

GRAPEVINE

September 14, 2021

"The Pastor's Page"

Many parts of our church life are slowly returning. We're trying three worship services each Sunday. Sunday school classes for children/youth and adults have resumed, as have youth groups, youth club, choirs, Young at Heart, etc. We've done pretty well during the pandemic with Zoom meetings and live stream worship, but it's not really the same, is it?

So, when you can safely do so, we encourage you to come back with your family! We know that most of our kids suffered educationally due to all the changes in the schools last year. But, they also lost opportunities to grow in faith, moral instruction, and character development here at church last year. And that may prove to be an even greater loss!

So, come back as soon as you can! We need your presence and your help. And you need the church, to be reminded weekly that God is still in control and that you have a part to play in his world.

Pastor Dave

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- Grief Group Begins

STILL NEEDED:

Videographer/Live Stream Tech

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church is seeking a person to operate our in-house video system. The videographer is responsible for recording and live streaming our Sunday morning services and other in-house video recordings as needed.

Contact Pastor Dave for more info.

**Sunday School for Children
at 9:30 A.M.**

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Choir
(K through grade 5)

**All Children should report to their
classrooms downstairs and not go into
the Sanctuary first.**

Preschool ages 3-4
Sunday School K-3rd Grades
Sunday School 4-5 Grades



The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets once a month and knits shawls and lap robes to give to people in crisis. If you are interested in joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry please contact Beth Fitzpatrick at 717-334-4960.

Stephen Ministry



Christ Caring for People through People

That's the motto of Stephen Ministry. The Stephen Minister's role is to bring God's love into the lives of people who are going through a difficult time or experiencing a crisis. What do Stephen Ministers do? They listen to you, care for you, support and encourage you, and pray with and for you. And in the midst of this confidential, one-to-one, caring relationship, God's healing love comes pouring through.

If you or someone you know is facing a crisis--large or small--and could benefit from the caring presence of a Stephen Minister, contact Rev. Lou Nyiri the church office today 717-334-1235, ext. 4.

Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

CONDOLENCES:

Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Elly Cleaver on the recent death of her brother-in-law.

SAVE THE DATE

OUTDOOR SERVICE

Sunday, September 26 at 10AM at the Rec Park

(the service will also be livestreamed)

In the event of inclement weather we will hold two identical worship services in the sanctuary and livestream at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. – information will be conveyed via Facebook, website, and emails.

Pastor / Head of Staff SEARCH

The PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) wants to keep you updated as we search for a head pastor to best match the mission & needs of GPC. Our committee is comprised of nine GPC members representing the congregation: Mike Brubaker, Bill Fitzpatrick, Anne Gallon, Lynne Graziano, Kelly Jones, Joanna McGuire, Shane Miller, Becky Stabler & Megan Ziegler. Marion Lambert is an alternate. We want you to know that we will keep foremost in our minds the results of the GPC Mission Review Report conducted this year. This report provided each of you a voice in GPC's future. Pastor Dave's insight in sharing his Jan 2022 retirement with the congregation a year prior to leaving has been a huge help. Thank you, Pastor Dave! We appreciate you!

To keep you updated, please refer to the chart found on an easel in Fellowship Hall. This chart provides a visual explanation of the entire process. Please refer to this chart at any time to see our progress. Currently, we have worked hard to complete the MIF (Ministry Information Form) which shares information about GPC with potential candidates.

As communications manager, it is my responsibility to keep you apprised of our progress. As this is a confidential process we cannot share detailed information, but you will be updated with the overall picture of the process & where we are in that process. GPC is an iconic church with a rich history and a bright future. It has been blessed with past and current pastors who have led & enriched our spiritual lives. Please pray for us as we conduct this important search!

Anne Gallon (annegallon@gmail.com)



Exploring Membership Class

Sunday afternoon, Oct. 10. 2-4PM

This is a great way to learn more about Presbyterians in general and GPC in particular!

Contact the church office 717-334-1235 to sign up!

"Reflections on Ike's Faith"

October 14th at 7:00 p.m.

On October 14, 1890, General/President Dwight D. Eisenhower was born in Denison, Texas. On the anniversary of his birthday, October 14, 2021, we will commemorate his life and faith as a member of our church.

The program will be hosted by our church historian, Dale Molina at 7:00 in the church sanctuary.



The Fall Rummage Sale is currently scheduled for Friday and Saturday October 22 and 23.

Hopefully it will not have to be canceled again.

Due to missing three sales, we realize everyone has accumulated a lot of donations but we are limited by space, and possibly volunteers, so we are going to limit the amount that can be donated. We are asking only 3 large bags OR boxes per family. If we find later in the week that we can accommodate more, we will put out a notification. Please only donate clean, usable clothing and items. We are not able to take electronics, drinking glasses or books.

We'd like to get an idea of the number of volunteers who can help with set up, work the days of the sale, or both. Please email Margo Har at stepmargo@comcast.net or call 978-807-3750, indicating how you'd like to volunteer.

Thank you in advance,
Presbyterian Women

Join us for Youth Club (3rd-5th graders) this fall for
**"Creating for the Creator:
 Exploring the Old Testament in a New Way"**

Some of the fun things we will do and create this fall include:

dance routines	skits and plays	poems and songs
cooking and baking treats	videos	needle crafts and quilts
paintings and clay sculptures	mini-gardens	woodcraft
paper mâché	homemade board games	Youth Club newspaper
science experiments		

and lots more!

Here's what our time together will look like:

4:00 Welcome and Welcome Back
 4:10 This Week's Bible Story
 4:25 Gametime: Deeper Dive into the Story
 4:40 Snacks/Drink and some Free Time
 4:55 Guest Speaker to teach us our new creative skill
 5:10 Creation Project
 5:30 Closing Prayer and Preview for Next Week



Join the Club, bring a friend, and let's get creative!

Shepherd Group Caring Pods

GPC has a new addition to the compassionate, caring, and connective ventures within our church. Under the leadership of Megan Ziegler and Beth Fitzpatrick, we have created groups with the hope of keeping GPC members connected through caring and concern. We believe these groups may be needed now more than ever during what often feels like dis-connected times. The goal of these groups is for people to be re-membered – that is, not cut-off from the faith community.

Groups are composed of members who live within close proximity to one another (larger Presbyterian populated areas are divided into sub-groups – i.e. Littlestown has 3 Shepherd Pod Groups). We hope this will remind members that they are part of *God's Good News People* – and as such we are not alone. You might think of it this way: GPC - God's People who Care.

Shepherd Group Caring Pods bring to life the words written at the bottom of our church's letterhead and bulletins, which read: "a growing church of commitment, caring and celebration." Caring Pods turn those words from sentiment into sacred interactions where Christ (the Great Shepherd) can be visibly seen dwelling among us. As you see one another in your neighborhoods, please raise the right hand of fellowship and wave 'hello' – for you are not strangers you are *God's Good News People*.

Letters were mailed to groups mid-July – if you did not receive a letter and would like to be part of a Shepherd Group Caring Pod, then contact Rev. Nyiri (gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org or 717.334.1235, ext. 4). When contacting Rev. Nyiri, please provide your name, address and phone number.

“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:

September

We will be collecting items for

“Warrior Walk-In”

Warrior Walk-In at Gettysburg High School is a free-to-use thrift shop for students in need of school supplies, clothing, toiletries, or snack-type foods. The organization is run by students and teachers in the school. It is designed to provide an available “stash” of supplies for students who find that “life isn’t falling in place” for them.

Needed items include: clothing for both boys and girls, feminine hygiene products, tooth brushes, tooth paste, floss, hair brushes, individually packaged crackers, cookies or candy.

Adult Elective Opportunity

Dr. Steven Stern has returned to GPC as he has in the past few years to kick off our Adult Elective Sunday School.

His topic is:

**“Jewish understanding of
“ugly moments” in the
Hebrew Bible.**

All are welcome to join this group at 9:30 a.m. in the MacAskill room in the lower level.

MISSION

PRAYER LIST

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

- 9/19 Teen Workcamp**
- 9/26 Family Mission Trip to Camp Krislund**
- 10/3 Mexico Mission Trip**
Works with Accion Ministries to do construction, Vacation Bible School, a glasses ministry, and fellowship with local Mexico Christians in Yucatan each summer.

Please consider including them in your own prayers!



It's time for the Fall session of Kids Club!

We will meet on Tuesdays from October 5 to November 2. This series is for children in Kindergarten - Grade 2 and will be held downstairs in the Sunday School area. Our theme will be “The Adventures of Paul.” It will be a time of fun, friendships, Bible stories, Scripture activities, crafts, and games.

There is no fee, and the program is open to all children in Kindergarten - Grade 2. We ask that you **register your child by September 22.** Just fill out the registration form found in Fellowship Hall bring or mail it to the church office as soon as possible. We hope your child can join us for this church activity for younger members. Contact Cheryl in the church office at 717-334-1235, ext. 5 or call or text Pam Rowland at 717-357-0820 if you have any questions.

Children's Communion Class

This is a one-evening class for children Grade 4 and older to learn about the meaning of Communion. This class will be held on Thursday, Sept. 30th at 7 PM. This class, led by Pastor Dave and Cheryl Betts, will prepare these children/youth to receive communion on World Communion Sunday, October 3rd in worship. Please contact Cheryl at 334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org to enroll your child by Sunday, September 26th.

NURSERY

ATTENDANT NEEDED

We need 2 adults or 1 adult and a senior high/college youth who would love to share their love and attention to our littlest members – ages 2 and under. We need individuals who can be here every Sunday from 8:00 to 12:00 and special services. This is a paid position. If you feel God is calling you to do this ministry, please contact Cheryl Betts at 717-334-1235, ext. 5 or Nancy Cook at 717-357-2133.

Peace Offering Sunday

Sunday, September 26 is Peace Offering Sunday, which is when we will collect our annual Peacemaking Offering. We can all play a part.

Our Peace Offering contributions reach out in five directions. One is the **Food Pantry**, which is a part of S.C.C.A.P., an acronym for South Central Community Action Programs. Each month the Food Pantry serves about 600 local families. To qualify, an individual must gross less than \$1,500/month. It is set up so qualifying people shop monthly (the setting is similar to a grocery store) for nutritional foods that satisfy the basic food groups. The Food Pantry is located on North Stratton Street.

The **Adams County Homeless Shelter** is another place our contributions will go. It is truly a place where new beginnings happen. When people arrive at the shelter, they are usually hopeless and feel like they have no future. Fortunately, the shelter does more than house people in need. It teaches goal-setting techniques and gives employment training, mental health counseling and procedures for taking care of their health - along with assistance in looking for housing, all designed to help them improve their circumstances.

Our Peace Offering also goes to the **Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen**. They provide nourishing meals, at no cost, to the hungry in our community – and have been doing this for the past 25 years. On average, 45 people are served every day.

The other local mission our Peace Offering goes to is **Mission of Mercy**. Founded in 1994, Mission of Mercy seeks to assist those uninsured and underinsured in our communities with health care, dental care and prescription medicines. They currently meet at Four Square Church in Gettysburg for this monthly service to those in need in our community.

A portion of the Peace Offering also goes to the **Presbyterian Mission Organization** to support the larger effort of peacemaking throughout the world.

Thank you for your generous support in helping those in our community who are experiencing difficult times. Envelopes are included in postal mailed newsletters or available at Sanctuary entrances.

College Student Addresses

Periodically we send mail to the youth of GPC who are away at college (it might be a care package or letter from our high school youth group or outreach team or letter writing ministry). If you would like your child to receive such correspondence, then please provide their name and college address. Send the information to Rev. Lou Nyiri via postal (208 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325) or email (gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org).

High School Sunday School

In-person Sunday School began September 12th in the youth room – we meet from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. We will follow the mask protocols set forth by the session, which currently is requiring masking and distancing for indoor activities regardless of vaccination status due to the rise in COVID numbers. (Bring a mask each week in the event we will need to wear them.) Don't forget to like the high school Facebook page to stay up-to-date or email Rev. Nyiri at gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org to be added to the high school fellowship email list.

6th-12th Grade Youth Ministry Premier Video Drop on Church YouTube Channel

Check out the YouTube archive to see the Sunday, September 12th @ 5:00 p.m. – Video of our 2021-2022 Middle School / High School / Youth Choir Infomercial ...
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0VLEYqfS9exy76HqL9Tbpg/>

High School Fellowship

We plan to meet in-person on **Sunday nights from 5-6 p.m. starting September 19th.**

DON'T MISS the September 12th online infomercial set to drop on our church YouTube at 5 p.m. This pre-recorded video will provide you with introductions to the year & provide links to calendars, downloadable forms, etc.

When meeting at GPC we will plan to do so outside (weather permitting /dress accordingly) – if it is not possible to meet outside, then we will meet in one of our larger meeting spaces (Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary or Youth Room).

We will follow the mask protocols set forth by the session, which currently is requiring masking and distancing for indoor activities regardless of vaccination status due to the rise in COVID numbers. (Bring a mask each week in the event we will need to wear them.) Again, we will plan to meet outside, weather permitting, so dress accordingly.

We hope your 9th-12th grade child will join us! Make sure to like the high school Facebook page to stay up-to-date or email Rev. Nyiri at gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org to be added to the high school fellowship email list.

You Can Show We Give A Hoot!

Two fun opportunities are coming up in October for you to show the community we're here and we care. We'll have a table at the Community Trick-or-Treat Trail at the Rec Park on October 16th. It's a chance for kids to "Trick Or Treat" safely. Can you help decorate our table or help distribute treats?

Once again we'll provide coffee, hot chocolate and home-made cookies in front of the church at the Halloween Parade on October 22nd. It's so much fun to surprise people with free stuff they really want. Want to be part of it?

Call or text John Graziano at (770) 289-6942, or email him at johngakr@gmail.com.

Families could do this stuff together and make Halloween about giving as well as getting!

Your Nominating Committee asks that you please prayerfully consider serving as a deacon or elder if contacted by a member of the Nominating Committee.

Our church depends on your support as a volunteer.

Your gift of time is so precious.

With appreciation,

Larry Wolf, Chair, Nominating Committee

Mid-SHIP News:

Both the SHIP and Mid-Ship groups will meet each Sunday night at the church, unless otherwise indicated, from 5-6:00 p.m. beginning September 19th. We will follow the current GPC Covid protocols.

September 19:	5:00-6:00 p.m.	First Mid-SHIP meeting at Church Games and Discussion
September 26:	5:00-6:30 p.m.	MidSHIP picnic at Libby's House
October 3	5:00-6:00 p.m.	Fellowship & Games

Grief Support Series Begins October 24th

We will offer a four-week grief support group entitled: "Dealing with Grief and Loss: Hope in the Midst of Pain." The group will be led by Anne Gallon and Diane Weikert. Anne is both a Stephen Minister and Stephen Leader. Diane is one of our many gifted Stephen Ministers.

The group will meet on Sunday mornings October 24 through November 14 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Paideia House Living Room.

The group is open to anyone who has experienced the death of a spouse, friend or loved one and who is open to exploring their experience further with others in the same situation. If you have any questions or would like to sign up for the group, please contact Rev. Lou Nyiri at 717-334-1235, ext. 4 or gpclou@gettysburgpresbyterian.org.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

~ John 14:27


Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
208 Baltimore Street
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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 Sept. 23, 2021**

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Office Hours</u> <u>Beginning Sept. 13th</u></p> <p>The office will be open</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">and</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday 9:00 - 12:00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">September / October 2021 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Traditional Worship @ 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.</u> <u>Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">September 19</td> <td><i>Back to the Future</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>September 26</td> <td>10:00 a.m. Combined Outdoor Worship</td> </tr> <tr> <td>October 3</td> <td><i>The Christian at Work 1</i> Communion</td> </tr> </table> <hr style="width: 30%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">To view live stream, go to: www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org Click "New Streaming Link" on the top right hand corner</p>	September 19	<i>Back to the Future</i>	September 26	10:00 a.m. Combined Outdoor Worship	October 3	<i>The Christian at Work 1</i> Communion
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