

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS\***  
**Week of December 29, 2019**

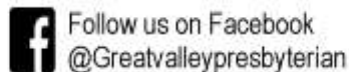
Sun 29		No G3 Youth Group
Tues 31	7:30pm	New Year's Eve Worship with Communion
Wed 1		Church Office Closed for New Year's Day
Thur 2	7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	6:45pm	twenty: Dinner and Bible Study for Young Adults
	7:00pm	G3 Youth Bible Study
	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sat 4	9:00am	Great Valley Prayer
Sun 5	9:00am	Christian Education Hour
	10:00am	Corporate Worship with Communion

\* 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, DECEMBER 29, 2019**

**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: Vicky Starr.

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

**Jr. Church** (*1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

**5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> graders stay in the service today.**

**Greeters** – Today's greeters are Arnold & Donna Reinikka.

**Flowers** – The flowers this Lord's Day are given by Arnold and Donna Reinikka in celebration of their 66th wedding anniversary on December 28th.

**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 Cinda Marturano in the Prayer Room following the service.

**Deacons on Call** – In December, our deacons Marcia Papson and Rick Constable 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.

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

Prelude Two Pyrenees Noels – arr. Russell  
Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship  
Songs Go, Tell It On the Mountain  
Song Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring – #89

Confession of Sin  
Unison Assurance of Forgiveness Acts 10:43  
Song 10,000 Reasons

Prayers of the People  
Offertory  
Doxology Praise God from Whom All Blessings – #556  
Prayer of Thanksgiving

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Song (children dismissed) Reformation Hymn  
Old Testament Isaiah 49:8-9 – Paul B. Toms

Message Rev. Paul E. Toms  
**The Written Word and the Living Word**  
Luke 4:14-32

**WE DEPART TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD**

Song Tell Me the Story of Jesus – #119  
Benediction  
Postlude Good Christians, All, Rejoice – Sergisson

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

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### Christmas Un-Decorating

January 5

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

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### 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.

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### Giving Tree

Many thanks to all who purchased gifts for the Giving Tree. We were able to provide 140 gifts for local children from 16 families. The families appreciate your generosity and this tangible expression of God's love.

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### Heard from the Mission Field

Mike and Elisabeth Jochum, Pioneers – Mike works in HR and updated us recently on the issues he deals with as he seeks to provide care for those who serve through Pioneers. When people choose to obey God's calling to go to the hardest places of the world, often there are difficult situations that spring from the isolation and hardships of these remote locations. The department of Pioneers called Member Development Team (MDT), of which Elisabeth is a part, seeks to assist missionaries to resolve problems before the situation becomes so severe that they leave the field.

Mike's role has been to develop a process of analyzing the causes of attrition to help Pioneers develop a strategy to improve retention. Sometimes he assists the MDT with brainstorm a solution for the family or families involved. Usually when Member Development invites him into these situations, medical concerns have escalated to potential evacuations, inter-personal conflicts are on the verge of a field dismissal and special leaves have dragged past the limits defined in the employee handbook. Every situation seems unique and whatever decision is made often greatly impacts the lives of entire families who have totally turned their worlds upside down in order to serve the Lord.

Pray for Mike as he seeks to remain balanced between best practices and compassion. Praise God with him as He continues to raise up new laborers for the harvest; Pioneers has a record number of new applicants in 2019 who have completed the first step in serving with this sending agency.

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### Financial Report

We needed to receive \$112,000 in December to meet our unified budget goal of \$670,000 for the year. We were blessed with a wonderful offering this past week of over \$42,000 toward our ministry commitments and operational expenses. God is good! Here is where we stand with only today's offering remaining in 2019.

December Contribution Goal	\$ 112,000
Received thru December 22	104,600
Remainder to Reach Our Goal	<u>\$ 7,400</u>

As a reminder, to be included in today's offering and counted as a 2019 contribution, your contribution must either be received in today's offering, handed to a trustee on New Year's Eve or, if mailed, postmarked by December 31st. Any checks received after December 31st will be applied to our 2020 budget, even if the check has a 2019 date on it.