

# GRAPEVINE

January 5, 2021

## "The Pastor's Page"

### Something Old...Something New

German theologian, philosopher and mystic, Meister Eckhart (1260-1328) is quoted as saying, "And suddenly you know: It's time to start something new and trust the magic of beginnings." Good words to ponder as we embark on 2021 – A New Year...

Do any of us know what this year holds?  
The answer most likely is, "no."

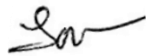
As faithful people we lean into the promise that we do not go into the future alone.

We travel this road with companions in the faith – and – more importantly, we travel this road with the God who promises to be with us every step of the way.

On Sunday, January 10th, we will embark on the journey of 2021 with the tradition of choosing our Star Gift Cards. Join us in worship via the livestream (in real time at 10:00 a.m. or later through the archived service). In preparation for Sunday's worship, you will find below 12 Star Cards to cut out and put face down in your worship space – then at the appropriate time in worship you will select a card which will reveal to you your 2021 Star Gift Card Word.

With one another & with God, let us embark on the journey of 2021 – this *something new* and let us *trust the magic of beginnings*.

I'll join you in worship!



### **Inside**

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY to  
Rev. Paul Wilson  
who will celebrate his  
100th birthday  
on January 19th!**

We would like to express our gratitude for all the prayers, phone calls, food, flowers and cards from the members of the congregation during our Covid-19 hospital and home recovery.

Janet & Richard Lightner

### Per Capita

The blue envelope labeled “PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT” found near the front of your offering envelope box is a special offering that is not used by GPC. Per capita is an amount of money per member (\$27.20 for 2021) that our congregation pays to our larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This money is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together as a connectional church and links the individual church, Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. Per capita amounts are determined by General Assembly nationally, regionally by the Synod and locally by the Presbytery. These monies are used to administer the responsibilities, functions, and mission of each governing body. A major portion of the per capita is used for mission.

2021	Total Per Capita - \$27.20
General Assembly	\$8.95
Synod	\$2.40
Presbytery	\$15.85

#### **Per Capita funding serves and resources your church as it:**

- Maintains a physical office and staff at all three levels of governance.
- Provides training and leadership development for your church officers, learning opportunities for pastors and members of congregations, and faith formation initiatives for youth through Camp Krislund, Youth Triennium, and other special events.
- Supports the health and well-being of congregations with tools and guidance for congregations searching for a pastor, assistance with conflict resolution, as well as property issues, loans, insurance and record-keeping.
- Provides oversight and preparation for those discerning God’s call to ministry.
- Supports and directs the administration of your congregation's participation in mission funding and hands-on mission initiatives.
- Strengthens your congregation’s connections to the wider church through:
  - ◊ Commissioners elected to bi-annual General Assembly meetings,
  - ◊ Support of the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia, and
  - ◊ Participation in the life of the Church Universal, as we seek to work and live in fellowship with “all persons in every nation.”

The breakdown of GPC’s 2021 per capita share is shown in the table above. The Session is requesting that each member consider making a special offering of \$27.20 per member this month in the envelope provided as their share of GPC’s per capita to reduce the impact on the regular offerings that support the annual church budget. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving.

GPC Stewardship Team

### **CONDOLENCES:**

Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Jan & Jill Althoff on the recent death of Jerry.  
Don Stabler and Becky Stabler on the recent death of Helen.  
Evelyn Small on the recent death of her sister.  
Shirley Fennimore on the recent death of her step-mother.  
John Angstadt on the recent death of his mother, Barbara  
and his father Charles.

## Compassion Stewardship 2021

***Thank you to everyone who has already submitted their pledge for the 2021 Compassion Campaign.***

***If you have not, there is still time.***

***Please mail your pledge card in to the church office, go to our website and pledge electronically or contact the church office to enroll in ACH.***



### MASKS NEEDED!!



We have given out all the handmade masks we had on hand.

If you are able to sew and would like to make any, we can use them, because we give free masks to the public out by the parking lot on High Street next to the Girl Scouts' blessing box.

There is a box right outside the Fellowship Hall door to put them in.

### "Calendar of Giving"

As the new elder for local missions, I will be taking over the work of Bill Tindall, who has finished his term on Session, and moved out of town. You can reach me at [ahdeitch@hotmail.com](mailto:ahdeitch@hotmail.com), or by phone at 717-337-3534 Part of this work includes the Calendar of Giving.

**January's recipient is  
the Gettysburg Soup Kitchen.**

Ellie Bilz has given me this list of their requests. If you have any of these things on hand, or could supply a few, they would be very pleased with your contributions. You can put them in the marked box by the elevator in Fellowship Hall.

Non-perishable canned and boxed food, not open or expired.  
Bottled water, coffee(instant or ground), hot chocolate, creamer, juices, drink mixes.  
Granola bars, fruit snacks, individually wrapped snacks.  
Boxed macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, jelly, ramen noodles, biscuit mix.  
Bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo

Amy Deitch

## Exploring Membership Class (via Zoom!)

We will host an  
Exploring Membership Class  
via Zoom on Sunday afternoon,  
**January 17.**

Please contact the church office by phone  
or email to register for the class and  
receive your Zoom link!

This is a great opportunity to  
learn more about GPC and  
meet some of our staff.

You may also join the church at the end  
of the class if you choose to do so!

## HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

### January

January 10	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
January 17	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
January 24	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
January 31	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group

## MIDSHIP SCHEDULE

### January

January 10	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
January 17	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
January 24	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group

## 2021 Chancel Flowers



The new calendar is  
available on the bulletin  
board in Fellowship Hall  
to sign up for the  
Chancel flow-

## **Contribution Envelopes**

Please pick up your 2021 contribution  
envelopes on the table in Fellowship  
Hall. This will save the church time and  
money since those not picked up are  
mailed out individually.

## **Mission Prayer List**

On Sunday mornings we will be praying for the following  
people/groups that we support:

- 1/10 Fellowship of Christian Athletes**  
Kelly Jones facilitates this ministry at Gettysburg  
College. Pastor Dave teaches once a semester.
- 1/17 Presbytery of Carlisle**  
Our Presbytery, which consists of about 50 churches  
in our region.
- 1/24 Jacques Merine and Source of Life Ministries**  
Jacques heads Source of Life Ministries which runs  
an orphanage in Haiti. They are hoping to expand  
into health ministries in the near future.

Please consider including them in your own prayers!

## Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational meeting  
will be held virtually  
**on Sunday, Jan. 31**  
following live-stream worship.

We'll review the annual report, elect  
an Elder and approve the terms of  
call for the pastors.

You may access the meeting through  
our livestream, and use the chat  
feature to raise questions or register  
your votes.

## Pass It On

Are you wondering if your tithes and offerings are still being put to good use, even though COVID has caused a postponement of many of GPC's programs and mission trips? Well, wonder no more! The Mission and Interpretation committee is happy to announce that we started working in November to determine the best way to use funds that were budgeted for those cancelled mission trips. In December, we brought a proposal to Session, which re-allocated those budgeted funds for needs that were unforeseen pre-COVID. Session unanimously voted to accept the re-allocation, and GPC distributed funds to the following:

- Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. received funds to help cover motel fees and breakfast costs since they cannot house the homeless in their normal fashion during winter months.
- South Central Community Action Programs received funds for their homeless shelter
- Adams Rescue Mission received funds to help with housing and food needs.
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance received funds to specifically help with those in the US that have lost everything due to the wildfires out west.
- Accion, the outfit that normally hosts our Mexico Mission trip, received funds to provide food aid for our Mexican neighbors that have been hit triple by COVID, flooding, and hurricanes in 2020.
- Cool Shade of Life Church in Thailand, associated with our Thailand missionaries Bryan and Emily Gerlach, received funds to help purchase land to build a permanent building to anchor their Christian community. (They have been rotating meetings and worship services among member's homes as they have shared the gospel and grown.)

I am proud of our church members' commitments to their pledges and large hearts that have allowed GPC to help those in need shoulder the effects of COVID in 2020. We are God's hands and feet, and no virus will derail us from our mission of spreading God's love!

Blessings,

Sonja Brown



### South Carolina Mission Trip

The South Carolina Mission Trip has been re-scheduled for Sept. 19-25. This trip works with Sea Island Habitat for Humanity on John's Island.

Please contact Jerry Cleaver (717-353-5700) for more information.

### PW CIRCLES

#### Mary Martha Circle

Thursday, January 14 @ 4:30 p.m.  
Eisenhower Lounge at GPC

#### Esther Circle

Thursday, January 15 @ 9:30 a.m.  
MacAskill Room at GPC  
Lesson 5: Job 3:1-4, 9-19, 24-26

#### Elizabeth Circle

Monday, January 18 @ 1:00 p.m.  
Paideia House



### Mexico Mission Trip

Will we or won't we in 2021?

Join our Zoom information meeting on Sunday, Feb. 7 at 7PM to learn more.

Contact Pastor Dave to get your Zoom link.





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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 January 21, 2021**

**Office Operations**

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

However, someone is usually in the office from 10:00 - 2:00 Monday - Thursday

You can continue to call the office number (717-334-1235) if you need anything, or need to get into the building during the day.

**January 2021  
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**10:00 a.m. Live-Stream Worship Service**

<b>January 10</b>	<i>Something Old...Something New (Star Gift Card Words)</i>
<b>January 17</b>	<i>The Prodigal Son - Another Look: The Younger Son Approach</i>
<b>January 24</b>	<i>The Prodigal Son - Another Look: The Elder Son Approach</i>
<b>January 31</b>	<i>The Prodigal Son - Another Look: What's the Point? Annual Congregational Meeting following worship</i>

To view live stream, go to: [www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org](http://www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org)  
Click "New Streaming Link" on the top right hand corner