
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

NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2015



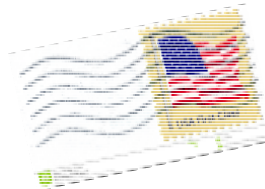
Giving thanks to God is a quality of a healthy Christian. If we celebrated Thanksgiving with the Ephesian church of the Bible, our list of gratitude would include great gifts from our Lord. Jesus united us with Himself so that in Christ we are:

1. Blessed with every spiritual blessing. (1:3)
2. Chosen before time began. (1:4)
3. Loved. (1:4)
4. Predestined. (1:5)
5. Adopted and Accepted. (1:6)
6. Redeemed and Forgiven. (1:7)
7. Given wisdom and understanding. (1:8)
8. Shown His will. (1:9,10)
9. Given a guaranteed inheritance. (1:11)
10. Secured by the Spirit. (1:13)
11. Received God's power. (1:19)
12. Made alive together with Christ. (2:5)
13. Raised up and seated in the heavenlies. (2:6)
14. Saved by grace. (2:8)
15. God's masterful workmanship. (2:10)
16. Created for good works. (2:10)
17. Brought near to God. (2:13)
18. United in one body. (2:15)
19. Fellow citizens with other Christians. (2:19)
20. Built for the Spirit's residence. (2:21)

(list from Neil Anderson)

Special thank-you to the whole church for Pastor Appreciation Day. We enjoyed the slide show, the great meal, the words and cards of kindness, and the fellowship time. It was a very enjoyable day! Also, thank-you for the thoughtful and generous adventure to Florida. God bless your days...the Lord is near.

—Pastor Bob and Regina



****WANTED****
Canceled/Used
Stamps

The income generated from the stamp ministry goes to support the preparation, publishing and distribution of a new Spanish language curriculum for Sunday Schools in Latin America. Please carefully trim your used stamps, leaving a 1/4 inch border around it. NOTE: Do Not remove the stamps from the paper.

In addition, please consider saving the following items: **Campbells soup labels, Labels for Education, and Box Tops**. These items benefit our local schools.

Please bring your contributions to the church and give to Sheila Gilpatrick or deposit them in the box above the coatrack in the narthex.

International Day of Prayer

Sunday, November 1, 2015

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.



UNITING IN PRAYER FOR THE
PERSECUTED CHURCH, IN
THE SPIRIT OF ONENESS
THAT CHRIST COMMANDED:
'FOR, IF ONE SUFFERS, WE
ALL SUFFER.'

The FIRST request of persecuted Christians when asked how we can help them is:

“PRAY FOR US”

1. Pray for Christians around the world imprisoned for their faith. Pray God would strengthen, protect and encourage them.
2. Pray God’s protection over pastors and evangelists spreading the gospel message in restricted and hostile nations.
3. Pray God’s provision and encouragement for families of Christians who have been killed for living out their faith in Jesus.
4. Pray government officials in hostile and restricted nations will come to know Jesus Christ personally and follow His will for their lives.
5. Pray for new believers in the Muslim world who are deciding when and how to tell family and friends that they are now followers of Jesus.
6. Pray for radio, television and internet ministries sending God’s Word over and through “closed” borders. Pray the Holy Spirit will bring much fruit for their work.
7. Pray for the provision and safe delivery of Bibles to believers in hostile and restricted nations.
8. Pray God will enable persecuted Christians to witness for Him, even witness to their persecutors
9. Pray Christians in free nations will understand *“the fellowship of suffering”* (Phil. 3:10) and choose to stand with and support our persecuted brothers and sisters.

YOU'RE INVITED!

NOVEMBER 7

FLEEK

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

You've prayed it 100's of times, but did you catch it? "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven . . ." Have you ever considered what it means for God's will to be done in Heaven and how we are to emulate and work for God's will to be done here? Resolve to get involved! Join other college and career-aged folks as we study Greg Laurie's *"As It Is in Heaven, How Eternity Brings Focus to What Really Matters."*

FLEEK

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

Kick-Off

November 7, 2015

7:00 pm

**Norwin Alliance
Church**

Pizza Provided!



SPONSORS

J. Renee Himler

Frank & Dannette Kolar

If you have questions, call

J. Renee Himler

724-832-0667 or e-mail

JReneeHimler@aol.com

1st Saturday every month
unless otherwise noted!

YOU'RE INVITED!
Men, Women, & Teens

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Shelli Prindle presents at:
NORWIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

**The
END.**

(According to God)

Saturday, November 7, 2015
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Call / Text **724.552.3122**

WALK-INS
WELCOME

What if the **END** was
really a **BEGINNING**?

What if there's a **PLAN** behind all the
pain and all the joy, behind all that we
know and all that confuses us?

What if we had access to the
TRUTH about the **END**?

Would you listen if you knew
God loves you and has a **PLAN**?



www.hopeandpassion.org

IRWIN MALE CHORUS
 Proudly Presents
“A 2015 SACRED CONCERT”
 at Norwin Alliance Church
 Sunday, November 8th
 6:30 pm


This is in lieu of the November *Connection* Service. Please invite your friends and come out for an evening of music and fellowship. A “love offering” will be collected.

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.

THANK YOU....

To everybody involved in the Fall Clean Up Ministry! There was a lot of laughter and fellowship. It was a beautiful day of serving our great God!

—Katie Barnhart-Smith




BLESSINGS!

Many people will be protected from the cold this winter due to NAC’s generosity through the Winter Coat Giveaway. Thirty-seven individuals received coats, and the remaining outerwear and accessories were donated to the *Intersection* and *Sonshine Kitchen* ministries in McKeesport. Joe and Pat Beyer would like to thank all of the volunteers who came out to help with this event on Oct. 17. Special kudos goes out to Pastor Bob for his support and participation with this valuable ministry.




All shoeboxes should be returned to the church **Sunday, November 15th**. 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, October 31.

**TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 3rd**

Remember to vote!



Let's go BOWLING!!

Who: NAC Youth Group

When: Saturday, Nov. 28
7-9 pm

Where: North Irwin VFD

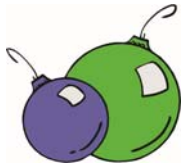


SWIM PARTY

The Children's Sunday School is hosting a **SWIM PARTY** on Friday, Nov. 13. It will be held at the Wilmerding "Y". Swim time will be from 6-7 pm, with pizza and cookies to follow from 7-8 pm.



HELP WANTED!



Do you have a knack for decorating? We are seeking an individual to be in charge of decorating our church building for the Christmas holiday. The 1st Sunday in Advent is Sun., Nov. 29, which is fast approaching. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please call the church office ASAP, but no later than Nov. 8. We need YOU!

Thanksgiving Season

On Wednesday, November 25th, 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, 2015



† 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 10, 2015

Abruzzi
9745 Route #0
(where Dunkin Donuts used to be)
6:00 pm

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



"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 19th, for a catered Thanksgiving Luncheon beginning at 11:30 am

The meal, which will be catered by K-Vays, will consist of Swiss steak, breaded pork chop, twice-baked potatoes, vegetable Riveria (green and wax beans and carrots), tossed salad and marble cake. The price is \$12 per person, payable with your reservation no later than November 12th to Georgia Turnsek or Ruth Long.

The program will be an extended giving of thanks, and election of officers for 2016 will take place. In addition to the program on the 19th, reservations and money will be accepted for the December 17th catered meal. Please note: the December meeting will also be the 3rd Thursday due to the Christmas holiday. Detailed information for the December meeting will appear in next month's Koinonia.

Please circle these dates on your calendar and plan to attend both meetings.

If you are age 50 or older, this is your cordial invitation to attend Keenagers. The programs begin at 11:30 am and conclude about 2:00 pm. Please set aside the dates, and make your reservations soon. We will look for YOU!!

Concert of Prayer

Sunday, November 29th

7:00 pm



Vignettes by Virginia

November is the month that we (the USA) set aside (but just one day) to celebrate Thanksgiving/thankfulness. Unfortunately we have a tendency to complain (this writer included) more than to be thankful.

Let's get the complaints out of the way first: name five things you complain about or cause you concern. Here is my list: health issues, the situation of our nation, cruelty of people, cold weather, and family hardships.

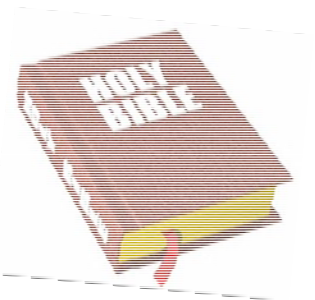
Now do a reversal, and remember it is time to be thankful. Name five things for which you are thankful. You could probably list hundreds once you get started. Here's my list: God's love, family, the United States of America, the Church (notice the capital C, including missions) and God's Word.

With a special emphasis on the Bible, are you aware that people groups around the world are literally begging for God's Word?? There are Bibles sitting in warehouses where the Bible is restricted to the people by copyright rules. In many countries, to own a Bible may mean persecution or even the giving of your life.

Wycliffe Translators have been working for years to have God's Word available to various people groups in their own languages. The latest statistics state that there are 7,102

languages in the world. At the present time, there is known translation work and/or linguistic development happening for 2,167 of these languages. Still, almost 2,000 languages are not accounted for. As Rev. Steve Steele quotes: "The word of God is what changes lives and makes the growth of the church possible in every people." Rev. Steele is CEO of SOVE, a translation technology company based in Chattanooga, Tennessee. With new technology, Bible translation can be completed in every written and oral language on earth in ten years. For more information, go to sovee.com or wycliffeassociates.org.

The next time you read God's Word, and hopefully that is a habit you have every single day, remember the many thousands of believers who would love to have a Bible, or even just a portion of God's Word. You probably have more than one version in your home!!! Pray for your fellow believers and THANK GOD, not just during the Thanksgiving season, for His Word. It is His message to us. As King David said in Psalms 119, "Oh, how I love Thy Word."



The Women's Corner

By Janis Swope

The zinnias and marigolds in our flower bed have finally been hit by a hard frost and most of the flowers have turned brown. Picking the dead flower heads of these plants is one of the easier yard chores we do and gives us back such great reward. Within the dry brown flowers there live seeds that will grow into beautiful colorful flowers that will decorate the borders of our home. We put them in jars so they will stay dry and protected in our garage. Planting the seeds in the spring takes very little effort as well.

Have you ever thought that there are times when our Christian walk looks very similar to this process? When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we are the seeds that have grown into a nice green stalk. The more we learn about God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we begin to produce buds and after a while we bloom into beautiful Christian daughters, walking with God the Father, leaning on Jesus the Son, and being fed and watered by the Holy Spirit.

Then comes the change of seasons and we experience a season of difficulty—maybe drought or cold which takes the form of illness, depression, and the general hardships of life. We know and believe in our hearts that God is still there, but we have taken our eyes off of Him. We become distracted and no longer commune with God as often as we used to do. Our infirmity or worldly distraction has made us focus on other things. We all go through difficulty and illness. The difference is how we handle these seasons of dried petals and brown stems. If we give up and walk away from

the One who made us, loved us enough to send His Son to die for our sins, and sent the Holy Spirit to feed and water us, then the seeds that we have produced will be scattered and blown away in the cool rainy days of autumn and the cold snowy days of winter. We will be blown apart in every direction with no sure purpose in life.

If on the other hand, we continue to strive with God during these hard seasons, Jesus will take our seeds and protect them with the Holy Spirit, preserving them so they can sprout again once we have passed through the difficult time. Once again we will be able to bloom in the light of the Son and be watered and fed so we grow in His word with the help of the Holy Spirit and produce a beautiful life for the One who created us. If you have been going through a difficult time in your life, my prayer is that you will continue to strive with God—continue to pray to Him, continue to learn more about Him, and continue to let the Holy Spirit work in your life. Don't give up on the One who loves you more than anything.

The Ladies Bible Study is still looking at the book of Genesis. God has been great in showing us new insights in His word. 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

"With the goodness of God to desire our highest welfare and the wisdom of God to plan it, what do we lack? Surely we are the most favored of all creatures." — A. W. Tozer

