

COMMUNITY NEWS

21. COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE – The annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Wednesday, November 25, at 7:00pm at St. Ursula Roman Catholic Church in Allison Park. Preacher for the service will be Father Aaron Kriss, the new Pastor of St. Ursula parish. There will be special music by a combined choir directed by Christopher Brewer. The offering that evening will be divided between Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry, Crisis Center North, Hearth, and North Hills Community Outreach. Come and give thanks with your neighbors in the community.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR AT A GLANCE 11-22-15

TODAY (11-22-15) 8:30 AM & 11:10 AM– Worship Service – SA
 9:45 AM – Sunday School
 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Operation Christmas Child – PR
 2:00 PM – Memorial Service – SA, FH
 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM – Jr. High Club – YH
 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM – Sr. High Club – YH

MONDAY 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Preschool – CE
 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Operation Christmas Child – FH
 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM – Preschool Bible Stories – UGR
 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM – Act One – CE
 7:00 PM – Boy Scouts – PR

TUESDAY 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Preschool – CE
 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM – Preschool Bible Stories – UGR
 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting – KL
 6:30 PM – Weigh to Lose
 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM – All Ensemble Rehearsal
 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM – Financial Peace – YH
 7:00 PM – AARP Board Meeting – FH

WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM – Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Ursula Church

THURSDAY Thanksgiving Day- Office Closed

FRIDAY Office Closed

SATURDAY 6:00 AM – 8:00 AM – CLC – YH
 Advent Celebration Set-Up – FH

SUNDAY (11-29-15) 9:00 AM – Breakfast – FH
 10:00 AM – One Worship Service – SA
 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Advent Community Outreach
 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM – Jr. High Club – YH
 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM – Sr. High Club – YH

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given in memory of Henry A. Beck and Ernest H. Keister, Sr. by Carol and Roger Beck.

THE ELDER OF THE WEEK is Amy Meyer.

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

Paul Braddock
 Max Smith
 Kim Szymoniak
 Bob Szymoniak
 Ron Tiedeman

11:10 AM USHERS

Mel Stoker
 Jennifer Muszynski
 Janell Haygood
 Patti Zahnhausen
 Dorothy Thompson

SOUND TECHNICIANS

8:30 AM – Marge Cain
 11:10 AM – Jerry Nist

UPCOMING SERVICE

Sunday, November 29, 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 II – Mary and Joseph Show the Way* and will be taught by Donna Rea Thompson, Sue Anderson, Elaine Jans and Bev Friedline.

4. CALLING ALL KIDS—GRADES 3-5! M&MS: MESSIAH & ME YOUTH GROUP

Get ready for a year of fun, games, growing and serving in Jesus Christ. Join the fun once a month—CU there! 6:30-8pm in Fellowship Hall: December 2nd. Questions? Contact Amy Meyer—littlepine@verizon.net.

5. THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COMMITTEE is asking for donations for the Advent Celebration. We would love to have some evergreen branches donated for the Advent Wreath making at the church on November 29th. Please drop them off in the grass against the church building by the Mt. Royal mini parking lot the weekend before the celebration or on the stage that morning. Also, we are accepting donations of quart and pint sized glass jars. There will be boxes in the entryways labeled for the Advent Celebration. We are seeking volunteers for set-up, clean-up and to be part of the live nativity. Please contact the church office or Bethann Dolan. Thank you!

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: _____

MUSIC MINISTRIES

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

6. 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	11/29 @10:00	12/6@11:10
	12/13 @8:30	12/24@10:00 PM
Praise Team	Thursdays	6-7:15 pm
<i>Instrumentalists and vocalists welcome</i>		
Worship	11/29@10:00	12/6@8:30
	12/13@11:10	12/20@8:30
Youth Choir	Thursdays	7:15-8:30 pm
<i>Anyone in grades 6-12</i>		
Worship	11/29@10:00	12/13@11:10
	12/24@7:00 PM	
Kids Choir	Tuesdays	6:30-7:30 pm
<i>Anyone in grades 1-5 for singing and ringing</i>		
Worship	11/29@10:00	12/20@11:10
	12/24@7:00 PM	
Handbell Choir	Tuesdays	7:30-8:30 pm
<i>Anyone high school age and older – no experience necessary</i>		
Worship	12/6@11:10	

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.*

7. JR. & SR. HIGH CLUB – Jr. High (grades 6-8) from 4:30 – 6:00 PM and Sr. High (grades 9-12) from 6:30 – 8:00 PM on Sundays. This club is a wonderful time for fellowship with other students. We play different games, have some good food and spend time in worship and study together.

8. 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.

9. LAURELVILLE WEEKEND –Sr. High December 4th-6th

This is a wonderful retreat for students. Students are welcome to invite friends to come along as well. It will take place at Laurelville Camp and Conference Center and is run by the Pittsburgh Kids Foundation. Cost for the retreat is \$120 per student. Students can use their fund-raising accounts to pay for all or part of the retreat cost. To register for Laurelville students must turn in a \$25 nonrefundable deposit (this deposit can come by check or by their fundraising account) and a Laurelville registration waiver form. All checks should be made out to Elfinwild

Presbyterian Church with the student's name and 'Laurelville' in the memo line. The registration/waiver form can be picked up at club or down-loaded from our website. Spots for the retreat is limited and thus will be filled on a first come first served basis—so get your deposits into Jason soon! We will leave from the church for Laurelville at 6 PM on Friday and return by approximately 2 PM on Sunday. For more information about the retreat please contact Jason or check out PKF's website. www.pittsburghkidsfoundation.org

10. 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

11. CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS – It's time to order your Christmas Poinsettias! Please use the special white envelopes in the pews. Plants are \$11.00 each and checks should be made payable to Elfinwild Presbyterian Church. Monday, November 30th is the last day to order. Any orders received after that date will be applied to the Bread of Life Food Pantry.

12. 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 will meet 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.

13. 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, 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!

14. LIFE SCOUT NICHOLAS HARN OF TROOP 157 is working on his Eagle Scout project and he needs our help. As part of a Christmas Concert at the Southwest Veterans Center, Nick is putting together a gift basket for the veterans. Items needed to fill these baskets are: toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash (small bottles), dental floss, soap/body wash, shampoo, body lotion, wash cloth/hand towel, tissues, deodorant, lip balm, comb, nail clippers, wet wipes, eyeglass cleaner, cotton swabs, toilet paper, talcum powder, petroleum jelly. Any donations

will be greatly appreciated. Boxes will be located near the entrances during the month of November for your donations. Thank you for your support!

15. 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!

16. 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.

17. A BIG THANK YOU goes out to everyone who was able to participate in any way with Operation Christmas Child. These gifts will not only bring toys, candy, hygiene items and school supplies to needy children all over the world, but will also share the gospel of Jesus Christ. As a former recipient of a shoe box once said "One box equals one child equals one soul". Thank you for being part of that equation!! We pray that as these children open their gifts and feel the love you put into preparing them, their hearts will open as well to the greatest gift of all.....Jesus!

18. SEVERAL TRACTOR TRAILER TRUCKS will be parked in the Church Avenue parking lot for the next two weeks as we are the regional drop off location for Operation Christmas Child. Please be patient with the lack of parking and the congestion the trucks will create. Thank you!

19. 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.

20. 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.



“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
1 Thessalonians 5:15-18

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
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 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

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.)	\$3,354



**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**
November 22, 2015
8:30 and 11:10 AM Worship

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

**“Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
 his love endures forever.”**
Psalm 106:1

PRELUDE

(8:30)	“We Gather Together”	Karrin Ford
(11:10)	“Grace Like Rain” Praise Team	Todd Agnew

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

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

INTROIT

(8:30) "Sanctuary" John Thompson
Chancel Choir

(11:10) "Now Thank We All Our God" Johann Cruger
Kids Handbell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

People: **Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

People: **For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 551 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

ANTHEM

(8:30) "Make Me an Instrument" Mary McDonald
Chancel Choir

(11:10) "Sing a Song of Thanks and Joy" Hal H. Hopson
Kids Choir

CALL TO CONFESSION

(based on Hebrews 4:14-16)

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light, and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and love.

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.
People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end, Amen.**

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

(8:30) "O the Deep Love of Jesus" Tom Fettke
Chancel Choir

(11:10) "Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing!" Michael Jothan
Kids Choir

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into Hell;
On the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.**

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

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28
(Page 1111 in the pew Bible)

SERMON

"Give Thanks in All Circumstances" Rev. Jason Rea

(8:30)

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT No. 555 "Now Thank We All Our God"

(11:10)

SONG OF COMMITMENT "Better Is One Day" Matt Redman
(Verse 1)

**How lovely is Your dwelling place O Lord Almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings
(Chorus)**

**Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts, than thousands elsewhere
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts, than thousands elsewhere
Than thousands elsewhere.**

**(Verse 2) One thing I ask and I would seek to see Your beauty
To find You in the place your glory dwells.
One thing I ask and I would seek to see Your beauty
To find You in the place your glory dwells
Repeat Chorus**

(BRIDGE)

**My heart and flesh cry out; for You the living God.
Your Spirit's water to my soul; I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You**

**Better is one day, better is one day,
better is one day than thousands elsewhere
Better is one day, better is one day,
better is one day than thousands elsewhere**

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BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Shalom To You

Anon.

POSTLUDE

"Come, You Thankful People, Come" Gerald Peterson

Special thanks to our liturgists:

8:30 – Mark Connelly 11:10 – Sarah Lavelle