

COMMUNITY NEWS

22. ATTENTION SENIORS – The Senior Center North located at Nativity Lutheran Church in Allison Park is looking for seniors to come out and join other seniors looking for fun and companionship Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Come enjoy bingo, crafts, Wii bowling, cards, trips to the grocery store and mall and lunch for a \$1.00 donation. Have a cup of coffee and good conversation. Please call Meg at 412-486-6426 for more information. Hope to see you soon!

23. ELFINWILD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY is in need of new members. If you're looking for a way to give something back to the community, this is a great opportunity! All training and equipment are provided either in-house or through local fire academies and schools. By making a commitment to the fire service, you can earn a FREE college degree through the FireVest program of the Community College of Allegheny County. For degrees offered or for more details, call 412-931-3158, ext. 5. Stop by the fire hall at 2807 Mt. Royal Blvd. on any Monday evening at 7:30 PM or call Dan at 412-377-5986.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR AT A GLANCE 12-6-15

TODAY (12-6-15) Communion
8:30 AM & 11:10 AM – Worship Services – SA
9:45 AM – Sunday School
12:30 PM – Pageant Rehearsal – SA, FH
2:00 PM – Sr. Highs return from Laurelville
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM – Jr. High Club – YH

MONDAY
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Preschool – CE
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM – Preschool Christmas Program practice – FH
5:30 PM – 8:30 PM – Act One – CE
7:00 PM – Boy Scouts – PR
7:00 PM – Personnel Committee Meeting – KL

TUESDAY
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Preschool – CE
8:00 AM – Prayer and Communion Service – CH
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM – Preschool Christmas Program practice – FH
10:00 AM – Staff Meeting – KL
1:00 PM – Caring Hands – FH
6:30 PM – Weigh to Lose
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM – Kids Music – CR
7:00 PM – Trustees Meeting – CCR
7:00 PM – AARP Meeting – FH
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM – Financial Peace – YH

WEDNESDAY
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Preschool – CE
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Mom & Me – PR, TR
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM – Preschool Christmas Program practice – FH
12:00 PM – OOO's Luncheon – CCR
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM – Daisies – PR
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Chancel Choir – CR

THURSDAY
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Preschool – CE
7:00 AM – Men's Bible Study – PS
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Mom & Me – PR, TR
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM – Preschool Christmas Program practice – FH
6:00 PM – 7:15 PM – Praise Team – SA
7:15 PM – 8:30 PM – Youth Choir – CR

FRIDAY
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Preschool – CE
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Mom & Me – PR, TR
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM – Preschool Christmas Program practice – FH
4:15 PM – 6:45 PM – Act One – CE
7:00 PM – Pack 157 Meeting – FH

SATURDAY
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Act One – CE
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Lesnett Open House

SUNDAY (12-13-15)
Fill-A-Truck Drive
8:30 AM & 11:10 AM – Worship Services – SA
9:45 AM – Sunday School
12:30 PM – Pageant Rehearsal – SA, KL
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM – Jr. High Club – YH
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM – Sr. High Club – YH
7:00 PM – Session Meeting – CCR

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given in memory of Kevin Thomas by Dean and Elizabeth Thomas and Pam Walker.

THE ELDER OF THE WEEK is Kyle Pinta.

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.

8:30 AM USHERS

Mark Connelly
Curtis Neil
Len Colaizzi
Marilyn Colaizzi

11:10 AM USHERS

Henry Tomer
Nicole Graco
Jerry Nist
Dave Jenkins
Becky Winek

SOUND TECHNICIANS

8:30 AM – Zach Hughes
11:10 AM – Ken Volle

UPCOMING SERVICE

Sunday, December 13, 2015
Dr. Dirk Lesnett preaching

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY

Birth – 6th Grade

For more information on these ministries, please contact Emily Cooper, Director of Children and Family Ministries at: emily@elfinwildchurch.org or call 412-486-5400

1. CRADLE ROLL ROOM FOR AGES BIRTH THROUGH

2 1/2. The Cradle Roll room is located past the church offices and choir room. The **TODDLER/PRESCHOOL ROOM** is open during the Sunday School time and the 11:10 worship hour. This is a class for children who are 2 ½ to 4yrs. of age.

2. SUNDAY SCHOOL –Our classes will begin at 9:45 and end at 10:45 AM.

Children 4 years old (Pre-K) through 2nd grade will meet in the GREEN room of the C.E. for Kids of the Kingdom Music to start class at 9:45. Children in 3rd grade through 5th will meet in their classrooms.

3. YOUNG CHILD IN WORSHIP – For ages Pre-K through 2nd grade during the

11:10 service. This week's lesson will be *Advent IV – Magi Show the Way* and will be taught by Donna Rea Thompson, Sue Anderson, Elaine Jans and Bev Friedline.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

For more information on these ministries, please contact Ron Bernhardt at ron@elfinwildchurch.org or call 412-486-5400.

4. HELP US MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! You're invited to join us this Advent and Christmas season in making a joyful noise to the Lord! If you've been thinking about joining one of our groups or maybe can't make a yearlong commitment, this is a great time to add your talent to our Sunday morning worship. There is an ensemble for everyone:

Chancel Choir	Wednesdays	7-8:30 PM
<i>Anyone high school age and older</i>		
Worship	12/13 @8:30	12/24@10:00
Praise Team	Thursdays	6-7:15 PM
<i>Instrumentalists and vocalists welcome</i>		
Worship	12/13@11:10	12/20@8:30

Please use this form to register for church events. After filling it out, you may tear it off and place into the offering plate. Thank you!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Event: _____

Number of Registrants: Adults _____ Children _____

Ages of Children: _____

Youth Choir Thursdays 7:15-8:30 PM

Anyone in grades 6-12

Worship 12/13@11:10
12/24@7:00 PM

Kids Choir Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 PM

Anyone in grades 1-5 for singing and ringing

Worship 12/20@11:10
12/24@7:00 PM

Handbell Choir Tuesdays 7:30-8:30 PM

Anyone high school age and older – no experience necessary

STUDENT MINISTRIES, Grades 6-12

For more information on these ministries, please contact

Rev. Jason Rea at

jason@elfinwildchurch.org or call 412-486-5400.

5. JR. HIGH CLUB – Jr. High (grades 6-8) will meet from 4:30 – 6:00 PM tonight. There will be no Sr. High (grades 9-12) Club this week as the Sr. Highs will be returning from Laurelville.

6. JASON AND THE SR. HIGHS are in Laurelville this weekend. Please pray for safe travel and a spiritually enriching experience.

7. JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS BIBLE STUDY – Please join Bethany Harbaugh and Kelly Simile for a Bible Study for girls in 6-8 grade! We will be talking about some big life questions...and how to find the answers through Christ. This study will be on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 PM and began on September 16th at the Harbaugh house. Please let us know if you are able to attend! To contact Bethany, call 724-822-6550 or email her at: harbaugh.bl1@gmail.com. To contact Kelly, call 412-445-3562 or email her at: ksimile1@gmail.com. **We are taking a break for the month of December and will resume in January.**

8. THE STUDENT MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS! The Student Ministry Support Team (SMST) is a group of adults that assist Jason and the youth leaders with special events. In the past year, we organized food for the Kick Off party, the Christmas party and the End of Summer Picnic. We organized and ran the Pancake Supper and the Pie Auction and sponsored the flower and candy sales as student fundraiser projects. This year we would like to revamp the Pie Auction – it has been a great success and we want to keep it fresh. We seek new or improved ideas for all of our projects – and those come with new members. The time commitment to Student Ministry Support Team varies throughout the year. We hold formal meetings only 2 -3 times a year, then communicate by email to plan the smaller projects. One of the best parts of being a member of SMST is getting to know the parents of your children's friends – we talk about fundraising some - and then share ideas about vacations, repairmen, college applications etc. If you have some time or ideas for Student Ministries Support Team, please contact Jason, Nancy Kriek (sciencenhk@aol.com, 412-487-8616) or Kyle Pinta (kjpinta@aol.com, 412-487-6163).

ELFINWILD CHURCH NEWS

9. THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER GATHERING for the needs and concerns of our church family is being restarted! We will be meeting in the newly renovated chapel on the first and third Wednesday of each month, 7 to 8 PM. In December, we met on December 2nd and will meet again on December 16th. We will meet regularly to lift up concerns within the church family and for friends of Elfinwild. Please come and share in this powerful ministry! Everyone is welcome to come and join us in prayer as we restart this endeavor, or come to submit a

prayer request. If you have any questions or would like to request prayer, please call or text Kris Shideler at 412-480-8466.

10. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – All women are welcome to join a time of Bible Study, prayer, and fellowship on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11AM at the Youth House. This fall and winter, we will use the study, "Running Nowhere in Every Direction" by Navigators, examining what God has to say about the stress in our lives - our schedules, expectations, limits, and happiness. Together we can seek God's direction and encourage one another to run faithfully with Him. Contact Bethany with any questions at 724-822-6550. **We are taking a break, but will resume in January. Please join us in January!**

11. LADIES – MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the weekend of January 22-24, 2016 when a Women's Retreat will be held at the beautiful Ligonier Camp and Conference Center. Don't let distance or the possibility of snow scare you...transportation will be available if needed!

12. ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES meet from 10:00-11:00 AM. Three classes will be offered this Fall.

*On Oct. 25th, Rev. Bethany Harbaugh began a new Sunday School class about prayer. The class will examine Scripture from the Old and New Testaments and discuss the importance of practicing prayer in all facets of life. We will meet in the Kennedy Library at 9:45.

*"The Wired Word," taught by Rick Dayton, will focus on current events studied and discussed from a Biblical context. This class will meet in Fellowship Hall.

*A new men's class, "Courageous: Honor Starts at Home" will be led by Jason Cooper and take place in the Cornerstone Room. Class members will view the movie "Courageous" and contemplate God's call for us as husbands and fathers.

13. FILL THE TRUCK! We will be filling a truck of food items to be donated to the Bread of Life Food Pantry on Sunday, December 13, 2015. Please contact Jim Giel, Jr. at 412-486-2774 with any questions or how you can help this worthy cause. Items that are needed are: package/box noodle side dish mixes, package/box rice side dish mixes, boxed hot dinners or salads, package/box rice, boxed potatoes, pasta (single serve Chef Boyardee), pasta Sauce, canned salmon, sardines, crab, tuna, soup, broth – chicken/beef /vegetable, canned fruit, condiments such as ketchup, mustard, mayo, pickles, salad dressings, peanut butter, puddings, gelatins (ready-made or boxed), Baking items: cake, cookie, or brownie mix, single serve cereals or instant oatmeal, single serve items such as granola bars, fruit cups, Easy Mac, applesauce, sandwich crackers, Ramen/Oodles of Noodles, sugar, flour, baby food and diapers, paper towels and napkins, toilet paper and facial tissues, personal items such as soap, shampoo, shaving cream, disposable razors.

14. CONGREGATIONAL OPEN HOUSE at the Lesnett's, 402 Meadow Road, Glenshaw, from 4-8 pm on Saturday, December 12, 2015. Each year we enjoy filling the rooms of our home with people we love and care about. Please come for as long as you are able for some good food and great fellowship. We know that the season is busy and we want you to be relaxed. We look forward each year to hosting you, our family of faith, in our home for this most humbling of seasons.

15. TRIPLE O'S (On Our Own) LUNCHEON will be on Wednesday, December 9th at 12 noon. Please make a reservation by completing the form in the bulletin or by calling the church office. Come and join this great fellowship!

16. WOMEN OF ELFINWILD – The Mary Circle welcomes all women of Elfinwild Church to our meeting on Monday, December 14th at Noon in the

Kennedy Library. We will complete a Christmas project, and our lesson will be on Mary, page 291, in our book, *Women of the Bible*.

17. THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS were elected during the Congregational Meeting held on November 15, 2015 –

Elders – Wendy Boody, Kristin Coco, Mark Connelly, John Hart, Bob Siar, Kelly Simile

Deacons – Sue Anderson, Bev Feris, Bev Friedline, Dick Friedline, Penny Young, Dorothy Thompson

Trustees – Doug Boody, Steve Coco, Dorothy Winter

Nominating Committee – Matt Harbaugh

18. YOUR 2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available at the rear of the Sanctuary. If you intend to use envelopes and do not find yours there, please notify the church office. Each box of regular offering envelopes includes a specific per capita payment envelope. If you are using any of the "direct payment" methods and wish to pay the per capita or for any other payment, you may use the pew envelopes making sure to include your name and purpose (i.e. Per Capita). The Per Capita assessment amount for 2016 per member is \$29.10.

19. SHOULDER TO SHOULDER PITTSBURGH Alternative Gifts of Health & Organic Fair Trade Coffee For Sale Sundays in December Between Worship Services to benefit the people of San Jose del Negrito, Honduras

Each donation comes with a lovely Christmas ornament explaining what has been purchased as well as the mission of Shoulder to Shoulder Pittsburgh. Gifts of Health will be on sale each Sunday during the month of December and on Christmas Eve. All contributions are tax deductible and 100% of donations go directly to the people of San Jose del Negrito, Honduras.

Proceeds from the sale of coffee fund the education of a Honduran youth.

San Jose Del Negrito is in Northwest Honduras, population 1,600. The average annual salary is \$400, and 50% of village members are under 16 years of age. A typical house is made of mud bricks with a pit latrine and an open fire for cooking. Shoulder to Shoulder Pittsburgh, in partnership with the village of San Jose Del Negrito, uses the gifts of Pittsburgh area professionals, students, and churches to provide essential medical care, health education, and community resources for the most needy. Since 2000, twenty-four brigades have traveled to San Jose. Elfinwild Presbyterian sent a mission team to Honduras during the summer of 2011 and again in 2014! As this partnership grows, we appreciate your support. More information is available by contacting Mark & Amy Meyer, littlepine@verizon.net.

20. WE EXTEND A HEARTFELT THANK YOU to the Deacons for decorating the church so beautifully for our Christmas season. We are blessed by their service.

21. THE BEAUTIFUL ADVENT BANNER on display in the Sanctuary was made several years ago by our own Bev Feris. We are richly blessed by her artistic talents. Thank you, Bev!

BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Bob McGee

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,
 his name is called Emmanuel,
 God with us, re - vealed in us,
 his name is called Emmanuel.

POSTLUDE

“Christmas Bells”

Robert W. Thygerson

Special thanks to our liturgists:
8:30 – Bob Wegner 11:10 – Janell Haygood

STAFF

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Dirk Lesnett – dirk@elfinwildchurch.org
 Associate Pastor: The Rev. Jason Rea – jason@elfinwildchurch.org
 Director of Children and Family Ministries: Emily Cooper – emily@elfinwildchurch.org
 Director of Music: Ron Bernhardt – ron@elfinwildchurch.org
 Office Manager: Cindy Neil – cindy@elfinwildchurch.org
 Business Manager/Treasurer: Karen Dorsey – karen@elfinwildchurch.org
 Sextons: John Steinmiller, Bob Slahtovsky, Javier Rodriguez, Karl Ringler
 Financial Secretary: Bob Kennedy – rgkmjk1@verizon.net
 Parish Visitor: Jim Thompson
 Web Page and CALL Editor: Amanda Gaydos – amandaga@consolidated.net
 Parish Associate: The Rev. Bethany Harbaugh – harbaugh.bl1@gmail.com

Officers

Clerk of Session – Mark Riethmuller
 President of Trustees – Mike Radich
 President of Deacons – Ron Park

MINISTRIES

Elfinwild Home Meals Ministry
 Marian Berberich - 412-486-8000

Elfinwild Church Preschool
 Carolyn Hervey, Director
 Telephone – 412-486-2322

3200 Mt. Royal Boulevard, Glenshaw, Pennsylvania 15116
 Telephone 412-486-5400 Fax 412-486-7080
 Email: epchurch@elfinwildchurch.org



The Second Sunday of Advent

WELCOME TO
ELFINWILD
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

*We offer a warm welcome to every worshipper,
 and a way to serve for all who are willing.*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
 THE LORD’S DAY**

December 6, 2015

8:30 & 11:10 AM Worship

*You are invited to use Scripture for reflection
 or the following prayer as you prepare your hearts for worship.*

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
 for they will be filled.
 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness,
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”**

Matthew 5:3-10

**Elfinwild Presbyterian Church
 Financial Statement
 October 31, 2015**

Actual Tithes & Gifts Given		\$492,175
Total Expenses	(Y.T.D.)	\$488,820
Favorable	(Y.T.D.)	\$3,355

PRELUDE

- (8:30) "Light Is Shining" Daniel Doss
Praise Team
- (11:10) "Away in a Manger Medley" Andrew Duncan
"People Look East"
Handbell Choir

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Please sign the blue Friendship Pad in the pew near the center aisle.

INTROIT "Prepare the Way of the Lord" Jacques Berthier

CALL TO WORSHIP

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:7 and John 14:25-31

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH – THE CANDLE OF PEACE

8:30 – Jason and Emily Cooper Family
11:10 – George and Jessica Alexander Family

UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God, we seek to be the peacemakers that you have called us to be. May the light of Christ in our lives be bright. Grant us peace in Christ so that our hearts might not be troubled; empower us to share this peace with others in need. Amen

*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 9 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

(11:10)
THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Words of Introduction
Questions to the Parents – Mandie (Stehle) Radich and Michael Radich

Andrea (Mankey) Hartman and Chris Hartman

- a) Do you reaffirm your own faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord?
- b) Do you claim God’s covenant promises on your child’s behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for her and his salvation, as you do for your own?
- c) Do you now unreservedly promise, in humble reliance upon God’s grace, to set before Alexandra and Cale an example of the new life in Christ?
- d) Do you promise to pray with and for her and him and to bring her and him up in the knowledge and love of God?

Questions to the Congregation

- a) Do you, the members of this congregation, in the name of the whole church of Christ, undertake with these parents the Christian nurture of these children, so that in due time she and he may confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?
- b) Will you endeavor by your example and fellowship to strengthen her and his family ties with the household of God?

Presentation of Gifts
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Baptism of Alexandra Kate Radich and Cale Christopher Hartman

(11:10)
BAPTISMAL HYMN No. 498 "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

CALL TO CONFESSION

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Leaders: It is Advent. It is a season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to you the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives.

People: **God of peace, hear our prayer.**

Leader: The rushing and scurrying to get things done, the worry about the little details, the financial burdens we put on ourselves and the impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another. We confess to you, O God of peace.

People: **The bickering and quarreling we get into because we are too busy, we confess to you, O God of peace.**

Leader: Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of year, your peace is always there for us.

People: **Instill within us your peace, O God: when we feel overwhelmed, when we are filled with worry, when we become irritable, when the guilt of our ways threatens to overcome us, help us to remember that we are forgiven in Christ.**

Leader: Instill within us your peace, O God, and help us to make choices that bring us closer to you.

People: **That we may spread Christ’s peace and love to others.**

*RESPONSE OF THANKS No. 23 (refrain)

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo!

ANTHEM

(11:10) "Christmas Grace" Ruth E. Schram
Chancel Choir

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

(8:30) "Holy Emmanuel" Steve Hindalong
Praise Team

(11:10) "Carols Around" Carl J. Nygard, Jr.
Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, Who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever,
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 1:26-38
(Page 956 in the pew Bible)

SERMON "The Angel Visits" Dr. Dirk Lesnett

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Words of Invitation
Prayer of Consecration
Words of Institution
Receiving the Bread+
Receiving the Cup+
Prayer of Thanksgiving
+(please hold each element until all are served)

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT No. 8
"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"