

August 25, 2020

# "The Pastor's Page"

During this hybrid worship time when we are gathered in-homes and in-sanctuary, we are reminded that as people of faith we always gather in Christ. We also want to remind ourselves that we are GPC & we are in this together even while apart. So, we need your help to create a worship video we will use in worship. The details are below.

## "God Be With You" Worship Video

Help us out...

We would like to create a short video to use weekly in worship to connect our church family during worship.

We'd love for you to send us a video (on your smartphone will work – a plug-in microphone will produce better audio quality).

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- Welcome Kits for Migrant Workers
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- Habitat Mission Trip
- GPC Hiking Club
- Transportation Survey

The video should be brief & feature you alone or you with family members already under your roof. Look into the camera and, say your name then, "God be with you there!"

After viewing the video compilation, those in the sanctuary will look into one of the cameras & respond, "God be with your there."

Email videos to: gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org - Send video via wetransfer.com using the same email - Questions or for alternate ways to send the video use email above.

# Happy Birthday to...

September 1 Dottie Fleckner Conor Wagner September 2 Carol Eyler Ian Gazmen September 3 William Faloon September 4 Terry Manning Carole Simon September 5 Meredith Bergen Gayle Kelch Jim McCabe Jim Raggets September 6 Lisa Gormley Rich Kammerer Lisamarie Marks Judy Strevig

September 7 Chase Bowman Rachel Landauer Marian Schultz September 8 Lou Nyiri September 9 Mike Brubaker Georgia Kuhn Caleb Sellers September 10 Joanne Getty Timothy Johnson September 11 Donna Newman Candace Veon-Nyiri Jenifer Wagner September 12 Linda Miller Shaely Stabler Brittany Stone September 13

September 14 Zachary Shoemaker September 15 Ross Brownley Barbara Ellingson Montford Illick Roslyn Parkhurst Adam Smarsh Bonnie Wright September 16 Kelly Jones September 17 Cindy Burnsteel Brianna Hieber Tyler Kint Kate Sainer September 18 Nancy Cook Justin Lewis Bill Nelson Robert Tomassini

September 19 Georgia Bittle Ryan Cunningham Lois Edwards Owen Freas Shawn Graff September 20 Sarah Hoffman Amber Skoczen September 21 Pat Conklin Ryan Kime **Eleanor Rice** Jennifer Unger September 22 Heather Maynard Neal Weaver September 23 Mary Ann Remaley Robert Smith September 24 Jessica Lush

September 25 Tim Bollinger Karen Golanoski Alexa Wilhelm September 26 Rachel Parmentier Elizabeth Russo September 27 Theo Mora Henry Oswald September 28 Justin Beegle Sharon Kuntzman September 29 Chris Carbaugh Olivia Hiller Will Mosser Katie Shoemaker September 30 Roger Clowes Kay Heggan Blake Pierson Stephen Swartzbaugh

# Calendar of Giving

Thank you to all who have brought in Welcome Kits and supplies for seasonal migrant workers during August's Calendar of Giving. We will continue collecting throughout the month and deliver the kits in early September. There is still time to contribute if you wish to do so.

The Welcome Kits should include:

Anne Kern

Linda Raymond

1 adult toothbrush 1 medium toothpaste 2 bars of bath soap 1 bath towel 1 wash cloth 2 rolls of toilet paper

2 disposable razors 1 can of shaving cream

Either place the items in a paper grocery bag or, if necessary, in another container.

The camp consists of 40 men and is located just west of Bendersville. We will deliver the kits in early September; however, at this point we will not interact with the workers as we have in past years due to COVID-19.

Please feel free to sign you name on the yellow Welcome Kit form found on the Local Missions table. Attaching that to the kit at least gives us an opportunity to communicate a little during this time of social distancing.

# **CONDOLENCES:**

Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Kay McClain on the recent death of her brother.

# Fall Worship Schedule:

After thoughtful discussion & discernment, the Session voted at their August 9th meeting to keep the current schedule of worship during this pandemic. Thus, we will continue the format of in-person and livestreaming 9:00 a.m. – Contemporary Worship & 10:30 a.m. – Traditional Worship. After COVID-19, when the virus is no longer a threat, we plan to resume our typical worship format of 8:15am / 9:30am / 11:00am services.

#### Save the Date:

# COMBINED OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE!!!

WHEN? Sunday, September 13 at 10:00 a.m.

WHERE? At the Rec Park Stage

WHAT? Bring a lawn chair. We'll socially distance our chairs

and worship together outdoors. (including singing!)

# **Bibles to Children**



On September 13<sup>th</sup> at the Combined Worship Service we will be presenting Bibles to our three-year old's and our Second Graders. Parents should have received a letter asking you to let Cheryl know if you are planning to attend that service.

Please contact the church office by September 2<sup>nd</sup> if your child will be present to receive their Bibles.



# PW Fall Rummage Sale

At this point the Fall Rummage Sale has been CANCELLED due to Covid-19.

If anything changes we will let you know.

Please DO NOT drop any donations off at the church!

Thank you!!



## **Fall Youth Club**

Youth Club will be moving to Sunday afternoons at 3-4 PM this fall. We will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month beginning Sept. 20. This is open to children in Grades 3-5. Please contact Cheryl Betts in the church office if your child will be participating this year.

A registration form was sent out to all parents in these grades.

# **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!

#### 8/30 South Dakota Mission Trip

We have been going to the Lakota-Sioux reservation for many years, doing home repair, and providing needed clothing, furniture and other supplies - Future years

#### 9/6 Presbyterian Homes

Presbyterian Homes provide a variety of living places for Seniors.

#### 9/13 Camp Krislund

Camp Krislund is supported by three presbyteries, including ours. Summer camp programs for children and youth, year-round retreat facilities.

## **PW CIRCLES**

### **Mary Martha Circle**

Thursday, September 10 @ 4:00 p.m.

Questions or interested in joining this Circle please contact Bev Weber at 717-337-2194

Elizabeth Circle
TBD



#### **Esther Circle**

Thursday, September 17 @ 9:30 a.m. MacAskill Room at GPC

Questions or interested in joining this Circle please contact Beth Fitzpatrick at 717-334-4960

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## Children's Fall Sunday School & Children's Church

After much prayer and deliberation, Christian Education has decided due to the pandemic and concerns for health and safety of our children, that we will offer **ONLY** Preschool (ages 3-4) Sunday School this fall beginning September 20th.

# Children K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade will remain in worship with worship bags available.

We will also post Christian Education activities to the website for families to use as parents are the primary faith teachers of their children. Children's Church will be offered for children ages 3 through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade at 10:30 beginning September 20<sup>th</sup>. We will return to full Sunday School when the pandemic is over and we return to three worship services.



Krislund programs usually reach over 1500 young people each summer with messages of Christ. Further, Krislund has hosted over 4,000 people for retreats annually. However, this year Krislund has had no campers and very few retreat guests; thus, the camp has had no income while basic expenses continue. While the financial situation at Krislund has necessitated curtailing staff and program, there is no lack of enthusiasm for the future among the remaining staff and volunteers. Sometimes going through a difficult time allows one to evaluate where they have been, make changes as necessary, and look ahead with enthusiasm. This is happening at Krislund and we are asking you to be a part of Krislund's future.

Here's how: Make a Move for Krislund and Support each other! With the hope of raising \$10,000, Huntingdon, Carlisle and Northumberland Presbyteries are sponsoring a virtual event called Moving For Krislund. Here are two basic ways that you can participate:

You can walk, run, or ride a bike. In doing so, you seek pledges for each mile you complete. or You can help Krislund move forward by cheering on and financially supporting those who are walking, running or biking.

If you know somebody participating, you can contact them in person or by phone or email. Your contribution will be an important component of this event. If you don't know of any movers, you may support a staff mover by filling out the form and putting Krislund Staff in place of the mover's name. You will be able to submit your financial support through an online portal or by sending a check to Krislund.

The event will be held September 1st through October 15. All "movement" during that time can be applied to the goal. For example, if you walk a mile every day for a week or two, you can add up the miles and apply it to your total. Or you can do your activity all at once and submit that activity.

We hope you will participate in this fun way to help Krislund move headlong into the camp's "after Covid" future. It has been said that the difference between a catastrophe and an opportunity is a state of mind. With God's help and great promise, those of us supporting Krislund are choosing the "opportunity" option. We hope you will too!

If you are interested in participating in some way for this fundraiser, please contact GPC's mission chairman, Sonja Brown, at 717-253-0165.

Below you will find a prayer for the 2020 school year, as we face making the best decisions we can for our children.

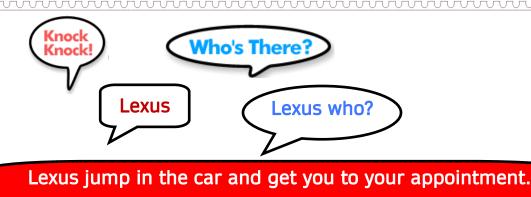


Lord, we know you hold the future and walk with us even now on this unpredictable path of the pandemic. We trust you work through the most difficult of seasons and never abandon us to navigate life's challenges alone.

As we look to a new school year, we worry about the ongoing impact of COVID-19. It seems to be a time of no right answers, no clear good choices and no comprehensive way for parents, educators and administrators to meet the pressing needs of students, teachers, staff and families. We do not want children to fall further behind in their learning. We do not want to put caregivers in the position of choosing between going to work or tending to their children. We do not want to endanger the health of any in our community. Already stretched resources are pushed to the limit as we attempt to reduce class sizes, expand the ways content is delivered and seek to enact needed safety precautions.

We look to you, Lord, to take, bless and multiply our efforts to educate and nurture your children. We look to you, Lord, who gives us the peace that passes understanding, hears the cries of the hurting and promises that small amounts of faith can precipitate large, life-giving change. We look to you, loving God, for wisdom, for courage, for inspiration, for creativity.

As we make difficult decisions in an unprecedented time, grant us an unshakable commitment to one another, especially to the most vulnerable among us. Send your Spirit to open our eyes to the new thing you are doing. Send your Spirit to open our ears to the voices we need most to hear. Send your Spirit to open our hearts to the profound love you have for us all so that everything we do in this time of fear, anxiety and uncertainty reveals your compassion, kindness and grace. Send your Spirit to comfort and direct us as we humbly look to you for guidance and strength. Amen.



The Deacons of the church are charged with assisting members with finding rides to appointments. We realize not everyone has the same level of comfort in doing routine tasks as they had before the coronavirus. While things have changed, the need to get some members of our congregation to medical appointments has not. We need to update our list of who would feel comfortable in driving a church member to an appointment, how far they are willing to drive and how much notice they need to plan on driving. A short transportation survey follows. If you feel comfortable assisting with transportation of members, please answer the following questions and e-mail your answers, along with your contact information, to Deb Manning at manningtr@embarqmail.com.

- \* Are you willing to drive a member of our congregation to an appointment?
- \* How far do you feel comfortable driving? As far as Hanover Hospital, York Hospital, Hershey Medical Center, Lebanon VA Hospital?
- \* How much notice would you need to make driving arrangements? 1-3 Days, 1 week, more than 1 week?

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

# **GPC HIKING CLUB**

Please plan to join us on Saturday, September 12th for a hike at Strawberry Hill. We will meet at the church parking lot and leave at 10am. This is one of our "tried and true" hikes. Make sure you bring a snack and water, and dress in layers and wear comfortable hiking shoes. If it is warm enough, Megan will take you "creek walking" on the other side of the trail afterwards. Be sure to bring appropriate shoes or a change of shoes if you plan on doing this! Email Jen Clark at MJClark1963@embarqmail if interested and be sure to "like" our Facebook page, "GPC Hiking Club."

We look forward to seeing you then!

# Habitat for Humanity Mission Trip



The Habitat for Humanity mission trip to Charleston, SC is still on. Of course, there is the possibility of having to cancel because of Covid 19. A final determination will be made in early September. If we go, we will leave on Sun Sept 27 & return Sat Oct 3.

If we go, we will leave on Sun Sept 27 & return Sat Oct 3. Please call, e-mail, see me if you have any interest at all in going.

Jerry Cleaver 717-359-0419 cleavergrams210@yahoo.com

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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

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

# **Next Newsletter Deadline:** Noon, Thursday September 3, 2020

# **Office Operations**

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The state guidelines still encourage people to work from home where possible, 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!

## August/September 2020 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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Contemporary Worship @ 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship @ 10:30

August 30 Rev. Dale Williams Preaching

September 6 Rev. Lou Nyiri Preaching

Communion

September 13 10:00 a.m. Combined Worship Service

@ Rec Park Stage

Matthew 11:28-30 Series:

"Come to me, all..." (God's open invitation)

To view live stream, go to: www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org Click "New Streaming Link" on the top right hand corner