GRAPEVINE

<u>"The Pastor's Page"</u>

Thinking Outside the Steeple

Throughout Lent we spent time with Spiritual Disciplines, such as: Prayer / Study / Fellowship / Worship / Witness. Spiritual Disciplines help shape us into who it is God needs us to be & where it is God calls us to be — as members of Christ's body.

Whether in cyberspace or in person, when Christ's body gathers for worship or engages in spiritual disciplines, we do so to soak in God's presence – to praise and give thanks to God whose great grace offers new, full life $to\ all$ – then we go from those set-apart times with gratitude to share that great grace with the world around us.

We learn what we believe in worship and through spiritual disciplines. We enact our beliefs beyond the church's doors.

Some churches call this "Thinking Outside the Steeple."

Some of the ways GPC thinks "outside the steeple":

- Masks for Neighbors on High Street
- Breakfast deliveries for Gettysburg CARES
- PW collecting donations for families displaced by the apartment building fire on Baltimore Street
- Monday-Thursday after-school program with Respective Solutions
- Middle & High School youth who end a five-hour ecumenical zoom lock-in writing gratitude letters to first responders & health care workers.

The following prose was written at 1 AM,

"Dear First Responders,

Thank you for all you've done these last few years. Between the opium epidemic, the surge in heart related diseases, and now COVID-19, you have done a lot to better and even save the lives of your patients. Without people like you, the quality of all our lives would be much worse."

Some might wonder why do any of it.

We are Easter people and Easter reminds us that this good news is not meant to be kept to ourselves – locked away from the world – it is meant to be shared outside the church's doors – beyond the steeple.

Where else might God be calling us to share life and light in the surrounding community?

With Anticipation,

Son

April 6, 2021

Inside

- S.S. Teachers Needed
- Hershey Park Tickets
- Kids Club
- Nursery Leader Needed
- Youth Club
- Paideia House Painting Party
- GPC Book Club
- Mexico Mission Trip

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GPC Sunday School will hopefully reopen soon and God's young children will need the support and guidance of our church members.

Prayerfully consider joining our **Christian Education Team** and/or the Staff of our **Sunday School Teachers** when you volunteer time to instruct and share your talents with our most impressionable members. We all benefit. We need teachers in order to resume Sunday School.

Additionally we have another opportunity to show our support of children in our community. **Respective Solutions** has coordinated an afterschool program for students from Lincoln Elementary and the middle school, which operates from 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. 15 - 18 students accept homework help, design Lego creations, enjoy cooking opportunities, STEM activities, and appreciate the space of our Fellowship Hall for physical exercise. They continue to look for additional paid help and substitute helpers/ sidewalk chalk/ jump ropes/ and 100 piece puzzles. Thanks for your support!

Contact Nancy Cook 717-357-2133 or the church office if you're interested in making a difference in the life of a Gettysburg child.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

As we begin to re-open we are opening up a few Sunday School classes at 9:00 a.m. Our Preschool Sunday School for children ages 3-5 will be held in the Preschool Sunday School room at 9:00 a.m. Children's Church will be offered at 9:00 service for children K-3rd Grade. Our Middle School Youth will meet at 9:00 a.m. outside weather permitting or in the Youth Room. Christian Education would love to offer Sunday School for all age children and youth, however, we are faced with an issue of no adults to lead our children in Sunday School. Consequently, a full range Sunday School will not be offered until the fall. If you are willing to teach one of our elementary age groups, please contact Cheryl Betts in the church office at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org or call 717-334-1235, ext. 5.

Adult Leader Needed For Nursery

We need an adult individual who is willing to be in our Nursery on Sunday mornings and other times we offer worship from 8:15-12:00 (when we return to full open status – otherwise for our in-person worship) as part of a two-member team. The individual needs to be over 18 years of age. This is a paid position. Requirements are a love of children, a loving and caring individual who will get to know the youngest members of our congregation, and care about their families. Required clearances are the Pa State Police and Child Abuse. If interested, please contact Cheryl Betts for more information at gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org or 717-334-1235, ext. 5.



At its March14 meeting, the Session voted to resume in-person worship in the sanctuary THIS SUNDAY, which is Laity Sunday.

We will have Contemporary Worship at 9AM and Traditional Worship at 10:30AM. There will be nursery care at both hours, and pre-school Sunday School and Children's Church for early elementary kids at 9AM. We will observe the same precautions that we used in the Fall- masks, social distancing, etc. Overflow space will be available if we run out of safe seating in the sanctuary.

Begins Today, April 6 @ 4:00 p.m.

Kids club will begin on Tuesday, April 6 through May 2nd from 4-6 PM with Miss Pam, studying the Miracles of Jesus. This program is open to all children in K - 2nd Grade. Why not sign up and bring a friend? Registration forms were mailed out and can be found under the Christian Education tab on the website. There are paper copies on the CE Table in Fellowship Hall. Questions call Cheryl Betts in the church office at 717-334-1235 or Miss Pam Rowland at 717-357-0820.

I would like to thank Pastor Lou, the Deacons, Pamela Phillips and all my GPC family who kept in touch with me and prayed for healing for my daughter, Diana Snell, who had been hospitalized and operated on last month. She is home now and slowly getting strength back.

Marlyn Burdge

Mexico Mission Trip

We are waiting on a decision from Accion Ministries regarding a trip this summer.



Please let Pastor Dave know if you are interested and we'll keep you in the loop!

Hershey Park Tickets



Thinking of going to Hershey Park this summer? Want to buy tickets at a cheaper rate? We've got the answer for you! You can order and buy tickets through the church group rate. These tickets will be good until <u>January 2, 2022</u>.

The rates are:

\$36.95 for AGES 3 - ADULT (regular rate is \$75.80)

<u>DEADLINE to order tickets is Friday, April 23rd.</u> Payment due at time of order. No refunds. Contact Cheryl in the Church Office at 717-334-1235.

"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:

April

We will be collecting items for

Adams County Office of Aging

Adult pull-briefs (<u>not</u> the kind with tape on the sides) in sizes M, L, XL, disposable bed pads, Ensure or Boost nutritional supplement drinks, and flushable wipes

MISSION

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

4/11 Camp Krislund

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

4/18 Dori Hjalmarson

Dori is our newest missionary! She is serving in Honduras, partnering with Presbyterian Churches there

4/25 Honduras Ministry

Tomas Ramirez helps coordinate medical mission trips and does spiritual counseling with all the patients who come.

Please consider including them in your own prayers!

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HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

April

April 11	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
April 18	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
April 25	5:00 - 6:00	Youth Group @ GPC

MIDSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>April</u>

April 11	5:00 - 6:00	Zoom Youth Group
April 18	5:00 - 6:00	Youth Group @ GPC
April 25	5:00 - 6:00	Youth Group @ GPC



Youth Club reopens on April 18th. This is open to all children in Grades 3-5. Come join us and bring a friend.

Sunday, April 18 3 - 4:30 PM Game Day (including Books of the Bible fishing game and more)

Sunday, April 25 3 – 4:30 PM Movies and Popcorn (including making our own videos about prayer)

Sunday, May 2 3 - 4:30 PM Battlefield Hike (ending at Mr. G's!)

PAIDEIA

Painting PARTY



Saturday May, 1 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 1, our Local Missions committee will have a painting workday, from 9-3. Volunteers are needed, with minimal painting experience. We will be working outside on windows and doors at the back of the Paideia House, mostly under the overhang. There are also windows, doors, and porches on the side of the Calvin House. The paint and brushes, etc. will be provided. All the prep work will be already finished, so if you can paint between the lines (tape lines), you qualify! Anyone aged 13 or older may help. If you can stay until lunch time, you'll get pizza. If you can stay longer, you'll get the satisfaction of a job well done, and our thanks.

So, please come out and enjoy some much needed fellowship and fun. Reply to ahdeitch@hotmail.com to let me know you can make it. I'll need to know how many people we'll have. We'll need about 10-15 painters. I will notify helpers by email if there are any changes due to weather.

Thank you, Amy Deitch

Vacation Bible School June 21 to 24

Water, Water, Everywhere..." will be our theme for Vacation Bible School this year. The program is open to all children ages 3 to Grade 5 (completed). It will be held on June 21 to 24 from 9:00 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

Through an experiential hands-on approach, children will explore five water stories from the Bible through creative activities done by the children each morning. Each story will be reinforced through drama, singing, snack, scripture, and games. Children will also visit "Water World" and freely choose among a large variety of crafts and other related activities

VBS registration will be held from May 10- June 7. Fee will be \$5.00 /child or \$10.00 /family. Registration forms will be included in the next newsletter or may be obtained from the Christian Education table in Fellowship Hall.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!! Below you will find a list of personnel needed. Please take a look and find out how you can be part of our program.

Contact Cheryl Betts at 334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org to volunteer.

Thanks in advance for helping to make this VBS another great program for our children!

PERSONNEL NEEDED

Photographer

2 Adults to lead the Preschool age

8 Group Leaders - 2 group leaders accompany each group of elementary

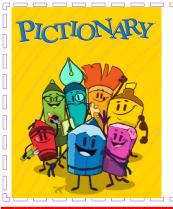
children throughout the morning 30 Volunteers needed for "Water World" - help children complete a craft or scientific experiment for 1 hour each morning

4 volunteers to help with woodcraft

Childcare (for leaders' children)

Drama Participants (non-speaking) - middle, high school & adult

Teen Aides (completed Grade 6 and older)



GPC Fellowship Event

Sunday, April 11 - Pictionary Game

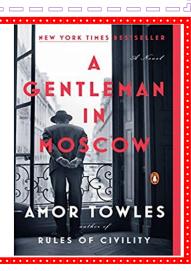
Zoom Coffee time - Following the 10 o'clock service login to the shared zoom link and have some fun drawing and guessing with a team of GPC members!

GPC Book Club

The GPC Book Club will be reading A Gentleman in Moscow for our April meeting. We will meet on Monday, April 26th at 6pm.

Merida Hurkett will be leading the discussion.

A Zoom link will be sent out closer to the meeting. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Megan at MeganZiegler2014@gmail.com Happy Reading!





Stephen Ministry

Change: To give a radically different position, course or direction

Changes can be difficult — especially when they are unexpected.

Stephen Ministers are trained to help people learn to cope with the changes that have happened in their life.

If you have experienced great changes — or know someone who has —and would like to learn more about Stephen Ministry, please call Pastor Lou at the church office 717-334-1235, ext. 4



Before Covid-19, our allergies were something we dealt with usually on a seasonal basis. When someone around us sneezed, our usual response was "God Bless you" and that was that. Today our awareness is heightened. Today, with Covid-19, our physicians pay closer attention to our symptoms and complaints.

Allergies are unusual, irritating, and potentially dangerous reactions of the immune system to a normally harmless substance. These reactions occur in about one out of every three people. They will attack the respiratory tract, digestive tract, or entire body. The type and severity of the reaction will depend on the individual's level of sensitivity to the offending substance.

Common signs of allergies:

- sneezing and an itchy, runny nose, or congestion (allergic rhinitis)
- itchy, red, watering eyes (conjunctivitis)
- wheezing, chest tightness, shortness of breath and a cough
- a raised, itchy, red rash (hives)
- swollen lips, tongue, eyes, or face, tummy pain, feeling sick, vomiting or diarrhea

Three categories of allergic reactions:

Mild reactions are localized and include a rash, watery or itchy eyes, and congestion.

<u>Moderate</u> reactions can spread beyond the original site of irritation and cause severe itching and difficulty breathing.

<u>Severe reaction</u>: Anaphylaxis. This affects the whole body, is rare but life-threatening. Within minutes, severe swelling will make breathing and swallowing difficult. Other symptoms may include abdominal pain, vomiting, and mental confusion.

Recommendations for people who are severely allergic to bees, shellfish, or peanuts:

you should carry a dose of epinephrine to quickly reverse this reaction.

Allergies cannot be cured. It is important to determine what the triggers are for each individual and avoid the triggers for allergic reactions.

Triggers can be:

Environmental (wind, pollen, poison ivy, pollution) Chemical (perfume, smoke, cleaning materials, latex rubber, medications) Foods (shellfish, peanuts, wheat, milk, soy, strawberries, eggs) Also, animals, mold, bee stings, or dust

Finding the source of the allergy can be difficult. Medical testing can be done to assist in this process if allergies are severe enough to cause disrupting symptoms. Be observant to symptoms and the activities leading up to them. Look for connections between a reaction and any changes in diet, environment, or product use. Many times, through process of elimination, irritants can be discovered and reactions prevented.

Pam Phillips RN Faith Community Nurse gpcfcn@gettysburgpresbyterian.org 410-596-0777





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

<u>Gettysburg Presbyterian Church Mission Statement</u> Gettysburg Presbyterian Church believes that God calls us to invité 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 faithfullý
- serve passionately
- give generously
- * worship weekly

Next Newsletter Deadline: Noon, Thursday April 15, 2021

Office Operations

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

However, someone is usually in the office from 10:00 - 3:00 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.

April 2021 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Contemporary Worship @ 9:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship @ 10:30

April 11 **Laity Sunday**

"When Life Gives You Lemons"

Deb Litten Preaching

April 18 "Christians and Conspiracy Theories"

April 25 "Do You Hear That"

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