

GRAPEVINE

February 9, 2021

"The Pastor's Page"

I Want to Be A Spoon

Setting the dinner table, two little girls had the knives, forks, & spoons carry on a conversation.

One of the girls looked to their mother and declared, "If I had to choose – I'd be a spoon!"

"A spoon," her mother asked, intrigued. "Why would you want to be a spoon? What's wrong with being a knife or a fork?"

"Well," the girl explained, "forks are grabby – always stabbing stuff and taking it like it's theirs. I don't like it when somebody at school takes one of my tater-tots with their fork and eats it."

"Okay," the mother agreed, "what about the knife?"

"You can't really eat with a knife and they're scary. They just slice stuff up," she said.

Holding a shiny spoon in front of her face, the little girl said, "spoons can scoop up lots of stuff and even pass it around. They're just..."

"...Nice...round...smooth...and...friendly," her mother suggested.

Her daughter's eyes lit up, "Exactly!" "I'd rather be a spoon!"

From hot soup to cold ice cream – instead of grabbing or slicing – spoons are designed to serve.

Where can we serve others with a heaping dose of God's grace?
What dis-eases can we help alleviate?

One such place could be:

Helping those having difficulty registering online for COVID vaccinations because they do not have computers, or the process is overwhelming. We seek to compile a list of people willing to be part of a team who will help others navigate online vaccine registrations. If you are interested in helping – OR – could use some help registering, please complete and return the information below.

God's Peace,

Lou

.....
COVID Vaccination Online Registration Assistance
(Check All that Apply)

- _____ Yes, I will be part of a team to help assist GPC Members with online registration.
- _____ Yes, I will be part of a team to help assist community members with online registration.
- _____ *Maybe – please have someone call me as I have some questions.*
- _____ I would like someone to call me to help with online registration.

Your Name: _____
 Your Email: _____
 Your Phone: _____

Return this information to Rev. Lou Nyiri by: email (gcpastorlou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org) / postal mail (208 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA) / phone: (717-334-1235)

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Pastor Dave's Retirement

At the congregational meeting on Jan. 31, Pastor Dave announced his retirement, effective one year from now. Check out his letter to the congregation on the church website for more details about how the pastoral transition will work.

Transition Team Update

The Transition Committee will be sending a letter (hard copy and electronically), along with a survey to the congregation on Monday, February 15, 2021. Please watch your mail and your email and participate! We need your input and thoughts. Additionally, we are holding open zoom sessions on the following dates and times:

Thursday, February 18, 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Sunday, February 21, 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Monday, February 22, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Tuesday, February 23, 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Please watch your email for the zoom link. If you would prefer to talk individually, please contact Jane North at jnorth@gettysburg.edu or 717-337-1496 or Lynne Graziano at lynnegraziano@gmail.com or 404-226-2742.



Stephen Ministry

All Alone?

Don't be. God doesn't want us to be all alone. He wants us to turn to others when things are bothering us. Stephen Ministers will walk with you through your troubles and be there for you when you need them. Please contact Lou at the church office 717-334-1235, ext. 4.

KNOCK
KNOCK

WHO'S
THERE

NOAH

NOAH WHO

**NOAH person who can help get
parishioners to an appointment?**

The Deacons of the church are charged with assisting members of our congregation with finding rides to medical appointments. We realize not everyone has the same level of comfort in doing routine tasks as they had before the coronavirus, but with the introduction of vaccines, we would like to see if we can expand our list of possible drivers. To help us determine 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.

Cutest Pet Contest

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos of their favorite furry friends! I have paired them up in a form that will be available through email or on the GPC website later this week. Choose your favorite from each set of photos, and then click the submit button at the bottom of the form. I will then pair up the winners from each round to continue on.



Keep your eyes peeled for each additional round of voting in the next few weeks!

~ Deb Litten



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.

“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. You can put them in the marked bin by the elevator in Fellowship Hall.

For the month of:

February

We will be collecting items for

Tender Care Pregnancy Centers:

maternity clothes, baby clothes (preemie to 4T), disposable diapers, baby items and gifts for mom and dad.

New After School Program

Our church has a wonderful opportunity to work in local mission by assisting students from Lincoln Elementary and the Gettysburg Middle School with homework and general school information. We have the space but need some support from church volunteers during the week from Monday through Thursday. These paid positions will work from 2:30-5:30 under the direction of the Respective Solutions organization led by Amelia Contreras. All individuals will be required to have clearances and wear face masks. If you are interested in assisting these enthusiastic children on one or more days per week or have any questions please let Nancy Cook know via phone or email ([717-357-2133/](tel:717-357-2133) nmlcookie@pa.net)

Thanks for prayerfully considering this community service!

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

February

February 14	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
February 21	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
February 28	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group

MIDSHIP SCHEDULE

February

February 14	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
February 21	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
February 28	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 flowers in 2021.

Contribution Envelopes

Please pick up your 2021 contribution envelopes on the table in Fellowship Hall. This will save the church time and money since the boxes not picked up are mailed out individually at a cost of \$4.80 per box.

Mission Prayer List

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

- 2/14 Adams Christian Prison Ministry**
Angel Perez serves as a prison chaplain, doing evangelism and faith-building inside the prison.
- 2/21 Ruth's Harvest**
Ruth's Harvest provides backpacks full of food for school children to take home for the weekend.
- 2/28 Katie Burkholder**
Church ministry in Ireland

Please consider including them in your own prayers!

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, 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.

Ash Wednesday Service will be held at 7PM on Wednesday, Feb. 17 via livestream.



Communion and Imposition of Ashes

Please plan to join us!

How to Make Ashes for Ash Wednesday?

We have posted a "How-To" on our website under the Lenten Activities tab. If you prefer not to make ashes, then consider using a washable marker or artist's charcoal. If you need artist's charcoal, then contact the church office to make arrangements to pick up a small piece.

Children's

Storytime

Parents, a pre-recorded story time for children link is available on our website under "Ministries – Children's Activities." Check it out.

CHILDREN'S Sunday School

Additional Sunday School lessons will be added to the Children's Activities tab for the rest of February and March. Please check these out for family activities.



A Lenten Devotional "*Surely He Has Borne Our Grievs*" is available if you would like a copy. Copies will be available in Fellowship Hall or you can email Cheryl at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org to have a copy emailed to you to use during your Lenten devotional time.

**Sunday School Elective Lenten Series -
THE BOOK OF REVELATION:
Prophecy of Doom or Message of Hope?
Recorded and Streamed—Dr. Buz Myers**

The Book of Revelation has always been a source of controversy. No book of the New Testament has received either such ready acceptance or such resolute rejection. In some Christian circles, the Book of Revelation is "the" book of the New Testament. These persons devote all of their study time to Revelation; they carefully examine every visionary detail to determine what the book reveals about contemporary events and future happenings. In other Christian circles, however, Revelation is the most ignored book of the New Testament. These persons perceive Revelation as an obscure writing that in fact reveals nothing. They believe it to be so incomprehensible that it is not worth the time or the effort to study.

For all Christians, however, the Book of Revelation is a source of confusion and misunderstanding. Even the title causes confusion, for this book, which contains a series of revelations and visions, takes its title from the first phrase of the work: "The Revelation" (in the singular). And this is only the beginning of the confusion! The fantastic imagery and the mythological language so characteristic of Revelation are constant causes of misunderstanding and misinterpretation.

In six sessions we will consider what is surely the most confounding and most controversial book in the New Testament. What is the central message of this widely read, oftentimes misread, and too often unread book? Is that message one that should cause anxiety in the present and fear about the future, or does the Book of Revelation offer a message of hope and encouragement? Come and find out as we study together under the leadership of DR. CHARLES (BUZ) MYERS from the Department of Religious Studies at Gettysburg College. The sessions are as follows:

- Sunday, February 21, 2021: "The Alpha and Omega: It's Greek to Me" (Rev. 1:1-20)
- Sunday, February 28, 2021: "On the Lamb" (Rev. 2:1 – 5:14)
- Sunday, March 7, 2021: "Seals and Trumpets" (Rev. 6:1 - 11:19)
- Sunday, March 14, 2021: "The Lady, the Beasts, and the Lamb" (Rev. 12:1 - 15:4)
- Sunday, March 21, 2021: "Bowled Over in Babylon" (Rev 15:5 - 19:10)
- Sunday, March 28, 2021: "No More Tears" (Rev. 19:11 - 22:21)

To sign up for this class, email Cheryl at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org to be added to the class list to receive the weekly links.



Combating the Winter Blahs

Tuesday 1:00 p.m. in Sewing Room with Merida Hurkett
Thursday 7:00 p.m. via Zoom with Susan Kolmer

Many folks say that winter is a hard time, because you don't see people as much and the days can be dreary. Add to that the COVID-19 restrictions, and it seems even worse this year. But your Adult Discipleship Committee is here to help! We're offering a Lenten book study again this year. The Book is *No Wonder They Crucified Him*, a short but impactful 6-week study of why Jesus' contemporaries considered him such a dangerous man. Sometimes, Jesus is portrayed today as a wise and loving teacher who was some kind of a milquetoast, yet in reality, he was anything but. Join us as we explore why the powerful people of the first century (as well as folks today) found Him so hard to deal with.

This year, we're offering two means of participating in book study. One will be through Zoom and can be done virtually. The other will be via in-person meetings, but also within the parameters for safe meetings. Please let Cheryl Betts know if you're interested by Sunday, Feb. 14th at either (717)334-1235 ext. 5 or at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org. The cost is only \$2. Just think how nice it would be to "see" some of your church family again!


Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
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www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

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 February 18, 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.

**February 2021
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

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

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|--------------------|--|
| February 14 | <i>Presbyopia</i> |
| February 17 | 7:00 p.m. Livestream - ASH WEDNESDAY Service
Communion and Imposition of Ashes |
| February 21 | <i>Spiritual Disciplines: Prayer</i>
First Sunday of Lent |
| February 28 | <i>Spiritual Disciplines: Study</i>
Second Sunday of Lent |

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