

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

November 2, 2016

Elections and Faith

We are about to elect a president who will take office with negative approval ratings that are historically high. Because of the passionately negative feelings (hatred?) many have toward one or the other of the candidates, many people approach this election with a sense of doom, believing that the election of the candidate they detest will be catastrophic for us as a nation and perhaps for us personally. Psychiatrists are even reporting an increase in anxiety in many of their patients directly related to the election!

Christian faith has something important to say to us about this. No matter who is elected on Nov. 8, God will still be sovereign, watching and reigning over his world, including our part of it. God's plans for our country and for you will not be thwarted by our election! That doesn't mean that elections don't matter, or that we shouldn't advocate for candidates who best reflect biblical values. But it does mean that we need not despair if our preferred candidate doesn't win! God will still be in charge!

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*"Do not worry about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication
with thanksgiving let your requests be made know to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

(Philippines 4:6,7)

Pastor Dave

Another Lasting Legacy supported by GPC:

“Lord, when did we see you a stranger.....and did not take care of you? [Matt. 25:44].

What began with a conversation between a few pastors at a meeting of the local Ministerium in the spring of 2011, has grown into a ministry to homeless individuals as an emergency shelter that encompasses nearly 20 local churches, partnering with community organizations such as Adams County Housing Authority, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen, Healthy Community Network, SCCAP, Lebanon VA Medical Center, Gettysburg Area School District, Gettysburg Police Department, WellSpan/Gettysburg Hospital, and Healthy Adams County.

Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. was established in November 2012. The following October, a Resource Center opened as a place for individuals to meet with a Case Manager, do laundry, get mail, take a shower, have access to computers and receive life skill training. Twice monthly a free Medical Clinic offers care for C.A.R.E.S. guests and alumni. At the beginning of the 5th year, more than 500 volunteers had been trained for sleeping overnight as well as hosting in the various churches.

There have been times when the limit of 30 persons sleeping at one time has been met. During these and other times Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. has provided overnight shelter to single-parent families with as many as five children. There have been elderly individuals as well as the young. Many of these persons do hold jobs within our community, but unfortunately, with the costs of housing, the money they earn is simply not enough to cover one of the most essential needs of one's life—a place to sleep. All of these individuals are good people, many with extensive life experiences, but for various unfortunate and often unanticipated reasons are not able to own a place to live. Following an especially cold night, we've heard it been said by several of the C.A.R.E.S. guests: *“I don't think I would be alive this morning without Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S.”*

This has been the lasting legacy of Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. – responding to one of the most critical invitations of the Gospel: *“when you did it to the least of mine, you did it to me!”*

Rev. Michael E. Allwein
St. James Lutheran Church
Gettysburg PA



We are having church email issues. If you have an embarqmail account, many of the emails we are sending to you are bouncing back to us! We have called in experts, but so far have been unable to resolve the problem. You might try “white listing” us, meaning that you tell your computer to accept emails from us. Or, you could give us an alternative email address if you have one. Send them to Penny at info@gettysburgpresbyterian.org In the meantime, we'll keep working on the problem.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ross Kircher on the recent death of his sister.

2016 Christmas Fair on December 4th!

It's Christmas Fair time once again! The 30th Annual Christmas Fair will be held on Sunday, December 4, 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 and spicy hot cocoa, chocolate bars, organic roasted almonds and olive oil. A Silent Auction will be held from Nov. 20 to Dec. 4. 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 six projects listed below. You will also be able to shop at the Fair on Sunday mornings, December 4, 11, & 18. **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 2017** Our church will once again participate in the medical/dental mission to Honduras. Led by Dr. Lee Flinner and Dr. Tom Soliday, our members will join with others from around the country to provide health care and health education to over 7,000 adults and children in Pinelejo de Santa Barbara in Honduras. Through your contribution you can help provide medicine, dental care, vitamins, etc. to the Honduran people.
2. **MEXICO PROJECT 2017** 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 Takini, 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 off-spring 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 RESCUE MISSION:** The Adams County Rescue Mission has been serving God by serving others since 1972. Their goal is to proclaim the passion of Jesus toward the hungry, homeless, abused and the addicted; to accelerate recovery and restoration to the least, last, lonely, and lost. They run a recycling center, thrift store, and hold special events to support the Agape House shelter and their local outreach efforts.

**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 4 ! !

Upcoming Events:

“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 are 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.

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

November

November 6	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
November 13	1:30 - 4:00	Car Chase
November 20	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
November 27	NO SHIP	THANKSGIVING

MidSHIP Schedule

November

November 6	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
November 9	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group
November 13	1:30 - 4:00	Car Chase
November 16	2:45 - 5:45	Small Group & YAH Thanksgiving Dinner
November 20	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
November 23	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group
November 27	NO MIDSHIP—THANKSGIVING	
November 30	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group

THANKSGIVING DINNER – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16th

Young at Heart’s November meeting will be to join with our young people in Youth Club and Mid-Ship at 4:30 p.m. to share in a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings and a time of fellowship with the young people. You are asked to bring a side dish for the dinner to feed 12. Dinner will again be provided by Dobbin House. Please sign up to tell us what you are going to bring and how many will be coming so we can be sure to have enough food. Signup in Fellowship Hall at the CE Table or call Cheryl Betts in the church office at 334-1235, ext. 5.

Congregational Meeting

Nov. 20

A Congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, Nov. 20 following the 11AM worship service in the sanctuary for the purpose of electing elders, deacons, and nominating committee members. Please plan to attend this brief, but important meeting!



“Gettysburg Addresses Lincoln”

November 19th 4:00 p.m.

In the sanctuary

Speaker: Dr. Tracy McKenzie will speak on “The Almighty Has His Own Purposes’: Learning from Lincoln about Democracy, Patriotism, and Faith.”

Dr. McKenzie taught for twenty-two years at the University of Washington, where he held the Donald Logan Chair in American History, was a fellow in the UW Teaching Academy, and a recipient of the university’s Distinguished Teaching Award. In 2010 he joined the faculty of Wheaton College (IL), where he serves as professor and chair of the Department of History. A specialist in the history of the American Civil War, he is the author, among other works, of *Lincolnites and Rebels: A Divided Town in the American Civil War*, the 2007 recipient of the Fletcher Pratt Literary Award for best non-fiction work on the Civil War. McKenzie blogs at faithandamericanhistory.wordpress.com.



KIDS CLUB

for Children in Kindergarten - Grade 2

November 1 - November 29

Kids Club is a time of fun, friendship, Bible stories, Scripture activities, crafts, and games under the leadership of Pam Rowland. The Fall theme will be "The Life of King David." This program will be held every Tuesday from Nov. 1—Nov. 29 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. and is for children in Kindergarten - Grade 2 and will be held downstairs in the MacAskill Room.

Registration forms were mailed out. If your child is interested in Kids Club and did not receive a registration form, please call Cheryl in the church office (334-1235, ext. 5). There is no fee and the program is open to any child in Kindergarten - Grade 2 who is interested. We hope your child can join us for this church activity for younger members.



MISSION BRIGHT STAR

Sun., November 20th, 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 gifts for children whose father or mother is a resident in the Adams County Correctional Facility during the Christmas season. Thank you for helping bridge the gap between children and their parent/parents at Christmas.

ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS!

College Students are invited to a lunch at Pastor Dave and Bonnie Wright's house on Sunday, Nov. 13 following the 11AM service. We can provide transportation, if needed. Call or text Dave at 717-357-9518 to save your place!

New Sunday School Electives in November

November 6, 13, 20th - Lynne Graziano will be leading the Adult Elective Sunday School class through a short book by John Eldredge, *Epic: The Story God is Telling*. Epic is about God's story - and ours. It is "epic" - full of "adventure, risk, loss, heroism...and betrayal...but also redemption and triumph." She will use excerpts from the book, her own experiences, and probably movie clips to facilitate an exciting and enjoyable discussion at 9:30 a.m. Sunday mornings in the MacAskill Room. Please come and join us.

November 27th, December 4, 11, 18 – Paul Wilson and Chooch Wells will be leading a discussion on "Why This Jubilee?" Music is such an important part of Advent and Christmas. Can you imagine Advent without "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"? How about Christmas without carols like "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "Silent Night," and "Joy to the World"? It pleases the Lord Jesus when we sing of his coming with carols we know by heart. It pleases him even more when we think about the words we are singing. In 24 reflections on well-known carols and Christmas songs, James Howell explores the birth of Jesus. He ponders the meaning of certain phrases from these songs and relates to them to our daily lives. Books are available for \$9 at the Christian Education table. Come and join us for this exciting and provocative look at our Christmas Carols at 9:30 in the MacAskill Room. All are welcome.

The Welcome and Outreach team works to fulfill our church's mission statement, that "God calls us to invite people to faith in Jesus Christ." We help and assist with many events that take place in our church. This gives our church the opportunity to reach out to individuals that may not have a home church.

We are looking for a few individuals who are willing to help with the following activities:

November 19, Saturday, DEDICATION DAY PARADE, time to be announced. The church provides hot chocolate, hot cider and baked goods to the parade-goers. A free will offering that benefits Ruth's Harvest will be collected.

Also on November 19, we also will be hosting the **Remembrance Day Celebration** from 3:30 to 5:00. We need people to assist with ushering and greeting the visitors to our church.

Sign up sheets will be in Fellowship Hall or call Joanna at 334-2096.

PW CIRCLES

Elizabeth Circle

Monday, November 21, 1:00 p.m.
 Paideia House, 1st floor
 Hostess: Sandy Dixon
 Lesson 3: Gospel of Luke
 Luke 1-4; 14: 12-24; 16: 19:31
 Study Leader: Becky Stabler

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, November 21, 7:00 p.m.
 Paideia House, 1st floor
 Study in Come to the Waters

Esther Circle

Thursday, November 17, 9:30 a.m.
 Eisenhower Lounge at GPC
 Lesson 3: Gospel of Luke
 Luke 1-4; 14: 12-24; 16: 19:31
 Leader: Rachel Parmentier

**Wednesday,
 November 23
 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Community
 Thanksgiving
 Service**



Gettysburg Church of the Brethren located at 1710 Biglerville Rd., Gettysburg.

Stephen Ministry

**HOW DOES
 STEPHEN MINISTRY WORK?**



When someone requests a Stephen Minister, our Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator will meet with that person, explain what Stephen Ministry is, and help determine whether Stephen Ministry is the kind of care that person needs. Our Referrals Coordinator then matches that person with one of our available Stephen Ministers. The Stephen Minister will then call that person and begin meeting with him or her for about an hour each week as long as the need is there. Everything a care receiver says to his or her Stephen Minister is kept confidential. The Stephen Minister doesn't try to solve problems; rather, he or she listens, cares, prays, and helps the care receiver find his or her path to healing and wholeness. For more information call Lou at the church office 334-1235.

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 October 16 - November 13 is Kelly Jones at 334-9504 and November 13 - December 11 is Bonnie Wright at 398-2411.



Silent Auction For Christmas Fair

Items Needed by Nov. 13

Christmas Fair already? Silent Auction Items – what's that about? This year we will once again be holding a Silent Auction to benefit the missions at the Christmas Fair. Bidding will begin on Sunday, November 20 and end as the Fair concludes on December 4th.

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 15 of the items to use for the Silent Auction.

The Silent Auction is a big hit every year! We hope you will participate once again, either by donating an item or by bidding!

CHRISTMAS FAIR CHILDREN'S GAMES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Sign up now in Fellowship Hall at the CE Table for volunteers to sign up for 30 min. blocks of time to help with one of 15 games downstairs in the Education wing. We need help with all the games.

If you can help on Friday afternoon, December 2nd from 1:00—4:00 or on Saturday December 3rd from 10:00—1:00 to help set up the games in the Education Wing, please contact Cheryl at 334-1235, ext. 5 or email gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org.

Extra Crafts for the Christmas Fair

Do you have any crafts you would be willing to donate for sale at the Christmas Fair on Sunday, December 4th? If you make crafts to sell this time of year, perhaps you have some extras you would be willing to give. If you like to make crafts in your spare time, perhaps you could make some just for the Fair. All proceeds from items sold at the craft tables will go to the mission projects.

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 2**
THANKS!

C.A.R.E.S. Homeless Shelter Program

Cold weather is here, and the C.A.R.E.S. homeless program has already begun. The fall shelter rotation began Oct. 17, 2016 at Greater Conewago Presbyterian Church in Hunterstown; the last church will host in April. There are 13 Gettysburg area churches taking part for 2-week segments. Gettysburg Presbyterian Church will be hosting for 2 weeks this year (Mon, Dec. 26, 2016 through Monday, Jan. 19, 2017). Volunteers can work at other churches as well as their own church's host weeks.

Training for new volunteers is available Monday evening, Nov. 14, 2016.

Contact Rachel Parmentier 334-3415 or Rasong@aol.com if you would like to volunteer for the first time. Training is necessary for individuals who are interested in helping out the homeless men and women, often mothers with children. Last year, GPC had about 50 members who served in various capacities. New volunteers are always welcome and needed. Scheduling for volunteers covering our church's 2-week span of service will begin on November 13 - sign-up with Rachel in Fellowship Hall on Sundays from 9 to 9:30 AM. Plan ahead now for your best available date(s).

TYPES OF VOLUNTEERS:

Volunteer hosts are needed for greeting and signing in the guests about 8 PM. Those first volunteers go home later, and overnight hosts take over about 9 PM – should be one man and one woman. **Training is required** to participate in the church hosting rotation.

Breakfast cooks prepare breakfast at the Soup Kitchen for 7:00 AM when the guests arrive from their hosting church. Some other volunteers are needed to drive the van(s) if the church is farther away from the soup kitchen.

Each church is to provide a volunteer to wash & dry the blankets on the day that the guests are moved from their church's location. Location and directions will be provided. Helpful to have 2 volunteers for this assignment.

Another daytime activity for volunteers could be to help with miscellaneous clerical tasks at the Resource Center or even with spending time there with children while the parent works on searching for employment and/or permanent housing.

GREENS NEEDED FOR ADVENT WREATHS



As you are trimming your bushes this fall, please save them and bring those greens to the church in **black plastic bags** marked "Advent Wreath." You can leave them in Fellowship Hall or by the outside door between the Manse and the Sanctuary by the door into Fellowship Hall. These greens will be used for making Advent Wreaths on Sunday, November 20th and November 27th in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendars now to make an Advent Wreath for your family on November 20th or 27th.

Chamber of Commerce Breakfast

Chamber of Commerce Breakfast will feature TV economist, Bob Doll, speaking about putting faith into practice at work

Tues., Nov. 15 at 7AM at the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center

Register before Nov. 9 to 717-334-8151 or go to www.gettysburg-chamber.org/events and follow the links.

2017 Budget

You should have received a copy of the 2017 Asking Budget with the letter from our Stewardship Committee.

The total increase of the budget is about 1.5%. Most of the increase comes in staff salary increases of 1% and a new part-time technology position that will enable us to stream our worship services live and put them on the website among other things.

Feel free to contact George Marguglio 873-1351 or Anne Kern 338-0883 if you have any questions!

Annual Holiday Social at SpiriTrust

Annual Holiday Social at SpiriTrust, November 6, 2016 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.! Come join the GPC Deacons to celebrate the holiday season and share Christ with our members and friends. There will be holiday crafts and refreshments. Hope to see you there to spread some holiday joy!!

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 beginning December 18th. You may pick up your plant(s) following evening worship on the 24th. **The church office will be closed Monday, Dec. 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 4th.
We cannot accept orders after that date—No extensions.

Christmas Poinsettias 2016

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, October 27, 2016

October / November 2016
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

- November 6** Making a Real Difference
All Saints Day
Communion
- November 13** Stewardship Focus
- November 20** Thanksgivers Sunday
Pledge Sunday
Mission Bright Star
Annual Congregational Meeting at noon
- November 27** First Sunday in Advent