

# GRAPEVINE

February 22, 2022

Dear GPC Family,

There's a lot going on right now at GPC. You and I are saying goodbye to one another as I retire on Feb. 28, and you are saying hello to a new pastor candidate on Mar. 5-6! Be sure to read all the information about both of these processes in this newsletter.

I want to thank you very much for allowing me to serve as your pastor for the last 12+ years. We have faced challenges together (like the last two years!) and have had many successes together. We have supported one another through sicknesses, deaths, and other losses. We have worked hard to do God's work here in Gettysburg and around the world.

It is my prayer that God will continue to bless GPC in every way. Thank you again for allowing me to serve here at GPC.

*"Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell.  
Put things in order, listen to my appeal,  
agree with one another, live in peace;  
and the God of love and peace will be with you.  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you."  
(II Cor. 13:11,13)*

*Pastor Dave*

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## Pastor Dave's Retirement Agreement

At its meeting on Sunday, Feb. 13, the Session and Pastor Dave entered into an agreement regarding the terms of his retirement. In summary, the agreement states that as of March 1, 2022 the pastoral relationship between GPC and Pastor Dave will end. That means that Pastor Dave will no longer provide any pastoral services for GPC, including participating in weddings, funerals, or baptisms, whether conducted at GPC or off-site, for at least two years after the installation of the new pastor. Following this period of separation, Pastor Dave will only participate in such ministries at the invitation of the new pastor.

This separation will create space for the congregation to let go of their pastoral connection with Pastor Dave and to connect with the new pastor.

Thank you for respecting these boundaries.  
David C. Wright, Retiring Pastor  
Drew Stone, Clerk of Session

### GPC Sr. Pastor Responsibilities During the Transition

Session approved this division of responsibilities at its 2/13/22 meeting.

**Preaching and Worship** - Use guest preachers 3x/month. Lou will preach once a month as usual. March is set. Beyond March, Lou and the worship committees will line these up.  
Manage Worship calendar- special announcements, minutes for ministry, baptisms. (Lou)  
Design weekly worship service (select prayers, hymns, etc.)- guest preachers will provide the elements to Penny for the services  
Proof bulletins (all services)- guest preacher, Lou, Libby, Penny, Cheryl.  
Proof slides- (guest preacher, Libby)

#### Pastoral Care

Weekly Tuesday 10AM meeting (Lou)  
Make calls/visits (Lou, Phyllis, Pam)  
Funerals (Lou or guest preachers)  
Requests for financial help/vouchers (Lou)

#### Staff Oversight

Support, make assignments (Lou)  
Hire/fire (P&A)  
Weekly staff meeting 10AM Thursday (Lou, P&A rep occasionally)

#### Session

Produce agenda for meetings (Lou)  
Moderate the meeting (Lou)  
Committee Support- 10 committees that Dave supports- No support available

**Mexico Mission Trip** (Will not take place in 2022)

#### College Ministry

Lunches- drop  
Speak at FCA- drop

**New Member Classes- postpone**

**Ministerium-** (Lou / Brian Campbell)

**Men's Interfaith Lunch** (weekly during Lent)- Lou or designee to host  
Speakers are lined up. Penny will remind them.

All committees, including those that Lou supports, should expect less staff support during this transition time.

**MEET**  
our  
Pastor Candidate

## SAVE THE DATES - March 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>

At the request of the Pastoral Nominating Committee, the session has called a congregational meeting for March 6<sup>th</sup> following the 11:00 a.m. worship service for the purpose of voting on electing the new pastor and terms of call.

- The candidate will be leading and preaching in all three worship services on March 6<sup>th</sup> (8:15 a.m. / 9:30 a.m. / 11:00 a.m.).
- On March 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a time for church leaders, staff and congregation to meet the candidate and family in the Fellowship Hall.
- Be watching upcoming newsletters, website posts, Facebook posts, emails, and postal mail for specific details regarding the March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> weekend events.

***Please continue to pray for GPC, the PNC and the candidate and family as we move forward in this process.***

## CHRISTMAS FAIR REMNANT SALE THIS SUNDAY!

Here is your chance to stock up on surplus items from Presbyterian Coffee Project! Treat yourself and help fund our GPC mission trips for 2022. All items are discounted from the original price, and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Quantities of all items are limited to what is on hand. Once they are gone, they are gone! After Feb 28th all remaining items will be donated to local charity.

Items may be purchased at the church between services THIS SUNDAY February 27th, or by contacting Tom Kolmer at 717-634-0258 or by email at [tomkolmer@gmail.com](mailto:tomkolmer@gmail.com).

Thanks for your support!



### Teas (\$3):

Rooibos 6 boxes  
Peppermint 2 boxes  
Chamomile 4 boxes  
Earl Gray 4 boxes

### Drip Grind Coffee (\$6)

Breakfast Blend 3 bags  
Sister's Blend 3 bags  
French Roast 5 bags  
Toffee Caramel 4 bags  
Mind/Body/Soul 5 bags

### K-Cup Coffee (\$6):

Breakfast Blend 1 box

### Foods

Natural Almonds (\$5) 6 bags  
Palestinian Olive Oil (\$10) 12 bottles

### Whole Bean Coffee (\$6)

French Roast 3 bags

### Chocolate Bars (\$2)

Dark Choc Caramel Crunch 13 bars  
Milk Choc Caramel Crunch 13 bars

# Happy Birthday to...

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| <u>March 1</u><br>John Angstadt<br>John Egloff<br>Sarah Landauer<br>Bruce Rowland<br>Charles Wellington | <u>March 7</u><br>Susan Kolmer<br><u>March 8</u><br>Katelyn Guiher<br>Barbara Underwood<br><u>March 9</u><br>Sue Hudson<br><u>March 10</u><br>Sawyer Hoover<br>Nicole King<br>David LaRochelle<br>Benjamin Moroz<br>Steve Redding<br><u>March 11</u><br>Charlie Marks<br><u>March 12</u><br>Beth Heeschen<br>Morgan Soliday<br><u>March 13</u><br>Rebecca Strevig<br>Joan Thomas | <u>March 14</u><br>Nathaniel Priel<br>Christopher Rossman<br>Joshua Warcup<br><u>March 15</u><br>Amy Deitch<br>Winifred Haffey<br>Benjamin Kolmer<br><u>March 16</u><br>Ronald Hankey<br>Merida Hurkett<br>Joshua Sellers<br>Christine Smith<br><u>March 17</u><br>Mary Robinson<br><u>March 18</u><br>Donald Fennimore<br>Heather King<br>Kathleen Kircher<br><u>March 19</u><br>Jake Bernier<br>Brion FitzGerald<br>Jane Patrono<br>Connilu Petrie | <u>March 20</u><br>Claire Freeman<br>Dale Powell<br>Dana Witt<br><u>March 22</u><br>Kiersten Bankert<br>Jill Eskildsen<br>Daniel Gazmen<br>Nathan Lush<br><u>March 23</u><br>Tracy Boyer<br><u>March 24</u><br>Michael Heeschen<br>Carrie Soliday<br>Tessa Trax<br><u>March 25</u><br>Peri Carbaugh<br>Ralph Lambert<br>Penny Messinger<br>Linda Thompson<br>Ethan Wagner<br>Barbara Zimmerman | <u>March 26</u><br>Katelyn Gormley<br>Justin King<br><u>March 27</u><br>Sarah Kirk<br>Christina Soliday<br><u>March 29</u><br>Judy Adams<br>Aubrey King<br>Daelyn Stabler<br>Marjorie Swatsworth<br><u>March 30</u><br>Maria Kirk<br>John Kuntzman<br>Kristin VanMeerbeke<br>Mary Lou Seamens<br>Megan Ziegler<br><u>March 31</u><br>Dan Hurkett<br>Matthew Suarez |
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Thank God for answered prayers!

Your faithful prayers on behalf of our daughter-in-law's mother, Elaine Dettinburn, have been answered in full! After contracting COVID-19, Elaine spent nearly 4 weeks in hospital, much of that time on a ventilator, and in a medically induced paralysis. Today she is home again, back at work, and learning how to build her stamina and strength! The prayers of faithful Christians really do make a difference, and we appreciate each of you who lifted Elaine and our daughter-in-law's family up to the Lord!

With love and gratefulness, Tom and Susan Kolmer

## MISSION PRAYER LIST

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

- 2/27 Persecuted Christians**  
Persecuted Christians continue to suffer for their faith, especially in Asia and Africa.
- 3/6 Lend-A-Hand**  
This is a ministry of our Presbytery that sends groups to help disaster-stricken areas recover. Members of GPC are eligible to participate in these trips.
- 3/13 Adams Christian Prison Ministry**  
Angel Perez serves as a prison chaplain, doing evangelism and faith-building inside the prison.

Please consider including them in your own prayers!

## NEW NURSERY HOURS

Nursery will be staffed for the **9:30 and 11:00** services.

If you are attending 8:15 and need to take your child out, the Nursery will be open but you will need to stay with the child. There is a TV in the Nursery that will broadcast the service so that you can watch it while being with your child. This will be revised as needs change.

## RUTH'S HARVEST NEEDS HELP

Ruth's Harvest is a program that supplies bags of food for the weekends for in-need students in the Gettysburg School System. The children collect the bags at school at the end of the week, and take them home. Each bag holds about 18-25 small food items of varied kinds, including protein, fruits, vegetables, and snacks.

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church provides volunteers on certain Mondays and Wednesdays through the school year, but we've been short lately. We meet at Lincoln Elementary School at 4:00 for about an hour, where we open up and sort food boxes. You go to the playground end of the school, and go in an open door near the back, and up a few steps to the locker room where the work is done.

If you would like to help on these dates, please contact Jerry Cleaver for Mondays, and Gail Hull for Wednesdays.

**Mon., Feb. 28, Mon., Mar. 28, Mon., April 25, Mon., May 23,  
or Wed., May 11**

Please contact Jerry Cleaver at [jecork54@yahoo.com](mailto:jecork54@yahoo.com) or 717-353-5700  
Contact Gail Hull at [gjh1348@gmail.com](mailto:gjh1348@gmail.com)

### Envelopes & Contributions

Please pick up your 2022 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.

### LENTEN ELECTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Rev. Dr. Buz Myers will be with us from March 6 through April 10<sup>th</sup> for our Lenten Elective Sunday School Class at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the MacAskill Room. His topic will be the "Gospel of Luke". Read the Gospel of Luke prior to the beginning of this class. Plan to join us and invite a friend.



Our March gathering will be on the **Third Thursday** in March, **March 17th**, St. Patrick's Day, with Jan Kiefer as our speaker.

This is one week later than our normal meeting to allow any who want to attend Helen Maitland's funeral on March 10<sup>th</sup> to be able to do so. Mark your calendars now that our Young at Heart gathering for March will be on **March 17<sup>th</sup>**. Hope to see all of you there. Reservations are due no later than March 11<sup>th</sup>.



## Ash Wednesday Service March 2 at 7:30 PM

Plan to join us as we start the season of Lent with this special service. We'll celebrate the Lord's Supper, and we will provide an ashen reminder for our Lenten journey.

The worship will be both in person and simulcast on our livestream.

If you cannot join us that evening, then join later through the worship livestream archive.

### **Definition of Retirement:** The action or fact of leaving one's job and ceasing to work.

Yikes! I have never thought of it that way. Retirement to me means stopping one job and moving onward to another. I personally can't imagine ever retiring, well one day, when I take my last breath and head to the next leg of my journey.

*I hope that we never retire. I can't imagine what Jesus would think of the actual definition.*

I think it's the "ceasing to work" part that is most bothersome to me. We should never stop "ceasing to work." Rev. Paul Wilson asked me 2 weeks ago, "Why am I still here?" I said, "It's because God isn't finished with you yet, your room is ready in the Mansion, but you still have work to do." He laughed. A week later he took his last breath. He did accomplish a job during his last week of his life. He doesn't know what that specific "job" was, but I have an inkling I know. He brought someone closer in relationship to Christ and to him personally.

This week I had devotions for our staff meeting. I came across this old Irish Blessing. Perhaps it is familiar to you, or maybe this is the first time you have heard it. I thought it was fitting to share since Pastor Dave is planning to retire at the end of the month. It's not until you stop and take the time to read it slowly, that you realize just how sincere and beautiful the gesture is. This blessing was originally an Irish prayer, first written in the Irish Gaelic language, the language of Ireland. In this Celtic prayer, the wind, the sun, and the rain are mentioned, all giving a special symbolism. The [Celts](#) quite commonly used nature to show how God connected with his people. There is no doubt that this prayer is a heartfelt way of wishing someone a good journey, with no obstacles in their path. Of course, this could literally be a journey you're embarking on, or metaphorically be the journey of life.

This prayer has a symbolic meaning. The wind is said to represent the spirit of God, the sun representing the mercy of God, and the rain representing God's sustenance, that he provides to us. The three aspects of nature together, paint a picture of God taking us in the palm of his hand and guiding us on our journey through life. In essence, the prayer is telling us not to worry, because God "has our back" and is providing us with a path that will lead us through life, with as few challenges as possible. Of course, many Christian people believed that challenges would still exist because that is how they would build their faith. Yet, it may also have meant that they would have the strength to overcome them if they did arise. It is clear from the blessing that God is there to provide us with all this support, as we move through life. No matter what challenges you face, don't worry but be at peace knowing you are in safe hands.

**May the road rise to meet you.**  
**May the wind be always at your back.**  
**May the sun shine warm upon your face;**  
**The rain fall soft upon your fields**  
**and until we meet again,**  
**May God hold you in the palm of his hand"**



Pam Phillips FCN at 410-596-0777 or email [gpcfnc@gettysburgpresbyterian.org](mailto:gpcfnc@gettysburgpresbyterian.org)



## 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 can be used ANY DAY **April 2, 2022 thru January 1, 2023**.

The rates are: **\$39.95 for AGES 3 - ADULT** (regular rate is \$77.80)

You may order these tickets by signing up in Fellowship Hall Sunday mornings.

**FINAL DATE TO SIGN UP & PAY FOR THESE TICKETS IS SUNDAY, APRIL 17.**

Please make checks out to "Gettysburg Presbyterian Church." There will be no refunds for tickets not used. You do not have to be a church member to participate. Thanks!!

## GPC

### 2022 LENTEN SMALL GROUPS

#### Life Lesson from Luke

by Max Lucado

At some point we've asked: *Who is Jesus? What is the meaning of his teachings? Why do I follow him? Is it really true?* Luke, a doctor, searched for the truth. Not content to merely accept what others said, he had to know for sure. So, he dug deeper, asked questions and when he found his answers, he could not keep them to himself. Come join us as we search for answers to these questions.

Groups will meet weekly for six weeks beginning the week of March 7<sup>th</sup>. Groups will meet in homes, at the church and at local restaurants. You will be contacted by your group leader about the exact starting date and location. Except for the Monday Small Group, each session will run approximately 75 minutes and will include fellowship, informal discussion, and a time of prayer. Please call or contact Cheryl Betts in the church office or Lloyd Schaeffer, Elder for Adult Discipleship at 717-752-2290 ([clschaeffer2009@gmail.com](mailto:clschaeffer2009@gmail.com)) if you have any questions.

**Deadline to sign-up is February 28th**

===== **2022 Lenten Small Group Sign-Up** =====

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday – noon at GPC (brown bag lunch group) 1 hour

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday – 8:30 p.m. on computer via Zoom – 1 hour

\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday – 2:00 p.m. at Cross Key Village

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday – 7:00 p.m. at GPC

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday – 4:00 p.m. at SpiriTrust Lutheran Village

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF BOOKS \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of book is \$9.50

Also available as ebook at CBD for \$5.99

## Men's Interfaith Lunch will resume on Wednesday, March 9 at 12:00 noon

All men are invited on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon for light lunch (\$3.00) and camaraderie in Fellowship Hall, followed by humor and worship in the sanctuary. This is an interfaith gathering, and is open to all men who would enjoy the time together, and appreciate a message from a local minister.

### Short Term Disciple Bible Study

A new short term Bible Study "Invitation to the Gospel of John" to be offered beginning Monday, March 7 for 11 weeks through May 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Sewing Room. Books are \$16.99. In its wisdom, the early church chose to keep four Gospel accounts of the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus. Three of these Gospels are very similar; however, the Gospel of John stands apart. At the opening of John's Gospel, Jesus issues two invitations: "Come and see", and "Follow me". They echo the invitations of this study to come and see this Jesus – to hear him speak, to see his signs, and to consider anew what it means to be his followers. If interested, contact Cheryl Betts in the Church Office no later than February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Check your email  
junk folder!**

There have been numerous people who have expressed concern that they have not been getting my emails. They have been determined as "spam." Please contact me in the church office 717-334-1235 if you aren't receiving the congregational notifications or the church newsletter.

Thanks, Penny

**WELCOME**  
*new members*

Whitney & Sally Myers  
84 Kestrel Dr.  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717-420-5790

### NEED A RIDE?

If you are having trouble attending church services and/or church functions due to not having transportation, let the Deacons help you.

We are only a phone call away.

Feb. 14-March 13  
contact Sarah Kirk at  
443-622-4710.



### "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.

For the month of:

**March**

We will be collecting items for  
**Adams County SPCA**

lams cat food (dry), kitten food (canned),  
dog food (sensitive stomach),  
water softener salt, latex gloves,  
dog and cat collars, dog harnesses,  
dog and cat toys, disinfectant wipes, toilet  
paper, paper towels, copy paper, dish  
soap, bleach and 13-gallon  
Force Flex trash bags.





## Greetings from your Missions and Interpretation Committee!

COVID restrictions have profoundly affected our lives in so many ways. Staying quarantined and masked, worshiping virtually, and not seeing one another regularly has also led to the cancellation of most of our mission trips outside of Adams County for the last two years. We hope this year will get us back into a "Mission Mindset" as we see the resumption of our South Carolina Mission Trip, partnering with Habitat for Humanity to bring quality housing to those in need in the Sea Island community south of Charleston. Registration

for this opportunity is open right now! Trip dates are from April 1-7, with a cost of approximately \$150 per person. No special construction skills are needed, only a willing spirit and a can-do attitude! If you think you might be interested in joining fellow GPC friends on this trip, please contact the trip Leader Jerry Cleaver at (717)-359-0419 as soon as possible. We hope many of you can join us!

Additionally, many opportunities to be of service to those in Adams County have been ongoing throughout the pandemic and continue to be great ways to get involved! Please check out the Local Missions bulletin board in Fellowship Hall to see where your interests might intersect with needs in our community. Ruth's Harvest, Gettysburg Soup Kitchen, CARES, Manos Unidas, and the Gleaning Project are just a few of the projects that are looking for your help locally.

Finally, it is with regret that I inform you that our Yucatan Mexico mission trip will once again be cancelled this year. Between COVID complications forcing masking in most interactions with locals, supply chain shortages increasing the cost of food and materials, and concern over travel interruptions, the M&I committee has determined that the best course of action is to focus on our Mexico Trip for 2023, and to start laying groundwork to resume our in-person partnership with Accion at that time. Funds that have been collected to support Accion's living facilities for young Mayan men and women attending college in Merida will be forwarded to them shortly to keep this important work moving forward. Look for more information in upcoming editions of the GPC Mission Spotlight.

Thank you for your support and participation! - Tom Kolmer



Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Paul Wilson's family upon his recent death.



## Stephen Ministry

### Are You Stressed? Discouraged? Feeling Down?

You don't have to go through difficult times alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with confidential, one-to-one, Christian care and support to help you get through a tough time. So don't keep it all inside and struggle alone through the holiday season. Our Stephen Ministers are there to care.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry, contact Lou Nyiri in the church office 717-334-1235.

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

208 Baltimore Street

Gettysburg, PA 17325

Office: (717) 334-1235

Fax: (717) 334-0666

www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

**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, March 3, 2022**

**February / March 2022**  
**GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Traditional Worship @ 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.**  
**Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.**

<b>February 27</b>	<i>So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Goodbye</i> 12:00—Brief Congregational Meeting followed by Program for Pastor Dave’s Retirement
<b>March 2</b>	7:30 p.m.—Ash Wednesday Worship Service
<b>March 6</b>	<b><i>Pastoral Candidate Preaching all three services</i></b> Communion Congregational Meeting following 11:00 a.m. worship service.
<b>March 13</b>	Rev. Judy Young Preaching

To view live stream, go to: [www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org](http://www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org)  
 Click “View Services” on the top right hand corner