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# KOINONIA

“That the communication (Koinonia)(pronounced:coy no nee a) of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.” Philemon 1:6

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## NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2014



“Do Not Disturb” is a sign often on the door of a hotel room. Sometimes we hang that sign on our soul. A more Biblical sign on our soul would read,

“Disturbed Already, Come Right In”.

Jesus in us connects us to Himself and to one another. This is Christian fellowship. Fellowship involves:

Being disturbed and having peace

Hiding and openness

Self-protection and self-giving

Apathy and love

God's Word says “you are the Body of Christ and each of you is a part of it”. (I Corinthians 12:27) Dr. Larry Crabb writes: “God in His very nature is a relational being, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. His love relates. God is personal. People are personal. Creation preaches interdependence. Loving involvement with people and expressing oneself on behalf of others is a responsibility we are gifted for more than we know.”

Here are some helps for following Jesus in fellowship:

Listen more than you speak. Hearing God occurs more like this.

Speak what God has said to your soul. But your words are not absolute truth for the whole church. No Popes here.

Speak what God has said in the Bible. This is absolute truth.

Admit to God the desire for no-fellowship. (I'm tired, I'm bored, I don't get people, tasks are calling me)

Expect problems in communication. Love will persevere as Christ connects lives.

You don't have to be good at fellowship to be a godly influence on others.

Wanted: Quiet people.

Desire for fellowship is from God. Isolation is not healthy.



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The following items were approved and discussed at the Elder and Ministry Board meetings in November:

1. Discussed possible nominees for Elders in 2015
  2. Approved a Children's Christmas Celebration on Dec. 7 led by Katie
  3. Approved the youth to attend the “Get Lost” Corn Maze on Oct. 18th
  4. Approved the Children's Sunday School swim party on November 21st at the Wilmerding YMCA
  5. Dave announced he will be retiring as Treasurer beginning Jan. 2015
  6. Bids have been requested from contractors to replace the flooring in the bathrooms
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## Norwin Alliance Church

### Grocery Giveaway

Over 2700 items + over 90 families +  
40 volunteers = 1 Great Grocery Giveaway



We are so thankful for the guests that God sent to us! Through testimonies we were able to share what God and the church means to us and through goodies we were able to share our blessings. It was an extra bonus that our guests overflowed us with their words of appreciation. They were a great group of people. Sometimes we set out with a mission to bless the lives of others and they end up blessing ours.

A huge thank you to the volunteers that came to work at the event and to those that donated goodies. Our volunteers were ready to work, quick on their feet and loved meeting all of the new folks. All ages shared in the

giving, from 4 months to well...a little older than 4 months.

After receiving some feedback about the event I found out several guests commented that the testimonies touched them in a certain way and the volunteers were having so much fun with each other. If we let Him, God will put us right where we need to be whether it be giving a testimony, carrying groceries, or serving coffee and donuts. This was a great way to watch the body of Christ in motion!

~Katie



All shoeboxes should be returned to the church **Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>** so they can be dedicated on Sunday, November 9th. After the service they will be delivered to a local drop off site so please be sure your boxes are in.

Remember:

~ ~ Enclose a check (made out to Samaritan's Purse \*note OCC on memo line) for **\$7.00 per box** to cover shipping and handling cost.

~ ~ Attach the appropriate label (girl/boy) and mark the appropriate age category.



Remember to turn your clocks **BACK** 1 hour on Saturday, November 1.

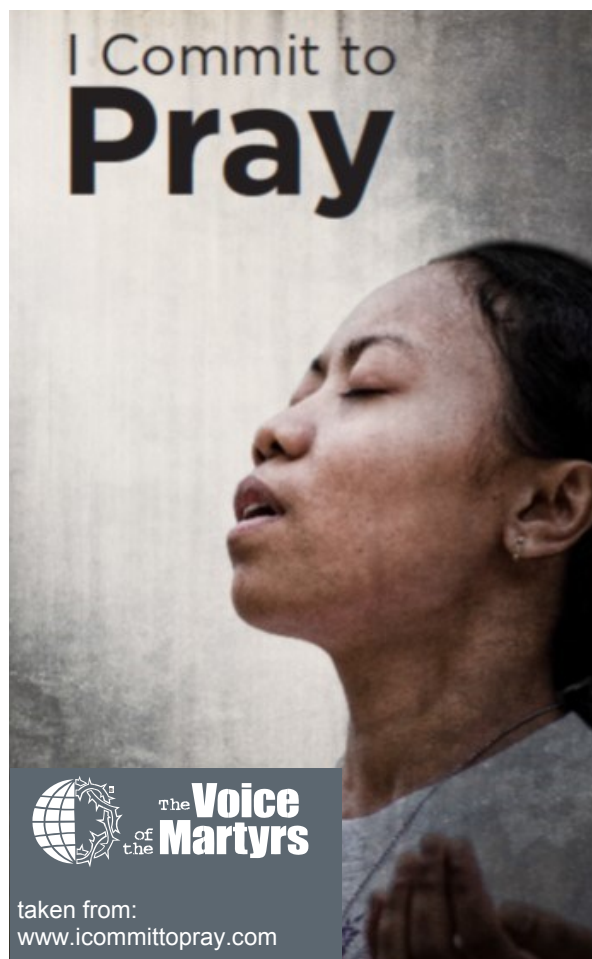
**TUESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>**



# International Day of Prayer

**Sunday, November 2, 2014**

The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) is a global day of intercession for persecuted Christians worldwide. Its primary focus is the work of intercessory prayer and citizen action on behalf of persecuted communities of the Christian faith. We also encourage prayer for the souls of the oppressors, the nations that promote persecution, and those who ignore it.



## 10 Ways to Pray for Our Persecuted Family

1. Pray that persecuted believers will sense God's presence (Heb. 13:5).
2. Pray that they will feel connected to the greater Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:20, 26).
3. Pray that they will be comforted by God when their family members are killed, injured or imprisoned for their witness (2 Cor. 1: 3-5).
4. Pray that they will have more opportunities to share the gospel (Col. 4:3).
5. Pray for their boldness to make Christ known (Phil. 1:14).
6. Pray that they will forgive and love their persecutors (Matt. 5:44).
7. Pray that their ministry activities will remain undetected by authorities or others who wish to silence them (Acts 9:25).
8. Pray that they will rejoice in suffering (Acts 5:41).
9. Pray that they will be refreshed through God's Word and grow in their faith (Eph. 6:17).
10. Pray that they will be strengthened through the prayers of fellow believers (Jude 20-25)

## Additional Prayer Request for Persecuted Christians

1. Pray for Bible and Christian materials ~ pray for the work of Bible translators and for the safety of those who smuggle and distribute Bibles.
2. Pray for Christian children at school ~ ask God to strengthen Christian children who are bullied or treated unfairly. Pray that Christian children will have God's truth in their hearts and follow it.
3. Pray for places to Worship ~ pray that Christians who worship alone will meet other believers. Ask God to protect Christians who gather in areas where it is against the law and pray that God will provide places to worship for Christians in countries where most people are not Christians.
4. Pray for Transportation ~ Pray that creative forms of transportation will be used to deliver Bibles in every hard-to-reach area of the world. Pray for strength and safety for those who deliver Bibles.
5. Pray for Health, safety and healing of persecuted Christians

# METOCHE ↓ 30



*A sharing, communion, fellowship*

## “Met-okh-ay”

Greek for  
“a sharing, communion,  
fellowship”

30-College, career  
under the age 30

So, graduated from high  
school to the age of 30!

## November 1, 2014 7pm-

monthly meetings with devotion, activities as  
planned!

### Norwin Alliance Church,

sponsors: Frank & Danette Kolar, J. Renee Himler

Plan to join us for fellowship and study of  
Francis Chan’s “Crazy Love.”

***Pizza provided!***

### QUESTIONS: CONTACT

J. Renee Himler

724.832.0667 | JReneeHimler@aol.com |

## CONNECTION SERVICE

Sunday, November 9, 2014

6:30 pm

## This Is Going To Be Hard

**Living for Jesus in the Last Day**

Speaker:

**Shelli Prindle**

## Thanksgiving Season

On Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Bob will lead us in a Praise and Worship service at 7:00 pm at Norwin Alliance Church.

Invite your family and friends to join us as we give praise to God for the bountiful blessings He has given us this year!



## ~Veteran's Day~

Tuesday

November 11, 2014

† Thank you to all of those that have served,  
and are serving in the American Armed Forces.



† Let your actions reflect your heart and love  
of the Lord. Reach out and bless someone this  
Veteran's Day.

## Ladies Night Out



Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Pasqualino's Italian Eatery  
Route 30, N.H.  
(in front of Giant Eagle)

6:30 pm

Please sign the sheet in the narthex and join the ladies for an evening of food and fellowship!

## IRWIN MALE CHORUS

at Norwin Alliance Church  
Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
7:00 pm

Invite your friends and come out for an evening of music and fellowship.

A "Pie Social" will follow the concert. Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you are attending and if you would be willing to donate a pie.



"Now thank we all our God,  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In Whom this world rejoices . . ."

*"Now Thank We All Our God"*  
by: Martin Rinkart

## KEEN-AGER

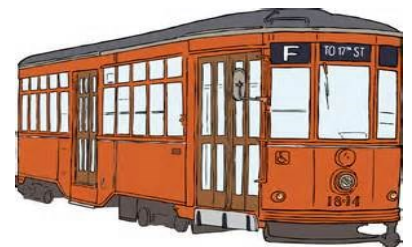


The Keen-Agers will meet one week earlier in November. They will meet on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> for a catered Thanksgiving Luncheon beginning at 11:30 am

The Thanksgiving Luncheon will once again be catered by K-Vay's. This year's meal will consist of: Italian Roast Beef, Boneless Fried Chicken, Twice Baked Potato, Green Beans, Salad, Dinner Rolls, and Coconut Crème Pie for dessert. Everyone will get BOTH entrees so no one will have to make a choice ☺ Price per person is \$10.00. All reservations and money must be in to Donna Kunkle or Ruth Long by Sunday, **November 9<sup>th</sup>**.

The business end of the meeting will include the election of officers and the program will be about "Street Cars" by Andy Blenko.

If you are age 50 or older, this is your special invitation to attend this meeting which begins at 11:30 am and concludes about 2:00 pm. Set aside the date, and make your reservations soon. We will look for YOU!!



## Concert of Prayer

Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm



Vignettes by Virginia**THE CORNUCOPIA**

Many of you might remember the curved horn, a symbol of prosperity, that adorned our homes during the thanksgiving season. This decoration is called a "cornucopia", or a "horn of plenty", and overflowed with either real or fake fruit, vegetables, and grains. The cornucopia on this writer's childhood's dining room table, or high board, had squash, corn, potatoes, apples, and several other fruits and vegetables from our garden or a nearby orchard. The meal was shared with family and friends.

What do you remember most from the Thanksgiving celebrations of your childhood and teen years? Do you remember the smells of the food baking? ? The anticipation of family and friends coming to visit? Or traveling to someone special's home? Do you remember a tradition that you may still pursue? ? Or have tried to carry-on to the next generation(s)? What food makes your mouth water?

Maybe Thanksgiving is not a pleasant experience. It can be a hardship, or a sad memory. So often we try to make a holiday a good time; but for some people, a holiday is not a happy thought. At Thanksgiving time we remember Pilgrims and the many sacrifices they gave for our freedoms we have today. It may be a good idea to read a little history to refresh our memories and be THANKFUL for the many sacrifices our forefathers so freely gave for the thousands of people who followed them. Even though it has been really tough for many of us recently, the U.S.A. still is the best country in which to live! !

And even more importantly than our Christian heritage is Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. He knew that we needed forgiveness and LOVE and GRACE and HOPE that only He could give.

When we think of the cornucopia, remember to be thankful for something, or someone, and especially JESUS!!

**The Women's Corner**

By Janis Swope

*It is Autumn and the trees are changing color. Although the fall color show has not been as spectacular as in other years, if you look close enough you can see the beauty of the changing leaves in splashes here and there. Nature is one way to see God in all His creative glory. All I have to do is look out my kitchen window to see the birds, squirrels, chipmunks, and yes, even skunks, to know how wonderfully intricate the world is made. Just the sight of the sun shining through the trees and making beautiful dappling lights on the wet grass brings to mind the love God has for us. He created such a wonderful and interesting world for us to live in. We can know God just by His creation. Romans 1:20 says "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being under stood by the things that are made even his eternal power and Godhead; . . ." (KJV). My hope and prayer is that you, too, can see God in the beautiful natural world around us and know of His love. May God bless and Happy Thanksgiving to all.*

*Speaking of the God-created world we live in, we discussed this topic in the Ladies Bible Study just a week or two ago. Did you know that knowing God through his beautifully created world is called "general revelation?"*

*This means that one way that God has revealed himself to all mankind is through his creation. He gives everyone an opportunity to know Him through the intricacy of all He has created. He loves us so much that He wants everyone to know Him! If you would like to know more about God please join us on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the craft room for the Ladies Bible Study. And don't worry; we will have the coffee on and maybe even tea!*

**The Last Word**

*"But all the provisions that He has [made] for the gratification of our senses . . . are much inferior to the provision, the wonderful provision that He has made for the gratification of our nobler powers of intelligence and reason. He has given us reason to find out the truth, and the real design and true end of our existence."*

~ John Adams, (b. 1735 d. 1826) 2<sup>nd</sup> President of the United States of America (Written in 1756 as a young man, after pondering the night sky filled with glittering stars he was "thrown into a kind of transport" and knew the wonders of the heavens and nature to be gifts of God and expressions of His love.)





## Children's Christmas Celebration



NAC is kicking off the Christmas season by lighting up the life of some guest families from the community on Sunday December 7, 2014 from 10:15 am to 1pm-ish. The event was such a success last year that we are spreading more Christmas joy this year.

Families in need with children from the ages of 0-11 are invited to sign-up to take part of a Christmas experience. We're using the same foundation as last year only adding some detail changes.

Each guest family that comes will be paired with a host family who will accompany them through the day. There will be a morning social time leading into the 10:45 am service, followed by lunch, then the opening of gifts. This allows us to make a real connection with our guests.

There will be plenty of opportunity for volunteerism. Everything from:

sponsoring a child

Set-up

host families (or individuals).

If you do not have a particular volunteer assignment on the day of the event, please feel free to make our guests feel welcome in any way that you can.

Please pray that God sends us the exact guests and volunteers needed to make our celebration a success.

Sign-up sheets and more details about the event will be coming soon . . .



### HELP WANTED!

Do you love to decorate? We are looking for people to help Rachel Wilson decorate Norwin

Alliance for Christmas on Monday, December 1st. Men are needed to take decorations down from the attic and to help assemble the trees. Please contact the church office if you are able to help.



### CHILDREN'S CHORAL PROGRAM

Sunday, December 21, 2014  
10:45 am

**ISAIAH JONES**  
and the Seekers of  
The Lost Christmas Treasure

"In giving us His Son, God gave us His most precious Gift. The secret to "winning the game of life" and finding your true purpose is living a life that is used by God's Spirit to give His love away to others."