



ELDERTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY – NEWSLETTER – 2020

December's Memories and New Year Hopes

The month of December was a very active and memorable time at our church for many of us. The choir and several members spent their Sunday afternoons rehearsing for our Cantata "A Baby Changes Everything", which we presented on Dec. 15. This time was more than just practice. It was a time for fellowship, laughter, and more importantly preparing to praise God during the morning service. Our children worked hard memorizing lines, songs, lyrics, and motions and they never complained. The adults in the drama also had to learn lines and the blocking for the play. The soundboard operators had to know which mics to turn on and off, along with running the accomp. cd. Our talented choir put a lot of time into learning the music, including many solos, while still working on our anthems for each week's regular service.

Everyone put their faith in God that this service would tell the story of three unbelievers being lead to believing, through the witness of children, with the hopes that it would also speak to those that watched and listened.

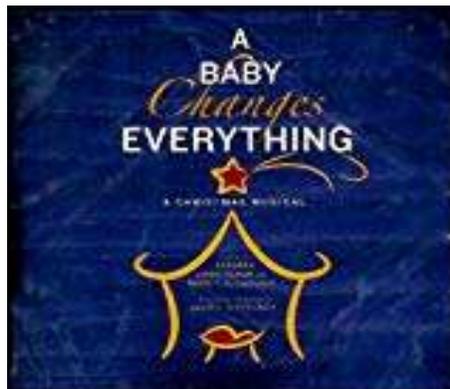
I have so much love and appreciation for all who were involved and especially want to thank Jennifer, Kathy Jo, for their part in working with the children and directing the drama. And my right hand lady Cassie for everything she does to make things run smoothly from microphones to the sound system, to using our new technology that was recently installed.

One of the songs that had special meaning for me was "While You Were Sleeping" which asks if the people of Bethlehem would miss the gift of the Christ child while they were sleeping. As we move into the New Year with the many challenges of not having a pastor, but the faith that the right one is still going to be brought to us by our King that was born on that Christmas Day

What have WE missed while we were sleeping
For God became a man
And stepped into our world
Will WE go down in history
As people with no room for its King
While we were sleeping
While we were sleeping

Or will we, through our faith, continue to do Gods work here at EPC with our giving, loving support to each other
and to those beyond our doors, showing that we DO have room for the KING?

Wishing you Blessings in the New Year,
Blythe Johns



GREETERS, NURSERY & ACOLYTE'S (Mark Your Calendars)

This is the only list you will receive – so PLEASE look this over

If the date assigned you conflicts with your schedule, **PLEASE TRADE with someone else on the list and let the church office know of this change.**

GREETERS should be at the door at 10:10 AM and the bell should be rung 10 times at 10:15 and again at 10:30 AM. Please hand out the morning bulletin. Before worship – open doors into the sanctuary and close when the service begins. They should also get the collection plates before the service begins and find two people to help take up collection. The collection plates are on the first pew in the back section of the church (in the black cloth bag).

NEW Please lock the front doors into the church. Pull to make sure the door is latched, use the small “key” found on the window ledge, insert it into the bar of the door and turn until the bar pops out. The handicap door will remain unlocked until 10 minutes into service (Cassie will take care of this.)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>ACOLYTES</u>
January 5	Chet Schall and Tom Spencer	Alexandra Maughan
January 12	Dave Smail and Butch Rodgers	Mia Scrips
January 19	Krista Richardson and Barb Spangler	Jordan Freeman
January 26	Cory & Kathy Jo Scrips	MaKayla Scrips
February 2	Dave & Kris Hilty	Travis Johns



NURSERY LIST

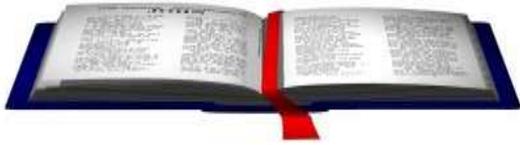
January 5	Laurie Pritt
January 12	Kathy Jo Scrips
January 19	Terri Maughan
January 26	Sheila Brumbaugh
February 2	Hannah Schrecengost

FLOWERS FOR JANUARY

Flower Person- Nancy Schrecengost

January 5 – Marilyn Meyers
 January 12 – Marilyn Meyers
 January 19 – Marilyn Meyers
 January 26 – Marilyn Meyers





A new pulpit Bible was presented
to the Glory of God and the
Elderton Presbyterian Church
by
Rev. Dr. Richard D. Sweeney
and Prudence K. Sweeney

The Bible was dedicated during
worship service December 1, 2019.

Thank you Rick and Prudy for this
loving gift to our congregation.



**THE FOLLOWING ARE
SCHEDULED TO SHARE WORD OF
THE LORD WITH US IN JANUARY**

January 5 – “One Holy Night” –Skit
Mark Schreccengost, Eric Schreccengost,
Nathan Johns, Cory Scrips

January 12, 19, and 26
Series Title – “The Dynamics of the Church”
Rev. Sandy Peterman

DATES ARE AVAILABLE

For anyone interested in
donating chancel flowers.
The cost is \$35.00.
Please contact Sue Quinn
at 724-354-3083
as soon as possible.

We extend our congratulations and pledge
our support to the following elders and
deacons who were ordained or installed
during worship service on December 22, 2019

Elders: Being Ordained –
Marcia Elgin & Dewey Hixenbaugh.
Being Installed –
Sarah Pritt & Dee Craig

Deacons: Being Ordained –
Linda Richardson & Jeff Elgin
Being Installed –
Joanie Riggle & Shawnee Hohl

We also extend our sincere appreciation to
these elders & deacons who have faithfully
served us during the past three years.

Elders: Cassie Clowser (3),
Peg Rowan (6), Joe Scrips (6)
Deacons: Sue Quinn (3),
Kathy Jo Scrips (6), Ryan Scrips (6)

The Choir and Drama provided us with a cantata during worship service on December 15, 2019. Thank you to all who participated.

A BABY CHANGES EVERYTHING

A Choral and Dramatization by the
Drama Cast and Choirs
of the
Elderton Presbyterian Church
Created by Deborah Craig-Claar and David T. Clydesdale
Arranged and Orchestrated by David T. Clydesdale

Drama Director – Kathy Jo Scrips
Choir Director – Blythe Johns
Music Coordinator – Cassie Clowser

CAST:

Storyteller – Cory Scrips	Hannah – Hannah Schrecengost
Miriam – Joanie Riggle	Sarah – MaKayla Scrips
Cassius – Mark Schrecengost	Erin – Mia Scrips
Seth – Eric Schrecengost	Rebekah – Emily Johns
Nathan – Dave Smail	Wisemen – John Craig
Mary – Beth Schrecengost	Kent Mummert
Joseph – Chris Grimes	Tom Spencer

Adult Choir

Sopranos: Blythe Johns, Jennifer Johns, Hannah Schrecengost, Linda Richardson, Nancy Schrecengost, Patti Scrips, Hannah Penrod.

Altos: Cassie Clowser, Kathy Jo Scrips, Carmen Riggle, Marcia Elgin, Beth Schrecengost.

Tenors: Dee Craig, Travis Johns, Adam Quinn, Nathan Johns, Ayden Stiffler.

Basses: Terry Johns, Tom Quinn, Joe Scrips, Jeff Elgin.

Children's Choir

Mia Scrips, Emily Johns, Jonah Scrips, MaKayla Scrips
Alexandra Maughan, Jaylin Freeman, Emma Woznick, Caleb Woznick.



There are so many people in our congregation who take on many jobs to see that the church runs smoothly and that many projects get done. We want to thank them – but are afraid we miss someone in the process. Though be assured that your work was not done in vain – God saw what you did!!

To Nancy & Luke Schrecengost – for setting up the outside Nativity.

To Tom Quinn & Tom Spencer – for setting up the outside Advent wreath.

To The Fleming Family - for the beautiful Christmas tree.

To Nancy, Eric, Susan & Hannah Schrecengost, Linda Richardson, Nate, Jennifer, Travis, & Emily Johns, Cory, Kathy Jo & Jonah Scrips, Blythe Johns, Dave Smail - for helping set up and decorate the Christmas tree and decorate sanctuary for the Christmas season.

To all those who helped with the readings & lighting of the Advent wreath each Sunday.

To Blythe Johns – for leading the choir weekly and during the Easter & Christmas cantatas, and for making sure we have someone to lead us in worship each Sunday.

To the choir for their inspiring music throughout the year and during the Easter & Christmas cantatas

To Cassie Clowser & Sarah Pritt – for their talents playing the piano and organ for worship services.

To Cassie Clowser – for her time & dedication with the sound system and music to make each worship service special, and to the sound operators for running the sound each Sunday.

To Dee Craig – for leading the Bell Choir, making the greeters list for the year, and her work as clerk of session.

To the bell choir for sharing their inspiring music throughout the year.

To Hannah Schrecengost & Carmen Riggle – for coordinating Bible School, for teaching Sunday School each week and for coordinating the Christmas Program.

To those who donated items to VBS to make it a success.

To Mark Schrecengost for teaching Sunday school.

To all of those who shared their talents by providing us with special music this past year.

To Sue Quinn – for scheduling the flowers for the chancel each Sunday, for taking orders for Easter flowers and poinsettias and for arranging them and for the decorating the vestibules.

To Martha Dyott & Jeanne Speer – for overseeing the Angel Tree Mission.

To Kathy Jo Scrips – for helping overseeing the Angel Tree Mission.

To Cory, Kathy Jo & Joe Scrips for delivering the Angel Tree gifts to CYS.

To all of those in the church and preschool who supported the Angel Tree Mission by purchasing gifts to make someone's Christmas special.

To Terri Maughan – stocking the food bank shelves and making sure the people in need receive their monthly distribution.

To Mark Schrecengost and Dominic Schrecengost for taking on the role as treasurer.

To Nancy Schrecengost – taking care of the flower beds in the summer, for overseeing the funeral dinners and to those who helped prepare and serve the meals and leading the Women's Association.

Thank you's continued -

To Peg Rowan – overseeing volunteers for Helping Hand and to those that volunteered.

To Kathy Jo Scrips – direction of the drama for the Easter and Christmas cantatas.

To Jeanne, Martha and Kathy Jo – overseeing the Samaritan's Christmas Shoebox Mission and to all of those who donated and attended the packing party.

To Mark Schrecengost – gathering the leaves from the side of the church.

To all of the Butterfly Hill Preschool teachers– for their time and dedication to the program, and to the preschool children for the wonderful songs they provided us with during worship service

To Shirley Schall & Nancy Schrecengost - for purchasing the items & filling buckets for the Cleanup Bucket Mission, and to Mark and Dom Schrecengost for delivering the buckets to the Prebytery.

To Cory Scrips for overseeing the Manse renovation and all the work done at the manse.

To Cory Scrips, Nathan Johns, Brian & Adam Dyott, and Dave Smail for cleaning up the manse yard, and for cleaning the leaves from the neighbor's yard.

To Nate, Loretta, Eric, Mark, Sheila, Sharon, Linda, Peg, Chet and Tom for volunteering to counting the offering every Sunday.

To those that volunteer to do nursery each Sunday.

And to all those who give their time freely in overseeing projects and doing repairs inside and outside the church building.

To anyone who helped in any way, if we missed you we apologize, but remember God knows who you are.

Our shut ins were given blankets for Christmas.

Thanks to Dee for picking them up,
to Nancy for wrapping them,
and to Joe and Cory for delivering them.

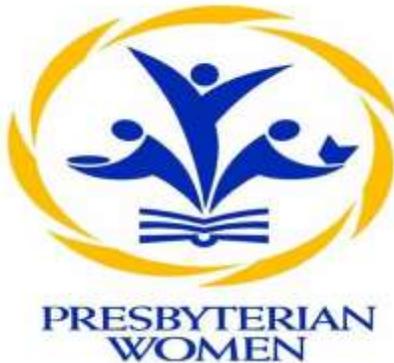


PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN HUNGER OFFERING

On the third Sunday of each month following the children's sermon, the children carry their offering buckets through the congregation to collect coins for hunger. From January to November 2019,

We have collected **\$863.01**

Thank you for your participation in this mission!
Continue to save your coins we will resume collecting in January!



The Presbyterian Women's
Thank Offering
collected on November 17, 2019 totaled

\$553.00.

This year's recipients provide
the tangible love of Christ
through food for children who are hungry,
education for women who seek it,
support for immigrants who need friends,
shelter for those without beds and homes,
healing for patients at home and abroad.

Thank you for your generosity to the
Presbyterian Women's Association

The Presbyterian Women Christmas
luncheon was held December 2, 2019 at
Nancy Schrecengost's home. Nine
women attended and enjoyed a lovely
afternoon of fellowship and good food.

The women meet monthly at Nancy's
home for a Bible study. Please consider
attending in the New Year. It's a great
way to get out of the house and learn
more about the Bible. Watch the bulletin
for dates and times.



Butterfly Hill Preschool

"Happy New Year 2020"

Butterfly Hill Preschool has been enjoying some time off during the Christmas & New Year's holidays. Classes will resume on January 6th. The children will be excited to be back because they miss their friends and teachers. This is the time of the year for up & down temperatures and different kinds of weather. It's winter.....and we are hoping for very few school cancellations or delays.

Many December activities filled the week before Christmas – Christmas Programs, Christmas Parties, exchanging gifts with classmates and Santa's visit. The children started practicing for their Christmas Programs early because Thanksgiving was later this year. The Pre-K Butterflies class invited the Senior Citizen's from the Elderton Center to their program. Involving the senior citizen's and the children together is always a wonderful time.

Lesson Topics for January classes are: Pre-K classes are Winter, Winter Animals, combined with the concepts of Rhyming, Sight Words and Phonemic Awareness. Three year olds – Winter, Winter Animals, learning to write letters, and learning the Pledge of Allegiance. Toddlers will be doing Winter, Winter Weather, Winter Animals, Snowflakes, Snowmen and Nursery Rhymes.

The Angel Tree project wrapped up on December 12 with delivery of the gifts to CYS in Kittanning. Our preschool families were very receptive to helping out these families to make their Christmas special. The children were excited about taking an angel or angels home, buying for someone, and giving these gifts. What a better way to teach children about giving, caring, loving....and the parents were just as excited as the children. The smiles on the preschoolers and parents faces and the "twinkle" in their eyes as they turned in their gifts was the best Christmas gift ever! We were able to help 14 families with a total of 29 children and adults. 116 Angels were divided between two trees (preschool & church trees). With the preschool and church working together, all 116 Angels were taken and returned. God led us to do this project every year since 2012 and we ALL take it very seriously to help others! Are prayers answered for these families? YES! God is good! Thank you everyone for participating in the Angel Tree 2019.



"Children coming out of their cocoons and developing as beautiful Butterflies in a Christian-based preschool."

2019 ANGEL TREE



"Participating Partner with CYS Since 2012"

The 2019 Angel Tree with the church and Butterfly Hill Preschool has been completed. Names of families in need were obtained from CYS (Children & Youth Services) of Armstrong County from Taffie Lloyd. There were 14 families with a total of 29 persons. The list was gone over, separated into Angels. All Angels are divided up with clothes, shoes, coats, boots, and other gift ideas. It is important not to overload any of the Angels with items to make it affordable for everyone to participate. When taking an Angel, it is your decision of how many Angels you want to buy for. Some take one Angel, some take more!

A total of 116 Angels were made and hung on two trees – one upstairs for the church and one downstairs for preschool. Angels were available from November 24 to December 10. Gifts were due back on the 10th to be checked in and gotten ready to transport into CYS. The gifts were delivered on Thursday, December 12 by Cory and Kathy Jo Scrips and Joe Scrips. They had three trucks/SUV's loaded with gifts to make these families Christmas very special this year.

This community is very lucky to have CYS to do projects like this. These programs help families have a Christmas that they otherwise would not have. Many have lost jobs, have disabilities and just having hard times. Many of us are so blessed in our lives and you have reached out to those who are in need. God has blessed us so much! It is an awesome thing that we have shared these blessings with others.

The preschool families and church families have gone above and beyond with the gift of giving. Thank you God for showing us where this need was. Thank you and "God Bless" you for all you have done! God is good!

Special Thanks to:

- Jeanne Speer for contacting Taffie Lloyd at CYS each year to obtain a list for Angels.
- Martha Dyott and Jeanne Speer for breaking down the Angel list, making the Angels to hang on the trees, taking care of the preschool tree and doing the final check-in of Angels to make sure all 116 Angels were accounted for.
- Kathy Jo Scrips for taking care of the church tree; Kathy Jo and Jennifer Johns for shopping for the Angels with money donated from people who could not shop.
- Cory & Kathy Jo Scrips and Joe Scrips for delivering the gifts to CYS.

James 1:17 "Every good action and every perfect gift is from God."



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS	JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES
<p> Sharon Aikins – 1st Candy Mummert – 1st Dave Smail – 1st Deklan Shipley Dee Craig – 5th Sandy Wingard – 6th Mike Cessna – 7th Donald Kunkle – 9th Mason Fleming – 9th Cory Scrips – 10th Tim Bertolino – 15th Heidi Fleming – 15th Anna Speer – 16th Brenda Coleman – 17th Brad Schall - 18th Marion Kunkle – 19th Tom Wingard – 19th Madison Daniels – 20th Shirley Schall – 22nd Jonah Scrips – 25th Kent Mummert – 29th </p>	<p> Terry and Blythe Johns – 3rd, 1975 John John and Jeanne Speer – 13th, 1979 Dave Dave and Martha Dyott – 22nd, 1972 John John and Helen Bowser – 29th, 1960 </p>

NEW YEARS REFLECTION AND PRAYER

As the old year ends and a new one begins, take time in remembering.
 Time to remember the struggles you faced,
 And the mistakes you might have made,
 And maybe even the loved ones you lost.
 And in remembering, find a seed of hope hidden in yesterday.

Remember how you've been blessed.
 Relive when you found unexpected strength.
 Recall where you saw God's great Spirit at work.
 And know his mercy kept you going all this time.
 Recognize his mercy. Ask for his peace.
 The peace that pours out every moment of every day from the wounds of Christ.

Prepare us Lord for the New Year.
 Lift us up and place in our hearts, a renewed desire to know and worship you more.
 Give us your abundant grace. Shower us with your healing love.
 May the New Year show us once again your eternal mercy and glory.

Amen

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5 8:15 – Choir practice 9:15 -Sunday School 10:30 -Worship Service	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 8:15 – Choir practice 9:15 -Sunday School 10:30 -Worship Service	13 Session & Deacons Meeting 6:00 pm	14	15	16	17	18
19 8:15 – Choir practice 9:15 -Sunday School 10:30 -Worship Service Congregational Meeting following worship service	20 Martin Luther King Day Christian Ed meeting 6:00 PM	21	22	23	24	25
26 8:15 – Choir practice 9:15 -Sunday School 10:30 -Worship Service	27	28	29	30	31	



HAPPY NEW YEAR!