

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

Hear ye! Hear ye!

The beginning of the 275th Anniversary year of Gettysburg Presbyterian Church is coming soon.

For the past two months a planning committee has been working hard to make it a meaningful celebration of our history. Early on we set the following objectives for the year:

1. To acquire and compile historical information
2. To provide opportunities to experience worship services at specific points in history.
3. To provide a Homecoming for former members
4. To showcase families with long term connection to our Congregation
5. To increase knowledge and interest of kids in the history of the church through hands on activities and living history
6. To create awareness in our communities of what goes on in GPC and our role in shaping history in Gettysburg and the surrounding communities

We have planned numerous activities and events for all ages to help achieve these objectives including: displays of different documents and artifacts unique to our history; services and events; curriculum for Sunday School and Vacation Bible School; And characters who will step out of history to help us understand what was happening at various points in our congregation.

As a committee we have been staggered by the wealth of documents available to us, as well as the information and stories told in those documents. Committee members have sorted through documents, chronicled them and are in the process of developing a list of recommendations of documents to be formally preserved.

Our kick off service will be held on Sunday July 12th to commemorate the first meeting of the congregation on the second Sabbath of July 1740.

We need your help! Especially related to the following:

We are planning a homecoming. We are seeking families who have been members of this congregation for generations and centuries. We know that we have at least one family whose ancestors were among the first founding members of the congregation, and there may be others. OR *perhaps your family has been part of the congregation for one hundred years or so.* We want to know who you are! OR maybe you know of some families who were around at significant points in our history and have since moved to other areas or churches. We want to contact them as well!

We need actors. We need people who would like to portray living history characters. These characters will include people who have had an impact in or on our congregation. For example former ministers, former members, presidents, and others.

If you have an interest in any of these things, or know of someone whom we should call please contact Patti Schwartz at 717-334-4609 or at pbschwartz07@comcast.net, or any of these other committee members: Nancy Cook, Anne Gallon, Linda MacAskill, Dale Molina, Joan Pore, Chuck Teague, Harry Winsheimer, and Dave Wright.

April 22, 2015

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- Vacation Bible School Needs
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- Annual Church Work Day

Happy Birthday to...

May 1

Cheryl Betts
Margaret Curtis
Jane Howe
Joann Karchner
Isaac Myers

May 2

Erin Heeschen
Diane Hoy
Antonio Mora
Breelyn Snyder

May 3

Alan Fleckner

May 4

Katherine Manning
Katherine Rice
Marlene Tindall

May 5

Luke Flinner
Tom Kuhn
Kasey Smarsh
Michael Soliday

May 6

Benjamin Angstadt

May 7

Judy Beamer
Kenneth Fair
Andy Farkas
Lance Lewis
Jed Smith
Shaye Whiteman

Lawrence Wolf

May 8

Tracy Angstadt

May 9

Kelly Smarsh

May 10

Dawn Bohner
Marjorie McCartney
Thomas Smarsh

May 11

Brian May

May 12

Emma Forney-Dillman
Lauren Freeman
Devin Kansagra
Alison Flores

May 13

Todd Durboraw
Brandon Hiller
Nonie Kennell

May 14

Bryn Beauchat

May 15

Sheila Howes

May 16

Bonnie O'Dell

May 18

Jennifer Tassin

Sean Zorn

May 19

Harrison Stewart

May 20

Tim Baker
Ralph Eriksen
Ellen Piacentine
Sydney Tomassini

May 21

Amy Dreves
Shauna Hockenberry
Paul Ketterman
Diane Weikert

May 22

John Golanoski
Urijah Hare
Jackie Hiller
Brenda McCabe
Alice Scott
Jack Soliday
Natalie Tschop
Jake Wilhelm

May 23

Mary Louise Felix

May 24

Lori Bridel
Corena Harman
Joseph Jones
Carrie Kauffmann
Jackson Lush
Nancy Sterrett

May 25

Louise Garverick
Beth Hans
Larry Musselman
Sarah Skoczen

May 26

Devin Miller

May 27

Karen Eskildsen
Emily Stone

May 28

Brian Stabler

May 29

Judy Inskip
Edward McCartney

May 30

Jim Heeschen
Linnette Murray

May 31

Jerry Althoff
Daniel Crowe
Dennis Dowd
Beatrice Harness



We would like to thank you all so much for all your concern, prayers and visits during Betsy's long illness and passing.

With special thanks to Pastors Harry, Dave and Lou. God has blessed us by being here at Gettysburg Church with so many loving friends.

Thanks again,

Roger Clowes and Family

I want to thank you for all the prayers, thoughts and cards. You don't know how much they helped in my healing.

I'm blessed with a wonderful church family.

Thank you again.

Jen Clark

Thank you to all of my church family for all of your help during my hospitalization.

The prayers, phone calls, food and visits were greatly appreciated.

I am truly blessed!
Tracey Stone

CONDOLENCES

Our thoughts and prayers are with Dan Hans on the recent death of his father.

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 April is Dottie Heflin at 677-4636.



BUNK BEDS FOR SOUTH DAKOTA—YES!!

God and this faith community have once again answered our prayers for S. Dakota. All of the materials for the bunk beds for our Lakota friends have been paid for—and then some! We have received donations to purchase lumber for 10 sets of bunk beds, 20 new mattresses, 20 sheet sets and pillows and 20 blankets. The children on the Cheyenne Reservation, along with teens and adults who have been sleeping on the floor or old furniture, will be so thrilled to have new beds to sleep on.

Thank you to this congregation and friends for your support. Know that your generosity, caring and compassion serve as an expression of God's love for those living on the reservation so many miles away.

— South Dakota Mission Team



Thank you

C.A.R.E.S. Van Drivers

Members of GPC recently provided transportation for C.A.R.E.S. guests during the two weeks that the overnight shelter was located at Great Conewago Presbyterian Church in Hunterstown. GPC volunteers drove our church van out to Great Conewago in the evening and then again early in the morning to bring folks back to town for breakfast at the Community Soup Kitchen. Many thanks to Karen Breighner, Allen Duncan, Gail Hull, Ron Jones, Ralph Lambert, Sharon Martin, Andy Miner, Jim Raggets, Carole Simon, Steve Toddes, Lee Weber, and Scott Zanger. C.A.R.E.S. passengers commented how much they enjoyed meeting all the friendly folks from GPC who gave them a ride.

YOUTH INFO

Harrison Moroz was inducted into the Thunderbolt Society at Alloway Creek Intermediate school. Students are chosen for this honor who demonstrate good character, citizenship and outstanding academic performance. Congratulations, Harrison!

God Bulbs?

Have extra flower seeds or bulbs?

Well, Gettysburg Seminary would love to have them!

The seminary is looking for donations of seeds and bulbs to plant in the Meditation Garden which will be dedicated later this spring.

Please contact Nicole Miller for more information or to donate your seeds and bulbs.



HELP!

If you borrowed Kathy Schneider's crock pot please give her a call at 717-334-6642.

Upcoming Events:

Worship Music Schedule

April 26	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Early Choir Adult Choir Chapel Bell Choir
May 3	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Early Choir Adult Choir Primary Choir
May 10	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Early Choir Adult Choir Flute Choir
May 17	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Early Choir Adult Choir
May 24	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Early Choir Adult Choir
May 31	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Youth Choir Youth Bell Choir Youth Choir Youth Bell Choir

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

April / May

April 26	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
May 1 - 3	2:25 - 5:00	SHIP/MidSHIP Retreat to Camp Krislund
May 10	NO SHIP	Mother's Day
May 17	5:30 - 7:00	Youth Sunday Planning

MidSHIP Schedule

April / May

April 26	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship & Games
April 29	2:30 - 5:30	Small Grp/Bowling
May 1 - 3	2:25 - 5:00	SHIP/MidSHIP Retreat to Camp Krislund
May 6	2:30 - 5:30	Small Grp/Mt. Tabor
May 10	NO MidSHIP	Mother's Day
May 17	5:30 - 7:00	MidSHIP Year-End Picnic

Young at Heart

May 14th

Young at Heart May 14, 2015 – For our May meeting we will be touring the new Gettysburg Heritage Center at 297 Steinwehr Ave. and then having lunch at the Pike Restaurant on Baltimore Pike. Our tour time will be 11:30. This is a self-guided tour and is free because we are residents of Gettysburg. Lunch will be at 1:00 and the cost of lunch including tax and gratuity will be \$11 per person (this is nonrefundable once we give our final count on 5/11). It will be a buffet lunch which will include a salad station, soup du jour, pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, chips, pretzels, brownies for dessert, coffee and iced tea. Those that would like a ride from the church should be in the church parking lot at 11:00, we will leave around 11:15 for the center. If you prefer to drive directly to the center please wait on the front porch until everyone arrives for our 11:30 tour time. We will be booking this in advance. Those interested in attending please mail a check for \$11 made out to **Gettysburg Presbyterian Church** to Dick Wisor at 7 Preserve Drive, Littlestown, PA 17340 arriving no later than **Saturday, May 9th**. Any questions can be directed to Pam or Dick Wisor at 717-359-8896.

HELP URGENTLY NEEDED!!!

Our Children's Church at 11:00 in June and 10:30 in July and August need leaders to teach our youngest children during worship. The ages are 3 through 3rd Grade. We have no one signed up to do the 11:00 (June) and 10:30 (July and August). We desperately need your help.

If you are willing to do one of the Sundays, please contact Cheryl Betts at gpcdce@embarqmail.com or call the church office at 334-1235, ext. 5. Thanks!

Session Update

At its meeting on April 12, the Session...

- Approved a request from the Capital Campaign building committee to exceed the estimated cost of remodeling the MacAskill Room
- Approved a budget request of \$6800.00 from the 275th Anniversary Committee. Most of this will go toward preserving and digitizing important church documents and records. Money will come from reserves.
- Declined to approve a suggested settlement of a bequest. Bob McQuaide will follow-up with the attorneys involved.
- Approved \$7500 for refurbishing of our handbells. Money to come from memorial funds.
- Approved the hiring of Kyle Clark for technical support for the Contemporary Worship service. He will replace Mike Brubaker. Start date to be determined.
- Approved the summer worship schedule for July and August: 9AM Contemporary Worship
10:30AM Traditional Worship
- Heard reports from two recent Presbytery meetings

Traveling Day Camp

Andrea Crowe will be leading our first experience of Traveling Day Camp here at GPC July 27 – 31st from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. This program is open for children who have completed Kindergarten through 8th Grade. The participants will be here at GPC from 9-4 Monday – Wednesday and then on Thursday they will be taken up to Camp Krislund to join with the campers who have been at the camp all week for fun activities such as swimming in the pool, climbing the rock wall, etc. They will spend the night at camp and return to GPC on Friday. Younger children do not have to go to Camp Krislund on Thursday if they prefer not to but still want to join in the fun here at GPC.

If this sounds like it would be fun, then pick up an application from Cheryl in the church office or in Fellowship Hall on Sundays. Fee is \$91 for this fun-packed week. Deadline is May 15th for registration.

“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:

April

We will be collecting items for
Survivors

NEW and UNOPENED Toiletries – soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc. (Survivors is unable to accept *hotel size* toiletries.), Sheet sets, Blankets, Plug-in alarm clocks, Towels, Washcloths, Diapers, Baby Wipes, “Sippie” Cups, Baby Bottles.

YOUTH CLUB FINAL ACTIVITIES

Our year of youth club is quickly drawing to a close. Here are some exciting adventures for us during our last few weeks.

April 29th -- Bowling;
 May 6th – Mt. Tabor Park



CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Upcoming games are as follows:

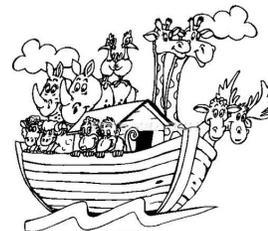
Date	Field
Thursday April 23	Fairfield Amvets - 3600 Fairfield Rd.
Monday, April 27	Fairfield Amvets - 3600 Fairfield Rd.
Tuesday, May 5	Fairfield Amvets - 3600 Fairfield Rd.
Thursday, May 14	Freedom Valley Worship Center - 3185 York Rd.
Warm ups at 6:00 p.m. / First pitch at 6:30 p.m. Contact Brandon Dillon: 717-870-7546 or dillons583@gmail.com All skill levels welcome. All fans welcome (bring a lawn chair).	

SAVE THE DATE



2015 Vacation Bible School
 "Water, Water Everywhere"

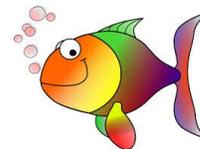
June 15-18



Volunteer adults and youth, please stop at the CE Table in Fellowship Hall to sign up for your choice of area to work. We need many wonderful working hands, so come join in the fun as we prepare to share the love of Jesus with children.

We need the following items for VBS:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ baby food jars with lids □ small clay pots □ meat or veggie small square/rectangle trays □ color streamers (rolls) □ mason jars pint or half-pint glass jars with lids □ #2 or #5 pound bags of flour □ food dye – primary, neon colors. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ battery tea lights □ balloons □ color tissue paper □ quart size Ziploc with tab bags □ blue dish detergent (any kind) |
|--|---|



We are anticipating about 110 children at VBS. Thank you for helping us by bringing any of these items to Cheryl's office.



SUNDAY SCHOOL **OFFERING**

Sunday School offering for this term will be used to purchase the remaining bunk beds for South Dakota. We are having our children, youth and adults help those in South Dakota as our gift of Christ's love for them from us.

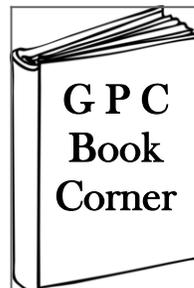


Save the Date!

The next
Exploring Membership
Class will be held
on Sunday afternoon,
May 31.

Griefshare Begins April 30 at Gettysburg United Methodist Church

A thirteen-week session of the Griefshare ministry will begin April 30 at 6:30 pm at the Gettysburg United Methodist Church (30 West High Street). The following link will give you more information regarding the Griefshare Ministry <http://www.griefshare.org/about>. If you or anyone you know of might benefit from this ministry, please contact group facilitators: Phyllis Carbaugh 357-2490 or Kim White 334-7786. If you have further questions, you may contact Rev. Nyiri at 334-1235, ext. 4.



Just finished a really good novel, Saving Amelie by Cathy Gohlke. This is an historical novel, wonderfully written and thoroughly enjoyable. The setting is pre World War II Germany and goes through the beginning of 1942. The characters were well written and developed. The author's description of Germany made you feel you were in the village of Oberammergau and Berlin where most of the story takes place.

The premise of the story is about purification of a race and Eugenics. Eugenics is the study or belief in the possibilities of improving the qualities of the human species by discouraging the reproduction by persons having genetic defects. We actually meet the infamous Dr. Joseph Mengele and his mentor Dr. Verschuer who did quite a bit of research and actual work in that area before World War II. As you may recall from your history classes, Dr. Mengele became quite good at it in the death camps.

The heroine's adopted father is an American doctor/scientist who is trying to stamp out tuberculosis and begins working with Drs. Verschuer and Mengele. However, he becomes much too involved in actual experimentation with human subjects, including his adoptive daughter and her twin. Our heroine is Rachel, and her twin sister is Leah. Leah was sterilized and Rachel wasn't. Leah was left with her grandmother and Rachel was adopted by the doctor and his wife and brought to America to live a life of luxury and privilege. She was even promised in marriage to an SS Colonel of "pure blood" to see what type of children they would produce.

Once back in Germany to have further testing done, Rachel runs into her best friend who actually married the SS Colonel and has a young daughter, who is deaf. You can see where I am going with this story! Too much more information and I will ruin it for you, so you will have to read it.

I know it really sounds complicated but it was a book that I couldn't put down. There is a real Christian overtone to the book. There are discussions between characters about what Jesus would do when confronted with hiding "undesirables" or turning in a "Jew", and Eugenics. It is about the sacrifices that people made for love of children, country and God. It is also part love story, adventure and mystery.

The author has written several books. This particular one was a 5 Star Rating through Amazon. She is a retired Librarian and has worked as a director of children's drama and in Christian Education. She is a two time Christy Award winner.

I know you all say "there she goes again" on her favorite literary topic but I am fascinated by the events of the Second World War and what made so many people forget what I am sure they had been taught as children to become inhumane to other peoples suffering and totally forget the Golden Rule.

This was a truly twisted and evil time in world history and with current events as they are now I feel it is important that we learn from past mistakes so we don't repeat them. I think that is what we are all looking for, learning from our mistakes so that we can make a better world for our children and ourselves.

There will be a paperback copy of the book on the new Book Mobile soon. Yes, I said new Book Mobile! Actually it is a book cart on wheels, but I think it will work for the time being. I will also be purchasing some new fiction books as the summer proceeds, so if you have any to donate, please let me know.

Check out the Crane Library next week and tell me what you think of the "changes".

Keep on Reading!!!

Cathy

New Adult Elective Sunday School Class

A new adult Sunday School class concludes on April 26th on "The Liturgical Church Year" facilitated by John Horner. It will cover the meaning of liturgy and the seasons of our church year.

April 26 – Pentecost and Trinity

Join us in MacAskill Room at 9:30. Come and understand what the seasons of the Church are and follow the life of Christ through the seasons.

USED CLOTHING NEEDED FOR S. DAKOTA

(Deadline June 30)



We will again be taking a tractor trailer filled with donations to the Cheyenne River Lakota Reservation in July.

Please bring in used clothing of all shapes and sizes. We do ask that the clothes be **washed, stain-free, with no tears**. We can also use shoes, purses, and prom dresses. Bring them to the inside corner of Fellowship Hall - marked for S. Dakota.

Deadline for donations is June 30. No donations will be taken after that date, and please do not drop them off at Paideia House entrance.

Thanks again for all your support and participation for this very important mission of our church.

Mission News:

Our planned mission trip to South Carolina has been cancelled this year. Regretfully, we had too many participants withdraw to make the trip viable. The Mission Committee thanks all who expressed interest, and thanks to Ron Jones & Andy Miner for their leadership. A monetary donation will be forwarded to Sea Island Habitat for Humanity on behalf of GPC.

Please consider joining us again in 2016 as we continue this important mission outreach

Church Women United

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED welcomes all local church women to a 1 1/2 hour (\$3) lunch meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6, at the Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, 1710 Biglerville Rd. Following lunch we will celebrate May Friendship Day with the program, "Journey of the Caregiver" and speaker Angie Pickel. Please join us in this time of ecumenical fellowship where newcomers are always welcome. No reservations are needed. For more information, contact Cheryl Potter at 337-2938.



**Annual Church
Work Day**
Annual GPC Church
Work Day
will be held on
Saturday, May 30th, 2015
from 8AM to 1PM.

Please come out and join us as we spruce up the grounds and attend to smaller-type repairs to parts of the facility. Over the next three Sundays, there will be a Property Committee table in Fellowship Hall where you can sign up to lend a hand during the work day. No special skills are needed, just a willingness to pitch in and help. If you have any questions, you can contact Jim Gardner at 717-337-3233.

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
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www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

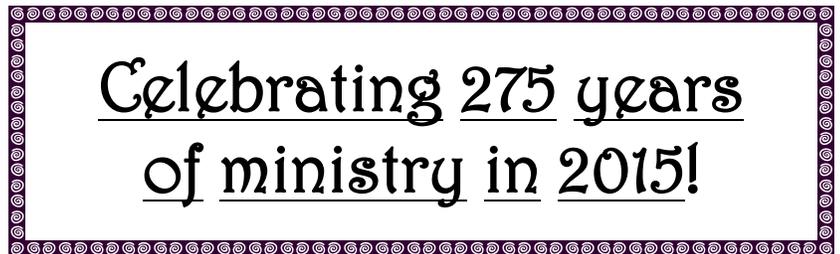
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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, April 30 2015

April/May 2015
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Traditional Worship @ 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

April 26	Fans vs. Followers
May 3	“The Most Broken Commandment” Lord’s Supper
May 10	“What Moms Need Most” Mother’s Day
May 17	Jesus: “Do You Want to Be Made Well?” Service of Healing and Wholeness
May 24	“Reflecting Light”
May 31	Youth Sunday