

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

November 1, 2017

GPC & the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

Last Sunday in worship we commemorated the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation! It was a wonderful day with special music, prayers, and a sermon focused on the event. One of the slogans of the Reformation is "reformed and always reforming." It acknowledges that times and cultures change, and our understanding of what God expects from us changes over time, too. For example, today we are blessed to welcome women into all leadership roles in the church, where earlier churches were not, and we no longer bar divorced persons from leadership.

Here at GPC, we continue to reform, as new challenges confront us. In my sermon on Oct. 15, I noted that our families struggle to negotiate conflicts on Sunday morning with other children's activities (sports, music, drama, etc.). How can these children learn about the faith if they are not here for worship and Sunday School? Well, some of these kids are involved in church activities that meet other times. Some watch the services on-line at times other than Sunday morning. This is one example of a way in which the church will need to continue to reform, if we are to remain relevant to people today. There are others!

Please keep your leaders in your prayers as we strive to remain "Reformed and Always Reforming."

Pastor Dave

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A Big Smile and Thank You from your Welcome & Outreach Team

On Oct. 2, we received a letter from Rev. Cynthia Betz-Bogoly of Elkins Park Presbyterian Church, relaying to Session her family's wonderful experience when they worshiped with us on Sept. 24.

From the Passing of the Peace, and having children's programs available at the early service, all the way through the coffee hour fellowship, this family felt welcomed and left with a sense of belonging.

A great big shout out to Bev Weber who sought out our visitors, informed them about our children's programs and invited them to coffee after the service. We would also like to thank Cheryl Betts, for holding their 7-year-old daughter's hand while bringing her to children's church, leaving her parents with a feeling of confidence that their daughter, although a first-time visitor, was welcome and safe.

It is difficult to understand how much of an impact we can make when interacting with others. A warm smile, a friendly handshake and a simple invitation to worship or coffee does go a long way. Rev. Betz-Bogoly put it best, "I would encourage your Session to continue to affirm your members as *people of welcome*. Both of the people who welcomed us were genuine and if we were not tourists, their welcome would have led us to return for additional Sundays to consider whether this would be a good church home for us for our continued discipleship."

I can think of no better mission than to make everyone who joins us feel welcome and wanted. Thank you to the entire congregation for making GPC such a welcoming Church.

To our GPC family,
Joanna and I have been through a lot in the last 2-1/2 years. I've had 2 knee replacements, gastric surgery and a concussion; while Joanna has fought kidney stones and an ongoing infection that became septic. Through it all our church family has been our bright star, showering us with God's love through their kindness, thoughtful deeds and generosity. We have been humbled by such an outpouring of His love, and are very grateful to have been so blessed. We wish to thank you all for your support, encouragement and love during this time, and we pray that God blesses each and every one of you as He has blessed us through you.

In His Name, thank you from the depth of our souls.
Leo and Joanna McGuire

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU to all who came and had their pictures taken for the new directory. You don't know how many people use this directory and having pictures in there will be helpful to so many. As the coordinator for this project, I could not have accomplished it without the help of the following people who helped do signups at the CE table and checked people in for pictures: Lynne Graziano, Susan Kint, Sheryl Suplee, Susan Kolmer, Al & Sue Moyer, Mary Miner, Eleanor Bilz, Penny Ziegler, Lucy Breighner, Jerry & Elly Cleaver, and Peter & Jane North.

Thank you all so very much!
Cheryl Betts

Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship

Don't forget to stop by Fellowship Hall before or after each worship service. Grab a cup of coffee or tea and enjoy conversation with another member of GPC. We hope you will take to heart what the coffee hour banners say:

"Take a seat...make a friend."



NEED A RIDE?

If you are having trouble attending church services and/or church functions due to not having transportation, let the Deacons help you. We are only a phone call away. The transportation Deacon for October 9 to November 12 is Dave Boyer at 717-528-8676 and November 13 to December 10 is Marion Lambert at 717-357-2195.



2017 Christmas Missions Fair on December 3rd!

It's Christmas Fair time once again! The 31st Annual Christmas Fair will be held on Sunday, Dec. 3rd from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will be games and prizes for children and adults, a light supper, craft tables, baked goods, and Fair Trade items from PRESBYTERIAN COFFEE PROJECT including coffee, tea, organic hot cocoa & spicy hot cocoa, chocolate bars, organic roasted almonds and olive oil. A Silent Auction will be held from Nov. 26th to Dec 3rd. Bring your whole family to enjoy this kick-off to the Christmas season. Do your Christmas shopping at the Fair where money raised will benefit the projects listed below. You will also be able to shop at the Fair on Sunday mornings, December 3rd and 10th.

Specific wish lists will be available in the next newsletter, so that you can purchase an item in honor of someone on your holiday list and receive a gift card.



1. **MISSION: HONDURAS 2018** Our church will once again participate in the medical/dental mission to Honduras. GPC members will once again have the opportunity to support or join with others from around the country to provide health care and health education to over 7,000 adults and children in rural Honduras. Through your contribution you can help provide medicine, dental care, vitamins, etc. to the Honduran people.
2. **MEXICO PROJECT 2018** Next summer Pastor Dave will again lead a group to work with Accion Ministry in the Yucatan peninsula of Mexico. They'll live and work in a village where they'll do a construction project on a church or home, run a Vacation Bible School, and give out glasses to those in need. There are also opportunities to fellowship and worship with our Mexican brothers and sisters. Your donation will help to buy construction materials for our project!
3. **LAKOTA INDIAN PROJECT** in Dupree, South Dakota. GPC members and friends will once again travel to the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation. There, they will renovate Indian homes, build handicap ramps, install windows and doors, host a potluck dinner and pow-wow for local residents, donate diabetic equipment, offer community classes and provide a Festival with free food, clothing, games and prizes for residents of the reservation. Your contribution can buy needed supplies to help this extremely poor community.
4. **HEIFER INTERNATIONAL** Our Christmas Fair first began in 1986 to support Heifer International, a self-help program which sends livestock to needy families in the U.S. and around the world. These families become self-sufficient through training and gifts of livestock to help them become responsible for their own food needs. Farmers who receive animals must commit to pass on the first-born offspring of that animal to a neighbor in need.
5. **SOUTH CAROLINA SEA ISLAND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** Habitat for Humanity is an international Christian organization in which volunteers build homes for low-income families. These families then provide their own labor and can purchase homes with no-interest mortgages. Members of our congregation travel to John's Island, South Carolina every April to participate in various building projects.
6. **ADAMS CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY** ACPM works with local churches to serve inmates incarcerated at the Adams County Correctional Complex, and their families. With the goal of promoting the spiritual life of inmates seeking a personal relationship with God, ACPM coordinates clergy visits, supervises volunteers, conducts weekly Bible studies and worship services in both English and Spanish, and oversees a library of spiritual resources for inmate use. The ministry also works with inmates preparing for re-entry into society, to help them make a successful transition.

**Come to the Christmas Fair to buy "gifts that will keep on giving" to people in need throughout the coming year.
If you have any questions, please contact the church office 334-1235.**

See you on December 3 !!

Silent Auction For Christmas Fair Items Needed by Nov. 19

Everyone is getting excited about Christmas Fair! But what is this Silent Auction about? Once again this year we will be holding a Silent Auction of high quality Christmas Items benefitting GPC missions. Bidding will begin on Sunday, November 26th and end as the Fair concludes on December 3rd. The highest bidder takes home the prize!

If you have an item you would like to offer, or know of a business that may be willing to donate, please contact Tom Kolmer at 717-634-0258 or at tomkolmer@gmail.com. Some suggestions include Dinner for 6, a round of golf, movie passes and popcorn, Christmas wreath, gift certificate for massage, etc. Be creative in your ideas! Also, teens could offer childcare, snow shoveling, etc. We will then choose 10 of the items to use for the Silent Auction. All others will be included in the Christmas Mission Fair sales.

The Silent Auction is a big hit every year! We hope you will participate once again, either by donating an item or by bidding generously, knowing that your purchase directly supports our Missions efforts!



Baked Goods Needed for the Christmas Fair !!

All types of baked goods are needed for the Christmas Fair on Sunday, December 3rd.

These items will be used for the bake sale and dinner desserts.

The baked goods can be placed in the church kitchen by Sunday morning, December 3rd.

COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, AND MUCH MORE FOR SALE AT THE CHRISTMAS FAIR ON DEC. 3rd!



This year we will again be selling coffee, cocoa, and tea at the Christmas Fair. 12-oz. packages of 7 different kinds of coffee, 4 types of tea, and 12-oz. cans of organic hot cocoa & spicy hot cocoa mix will be available through the Presbyterian Coffee Project/Interfaith Coffee Program. Also for sale will be 5 kinds of chocolate bars, organic roasted almonds, and olive oil. These items are available through a program called Equal Exchange which provides fair trade opportunities through worker-based co-ops with small scale farmers.

Extra Crafts for the Christmas Fair

Calling all crafters, calling all crafters! Do you love to make crafts for the holiday season? We are seeking donations of Christmas wreaths, toys, flower arrangements, paintings, needlework, or any other quality crafts you would be willing to donate for sale at the Christmas Fair on Sunday, December 3rd. All proceeds from items sold at the craft tables will go to GPC mission projects for the upcoming year. Please, do not bring rummage sale or used household items. They will not be accepted for this event.

Contact Tom Kolmer at 717-634-0258 or at tomkolmer@gmail.com if you have any questions. Please bring crafts to Fellowship Hall **BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST AT THE LATEST. THANKS!**

CHRISTMAS FAIR CHILDREN'S GAMES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Continuing this Sunday, we will have signup sheets in Fellowship Hall at the CE Table for volunteers to sign up for 30 min. blocks of time to help with games downstairs in the Education wing. Please stop by and sign up to help with one of fifteen games. We need help with all the games.

If you can come in on Saturday, December 2nd from 10-1 to help set up the games in the Education Wing, please contact Cheryl at 334-1235, ext. 5 or email

gpcdce@gettyburgpresbyterian.org.

Upcoming Events:

Blessed to Be a Blessing Stewardship 2018

"I will bless you... so that you will be a blessing." In Genesis 12:2 God spoke these words to Abraham and, in doing so, laid out a principle for those of us four thousand years later who have chosen to live with Jesus as our Shepherd.

Think about blessings God has given you... and how you have used—or could use—them to bless others.

Maybe people in church know you have been blessed with mechanical skills. When the single mom, just-laid-off family man, or recent widow needs an oil change or an expert ear to figure out what that sound is, you are there to help.

Maybe God gave you the gift of administration, and you oversee curriculum, Sunday school teachers, and child care workers.

Maybe God has blessed you with a healthy bank account, and you bless communities around the world by sponsoring children through Compassion International.

Maybe you teach junior high school kids about Jesus, and you have been part of the midweek program for years—and it's truly a joy.

Whether you have a mechanic's expertise, administrative skills, a strong investment portfolio, the ability to connect with junior high students, or any of countless other gifts, you are blessed in order to be a blessing to others as you yield yourself to God.

Yes, Lord, show me how I can be a blessing to someone in need today by offering my heart and my gifts. Amen.

From www.soulshewarding.org, "Blessed to Be a Blessing" by Bill Gaultiere, August 21, 2017

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP October / November

November 5	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
November 12	1:30 - 4:00	Car Chase
November 19	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
November 26	NO SHIP	Thanksgiving Break

MidSHIP Schedule October / November

November 5	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
November 12	1:30 - 4:00	Car Chase
November 19	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
November 26	NO Mid-SHIP	Thanksgiving Break

There will be a
congregational meeting
on Sunday, Nov. 19
following the 11AM service
to elect church officers.

Please plan to attend!

PowerPoint Projectionist Needed for Contemporary Worship Service



The 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service needs someone to show the PowerPoint slides on Sunday morning approximately once a month.

You will rotate with three other people, so the schedule is somewhat flexible.

No prior experience needed - we will train you!
If interested in learning more about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Libby Crowe at (717) 476-0821 or mslibby@gettysburgpresbyterian.org.



Mission Bright Star Celebrates 25 Years!

On **Sunday, November 19th** you will have an opportunity to participate in our church's annual Mission Bright Star program. Mission Bright Star is a ministry in which members of our congregation purchase Christmas gifts for children whose father or mother is a resident in the Adams County Correctional Facility during the Christmas season.

Details regarding participation in Mission Bright Star will be announced during the church services on **November 19th**.

To celebrate the **25th year of Mission Bright Star**, we are giving each family a Bible Story Book in addition to the Christmas gifts for the children. If you would like to help defray the cost of a Bible Story Book for a Mission Bright Star family, you may do so by donating \$10.00 to Gettysburg Presbyterian Church. Checks can be payable to GPC and put Mission Bright Star in the memo line.

The sign-up for both of these programs will occur immediately after each service in Fellowship Hall on November 29th.

Your willingness to share the love and compassion of Christ with a Mission Bright Star family is greatly appreciated. Thank You!

This Sunday, our newest missionary, Dori Hjalmarson will be in Fellowship Hall following the 11AM service to meet you and talk about her new ministry in Honduras! The mission committee will host a lunch for her at the Pike Restaurant starting around 12:15-12:30PM.

**Wednesday,
November 22
at 7:00 p.m.**

**Community
Thanksgiving
Service**



Christ Lutheran Church
located at
30 Chambersburg St.,
Gettysburg.

**REMINDER:
Daylight Savings
time ends on Nov. 5th!**



Be sure to turn your clocks
**BACK ON SATURDAY,
Nov. 4**



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Support: To hold in position so as to keep from falling, sinking, or slipping

Support is something we all need. God gives us support through our Christian brothers and sisters. Let us all be sensitive to one another's needs and take the time to support each other through prayers, phone calls, friendly chats after church, and even visits. Also, remember that we have Stephen Ministers who are willing to give their support. For more information about Stephen Ministry, please contact Lou Nyiri at 334-1235 ext 4.

"When I said, 'My foot is slipping,'
your love, O LORD, supported me" (*Psalms 94:18*).

Combined Area Resources Emergency Shelter (C.A.R.E.S.)

C.A.R.E.S. started on October 16th. More volunteers are needed to make this church shelter program available to the homeless in our area. Contact Rachel Parmentier at 717-334-3415 to ask for more information on how you can help. Ninety-minute training meetings are scheduled for November 27 and December 18.

GPC HIKING CLUB

The newly formed hiking club has kicked off with a great start! We have been blessed with two beautiful days in September and October when we hiked at Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve and up to Pole Steeple in Pine Grove Furnace State Park - at an elevation of over 500 feet - talk about seeing God's canvas!

Join us **November 18th** as we travel to Catocin Mountain Park and hike up to Crystal Falls. We will meet in the church parking lot at 10am and leave from there. We should be back around 3pm. Please wear layers, comfortable hiking shoes, bring water, and a lunch. We will stop midway for lunch and devotions. This will be our last hike until the Spring! If you want more information, feel free to contact Megan at MeganZiegler2014@gmail.com or Matt & Jen at MJClark1963@embarqmail.com Be sure to "like" our Facebook page, GPC Hiking Club!

Attention College Students!

You are invited to lunch
at Pastor Dave and Bonnie's house on
Sunday, Nov. 12
following the 11AM service!

Please call the church office or email
gpcpastordave@gettysburgpresbyterian.org
to let us know you're coming!



For those of you who had your picture taken, if you will remember LifeTouch gave each \$5 off with the promise that you would bring a canned good in to the church. Beginning November 1st, we will have a large blue bin by the CE Table that will be for the collection of those food items.

Please be generous.

"Calendar of Giving"

The Calendar of Giving is an opportunity for our congregation to support numerous local organizations. Through this program, we identify local organizations that are in need of smaller donations. Each month, we will be collecting specific items for the identified organization.

For the month of:

November

We will be collecting items for

Office of Aging - Home Delivered Meals Program

Emergency Meal Supplies - peanut butter, pull -top cans of soup, crackers, individual fruit servings, individual cookie packs, individual cereal boxes, other non-perishable, single serve items.

What Happened Between the Johns?

14 centuries of trouble, turbulence, and theological debate occurred between the Apostolic Age and the Reformation, but most Christians today remain quite ignorant. During our four November Sundays we will have a special class at 9:30 a.m. in the MacAskill Room to explore these fascinating times and understand what the Church would become and why.

THANKSGIVING DINNER



November 15th 4:15 PM

Young at Heart members will join the Youth Club for a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. Reservations are needed **by Monday, November 6th**. Young at Heart are to bring a salad, vegetable or dessert. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall at the CE Table. Any questions, please see Cheryl Betts.

Faithful Families Activities

Five Fingered Prayer

Thumb: The strongest digit on your hand. Give thanks for all the strong things in your life, like home, family, or relationships that support and sustain you.

Index Finger: This is the pointing finger. Pray for those people and things that guide and help you in your life. Friends, teachers, doctors, nurses, emergency services, and so on.

Middle Finger: The tallest finger. Pray for all the important people who have power in the world, like world leaders and governments, members of parliament and local councilors, city mayors and aldermen, our president.

Ring Finger: The weakest finger on your hand. It cannot do much by itself (ask anyone who plays a piano). Remember the poor, the weak, the helpless, the hungry, the sick, the ill, and the bereaved.

Little Finger: The smallest and last finger on your hand. Pray for yourself.

Taken from: *Faithful Families: Simple Practices for Daily Family Life* by Traci Smith. Published by Chalice Press, 2017. All rights reserved. Used by permission."

Be Ready for Emergencies!

First Aid, CPR, AED

Whether you are preparing to participate in a mission program, or need to be certified for your work or volunteer position, GPC will be offering a class in First Aid, CPR and AED. Class will be held on **Saturday, November 11**, in the Eisenhower Lounge. For registration, or if you have questions, please call Becky Stabler, 688-5183. Members get a discounted rate. This is an American Red Cross 2 year certification.

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| *Adult CPR/AED | 8:30-Noon |
| **Adult CPR/AED/First Aid | 8:30- 2:30 pm |
| ***Adult & Pediatric CPR/AED/First Aid | 8:30 – 3:30 pm |

- *Red Cross charges \$70 for this class. GPC members \$40/\$60 non-members.
- **Red Cross charges \$90 for this class. GPC member \$50/\$75 non-members
- *** Red Cross charges \$110 for this class. GPC member \$60/\$85 non-members



Ushering – A Good First Impression

Do you like receiving a friendly greeting, a smile and a bulletin when you enter the sanctuary for worship?

As defined by Merriam Webster Dictionary an Usher is “a servant who has the care of the door.” At GPC ushers are some of the friendly smiles and greetings at the door that welcome you to worship. An usher might also assist in the offering collection. Ushering is your opportunity to serve during a time when you are already at church!

We hope YOU will consider adding your name to a list of usher volunteers for next year. How do you sign up? Fill out the form below and return in the offering plate or contact Rev. Lou Nyiri at 717-334-1235, ext. 4 or gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org .

Yes, please add my name to the usher volunteer list.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Preferred worship time: 8:15 am _____ 9:30 am _____ 11:00 am _____

**Wednesday,
NOVEMBER 29**

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



Volunteers are needed for Wednesday, November 29 at 9:00 AM to help decorate the church for Advent. Please contact Sheryl Suplee at (717) 337-3267 if you would like to volunteer.

TRAVELING DAY CAMP

We have been asked by Krislund if we want to do a Traveling Day Camp this coming summer 2018. I would like to know how many volunteers would be willing to help and how many children would be interested in going. It is for those finishing Kindergarten through 8th Grade. Please stop by the CE table or email me at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org if you are interested.

PW CIRCLES

Elizabeth Circle

Monday, November 20, 2:00 p.m.

Paideia House, First Floor

Linda MacAskill

Lesson 3: Hebrews 1:1-3a;

Genesis 1:1-5;

Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 1:1-5

Hebrews 4: 12-13

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, November 9, 5:00 p.m.

Eisenhower Lounge at GPC

Lesson 3: Hebrews 1:1-3a;

Genesis 1:1-5;

Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 1:1-5

Hebrews 4: 12-13

Esther Circle

Thursday, November 16, 9:30 a.m.

Eisenhower Lounge at GPC

Lesson 3: Hebrews 1:1-3a;

Genesis 1:1-5;

Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 1:1-5

Hebrews 4: 12-13

Several years ago the Session decided that all our communion bread would be gluten-free so everyone could participate in the Lord's Supper. Our worship committees are looking at this issue again, and would like to hear from anyone who needs gluten-free bread for communion. Please contact Sheryl Suplee or Drew Stone to let us know of your need. Thank you.



Poinsettias

Help us decorate the sanctuary at Christmas by ordering a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone. The flowers will be used in the sanctuary December 24th. You may pick up your plant(s) following evening worship on the 24th. The church office will be closed Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 25th & 26th. Those not picked up by noon on the 27th will be delivered to shut-ins. The 5-6 bloom 6 1/2" pot will cost \$9.50.

Please fill in the following form & send it with your check made payable to Gettysburg Presbyterian Church to:
Mary Lou Seamens
169 Hunters Trail
Gettysburg, PA. 17325

**Orders MUST be in by Sunday, December 10th.
We cannot accept orders after that date—No extensions.**

Christmas Poinsettias 2017

Given by: _____

Phone #: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

of plants you will pick up _____ # of plants to be delivered to shut-ins _____



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church believes that God calls us to invite people to faith in Jesus Christ, and equip them to grow as His fully devoted followers. As disciples we:

- * study regularly
- * pray daily
- * witness boldly
- * live faithfully
- * serve passionately
- * give generously
- * worship weekly



**Next Newsletter Deadline:
 Noon, Thursday, November 9, 2017**

November 2017 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship @ 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

November 5	<i>"Sanctified Perception"</i> Remembering Those Who Died Lord's Supper Honduras Missionary: Dori Hjalmarson
November 12	Stewardship Sermon
November 19	ThanksgiversSunday Pledge Sunday Mission Bright Star Annual Congregational Meeting at noon
November 26	Joy!