

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

January 24, 2023

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for **peace** and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."
Jeremiah 29:11, ESV (modified)

I recently had an opportunity to do a bit of a deep dive into this particular passage of Scripture and I wanted to share with the rest of the congregation some of the discernment from the passage.

This passage of Scripture has been read or used at almost every high school graduation ceremony I have been to at a church - and for good reason, I'd add. It's a great passage of Scripture that points us towards the future, grounding us in the assurance of God's presence in our lives. When we are about to make a major transition (such as the one from senior year in high school to whatever is next - be it college, trade school, or apprenticeship), this passage is one of hope in God's amazing plan for us.

However, if you think about it, if we only read and stand on this Scripture when we are about to make a change - and not when change is already happening - then we might be misreading the text, a little! It's easy to read this text before the transition has happened, when we are somewhere comfortable and known, and much harder to affirm its words of promise when we are in the midst of the change.

But that's when these prophetic words were given to the people by Jeremiah. Go read verse 1 of chapter 29, and while you are there, go ahead and read through verse 14. These words of hope and promise regarding the *plans God has for God's people* were given to those same people in the middle of an exile, with no end in sight. Seventy years to wait (though history tells us it was more).

What an amazing faith it is to trust God while you are in the midst of the unknown, the uncertain, when life is not going your way and things seem to be falling apart around you. Yet this is the faith we are called to have, this is the faith of the mustard seed (Luke 13), the faith of the criminal on the cross (Luke 23), the faith the sinful woman (Luke 7).

And it's the faith that the people of Israel had. Despite their exile, years upon years of captivity, they never truly abandoned their faith (see the Book of Daniel). May you be encouraged by this well known passage of text in Jeremiah, even in the midst of chaos, and may you be rooted to your faith - cling to it - for God does have a plan for you. A plan for shalom. Peace!

Pastor Caleb

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Happy Birthday to...

February 1

Keith Baker
Karen Breighner
Tori Yeager

February 2

Lydia Flinger
Kayla Hosterman
Sean Hosterman
Freda Hulton
Kyle May
McKenna Snyder
Greg Trax
Pam Wisor

February 3

Elizabeth Farnham
Mary Flinger
Linda MacAskill
Sophie May
Meghan Moroz
Kasey Rathgeber

February 4

Henry McClure

February 5

Blaze Graff
Christopher Kulkusky
Bill Sterrett
Rebecca Zepp

February 6

Viola Reaver

February 8

Evan Guiher
Phillip Scott

February 9

Olivia McClure

February 10

Matt Clark
Susan Saum-Wicklein
Savannah Waligore

February 13

Eleanor (Cingire) Bilz
Margaret Dombrowsky
Don Robertson

February 14

Cody Smith

February 15

Sandra Yarber Dixon

February 16

Robert Bigham
Jim Gardner
Alison Golanoski
Carly Hinton

Carrie McMaster

February 17

Clare Alloway

Barry Breighner

Nicole Bridel

February 20

Deborah Litten

Robin Robertson

Virginia Rowland

February 21

William Fitzpatrick

Patti Schwartz

Deborah Yargar-Reed

February 22

Brandon Guiher

Toby Roy

February 23

Henry Heiser

Harrison Moroz

Charlie Roy

Barb Smith

February 24

Henry Rice

February 25

Robert Lindsay

Colton McMaster

Charlotte Peck

February 26

Joseph Egloff

Kody Kulkusky

Bryan LaRochelle

February 27

Gary Morrison

Susan Moyer

February 28

Jean Conover

Robert McQuaide

Lovette Mott

Rad Schultz

Bill Tindall

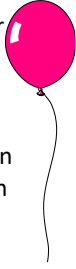
Courtney Weaver

Jordan Williams

February 29

Elizabeth Bergen

Alexander Heeschen



Our Annual
Congregational
Meeting

will be **Sunday, January 29,**

following the
***10:30 COMBINED
WORSHIP SERVICE**
in the sanctuary.

NOTE: Time change for worship

Please plan to attend !

I want to thank everyone for their payers, cards and phone calls during the time of my illness, my surgery and my recovery.

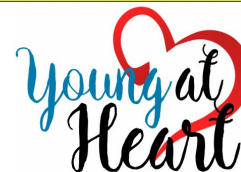
Dale Molina

"Growing Back Together" Stewardship 2023

Thank you to everyone who has already submitted their pledge for the 2023 Stewardship Campaign.

If you have not, please place them in the offering plate on Sunday morning or turn them into the church office at your earliest convenience.

YOUNG AT HEART



Monthly Young at Heart Potluck & Program:

Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 12:00 noon

HAVE YOU SEEN "A MAN CALLED OTTO." a movie currently playing in Gettysburg theaters. Seeing the movie before our meeting is encouraged by not required. Tom Hanks stars in this highly recommended story, filled with a splendid mix of humor, insight, sensitivity and discovery as (grumpy, old) Otto's view of the world is revealed to us, the viewers. For newcomers or guests: all people attending are expected to provide an accompanying salad, vegetable, or dessert to supplement the ordered chicken (small offering to cover the cost of chicken is taken during the meal at the tables).

As always, **we welcome newcomers** to join us: No Age Limit or Requirement: we won't "card" you. Our seasoned GPC members may invite their friends and relatives. However, in order to plan for enough seats and main course (chicken) ordered, we need everyone to **RSVP Penny** in the church office 717-334-1235 or email gpcadmin@gettysburgpresbyterian.org by **Friday, February 3, 2023**.

As our potluck lunch comes to an end at about 12:45, we will adjourn to the downstairs MacAskill Room for a **LET'S TALK SESSION**. Rachel has been wanting to include programs that stimulates some discussion among us, as well as continuing with a variety of other lectures, etc. The original topic planned was to be about our life experiences, memories, dreams, time and fulfillment as we progress through the GIFT OF YEARS we have been given, no matter in which "young stage" we individually find ourselves in. However, while brainstorming plans for the theme, I viewed the movie, "OTTO" and couldn't imagine a better way to get audience interest and participation. Seeing the movie is not required; but I can see the topic coming up in spirited discussion. (No, I am not a professional.) Feel free to contact me, Rachel Parmentier at 443-994-0241 or email Rasong@aol.com with questions.

GPC 2023 LENTEN SMALL GROUPS

A Time to Grow

by Kara Eidson

From Eden to Gethsemane to the garden in which Jesus was buried and raised, our story of faith wanders through much fertile soil. But in the current world of fast food and to-go meals, we often do not make time to explore where our food comes from and how we break bread together. Journeying through the season of Lent with this in mind, *A Time to Grow*, encourages readers to slow down, move through the painstaking process of growth, and end together with great feasting and celebration of the resurrection.

Groups will meet weekly for six weeks beginning the week of February 26th. 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. Each session will run approximately 75 minutes and will include fellowship, informal discussion, and a time of prayer. Please call or contact the church office or Lloyd Schaeffer, Elder for Adult Discipleship at 717-752-2290 (clschaeffer2009@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Deadline to sign-up is February 12th

===== **2023 Lenten Small Group Sign-Up** =====

_____ Monday – 8:30 p.m. on computer via Zoom – 1 hour
 _____ Tuesday – 10:30 AM at TBD
 _____ Wednesday – 1:30 PM at Cross Key Village
 _____ Friday – 4:00 p.m. at Spiritrust Lutheran Village

NAME _____ PHONE _____
 ADDRESS _____
 EMAIL _____
 NUMBER OF BOOKS _____ Cost of book is \$13.00

The 2022 Annual Report

The 2022 Annual Report was emailed out to the congregation.

If you did not receive that email and would like an electronic copy please call the church office with your email address or the link is available on the front page our church website.

There are also hard copies available at the church in Fellowship Hall.

“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. Please put your donations in the bin by the elevator.

For the month of:

February

Tender Care Pregnancy Centers:

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

Please no glass items.

Welcome to Staff at GPC

Kyle Clark

as

Children’s Ministry Director
and Website/Social Media
Manager

We are so excited to see how God is going to use Kyle’s unique gifts to nurture and lead our children.

We are grateful for all your talents Kyle!

WELCOME!

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP January

January 29	5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Fellowship & Games
February 5	5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Fellowship & Games
February 12	SUPER BOWL SUNDAY—TBD	

MidSHIP Schedule January

January 29	5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Fellowship & Games
February 5	5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Fellowship & Games
February 12	SUPER BOWL SUNDAY—TBD	

HABITAT for HUMANITY

REMINDER:

Contact Tom Kolmer and/or Jerry Cleaver if you have questions or are thinking of joining a great group going to Charleston Habitat for Humanity build.

Tom Kolmer-717-22-9884

Jerry Cleaver 717-359-0419.



MISSION PRAYER LIST

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

- 1/29 Persecuted Christians**
Persecuted Christians continue to suffer for their faith, especially in Asia and Africa.
- 2/5 Lend-a-Hand**
Lend-a-Hand is a ministry of our Presbytery that sends groups to help disaster-stricken areas recover.
- 2/12 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!

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.
January 9 - February 12 please contact Bob Smith at 717-357-0934.

February 13 - March 12 please contact Sarah Kirk at 443-622-4710.

Stephen Ministry

HOW DOES STEPHEN MINISTRY WORK?

When someone requests a Stephen Minister, our Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator will contact that person, explain what Stephen Ministry is, and help determine whether Stephen Ministry is the kind of care that person needs. Our Referrals Coordinator then matches that person with one of our available Stephen Ministers. The Stephen Minister will then call that person and begin meeting with him or her for about an hour each week as long as the need is there. Everything a care receiver says to his or her Stephen Minister is kept confidential. The Stephen Minister doesn't try to solve problems; rather, he or she listens, cares, prays, and helps the care receiver find his or her path to healing and wholeness. For more information call Lou at the church office 717-334-1235, ext. 4.



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 (**\$31.00 for 2023**) 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.

Adult Discipleship:*The Technology that
Hardens our Hearts*

Please join Dr. Tamara Schwartz, Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity at the York College of Pennsylvania for a three week program discussing the technology that hardens our hearts. Tammy is currently writing a book about information warfare. In this class she will be discussing technology, the media, and information warfare and its impact on us – as people, as a society and as a church. She will also offer strategies to overcome the barriers these things create between us and Christ.

**The class begins Sunday February 5th
at 9:30 in the MacAskill Room.**

ATTENTION!

**SUNDAY
SCHOOL STILL
HAPPENING ON
JANUARY 29th
At 9:30am**



**Free Chair
Yoga Classes
Starts January 31st**

All GPC member and friends are welcome

Tuesdays at 10am in MacAskill Room

Wear comfortable clothing and shoes

Instructor: Julie Falk

Questions? Contact Pam Phillips RN FCN
at 410-596-0777

**Kids Club**

It's time for the Winter session of Kids Club! **We will meet on Thursdays from February 2nd to March 2nd running from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.** This series is for children in Kindergarten – Grade 2 and will be held in Fellowship Hall. **Our theme will be "Old Testament Friends"**. It will be a time of fun, friendships, Bible stories, Scripture activities, crafts, and games!

**SCAN ME**

Scan the code for a registration form or
email: kyle@gettysburgpresbyterian.org
for more information!

Bring YOUR Mission Opportunities Into Focus This Sunday!

Today we celebrate Mission Focus Sunday at GPC in Fellowship Hall will be filled with information tables and handouts and will be staffed with people that can answer your questions about how to get plugged in to a mission trip this year! Yucatan Mexico, South Carolina, High School Mission, Walk for Water, Rise Against Hunger, and numerous local opportunities like Ruth's Harvest, SCCAP, Gettysburg Soup Kitchen and others will be included. Later this evening, plan to attend the Combined Mission Trip Interest Meetings at 6:30 in Fellowship Hall. Here you will be able to get detailed information and connect with others interested in a Mission Trip experience in 2023. Oh, did I mention that ice cream sundaes will be provided?! So, mark your calendar now to join us and find out how you can be involved. See you there!

GPC Missions...Where God Things Happen!



2023 Missions Interest Meetings This Sunday!

Please make plans to join us at **6:30pm on Sunday the 29th** in Fellowship Hall for our Missions Interest Meetings at GPC. Here you will be able to see and hear about what our congregation is involved in, what our missionaries around the world are doing, and to find out about Mission Trip Opportunities for 2023. We are each called to be part of fulfilling Jesus' great commission to go to all the peoples of the world with the good news of the gospel, and to care for the least among us. Find out more about the Yucatan Mexico Trip, the South Carolina Habitat for Humanity Trip, our Family programming, and multiple local opportunities for service and fellowship!

Thanks for engaging with GPC Mission...where God things happen!

Men's Interfaith Luncheon

All men are invited on Wednesday, February 1 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.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United will meet on Wednesday, February 1 11:30a.m., at Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, 1710 Biglerville Rd.

Chaplain Angel Perez, director of Adams Christian Prison Ministries, will be the guest speaker.

Luncheon (\$4) will be provided. Special welcome to newcomers.

Contribution Envelopes

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.

The Prayer Project

If you are trying to engage in daily prayer, but never sure what to pray about? Well each month this year, we will be releasing a calendar of daily prayer for you to use. They will range in topics from our church family, to the local community, to national and global concerns. The prayers are short to fit into a busy schedule but you can expand on them as you feel lead. If you would like to engage more in this new project, please contact Susan Kolmer at sebkolmer@gmail.com.

THE PRAYER PROJECT – FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5 Jesus, you appointed Paul, who then appointed deacons. Bless GPC's deacons with compassion and energy for their vital work.</p>	<p>6 Loving Lord, You commanded us to be kind to foreigners in our midst. Help us to help those who come to the US to achieve the lives they seek.</p>	<p>7 Today, O Loving Father, we lift up to you the Littlestown School District. Please bless staff and students in every way.</p>	<p>1 We thank you O Lord, for Pastor Caleb and pray you richly bless his ministry with GPC for many years.</p>	<p>2 Healing Jesus, heart disease is a major killer in the US. Heal hearts, and bless doctors and researchers working to treat them.</p>	<p>3 Compassionate Father, we pray for children everywhere who suffer abuse. Heal families, helping them to get the help they need.</p>	<p>4 Sustaining God, we thank you for SCCAP and pray that you will bless all of their efforts to help the needy in our community.</p>
<p>12 Today God who created us, we pray that the Super Bowl be an avenue for good: sportsmanship, love of others of sport, and goodwill to all.</p>	<p>13 O King of kings, as we remember our past presidents, bless our current government with wisdom, truth and justice for all.</p>	<p>14 Since You established marriage Lord God, we pray that you bless marriages everywhere with trust, forbearance, fidelity and LOVE.</p>	<p>8 We are so grateful Lord of Light, for our firefighters. Please bless their efforts, keep them all safe and let their numbers grow.</p>	<p>9 Spirit, as many move goods across our lands, move also with all truckers, keeping them and those who share the roads with them safe.</p>	<p>10 Jesus who saves the lost, bless each family whose child is missing with the safe return of their child. Let there be no more missing children.</p>	<p>11 Spirit of Learning, inspire our students to do well, and to especially desire to pursue careers in the STEM disciplines.</p>
<p>19 Jesus, You came to give us freedom from sin. We also pray for freedom for all those around the world unjustly imprisoned.</p>	<p>20 Holy Father, each of us battles personal demons daily. Please be with us to strengthen us to be more like you and defeat any evil within us.</p>	<p>21 Great Physician, many are those who find themselves in the role of caregiver. Bless all with strength, energy and patience.</p>	<p>15 We thank you, O God who is with us in life and in death, for organ donors. May all who are eligible heed the call.</p>	<p>16 God of all peoples, bless the efforts of those who seek freedom in their own countries. We pray especially for women in Iran.</p>	<p>17 We thank You, faithful Jesus, for the Gettysburg ministerium and all their work. Bless their efforts to grow your kingdom in our community.</p>	<p>18 Lord of Mercy, bless those who participate in GPC's shawl ministry. Even more, bless those who receive the shawls with renewed health.</p>
<p>26 God of Abundance, we have so much, but so many around the world are food insecure. Help us to find ways to ensure all have enough.</p>	<p>27 Creator God, as animals like polar bears find their world shrinking, please help us to restore Planet Earth to what it is meant to be.</p>	<p>28 One true God, thank You for the benefits of science and technology. However, show everyone one that You are the only true answer.</p>	<p>22 O Holy Spirit, develop Your wonderful fruits in each of us. Today, we particularly ask for the gift of humility.</p>	<p>23 Jesus who loves children, we thank you for the Boy Scouts. Bless their efforts to develop youth into outstanding citizens.</p>	<p>24 O Prince of Peace, we pray that sensible voices calling for peace are heard and heeded around the world, especially in Russia.</p>	<p>25 Sustainer God, guide each of us to care for our bodies as we should, feeding them correctly, exercising them and not abusing any substance.</p>

February - Heart Month

GPC has purchased a new AED, (Automatic External Defibrillator) due to discontinued parts for the previous ones. This new AED is simple, clear, and straightforward to use. There are only 2 buttons, a **Green** button to turn the unit on, and a **Red** button to shock the patient, if needed.



Our AED is located in the vestibule between Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary doors. Adult pads are connected currently, and Pediatric pads are in the AED bag, if needed.

Join us on February 5th 8:30 to 11:00 in Fellowship Hall for a “hands on” opportunity to learn how to use an AED, do compressions on a mannequin, and ask questions regarding life saving techniques.

Becky Stabler, CPR and First Aid instructor, will be joining me to educate our GPC family. There will be an opportunity to sign up for future CPR classes.

AED Demonstration – Feb 5

Demonstrations on using an AED will be held **Sunday, Feb 5th 9-12:30** in Fellowship Hall. **Stop by to see how our AED works!**

The best outcomes to a Cardiac Arrest start with:

- Recognition of an Emergency and calling 911

- Start CPR

- Use of an AED as soon as it arrives on the scene

- Turn the AED on

- Clear the chest, dry it, put the pads on as illustrated on the pads

- Follow directions given

- Push the shock button, if instructed

If an AED is used within a minute of the cardiac arrest, the person has a 90% chance of recovery. The faster it is administered the better the chance of responding with life!

Compressions Only Training – Feb 19

If you don't know how to do CPR but call 911 when someone goes down, they will guide you through **Compression only CPR**. On Feb 19 there will be an opportunity to learn this skill in the Fellowship Hall before you need to use it. After the second and third services, Pam Phillips, GPC Faith Community Nurse and Becky Stabler, Hanover CPR, LLC, will be available to instruct and answer questions.

Note: There will be NO Certificate upon completion of this training. It does not satisfy OSHA safety parameters for workplace safety.

CPR/AED Training Classes – Feb 12 & 25

For a more in-depth training than Compressions Only, try the Adult CPR/AED class.

Becky Stabler, Hanover CPR, LLC, will be offering a discounted training for two different dates.

To register call Becky Stabler, 717-688-5183 or email HanoverCPR@gmail.com. Consider adding First Aid and Pediatric to the CPR/AED. These classes result in Certifications appropriate for work and volunteer positions.

Feb 12, Sunday, 1-4 is a blended presentation of lecture and skills. Part of the class will be online prior to the in-person skills on the 12th. Pre-registration is required so that a link may be sent for the virtual training.

Feb 25, Saturday, is a classroom-based class which starts at 8:30am and ends as the chosen certification is finished. Talk with Becky to get the finishing times based on what you want to take.

Adult CPR/AED \$60 cash/\$63 credit

Adult CPR/AED/First Aid \$70 cash/\$73 credit

Adult and Pediatric CPR/AED/First Aid \$70 cash/\$73 credit




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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 2, 2023**

**January & February 2023
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

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

January 29	10:30 a.m. Combined Worship Service with Ordination and Installation of Church Officers, Congregational Luncheon & Meeting following worship
February 5	Rev. Caleb McClure Preaching Communion
February 12	Rev. Caleb McClure Preaching

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