

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

May 2, 2023

Holy Ground

³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. (Luke 24:32-35)

The Emmaus disciples knew their lives were changed by their encounter with Jesus. They knew, what we know, the church (Christ's body at work in the community – local, national and international) is a good place to be...they also knew this news is *too good to keep to themselves*.

So, they got up to tell the people they knew well what had happened to them (their story) and then let their story be used by God to do what God can do – change lives. We are called to share our story (our testimony) with the people we know.

Anna Carter Florence, preaching professor at Columbia Theological Seminary, writes, "...testimony is not perception; it is the report itself, or the narration of what has happened." We share our story and let the listener decide what they will do with the story.

The distance between the speaker's mouth and the listener's ears is what Rev. Fred Rogers (of Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood) calls *Holy Ground* – "[In this space] God can and will do what God needs to do in order that the message might be heard." It may not happen immediately – though it will happen.

We share what we've experienced.
We don't have to prove a thing.
We talk about our journey.
We let God do the rest.

Like the Emmaus Disciples, may our hearts burn – may God's grace come alive – may we share the story with others so they too might experience the Good News.

Amen!



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Outdoor Service
Youth Sunday
Sunday May 14th
at 10:30am

Held at the Rec Park
 Please bring lawn chairs
 or blankets

Golf cart rides available from the Sterner Building for those with mobility issues.

In case of inclement weather, there will be one service in the Sanctuary at 10:30 am.

(The service will be live-streamed.)

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.

April 10 - May 14 please contact Mary Beth Shoemaker at 610-730-5051.

May 15 - June 11 please contact Ellie Bilz at 201-739-8774.



The Presbyterian Women Committee and all GPC Presbyterian Women (and Men) had another successful Rummage and Bake sale, April 14 and 15, 2023 in Fellowship Hall. The proceeds were \$3,425 from the Rummage Sale and \$350 from the Bake/Lunch Sale, bringing the total to \$3,775, which along with future proceeds will be given to local non-profits through the Gettysburg Giving Spree. Thank you to everyone who baked and donated their treasures for sale and especially to all of the volunteers below who worked so hard all week to make it a success.



THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS

Elaine Bierly, Ellie Bilz, Patty Bowers, Lucy Breighner, Lori Bridel, Sonja Brown, Suzanne Casteel, Ellie Cleaver, Nancy Cook, Amy Deitch, Jackie Duty, Kathy Eppley, Barb Fair, Cathy Faloon, Debbie Farnsworth, Beth and Bill Fitzpatrick, Mary Flinner, Cathy Gardner, Linda Hagee, Sue Hain, Hank and Margo Har, Katharine Hawkins, Mandi Holler, Merida Hurkett, Mary K. Johnson, Betty and Bryan Jones, Melanie Keller, Kathy Kircher, Sarah Kirk, Susan Kolmer, Melaney and David LaRochelle, Terry Lambert, Tina Lendo, Lori May, Deb Meckley, Deb Litten, Sharon Martin, Pastor Caleb McClure, Janet McCoy, Marilyn McQuaide, Deb Meckley, Penny Messinger, Laurel Minns, Mary Miner, Ben Moroz, Pam Musselman, Rachel Parmentier, Pam Phillips, Agnes Reuter, Cindy Shaeffer, Samantha Richards, Barbara Roy, Caleb Sellers, Bob Smith, Becky Stabler, Linda Thompson, Larry Wagner, Becky and Barry Wareham, Bev and Lee Weber, Harry Winsheimer, Deb Wolf and all of the wonderful bakers.

MISSION PRAYER LIST

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

5/7 **Accion Ministries**

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.

5/14 **Mission Bright Star**

Our gift-giving ministry to children of incarcerated parents

5/21 **Ben & Emily Okello**

Okello's are in Kenya overseeing an orphanage with many children. Ben also plants churches throughout Kenya

Please consider including them in your own prayers!

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

May

May 7	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Garden Theology Program
May 14	10:30 a.m.	YOUTH SUNDAY & MOTHER' DAY Combined Worship at Rec Park
May 21	NO HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP	

MidSHIP Schedule

May

May 7	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Garden Theology Program
May 14	10:30 a.m.	YOUTH SUNDAY & MOTHER' DAY Combined Worship at Rec Park
May 21	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Year-End Picnic @ Libby's

THANK YOU!

Our '22-'23 Youth Club season has come to an end but what an incredible year it has been. So much joy, laughter, fellowship, and learning about the Fruits of the Spirit.

We wanted to thank all the youth for their dedication and energy over the season. Also to all the parents and guest speakers for their engagement and flexibility.

Be on the look-out for some events over the summer and we will see you in the fall!

Barb Sanders and Kyle Clark

"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:

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.

New Adult Sunday School Classes

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

Sunday May 7th

9:30 in MacAskill

Presented by Mary Flinner

Documents such as living wills, powers of attorney, 5 Wishes, and services about Palliative Care and Hospice will be reviewed. The goal is to raise awareness to end of life issues and to communicate our wishes in a timely manner to our health care team and families.

Sunday, May 21st
9:30 a.m. in MacAskill room

"Around the World"

Presented by Pastor Dale Williams

Please join Pastor Dale Williams as he shares his exciting account of his experiences and observations from his 128 day world cruise that he will complete May 12.

Learn how Jesus has touched the lives of different cultures in the world.



Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Lori May on the recent death of her uncle.



Stephen Ministry

Stressed? Discouraged?

Lonely? Sad?

Don't Suffer Alone. Help Is Available.

Sometimes we fall into a trap where we think it's a sign of weakness to ask for help. So when we're stressed, discouraged, lonely, or sad, we try to keep our struggles hidden and are reluctant to ask for help. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for others—and allow others to care for us in our time of need. If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential one-to-one care, encouragement, and support to help you through a tough time. 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.

The Contemporary Worship Alpha Band has been busy rewriting and singing some golden oldies. Here are some words from songs that were recently sung by the group:

EASTER SUNRISE

*(Words rewritten by Steve Kinsey
music by The Eagles-Tequila Sunrise)*

Early morning Easter sunrise
His glory spreads across the skies...Jesus rise.
Gather by the empty tomb now
The angel rolled the stone aside...His spirit flies.

Bridge 1: On a lonely hill below
We see three crosses in a row
Easter morning glow...

His love is reaching all around now
Hear this joyful Easter morning sound... His love
abounds.
Jesus bled and died for me
He took my sins upon that tree...Now I'm free.

Bridge 2: We lift up our prayer to heaven
With thankful hearts we praise His name
Jesus reigns.

End: It's an early morning Easter sunrise
His glory spreads across the sikes...Jesus rise. Ooh



GOD THE SON

*(Words rewritten By Bill Fitzpatrick
music by Johnny Rivers-Seventh Son)*

Everybody's talkin' about God the Son
In the whole wide world there is only one

And He's the one...He's the one
Jesus Christ is the one, the one who is God the Son.

Well He cast out demons; put 'em into swine.
He even turned the water into wine
Healed the sick...Raised the dead...
He even made a cripple jump out of his bed.

And He's the one...*(yes, He's the One)*...He's the one...
(Yes, He's the One)
Jesus Christ is the one, the one who is God the Son...
(One who is God the Son)

Gave a pot-luck dinner for five thousand folks
He walked on water...Didn't need a boat.
He can calm the storm, make the blind man see
Just think of what He's gonna do for you and me

And He's the one...*(yes, He's the One)*...He's the one...
(Yes, He's the One)
Jesus Christ is the one, the one who is God the Son...
(One who is God the Son)

When He was born in a stable a long time ago
Angels in the sky they put on a show
He came down here to save us all from sin...
And all you gotta do is just believe in Him.

And He's the one...*(yes, He's the One)*...He's the one...
(Yes, He's the One)
Jesus Christ is the one, the one who is God the Son...
(One who is God the Son)

Young at Heart Potluck and Program

Don't miss our last get-together for this season

(but we'll be back in September).



Join us for the **May 11th potluck lunch at 12 noon** in Fellowship Hall. Following the lunch, we will move to the MacAskill Room for our speaker, Jill Sellers, a member of our congregation if you haven't met her yet. She will tell us about how she's gotten acclimatized here in Gettysburg since she and her family moved here (during the time of Covid) when "getting together" was still a distanced endeavor. She is now working on Mainstreet Gettysburg and she will tell us more about it.

As before, we will all bring along a salad, vegetable, or dessert to fill out our fried chicken menu. Encourage friends to join us (with their side dish too!), but we do require that everyone needs to **RSVP to Penny in the office by Friday, May 5, 2023 including how many will be coming.**

Phone: 717-334-1235 or email gpcadmin@gettysburgpresbyterian.org.

GPC HIKING CLUB

May 20th Hike is near Harper's Ferry. We will be hiking at Bolivar Heights Battlefield. We will leave the church parking lot at 10 am. We will plan on eating at the Anvil Inn around 1pm. I'd like to make a reservation so I need a headcount. We will also be carpooling.

My email is jennifermaueclark@gmail.com.



Mexico Mission Trip for 2023 Cancelled

As you may be aware, the Mission Team has struggled to get participation for the 2023 Mexico Mission trip. As of last week, only three people from GPC had committed to go, with two maybes, and two friends from Vienna Presbyterian Church. We reached the go/no-go decision point last weekend. After discussions with leadership, the Accion Trip Coordinator, and Accion President Oscar Dorantes, we have reached the unfortunate decision to cancel our trip for this year.

There are numerous pros and cons about sending a small group on a mission trip. Certainly, we realize that God can do amazing things despite our size when we lean on His strength, not our own. Still, in total we felt that the bonding and service opportunities were just not available with our small numbers. That being said, GPC Missions is fully committed to supporting Accion as budgeted for 2023 and will be pursuing funding a visit from Oscar this fall to help reconnect a new generation of members with the work of Accion. We hope and pray for a better response for 2024.

We have also set Sunday, July 16th as a day to reunite with previous Mexico Mission Trip participants to attend church at GPC together, have a group reunion, and record an encouraging video for Accion and the youth that it serves! We hope you can be there!

Yours in Christ's service,
Tom Kolmer, Missions Team Elder



KEYS FOR GOD'S KINGDOM



Join us **June 12–15** as we take a look at some kings and a queen from the Bible and their stories to learn some key characteristics that will help make us good leaders in God’s Kingdom! We’ll learn from David, Solomon, Esther and Jesus through drama, games, song, scripture and the ever popular marketplace. Each day concludes at Celebration—a time of upbeat worship that gets everyone involved.

All children ages 3(must be potty trained) - grade 5(completed) are invited to join us. Registration begins May 7 and ends June 4 (registration form below.)

LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

- Leader for Games
- Someone for Photography / Powerpoint
- 11 Volunteers for Marketplace
- Youth for Dramas

SUPPLIES NEEDED: Old Metal Keys, any size, shape and color

For more information or to volunteer, contact Kyle at 717-334-1235, ext. 5 or kyle@gettysburgpresbyterian.org

Keys for God’s Kingdom

Child’s Name _____ Parent’s Name _____
 Address _____ Phone # _____
 Age _____ Grade completed _____ Birth date _____ Allergies _____
 Email _____
 Emergency Contact _____ Phone # _____
 Physician _____ Phone # _____

You can sign up on-line by scanning this QR code

Or you can type in this link: <https://forms.gle/kD8eQgPD3XEUC747>



Future Events at GPC:

- **Hearing Screenings**

Tuesday, May 16th from 08:45-09:45 &

Sunday, May 21st from 08:30-12:30 in Eisenhower Lounge.



Screenings will be completed by GPC member, Dr. Kathy Mellott, Dr. of Audiology. These screenings will be approx. 10 minutes each with recommendations given at the completion of the screening. *Ages 5 and up are welcome.* Signup sheet are available in Fellowship Hall.

- **Free Chair Yoga Classes:** *All community members are welcome.* Every Tuesday at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Instructor: Julie Falk Invite your friends! There will be **NO CHAIR YOGA held June 13th.**
- **NEW: Mini Fair for Seniors:** Sponsored by Hanover/Adams Senior Resources **May 18th in GPC Fellowship Hall from 10am-12noon.** More details to follow soon. Mark your calendars!
- **Blood pressure Sunday:** May 21 from 8:30am to 12:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Roller Coasters: I love to ride roller coasters. My favorite has always been “The Comet” at Hershey Park. The wooden roller coaster was built in 1946 and was the last roller coaster purchased by Milton Hershey. The maximum speed is 50 MPH. The first climb goes up a 97-foot lift then drops at a 96-foot, 47-degree angle. It’s a doozy!!! This roller coaster is not the fastest in the park but is filled with many memories for me personally, my childhood friends, and now my family.

Life is like a roller coaster in many ways. Up and down, sharp curves, upside down, plateaus, etc. Dealing with a new medical diagnosis can certainly take you on an emotional roller coaster ride. One day you are healthy, the next day you are given a diagnosis that rocks your world, causing disappointment, frustration, etc. Along the way there is confusion, doubt, and clarity.

Our faith is what gets us through these difficult challenges. Many feelings evolve: shock, disbelief, guilt, loneliness, fear, anger, gratefulness, depression, helplessness, abandonment, hope, etc. The important thing to remember is that God is ever present with us, providing us comfort and compassion. Perhaps it’s a note in the mail, a simple bouquet of flowers, a phone call, a meal, a text, an email card that helps us realize that God is in control and reaching out to us in simple ways through friends who are praying for us. These things happen when we need uplifting the most!

Be the beacon of light for others that are suffering. It only takes a few minutes to make a call or send a note to others to provide encouragement. If you need a listening ear, or a visit, please reach out to me!

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

THE PRAYER PROJECT – MAY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Loving Father, we thank You today for Penny, our Administrative Assistant, and all that she does. Please bless her and all the work of her hands.	2 O Breath of Life, heal those with asthma, plus those with any type of breathing issues. Let not human activity cause our very air to become poisonous.	3 Lord of the least, we often overlook the world around us. Today we pray for bees and all other pollinators vital to growing crops. Help us to save them.	4 On this National Day of Prayer, we praise You, God, and humbly pray Your blessing on our nation. Make all of our leaders wise, godly and effective.	5 God who cares for us, we pray today for those who are laid off from their jobs. Bless each with a new job and help them to weather any financial storm.	6 Protector God, we pray that today and every day, people would not make the decision to drink and drive, nor drive under any type of harmful influence.
7 Renewing God, as our youth take their vows of confirmation, bless each with a lifelong journey of ever-growing faith and relationship with You.	8 God of all, thank You for the Red Cross, Lend-A-Hand and all other organizations which respond to crises. Bless their work and ensure they have enough volunteers.	9 Today, O Loving Father, we lift up to You the Hanover School District. Please bless staff and students in every way.	10 Holy Spirit, we pray that You imbue each of us with Your holy fruit of forbearance. May we all cultivate forbearance in our relationships.	11 Compassionate Father, we pray today for all children without loving parents. Bless each with a forever home and the joy of a loving and secure family.	12 Great Physician, thank You for the work of nurses everywhere. Bless each with endless energy and compassion. Also bless the work of our parish nurse, Pam Phillips.	13 Creator God, thank You for apples and other stone fruits. We pray that 2023 may be a very successful year for all growers here in Adams County and across the world.
14 Jesus, son of Mary, thank You for mothers. Bless all mothers and enable each to be the best possible mother to her children.	15 Abba God, thank You for our families. Bless all of Earth's families, strengthen each, and bring peace, love and acceptance to each.	16 Renewing Spirit, guide each of us by the daily renewing of our minds, not to justify our own beliefs, but to always act according to Your will.	17 Just God, we pray today for those who are the victims of identity theft. Bless their efforts to reestablish themselves and bring all identity thieves to justice.	18 Miracle-working Jesus, please heal any who have cancer. We thank You for Your many healings during Your time on Earth and beg You to continue to miraculously heal.	19 Guiding Spirit, we thank You for the work of the technicians who ensure we have good audio-video each worship service. Please bless all of their work.	20 Dearest Jesus, as You always reached out to strangers and the marginalized, help each of us to welcome strangers in our midst and show them Your love.
21 We praise You O God for being our strength and shield, for blessing us with compassions which are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness!	22 Eternal Father, we praise You that You are always there for us. Whether young, middle-aged or old, we thank You for Your daily and eternal care for each of us.	23 Prince of Peace, come into every relationship and enable each of us to initiate reconciliation in any which are broken, whether marriage, family or friends.	24 Holy Father, we thank You for the Men's Interfaith Fellowship and its work. Please bless its efforts to bless men throughout Adams County.	25 Reconciling Lord, we pray for all couples going through rough times. Help each to rediscover their shared love and commitments to one another.	26 Healing God, there are so many who are forced to use wheelchairs. Bless each with daily strength and bless the work of those determined to help people walk again.	27 Jesus who wept, many are those whose sorrow seems bottomless. Comfort all who weep or mourn and show each of us how we can help those with deep sorrows.
28 Come, Spirit, Come! Fall upon each of us today as You did at that first Pentecost long ago. We praise you that You are with us always.	29 Lord of all Lords, even as we remember today those who died for our freedoms, help us to effect freedom for all peoples everywhere.	30 God who holds our futures, bless all graduating seniors. Guide each to their best lives and bring each into Your fold so they may ever serve You.	31 Invincible Spirit, we pray for Your strength and guidance for those trying to quit any form of tobacco use. Give each success and help our youth to never get started.			

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

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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, May 11, 2023**

May 2023

GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| May 7 | <i>Garden Theology: "The Soil"</i>
Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching
Communion |
| May 14 | 10:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship @ Rec Park
Youth Sunday |
| May 21 | <i>Garden Theology: "The Light"</i>
Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching |

To view live stream, go to: www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org
Just below the announcement pictures.