GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

Watching Worship vs. Worshiping

On Youth Sunday I was able to watch our livestream worship service while sitting on my recliner drinking a cup of tea. It was a really nice experience, and I appreciated the wonderful contributions of our teens and their adult leaders. But I did notice some differences between watching worship at home and worshiping in person. There are a lot more distractions at home- texts, calls, pets, comments from someone else in the room, etc. And, it's easy to get up and just leave the room for a variety of reasons!

That got me thinking about watching worship vs. worshiping. While there is some value in watching worship, it's not the same thing as actually worshiping, is it? Because worship is not a spectator sport! We're offering ourselves to our Creator, to the God who is worthy of our praise. So, I encourage you to move beyond watching worship during this time.

Here are a couple suggestions:

May 19, 2020

Inside

- Stimulus Giving
- Stroke Info
- GPC's Got Talent
- Christian Ethics Education Opportunity
- Local Mission Update
- VBS
- Church Family Feud
- High School & College Graduate info
- New Woman's Summer Book Club

Read the scripture lesson ahead of time. We're studying Ephesians through June 21. Read through it each week. During the service, keep distractions to a minimum. Turn off your phone! Participate in the spoken responses and sing the hymns and praise songs. I know this can be a little awkward when you're watching with others in the living room, but just let them know how you're planning to participate and then do it. And, open your heart to what God may have for you each Sunday.

Let's worship together (apart) each Sunday!

Paster Dave

Happy Birthday to...

Emma Burgess Robert Farnham **Dustin Rogers** June 3 Stratton Brown Leah Krichten June 4

Will Brubaker Kendall Holsclaw Jean LeGros Morgan Sites June 5 Pat Behre

Maureen Johnson June 6 Riley Fitzgerald Evelyn Small June 7 Donald Carman

Gabriel Delacruz Jubal Haffey Dale Molina Leslie Smarsh Kim Stahl

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June 8 Zachary Beegle Shane Miller June 10

Alexander Contreras Nikolas Contreras Timothy Poorman

June 11 Barton Breighner Alex Cunningham Sherry Farkas Brett Williams June 12 Benn Hoover

Jaron Sanders June 13 Tim Waligore June 14 Javden Harvey Kim Patrono

June 15 Beckie Carbaugh Andrew Druckman Rachel Druckman Susan Guiher Amie Murray Allyson Smarsh

June 16 Nancy Bushey Frank Geist Linda Houghton June 17

Abigail Holler Katelyn Holler Natalie Holler Ann Matthews Amanda Ott **June 18** Ann Cook Ethan Mora Amanda Rossman

June 19

Happy Freas Diana Miner Matthew VanHoutte June 20 Michael Crowe Sydney Miller

Abigail Moroz Hilda Oussoren Katie Schwartz Michael Wark

June 21 Quinn Wherley June 23 Nichol Hare Bob Jackson June 24 Jeff Hieber

Cinnamon Hosterman June 25 Marian Benchoff Cam Bernier Dan Ebaugh Aidan Hoover

Joan Jackson

Aaron VanHoutte

June 26 **Britton Reed** June 27 Lacey Anderson Jennifer Clark Lee Flinner June 28

Carolyn Smarsh Rebecca Stabler

June 29 Paul Elv Gail Lee Emri Snyder June 30 Lexi Franek Cheryl Gochenauer Cadi McMaster Tim Skoczen Hank Tushek



CONDOLENCES:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Joan Thomas on the recent death of her sister.

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r------**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!

5/24 Carpenter's Gift

A GPC ministry building primarily handicapped ramps for local people.

5/31 **South Carolina Mission Trip**

This mission works with Sea Island Habitat for Humanity to build homes for working poor families each year.

6/7 **Bryan & Emily Gerlach**

Bryan & Emily are serving with local churches in Thailand.

Stimulus Giving

If you've received a government stimulus check, but haven't experienced a loss of income during this time, consider giving part or all of it to GPC! It may help make up for those who have lost jobs and can't give as they had hoped to do.

Zoom Bible Studies

Adult Discipleship is seeking input about any interest in doing a Zoom Bible Study while we cannot be together face-to-face. The topic of this study will be Romans.

Please email Cheryl Betts at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org if you are interested in attending this zoom Bible study.

With the recent events of Covid 19 there are some case reports that large vessel strokes are occurring in people under 50 years of age as the presenting symptom and testing positive with Covid 19. Several articles are listed below for further information.

This month I wanted to focus on Strokes, also known as Cerebrovascular Accidents (CVA).

Why? Because as a bystander you can help save a life!

Stroke is the #5 cause of death and leading cause of disability in the United States.

Stroke definition: The sudden death of brain cells due to lack of oxygen, caused by blockage of blood flow or rupture of an artery to the brain. Sudden loss of speech, weakness, or paralysis of one side of the body can be symptoms. Also known as cerebrovascular accident (CVA).

The three main types of stroke are:

- Ischemic stroke: Stroke caused by a clot obstructing the flow of blood to the brain
- Hemorrhagic stroke: A blood vessel rupturing and preventing blood flow to the brain
- Transient ischemic attack (TIA) (a warning or "mini-stroke"): is caused by a temporary clot

Act FAST if you think someone is having a stroke

F= Face: Is there drooping or the person complains of numbness to one side of the face? Ask them to Smile!

A= Arm Weakness: Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

S= Speech Difficulty: Is speech slurred, are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like "the sky is blue." Is the sentence repeated correctly?

T= Time: Call 9-1-1 If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get them to the hospital immediately. Time is critical, brain cells are dying.

Seek immediate medical attention for these additional symptoms:

Sudden numbness or weakness of the leg,

Sudden confusion or trouble understanding,

Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes,

Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination,

Sudden severe headache with no known cause

<u>Uncontrollable risk factors regarding stroke:</u> being over age 55; male; African American, Hispanic, or Asian; from a family with a history of stroke or transient ischemic attack (TIA).

How can you reduce your risk of stroke?

- ~ Hypertension is the leading cause of stroke. Get your blood pressure checked regularly.
- ~ Work with your primary care physician to bring blood pressure into acceptable levels.
- ~ Monitor your Cholesterol levels annually including HDL, LDL, Triglycerides, and lipoproteins.
- ~ Find out if you have an irregular heartbeat (atrial fibrillation), which can cause Strokes.

Symptoms include feeling as if your heart is racing or skipping beats, breathlessness, dizziness, and fatigue.

- ~ If you smoke, Stop smoking. Avoid secondhand smoke.
- ~ Drink alcohol in moderation.
- ~ If diabetic, follow your physician's instructions for lowering your blood sugar and taking medications as directed.

Follow the guidelines provided by your Diabetic Educator for proper diabetic diet teaching.

~ Exercise daily.

For more information:

Stroke information: https://www.stroke.org/en/about-stroke/stroke-symptoms

To read more about Covid 19 and association with Strokes:

https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2009787

https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/04/24/strokes-coronavirus-young-patients/https://journals.lww.com/neurotodayonline/blog/breakingnews/pages/post.aspx?PostID=958

I came across this beautiful prayer and thought I would share it with my GPC family.

Pam Phillips RN FCN 410-596-0777 gpcfcn@gettysburgpresbyterian.org

A Prayer For Uncertain Times

Written by: Sister Cynthia Serjak

God of infinite mercy hear our prayer!

In this time of bewilderment and fear, we ask you to give us the courage to take care of one another as Jesus did. For those who are ill, especially those who are frightened and alone, for those who cannot access healthcare,

for those who are homeless and lost, hear our prayer!

In the midst of our sadness and grief, we ask you to give us words to comfort one another.

For those who are dying, and for those who have already died from this virus,

for those who tend them and for those with no one to tend them, hear our prayer!

In the midst of our own anxiety we ask you to give us the courage to support one another as you would.

For those who are unexpectedly unemployed, for employers who share what they can,

for our government and financial institutions and those who lead them, hear our prayer!

In the midst of our struggle to ensure a healthy future for all who live on this planet,

we ask you to give us the hope that surpasses our current understanding.

For healthcare workers, spiritual leaders and our faith communities, for artists and poets, for prophets and teachers, hear our prayer! In the midst of our growing awareness that all life on Earth is connected, we ask for the heart to respect and cherish all life.

That all peoples recognize that we are all your children, hear our prayer!

We trust in you and your power working in us. Please hear and answer our prayers.

Amen!

I would like to express my deep appreciation for the thoughtfulness shown to me during my recent illness. Thank you for the many cards, visits, meals and visits from church staff. Some ask me if I should move nearer to family but I know now that Proverbs is wise 27:10 "Better a neighbor nearby than a relative far away" because the neighbor is near and first to know when whatever happens.

Blessings to All,

Kay McClain

<u>GPC's Got Talent –</u> <u>Virtual Talent Show</u>

Do you love to sing?

Play an instrument?

Enjoy magic tricks?

Have a special talent?



Our Director of Music, Jamie Bowman, would love to showcase your talent in GPC's Virtual Talent Show in June. Please contact Jamie if you'd like to submit a video of your talent – gettysburgbowmans@gmail.com



Continuing Education Opportunity

How do Christians decide what is right and wrong when dealing with complex moral issues like abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia, immigration policy, and war?

Pastor Dave will be offering a Zoom series, looking at 3 different "schools" of Christian ethics that Christians have relied on over the centuries. We'll use the current debates about re-opening society as a case study!

Dates: May 26, June 2, June 9 at 7PM.

Contact the church office or Pastor Dave, gpcpastordave@gettysburgpresbyterian.org to reserve your place, so we can send you your own Zoom invitation!

Vacation Bible School - "Moses"

Plans are to do a livestream VBS June 15-18th! Parents will be able to watch it at their convenience with their children. It will include some songs, drama, Bible Story, Scripture and a craft.

Parents will be instructed when to stop by the church on a given day and time to pick up their bag of craft items.



We need parents to email Cheryl Betts at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org
by **JUNE 1**st to register your child(ren) for VBS. We only need their name and age/grade.

Ruth's Harvest Update

Since schools have been closed, Ruth's Harvest has continued to provide bags of healthy snacks and food to area children on a weekly basis. However, the demand has doubled. Previously, the number of bags prepared was in the range of 150 each week. Now, 300 bags are being distributed each week through this free ministry of area churches (including GPC) and organizations.

Beginning in June, the plan is to prepare larger containers which will be distributed to students each month until school starts again in the fall. These containers will consist of boxes of cereal, milk, proteins and vegetables. For those who would like to donate, financial contributions are preferred.

Additionally, the organizing team at Ruth's Harvest is hoping to establish a cooperative program with area grocery stores where shoppers can drop off food items in boxes at the front of

the stores. Keep an eye on the church website or Facebook page to stay informed of these developments.

Contact Bill Tindall with any questions: agpr4you@yahoo.com

Thanks for the Mask Donations

Thank you to members of GPC and Great Conewago Presbyterian Church who made masks for local needs within Gettysburg. They were recently dropped off at the borough office and will be used in conjunction with the Mainstreet Gettysburg Cares program, "jumpstart tool kits." Tool kits will provide a small number of cloth masks, sanitizer, social distancing floor markers, signage and safety instructions, along with safety guidelines to 200-250 businesses in the Gettysburg Borough.

There is an increasing need for masks as businesses open. GPC's involvement in this local mission not only helps get our community back in business, but allows us to do it as safely as possible.

If you are able to help in this critical local mission, masks can be dropped off in the tub located at the entrance to Fellowship Hall.



High School & College Graduates of GPC

Amid unprecedented times when graduations will not go according to plans or hopes, we ask that God's peace and grace will sustain our graduates in this moment and beyond. We will celebrate this milestone in worship. To all GPC high school &

college students, please email the following information or send a brief video of yourself answering this information for a video we will share during worship.

Email or send via wetransfer.com to Rev. Lou Nyiri gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org:

- Full name of student
- Their plans after graduation
- A picture of student

Pleases submit information by May 27th for inclusion in the May 31st worship service.

Men's Interfaith Luncheon

Has been CANCELLED for June 3rd!

Family Feud - At - Home



The Fellowship Team invites you to play GPC's Family Feud at home. Zoom family or friends together to discover the top answers to questions by GPC folks. Visit the church website for Game instructions / Host Question & Answer Sheet / Self-Contained Power Point https://gettysburgpresbyterian.org/family-feud/ NOTE: Some computers may not play the PowerPoint – however you can still play the feud by having host write answers or make an X on a board.



We hope to create a brief weekly worship vidgreeting one another.

eo which shows members

Buongiorno!

Buenos

Dias!

If you are able, we'd love for you to send a video (recorded on your smartphone will work – using a plug-in microphone will produce better audio quality).

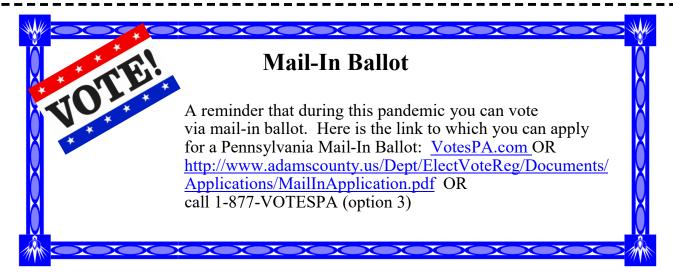
The video should be of you alone or you with family members already under your roof saying,

"Good Morning!" -OR- "Good Morning from _____ & ____ family!"

[Be enthusiastic – Be creative - say it and sign it at the same time - say it in another language...] Submit video by:

Email: gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org -Via: www.wetransfer.com (using same email) -

Questions or alternate ways to send the video can be sent to email above





Homemade Facemasks Needed: Gettysburg Borough, Wellspan Health & Fruitbelt Farmworkers Christian Ministry (FFCM)

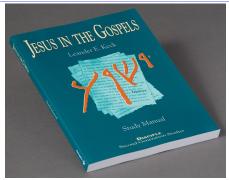
The Local Mission Team is seeking to provide an organized GPC response to meet the increasing need for facemasks. We hope to continue collecting facemasks to help residents stay healthy as we continue to protect ourselves against the coronavirus pandemic. Previously, we responded to Wellspan's request for Hand-Made-Fabric-Masks. We will now expand the effort to include the Gettysburg Borough and FFCM (migrant workers) requests for facemasks.

Step-by-step instructions for these easy-to-make facemasks can be found on GPC's website under COVID-19 Info dropdown menu under the Local Resources heading (https://gettysburgpresbyterian.org/ wellspan-facemask-making-instructions/). For ease of distribution, there is a tub at the door leading into Fellowship Hall marked for face mask donations. Please place masks in a Ziplock bag with your name and number of masks and the Local Missions Team will deliver the masks.

Any questions, call Bill Tindall at 717-357-1281 or e-mail him at agpr4you@yahoo.com.



If you would like to have a copy of the current Our Daily Bread devotional, please email Cheryl at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org and we will place a copy in a plastic bag taped to the outside door of Fellowship Hall so you can pick one up at your leisure.



Disciple Bible Studies for fall

Jesus in the Gospels course will be offered on Sunday evenings from 4-6 p.m. beginning Sunday, September 13, 2020.

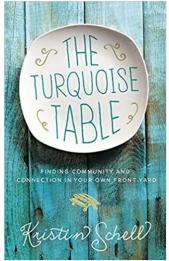
This 30-week course will study the portrait of Jesus found in the four Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The word "in" used in the titles signals that this study takes an approach different from the familiar "life and teachings of Jesus'

approach of reading stories of what Jesus said and did." We focus on Jesus himself by the ways they situate him in time and place.

Fall will be here before we know it. Please contact Cheryl Betts at 717-334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org if interested in this wonderful study.

The facilitator will be Rev. Nancy Davis. Cost of the 2 books is \$49.



New! Women's Summer Book Club

Are you interested in enjoying a couple of hours of fellowship with other women? If you answered "yes," then consider joining this new group. We will be reading <u>The Turquoise Table</u> by Kristin Schell for the month of June.

What's the book about?

The book is about an experiment the author did where she put a turquoise picnic table in her front yard and started inviting people over. Wonderful things started to happen - building community; having fellowship with neighbors, friends, and family; and learning a whole lot about hospitality in the process. She shares what she learned, how you can start your own "Turquoise Table" along with recipes and fun anecdotes..

When and how will we meet?

- ~ June's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, June 23rd at 6:30 and will run for approximately an hour and a half to two hours.
- ~ We will meet via Zoom. I will send you a link to join the meeting closer to the date. So, put on your PJs, get a cup of tea, and enjoy from the comfort of your own home!

I'm interested, so what do I need to do?

- 1) Let me know you're interested by June 16th by sending me an email (MeganZiegler2014@gmail.com).
- 2) Order a copy of your book from the book's website (<u>www.theturquoisetable.com</u>) or from Amazon or get an eBook from the library.
- 3) Read the book, write down thoughts and questions.

How Prayer Requests are Being Handled During COVID-19

During these dis-concerting and dis-connected times, the words of Philippians 4:6-7 come to mind, "...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

In following CDC recommendations to flatten the curve, we discontinued in-person worship. In order to keep connected with our GPC family, our church leadership (Session, Deacons, Pastoral Care Team, Staff and Stephen Ministers) began making phone calls which has led to an increase in prayer requests. As we receive your prayer requests, we want you to know: 1) Your prayer requests are important to us; and 2) How your prayer requests are shared.

Prayer requests are shared in the following ways:

- 1. Prayer Team which confidentially prays for each request by name.
- 2. Pastoral Care Team which will follow up accordingly.

Sunday Morning Prayers may not always include specific names, however, prayer requests will be grouped under category headings (i.e. "We ask that you give strength to those in need of healing and wholeness") believing God knows each individual's name included in that prayer.

If you need to discuss this further or would like information about joining the prayer team, then please contact Rev. Nyiri at gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org or 717-253-2711.



Mexico Mission Trip

This year's Mexico mission trip has been cancelled due to the uncertainties of the Coronavirus.



We plan to return again next summer!





Our hope is that we will be able to be back together sometime soon. In preparation for that, we are looking for individuals who can be with our youngest children during worship. We will plan to have a children's church at the 9:00 and 10:30 during July and August. We have easy-to-teach curriculum for these months. If you can share your love, your faith and your time with our youngest children, please contact Cheryl Betts at qpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org or call her cell at 717-357-8163.

Thank you for giving of your love to our children and giving our regular leaders the summer off. God bless.

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

<u>Gettysburg Presbyterian Church Mission Statement</u>

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

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- witness boldly
- live faithfully
- serve passionately
- give generously
- worship weekly



Next Newsletter Deadline: Noon, Thursday May 28, 2020

Office Operations During the **Yellow Phase**

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The state guidelines still encourage people to work from home where possible during the yellow phase, but we envision having staff in the office for a few more hours each week than we have been doing.

Continue to call the office number (717-334-1235) if you need anything, or need to get into the building during the day. We'll do our best to accommodate you!

May 2020 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

WORSHIP 10:00 a.m.

We will continue worshipping virtually until it is safe to meet together based on the parameters set by the CDC and the state of Pennsylvania.

We will have a 10:00 a.m. service streamed live each Sunday.

www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org Click "New Streaming Link" on the top right hand corner

> Read the Book of Ephesians each week to prepare for the preaching series!