December 6, 2015

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1208 Asbury Road
Erie, Pennsylvania 16505
814-833-7653

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The Rev. Dr. James F. Bernhardt
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Keith D. Sundberg,
Associate Pastor

Dawn Weborg,
Director of Music/Organist

Mission
Devin Johns
Broad Street Ministries
Philadelphia PA

Emma Haas
Young Adult Volunteer, PCUSA
Northern Ireland

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP  
Communion Sunday  
December 6, 2015  
11:00 AM

PRELUDE
“Prepare Thyself, Zion”  
(from Christmas Oratorio)

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING
Verses of Scripture  
Eli Fuchs
Anthem  
“Light a Candle For All To See”  
Larson  
WaYouth Choir; Caroline Grimm, Soloist
Prayer
Mighty God of Peace, shine in our hearts; let your words of wisdom teach us the way to live in your life-giving way. Come with grace and mercy to prepare our hearts to live in your peace. Amen.

CHORAL INTROIT
“A Time for Praise, A Time for Joy”  
Sorenson  
Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP
In the name of Christ, welcome—
  From every orientation, location, color, and class; old and young, female and male, Gentile and Jew
In the name of Christ, welcome! Give thanks that Jesus of Nazareth became a servant to his people to confirm the ancient promise that the Gentiles would glorify God.
  We are fruits of Christ’s labor, gathered by God’s grace. Therefore, let us welcome one another, just as Christ has welcomed us, for the glory of God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 88
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” v. 1,6,7  
Veni Emmanuel

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Cleansing God, we hear the call to repentance, But we struggle to respond.
  A voice tells us to turn around, But we prefer our own ways.
  You seek to purify us in the furnace of your love, But we constantly elude your searching hand.
  Our sin leads us in other directions, away from you, Away from life.
  Look with mercy on us.
  Clear a place within us so that something new might be born, something that will return us to the way you have shown us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON
*ACT OF PRAISE

Prepare our hearts, that we may witness to the light Christ’s coming brought into the world, O Spirit of new life.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

GOSPEL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

(Following the time with children, our young people through kindergarten age may be excused to child care)

Teaching Elder Keith Sundberg

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:18-25, p. 1

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION

“A Message in the Dark”

Teaching Elder James Bernhardt

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

RECEPTION OF OUR TIT HES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem

“Advent Processional”

Greig

(“Come, O Rose”)

Chancel Choir; Percussion, Ron May and Joey Turner

*Offertory Response

Old Hundredth

Praise God who calls us from the sleep of darkness, sin, and earthly strife; and leads us onward, freed by love, into the everlasting life.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

The Communion Hymn No. 105

“The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

How can we thank you, O God? ……we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give you thanks, Holy God…

So let us join our hearts and voices to the mission of Christ, and let us lift our voices to pray as he taught us, Our Father…

The Sharing of the Meal

Invitation to Prayer

Prayers of the People
TAKING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 105  “People, Look East” v. 4-5  Besancon

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE  “When God is a Child”  Alstrome
Chancel Choir

*POSTLUDE  “Morning Star, O Cheering Sight!”  19th Century Moravian Melody

*Everyone who is able may stand

Bold lettering is to be read responsively by the congregation

Bold lettering that is italicized is to be sung by the congregation

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Music Director
Sexton
Financial Secretary
Communications and Community Liaison
WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Sunday, December 6, 2015

WELCOME

“I will show love to those who were called unloved and, to those who were called ‘not-my-people’, I will say ‘you are my people’ and they will answer, ‘you are our God’.” (Hosea 2:23)

Wayside Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) is a place where the mind is nourished as well as the spirit, and where we affirm the dignity and worth of every person. As we are all created in the image of God, we believe discrimination is incompatible with Christ’s Gospel of unconditional love. While we celebrate our Presbyterian identity, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. We invite conversations that move us to seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit.

Be who you are and be welcome here.

FOR OUR CHILDREN

Childcare is available during the entire worship hour for infants and preschool children. Children may remain for the entire service or take advantage of childcare (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 a 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 with the service today:

Church Opener: Lee McVey
Ushers: 8:30 AM: Bill Bremmer and Ritch Marsh
11:00 AM: Cade Sbrocco, Rachael Sbrocco, Jonathon Sidorowicz, Mark Smith and Dan Taylor
Acolytes: Alivia Garrity and Axel Swanson
Worship Assistant: Mark Twinem
Sound Board: Jim Allman
Greeters: Jana Babb and Family, Worship; Brian Reed, Christian Ed
Information Table: Paula Reade
Fellowship Time: Melissa Grimm
Childcare: Karen and Katie Potocki, Nursery; Tracey Bowes

A reminder to those scheduled to help next week:

Church Opener: Matt McCullough
Ushers: 8:30 AM: Tim Feltmeyer, Kurt Menges
11:00 AM: Bill DeWitt, Bobbi Jo Fye, Jon Hoyt, Ron Kolb, Lee McVey, Bill Pentz, Adam Snyder, Ed Snyder, Barb Sundberg, Axel Swanson
Acolytes: Lorah Momeyer and Hannah Morrow
Worship Assistant: Rita Brown
Sound Board: Matt McGill
Greeters: Penny and Steve Porter, Worship; Gene Sundberg, Christian Ed
Information Table: Jean Moore
Fellowship Time: Pastor Nominating Committee
Childcare: Samantha Momeyer, Nursery; Lindsay Jeglinski, Preschool
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF  
December 6, 2015

Sunday, December 6
8:30 AM  Celebration of Worship  
James’ first service  
Joy Offering begins  
9:30 AM  Chancel Choir/ PW Cookie Tray pickup  
9:45 AM  Sunday School  
11:00 AM  Celebration of Worship  
Noon  Fellowship Time/PW Cookie Tray pickup  
7:00 PM  PW Christmas Party  
Personnel Committee

Monday, December 7
Noon  Trustees
6:30 PM  Sanctuary Bells

Tuesday, December 8
5:30 PM  QiGong Class

Wednesday, December 9
3:30 PM  Serving at Emmaus
4:00 PM  WOW Club
4:45 PM  WaYouth Choir
5:30 PM  Primary Choir
6:00 PM  Fellowship Dinner/Middlers
6:30 PM  WOW Musical Rehearsal
7:30 PM  Session

Thursday, December 10
11:30 AM  Elizabeth Circle Christmas Party
7:00 PM  Peter Mayer Concert

Friday, December 11
7:00 PM  JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Saturday, December 12
9:00 AM-8:00 PM  Second Saturday Project: Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Sunday, December 13
8:30 AM  Celebration of Worship
Shower for Baby Jesus
Youth Mission Bake Sale
9:30 AM  Chancel Choir
9:45 AM  Sunday School
11:00 AM  Celebration of Worship
12:00 PM  Birthday Party for Dorothy Hutzelman

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION
It is our privilege to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion this morning. All are invited to partake of the elements. Gluten-free wafers are available on a separate tray; please indicate to an usher or communion server if this is your preference.

WELCOME OUR NEW SENIOR PASTOR
You may reach James at james@wayside-erie.org, by calling the office at 833-7653 or just drop in to say hi!

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Wayside is proud to host the “Stars and Promises” concert this Thursday, December 10, at 7 PM starring the Peter Mayer Group. Sign up at the Information Table for tickets or contact Mark Twinem.
CAROLERS NEEDED
We will be caroling in the neighborhood on Wednesday, December 23. We will rendezvous at Wayside at 6:30 PM. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served upon our return. Everyone of every age and talent (or lack thereof) is invited. Just bring yourself and your joy.

EYES OF THE ARTIST
Come see the porcelain enameled artwork of Carl Sundberg in the Parlor. During the coming Advent and Christmas seasons, we will be able to enjoy the unique and beautiful plaques that Carl created as the Erie Ceramics Company annual Christmas greeting cards.

WOW MUSICAL
On December 20, the WOW Choir will present the musical “Where’s the Newborn King?” at both the 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM services. Through narratives, scripture and song, the singers will tell the story of three young shepherd boys playing hide-and-seek while searching for the Newborn King who will come to save the world. They listen to their grandfather tell stories of ancient prophets whose promises provide clues for their search. The cast will challenge all who hear to seek King Jesus in all they say and do.

PW NEWS
Trays for the PW Annual Holiday Cookie Sale are available to pick up today after each service and during the Sunday School hour.

Elizabeth Circle will hold its annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 10 in the Parlor beginning at 11:30 AM. Please bring hors d'oeuvres or a dessert to share and a donation for the Emmaus Soup Kitchen.

Sophia Circle will meet on Friday, December 11 at 7:00 PM at the home of Nicki Jares. Shawn Babcock is the study leader and we will be doing chapter 11 of our book.

YOU ARE INVITED
Next Sunday, December 13, everyone is invited to a 100th Birthday celebration for Dorothy Hutzelman. It will be in Fellowship Hall immediately after the 11am service. Join us for food, cake and singing of “Happy Birthday”! No gifts please, your presence is your present!

GENEROSITY OPPORTUNITIES
POINSETTIAS
You can help in decorating the church for the Advent and Christmas seasons by purchasing poinsettias for the sanctuary. The price is $10 each. Sign up at the Information Table or call the church office at 833-7653. The deadline to purchase poinsettias will be Sunday, December 20.

SERVING DINNER AT EMMAUS SOUP KITCHEN
Volunteers are needed to assist with serving dinner at Emmaus Soup Kitchen, 218 E. 11th St. and Holland St. at 3:00 PM this Wednesday, December 9. If you would like to help, please sign up at the Information Table in the Lobby.

SECOND HARVEST MOBILE FOOD BANK
The next Mobile Food Bank will be held Monday, December 21. Volunteers will meet at the Federated Church, 11995 Main St. in East Springfield just off Route 20 West at 12:30 PM. Please sign up at the Information Table in the Lobby. Volunteers should park in the parking lot behind the church as the people getting the food park in the lot in front.
DINNERS FOR THE HOMELESS
On January 3, Wayside will be preparing and serving “Sunday Supper” at the First United Methodist Church at 7th & Sassafras Streets in Erie. If you would like to help, please sign up at the table in the Lobby.

We will be providing another dinner for the homeless that overflow into the city churches. Working at the First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, our second dinner will be on Thursday, January 7, 2016. Please sign up at the Information Table.

JOY OFFERING
A Presbyterian tradition for more than sixty-five years, the Christmas JOY Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church to provide congregations direct ways of supporting causes that help those in need.

Wayside will receive the JOY Offering starting today. Please use the special offering envelopes that can be found in the packets or in the pew racks.

CARING CLOSET
Like other congregations throughout the area, Wayside is collecting “Coats for Kids.” Waysiders are encouraged to bring in gently used coats, jackets, mittens, scarves, gloves, hats, and boots (any outerwear for Erie winters) of any size infant through adult. These items will be distributed as needed through the “Caring Closet” of the Erie City School District. Items should be left on the coat rack just inside the ramped entrance by the parlor.

SCRIP ORDERS
Purchasing gift cards through our Scrip cards program is a great way for you to contribute to Wayside. A percentage of your gift card purchase will go to the Wayside general fund. An order placed on Sunday will be received by the following Sunday. Stop at the Information Table today to place your order.

PER CAPITA REMINDER
If you haven’t paid your Per capita for 2015, it’s not too late! We pay $29.50 per confirmed member of each family. As of November 4, 2015, we have raised $7,302.00 toward our goal of $17,375.50. Please drop your Per Capita payment in the collection plate or mail it to the office today!

WEEKLY GIFTS TO THE WEST MILLCREEK FOOD PANTRY
Next week’s suggested items for the Food Pantry are tuna and canned spaghetti. Non-perishable items such as diapers, feminine hygiene products, toiletries and pet foods are always appreciated. Checks should be made out to “West Millcreek Food Pantry”.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS ARE RETURNING
A weekly devotional will be returning to the Wayside Website. Keith will reflect on one of the lectionary readings slated for that week’s worship service. If you would like the devotional emailed to you, please contact Karen Shor at wpc@wayside-erie.org or 833-7653.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS
Devotions for Advent are now available. For families with children in fifth grade or younger, please pick up your advent calendar in the church Lobby. You may also wish to take a copy of Listen to the Wondrous Story: Some Sounds of the Season for the Church’s Younger Members by Arden Mead.

Teens may be interested in Message in the Manger: daily advent texts and devotions for teens and young adults and Seeing Christ in Christmas with help from Paul’s letter to the Philippians.

Adults can choose from Jesus Beloved Son, Wait for the Lord, The Lord is Near and Unto Us a Child is Born by Henri Nouwen; Follow the Story by Marva J. Dawn; Lift up Your Heads by Martin E. Marty and Welcome A Mighty Savior: Family Prayers for Each Day of Advent by Mark Neilsen.

There are also Rediscovering Advent calendars and a variety of others. Take as many as you wish to help make the season as meaningful for you and your family as possible.

SENIOR HIGHS
A weekly ministry for students from 9th-12th Grade
Our Senior Highs are considered adult members and may participate where and when they choose.

ADULT EDUCATION
Issues of Faith Speaker Series on Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM in Room 18
This week Rev. Aaron Kerr from Gannon University will present “Advent Practice: Poetry and Music”. Next week Jamie Borowicz, Ph.D. will speak about “Images of the Nativity”.

WOW (WAYSIDE ON WEDNESDAY)
A Wednesday program for youth from 2nd to 5th grade
This week and December 16 will be extended rehearsals for the WOW Musical “Where’s the Newborn King?” and games.

MIDDLERS
A Wednesday program for youth from 6-8th grade
This week we will attend Temple Anshe Hesed’s Communal Candle Lighting to celebrate the fourth night of Chanukah. Our Christmas Party will be on December 16.