
GOSPEL**

10585 Farview Drive,  
North Huntingdon, PA 15642  
724-864-1570  
[www.norwinalliance.org](http://www.norwinalliance.org)



**DAY 1: Christ our Savior**  
Romans 5:8  
**DAY 2: Christ our Sanctifier**  
1 John 1:9  
**DAY 3: Christ our Healer**  
James 5:16  
**DAY 4: Christ our Coming King**  
Matthew 24:42

**To register:**  
**Scan QR Code or visit**  
**[www.norwinalliance.org](http://www.norwinalliance.org)**

*Ages 3 -  
Completion  
of Grade 5*