


Happy
New Year!

The text "Happy New Year!" is rendered in a large, blue, 3D-style font. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. Scattered around and overlapping the text are numerous small, colorful confetti pieces in various shapes and colors, including red, green, yellow, blue, and black, creating a festive and celebratory atmosphere.

JANUARY 2019

For as God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the love of Christ Jesus.
And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more.

Philippians 1: 8, 9

Paul had been their pastor. He had been with them physically. Now he is away from them but he is still ministering to them remotely.

So as the New Year begins, I am writing to you from far away. I understand what Paul says in his letter. I miss you and long to be with you. And I will be with you again. Unlike Paul, I have avoided prison (so far!) I will be back in March and we will continue our journey together until your new pastor is ready to take over. What a year 2019 will be for Elderton Church. You will call a new pastor. It will be a new beginning for you. There will be excitement and energy. Your journey of faith will continue into a bright future.

For each person, the New Year will bring change. Children will be born. People will die. People will start new careers, new schools and new aspects of life. Some of life's changes that await us are unknown. Change is almost the only constant in life. But it is not the only constant. And it is not even the most important constant in life.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. That means that you will never go through any changes in 2019 or ever in which Jesus will not be with you. His ministry to us is never remote. Jesus is as close as a prayer.

Know that until I see you again, my prayers will continue to be for you; that your love will continue to overflow more and more.

Have a happy and faithful New Year.

Pastor Rick

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|--|
| <p>Thank you so much for your generous Christmas gift. We are truly blessed to be part of this family of Faith. See you in March! Rick & Prudy Sweeney</p> |
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“THANK YOU”

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. But, be assured that your work was not done in vain - God saw what you did!!

Nancy Schrecengost for decorating the inside Advent Wreath, for leading our Women's Association and for all the UNSEEN things she does throughout the year.

Tom Quinn for setting up the outside Advent Wreath and for the many other projects he undertakes.
The Fleming family for the beautiful Christmas tree.

To the Deacons and the Decorating Committee and all those who helped set up the tree and decorate it and the sanctuary for the Christmas season.

To all those helped participate in the Lighting of the Advent Wreath.

To Blythe Johns for leading the choir and to the choir for their inspiring music throughout the year.

To Cassie Clowser & Sarah Pritt for their talents in playing the organ and piano.

To Hannah Schrecengost & Carmen Riggle for coordinating Bible School this past summer and for all those who helped in any way to make it a fun time for the kids.

To all those who provided special music this past year.

To all who donated Easter flowers and Christmas poinsettias and to Sue Quinn and Nancy Schrecengost for arranging them. To Sue for arranging the beautiful table decorations as you enter the church.

To all those who volunteer monthly to help with the flowers making sure they are set out & put away.

To Dee Craig as our clerk of session and for arranging the greeters each Sunday and to all those that helped with nursery, greet & usher.

To all those who volunteer monthly to help with altar flowers making sure they are set out and put away.

To Martha Dyott for all the unseen things she does for the church and to Kathy Jo, Jeanne and Martha especially overseeing the Christmas Angel project – no one knows all the work they do for this. And to all who took names and bought gifts for the “Angels”, who helped sort, load and deliver.

To Jeanne Speer program coordinator and director of Butterfly Hill Preschool.

To Terri Maughan for stocking the food bank shelves and to all those who contribute toward this project.

To the Session for leading our congregation.

To Cory Scrips for all the work he has done as moderator of the Deacons and to **ALL** the deacons for all the things they do in the church.

To Dee Craig and the bell choir for their music on many occasions.

To Bill Creighton who serves as our treasurer.

To Kathy Jo Scrips for scheduling our nursery list

To all those who teach Sunday School.

To Vanessa Milleman for making sure our hospital patients get flowers.

To Tom Spencer who serves as our Financial Secretary.

To the women who helped serve funeral dinners.

To all the committee chairpersons and treasurers of organizations.

To Hannah Schrecengost and Carmen Riggle for coordinating the Children's Program and to their helpers and **ALL** the children for all their hard work.

To Cassie Clowser for all the extra work she does during the Easter and Christmas Season and during the summer getting volunteers for special music.

To Peg Rowan for overseeing getting volunteers for the Helping Hand Center and to all those that volunteered this year.

To all who contributed to our special offerings this year.

To Rev. Sweeney for all he has done to help the congregation this year.

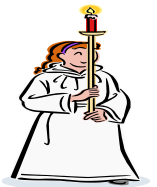
AND to all those who give of their time freely in overseeing projects and doing repairs inside and outside of the church building. **AND TO ALL OF YOU WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY!!!**

GREETERS & USHERS – NURSERY & ACOLYTE'S **(Mark Your Calendars)**

This is the only list you will receive – so PLEASE look this over & PUT A REMINDER NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR OR REFRIGERATOR!!

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.



GREETERS

ACOLYTE'S

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| January 6 | Brett & Joanie Riggle | Travis Johns |
| January 13 | John & Dee Craig | Makayla Scrips |
| January 20 | Jamey & Sheila Brumbaugh | Kirsten Manarelli |
| January 27 | Bob & Kim Anderson | Braden Tutak |
| February 3 | Jeff & Marcia Elgin | Allyson Tutak |
| February 10 | Pam Flickinger & Nancy Schrecengost | Travis Johns |
| February 17 | Cheryl Hankey & Jeff Schrecengost | Makayla Scrips |



NURSERY



FLOWER COORDINATOR

January - Sue Quinn

January 6 – Hannah Schrecengost
January 13 – Carmen Riggle
January 20 – Laurie Pritt
January 27 – Kathy Jo Scrips
February 3 – Terri Maughan
February 10 – Sheila Brumbaugh

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Linksys Router – contact the office.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Sharon Aikins – 1st
 Candy Mummert – 1st
 Dave Smail – 1st
 Deklan Aldric Shipley
 Dee Craig – 5th
 Gail Barr – 6th
 Sandy Wingard – 6th
 Mike Cessna – 7th
 Donald Kunkle – 9th
 Mason Fleming – 9th
 Cory Scrips – 10th
 Ed Gray – 11th
 Tim Bertolino – 15th
 Heidi Fleming – 15th
 Anna Speer – 16th
 Brenda Coleman – 17th
 Brad Schall - 18th
 Marion Kunkle – 19th
 Tom Wingard – 19th
 Madison Daniels – 20th on her 4th
 Shirley Schall – 22nd
 Regina Schrecengost – 22nd
 Vanessa Milleman – 23rd
 Jonah Scrips – 25th – on his 3rd
 Kent Mummert – 29th



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Terry & Blythe Johns – 3rd, 1975 on their 44th
 John and Jeanne Speer – 13th, 1979 on their 40th
 Dave and Martha Dyott – 22nd, 1972 on their 47th
John and Helen Bowser – 29th, 1960 on their 59th

Many Happy Returns to

**Mildred Smeltzer who celebrated
 her 92nd Birthday on December 20.**

SHARING THE WORD OF THE LORD FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY & February

JANUARY

January 6 – Rev. Al Kimmel
January 13 – Rev. Al Kimmel
January 20 – Jeff Hartung
January 27 – Jeff Hartung

FEBRUARY

February 3 – Rev. Al Kimmel
February 10 – Bill Creighton
February 17 – Jeff Hartung
February 24 – Jeff Hartung

Many Thanks to Hannah Schrecengost, Carmen Riggle & adviser Jeanne Speer for the wonderful Children's program on 12/23. The children did an amazing job.



COMING EVENTS:

JANUARY 6 – Social following Worship

**February 10 – Soup, Sandwich, Sundae
Social following Worship**

CHAIRPERSON'S & TREASURER'S

Written reports from the various committees will be due for the Annual Report the week of January 1.

Financial Reports which includes all bank statements, canceled checks, etc. will be due in the office the week of Jan. 6th or as soon as you get your statements and can balance.

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, January 13, 2019.

INSTALLATION OF NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

Installation was held December 23, 2018. Elected were the following:

ELDERS:

Terry Johns, Blythe Johns, Tom Spencer
Ordination – Susan Schrecengost

DEACONS:

Tom Wingard, Gary Henderson, Dave Smail
Brian Dyott

Our heartfelt thanks to Elders & Deacons who have completed their terms: Elders: Loretta Coleman, Bill Creighton, Dee Craig & Deacon: Mark Schrecengost



Butterfly Hill Preschool

Happy New Year 2019!!!

Classes resume for preschoolers and teachers on January 2nd. The children are glad to be back after Christmas vacation. They miss their friends and teachers. The colder weather is here. The weather this time of the year is unpredictable! Snow, ice, cold.....it's winter. Hoping for very few or no school cancellations or delays.

Many December activities filled the week before Christmas – Christmas Programs, Christmas Parties, exchanging gifts with classmates, Santa's visit. The children practiced for their programs beginning the first week of December. The Pre-K classes invited the Senior Citizen's from the Elderton Center to their program. It was a real fun, exciting, event filled week. Christmas vacation for the children started on Dec. 21 through Jan. 2.

The Angel Tree project wrapped up on Dec. 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 good! The children were excited about taking an angel or angels home, buying for someone, and giving these gifts. What better way to teach children about giving, caring, loving..... 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! 97 Angels went on the two trees (preschool & church trees) and there was a special request for 3 mattresses for children who were sleeping on the floor. With working together – the preschool and the church – WE DID IT! All of the Angels were taken and returned. As for the mattresses, we had a preschool family that had connections with a "church organization" who donated 3 mattresses. AND with some generous money donations from this church, 3 beds were purchased through Mattress Warehouse to go with the mattresses! There was also \$200.00 in donations left and it was presented to CYS to help yet another family! Are prayers answered? You better believe it! God led us to do this project and we ALL take it very seriously.....enough said! God is good! Thank you everyone for participating in the Angel Tree Project 2018.

Lesson Topics for preschoolers in January are: Winter (weather, animals) combined with the concepts of Rhyming and Rhyming Sight Words for Pre-K; Winter weather and animals, dinosaurs, learning to write letters, learning the Pledge of Allegiance for Caterpillars; and Winter weather, animals, snowflakes, snowmen, and Nursery Rhymes for Toddlers.

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



ANGEL TREE 2018



The 2018 Angel Tree Program with the church and Butterfly Hill Preschool has been completed. This year the names of families were obtained from CYS (Children & Youth Services) of Armstrong County. There were seven families with a total of 22 persons. The list was gone over and gift ideas were separated onto Angels. A total of 97+ Angels were made and hung on two trees—one upstairs for the church and one downstairs for preschool. Also, there was a request for 3 mattresses for children who were sleeping on the floor. When I got into a warm bed that night, I knew we had to make these wishes come true. And we did it all, plus three beds to go along with the mattresses. Angels were available from November 26 through December 10. Gifts were due back by December 10 to be transported to CYS. The gifts were delivered on Wednesday, December 12 by Cory and Kathy Jo Scrips & Joe Scrips. They had their vehicles full with gifts to make these families Christmas very special this year.

This community is lucky to have organizations like CYS and Community Action to do projects like this. In the past we have worked with Community Action. These programs help families have a Christmas that they might 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 not so blessed. 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. We should be proud of what we have accomplished and thank God for showing us where this need was.

Thank you and “God Bless” you for all you have done!

Special thanks to Martha & Jeanne for breaking down the Angel list, making the Angels to hang on the trees and taking care of the preschool tree. Thanks to Kathy Jo for taking care of the church tree. And thanks to our delivery persons mentioned above. God is good!



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

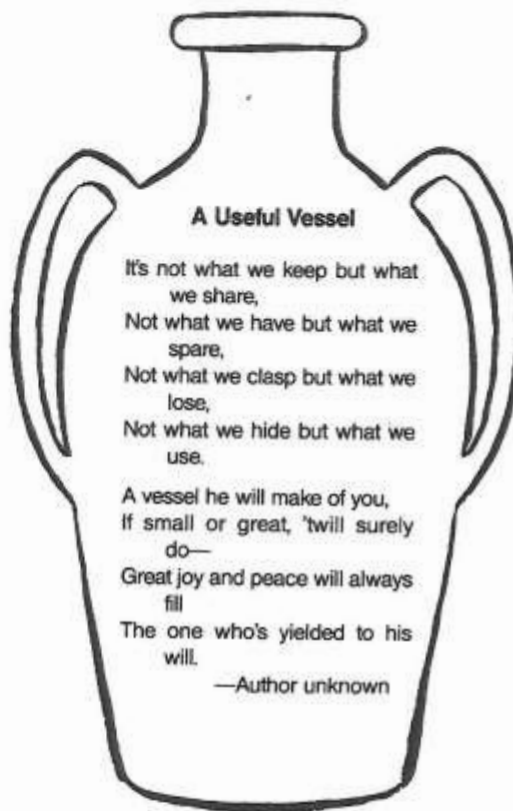


True Promises

God has not promised
 Skies always blue,
 Flower-strewn pathways
 All our life through;
 God has not promised
 Sun without rain,
 Joy without sorrow,
 Peace without pain.

But God has promised
 Strength for the day,
 Rest for the labor,
 Light for the way;
 Grace for the trials,
 Help from above,
 Unfailing sympathy,
 Undying love.

—Author unknown



A Useful Vessel

It's not what we keep but what
 we share,
 Not what we have but what we
 spare,
 Not what we clasp but what we
 lose,
 Not what we hide but what we
 use.

A vessel he will make of you,
 If small or great, 'twill surely
 do—

Great joy and peace will always
 fill

The one who's yielded to his
 will.

—Author unknown

January 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----|---|-----|
|  |  | 1 | 2 Helping Hand | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 8:30 – Choir 9:15 – Sunday Sch. 10:30 – Worship Social Al Kimmel | 7 6:00 - Deacons | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 8:30 – Choir 9:15 – Sunday Sch. 10:30 – Worship Congregational Meeting Al Kimmel | 14 | 15 6:00 - Session | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 8:30 – Choir 9:15 – Sunday Sch. 10:30 – Worship Jeff Hartung | 21 | 22 | 23 Helping Hand | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 8:30 – Choir 9:15 – Sunday Sch. 10:30 – Worship Jeff Hartung | 28 6:00 – Ch. Ed | 29 | 30 | 31 |  | |