

GRAPEVINE

May 17, 2022

Letter from Rev. McClure

Grace and Peace to you, friends and family of GPC!

I thought it would be well received to pass along an update about my family's moving status. To give a one-word summary: chaos! Which is pretty much how we exist with a house full of animals and little people.

A few weeks ago, on Easter Sunday, we made a spur of the moment decision to make a blitz trip to Gettysburg, as two homes moved onto the market that we really liked. And, if you are or have been in the search for rentals or apartments or homes, you know things are crazy. On Easter Monday we saw three homes and before we made it back to Cambridge, we made an offer on one. I can joyfully report the offer was accepted!

We've been working through all the processes and things are going smoothly, including our home here in Cambridge selling, thanks be to God! However, there is one catch, and it's a doozy: closing on the new home is not until October. And possession? That's in December.

Yes, you read correctly, December.

On June 1st, I'll be moving to Gettysburg to live and work and begin my ministry with you all, which I am overjoyed with excitement about. My first Sunday will be June 5th! My wife and our four children, and the above-mentioned animals, will enjoy an extended stay with grandparents in Virginia. It's been a couple years since we've been able to have a long visit with the grandparents due to COVID and my mother-in-law's recent cancer diagnosis, so they are excited to spend some quality time with Pop-pop and Grandma.

Between now and before School in Gettysburg starts in August, in addition to immersing myself in the GPC life, I'll be diligently searching for temporary housing for my family. We'd like us all to be back together by then. I am trusting that God will provide, but I am also a big believer in "prayer is an action verb." So, I won't be idle. God doesn't want us to be idle! But active, with assurance that God's got this.

I know you all are anxious to get to know me and my family and trust me when I say, we are all equally ready to get this next chapter of ministry God has prepared for us started, too! The summer will be lots of fun, and I already have a few ideas to get some of those relational foundations laid. Getting to know the rest of my family will, regrettably, have to wait until the summer is over.

My family's plans over the summer are to visit one another as often as we can, and work on getting my mother's house ready to be sold. If you didn't know yet, my mother is going to be making this transition with us! If all goes well, when it comes time to move into our new home, my mom will be ready to move in with us and we can all begin together.

We appreciate your prayers. We are assuredly in God's hands! I cannot wait to see you all in June. Until then, may God continue blessing you and making you a blessing for others.

All my love and peace,
Pastor Caleb

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For several months I have had a variety of illnesses and diseases diagnosed and still being treated. During all this time, GPC members have been a constant source of hope and encouragement. Thank you all for the many cards, emails, and constant prayers. The words of cheer continue to be sources of strength that I truly appreciate.

Blessings to each of you!
Barbara Finrock

Again, I want to thank my wonderful church family for all the love and caring that you've given me. I miss being able to come to church to see all of you. Thanks also for your prayers.

Sincerely,
Gail Lee

Thank you so much for all the cards, calls, texts, and messages through my husband Mike during my recent illness. Thank you especially for keeping me in prayer. I felt very uplifted and blessed, and I'm so grateful to belong to a church family like ours at GPC.

*Much Love,
Libby Crowe*

Congratulations Roger Clowes

Roger Clowes, GPC member, was elected to be a Ruling Elder Commissioner to the 225th General Assembly of our Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) denomination. Roger will serve as the Moderator of the Financial Resources Committee, which includes all financial and budget related items from entities of the General Assembly. Roger brings a critical and gifted skill set to this committee having served as the Treasurer at National Capital Presbytery (Washington DC) and on the Finance Committee of Carlisle Presbytery. Prior to GA, Roger will attend online training sessions under the leadership of our denomination's headquarters. The General Assembly will be held online July 5-9, 2022. Please pray for Roger, our General Assembly Staff, and all Ruling Elder/Teaching Elder Commissioners as they prepare work alongside one another, participate with the Holy Spirit's guidance and lead our denomination forward.

Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Condolences

The family of Dee Yakenchek who died May 14th.

Melany LaRochelle on the recent death of her father.

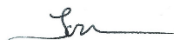
Randy & Judy Inskip on the recent death of Randy's daughter, Amy.

A service of witness to resurrection & celebration of life for Helen Stabler will be June 11, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. The family will receive friends in the sanctuary from 10:00 a.m. until the start of the service and following the service in Fellowship Hall.

Dear Church,

We wait with anticipation and excitement the arrival of our next Head of Staff/Senior Pastor, the Rev. Caleb McClure. It is important at this juncture to be reminded that the March through May points of contact will change. Below is the staff contact list so that you know to whom you should direct your questions upon Rev. McClure's arrival June 1st. As Rev. McClure begins his role as Head of Staff, these may change again, if so, you will be informed through the appropriate channels (Email, Newsletter, Website, Facebook, etc.). Until then, be sure to sign the welcome posterboard cards in Fellowship Hall for Rev. McClure and his family; pray for Rev. McClure and his Family's arrival and plan to be in worship on June 5th as we welcome the Rev. Caleb McClure into the pulpit on his first Sunday as GPC's next Head of Staff/Senior Pastor.

God's Peace,



GPC Staff Contacts – Effective June 1, 2022

Preaching and Worship

Manage Worship calendar - special announcements, minutes for ministry, baptisms (Caleb)
 Design weekly worship service (select prayers, hymns, etc.) – Preaching Pastor
 Proof bulletins (all services) – Caleb, Lou, Libby, Penny, Cheryl
 Proof slides - (Preaching Pastor and Libby)

Pastoral Care

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

Staff Oversight

Support, make assignments (Caleb)
 Hire/fire (P&A and Caleb)
 Weekly staff meeting 10AM Thursday (Caleb)

Session

Produce agenda for meetings (Caleb)
 Moderate the meeting (Caleb)
 Committee Support - 10 committees that Pastor Dave supported – (Caleb)

Mexico Mission Trip – Currently being Coordinated through Mission Team

College Ministry

Lunches - TBD
 Speak at FCA - TBD

New Member Classes (Caleb)

Ministerium (Caleb)

Men's Interfaith Lunch (Caleb or designee to host)
 Speakers are lined up and Penny will remind them.

An Update: The Afghan Family

Andy and Mary Miner and Bob Smith (Bucknell Bob) have been asked about how the Afghan family is faring. While we are happy to give one-on-one reports, it seems time to give all of GPC an update. Overall, the family is doing very well considering they have been in Gettysburg only about 3 months. The highlights:

- ** All the children are in school, mostly in the GASD where they are managing quite well. The youngest child, age 5, is in pre-school.
- ** Dad has a full-time job at Gettysburg College. Older boys have part-time weekend jobs.
- ** Mom stays busy tending to the home which includes cooking for 10 people. She bakes naan 3 times a day!!
- ** The family is eager to learn American ways. All are learning English, Mom is learning to use an American style sewing machine and kitchen. Family has shopping systems, particularly shopping for food, mostly worked out. Bicycles are being obtained. Using a lawn mower has been taught.
- ** Various RRP groups are providing outings appropriate to the ages and interests of the family. The older teens were taken to DC, wrestling matches and on shopping trips. The younger children have had a playground outing with RRP children; soccer, bike riding, remote control cars and playground time filled the afternoons.
- ** The family is truly appreciative of the help offered to them. They are gracious and caring. While surely having experienced trauma, they are positive and upbeat about their futures. They are working hard to be successful.

Please understand the privacy of the family is still paramount. There are security issues as well as consideration for their autonomy, dignity and independence.

Note: RRP stands for Refugee Resettlement Partnership of Gettysburg. It is a community group who has covenanted together to work with this family.



Stephen Ministry

Listen: To Hear with Thoughtful Attention

Did you ever talk to someone but feel as if that person just wasn't listening? Stephen Ministers are trained to listen well. They will hear what you have to share and respond lovingly and non-judgmentally - rather than telling you what you should or shouldn't have done. If you need someone who will really listen to you as you work through a problem in your life, consider Stephen Ministry.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry please call Rev. Nyiri at the church office 717-334-1235, ext. 4. Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God's love and care into your life.

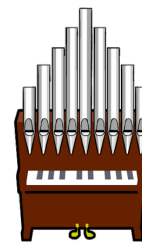
**Please
Wear
Red!**



Sunday, June 5th,
is Pentecost Sunday, when we celebrate
the birthday of the Christian Church.
Red is the traditional color of Pentecost,
so we are asking church members to
consider wearing red that day.

**Pipe Organ Dedication
THIS Sunday, May 22 @ 1:00 pm**

There will be a
Potluck Lunch preceding
at 12:00 noon
in Fellowship Hall.



**HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
RECOGNITION SUNDAY
May 22, 2022
8:15, 9:30 or 11:00 a.m. Worship**

On Sunday, May 22nd we will recognize all High School Seniors and celebrate their graduation milestone!

We have a gift for each graduate.

We need the following information ASAP:

- Your full name
- Your plans after graduation

Drop information to Rev. Nyiri in church office or email
gpclou@gettyburgpresbyterian.org by May 19th (NOON)

Men's Interfaith Fellowship & Church Women United

will be having their ANNUAL PICNIC
on Wednesday, June 1, 11:30 a.m.

at Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, 1710 Biglerville Rd.

Church Women United cordially invite The Men's Interfaith Fellowship to be their guests. The picnic will be held indoors & CWU members will be providing the food, condiments & beverages.

If possible, we would enjoy having a songfest following the picnic.

Please join us for a time of good food & fellowship.

G.P.C knitters and crocheters, please note:

There is a new ministry that needs our support.

The Hanover Hospital ICU has joined the "Forever In Our Heart Blanket Initiative" and seeks to provide blankets for family members facing the loss of a loved one.

These blankets provide comfort to the patient and are then passed to the family as a keepsake.

There is no specified size or pattern requirement, but the blankets should be washable.

Please join us in this effort. No meetings required, no deadlines to meet, just an act of service to comfort our neighbor.

Please contact Kelcee Keller(717-304-6344) or Beth Fitzpatrick (717-334-4960) for more information.

Thank you.



SUMMER CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Volunteers needed to teach our young children at 9:00 and 10:30 during June – August. Material is easy to teach and everything you need is in one box. Signup sheets on CE table in Fellowship Hall. If we don't get volunteers, we will have to keep the children in the worship service.

Please help us with this program.

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.

May 9 - June 12 please contact Ellie Bilz at 201-739-8774.



"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:

May

We will be collecting items for

Agape House

Bath towels, kitchen towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, twin and queen-sized sheets, brooms, dust pans and utility buckets.

MISSION PRAYER LIST

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

5/22 Accion Ministries

Rev. Oscar Dorantes coordinates this Ministry which hosts church groups (like ours!) in the Yucatan, and runs two homes for youth, so they can continue their education.

5/29 Mission Bright Star

Our gift-giving ministry to children of incarcerated parents.

6/5 Ben & Emily Okello

Ben & Emily are in Kenya overseeing an Orphanage with many children. Ben also plants churches throughout Kenya.

Please consider including them in your own prayers!

SAVE THE DATE
RETIREMENT RECOGNITION
FOR CHERYL BETTS
JUNE 26, 2022
Details to Follow

ADULT ELECTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

ALLAH versus JEHOVAH – Are they the same?

Have you ever heard anyone say, “I don’t see what all the fuss is about between Christians and Muslims. Afterall, they worship the same God.”

When one hears this, one begins to wonder, is it true? Is the God of Christianity the same as the god of Islam? On the Sundays of 15 and 22 May, come to the Adult Sunday School class in the MacAskill Room during the 9:30 hour to explore this topic, using *No God But One*, by Nabeel Qureshi. Nothing is required of you in advance, except a curious mind.

Summer Worship Schedule BEGINNING JULY 3

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship



High School Summer Mission

Pray for our high school youth (9th through 12th graders) & the adult leaders who will be part of a home repair mission experience. We will partner with a well-respected nonprofit organization, Group Mission Trips, for this mission trip. Group Mission Trips has decades of experience in offering the highest level of safe, meaningful, hands-on service experiences along with intentional programming designed to invest the most valuable life skills and spiritual growth in today’s teenagers. Group is very much like the previous nonprofit organization we attended, REACH Missions.

Here are the specifics of the trip:

Date: July 10-16, 2022
Location: Erie, PA
Who: 5 Youth and 3 Adult Leaders

More information on this Erie, PA home repair mission can be found by clicking this link to Group Mission Trips website: <https://groupmissiontrips.com/trip-types/home-repair/erie-pennsylvania>

What an incredible time to be living. We have so many new procedures, and surgeries that are less invasive in comparison to a few years ago. A potential complication of both surgery carotid endarterectomy(CEA) and stenting, for stroke prevention in patients with carotid artery disease is a stroke occurring during the procedure itself. Studies have shown a higher risk of stroke during conventional stenting as compared to surgery.

Recently, I learned of a new procedure that was done at Carroll Hospital in Westminster, MD. On April 12, 2022, they performed their *first-ever* “**Transcarotid artery revascularization**” (TCAR) procedure.

“**TCAR**” is an innovative surgery for treating carotid stenosis, or blockages in the carotid artery that cause strokes. This procedure uses a special transcarotid neuro-protection system (NPS) is designed to reduce the risk of stroke during the insertion of the stent.

The novel NPS device allows the surgeon to directly access the common carotid artery in the neck and initiate high-rate temporary blood flow reversal to protect the brain from stroke while delivering and implanting the stent.

The TCAR procedure is performed through a small incision at the neckline just above the clavicle. This incision is much smaller than a typical CEA incision. The surgeon places a tube directly into the carotid artery and connects it to the NPS that directs blood flow away from the brain, to protect against plaque that may come loose reaching the brain.

TCAR allows the vascular surgeon to make a smaller incision on the neck than a carotid endarterectomy, while having less risk of stroke than placing a carotid stent from the femoral artery in the groin. This minimally invasive surgery has a faster recover and less risk of nerve damage, and heart attacks than open carotid surgery. TCAR technology has developed over the last 10 years in health systems across the United States.

O Lord my God, I cried out to you for help, and you healed me. Psalm 30:2

Pam Phillips FCN at 410-596-0777 or email gpcfnc@gettysburgpresbyterian.org



PW ICE CREAM SOCIAL / ANTIQUES ROAD SHOW

The Presbyterian Women’s Committee set the stage for an enjoyable evening of ice cream and antiques. It was wonderful to have 36 women of GPC, and some of their friends and neighbors, gather after two years for an evening of fun and fellowship.

Everyone brought in an antique or collectible and GPC had their own version of Antiques Road Show. Great entertainment was provided by local auctioneer, Jimmy Peters, who provided history and knowledge of everyone’s treasures.

If you missed this fun evening, we hope you can join us for future programs. Presbyterian Women is not a club, you do not need to join. Every woman of GPC is a Presbyterian Woman. For further information, contact Margo Har at stepmargo@comcast.net or 978-807-3750.





VBS 2022

June 20 -23

MARKETPLACE VOLUNTEERS & CARDBOARD CEREAL BOXES STILL NEEDED



Kids participate in a memorable Bible-times marketplace, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into Egyptian eats, visit Joseph in prison and then in his palace home, and collect Bible Memory Makers to remind them of God’s Word. Plus, everyone learns to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes at Celebration—a time of upbeat worship that gets everyone involved.

Holy Land ADVENTURE

- Joseph interprets dreams in prison
- Pharaoh puts Joseph in charge
- Joseph leads Egypt through famine
- Joseph forgives his brothers
- Joseph settles his family in Egypt

Come to “Marketplace”

- Hair Braiding
- Basket Weaving
- Horn Book
- Egyptian Collars
- And much more...

All children ages 3 - grade 5 (completed) are invited to join us.
 A registration fee of \$5.00 per child or \$10.00 per family is necessary to cover costs.
 Registration begins May 10 and ends June 7 (registration form below.)

For more information or to volunteer, contact Cheryl Betts at 717-334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian

Egypt: Joseph’s Journey from Prison to Palace”

Child’s Name _____ Parent’s Name _____
 Address _____ Phone # _____
 Age _____ Grade completed _____ Birth date _____ Allergies _____
 Church Affiliation _____
 Emergency Contact _____ Phone # _____
 Physician _____ Phone # _____
 Registration Fee Enclosed \$ _____ (\$5 each child / \$10 per family)


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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, May 26, 2022**

**May / June 2022
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

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

May 22	Rev. Candace Veon-Nyiri Preaching High School Senior Recognition
May 29	Rev. Lou Nyiri Preaching
June 5	Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching Communion Pentecost Sunday Newborn Recognition

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