

Elfinwild Presbyterian Church
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Clerk of Session – Mark Riethmuller
President of Trustees – James Giel, Jr.
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Programs

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Senior Achievers – Cleo Ifft – 412-486-4382

Deacons' Hospitality Contact

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Elfinwild Church Preschool

Carolyn Hervey, Director
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1. **ELDER OF THE WEEK** is Bill Piel.
2. **THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** this morning are given in loving memory of Helen and Frank Reed by Ruth Ann and Frank Reed.
3. **HEARING ENHANCING EQUIPMENT**. If you have difficulty hearing during the worship service, please let one of the ushers know prior to the service, and you'll be given a hearing enhancer to use during the service.

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY, Birth-5th Grade

4. **YOUNG CHILD IN WORSHIP (11:10 ONLY)** (age 4 – 2nd grade) provides an opportunity for children to experience God through an age-appropriate and multi-sensory worship service. The wooden figures, desert box and other materials create a visual representation of the Bible. The lighting of candles and discussion of other church traditions introduce children to the meaning of the many symbols seen in the sanctuary. The hands-on experience of the children retelling the stories by manipulating the figures helps the Bible lessons take shape in their minds and hearts. Today's lesson on Advent, "*Magi, Christ Child*" is being taught by Sue Anderson, Donna Rea Thompson, and Carolyn Hervey.
5. **M & ms "MESSIAH & ME"** Calling all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students: join us for M&ms! Mark your calendar for December 21, 6:30-8:00pm in Fellowship Hall. We will share the joy of the season with others as we go caroling at DeHaven Court! All are welcome and are invited to bring a friend! Please call Kristin Coco at (412-767-4539) or Bethann Dolan (412-492-9991) with any questions.
6. **SONG OF THE MONTH FOR "KIDS OF THE KINGDOM"** Children in the Preschool through 6th grade Sunday school classes will not be singing on the 4th Sunday of December during the 11:10 service. The next time they will sing during 11:10 worship will be on January 22, 2012.



YOUTH MINISTRY

7. **JR. HIGH CLUB TONIGHT 4:30-6:00 PM:** This is our youth group time for students in 6th-8th grades. We have a great time hanging out, playing games, singing songs, eating snacks and talking about what it means to follow Jesus. We hope to see all our 6th-8th grade students at Club!

8. **SR. HIGH CLUB TONIGHT 6:30-8:00 PM:** This is our youth group time for students in grades 9-12. We also have a great time hanging out, playing games, singing together, eating snacks and talking about what it means to follow Jesus. All Elfinwild 9th-12th graders and their friends are welcome to attend.
9. **PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS:** Once again you can purchase a gift for someone living at the Orion Home. We will then take these gifts to the patients and spend some time with them December 14th from 6:30-8:30pm. Simply pick up a Patient Card from Jason to participate. Cards will be made available on a first-come first-served basis.
10. **STUDENT MINISTRIES SELLS MAGNETS.** Student Ministries is again selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets after each worship service. Cost is \$5.00 for one magnet and \$8 for two. The sale of these magnets helps to offset the cost of the summer mission trips.

ELFINWILD CHURCH NEWS

11. **CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS 2011.** Place your money for a donation to the Bread of Life Food Bank or the North Hills Community Outreach Food Bank in the special envelopes located in the pews and mark the outside with the memorial name and your own name. (Make all checks payable to Elfinwild Church). All donations are now being applied to the food banks.
12. **2012 MEMORIAL FLOWERS.** If you would like to reserve a date to celebrate an event or to memorialize an individual(s) by purchasing flowers, please choose a date and sign the calendar on the wall in the north narthex. Please include your name for billing purposes. The cost is \$37.00 and the church will bill you.
13. **2012 OFFERING ENVELOPES.** Please pick up your offering envelopes from the tables at the rear of the sanctuary. This will save the expense of mailing them to you.
14. **GIFTS OF HEALTH FOR CHRISTMAS TO BENEFIT THE PEOPLE OF SAN JOSE DEL NEGRITO!** These gifts can be purchased to honor family, friends and colleagues and will be on sale Sunday morning on 12/11, and 12/18. Each purchase is represented by a beautiful ornament that may be hung on the Christmas tree and later placed on the refrigerator as a reminder of your gift throughout the year. Also available will be fair trade coffee from Honduras – a great gift in itself and the perfect stocking stuffer. Questions? Contact Mark and Amy Meyer: 412-492-9968. Online Gifts of Health sales are also available at www.shouldertoshoulderpgh.org.
15. **FELLOWSHIP HOUR.** Tessa Connelly is still looking for volunteers to help with Fellowship Hour. People are needed at 8:00 am to make coffee and cut donuts, and during and after fellowship time to pour juice and clean up. Making a donation of juice or coffee is another way you can contribute. Please contact Tessa Connelly at 412-213-0384 or tconnelly08@verizon.net if you are willing to occasionally commit a small amount of time on Sunday mornings.

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	12:30 pm	Christmas Pageant Practice
	12:30 pm	100 th Anniversary Committee – Kennedy Library
	12:30 pm	Pageant Practice – Fellowship Hall (for angels, shepherds, Gabriel, Mary, Joseph, Readers
	2:00 pm	"The Nativity" movie – Youth House
	4:30 pm	Jr. High Youth Group
MONDAY	6:30 pm	Sr. High Youth Group
	7:00 pm	Session Meeting – Corner Conf. Room
	7:00 am	Pre-School – C.E.
	9:30 am	Christmas Program – Fellowship Hall
	6:30 pm	CLC #5 – Youth House
TUESDAY	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts – Friendship Hall
	7:00 am	Pre-School – C.E.
	9:30 am	Christmas Program – Fellowship Hall
	11:00 am	No Staff Meeting
	1:00 pm	Caring Hands – Corner Conf. Room
WEDNESDAY	5:00 pm	AARP Christmas Dinner – Fellowship Hall
	6:00 pm	Praise Team – Sanctuary
	6:00 pm	Pageant Practice – Dress Rehearsal for Everyone
	6:30 pm	TOPS
	7:00 pm	Trustee's Meeting – Corner Conf. Room
THURSDAY	7:00 am	Pre-School – C.E.
	9:30 am	Christmas Program – Fellowship Hall
	1:00 pm	Christmas Program – Fellowship Hall
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts – Green Room
	6:30 pm	Elementary Choir – Chapel
FRIDAY	7:00 pm	CLC #2 – Kennedy Library
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir – Choir Room
	7:00 am	Pre-School – C.E.
	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study – Pastor's Study
	9:30 am	Christmas Program – Fellowship Hall
SATURDAY	1:00 pm	Christmas Program – Fellowship Hall
	6:00 pm	Lions Club – Corner Conf. Room
	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts – Green Room
	7:00 pm	CLC #3 – Youth House
	7:15 pm	Youth Choir – Choir Room
SATURDAY	7:00 am	Pre-School – C.E.
	9:30 am	Christmas Program – Fellowship Hall
	1:00 pm	Christmas Program – Fellowship Hall
SATURDAY	7:00 pm	Cub Scout Meeting – Friendship Hall
	6:00 am	CLC #4 – Kennedy Library

16. **THE COLUMBARIUM.** Elfinwild Presbyterian Church has established a special facility for the care and safekeeping of cremated remains. By establishing a columbarium at our church, it is possible to once again return to the tradition of making one's final resting place on the grounds of the church. Applications are now being accepted for reserving a niche in the Columbarium. Selection will be on a first come, first serve basis and selection began on January 15, 2011. Niches can be purchased for both burial and tribute. Brochures and applications are available through the church office. If you would like to speak with someone about the Columbarium and purchasing a niche, please feel free to contact Deb Thompson, 412-487-7001.

17. **FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY** is a 13-week, biblically-based course teaching us HOW to better manage our financial affairs. No matter what you know about finances, you don't know enough! This course, written and conducted by nationally syndicated radio host (2-5 PM M-F AM 910) and best-selling author Dave Ramsey, has helped hundreds of thousands of people. Subjects include: how to save, understanding investments, insurance, retirement, college planning, real estate, mortgages, careers, dumping debt, and much more. The course will help you set goals that you can achieve. There will be a one hour overview of the course on January 3 at 7 PM. in the Youth House. The course will be offered on Tuesdays, beginning January 10 from 7 to 9 P.M. Cost for the first 13 families is \$76.55. You can't afford to NOT take the course! Go to www.daveramsey.com for a taste of what you'll get. Please call Henry Tomer with any questions: 412-487-4437.



18. **PILGRIMAGE TO THE LIVING STONES OF ISRAEL AND THE WEST BANK (February 28-March 9, 2012)** – World Mission Initiative and Shadyside Presbyterian Church have organized a trip to visit and learn from the indigenous Church of Jerusalem. The holy sites of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jericho, and Galilee are included. However, the focus of the trip will be on listening to the voices of our Mother Church, understanding the issues that challenge their ministry, and encouraging them with our presence and prayers. The cost is \$3,000. Application (<http://www.worldmissioninitiative.org/apply.htm>) and deposit of \$200 are due by December 20 to ddawson@pts.edu.

19. **AARP #3744.** Glenshaw AARP will meet Tuesday, December 13, for their Christmas Dinner Party at Elfinwild Presbyterian Church. Entertainment will be Craig Zinger, a pianist and entertainer. Refreshments start at 5:00 pm with dinner at 6:00.

20. **GIFT WRAPPING BENEFITS NHCO:** During December, North Hills Community Outreach volunteers will be wrapping gifts for donations at Northway Mall and local bookstores. To volunteer, call Lee Anne at 412-487-6316, option 1, ext. 3133.

21. **BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY:** It's hard to believe that in a few short weeks the Christmas season will be upon us. While most of us are fortunate enough to have enough food on those holidays, many of our neighbors must rely on help from others to obtain their daily staples. This time of the year also puts a huge food supply and financial strain on our local food pantries to ensure that people not only have enough food for daily living, but a little extra during the holidays.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry, an outreach ministry of the Calvert Memorial Presbyterian Church relies on the generosity of our neighboring churches to help meet the financial and food needs at this time of year. In addition to food, the Pantry provides each qualifying client with a \$25.00 Giant Eagle gift card .

If you or an organization to which you belong would like to make a financial donation to assist in purchasing these gift cards or would like to donate food to the Food Pantry, please contact Tina Ciao, Volunteer Coordinator at 412-318-5545 to arrange to have your donations picked up. Monetary donations can be sent to: **BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY, 94 Locust St., Pittsburgh, PA, 15223.**

On behalf of the over 350 people who are served by the Bread of Life, thank you for your gifts. They are greatly appreciated!

22. **BLIND & VISION REHABILITATION SERVICES OF PITTSBURGH** is in need of volunteers to help on Tuesday afternoons between 12:30 and 2:30 pm with arts and crafts and field trips. Also, volunteers are welcome to help drive clients to and from doctor's offices, the airport, and the bus station; serve as escorts for group activities; and help staff who are vision-impaired. For more information, contact Nancy Schepis, volunteer coordinator at 412-368-4400 or nschepis@pghvis.org.

23. **NORTH HILLS COMMUNITY OUTREACH HOLIDAY DONATIONS REQUEST:** NHCO is requesting donations for *Sharing Holiday Warmth*. Each year, several hundred local families in need receive food and utility credits during the holidays, as funding allows. Contributions can be sent to North Hills Community Outreach, 1975 Ferguson Rd., Allison Park, PA, 15101. NHCO is also collecting **new, unwrapped toys** for children and youth of all ages. For more information contact Vicki Burstynowicz at 412-487-6316, option 1.

24. **NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO VOLUNTEER?** North Hills Community Outreach will hold orientation sessions for prospective volunteers Jan. 12 at 10 am at NHCO Millvale – 416 Lincoln Avenue, and 6 p.m. at NHCO Allison Park – 1975 Ferguson Road. Contact Linda Robbins at 412-487-6316 opt. 2 for more information. Volunteers are also needed to help senior citizens with transportation to the doctor, grocery shopping, snow shoveling and friendly visiting. Call the Open Your Heart to a Senior line at 412-307-0071 to learn more.