



**Norwood**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

315 Chester Pike

Norwood, PA 19074-1401

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# JANUARY

## *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](mailto:norwoodumc@gmail.com)

Office Hours: Mon – Fri 10am – 2pm

*Click on icon links for more information*



[norwoodumc.org](http://norwoodumc.org)



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



### *The Pastor's Pen*

My Dear Friends of Norwood Church,

Happy New Year! As we say goodbye to 2025 and welcome the blessings God has in store for 2026, I want to take a moment to reflect with you on what it truly means to begin anew.

Many of us celebrate the New Year with small rituals. Perhaps, one last cookie, a hug, or a kiss before the ball drops, knowing that life moves forward and these moments are fleeting. Often, we set New Year's resolutions. We'll exercise more, eat healthier, read more, volunteer regularly, or pursue personal growth. While these are worthy goals, studies remind us that most resolutions falter because our commitment is shallow, and motivation wanes. True, lasting change requires more than willpower. It requires something deeper, something that can sustain us through life's challenges.

As I reflected on this, I was reminded of the words of the Apostle Paul: "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom" (2 Corinthians 3:17). True freedom doesn't come from resolutions, self-discipline, or checklists—it comes from God's Spirit living in us.

Think of Moses, who covered his face with a veil so the Israelites would not see the fading glory of the old covenant. The veil represents anything that keeps us from God's full freedom, our fears, doubts, anger, or the burdens we carry. But in Christ, the veil is removed. God's Spirit dwells in us, writing His law on our hearts (Jeremiah 31:33) and transforming us into His image. We are free to live fully, to shine with God's love, and to step forward boldly, even when the waters rise around us.

This year, rather than resolutions that may falter, consider a resolution of a different kind: the resolution to live in the freedom Christ has already won for us. Galatians 5:1 reminds us: "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

Whether the veil in our lives is fear, doubt, or anger, God calls us to trust Him, walk in His Spirit, and reflect His radiant glory to the world. Even a simple act of a smile, a kind word, a "God bless you" to the cashier at Acme can shine His light.

Friends, as we step into 2026, let us resolve not only to pursue goals but to embrace the freedom and joy Christ offers. Let us walk boldly, shine brightly, and live as children of the King of Kings, trusting that He will guide our steps every moment of this year.

From my family to yours, I wish you a blessed and joyful New Year!

In Christ, Pastor Scott Dorn

[norwoodumcpastorscott@gmail.com](mailto:norwoodumcpastorscott@gmail.com)

**Blue underlined text is a link to  
SAFE websites / forms. Click & explore!**

#### **Staff**

**Rev. Scott Dorn**, Lead Pastor

**Melanie Passarella**, Administrative Assistant

**Kurt Schaefer, Sr.**, Treasurer

**Lynda Stine**, Financial Secretary

#### **January Church Meetings**

SPRC Meeting Tuesday Jan 6 at 7pm

Church Council Meeting Tuesday Jan 13 at 7pm

Trustee Meeting Wednesday Jan 21 at 7pm



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

## Ongoing Prayer Needs

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

### NOV 16 to Dec 14 Prayer Requests

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| Marie Florio | Frankie        |
| Stephanie    | Bonnie         |
| Marla Hsu    | Dottie & Larry |
| Tom Glisson  | DC Soldiers    |
| Ruth         | Denise         |
| Rosebud      | Landon         |



|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Gary Buchanan .....       | 7  |
| Greg Buchanan .....       | 7  |
| Joanne DiFabio .....      | 12 |
| Carol Hammes .....        | 12 |
| Angela Litwin .....       | 14 |
| Christina Pentimall ..... | 14 |
| Bill Fisher, Sr .....     | 15 |
| Rich Borrell .....        | 16 |
| Daniel Shanahan .....     | 18 |
| Cindy Tuttle .....        | 21 |
| Barbara Brooks .....      | 24 |



## New Addresses!

**Lynn Seidel**

**414 S. Hamilton St.**

**Telford, PA 18969**

cell# 610-908-4401

mail & calls welcomed!

**Pastor Domingos Fernando**

**1007 Ohio St Apt A**

**Pittsburg, KS 66762**

cell# 973-597-8577

mail & calls welcomed!

**Lynn Crump**

**c/o Emmajane VanVorce**

**7146 State Rte 17C**

**Endicott, NY 13760**

mail welcomed!

# Parents Corner

## Starting the New Year: Character Counts

[DiscipleLand Staff](#) December 28, 2012 [Children's Ministry Curriculum](#), [Children's Ministry Resources](#) [No Comments](#)

The New Year brings fresh hope. We think about new ideas and resolutions to improve our serve. Here's a practical idea presented by Dr. Scott Turansky that you can use and share with your team and parents.

"When you feel overwhelmed by the poor behavior of your child, here's an exercise that will give you some direction. In fact, this activity is good for any parent (or teacher) looking for ways to help a child grow, but it's especially helpful when you're confused and overwhelmed by a problem's complexity or deeply-rooted nature.

"Start by making a list of the problems you've seen in your child in the last few days. This isn't a list to show to your child but it's a working list so that you can gain some perspective in your discipline. You're looking for examples of problems that need to be addressed. Look for behaviors, their causes, and common arenas where the problem takes place. In this step, you're simply gathering data and making observations.

"Next, group the offenses around character qualities. That is, look for common threads in the offenses that are an indication of a deeper heart issue. For example, you may be seeing selfishness demonstrated or meanness or lack of respect for authority.

"Next you want to name the positive quality your child needs. Possibly kindness, or responsibility, or honor, or respect for others.

"Once you have the character quality chosen, you can develop a practical definition for it and concrete ways to demonstrate the quality. Share this new quality with your child in a positive way, communicating hope in the process. Talk about what it means and how the child will benefit from this quality now and in the future. Then practice, practice, practice. Reinforce this new quality by sharing demonstrations of it in the lives of other people you know, and affirm your child when you see it. "I like to obedience I'm seeing" and "Doesn't it feel good to be responsible and care for your hamster?"

"Behavior problems are temporary, but the character you work on in your child's heart will help your child now and in the future."

Most children learn Bible stories and key characters from their Sunday school or children's church experience. But they also need to understand the eternal principles of God's Word, and even more importantly, to know Him and to make Him known.

For example, Dorothea Lander, Children's Communication Team Coordinator and Strategic Liaison for Wycliffe USA, writes, "I watched God's Word transform one of our three children who struggled mightily with anger from a very early age. With horror we watched sibling interactions that involved screaming, hitting, and vicious scratching that even drew blood. Thankfully the other two siblings did not fight back. I chose key Bible verses which present the "positive side" of what God expects of us as His children. We used Ephesians 4:32, James 1:19-20, and Proverbs 15:1. Together we wrote them on 3 by 5 cards and memorized them. When an angry outburst did occur, we stopped immediately and pulled the cards out of our pockets on the spot. We read the verses. We prayed together, asking for forgiveness and for God to transform this sibling's heart to think and act like God's Word instructed. Every night at bedtime we talked over the day, recited the verses again, and talked about how the Scripture had applied that day. I watched the Holy Spirit use God's Word to begin convicting of sin within that first week! Tears began to flow over outbursts instead of blaming others. In



just over one month, God transformed this child of ours, through His powerful, life-changing Word. For years now, this grown child has acknowledged the overwhelming struggle with anger, and the permanent, powerful transformation God's Word brought about."

### Discipleship Begins With Our Children

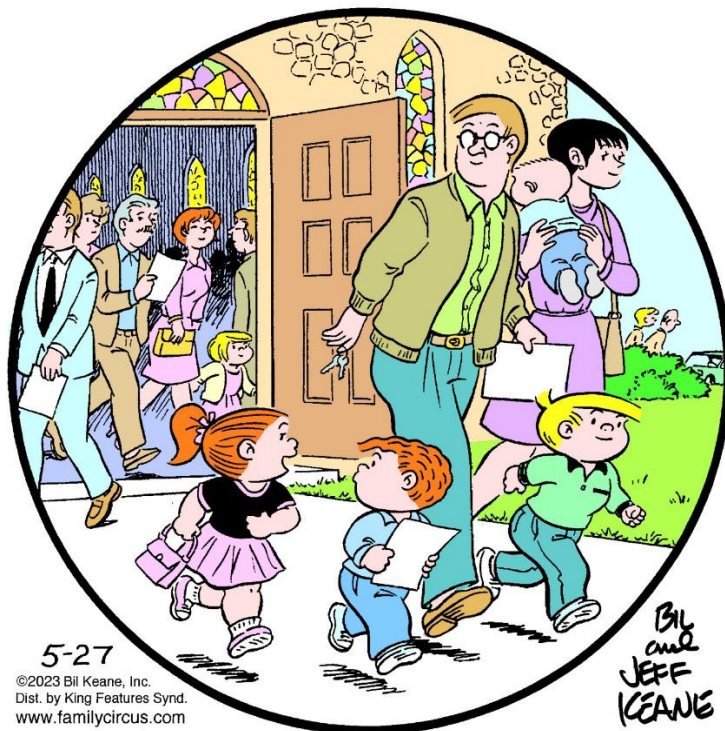
DiscipleLand's family of Biblical resources forms a complete Children's Discipleship System™ – an intentional, relational, and transformational process designed to help children know God intimately, love Him passionately, and to serve Him selflessly.

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*Give your child or yourself the gift of Bible knowledge. Norwood United Methodist Church offers a Sunday morning program for all ages that is Bible content centered. This program helps not only children, but adults 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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.*



5-27

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**"I like singin' in church.  
Everybody sings whether they  
know the words or not."**

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](#)

Registration is open!

Call 610-583-4780 or email

[norwoodlittleblessings@yahoo.com](mailto:norwoodlittleblessings@yahoo.com)

for more information.

**Little Blessings Amazon Wish List:**

[LBCP WISH LIST](#)

**Fundraisers:** [radafundraising.com](http://radafundraising.com) and [mableslabels.com](http://mableslabels.com) .

Please enter group name LITTLE BLESSINGS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

Most of you know that Little Blessings is a mission of Norwood UMC. However, you might not know that Little Blessings gets no financial support from Norwood UMC. All our operating funds come from tuition, congregational giving and fundraisers. Unfortunately, we have only eleven children enrolled at the end of November, so our tuition is low. This is causing a deficit in meeting our staff salaries. The Little Blessings Board would like to ask you to pray that more children enroll in Little Blessings. Also consider making a monetary donation to Little Blessings. You can mark Little Blessings on the mission line on the church envelopes. There is also a jar in the narthex marked Loose Change for Little Blessings. Consider emptying the loose change in your pockets and purses into the jar.

Our [Rada fundraiser](#) has started! They sell many different types of awesome products from knives, kitchen utensils, grilling utensils to mixings for making delicious soups, appetizers and desserts. Another fundraiser is [Mabel's Labels](#). Get your personalized waterproof name labels and tags for clothes, shoes, water bottles, backpacks and much more! Great for the kids, seniors and household items!

Please pray for Little Blessings that more children enroll to take advantage of our program.

**Men's Breakfast is Saturday January 3 at 8:00 am.** We meet on the first Saturday of months October to June. It is a time for fellowship and to build a relationship with one another. Please join us. More info contact Bob Gibbs



**Women's Breakfast is January 10 at 8:30am.** We meet every second Saturday of months October to May. More info contact Sally Vickers 610-565-0924 or [jimsallyvickers@verizon.net](mailto:jimsallyvickers@verizon.net).



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



### Handy Hands

gathers on January 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm We meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday every month.

More info contact [Randy Gibbs](#), or [Lynda Stine](#).



### COMMUNITY EVENT NIGHT

FREE

**Sunday January 11**

**5:30pm Dinner**

**6:30pm Event: TBD**

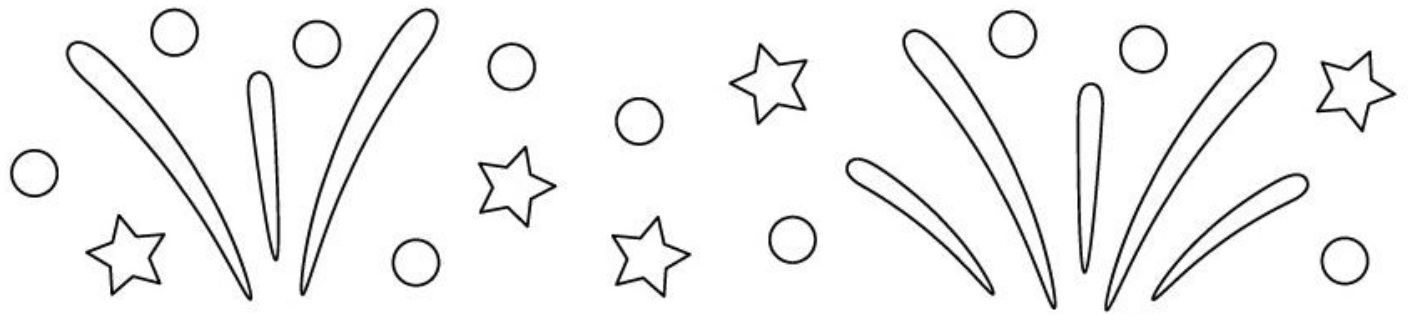
Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry-our local food bank-a ministry of the Prospect Hill Baptist Church-needs donations for the upcoming fall and winter season. Please place donation in tote in narthex. *This is an opportunity to show our thankfulness for all God has given to us.*



needs: shelf sustainable  
canned items: Chicken, Spam,  
Tuna, Salmon, Sardines Chef  
Boyardee, Soup

| Worship schedule |             |          |          |          |
|------------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Mo.              | Liturgist   | Joys     | Ushers   |          |
| 4-Jan            | Kelli B.    | Anna G.  | Jim V.   | Tom G.   |
| 11-Jan           | Blondell C. | Sally V. | Lynda S. | Bob G.   |
| 18-Jan           | Jeremiah A. | Anna G.  | Tom G.   | Jim V.   |
| 25-Jan           | Brittany S. | Sally V. | Bill F.  | Lynda S. |





# NEW YEAR'S

## WORD SEARCH

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

CALENDAR  
CELEBRATION  
CHEERS  
CLOCK  
CONFETTI

COUNTDOWN  
DECEMBER  
EVE  
FAMILY  
FIREWORKS

FRIENDS  
HAPPY  
HOLIDAY  
JANUARY  
MIDNIGHT

NEW  
NOISEMAKER  
PARTY  
RESOLUTION  
YEAR



## JANUARY 2026

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