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# 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

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NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2020

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Where do 6,000 young people between the ages of 13 and 25 live and hang out near to us? They live and move in a 6-mile radius of our church building. I often wonder how many of them hear some news of Jesus from our mission minded congregation.

Probably half of these young people have heard of the Christian singer, Lacroe. Lacroe is the first artist to have an album debut at number one for the Billboard 200 and the Gospel chart simultaneously.

In his recent book, *I Am Restored*, he speaks of his very broken life before and after trusting Jesus as Lord. This testimony is eye-opening for the young and the young at heart.

"God is making a masterpiece of my mess. We think of a masterpiece as a finished product when we see one in a museum. God's masterpieces are unfinished. The masterpiece isn't the awards I've received or my personal victories. The masterpiece is the closeness, security, and comfort I wake up with every day, knowing that God is with me. It's the assurance of having a relationship with God . . . being able to see the love of God as my healing."

I pray for this similar assurance to be with us as a church and with the 6,000 young people God sends us to every day.

**TUESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**



NAC is a polling facility. Voting will be in the back youth area. Please do not enter the church through the back.

NO Preschool this day



The following items were approved and discussed at the Elder's and Ministry Board meetings in October:

1. At our Congregation meeting in September, the 2021 budget was approved.
2. The Nominating Committee consists of: Bill, Kim, Vicki, and Lori.
3. Turkey Giveaway will be Saturday, November
4. Although we were behind the asking budget in September, our receipts were greater than our expenses.
5. Church family needs were discussed and prayed for.
6. Marty resigned his position as Elder and Ken resigned his position as Board Member-at-Large due to health concerns. Thank you to these two men for their faithful service to the Lord and to Norwin Alliance.
7. There will be a time of prayer for the upcoming elections at the Nov. 1 Worship Services

If you have a question or concerns for these Boards, please see Janis, our Board Members-at-Large, or one of the Elders. They will bring the concerns to the appropriate Board.

**PRAY.VOTE.PRAY.**

Pray Before You Vote



### Thanksgiving Season

On Wednesday, November 25<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!



### Norwin Alliance Preschool News

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. November's collection item: **Paper Products and Canned Veggies**

Thank you so much for any contributions you can make.



### Preschool Prayer Ministry

Once again this year, we are asking people to sign-up to be prayer warriors for one of our preschool students, their families and the teachers.

Those members signing up to participate would only be given the first name of a student. No personal information will be exchanged.

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. If you are willing to be part of this ministry, please sign-up next to the name of a student or teacher you would like to pray for.

Please prayerfully consider being part of this ministry. Prayer is the greatest support we can give for our Preschool children.



### Vignettes by Virginia

THANKSGIVING is an extraordinary holiday celebration; and it is just around the corner of our calendars. The year 2020 has gone so very quickly. Each of us will remember somewhat different happenings that caught our attentions, emotions, and relationship to God our Father.

Imagine you are sitting at the table on Thanksgiving Day with family and friends. You have been asked to share a personal blessing as to WHY thanksgiving is so meaningful and special to you.

I have decided to share my "overwhelming" appreciation with you as I sit at the imaginary table now. My greatest blessing has been the prayers of people all around the world. I am so thankful, despite my 'disease', I am considerably well. Doctors and medical staff work many, many hours to care for patients.

Another huge blessing is family. Three adult daughter, including their three husbands and TEN grandchildren. Our other daughter, not married and staying busy in the ministry in Ecuador. I am thankful she healed so well from COVID.

God's Word is extremely close to my heart and soul. I am so thankful that I have been aware of the Message since a very young child.

MUSIC - - and the ability to read it again since eye surgery! And can still SING.

WRITING - - is one of my favorite hobbies. I enjoy the many years I have written for the Koinonia. Another surprise is entering and winning a few poetry contests.

NATURE - - it is so beautiful

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - - even though it is a tough time for us right now. We need to PRAY, PRAY, PRAY and be thankful for our precious country!

SALVATION !!

Some of my favorite Scriptures:

Psalm 106:1-2 ~ *"Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or declare his praise?"*

I Thessalonians 5:16-18 (The Message) ~ *"Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you to belong to Christ Jesus to live."*

David Jeremiah, pastor out in California, has written: *"But you can be you - the person God want you to*

*be. Take an inventory of how God has obviously gifted or blessed you. Embrace His creativity, and determine to let Him use you in fresh and fulfilling ways."*

Grab ahold real tight of God's blessings, your family, friends, fellowship with other believers, and the promises He gives us in His Word and prayer.

Enjoy the fantastic meal !!



All shoeboxes should be returned to the church **Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**

Remember to:

~ ~ Enclose a check (made out to Samaritan's Purse \*note OCC on memo line) for **\$9.00 per box** to cover shipping and handling cost.

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

"Unmade" Boxes are available under the shelf in the narthex. Please take one, fill it up, and return by Nov. 8th.

**Let's fill Renee's jeep to overflowing!**





### ***The Women's Corner***

*By Janis Swope*

Happy November and Happy Thanksgiving! Praying that everyone will have a great Thanksgiving this year. We have so much to be thankful for. What is on the top of your list of blessings? A week or so ago Elaine West brought a decorative pumpkin to Ladies Bible Study. She had decorated it beautifully with leaves and ribbon and asked all of us to write on the pumpkin something we are thankful for so that we could display it in the church to remind ourselves of how much we have been blessed. It was a wonderful idea and everyone was happy to write on it. If you want to see it look in the Craft Room. It looks beautiful on the middle of the tables. But keep your eyes open. It may pop up somewhere else in the church. If you feel like adding something that you are grateful for be our guest!

Here are some things that I am grateful for but didn't have room to write on the pumpkin. I am so grateful for being able to be back in church again to worship and to be able to fellowship with my church family. You don't realize how much it means to you until it is taken away from you. I want to thank Pastor Bob, Vicki Booher, Tim Booher, Jake Booher, Chris LoChiatto, Frank LoChiatto, and anyone else who was involved in keeping the worship service continuing via Facebook Livestreaming during the shutdown. It was much appreciated! But I must tell you that it is nothing like actually attending church to worship our Lord. There is nothing like being with church family and offering up our praises to Him!

I am grateful for our Pastor. November 1st is Pastor Appreciation Day at Norwin Alliance and I would like to thank Pastor Bob for his faithful and steadfast service to all of us at NAC. He works hard taking care of us, all the seen and the unseen things.

Thanks also go out to Kim Peles for initiating Craft Day this past week. I had a great time and I know everyone else did too. Good idea Kim! Hope we have another one in a few months. It was fun getting together and creating something. Thanks a bunch to Elaine West for her time and talent in teaching a group of us how to create beautiful, decorated glass plates.

Thank you to Vicki Booher and the choir for encouraging, comforting, and blessing us with music. Music touches all of us in one way or another and there are times when I am tapping my toe, singing along, or crying because a song has really touched me.

Thank you to the DMC group for all their hard work in making sure all of us, from babies to senior folks, learn about God and His word so that we can become more mature in our faith.

There are so many more I groups and folks that I can think of that I am grateful for but don't have the room to include. Thank you to everyone who makes Norwin Alliance Church what it is – a loving, caring, outreaching, praying, Christ-centered family!

**The Women's Sunday School Class** is looking at 1 and 2 Thessalonians. I hope you'll give our class a try. We have some extra books if anyone is interested in joining us. You can see us in the Craft Room at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday.

**The Ladies Bible Study** group is happy to be back. We are continuing our study of Matthew. We meet in the Fellowship Hall so that we can practice social distancing and wearing of masks. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again. I have missed you all. The Men's study is still in the Youth Area at the same time so tell your husband and make it a date. All are welcome! We will have the coffee on! If it makes you feel safer, you can bring your own beverage.

### **The Last Word**

"I believe in God more BECAUSE of science than in spite of it."

William Phillips  
Nobel Prize winning Physicist

