



2021

# ELDERTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## JANUARY– NEWSLETTER – 2021

---

### PASTORS PAGE

#### “Worthy Living” Phil. 1:21-30

Paul is in prison waiting for the real possibility of his death. Instead of retracting with self-absorption and self-pity, Paul rose to the occasion of his imminent death to serve the church and live centered in Christ. What made the Apostle Paul turn outward when faced with death? Travel with me through Philippians 1 and observe the depth of resources available to us during challenging times.

**Serving Others is Fruitful. Verse 22: *If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer.*** We are to respond to Christ’s forward motion of life. We act in Jesus Christ because he is ahead of us. Whenever we are overwhelmed with difficulty serving others is fruitful.

**Serve for Progress and Joy. Verse 25: *Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith.*** Progress in the Christian life comes from a faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ that both deepens and broadens to affect every area of life. The issue is not so much an increase in the quality of one’s faith but rather a growing awareness of faith being the center of life. Joy is the flag which is flown from the castle of the heart when the King is in residence there. Serve for progress and joy.

**Live Worthy. Verse 27: *Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, In other words, live your life befitting of a Christian.*** Live your life through the balance of the gospel. Paul, while awaiting execution, lived his life befitting of a Christian. It impressed his captors to the point that many of them came to the Lord and became faithful members of a Christian community.

**Live in Christ. Verse 21: *For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.*** During challenging times, our lives are to increase in serving others which means Christ becomes more the center of our lives. Knowing Jesus is highest goal in life. Living for Christ is inspiration for living. To trust, love, obey, follow, and suffer all things are with and in Christ. Life is Jesus Christ. The church father Marius Victorinus said it this way, “The one who has hope in Jesus is always alive, both now and forever.”

Practice worthy living during the advent season and watch God work his work in your life.

Yours Because of Him,

Angel

As we continue to live with the COVID pandemic, the session of Elderton Presbyterian Church would like you to be aware that we continue to follow the guidelines as per the Presbytery.

- Hand sanitizer is placed at every entrance of the church; we are requesting you use the sanitizer upon entering and exiting the sanctuary.
- We are requesting that you wear masks during worship service to minimize the spread of the virus.
- Gloves are also available at each entrance for your convenience. Please take a pair to wear during worship service.
- We continue to practice social distancing during worship service.
- We also continue to follow the guidelines using hymnals. When having one service a week we are allowed to use the hymnals, as studies show the virus does not live on a surface for more than three days.
- A weekly slideshow of the bulletin can be viewed on the TVs at the front of the sanctuary should you decide you do not want to use a paper bulletin.
- We will not pass the microphones during Joys and Concerns. We ask that you speak loudly so all may here your request.

**Please know your safety in Elderton Presbyterian Church is of utmost importance. We are taking every precaution necessary so that we may continue to worship together. And remember, we want to share the gospel not the germs!**

$6+3 = 9$   
But so does  $5+4$ .

The way you do things isn't always  
the only way to do them.

Respect other people's way of thinking.

# **GREETERS, NURSERY & ACOLYTE'S**

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, 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.

**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><b>DATE</b></u>	<u><b>GREETERS</b></u>	<u><b>ACOLYTES</b></u>
January 3	Cory and Kathy Jo Scrips	Emily Johns
January 10	Sheila and Jamey Brumbaugh	Mia Scrips
January 17	Kim and Bob Anderson	Travis Johns
January 24	Gary and Leandra Saltsman	MaKayla Scrips
January 31	Betsy Bertolino and Terri Maughan	Liam Scrips
February 7	Nancy Schrecengost and Hannah Schrecengost	Jonah Scrips



## **NURSERY LIST**

There will be no nursery care at this time.

You are always welcome to stop in the church office to visit with Dr. Angel, however, if you would like to have him visit you in your home, please call the church office  
724-354-3117  
Susan will get you scheduled.

## **FLOWERS FOR JANUARY**

Anyone wishing to sign up for chancel flowers please contact Joanie Riggle  
724-954-1671, **NOW**  
to be place on the schedule.

January dates are open as well as other dates throughout the year.

**Elderton Presbyterian Church continues to have the following online options for services:**

Streamed live on Facebook.

A video recording of the service is posted to YouTube after worship service.

An audio recording of the service is posted to the church website after worship service.

The following thank you was received –

Dear Elderton Presbyterian Church,

The Elderton Elementary PTA would like to thank you so much for the donation of 2 turkey gift certificates for our fall food drive. Your generosity means the world to us. Thank you for being a wonderful member of this community.

-EE PTA



### IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Harold T. Rankin  
December 5, 2020

*"In my Father's house are many mansions...I go to prepare a place for you"*



### CHAIRPERSON'S & TREASURER'S

The written reports from the various committees will be due for the Annual Report on **January 4, 2021.**

The financial reports, which includes all bank statements, cancelled checks, etc., will be due in the church office on **January 8<sup>th</sup>** or as soon as you get your statements and can balance the account.

## Helping Hands Schedule

January 12

January 28

February 23

March 17

If you would like to help with this mission please contact Peg Rowan for more information.

The church has installed a new video recording system in order to stream our worship services live.

If you wish to view worship services live you will need to download the following app on to your device.

### Guarding Vision

Log in:

**17249541717**

Password:

**Hc18professional**

Depending on your internet service you may experience buffering when streaming anything live.

A video recording of the service will still be uploaded to YouTube after worship service.

If you have any questions please call the church office 724-354-3117

# *Thank You*

---

Dr. Angel and Charlene wish to thank the congregation for the generous Christmas gift. And Dr. Angel would like to thank the mystery person who mailed the “Our Pastor” plaque to him. It looks great on the shelf in his office.

---

## **Thank You!**

There are so many people in our congregation who take on many jobs throughout the year to see that the church runs smoothly and that many projects get done. We want to thank everyone, however, please know that if we miss someone in the process your work was not done in vain, God saw what you did!

To Tom Spencer and Tom Quinn for setting up the outside Advent wreath

To the Fleming Family for the beautiful Christmas tree.

To Cory Srips, Nathan Johns, Dave Smail, Ryan Srips, Terry Johns, Travis Johns, Nancy Schrecengost, Kathy Jo Srips, Eric, Susan and Hannah Schrecengost, Terri and Alexandra Maughan, Shawnee Hohl, and Joanie and Brett Riggle for helping set up and decorate the Christmas tree and 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.

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

To Cassie Clowser and Sarah Pritt for sharing their talents by 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.

To the Sound Techs for making sure the sound system and PowerPoint run smoothly each Sunday.

To Dee Craig for leading the Bell Choir, making the greeters list for the year, and for her work as Clerk of Session.

To Hannah Schrecengost, Carina Warr, Carmen Riggle and Mark Schrecengost for their leadership in teaching Sunday school.

To Joanie Riggle for scheduling the flowers for the chancel each Sunday and for taking orders for the poinsettias.

To the PNC committee – for their diligent and hard work and for bringing Dr. Angel and Charlene to us.

To the deacons and all who helped clean and have the manse move in ready for Charlene and Dr. Angel.

To all who helped move Dr. Angel and Charlene into the manse.

To Tom Spencer and John Craig for building the new deck at the manse

Thank you continued.....

To those that helped with removing the large trees at the manse.

To Dewey and Veda Hixenbaugh for the beautiful picture hanging in the meeting room

Thanks continued.....

To all who donated money for the stained glass window restoration

To Jeanne Speer, Martha Dyott, Betsy Rearick, Carolyn Warr, Monette Adamson, Sally Fink, Carolyn Crownover and Nicole Myers for their love and dedication to the Butterfly Hill Preschool mission

To Jeanne Speer and Martha Dyott for overseeing the Angel Tree Christmas Mission.

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

To the preschool teachers, Jeanne, Martha, Susan, Joe, Cory and Tom for loading the presents.

To Joe and Cory Scrips for delivering the presents to CYS on a very snowy day.

To Kathy Jo and Cory Scrips for making sure we had palms available on Palm Sunday during the shutdown.

To Terri Maughan for her devotion to the Food Bank mission by stocking the shelves and making sure people receive their monthly distribution.

To Nancy Schrecengost for taking care of the flower beds through the summer, for leading Presbyterian Women, for overseeing the funeral dinners along with those who helped prepare and serve the meals.

To Blythe Johns for making sure we had a way to still worship during the shutdown.

To Hannah Schrecengost, Cassie Clowser, Charlene De La Cruz for posting the weekly worship services online.

To Sharon Aikins for maintaining the church website.

To Rev. Rick Sweeney for recording sermons during the shutdown.

To Peg Rowan for overseeing the Helping Hands Mission.

To Susan and Hannah Schrecengost for overseeing the fund raising for The Heifer Project

To Butterfly Hill Preschool Families for their donations to the Heifer Project

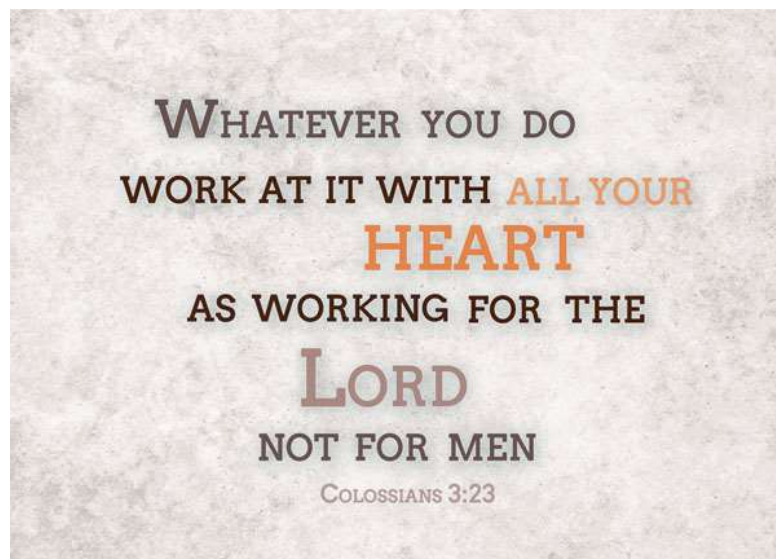
To Nate, Loretta, Betsy, Sheila, Linda, Peg, Chet, Tom, Eric and Mark for counting the offering each Sunday.

To those that helped with the office renovations. I love my office!

To Cassie Clowser, Hannah Schrecengost, Charlene De La Cruz for making sure the services are available for online viewing.

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

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





# Butterfly Hill Preschool

Butterfly Hill Preschool will be enjoying some time off with our families from December 21 through January 4. Classes will resume on January 4. The children will be excited to be back because they miss their friends and teachers. This is the time of the year for up and down temperatures and different kinds of weather. There have already been two snow days in December (the 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>). It's now officially winter.....and we are hoping for very few school cancellations or delays.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, after an extended Thanksgiving vacation until December 7<sup>th</sup> – there was only two weeks to get ready for Christmas. All those things we always do – Christmas Programs, Christmas Parties, exchanging gifts with classmates. The only thing we could not do this year was have Santa come visit.

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 Weather / Snowflakes, Snowmen, Winter Animals and end out the month starting Nursery Rhymes.

The Angel Tree project wrapped up on December 15<sup>th</sup> 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(s) 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. God has led us to this project every year since 2012. We all take it very seriously to help others in need. Are prayers answered for these families? YES! God is good! Thank you everyone for participating in the Angel Tree 2020.



"Happy New Year 2021 to all from Butterfly Hill Preschool!"



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



## 2020 ANGEL TREE



### "Participating Partner with CYS since 2012"

The 2020 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 contact person, Taffie Lloyd. There were 18 families with a total of 36 persons. The list was gone over and separated into Angels. All Angels are divided up with clothes, shoes, 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(s), it is your decision of how many Angels you want to buy for. Some take one Angel, some take more!

A total of 112 Angels were made. The church hung their share of Angels on a tree in the Upper Room. Preschool had to adapt their method for picking Angels. They made an attractive "Christmas Angel Table", which was placed on the back porch. This was so no one needed to come inside to pick Angels. It worked well. All of the Angels were taken and due back by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

The gifts went through a "final check-in" on Dec. 16 by Jeanne Speer, Martha Dyott & Susan Schrecengost. Then the loading of the trucks began. We did an assembly line process, moving the gifts to the handicapped entrance, out the door & into the two trucks. After 8 years we have figured out a smooth way to finish up our job here at the church. We learn something new each 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. This year has been difficult for everyone. 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 you all have shared these blessings with others.

**The church and preschool 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, checking in Angels. Also, Martha, Jeanne & Susan doing the final check-in. Susan & the Butterfly Hill Preschool teachers also helped do the assembly line of gifts towards the door to load up.

Kathy Jo Scrips for helping organize the transporting of the gifts to CYS. She is always there to help us.

Dee Craig for shopping for Angels with money donated representing the Rec Park.

Joe Scrips, Cory Scrips and Tom Spencer for delivering the gifts to CYS during the terrible snow storm we had on Dec. 16.

It took many people working together to make this project work. If I have missed thanking you, I am terribly sorry. God sees all the good you do!

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

### **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

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 – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Heidi Fleming – 15th  
Anna Speer – 16th  
Brenda Coleman – 17th  
Brad Schall - 18th  
Marion Kunkle – 19th  
Tom Wingard – 19th  
Madison Daniels – 20th  
Shirley Schall – 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Jonah Scrips – 25<sup>th</sup>  
Kent Mummert – 29th

### **JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

Terry and Blythe Johns – 3rd, 1975  
John and Jeanne Speer – 13th, 1979  
Dave and Martha Dyott – 22nd, 1972  
John and Helen Bowser – 29th, 1960



## **LIFE IS TOO SHORT**

Grudges are a waste of happiness.  
Laugh when you can, apologize when you should,  
and let go of what you can't change.  
Love deeply and forgive quickly.  
Life is too short to be unhappy.

## January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> New Year's Day	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Service	<b>4</b> Committee reports due to office	<b>5</b> 12:00 – Bible Study 5:30 – Bible Study	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Financial reports due to office	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Service	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 12:00 – Bible Study 5:30 – Bible Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:00 – Deacons Meeting 6:30 – Session Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Service Congregational Meeting following worship service	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:00 – BHP Board of Directors Meeting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Service	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:30 – Ch Ed Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship Service						

All activities are subject to change due to COVID concerns.