

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Week of January 5, 2020

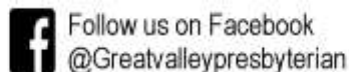
Sun 5	11:30am	Christmas un-decorating No G3 Youth Group
Mon 6	7:00pm	CL & O Committee
	7:00pm	Worship Committee
Wed 8	7:00pm	Valley Forge Cottage Prayer (Sanvilles')
	7:30pm	Christian Education Committee
Thurs 9	7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	9:15am	Women's Bible Study
	7:00pm	G3 Senior High Bible Study
	7:00pm	Preschool Committee Meeting
	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30pm	twenty: Bible Study for Young Adults
Fri 10	9:30am	ToolBelt Team
Sat 11	8:45am	Good Works Work Day (Phoenixville)
	9:00am	Great Valley Prayer
	9:30am	Officer Training
Sun 12	9:00am	Christian Education Hour
	10:00am	Corporate Worship

* There are a variety of weekly Life Groups that meet in individuals' homes.
Pick up a spreadsheet in Dickerson Hall or check out our website for more info.

STAFF

Pastor	Keith Fink
Director of Ministries	Jim Shackleton
Pastoral Associate	Robert Scott
Director of Worship and Communications	Christopher Starr
Organist	Sharon Smoker
Director of Preschool in the Valley	Karen Erickson
Facilities Supervisor	Christopher White

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We exist to glorify God
by enabling all people to become fully devoted
followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. We prayerfully strive,
through the Holy Spirit, to fulfill our purpose by worship,
Biblical teaching, service, fellowship, and active involvement
in world evangelization.



Great Valley is a member congregation
of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020

The Way We Could Be

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude	Look Down on Us – Mendelssohn
Welcome and Announcements	
Call to Worship	
Songs	We Three Kings – #116 Offering
Confession of Sin	
Unison Assurance of Forgiveness	Isaiah 53:5
Song	Gloria Patri – #558
Prayers of the People	
Offertory	This Little Babe/Hodie Christus Natus Est
Doxology	Praise God from Whom All Blessings – #556
Prayer of Thanksgiving	

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Song (children dismissed)	Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God
Old Testament	Isaiah 58:4-8 – Ted Wray
Message	Rev. Keith Fink
Overcoming Selfish Desires with Faithfulness to God	
	James 4:1-6
Song	His Mercy Is More

WE CELEBRATE AT GOD'S TABLE

Sacrament of Communion

WE DEPART TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

Song	As With Gladness Men of Old – #115
Benediction	
Postlude	Raise Now Your Song on High – Saint-Saëns

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

It is a joy and a privilege to gather together to praise our God. May you sense His presence here today in worship and fellowship (Heb. 10:25).

Families – Please see the cards in the pew racks for an explanation of family worship at GVPC. Children are welcome to stay with you during the worship service or participate in the following ministries:

Infant Care (*up to 18 months*) in the Nursery. Today's caregiver: Beth Nields.

Rompers Church (*18 mos. – K*) in Room 1 of the Children's Wing. Today's leader: Lynn Vessey.

Jr. Church (*1st - 4th graders*) in the Library. Children are dismissed from the service during the song before the Scripture reading. A parent or older sibling should pick them up after the service. Today's leader: Peggy Gould.

5th- 8th graders stay in the service today.

Greeters – Today's greeters are Ted and Barb Wray.

Flowers – The flowers today are given by Craig and Karen Erickson to the Glory of God.

Public and Private Prayer – The yellow cards in the pew racks are for praise or prayer requests to be read during the Prayers of the People. Fill one out and pass it to the center aisle for the prayer leader to collect during the second song. If you prefer your request to be private, please meet Helen Lee Potter in the Prayer Room following the service.

Deacons on Call – In January, our deacons Denise Higgins and Frani Hitzelberger are on call for assistance.

Following the Service – Please join us in the chapel after the service for Coffee Fellowship.

Bearing One Another's Burdens (Gal. 6:2) – If you have or know of special needs, concerns, or illnesses among our church family, please call the church office at 610-644-1995.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Christmas Un-Decorating

Today

We've all appreciated the sights and aromas of the decorations throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. Following today's service, worship committee requests assistance as we remove and store the decorations until next year. Please consider sticking around following worship to lend a hand; see Les Zan with questions.

Cottage Prayer

January 8

The Valley Forge Area Cottage Prayer group will meet at the home of Dale and Carolyn Sanville on Wednesday, January 8 at 7pm. Contact Dale or Carolyn if you'd like to get involved.

Good Works Work Day

January 11

Please consider volunteering with the Good Works team next Saturday (January 11) at 8:45am. The team has been assigned a new house in Phoenixville that needs a lot of love, and you will have the opportunity to learn new skills while helping a neighbor have a warmer, safer and drier home. Lunch will be provided! Contact Brian Gilbert with questions and for directions to the work site.

India Debrief with Rachel Schuck

January 12

Rachel writes,

"Many thanks for all your prayers during my India trip! I felt the blessings of your prayers this past year, and I look forward to worshipping with the GV family for the next several months. For anyone interested in hearing about my language-learning experience in South India this past year, I will be holding a de-brief/slideshow at the Schuck house (Jan 12th at 2pm). All are welcome!"

Women In Community

How does the gospel transform anxiety? Find out by coming to the January Women in Community Life Group at the home of Kay Schaul in Malvern, led by Kay and Lauren Palmer. For details, contact Kay.

College Student of the Week

This week's college student is **Sam Fanus**. Sam studies at Montgomery County Community College. Please pray that Sam would have wisdom and discernment and "Trust in the Lord with all his heart and lean not on his own understanding; in all his ways acknowledge him" and that "the Lord will make his paths straight (Proverbs 3:5-6)."

Heard from the Mission Field

Mark and Anne Marie Winz, Cru Communications and the International School Project – Mark writes about his great privilege of seeing and reporting on ways God is at work around the world through his role with Cru. His team gathers stories from all over the US; he edits the stories and coaches writers, editors and a writing intern to more effectively communicate and challenge readers.

Anne Marie has worked with the International School Project (ISP) for the last year. She has seen strategic outreaches to the public school teachers bear fruit. After training by ISP, teachers – who are very influential people in any society – can build disciples and teach more effectively, even taking the gospel into their classrooms. Anne Marie's role is to collect stories while helping to manage conference for teachers. Pray for this dedicated and delightful couple as they minister both nationally and internationally.

Can We Help?

The challenges we experience throughout the many stages of life sometimes necessitate the help of professional counselors. Great Valley Presbyterian Church has a partnership with Kairos Counseling Services to address such needs. Funds are available, if needed, to help cover the costs of these services. For more information or answers to questions you may have about this resource, contact Barbara Wray, Great Valley's coordinator.

About Today's Offertory

Today's offertory, presented by Rachel, Andrew and Seth Schuck, Katie Sweeney and Chris Starr, concludes the Christmas season by combining two carols based on Medieval and Renaissance era texts. The first is a sixteenth century poem by English Jesuit poet Robert Southwell set by British composer Benjamin Britten in 1942 as part of his *Ceremony of Carols*. The second is Dutch composer Jan Pieterzoon Sweelinck's 1619 setting of the traditional Latin carol *Hodie Christus Natus Est (Today Christ Is Born)*, a paraphrase of Luke 2:11, 13-14 and Psalm 33:1. English texts for both carols are below:

This little babe, so few days old,
Is come to rifle Satan's fold;
All hell doth at his presence quake.
Though he himself for cold do shake,
For in this weak unarmèd wise
The gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field;
His naked breast stands for a shield;
His battering shot are babish cries,
His arrows looks of weeping eyes,
His martial ensigns cold and need,
And feeble flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitchèd in a stall,
His bulwark but a broken wall,
The crib his trench, hay stalks his stakes,
Of shepherds he his muster makes;
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,
The angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight;
Stick to the tents that he hath pight;
Within his crib is surest ward,
This little babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,
Then flit not from this heavenly boy.

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Today Christ is born: Noel!  
Today the Savior has appeared: Alleluia!  
Today the Angels sing  
The Archangels rejoice: Noel!  
Today the righteous rejoice, saying:  
"Glory to God in the highest."  
Alleluia! Noel!