

Our Continuing Vision

December 2017

Worship – Sundays, 10:15 a.m.

December 3 – 1st Sunday in Advent – Candle of Hope

“The Child Grew Up, Filled with Wisdom” Luke 2:40; Hebrews 11:1

December 10 – 2nd Sunday of Advent – Candle of Peace

“One of the Most Difficult Teachings of Jesus” Matthew 5:38-48

Rev. Don Robinson, Guest Speaker

December 17 – 3rd Sunday of Advent – Candle of Joy – Christmas Tea

A Celtic Christmas Cantata – “Stars of Glory”

“The Child Grew Up and God’s Favor Was on Him”

Luke 2:40; 1 John 1:1-4

December 24 – Christmas Eve – Candle of Love

Traditional Service and Candle lighting – 10:15 am

“The Child Grew Up and Became Strong” Luke 2:40; 1 John 4:18-21

Children and Chancel Choir singing

December 24 – Christmas Eve – Christ Candle

Celebration Service and Candle lighting – 4:30 pm

Music led by NOTES OF FAITH

Children present a Living Nativity

December 31 – New Year’s Eve – Kyle Remnant, Guest Speaker

Joy to the World! Now What? Isaiah 43, Mark 1, John 1, John 14

Cookie Sale this Saturday, December 2, 9 am - 1 pm

You are hereby notified of our Cookie Sale. Other goodies available too! Please note, all these cookies will freeze well. Pick out a great variety for your holidays! Busy some now to get in the mood!

Breakfast w/ Santa this Saturday, December 2, 9 am

Everyone is invited to enjoy a *delicious breakfast and great fellowship!* *The children will be making take home crafts, and then we will have a special “visitor”* who will have a treat for everyone! Gifts from parents are **NOT** required.

Poinsettia deadline - this Sunday, December 3

Our beautiful poinsettias will grace our Sanctuary on *Sundays, December 17 and 24*. Please place your order and check in the offering plate or drop off in the Church Office.

Book Club - Sunday, December 3, 12 noon

We will meet to eat and discuss The Charm Bracelet by Viola Shipman, at the home of Margaret Hildebrand. Please RSVP to Margaret 610-670-6469.

Mystery Brunch - Saturday, December 9

Reminder for those who signed up for our mystery of the stolen Hat & Mitten Tree – *our brunch begins at 11 am*.

Children singing at Berks Heim - Sunday, December 10

Our children/youth ages 2 and up, will be traveling to Berks Heim to sing Christmas songs and hand out cards for the residents. Note: we will leave the church lobby area at 10:15 am and return approximately 1:30 pm. We will sing for about an hour and then stop for lunch and fellowship on our way back. Please see either Sue Blatt or Vicki Clements if you plan on your children attending or if you could join us. We need to plan for enough transportation and supervision. This is a revival of an activity enjoyed by many years ago. We now have such a wonderful and vibrant group of children/youth that we would like to renew the program and share with those in need of smiles.

Jeffrey Krick, Jr. Christmas/Gospel Show

Sunday, December 10, 7 pm

Enjoy a wonderful night out with Jeffrey Krick, Jr., Elvis Tribute Artist. Sanctuary doors open at 6 pm. There will be a freewill offering.

Let's Go Caroling - Friday, December 15, 4:30 pm

Caroling for those who need it most! Join a joyous group as we caravan to various nursing homes to bring you to the residents. A great singing voice is not needed, but a warm smile and friendly face is a plus!

Celtic Christmas Cantata - "Stars of Glory"

Sunday, December 17, 10:15 am

Our Chancel Choir will present a unique collection of Celtic carols which will enhance and inspire your Christmas spirit. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this beautiful cantata.

Christmas Tea - Sunday, December 17, 11:30 am

Join us for wonderful food and holiday fellowship at our annual Christmas Tea. *Everyone is invited to bring a finger food to share.* Verna Hartman is in charge of this delightful Christmas tradition.

Christmas Eve Services - Sunday, December 24

Our Traditional Christmas Eve Service will be at **10:15 am** with music from our Chancel Choir and Children. We conclude with our traditional circle of candle-lighting.

Our Christmas Eve Celebration Service will be at **4:30 pm**. Music will be led by Notes by Faith. Children will present a Living Nativity skit. The service ends with our wonderful candle-lighting circle.

The Hat & Mitten Tree

Bring your donations of ADULT MEN gloves, scarfs, or hats and put them on the tree. This year the Witness Ministry Team will give these gifts to senior citizens in professional senior facilities.

Church Family Prayer Tree

Every family is invited to bring back the Christmas ornament you took last year and place it on the tree in the back of the sanctuary. Each family is asked to take someone else's home and to pray for that family all year. Fellowship Ministry Team thanks you for participating in keeping Christmas in your heart all year round.

Our Holiday Craft Show was one of our most successful ever! We topped \$3,000.00. We feel this is a worthwhile effort which benefits our church and our community outreach. It takes many hands and everyone involved should be pleased with their efforts. To all – thank you!.....Coffee, Crafts, & Chatter (CCC)

Our Thanksgiving Dinner was huge success. We served approximately 170 people. Thank you to everyone! Thank you to Redner's Warehouse Markets for providing all the turkeys and Berkshire Country Club for the fine linens!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Harvest Home. We provided dinners for 7 families.

2018 Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board. Please sign up to sponsor a beautiful arrangement from Acacia Flower & Gift Shop. Suggested price is \$25.00.

2018 Offering Envelopes will be mailed the last week of December. If you do not receive your packet by the middle of January, please notify the Church Office.

Celtic Christmas Greetings *to all of you lads and lasses.*

Inspire your Christmas spirit on Sunday, December 17

*by attending our "Stars of Glory" cantata
performed by our fabulous Chancel Choir –
Merry Christmas & Peace in the New Year!
Brenda, Pastor Tim, Barbie, Darlene, Margaret*

Staff Christmas Gift

Dear Friends,

December, 2017

As has been our tradition, the Worship Ministry Team will be accepting contributions for a monetary (cash) Christmas gift for our **Wyomissing Church of the Brethren Staff**
(*Pastor Tim, Barbie Kuhns, Brenda Bechtel, Margaret Bauer, Darlene Dunn*)

The gifts will be presented during the Christmas Tea on **Sunday, December 17, 2017.**

If you would like to share in this gift, please give your cash contribution to Sharon Harris or Marcia Rogala by ***Sunday, December 10th.***

May this holiday season be full of joy, peace, and love as we celebrate the Christmas together!

Blessings and thanks to all,

Sharon Harris, Worship Team Chair & Marcia Rogala, Worship Team Vice Chair

Challenge yourself in the New Year!

Growth is good for every age. Challenge yourself to a new experience for 2018 – be a Worship Leader. It is all written down for you – except for the offering prayer, and hey – that is what the Internet is for (or the back of the hymnal).

See the congregation in an entirely new way. Lead and serve us in worship. It is a whole new way to do church! Please call or email Barbie in the Church Office.

Fellowship Directory Updates:

Pg. 1 – James & Margaret Bauer's new address:

221 Hawthorne Court North, Wyomissing 19610-1063

Pg. 12 – Dave Kutch's new address: 5640 Four Point Road, Bethel 19507

Pg. 13 – Paula McCutcheon's new address: 328 Franklin Street, West Reading 19611

In Our Prayers this month:

*Chet Andreas – Elliott & Gloria Barnett – Roland Behle – Sherry Briggs – Dean Camp
Linda Cope – Karena Cooley – Nancy Custo – Mandy Dotter – Andrea Dougherty
Elaine Dierof & Family Dawn Ernst – Ben Fox – Sandy Fox – Fern Fry – Anna Mae Hoffman
Joan Hornberger – Kayla Howe – Joann Landis – Tim Latshaw – Mia Losito
Brianna Lowry – Shirley Lowry – Randy Parson – Eric Speece – Jill Keyser Speicher
Mary Spotts – Horace Stewart – Ruth Tabakelis – Teresa – David Torakeo – Carol Urbassik*

Sunday Worship Participants for December 2017

December 3

1st Sunday in Advent

Acolyte: Classic Sallada

Flowers: In memory of our parents, John & Laura Pfautz,
and William & Katharine Snyder presented by Glenn & Kay Pfautz

Greeters: Scott & Sue Blatt

Nursery: Gayle Skipper

Worship Leader: Karen Redner

Deacons of the Week: Lee & Fawn Seifrit

December 10

2nd Sunday in Advent – Rev. Don Robinson, Guest Speaker

Acolyte: Katherine Felker

Flowers: Presented by Elliott & Gloria Barnett

Greeter: John Robinson

Nursery: Barb & Bob Pettit

Worship Leader: Nancy Dotter

Deacons of the Week: Ray & Nancy Dotter

December 17

3rd Sunday of Advent – A Celtic Christmas Cantata “Stars of Glory”

Acolyte: Sissy Sfinas

Flowers: Wishing my Family and Church Family a “Merry Christmas”
presented by Doris Krick

Head Usher: Karen Redner

Greeters: Deborah & Dorothy Smith

Nursery: The Felker Family

Worship Leader: John Robinson

Deacons of the Week: Dan & Sandy Biss

December 24

Christmas Eve – Traditional Service, 10:15 am

Acolyte: Janiyah Hackman

Flowers: Presented by Jim & Margaret Bauer

Greeters: Harry & Laura Kruse

Nursery: Carolyn Tetley-Fazzari

Worship Leader: Scott Blatt

Deacons of the Week: Doug & Brenda Bechtel

December 24

Christmas Eve – Celebration Service, 4:30 pm

Greeters: Kirk & Ruth Ann Haas

Head Usher: Carl Voelker

Usher: Linda Voelker

Parking Lot Greeters:

December 31

New Year's Eve – Kyle Remnant, Guest Speaker

Acolyte: Abigail Felker

Flowers: In memory of my brother, Bruce and sister, Ann Marie Sharar
presented by Sarah Sallada

Greeters: Davion & Jai Shaun Sallada

Nursery: Paula McCutcheon

Worship Leader: Sharon Harris

Deacons of the Week: Kirk & Ruth Ann Haas

Audio: Dan Biss

Head Usher: Verna Hartman

Parking Lot Greeters: Dave & Diane Zimmerman

Counters: Glenn & Kay Pfautz

Ushers: Pat Gault & Barbie Kuhns

Welcoming Team: The Felker Family