

# GRAPEVINE

April 10, 2019

## "The Pastor's Page"

### **Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Seminary**

I could make quite a list of important things I wasn't taught in seminary, but learning the implications of changes in the federal tax code for churches is a new one for me. It turns out that the massive federal tax overall passed by Congress last year has implications for church parking lots! I'm not making this up. Designated parking spaces for staff are now considered a taxable benefit for both for-profit and not-for-profit employees. Until now this has been a nice benefit for our staff. No more.

You'll notice that the signs on the fence designating staff parking spaces have been removed. This appears to be the only way we can avoid a tax liability. There has been interest among some members of Congress to change this part of the law. I would encourage you to contact your congressman/woman and/or Senators about making this change.

In the meantime, it is clear that there is less appreciation in the culture and certainly in Washington for the tremendous contributions that not-for-profit groups, like churches, make to our society. I'm saddened to see this.

*Pastor Dave*

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**Palm Sunday, April 14th**  
**One Great Hour of Sharing**  
 A Special Offering

For 70 years, Presbyterians have joined with other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to provide resources to people experiencing need. Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The gifts of One Great Hour of Sharing support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, food for the hungry, and community development. They help give people safety, sustenance, and hope. [For more info and a world map showing where help is given, visit <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs.html>]

Please prayerfully consider making a special offering this Sunday, Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Envelopes can be found in Fellowship Hall or in the pew racks.

**Save the Date:**  
 Next Exploring  
 Membership Class,  
 Sunday, May 19  
 at noon!

**Save the Date:**  
 VBS  
 June 24-27  
 "The Parables  
 of Jesus"

**YOUTH CLUB**  
**SCHEDULE**

**April 10, 2019**  
 Regular schedule at the church

**April 17, 2019**  
 Dinner to go  
 Walking around Gettysburg – leave  
 GPC at 4 and return at 5:30 PM

**April 24, 2019 – FINAL GATHERING**  
 Skating at Magic Elm  
 Leave GPC at 4 and return at 6.

**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 from March 10 - April 14 is Dick Wisor at 717-359-8896 and April 14 - May 12 is Jane Gwyn at 717-253-7410.



**Office Help Needed!**

From time to time when Penny Messinger, our Administrative Assistant, is on vacation or on a mission trip we need help with answering the phones and helping in the office. If you are interested, please let Penny know at 717-334-1235.



**SOUTH CAROLINA MISSION TRIP**

The dates for the Charleston, SC Habitat for Humanity trip have been changed from April 14 -20 to May 19 - 25, 2019. The primary reason for this is that the April dates are Holy Week and it makes it better for those going to have it after Easter. If you are at all interested in this new date, please look at your schedules and let me know. Jerry Cleaver 717-359-0419.

**Rent-a-Youth—April 27—9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

If you could use a 5-7 person servant team of high school students and adult leaders to come to your home and assist you with mild clean up or upkeep, then contact Rev. Lou Nyiri in the church office. We are looking for projects that will take no more than 2 hours to complete - *i.e. washing windows, cleaning gutters, moving furniture, and possibly modest home repair.* Our worksite coordinating team will contact you to discuss the project and see if it will fit into the 2 hour allotted time. This event is part of our high school workcamp preparation as we get ready to go and serve this summer in Uniontown, PA. The group would arrive at your home on Saturday, April 20th around 9:30 a.m. and work on the assigned project. At noon they will be cleaned up, enjoy a lunch which they will bring with them and have a devotion during their lunch time. You are invited to join them in the devotion if you are so inclined. Return the form below by April 13th so that our worksite coordinating team can contact you.

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**Rent-a-Youth Helper**  
**April 27th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time to Call: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Projects you wish us to consider (please be specific): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Return the form to Rev. Lou Nyiri either in the church office, in the offering plate or via email [gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org](mailto:gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org).

**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 this volunteer opportunity, please contact Libby Crowe at (717) 476-0821 or [mllibby@gettysburgpresbyterian.org](mailto:mllibby@gettysburgpresbyterian.org).

**GPC HIKING CLUB**



- ◆ Hiking in March was a little blustery but fun was had by all at Strawberry Hill with the Llamas.
- ◆ April 20th we will be hiking the Indian Trail above the Grotto in Emmittsburg
- ◆ There will also be a more leisurely walk through the Grotto. We will leave the church parking lot at 10 am.
- ◆ Bring water and snacks. Dress in layers; you never know the weather around here!
- ◆ In May we will be hiking at Codorus. Leaving the parking lot at 10 am. Hope to see you there.
- ◆ Questions contact Jen Clark or Megan Ziegler.



## Stephen Ministry

Come to a one-time Sunday school class on April 28.

**"Bear One Another's Burdens"**  
sponsored by Stephen Ministry.

This class will explain the Stephen Ministry program and how we use it at GPC.

### HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP March / April

April 14	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship
April 17	5:30 - 7:00	Lenten Dinner
April 21	No SHIP	EASTER
April 28	5:30 - 7:00	Dinner & Fellowship

### "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, Inc.:**

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 and baby bottles.

### MidSHIP Schedule March / April

April 12—13	6:00 - 6:00 p.m.	30-hour Famine
April 14	No MidSHIP	
April 17	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group
April 21	No MidSHIP	EASTER
April 24	2:45 - 5:00	Small Group
April 28	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship/Games

## Presbyterian Women's Spring Rummage and Bake Sale

Presbyterian Women's Spring Rummage and Bake Sale is coming in one month. We would love to have treasures from your home and baked goods for our sale. Your contributions are what makes the sale work.

Sale dates are April 26-27. Friday's sale runs 8:30-5:00. Saturday's is 8:30-noon.

Days to drop off sale items are April 22-25:

Monday - 9-5

Tuesday - 9-5

Wednesday - 9-7

Thursday- 9-noon. (No donations after noon, please.)

We are looking for mainly Spring and Summer items. So please save your heavy coats and sweaters for the Fall sale. And we ask you not to bring sharp knives, TVs, mattresses, or anything that needs special handling. Your goods should be clean and in working order. You can put them in the corner of Fellowship Hall by the main door.

The bake sale and lunch is held Friday, the 26th, with Lucy Breighner in charge. Please bring in your donations before 8:00 a.m. Friday.

Volunteers are needed all week long to set up, sort, and price(Mon.-Thurs.), to man the check-outs and help bag on the main sale day(Fri.), and clean up(12-1 on Sat.). Lately we've had 60-70 people giving their time at each sale, which shows the dedication of our volunteers. We will have a sign-up table in Fellowship hall before the sale.

If you have questions, contact Amy Deitch([ahdeitch@hotmail.com](mailto:ahdeitch@hotmail.com)), Bev Weber([bevandlee90@gmail.com](mailto:bevandlee90@gmail.com)), or Lucy Breighner([lucy.breighner@gmail.com](mailto:lucy.breighner@gmail.com)).

## SAVE THE DATE

May 5, 2019

Celebration of  
Pastor Dave's  
10th Anniversary  
@ GPC

## Mission Prayer List

On Sunday mornings we will be praying for the following people/ groups that we support. Please consider including them in your own prayers!

- 4/14**    **S. Carolina Mission Trip**  
Works with Sea Island Habitat for Humanity to build homes for working poor families each spring.
- 4/21**    **Habitat for Humanity**  
GPC was a founding church for this ministry, which provides home ownership for working poor families.
- 4/28**    **Carpenter's Gift**  
A GPC ministry building primarily handicapped ramps.
- 5/5**      **Marta Bennett**  
Marta is a long-time missionary teaching Theology and Leadership in Kenya.

## Strategic Planning Team

In an effort to strategically plan our continued growth and vibrant congregational life, a **Strategic Planning Committee** was recently formed to reflect on various aspects of the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church. It has been nearly nine years since a **Visioning and Planning Committee** convened here at GPC to perform a self-assessment and establish forward-thinking strategies. Many of their suggestions are now well-established components of our mission, our programs, and our outreach.

This committee is being chaired by Lynne Graziano. Members of the committee are: Pastor Dave Wright, Mike Brubaker, Sal Chandon, Nancy Cook, Jane North, Linda Thompson, and Bob Smith. Currently we are meeting twice a month and using a book, *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory* by Tod Bolsinger, to help shape our reflections on where we have been as a church, and where we want to be in the next decade. We have started to review church and community data to shape an evidence base for our planning.

We anticipate future opportunities to engage the GPC membership and greater Gettysburg community for input and support of this work. In the meantime, if you have specific areas of concern, questions, or input to share, please feel free to reach out to a member of the committee, or contact Lynne Graziano at [lynnegraziano@gmail.com](mailto:lynnegraziano@gmail.com) or at 404 226-4742.

The introduction to the book explains: "We are heading into uncharted territory and are given the charge to lead a mission where the future is nothing like the past." Our committee hopes to help retain all that is foundational and vital from GPC's past and move into the third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century even better equipped to share the good news of Jesus Christ with our neighbors near and far.





## EASTER CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Your Deacons invite you to the annual all-church

*Easter Continental Breakfast Buffet  
on Easter Sunday, April 21st.*

Serving times will be 9 – 9:30am and 10:30 – 11am  
in Fellowship Hall.

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.

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

#### Palm Sunday, April 14

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

#### Maundy Thursday, April 18

6:00 p.m. Small Group Bread & Soup Dinner  
7:30 p.m. Worship Service with  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

#### Good Friday, April 19

12:00 p.m. Community Good Friday Service  
at GPC

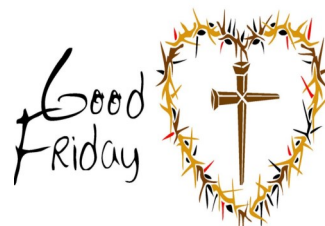
#### Easter Sunday, April 21

6:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service at  
the Peace Light on the Battlefield  
8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship  
9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
NO Sunday School  
Children's Church (ages 3 – Grade 3)  
10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship



Maundy  
Thursday

Maundy Thursday Service will be  
held on April 18 at 7:30PM  
and will feature special anthems  
by the choir. We will celebrate  
the Lord's Supper together at this  
meaningful service.



Good  
Friday

The Community Good Friday  
service will be held at GPC on  
April 19 at noon. Our choir will  
participate. The theme of the  
service will be the "Seven Last  
Words of Christ."

#### **Mexico Mission Trip Applications Available Now**

On our one-week trip to Mexico's Yucatan peninsula we  
will:

- Do some construction for a village church (no skill required!)
- Run a Vacation Bible School for village children
- Run a reading glasses clinic
- Fellowship and worship with our Mexican brothers and sisters in Christ
- See some Mayan ruins



Trip Dates: July 8-15

More details available on the applications, which are  
located in Fellowship Hall and the narthex.



Hunger isn't just. But your hunger can be.

# JUST HUNGER.

## OUR YOUTH GROUP IS DOING WORLD VISION'S 30 HOUR FAMINE.

**WHAT:** For 30 hours, we'll skip meals to raise funds that will help feed hungry children around the world.

**WHY:** Every five seconds, a child under 5 dies—and nearly half those deaths are from hunger-related causes. That's why we're taking action now!

**HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

- 1. Give.** Every \$40 we raise helps feed and care for a child for one month. You can make checks out to World Vision and give them to the contact person below, visit our fundraising page at [www.30hourfamine.org/participant/Elizabeth-Crowe](http://www.30hourfamine.org/participant/Elizabeth-Crowe) or text 30HFGIVE to 44888.
- 2. Volunteer.** We need your help to make our Famine weekend a success! There are lots of ways to help out.
- 3. Pray.** Ask for God's grace over our event and our fundraising, and that we grow deeper in our love for Him while helping change hungry kids' lives.

**WHEN:** April 12 at noon to April 13 at 6:00pm.

**OUR GOAL:** We're raising \$1200 to help feed and care for 30 kids for a month.

**CONTACT:** Libby Crowe at [mslibby@gettysburgpresbyterian.org](mailto:mslibby@gettysburgpresbyterian.org)

## May 12<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Guest Speaker, Minh Phuong

### "Straining Forward"

*Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 3:12-14*

As a young child in Vietnam, Minh Phuong experienced first-hand the shocking realities of war, beginning with the execution of her beloved father and two younger siblings. Abuse, prison and torture would follow, leading Minh to question God's very existence. Why had he abandoned her? What had she done to deserve such punishment? Was she beyond redemption?

These are the questions Minh and author Michelle Layer Rahal will explore on May 12<sup>th</sup> when they share their book, **Straining Forward: Minh Phuong Towner's Story**. It was God's guiding and protective hand that led Minh away from her captors and out of communist Vietnam, but the tragedy of her childhood would continue to haunt her. Minh finally found true freedom when she placed her trust in Jesus Christ.

Pastor Minh Phuong Towner's story is a riveting spiritual journey of hope and healing that reminds readers we are more than victims of circumstance and that God is present even in our darkest moments.

## SAVE THE DATE:

# SQUARE DANCE AT THE GPC CORRAL



**Saturday, May 11, 2019**

**7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**Fellowship Hall**

**Caller Dan Tapper**

**Come one, Come All**

**Ages 7 to 107\***

**Ladies and Gents**

**Moms and Dads with Sons and Daughters**

(instructions will be given by our caller)

\*Babysitting will be available if requested

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## 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
- \* give generously
- \* worship weekly



**Next Newsletter Deadline:  
 Noon, Thursday April 18, 2019**

## April 2019 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

**Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.**

<b>April 14</b>	<b>Palm Sunday - John 19: 23-42</b> One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
<b>April 18</b>	7:30 p.m. <b>Maundy Thursday</b> Service Communion
<b>April 19</b>	12:00 noon - Community <b>Good Friday</b> Service @ GPC
<b>April 21</b>	<b>EASTER</b> 6:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service at the Peace Light on the Battlefield 8:15 & 11:00 Traditional Worship Services - <i>John 20:1-18</i> 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service - <i>John 20:1-18</i>