

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF  
DECEMBER 11 – DECEMBER 18**

|                        |                       |                                |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sunday, December 11    | 8:30 A.M.             | Early Celebration of Worship   |
|                        | 9:30 A.M.             | Chancel Choir Rehearsal        |
|                        | 9:45 A.M.             | Sunday School                  |
|                        | 11:00 A.M.            | Celebration of Worship         |
|                        | 12:00 A.M.            | Fellowship Time                |
|                        |                       | Sanctuary Bell Choir Rehearsal |
| Monday, December 12    | 3:00 P.M.             | Symphonic Singers Concert      |
|                        | Noon                  | Trustees Meeting               |
|                        | 7:00 P.M.             | MEDS                           |
| Wednesday, December 14 | 3:00 P.M.             | Emmaus Soup Kitchen            |
|                        | 4:00 P.M.             | WOW                            |
|                        | 5:00 P.M.             | WaYouth Choir                  |
|                        | 5:30 P.M.             | Primary Choir                  |
|                        | 6:00 P.M.             | Potluck Dinner/ Middlers       |
|                        | 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. | Pageant Rehearsal              |
|                        | 6:45 P.M.             | Adult Bible Study              |
| Thursday, December 15  | 7:30 P.M.             | Session Meeting                |
|                        | 7:00 P.M.             | Chancel Choir Rehearsal        |
| Saturday, December 17  | 7:00 P.M.             | Night Owl Christmas Party      |
| Sunday, December 18    | 8:30 A.M.             | Early Celebration of Worship   |
|                        | 9:30 A.M.             | Chancel Choir Rehearsal        |
|                        | 9:45 A.M.             | Sunday School                  |
|                        | 11:00 A.M.            | Celebration of Worship         |
|                        | 12:00 A.M.            | Fellowship Time                |
|                        | 5:00 P.M.             | Sanctuary Bell Choir Rehearsal |

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harold and grand daughter Michele, by the Jackson Family.

**“JOY” BULLETINS**

Our thanks to Hal and Norma Harrington who donated the special bulletins for today which are given to the glory of God.

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

Our thanks to Patrick Warnaka and his mother for leading us in lighting the third candle of the Advent wreath.

**NEWLETTER DEADLINE**

Just a reminder that newsletter articles for the January edition are due by December 15<sup>th</sup>. *Thank you.*

**NURSING MINISTRY**

Blood pressure screenings will be taken today. Plan to stop by the Lobby after Worship Service.

**THANK YOU**

A big thank you goes to all the cookie bakers that made this year’s effort the best ever! Over 100 volunteers participated in this project to raise \$1710 for Presbyterian Women Missions.

*Jeanne Nyberg, Mitzi Moore & Judy Bestwick*

**SYMPHONIC SINGERS**

The Symphonic Singers of Erie will present their Christmas Concert today at 3:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary. Please join us at our Wayside Presbyterian Church and let us help you get into the spirit of Christmas. Director: Jean Verdecchia and Accompanist: Jennifer Davis.

**ADVENT POTLUCK DINNER**

Our Wednesday fellowship meal this week will be a potluck. Please bring a dish or dessert to share; beverages and rolls will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

**WISE NIGHT OWLS**

A Night Owl Christmas party for all adults of the church will be hosted by Jack and Melissa Grimm on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at their home, 4238 Prestwick Drive in Millcreek. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share and a "white elephant gift". Sign up at the Information Table.

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES**

On Christmas Eve worship services will be held at 7:00 and 10:00 p.m. The early service is designed to be more “family friendly” and will include music by many of our children and youth choirs. The late service will include special music by the Chancel Choir and the Sanctuary Bells. Special bell music will begin at 9:40 p.m. Please invite friends and neighbors to join us.

**WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

There is only one worship service on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. It will be a festive service of Carols and Narratives.

**PARKING IN DECEMBER**

As we get closer to Christmas, space in the parking lot becomes more of a premium. If walking is no problem, please consider parking further away from the main door. That will save the closer spots for those for whom walking longer distances is more difficult and for our visitors. Thanks.

**STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**PHONE BOOK RECYLING**

Please bring old phone books to the church and place them in the basket in the lobby. They are being collected for recycling as a Second Harvest Food Bank fundraiser.

### **EMMAUS MEAL**

This Wednesday, December 14, our volunteers are reminded to serve the meal at the Emmaus Soup Kitchen on East 11<sup>th</sup> Street from 3:00 to 5:45 p.m.

### **STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES**

Please turn in your pledge card if you have not already done so. We are eager to provide an accurate total to the Budget Committee as it plans for the future of the church in 2012.

### **COATS FOR KIDS**

Due to the great need, we will continue our collection of “Coats for Kids” through Christmas. Please remember this includes good winter wear of any type for children, youth and adults. Items can be placed on the specially marked coat rack outside Fellowship Hall.

### **WEST MILLCREEK FOOD PANTRY**

The basket for your donations is located in the Lobby next to the coffee table. This week the suggested items are spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. Thank you.

### **LIVE NATIVITY SCENE**

Each Sunday in Advent there will be a live Nativity Scene before and after Worship Services. There are limited opportunities to participate, so gather your family and friends to sign up for a turn at acting the part of a witness to the miracle of the manger.

### **WAYOUTH NUT SALE**

Please stop by the table in the Lobby after worship service to make a purchase and support our Wayouth.

### **SCRIP ORDERS**

Stop by the Information Table today to place your order. Cards will be delivered next week.

### **PRESBYTERIAN HOMES “ANGEL APPEAL”**

You can make a difference in the lives of many older people by contributing to the Presbyterian Homes Christmas Angel Appeal. Gifts will provide medicine, nutritious meals, and quality care for residents in need. Please pick up an Angel Appeal envelope in the Lobby this morning.

### ***CHRISTIAN EDUCATION***

**WOW KIDS CLUB** this Wednesday: 4:00 Snack; 4:15-5:30 Pageant Rehearsal, 5:00-6:00 Games; 6:00 Dinner, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Pageant Rehearsal

**MIDDLERS** this Wednesday will eat dinner together and enjoy the movie “Elf.”

**SENIOR HIGHS** today will meet for breakfast and discuss, “What Christians DO have to believe.” Next week: The Christmas Story: “Dateline Bethlehem: Year Zero.”

### **WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Sunday, December 11, 2011

### **WELCOME**

Welcome to Wayside Presbyterian Church. We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and rejoice in the privilege God has given us to serve in this community as part of the Body of Jesus Christ. We thank our Lord for those who worship with us from time to time as visitors and invite any who are without a church home to come and join us in serving Christ as members of this church family.

### **FOR OUR CHILDREN**

Child care is available during the entire worship hour for infants and preschool children. Children may remain for the entire service or take advantage of child care (kindergarten and younger). Children’s worship activity bags are available for children remaining in the worship service. Please return them following worship.

### **SERVICE NOTES**

A hearing enhancement system is available for those who have need. An usher will be happy to provide you with a receiver this morning. Large print bulletins are also available.

Thanks to those who helped today at the 11:00 a.m. service:

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Ushers:            | Alex Borowski, Bill DeWitt, Tom Fye, Jon Hoyt, Ron Kolb, Lee McVey, Brianna Morrow, Hanna Pardini, Bill Pentz, Brian Sundberg |
| Worship Assistant: | Melissa Grimm   |
| Acolytes:          | Ben Kocan, Audrie Watkins   |
| Sound Board:       | Jim Dunn  |
| Greeter:           | Jean Moore  |
| Information Table: | Becky Worthington   |
| Fellowship Time:   | Paula Reade   |
| Childcare Helpers: | Christie Szklenski, Nursery; Carrie Bastow, Preschool   |

Just a reminder to those scheduled to help next week at 11:00 a.m.:

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Ushers:            | Jeremy Brinling, Jessica Brinling, Paul Carpenedo, Zach Dulabon, Bobbi Jo Fye, Tom & Vaska Lewis, Ron May, Matt McGill, Marissa Pardini, Fletcher Swanson |
| Worship Assistant: | Member of the Senior High Class   |
| Acolytes:          | Ashley Buseck, Scott Taylor   |
| Sound Board:       | Jerry Brown   |
| Greeter:           | The Babb Family   |
| Information Table: | Jana Babb   |
| Fellowship Time:   | Deacons   |
| Childcare Helpers: | Tracey Bowes, Nursery; Missy Grimm, Preschool   |

## ADULT EDUCATION

Issues of Faith: This week we will consider “Part 1: The Marginalized Prophet: Luke’s Baby Jesus” by Dr. Rob VonThaden, of Mercyhurst College.

Next week the class will be led in an exploration of “Blacks and Whites in Politics and Faith” with Rev. Charles Mock, Associate Pastor of Community Baptist Church.

Embracing an Adult Faith discusses contemporary issues of faith and life.

Adult Bible Study under the instruction of Don Worthington, is studying the prophets.

The Bible and More led by Jim Haas, explores biblical and contemporary themes.

Adult Study convenes in the parlor on Wednesdays at 6:45 with Jim Haas. The group is studying a series entitled, “When Christians Get It Wrong.”

## ON-LINE ADULT EDUCATION

Each Monday a brief reflection is sent by Rev. Tracey Marx. If you would like to receive this thoughtful piece let Keith know and he will forward it to you each week. December offers a new study in *Exploring Contemplative Prayer* with Rev. Tracey Marx, called Release Prayer. A hard copy of the materials is available in the Prayer Room. Wayside has its own home site: <http://www.scriptureecho.com/CPfind/startPageWPC.html>

## PRESENTATION OF MISSION GIFTS

In the spirit of giving and as an expression of our gratitude to God, it is our blessing each year to provide financial support to a number of local programs that provide important ministries for our community, most of which have Wayside volunteers or that we work with on our Second Saturday projects. Representatives from many of those groups are with us for worship this morning and it is our privilege to recognize them and thank them for their wonderful work. Those programs receiving support this year include:

Diaper Project/Catholic Charities

Stairways/Case Management

EHCA

Kids’ Café

Asbury Woods

TLC/Safenet

Community Shelter Services

Habitat for Humanity

Second Harvest Food Bank

St. Paul’s Clinic

Presbyterian Homes

Visions for the Poor

West Millcreek Food Pantry

Inter-Church Ministries

Erie City Mission

Protestant Campus Ministry/Behrend

CHOSEN

## ADVENT DEVOTIONALS 2011

With gratitude to the authors, the Worship, Music, and Fine Arts Committee offers these weekly devotionals during Advent. The theme of each message corresponds with the names given to that week's Advent wreath candle. We hope you will take time during the week to ponder the message of the season as shared by members of your church family.

### JOY

by Tom and Leslie Momeyer

Happiness is a state of well being. Many people can claim to be happy. Joy, however, the ultimate joy, happened long ago, when Jesus, the son of God, was born on Christmas morn, in a manger, in Bethlehem. Joy today, I believe, is experienced by those who know Jesus.

**Though you have not seen him, you love him...you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy. 1 Peter 1:8.**

A happy person may walk outside and think, "what a beautiful day." A joyful person thinks, "what a glorious day the Lord has made."

**A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones. Proverbs 15:30**

A happy person looks at a child and thinks, "how sweet." A joyful person looks at the same child and thinks, "what a blessing God has bestowed upon us."

**When hope is crushed, the heart is crushed, but a wish come true fills you with joy. Proverbs 13:12**

**Joy, I believe, comes from you heart and soul.**

Certainly at this time of year, there are joyful experiences for all of us: baking, decorating, giving and receiving gifts, caroling, time with family and friends and Christmas greetings being exchanged. Beyond the holidays, we find joy in just watching our three children learning and growing and experiencing life. We find joy in teaching Sunday school, then listening to the children's sermon and seeing that the kids have listened and learned something that day.

**I have told you this so my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. John 16:22**

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him. Romans 15:13**



*Wise Men and Women Still Seek Him*