
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



Writing around the turn of the 20th century, A.B. Simpson, the founder of the Christian and Missionary Alliance wrote and spoke frequently about Christ being our healer. Indeed, the Four-Fold Gospel—Jesus is our Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King is a theological pillar in our denomination. One surprising facet of his teaching on healing was his skepticism and even negative views toward modern medicine. At times, he implied that the reliance on it was an indication of not believing in Christ's willingness to heal us.

For most of human history, the knowledge and tools available to doctors to treat, let alone safely treat, many illnesses and conditions was limited. Even the modern germ theory leading doctors to wash their hands before surgery was a new idea in Simpson's early life. This was also an era of massive change in general, with electricity, the automobile, and other inventions upending society. While we know better over a 100 years later, it was perfectly reasonable at the time to wonder how the modern miracles of medicine would diminish people's dependance on God for such things.

Not surprisingly, Simpson's tone and attitude towards modern medicine softened later in his life, as this modern tool, still evolving today, could be reconciled with dependance on God. Indeed, in 1 Timothy 5:23, Paul advises Timothy to take a little wine to help with his stomach issues. Using modern medicine doesn't indicate

a lack of faith any more than using an automobile would indicate a lack of that that in God to get us where he wants in his own timing.

Still, the reasons for Simpson's early warning can teach us something today. We can in fact treat prayer for healing as no more than an extra safeguard just in case our doctors and medications don't work. Some might suggest that we pray first. I would suggest that we pray alongside. To "pray first" might wrongly imply that anytime we have a medical need, we offer up serious prayers and wait for God to act. Then after some unspecified time, after our prayers don't seem to be answered in a miraculous way, we then turn to doctors and medicine to get the healing we want.

However, to pray alongside means that we utilize good things in the world God created with thankfulness, seeking his will as we do. A good place to start is a healthful diet and exercise, seeking to glorify God in how we treat our bodies. What is modern medicine after all, other than an extension of more basic things that God has provided for our bodies throughout the ages? None of this discounts that value of seeking discernment from God when major medical decisions need to be made. But it is to say that God is with us in our daily lives as we seek to glorify him in all things, including our health and through the role that modern medicine plays. We must remember that whether doctors are involved or not, the power of God is the source of all healing.



2026 National Prayer

Almighty God, King of Glory, we confess our sins and repent of our pride that sought our own glory and comfort, allowing evil to take root instead of Your fruit in our hearts, homes, culture, and country.

Please forgive us.

Now, with this declaration of rededication, we humble ourselves, pray, and seek Your face, turning from our wicked ways, that You would heal our lives and our land.

Please purify and renew our hearts with holy attributes, affections, attitudes, and actions-to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

We give You glory as we repent and rededicate our lives and our nation to You.

For 250 years You have guarded and guided America in wisdom, grace, mercy, and love.

We praise and thank You for our Founding Fathers, for all who sought You in fervent prayer throughout history and answered Your call to defend justice and freedom; to protect and serve, preach and teach, innovate, communicate, learn, work, worship, and establish our laws.

May Your Kingdom come, and Your will be done in our lives, our Families, the Church, Education, Business, Military, Government, Arts, Entertainment and Media as it is in heaven.

We prayerfully commit to "Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in All Generations."

In Jesus' name, Amen!

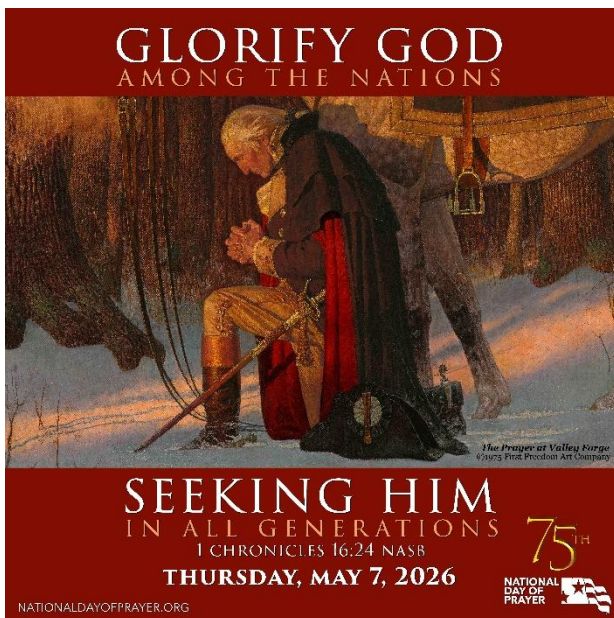
Written by NDP Task Force President, Kathy Branzell



MAY PRAYER TIMES

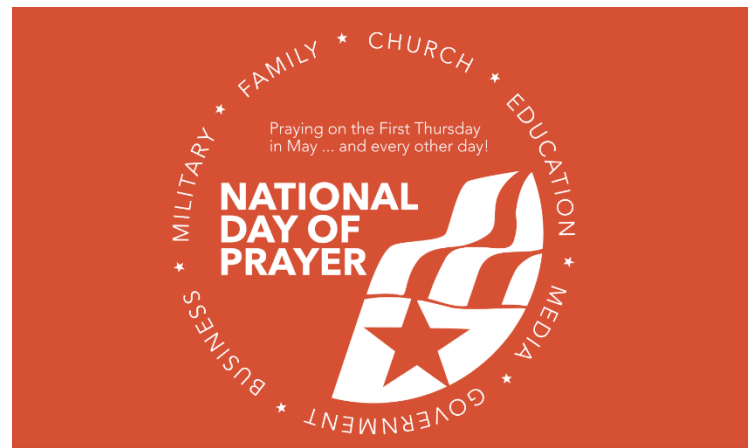
Wednesday, May 6th
7:00 pm

Thursday, May 7th
11:00 am



*Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples.
1 Chronicles 16:24 NASB*

The National Day of Prayer exists to mobilize unified public prayer for America





The Prayer Shawl Ministry
 Monday, May 11, 2026
 7:00 pm



Keen-Agers is for those at NAC and in the community
 50 years of age and older

The April meeting of the Norwin Alliance Keen-Agers
 will be on Thursday, May 28th at 11:00 am.

The meal will be Chicken (provided) and picnic
 foods. Please bring a dish to share.

The program will be by Rescue 8.

**** Food Pantry item is: LAUNDRY AND DISH SOAPS**

We invite everyone 50 and over to join us.
 Hope to see you May 28th.



LADIES TEA

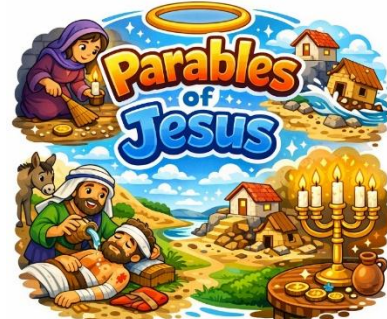
Saturday, May 16, 2026
 11:00 am

All ladies of the church are invited to attend
 our Ladies Tea. Invite your friends, aunts,
 mothers, grandmothers . . . and join us for a time
 of Fellowship.

Please sheet in the narthex by May 10th if you
 are able to attend. Also, please sign if you are
 able to help with providing food and/or
 decorating.



Wednesdays:
June 3, 10, 17, 24
6:30 - 8:30 pm
 For ages 3 – Completion
 of Grade 5



Day 1: The Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10)

Day 2: Wise and Foolish Builders (Matthew 7:24-
 27; Luke 6:47-49)

Day 3: The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)

Day 4: The Lamp Stand (Matthew 5:14-16; Mark
 4:21-22; Luke 8:16)

Each night at VBS, the kids will enjoy:
 Prayer, Bible Lessons, Memory Verses, Music,
 Crafts, and Snacks

Save the dates and watch for registration
 information.



SENIOR — CLASS OF — 2026

★ ★ ★



Jacob Booher

Graduating from:
Yough Senior High
May 29, 2026



Samantha Bryer

Graduating from:
East Allegheny Jr/Sr High
May 29, 2026



William Denney

Graduating from:
Norwin Senior High
May 22, 2026



Zaki Lahlou

Graduating from:
Norwin Senior High
May 22, 2026

Breakaway 2026

Norwin Alliance Youth had their annual retreat known as Breakaway in April. Breakaway was formerly held at Beulah Beach, on Lake Erie near Sandusky, Ohio, but is now held at Laurelville Mennonite Camp near Mt. Pleasant, PA. It was attended this year by Daniel Cox and Matthew Denney, and we spent a fair amount of time linked up with Cherry Tree Alliance Youth as well. The Breakaway speaker, Dan Min from State College, PA, gave several talks on having full access to all God has to offer, including joy, peace, and love. His talk on the prodigal son and the older son was particularly thought-provocative and challenging for the students. We also each spent time alone on Saturday morning, reading scripture and being still to learn to listen for God's voice in the midst of our noisy, busy lives.

On Matthew's suggestion, the Norwin Youth and youth leaders (including Benjamin Cox) spent our free time on Saturday afternoon on a steep hike on the Laurelville premises, which is built into the side of Chestnut Ridge. The boys managed the hike well, although they kept having to slow down to wait for the 50-something who kept lagging behind.

Breakaway was a time of great fun, fellowship, worship, and reflecting on God's word. Thank you, Norwin Alliance Church, for your continued financial support and prayers for the N.A.C. Youth group!