

# GRAPEVINE

## "The Pastor's Page"

March 12, 2014

### **Arab Christian Fellowship Begins at GPC**

Last September two Egyptian Presbyterian Pastors, Fady Lous and Ashraf Beshay, began attending GPC. Ashraf's wife (Nahala) and daughter Amanda have also been attending. Both pastors are students at the Lutheran Seminary. You may recall that Fady offered the Lord's Prayer in worship on World Communion Sunday. Recently, Ashraf approached me about having an Arab Christian Fellowship here at GPC. Elder Tom Kolmer and I took the request to the Session, which unanimously approved it. The small fellowship began meeting in our library on Saturday evening, March 1, at 6PM. They plan to continue meeting each week to worship, study the Scriptures, and have fellowship together.

I believe that hosting this fellowship fits perfectly with our mission to make disciples! Ashraf has identified a group for which there is no other Christian fellowship in our community. I am pleased that we are able to be their hosts. Ashraf and Fady and their families will be attending GPC. Fady's family has just arrived from Egypt, trying to escape the unrest and persecution toward Christians which is growing there. Be sure and greet them warmly!

#### **Inside:**

- D.C.E. Search & Interim Updates
- Lenten Children's Packets available
- One Great Hour of Sharing
- Storage Space Needed for South Dakota Donations
- Easter Flowers
- Note from the BRIDGE Committee
- Potluck Supper and New Kind of Card Game



**It's a secret!!**

We would love to put together an album for Phyllis' Retirement Celebration of pictures and written memories from people of all ages in the congregation.

If you would write out a brief memory or tribute for Phyllis, we will paste it into the album. Please don't focus on her car accident, and don't worry about what is on the front of the card, as that part won't show. With pictures, please indicate if we can keep the picture or if we should make a copy of it and return it to you. All pictures and written memories should be in to us by March 20<sup>th</sup>, as the celebration will be on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Please turn everything in to Penny or Libby's mailbox, so that Phyllis won't see it.

**And remember- It's a secret!!**

**Save the Date: MARCH 30**

There will be a reception and program on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The reception will be all morning in Fellowship Hall and the program will follow the 11:00 a.m. service in the sanctuary to celebrate Phyllis Dowd's many years of service to our church.

**Please plan to attend this special tribute to Phyllis.**

**Interim CE Staff Complete**

We are pleased to announce that Amy Deitch will take oversight of our Christian Education ministry (except VBS) beginning on April 1 when Phyllis retires. Libby Crowe and Carole Simon will oversee VBS this year. We hope to have a new Dir. of Christian Education in place by the end of June.

**DCE Search Update**

Our search committee for a new Director of Christian Education continues their work. We are now conducting phone interviews as we continue to receive resumes through March 15. Please keep us in your prayers.

**Session Update**

At its stated meeting on March 9, the Session...

- Approved the building committee request to begin work on replacing the boiler, the Fellowship Hall roof, the Calvin House Cupola roof, and the Fellowship Hall entry portico. We have received enough capital campaign money to fund these projects!
- Moved 18 members to inactive status.
- Authorized elders Hull and Kolmer to apply for a Presbytery grant to support the new Arabic Christian Fellowship.
- Heard a proposal to hire a part-time person to help run sound on Sunday mornings and assist with other technology usage.
- Heard a report on the continued membership decline in main-line churches.
- Authorized an appraisal of the Wall St. property in order to request a re-assessment of its value.

**Lenten Children's Packets**

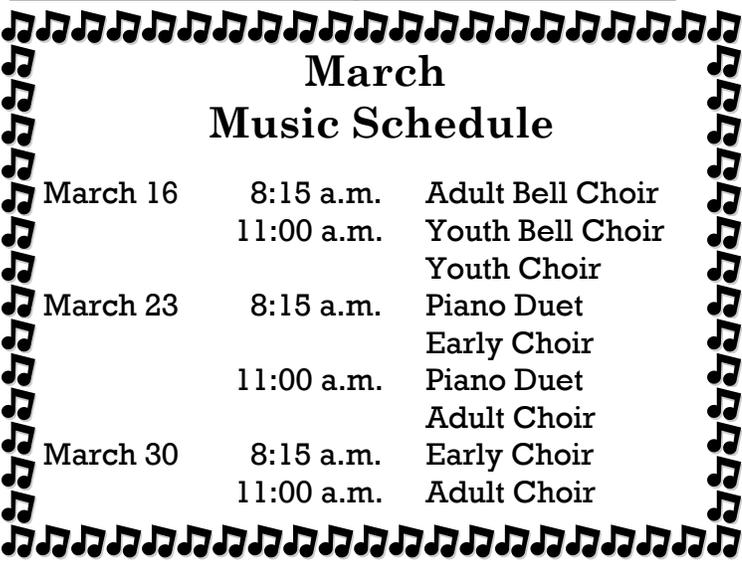
Family Lenten packets were passed out to all the children (ages 3-Grade 5) this past Sunday. The packet includes a fish box for One Great Hour of Sharing and corresponding calendar, as well as Wall Cross Activity Cards and family devotions. If your child did not receive their packet, please see Phyllis or your child's Sunday School teacher as soon as possible. We hope these activities and devotions will make this season much more meaningful for your child and family.

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**CONDOLENC-**

Our thoughts and prayers are with;  
 Lou, Candace & Alex Nyiri on the recent death of Lou's father.  
 Mac & Donna Heebner and family on the recent death of Mac's mother.

# Upcoming Events:



## March Music Schedule

March 16	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bell Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Bell Choir Youth Choir
March 23	8:15 a.m.	Piano Duet Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Piano Duet Adult Choir
March 30	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir

## HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

### March / April

March 12	6:45 - 7:10AM	Lenten Breakfast
March 16	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Discussion
March 19	6:45 - 7:10AM	Lenten Breakfast
March 23	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Discussion
March 26	6:45 - 7:10AM	Lenten Breakfast
March 30	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Discussion
April 2	6:45 - 7:10AM	Lenten Breakfast
April 6	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Discussion

## Easter Story Cubes

Need something special for your child/grandchild's Easter basket this year? Starting this Sunday, we will be selling Easter Story Cubes (\$5.00) in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings. Amidst all the candy and plastic eggs, this unfolding cube tells the Easter story and will be a meaningful reminder of why this is the most important day of the year for us as Christians.

## MidSHIP Schedule

### March / April

March 12	6:45 - 7:10AM	Lenten Breakfast
	2:30 - 5:30	Small Group
March 16	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship / Games
March 19	6:45 - 7:10AM	Lenten Breakfast
	2:30 - 5:30	Small Group
March 23	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship / Games
March 26	6:45 - 7:10AM	Lenten Breakfast
	2:30 - 5:30	Small Group
March 30	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship / Games
April 2	6:45 - 7:10AM	Lenten Breakfast
	2:30 - 5:30	Small Group
April 6	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship / Games

## Palm Sunday, April 13 One Great Hour of Sharing A Special Offering



Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to provide resources to people experiencing need.

These gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development. They help people find refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Sunday bulletin inserts will explain some of the work made possible through these generous offerings.

If you are looking for an opportunity to help those in need, please consider making a special offering using the enclosed envelope on Palm Sunday, April 13. No amount is too small in the effort to share resources and change the lives of those in need.

## “JOHN: THE MAVERICK GOSPEL”

Leader: Rev. Dr. Charles “Buz” Myers

March 16 - April 6

9:30 & 11:00 a.m. in MacAskill Room

Come join us for this Lenten series on the Gospel of John, led by Buz Myers, an ordained Presbyterian minister who currently teaches in the Religious Studies Department at Gettysburg College. Below are the weekly topics:

Sunday, March 16 - “**You Must Be Born Again**” [A Study of John 3-8]

Sunday, March 23 - “**Jesus Wept**” [A Study of John 9-14]

Sunday, March 30 - “**I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life**” [A Study of John 15-19]

Sunday, April 6 - “**My Lord and My God!**” [A Study of John 20-21]



### EAT SOUP - FIGHT HUNGER

On Friday, April 11, from 4-6 PM, at the Fountain in the center of the Gettysburg College Campus, the Gleaning Project of South Central PA invites you to a delicious meal of bread and soup served in unique, handmade ceramic bowls made by amateur, student, and professional potters. All food and drink will be provided by area restaurants. Tickets are \$10. You may keep your bowl as a reminder of those that remain empty in our community. Proceeds benefit the Gleaning Project, which works to ensure that nutritious excess food from farms and businesses is not discarded but provided to food pantries, senior centers, and soup kitchens to benefit the many local people who remain food insecure.



### Storage Space Needed for South Dakota

On our mission trip to the Lakota Reservation in South Dakota last summer, we offered furniture at very low prices as part of our Festival. It was a big hit!! We had sent out notices ahead of time for people to save their money, and they did. We thank all of you who donated furniture for our 2013 trip.

We would like to take even more furniture this year, but we have very little space to store it. We are looking for someone who has storage space and would be willing to let us store the furniture until July 15.

Please contact Penny or Phyllis in the church office (334-1235) if you have a space or know someone who might. Thanks!

If you are donating items to our South Dakota Mission trip, **PLEASE DO NOT** drop them off in front of the Shack or Paideia House door. Please mark them “South Dakota” and bring them to the church office or to the round corner of Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

### Easter Continental Breakfast

Your Deacons invite you to the annual all-church  
Easter Continental Breakfast Buffet on  
Easter Sunday, April 20th in Fellowship Hall



Serving times will be 9-9:30 AM and 10:30-11:00 AM .  
The menu will include an assortment of homemade breads,  
fruits, cheeses, coffee, tea, juice and milk.

We hope you will join us for fellowship before or after the worship service  
you choose to attend as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

## Mexico Update



**What?** We'll do some (unskilled) construction, a Vacation Bible School, a glasses ministry, and fellowship with Christians there.

**Dates?** July 14-21

**Cost?** Around \$800 (includes airfare). Scholarships are available.

**Who?** Anyone who has completed 9<sup>th</sup> grade and is in reasonably good health.

We could use a few more folks to make this trip work well. Applications are in Fellowship Hall and Due On March 16.

Please contact Pastor Dave if you are interested in learning more!

## "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.

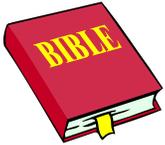
For the month of:

**March**

We will be collecting items for  
**ARC of Adams County**

Fiskers brand scissors; washable magic markers; Tacky glue; Play Dough; assorted sizes of balls; CDs of children's songs; DVDs or VHSs of children's movies; plastic bowling set, paper plates, napkins, cups; juice boxes.

## Bible-A-Thon Party on March 23!



Many of the children in our church have been studying hard for our Bible-A-Thon. So far 12 children have successfully answered the questions, including 2 with a perfect score! But we know there are many others who are learning all those Bible facts. This coming Sunday, March 16, is the final day to participate by answering the questions during Sunday School or Children's Church.

Our celebration party will be held on Sunday, March 23, from 11:00—12:00 pm. in the Fish Room downstairs by the stage. We will have pizza, a special dessert, and very large ribbons of many colors for our winners!! The ribbons will be presented at the 9:30 Contemporary service. Hope your child can be a part of it!

## Easter Flowers

Honor your loved ones with the beauty of flowers at Easter. This year we offer you a choice of two flowers: lilies and tulips. Please fill out the information below and return this form with your check (**payable to Gettysburg Presbyterian Church**) to:

Mary Lou Seamens  
169 Hunters Trail  
Gettysburg, PA 17325



Any flowers not picked up by Monday, April 21 at noon will be taken to shut-ins.

### DEADLINE FOR ORDER IS APRIL 6TH

\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily \$10.00 (4-6 blooms)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tulips \$10.00 (8 bulbs)

**In Memory of / In Honor of** (circle one)  
*(please print clearly)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Will pick up \_\_\_\_\_  
Deliver to shut-ins \_\_\_\_\_

**High School Workcamp Brunch**  
**is NOT March 23rd**  
**DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED!!**

**Note from the BRIDGE Committee**

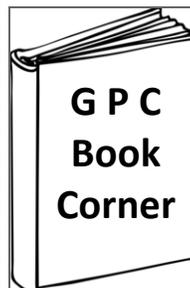
Mother Teresa is famous for her generosity of heart and spirit. "It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving," are famous remarks attributed to her. Certainly the Foundations for the Future Capital Campaign is a great example of both the spirit of giving and the love we put into the gifts we have shared to improve our facility and the lives of others in Central America.

Over the next several months we will be providing you with updates on the progress we are making and the changes occurring at Gettysburg Presbyterian Church and in the world, as a direct result of the gifts you have made to the Campaign. We will keep you posted through a Bulletin Board located in Fellowship Hall on the outside (driveway) wall. You will find information about how the past history of our congregation has provided the foundations for change, what improvements have been made, what activities are planned and who to contact if you need more information.

In a way we could paraphrase Mother Teresa and say that we hope you "Give until it feels good." If, somehow, you missed making a pledge, please feel free to contact Penny at the Church office (334-1235) to request a packet, or if you have questions about your pledge, contact George Marguglio at 339-5125.

And watch the wall for the new Bulletin Board scheduled to appear in early April!

Thanks for all you do for our congregation and the world!



Hi Readers,

This has already been a busy year and we are just in the beginning of March. Spring is around the corner, we are getting our pictures taken for the new directory, Foundations For the Future is in full swing, and GPC is getting a new Book Mobile. Yes, that's right, you heard me. Ross Brownley has graciously agreed to build a new mobile bookcase for us to use so we can all enjoy more books. I will let you know when the new Book Mobile will be unveiled.

I will begin a review of all the books in the Crane Library beginning in April. It is a sort of spring-cleaning, if you will. I will also be re-cataloging the books and making room for new additions.

Here are some new titles you will see in the near future:

Living into Lent by Donald K. McKim. This book will be available to you if you were unable to attend one of the Lenten small group sessions. This book will help you read scripture, review biblical texts, pray and reflect on Jesus' teachings throughout the Lenten season.

Seeking Jesus in Spite of Yourself by Nancy Marciniak (author signed copy). A self-help guide to help you through good and bad times. The author uses herself as an example of her ups and downs to find that all things are possible through Jesus.

Here am I, Lord...send somebody else by Jill Briscoe. Another self-help guide to help us overcome our inadequacies and excuses and to show us how God can use us in our community. Ms Briscoe uses Moses as her example. The PW circles might enjoy this book, as we are studying Moses and the escape from Egypt.

The Secret Message of Jesus by Brian D. McLaren and In the Name of Jesus by Henri J.M. Nouwen. Both books written by Christian theologians to guide us in learning more about Jesus and his teachings.

All these books look really interesting and it is always nice to read and learn something new, even if you don't always agree with it.

Next month, I'll be writing about two new children's books that have been purchased. But I'll keep you guessing until then!

See you all in the Library!

Cathy

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED** welcomes all local women to a 1 1/2 hour (\$3) lunch meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 2, at the Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, 1710 Biglerville Rd. Following lunch, Amelia Contreras, with Manos Unidas Center, will be our guest speaker. Newcomers are always welcome to join in this ecumenical fellowship. No reservations are needed. For more information, contact Cheryl Potter at 337-2938.

## Hershey Park Tickets



Thinking of going to Hershey Park this summer? Want to buy tickets at a cheaper rate? We've got the answer for you! You can order and buy tickets through the church group rate. These tickets can be used ANY DAY of the 2014 season. The rates are as follows:

\$32.00 for ages 9-54 (regular rate is \$59.80)

\$27.75 for ages 3-8 (regular rate is \$38.80)

\$27.75 for ages 55+ (regular rate is \$38.80)

You may order these tickets by signing up in Fellowship Hall on March 16, March 23, March 30 and April 6. FINAL DATE TO SIGN UP & PAY FOR THESE TICKETS IS SUNDAY, APRIL 6th. Please make checks out to "Gettysburg Presbyterian Church." There will be no refunds for tickets not used. You do not have to be a church member to participate. Thanks!!

**Saturday, April 5**

**5:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

### **Potluck Supper AND an Exciting New Kind of Card Game!** (Dubb's Cards)

**5:00 p.m.** Supper

**6:00 p.m.** Card game / babysitting / movie night begins

- Sandwiches will be provided.
- Please bring a dish or dessert to share.
- Donation of \$1.00 per person.  
The money will be donated to the church group / mission of the winner's choosing.
- Come with someone or on your own.  
Your partner and the rules will change with each hand.



**Please sign up by March 30<sup>th</sup>**

### Potluck Supper and a New, Exciting Kind of Card Game

You can call the office, 334-1235 ext. 4, email Rev. Lou Nyiri (gpclou@embarqmail.com)  
or return the form by mail, in the offering plate or in Fellowship Hall

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults (16 and older): \_\_\_\_\_

Ages of children:

younger than 16 for a movie: \_\_\_\_\_

for babysitting: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**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
- \* worship weekly



**Next Newsletter Deadline:  
Noon, Thursday, March 20, 2014**

**March 2014 - GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Traditional Worship @ 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>March 16</b> | <b>Practices of Lent: "Praying"</b>           |
| <b>March 23</b> | <b>Practices of Lent: "Loving"</b>            |
| <b>March 30</b> | <b>Practices of Lent: "Thanking"</b>          |
| <b>April 6</b>  | <b>Practices of Lent: "Enacting"</b>          |
| <b>April 13</b> | <b>Gathering at the Cross<br/>Palm Sunday</b> |