



Norwood
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

315 Chester Pike

Norwood, PA 19074-1401

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Mission:

“Introducing people to Jesus Christ and strengthening lives through Him”

Worship Info

10:00 am in-person Worship Service
and live streamed on [YouTube](#)

Sunday School Classes

September-May
Cornerstone Adult Bible class - 9:00a-9:45a
Children’s Bible classes - 10:00a-11:00a
ages 0-12 years

Contact Info

610-532-0982

norwoodumc@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon – Fri 10am – 2pm

Click on icon links for more information



norwoodumc.org



[Eastern PA Conference of the
United Methodist Church](#)



The Pastor's Pen

Can These Bones Live?

Greetings Friends!

As we enter the month of August, I hope you have taken time this summer to rest, enjoy God's creation, and spend meaningful moments with family and friends. We recently celebrated the 250th Anniversary of America's founding, a significant milestone that caused many of us to reflect on our nation's history, the challenges we have faced, the sacrifices made by generations before us, and the hope that continues to guide us forward.

Anniversaries like this remind us that the story is never finished. Nations, communities, families, and even churches experience seasons of struggle, uncertainty, and change. Yet throughout history, God has shown that He is always at work bringing renewal, restoration, and new life where others may only see decline.

Sometimes, we may wonder if we are truly making a difference for the Kingdom of God. We look around and notice the challenges before us. We may not see as many young families attending worship as we would hope, and at times that reality can leave us feeling discouraged or even frustrated. But my friends, all hope is not lost. The Easter message reminds us every day that what appears dead can be resurrected. What seems impossible to us is always possible with God.

I am reminded of the prophet Ezekiel. The people of Israel had experienced one of the darkest seasons in their history. The Babylonians had conquered Jerusalem, their nation was in ruins, and many were living in exile. They felt hopeless, surrounded by destruction and uncertainty. They needed restoration. They needed hope. They needed to be reminded that God had not abandoned them. God brought Ezekiel to a valley filled with dry bones and asked him a powerful question: "Son of man, can

these bones live?" (Ezekiel 37:3) Ezekiel responded, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know." God instructed Ezekiel to speak His Word over those dry bones. As Ezekiel obeyed, something miraculous happened. There was a rattling sound, and the bones came together. Tendons and flesh appeared, and the bodies were restored, but there was still no breath in them.

Then God commanded Ezekiel to speak to the breath, and the breath of God entered them. They came alive and stood on their feet as a vast army. God explained that these bones represented the people of Israel, who had lost hope and felt as though their future was gone. But God promised restoration: "I will put my Spirit in you and you will live." (Ezekiel 37:14) Three times in this passage, God reminds His people: "Then you will know that I am the Lord." (Ezekiel 37:6, 13, 14) The message was clear: Israel's hope was not found in their circumstances. Their hope was found in God.

The same is true for us today. Can these bones live? Can a struggling family find healing? Can a relationship that seems broken be restored? Can a person battling illness, loneliness, or discouragement find renewed hope? Can a church facing challenges experience new life and vitality again? The answer from Scripture is a resounding yes! We serve a God of resurrection. We serve a God who brings life out of death, hope out of despair, and restoration out of brokenness. God is not finished with His people, and He is not finished with Norwood Church.

As you enjoy the remaining days of summer, whether you are vacationing at the beach or the mountains, spending time with loved ones, taking a quiet morning walk, or simply enjoying a refreshing moment in God's creation, I encourage you to trust that God is still working. Continue

to pray, continue to serve, continue to invite, and continue believing that God can do far more than we can imagine.

The Apostle Paul reminds us: "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in

love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called.” (Ephesians 4:2-4)

My friends, we are called to be people of hope. We are called to share the good news of Jesus Christ with those who walk through the doors of our church and with the people God places in our lives each day. As we look back and celebrate 250 years of our nation’s history, we are reminded that every generation has a responsibility to help build, strengthen, and preserve what has been entrusted to us. In the same way, we have been entrusted with the mission of sharing the hope of Jesus Christ and strengthening the ministry of His Church.

There will always be challenges before us. There will be moments when we wonder, “Can these bones live?” But we must remember that the Church does not depend only on our strength, our resources, or our abilities. The Church belongs to God. The same God who breathed life into dry bones continues to breathe life into His people today through the power of the Holy Spirit.

May we continue to trust Him. May we continue to serve Him. May we continue to believe that God can bring new life to places where we see only uncertainty. Because when God speaks, dry bones can live.

Have a blessed and safe summer!

In Christ, Pastor Scott
norwoodumcpastorscott@gmail.com

**[Blue underlined text](#) is a link to
SAFE websites / forms. Click & explore!**

CHURCH STAFF

[Rev. Scott Dorn](#), Lead Pastor

[Melanie Passarella](#), Administrative Assistant

[Kurt Schaefer, Sr.](#), Treasurer

[Lynda Stine](#), Financial Secretary

[Sharon Neff](#), Music Director

Church Meetings

Trustee meeting August 19

7:00 pm





*"I sought the Lord, and He delivered me, and delivered me from all my fears."
Psalm 34:4*

June 14 to July 12 Prayer Requests

Linda Sams	AnnaLouise Buchanan
Veronica	David
Owen	Military Airmen
Christopher	Drew
Bill	Richard Wilkerson
Meg & Baby	Dottie & Larry
Brittany & Ashley	Evie
Terri	Dominic
Paul	Joe Wade Family
Brendan & Sage	Ellen Cochran
Nancy	Rochelle's mom
Joanie	Pastor Scott
Charlie	Amanda
Stacy	Blondell sister
Mandy	

Ongoing Prayer Needs

All those affected by violence & war, and for peace between world governments	Miriam Martin
Russell & Bethany Alexander	Janice MacBride
Bob Arrants	Mary (Gina Dukes)
Brooke & Natalie (Maggie McCans)	Liz Murray (Lynn Seidel)
Bonnie (John Jones)	Rev. Bill Neff
Jim Chambers (Sally Vickers)	Donna Riegel
Michael Fletcher (Lynn Seidel)	Linda Sams
Eugene Holt (John Venafr)	Lynn Seidel
Tina Kadri (Judy Arrants)	Ruth Schenkenberger
Robin Kim	Sandra Shanahan
Gary Leranian (Madeline Deane)	Bernie, Bobbie & Katie Shimkus (Laura Welch)
	Sue (Mary Thompson)
	Michael Tate
	Jacob Tercha (Bobbi Blum)
	Joan Touhill (Lynn Seidel)
	Toya (Gina Dukes)

Need a loved one added or deleted from the On-Going Prayer list? Simply call or email the church and we'll make the changes.



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT NIGHT
is on summer break. Will resume
in October.

New Addresses!

Wilma Jane Hutchinson
mail welcomed!
c/o Asbury Grace Park
1170 West Main Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

*Please note if you send a card- Jane can no longer read or write due to her medical condition. You can write in the card and a staff member would probably read it to her.

She likes dogs, lighthouses, flowers, gardening, sailing ships, golf, and dolls (she collected the lifelike Franklin Mint type dolls) if possible cards with these pictures would be greatly appreciated. Her birthday is August 2nd.

Lynn Seidel cell# 610-908-4401 mail & calls welcomed!
414 S. Hamilton St.
Telford, PA 18969

Pastor Domingos Fernando cell# 973-597-8577 mail & calls welcomed!
1007 Ohio St Apt A
Pittsburg, KS 66762

Lynn Crump mail welcomed!
c/o Emmajane VanVorce
7146 State Rte 17C
Endicott, NY 13760

FAMILY CORNER

Kids leaving the church: What you can do now to turn the tide

[DiscipleLand Staff](#)

The culture we live in is greatly influencing our children's moral behavior and development — the vast majority of Christian kids today have no spiritual foundation. Fun and games are fine, but as the research indicates, we've raised a generation of children who have missed out on essential Bible training. When the world comes calling, many are falling prey to dubious activities and deceptive philosophies — and they are walking away from their faith.

In this week's newsletter, Jon Nielson provides insightful and practical tips you can use now that will help your children when they reach their teen years just a few short years away.

"What do we do about our kids?" The group of parents sat together in my office, wiping their eyes. I'm a high school pastor, but for once, they weren't talking about 16-year-olds drinking and partying.

Each had a story to tell about a "good Christian" child, raised in their home and in our church, who had walked away from the faith during the college years. These children had come through our church's youth program, gone on short-term mission trips, and served in several different ministries during their teenage years. Now they didn't want anything to do with it anymore. And, somehow, these mothers' ideas for our church to send college students "care packages" during their freshman year to help them feel connected to the church didn't strike me as a solution with quite enough depth.

The daunting statistics about churchgoing youth keep rolling in. Panic ensues. What are we doing wrong in our churches? In our youth ministries? It's hard to sort through the various reports and find the real story. And there is no one easy solution for bringing all of those "lost" kids back into the church, other than continuing to pray for them and speaking the gospel into their lives. However, we can all look

at the 20-somethings in our churches who are engaged and involved in ministry. What is it that sets apart the kids who stay in the church? Here are just a few observations I have made about such kids, with a few applications for those of us serving in youth ministry.

1. They are converted.

The apostle Paul, interestingly enough, doesn't use phrases like "nominal Christian" or "pretty good kid." The Bible doesn't seem to mess around with platitudes like: "Yeah, it's a shame he did that, but he's got a good heart." When we listen to the witness of Scripture, particularly on the topic of conversion, we find that there is very little wiggle room. Listen to these words: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (2 Cor. 5:17). We youth pastors need to get back to understanding salvation as what it really is: a miracle that comes from the glorious power of God through the working of the Holy Spirit.

We need to stop talking about "good kids." We need to stop being pleased with attendance at youth group and fun retreats. We need to start getting on our knees and praying that the Holy Spirit will do miraculous saving work in the hearts of our students as the Word of God speaks to them. In short, we need to get back to a focus on conversion. How many of us are preaching to "unconverted evangelicals"? Youth pastors, we need to preach, teach, and talk—all the while praying fervently for the miraculous work of regeneration to occur in the hearts and souls of our students by the power of the Holy Spirit! When that happens—when the "old goes" and the "new comes"—it will not be iffy. We will not be dealing with a group of "nominal Christians." We will be ready to teach, disciple, and equip a generation of future church leaders—"new creations"—who are hungry to know and speak God's Word. It is converted students who go on to love Jesus and serve the church.

2. They have been equipped, not entertained. Recently we had "man day" with some of the guys in our youth group. We began with an hour of basketball at the local park, moved to an intense game of 16" ("Chicago Style") softball, and finished the afternoon by gorging ourselves on meaty pizzas and 2-liters of soda. I am not against fun (or gross,

depending on your opinion of the afternoon I just described) things in youth ministry. But youth pastors especially need to keep repeating the words of Ephesians 4:11-12 to themselves: “[Christ] gave . . . the teachers to equip the saints for the work of the ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” Christ gives us—teachers—to the church, not for entertainment, encouragement, examples, or even friendship primarily. He gives us to the church to “equip” the saints to do gospel ministry, in order that the church of Christ may be built up.

If I have not equipped the students in my ministry to share the gospel, disciple a younger believer, and lead a Bible study, then I have not fulfilled my calling to them, no matter how good my sermons have been. We pray for conversion; that is all we can do, for it is entirely a gracious gift of God. But after conversion, it is our Christ-given duty to help fan into flame a faith that serves, leads, teaches, and grows.

If our students leave high school without Bible-reading habits, Bible-study skills, and strong examples of discipleship and prayer, we have lost them. We have entertained, not equipped them . . . and it may indeed be time to panic!

Forget your youth programs for a second. Are we sending out from our ministries the kind of students who will show up to college in a different state, join a church, and begin doing the work of gospel ministry there without ever being asked? Are we equipping them to that end, or are we merely giving them a good time while they’re with us? We don’t need youth group junkies; we need to be growing churchmen and churchwomen who are equipped to teach, lead, and serve. Put your youth ministry strategies aside as you look at that 16-year-old young man and ask: “How can I spend four years with this kid, helping him become the best church deacon and sixth-grade Sunday school class teacher he can be, ten years down the road?”

3. Their parents preached the gospel to them.

As a youth pastor, I can’t do all this. All this equipping that I’m talking about is utterly beyond my limited capabilities. It is impossible for me to bring conversion, of course, but it is also impossible for me to have an equipping ministry that sends out vibrant churchmen and churchwomen if my ministry is not being reinforced tenfold in the students’ homes. The common thread that binds together

almost every ministry-minded 20-something that I know is abundantly clear: a home where the gospel was not peripheral but absolutely central. The 20-somethings who are serving, leading, and driving the ministries at our church were kids whose parents made them go to church. They are kids whose parents punished them and held them accountable when they were rebellious. They are kids whose parents read the Bible around the dinner table every night. And they are kids whose parents were tough, but who ultimately operated from a framework of grace that held up the cross of Jesus as the basis for peace with God and forgiveness toward one another.

This is not a formula! Kids from wonderful gospel-centered homes leave the church; people from messed-up family backgrounds find eternal life in Jesus and have beautiful marriages and families. But it’s also not a crapshoot. In general, children who are led in their faith during their growing-up years by parents who love Jesus vibrantly, serve their church actively, and saturate their home with the gospel completely, grow up to love Jesus and the church.

The words of Proverbs 22:6 do not constitute a formula that is true 100 percent of the time, but they do provide us with a principle that comes from the gracious plan of God, the God who delights to see his gracious Word passed from generation to generation: “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Youth pastors, pray with all your might for true conversion; that is God’s work. Equip the saints for the work of the ministry; that is your work. Parents, preach the gospel and live the gospel for your children; our work depends on you.

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Give your child or yourself the gift of Bible knowledge. Norwood United Methodist Church offers Sunday morning programs for all ages that is Bible content centered. These programs help not only children, but adults to be able to discern the truth of God's Word from the deceptions of the world's shallow offerings of peace and love. Learning what God's Word has to say about living life to the fullest, helps us to become able to cope with problems that crop up in our lives. Come out and see how your life will be improved by learning God's principles in the Bible.

Cornerstone Bible Class is for adults of all ages. We meet at 9:00AM in the Chapel. Little Sprouts Bible class is for ages 3 -5/6 years old and meets every Sunday during the worship service. Bible Bunch class is for 6 to 11 years old. Bible Bunch class meets the 1st and 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month during the worship service. All Bible classes meet from September through May. For questions please contact the NUMC church office at 610-532-0982.



Grades 6 to 12 are invited to

Youth Group

EVERY FRIDAY 6-8
315 CHESTER PIKE

Norwood

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

For more information,
Contact the Church office at 610-532-0982

Light refreshments served!
100% FREE! Year-Round FUN!

315 Chester Pike, Norwood PA

Little Blessings Christian Preschool
Ages 3 - 5
2 - 5 Day Sessions
610 583-4780

[Little Blessings Christian Preschool](#) Registration is open!

Call 610-583-4780 or email

norwoodlittleblessings@yahoo.com for more information.

Little Blessings Amazon Wish List: [LBCP WISH LIST](#)

Open all year Fundraisers: radafundraising.com and mableslabels.com.

Please enter group name LITTLE BLESSINGS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

Men's Breakfast will resume on Oct 3 at 8:00am.

We meet on the first Saturday of months October to May in the Social Hall. Please join us. More info contact Bob Gibbs



Women's Breakfast will resume on Oct 10 at 8:30am.

We meet every second Saturday of months October to May in the Social Hall. More info contact Sally Vickers 610-565-0924 or jimsallyvickers@verizon.net.



Faith-building friendship, fun, food, and fellowship.



Handy Hands will resume on September 21 at 1:00pm.

Do you like to knit, crochet or do other types of hand work? If so, we meet every 3rd Monday every month in the Parlor. More info contact [Randy Gibbs](#), or [Lynda Stine](#).

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry-our local food bank-a ministry of the Prospect Hill Baptist Church-needs donations for the upcoming fall and winter season. Please place donation in tote in narthex. *This is an opportunity to show our thankfulness for all God has given to us.*



needs: canned beans; peanut butter; box or bagged pasta; tomato products; canned meat products (chicken, tuna, spam); snacks (cereal/granola bars, fruit snacks, etc.)

Amazon wish list: <https://a.co/03zcnZln>



Jane Hutchinson	2
Mary Thompson	5
Michelle Griffith	8
Deborah Choi.....	10
Monica Paye	19
Joyce Parcell	21
Breindel Agudzi-Baidoo ..	24
Logan Dreyer	26
Lynn Crump	31
Melanie Passarella	31

Worship Ministry

Mo.	Liturgist	Joys	Ushers	
2-Aug	Ashley	Ashley	Bob G	Tom G
9-Aug	Delano	Anna	Holly G	Bill F
16-Aug	Blondell	Anna	Jim V	Tom G
23-Aug	Bill F	Sally	Bill F	Jim V
30-Aug	Brittany	Anna	Tom G	Bob G

The SUMMER That GOD MADE

WORD SEARCH

Find all of the hidden words listed below.

G	Z	I	R	G	V	J	E	S	U	S	M	F	C
B	I	N	P	F	R	W	O	K	K	X	O	R	E
F	R	E	I	O	P	R	A	Y	E	R	I	T	G
S	C	I	S	U	N	H	A	T	S	C	L	O	P
E	P	Y	G	V	G	Z	A	W	K	A	L	Y	V
Q	Y	R	K	H	C	C	W	E	J	D	D	I	S
G	E	V	I	J	T	H	T	Y	E	U	Q	C	L
B	D	A	M	N	Z	S	Y	N	T	O	L	E	O
X	A	C	Y	U	K	R	P	S	D	Z	W		R
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P	O	T	Y	F	E	L	E	S	A	T	K	R	S
O	M	I	Z	Z	B	Z	E	R	I	Q	E	E	D
O	E	O	U	I	Z	R	M	A	S	J	U	A	A
L	L	N	B	L	F	K	F	F	L	E	C	M	Y

BRIGHT
WARM
CRICKETS
SUNHATS

JESUS
GOLDEN
VACATION
POOL

PRAYER
LEMONADE
BIBLE STUDY
FAITH

REST
SPRINKLERS
LORDS DAY
ICE CREAM

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August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 11:00am N.A. Meeting
2 10:00am Worship Service with Holy Communion	3	4 10:00am Prayer Hour	5 7:30pm N.A. Meeting	6 5:30pm N.A. Meeting 7:00pm Nar-Anon Meeting	7 Pastor's Day Off 6:00pm Youth Group 10:00pm N.A. Meeting	8 11:00am N.A. Meeting
9 10:00am Worship Service	10	11 10:00am Prayer Hour	12 7:30pm N.A. Meeting	13 5:30pm N.A. Meeting 7:00pm Nar-Anon Meeting	14 Pastor's Day Off 6:00pm Youth Group 10:00pm N.A. Meeting	15 11:00am N.A. Meeting
16 10:00am Worship Service	17	18 10:00am Prayer Hour	19 7:00pm Trustee Meeting 7:30pm N.A. Meeting	20 5:30pm N.A. Meeting 7:00pm Nar-Anon Meeting	21 Pastor's Day Off 6:00pm Youth Group 10:00pm N.A. Meeting	22 11:00am N.A. Meeting
23 10:00am Worship Service	24	25 10:00am Prayer Hour	26 7:30pm N.A. Meeting	27 5:30pm N.A. Meeting 7:00pm Nar-Anon Meeting	28 Pastor's Day Off 6:00pm Youth Group 10:00pm N.A. Meeting	29 11:00am N.A. Meeting
30 10:00am Worship Service	31					