

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

January 7, 2015

As the New Year begins, it is a good time to look ahead at how we will use the resources that God has entrusted to us to do the most good in 2015. One of the resources God has entrusted to us is our time. Another is our spiritual gifts.

As the Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Cor. 12, *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*" 1 Cor. 12:4-7

Paul goes on to compare the church to a human body. If any part of the body is not working, he notes, the body suffers and is limited in what it can accomplish. It is the same way in the church. We need all the parts to work in order to accomplish all that God has for us to do.

Inside this newsletter, you will find a new "Time and Talent Survey." We are asking each person in our OPC family to fill one out, even if you've done so before. We've added some new things, and perhaps your interests have changed since you last filled one out. Then bring them to church as an act of worship on Jan. 25! We look forward to seeing you there!

Inside:

- Nursery Help Needed
- Exploring Membership
- Upcoming Mission Trips
- Dinners for 7 or 8
- All-Church Luncheon & Congregational Meeting
- Fun & Games Night
- Lenten Bible Study
- Kids Club



URGENT - Nursery Help Needed!

We need volunteers to help our nursery staff in the church nursery each Sunday during the 8:15 and 11:00 services. Our Church Policy requires two people in the Nursery at any given time so we desperately need your help. If you can help on a particular Sunday, please stop at the C.E. table in Fellowship Hall to sign up. Any questions, contact Cheryl in the church office at 334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@embarqmail.com.

--- Thanks!

We very much appreciated the visit from the Carolers on Sunday, Dec. 21. Thank you so much for thinking of us.

Marge Benson

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, flowers, visits and prayers following my recent surgery.

Lucy Breighner



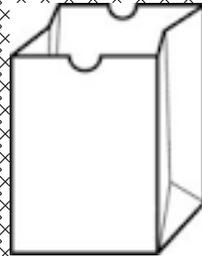
Birthday Party for Jesus

During the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service, we held a "Birthday Party for Jesus" for children ages 2 - Grade 2. Thirty-three (33) children attended as we told the Christmas Story, sang, and made a craft. The children then sang "Happy Birthday" to Jesus before blowing out candles and eating decorative cupcakes. Each child received goodies for their gift bag. My very special thanks go to Amy Hoch, Brianna Hieber, Adelyn Hieber, Alexandra Chandon, and Sydney and Alexis Tomassini for all of their help with our party, and Kay Knox and Patti Schwartz for providing all the cupcakes.

—Blessings, Cheryl

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to drive the church van to pick up at The Lutheran Village for the 11:00am Sunday service on monthly basis. If you are interested, please contact Cathy Gardner at 337-3233 or lygardner@comcast.net. This is the Deacon's Transportation Ministry, so we hope you can join us!!



WE NEED Large Paper Grocery Bags to be donated for the rummage sale in April.

2015 Chancel Flowers

The new calendar is available on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall to sign up for the Chancel flowers in 2015.



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 January is Bev Weber at 337-2194

CONDOLENCES

Our thoughts and prayers are with Yancy Unger on the recent death of his father.

Upcoming Events

Worship Music Schedule

January 4	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
January 11	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
January 18	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
January 25	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bell Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Choir
		Youth Bell Choir

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

December & January

January 11	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
January 18	5:00 - 7:00	Family Game Night
January 25	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship

MidSHIP Schedule

December & January

January 11	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
January 14	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group
January 18	5:00 - 7:00	Family Game Night
January 21	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group
January 25	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
January 28	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group

Volunteer Opportunity for Ruth's Harvest

Ruth's Harvest is in need of some additional volunteers. If you've been wanting to help with this food ministry, but the dates for shelving the food or filling backpacks hasn't suited your schedule, here's your chance. Every two weeks, on Tuesday mornings, a large food order is delivered to SCCAP from the Central PA Food Bank. Volunteers are needed to pick up the food and take it to Christ Lutheran Church Parish House on Chambersburg Street. Help is needed on the following dates: Jan. 6, Jan. 20, Feb. 3, Feb. 17, Mar. 3, Mar. 17, Mar. 31, Apr. 14, Apr. 28, May 12, and May 26. Please contact volunteer coordinator Laura Haupt lhaupt@stjamesgettysburg.org for more information if you are interested.

Exploring Membership Class

Sunday, February 15, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

If you are interested in learning more about GPC, plan to attend the Exploring Membership Class Sunday afternoon, February 15. Following a lunch together, you'll have a chance to learn more about Presbyterians and opportunities for spiritual nurture and service here at GPC, and to meet our staff. Following the class, Session will meet to receive new members at 4:00 p.m. Childcare is available. If interested call the church office (334-1235) if you are planning to attend.

PW CIRCLES

Elizabeth Circle

Monday, Jan. 19, 1:00 p.m.

Paideia House, First Floor

Hostess: Ann Ellefson

Study Leader: Jean Holder

Lessons 4 & 5: 2 Corinthians 4:7 - 5:10
2 Corinthians 5:11 - 6:10

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, Jan. 19, 7:00 p.m.

Paideia House, First Floor

Lessons 4: 2 Corinthians 4:7 - 5:10

Esther Circle

Thursday, Jan. 15, 10:00 a.m.

Eisenhower Lounge @ GPC

Study Leader: Judy English

Lessons 5:
2 Corinthians 5:11 - 6:10



South Dakota Mission

Trip Meeting

February 8, 2015

@ 2:00 p.m.



A meeting for all those interested in this year's South Dakota Mission Trip will be held on Sunday, February 8 at 2:00 p.m. in the MacAskill Room. Come join us whether you want to sign up or just get information about our trip to the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation from July 16-26, 2015. If you have any questions, please contact Penny in the church office 334-1235, ext. 5.

Mexico Mission Trip Meeting

There will be a meeting for all those interested in this year's trip on

Sunday, January 25

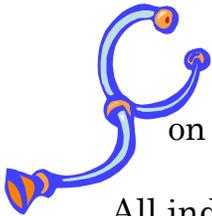
@ 7:00 p.m. in
the MacAskill Room.



Come and learn more
about this exciting
adventure in mission!

The dates for this year's trip
will be July 20 - 27.
(NOTE DATE CHANGE)

Mark your calendars now!



Honduras Mission Trip Meeting

There will be an informational meeting
on **Thursday, January 29, at 7:00 p.m.** in the **MacAskill Room.**

All individuals who are planning to go on the Honduras mission in June 2015, or who are considering going on this mission are highly encouraged to attend.



REACH Workcamp

Meeting

February 8, 2015

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

in the Youth Room

Plan on joining us at this meeting if you are a highschooler having completed ninth grade and interested in going to
Cuyahoga Falls, OH
June 26—July 4, 2015

"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:

January

We will be collecting items for

The Gettysburg Soup Kitchen: Chef's knives, LARGE serving trays (from a Kitchen Supply Store), reams of printer paper, Mr. Clean floor cleaner, Dawn dish detergent, V-8 or similar vegetable juice (NOT tomato juice), deodorant, paper napkins, pot holders, dish towels, gift cards for KENNIE'S or GIANT, and gas cards (bring gift cards to the church office).

Dinners for Seven or Eight

The Dinners for 7 or 8 Program provides an opportunity for sharing a meal and fellowship with your fellow church members, in the relaxed atmosphere of individual homes. Three casual, adults-only dinners will be held in March, April and May. If you are relatively new to the church, it provides a great way to easily get to know your new church family. If you have been around awhile, it provides another avenue to get to know members you don't know as well because they attend a different service or participate in different ministries of the church.

Those agreeing to host a dinner at their home are asked to prepare the main dish, and notify the other participants in their group of 7-8 so they may bring an appropriate vegetable, salad or dessert, as assigned on the schedule. To provide more flexibility to participants, rather than have all participants meet on a fixed date, the host for each month is asked to coordinate the best date in the month for their group.

Participants are requested to sign up for the program before 15 February 2015, and Group Schedules will be sent out by 25 February. You are encouraged to send your information via email to the Dinner Coordinator, but you may also fill out the paper Registration Form and leave at the church office, or call the Dinner Coordinator with your information.

Coordinator: Randy Smith (717)398-2414
rksmith71@comcast.net

Dinners for Seven or Eight Registration Form 2015

NAME : _____
ADDRESS 1: _____
ADDRESS 2: _____
TOWN: _____
EMAIL: _____
PHONE: _____

Service normally attended: ___ 8:00 ___ 9:30 ___ 11:00

If hosting, place a 1/2/3 to prioritize the month you prefer:

___ March ___ April ___ May

Would you be willing to host more than one month, if needed? ___ Yes ___ No

I WISH TO BE A:

___ Regular
___ Substitute Only

I AGREE TO HOST:

___ Yes
___ No

All Church Luncheon & Congregational Meeting - January 25th

The meeting begins with lunch at 12 Noon, followed by the Congregational Meeting at 12:30 for the purpose of reviewing the annual report and approving the terms of call for the pastors. Please do the Fellowship Team a favor and let us know how many will be attending from your family so we have enough food for lunch. You can let us know by leaving a message in the church office (334-1235, ext 4), returning the slip below via offering plate, snail mail, or e-mail to Rev. Lou Nyiri (qpclou@embarqmail.com)

Suggested donation of \$3 per person is requested.

**** Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, January 21, 2015 ****

----- Tear off -----

All Church Lunch & Congregational Meeting

Name _____ will be attending the lunch and meeting.

I will have _____ in my party.



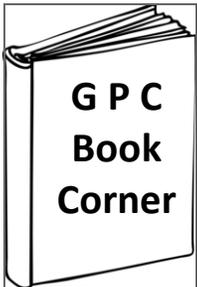
Fun & Games Night Invitation

On a cold winter night do you like to play games with your friends and family? If you do we have just the opportunity for you... the Christian Education & Fellowship teams are inviting you to a fun & games night:

Where: Gettysburg Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall
When: Sunday, January 18, 2015
Time: 5:00 PM



Come and join us. You can bring your favorite game or come and learn a new game. Bring yourself and something to share for the potluck dinner. What more could you ask for? Hope to see you there!



Wow, 2015! Unbelievable that time speeds by so fast. Hope you all had a marvelous Christmas season! Last year was a difficult year for me and my family too. I have learned from the experience and feel that it has made me stronger in my faith, in body, in mind and spirit. I am hoping that 2015 will bring some peace to our world, our nation and community. Prayer is a powerful tool folks, so let us keep it up throughout the year!

I have such a wealth of friends here in Gettysburg and a few of them always recommend or give me books to look at for my articles. It really helps because sometimes I really do run out of ideas.

I will be perusing these selections over the holidays and choosing some that will be appropriate for review and reading. If you are reading a book or have heard of one that you would like reviewed, please let me know, as some of the best books I have read are through other folk's recommendations.

So this time it will be short and sweet. I know that 2015 will be a strong year for us all. GPC will continue to grow in community spirit as well as construction, as other Foundation for the Future projects are started and completed. I will also be "getting back" into the Crane Library for the conclusion of my renovations. So please stay tuned!

God Bless you all at GPC. READ ON!!!

Cathy

FOR FREEDOM CHRIST HAS SET US FREE: A Study of Paul's Epistle to the Galatians

Led by the Rev. Charles (Buz) Myers, Ph.D.
Department of Religious Studies, Gettysburg College

The Epistle to the Galatians is one of the Apostle Paul's shorter letters. But do not be deceived by its length. Galatians provides remarkable insight into the Christian faith and into the life of this extraordinary early Christian witness. In this epistle Paul speaks more about his personal life experience than in any other writing. Here the Apostle Paul also writes cogently, concisely, and passionately about the significance of the Gospel of God's grace in Christ. In Galatians Paul addresses a key question that plagued believers in the early years of the Christian movement, namely, "Must a Gentile become a Jew in order to become a Christian?" Paul's resounding (negative) response to that question insured that the Christian Church would be inclusive rather than exclusive and that true Christian community would be marked by acceptance rather than rejection. It is little wonder, therefore, that Galatians has played a key role in the history of the Christian Church. Through his Epistle to the Galatians Paul gave Christian theology the notion of justification by grace through faith and the idea of freedom in Christ, not merely freedom from service but rather freedom for service. There is much to be learned about Christian faith and life from this short epistle. Join us on the following Sundays for what promises to be a challenging, stimulating, and edifying study. This study, which is being led by Prof. Buz Myers of Gettysburg College, will be offered at 9:30 AM and again at 11:00 AM on the four Sundays of February, 2015:

- Sunday, February 1 "An Introduction to the Apostle Paul's Life and Writings" (A Study of Galatians 1)
- Sunday, February 8 "An Introduction to the Apostle Paul's Gospel of Grace" (A Study of Galatians 2)
- Sunday, February 15 "Paul's Defense of the Gospel, Part I" (A Study of Galatians 3 - 4)
- Sunday, February 22 "The Implications of Paul's Gospel of Freedom" (A Study of Galatians 5-6)

Coming Soon!

New and Exciting for Everyone!

2015 Lenten Study Small Groups

Join us for The Lord Is Our Salvation by Katie Dawson

The Lord is Our Salvation invites us to explore God's saving and redeeming love through a study of the scripture readings for Lent and Easter. Key Bible readings call us to praise God as we contemplate the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through the readings, we hear the call to celebrate God's salvation and new life offered through Jesus Christ. The season of Lent offers opportunities to reflect on God's redemptive action and to explore means of grace that help us experience transformation, a key focus of Lenten worship, study, and prayer.

The study includes commentary and reflection on readings from the Old Testament, the Gospels, and the Epistles. It will help participants understand, appreciate, and engage in meaningful and life-changing spiritual practices.

Katie Dawson is currently the lead pastor at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Des Moines, Iowa. She studied communications, religion, and physics at Simpson College and received her Masters of Divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School.

Sign-ups begin January 25th. Watch for more information in the bulletin and a table in Fellowship Hall.

Spring Term Youth Club

Spring Term of Youth Club begins on January 7th. Registration forms have been sent to families. If you did not receive one, please see Cheryl or the lower educational wing bulletin board. We have some fun things planned and hope you will join us.

Pastor Dave

to Teach Philippians Series!

A new Adult Sunday School class will be offered on Sundays, Jan. 11, 18, 25 led by Pastor Dave. We will be discussing Paul's letter to the church at Philippi, one of Paul's best loved letters.

KIDS CLUB for Children in Kindergarten - Grade 2 February 2 - March 9, 2015

Kids Club is a time of fun, friendship, Bible stories, Scripture activities, crafts, and games under the leadership of Pam Rowland. We will offer two identical programs for our Spring series, "Creation." These programs will be held every Monday from February 2 - March 9, one from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. and the other from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Both programs are for children in Kindergarten - Grade 2 and will be held downstairs in the MacAskill Room.

Registration forms will be mailed out next week. If your child is interested in Kids Club and you do not receive a registration form, please call Cheryl in the church office (334-1235, ext. 5) or pick one up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. There is no fee and the program is open to any child in Kindergarten - Grade 2 who is interested. We ask that you register your child by January 28th at the latest. We hope your child can join us for this church activity for younger members!

— Blessings, Cheryl

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
208 Baltimore Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Office: (717) 334-1235
Fax: (717) 334-0666
www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

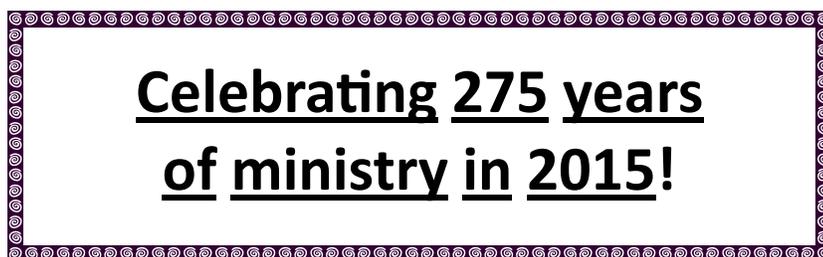
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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, January 22, 2015**

**January 2015
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Traditional Worship @ 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.**

January 11	Missions Emphasis
January 18	Spiritual Gifts Prayers for Healing & Wholeness
January 25	Parts of Worship Return Time & Talent Questionnaires