

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

September 12, 2023

A prayer produced by the Office of Theology and Worship for a Remembrance Service on September 11th. May this prayer help you to remember and pray for the victims of this terrible day and the families and friends that were forever changed. Let us be mindful of Christ and the wholeness and peace we find in knowing his love...

"O Lord of compassion, who wept at the tomb of Lazarus, who mourned over the city of Jerusalem, who stretched out your hands to embrace the suffering of the world on the hard wood of the cross, draw near to us now and hear our prayers as we remember all those who lost their lives in the tragedy of September 11.

We remember the individuals who died— office workers, firefighters, police officers, airline passengers, flight crews.

We remember also those who, driven by darkened zeal, committed these awful deeds. Mindful of your judgment and your mercy,

We remember the families and friends of the victims who continue to mourn the loss of parents, children, husbands, wives, companions. O Christ, the great healer, as you comforted Mary and Martha in their time of sorrow, so encircle grieving families with your loving care.

We remember the Presbyterian churches who lost faithful members in the violence. O God of hope, give them assurance that as the one body of Christ, we may look forward to being united with them in the glory of Christ's resurrection.

We remember the cities of New York and Washington DC, which suffered particular losses on September 11. Lord Jesus our Savior, as you longed to comfort Jerusalem, so bring comfort to the neighborhoods and communities still recovering from the devastation of plane crashes and collapsed buildings. Surround those devastated by tragedy with a growing sense of your presence, and lead them again to hope.

We remember all the nations who lost citizens in the tragedy of September 11. God of all nations, watch over every country of the earth, comfort them in their distress, and draw us together into your one kingdom that cannot be shaken.

Almighty God, we remember before you all of the people and nations— those who have lived among us and those who lived far away— who have directed our steps in the way, opened our eyes to the truth, inspired our hearts by their witness, and strengthened our wills by their devotion. We honor them in their death, and pray that we may one day dwell with them in the joy of your eternal kingdom. Amen."

Inside

- Capital Fund Drive
- SHIP/MidSHIP & Youth Group info
- Contemporary Worship Needs
- Children's Communion Class
- Family Class
- Music Needs
- Rise Against Hunger
- "Christmas Wonderland" Production
- Fall Small Group Sign Up
- Kids Club Registration

GPC Members,

Capital Fund Drive

We have embarked on a season of change here at GPC! As we have welcomed our new head of staff, Caleb, and wished our long-time associate pastor Lou farewell over the last year, we are all anxious and excited about what the future holds for GPC. Change is always an opportunity to look at ways to improve how we serve our community, how we tend to the cares of the least among us and how we can bring more of our community to Christ.

However, in order to do all of these things, we need a facility and an infrastructure that can support God's plan for our church. As has been mentioned in church recently, we are in need of your support for much-needed repairs to our facilities in order to allow our GPC building to continue to provide nourishment and faith-based support for both our membership and the greater Gettysburg community. I would hope that you would all prayerfully consider what you are able to pledge to support this Capital Fund Drive and bring your pledges to church on September 17th, Pledge Sunday.

Imagine what changes God can bring to GPC and pray how can help support those changes both now and into the future!

Thanks,
Mike Brubaker

My Loving Church,

You have stood with me for the past nine months as I've fought this terrible cancer battle. As I had my last chemo treatment yesterday, I was confident that it was your prayers and cards and encouragement that had helped me get this far. I remember sharing with a church friend who visited me early on that I was afraid the chemo would be so hard I would quit because I wasn't brave enough. She told me not to worry, that they would be brave for me. She was so right. You were brave for me, my friends. Thank you. Thank you for all of it.

Love, Bonnie

THANK YOU NOTE:

A thank you to the many people from elders, to deacons, to volunteer leaders, to my wonderful staff team members, who wrote small blurbs, made wonderful posters, and showed up in the days leading up to Kick-Off Sunday. You all did a wonderful job!

Thank you. Pastor Caleb.

Our thoughts and prayers are with:



Freda Hulton's family upon her recent death.

Lee Ann & Linda Larson on the recent death of Andrew Larson.



High School Fellow- SHIP

This year will be full of fun, faith, field trips, and most importantly, fellowship. Our normal meeting time will be 5:30 to 7:00PM unless otherwise noted. This year we will be offering dinner before we head into our program. We hope to see you this fall and if you have any questions, please contact Kyle Clark at kyle@gettysburgpresbyterian.org



Mid-SHIP

This year we will be offering dinner before we head into our program.

Parents of middle school kids should have received an informational letter from Libby. If you have any questions, or you did not receive the letter, please contact Libby Crowe at (717) 476-0821 or mllibby@gettysburgpresbyterian.org. Think of a friend or two who would love to join you at Mid-SHIP on Sunday evenings!



Youth Club is for kids in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade. We will meet most Sunday afternoons from 4:30 to 6:00PM unless otherwise noted. Join us each week for fellowship, fun games, service opportunities, meditative moments, learning about the Beatitudes, dinner and so much more! Sign up sheets can be found on the church website, and on the poster in Fellowship Hall.

Please email
kyle@gettysburgpresbyterian.org for
any questions.

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

September / October

Sept. 17	3:00 - 6:00 p.m.	All-Church RISE Against Hunger Event (* Please sing up on church website.)
Sept. 24	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Discussion/Games
Oct. 1	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Discussion/Games

Mid-SHIP SCHEDULE

September / October

Sept. 17	3:00 - 6:00 p.m.	All-Church RISE Against Hunger Event (* Please sing up on church website.)
Sept. 24	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Picnic & Games at Libby's House
Oct. 1	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship & Games

YOUTH CLUB

September / October

Sept. 17	3:00 - 6:00 p.m.	All-Church RISE Against Hunger Event (* Please sing up on church website.)
Sept. 24	4:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Beatitudes at GPC
Oct. 1	4:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Beatitudes at GPC



Contemporary Worship Service News



The Contemporary Worship Service is moving to the 11:00 a.m. slot this fall, right after the Sunday School hour. We hope that this will enable everyone to attend one of our wonderful Sunday School classes, as well as a worship service, each week.

Here are some Contemporary Worship Service needs this fall:

- Someone to put together the Communion elements once a month.
- Two PowerPoint operators.
- Someone to work with the ushers in a coordinating/supervisory role.

For more information about any of these, please contact Libby Crowe at (717)487-0821 or mllibby@gettysburgpresbyterian.org.

GPC Hiking Club

September 16th

It is our family hike. We are going to hike at the Bear Branch Nature Center near Westminster. There is a nature center, bird sanctuary and hiking trails. We will leave the church parking lot at 10am. Bring water, sunscreen, bug spray and a lunch.

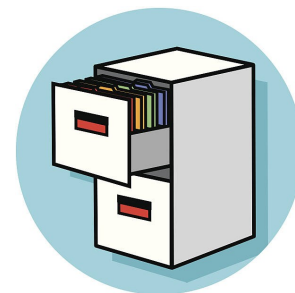
Questions- email jennifermaueclark@gmail.com

Have a blessed day,
Jen



In search of a filing cabinet, 2 drawers (long or short) that has a working lock.

If willing to donate, please contact Pam Phillips at 410-596-0777. Pick up available.



Family Class




A new class, the Family Class, is gathering in the Eisenhower Lounge at 9:45 am for parents and caregivers of children and youth. It will be facilitated by Pastor Caleb. The purpose of the class is to form new relationships, tackle difficult issues, and commiserate with one another about parenting over Scripture with laughter, tears, and food. We'd love to have you join us!



CHILDREN'S CHOIR
 (ages 3 to 5th grade)
 Meets every Sunday
 during the 11AM
 Worship Service

Adult Sunday School Class
“Narrative and Stories that Create Cultural, National and Religious Identity.”

Dr. Tamara Schwartz and Dr. Stephen Stern will present a 6-week course on the power of narratives and the Nation State of Israel. In the first three weeks, Tammy will lay the foundation of how narratives and stories create the foundation for national and religious identity. The following 3 weeks, Stephen will discuss the specific narratives in Israel, yesterday, today, and tomorrow that capture the on-going struggle to control Jewish and Israeli identity.



Children’s Communion Class

During Sunday School this year, our 4th and 5th grade students will learn about Communion on September the 24th at 9:45AM. This class, led by Phyllis, will prepare these students to receive communion on World Communion Sunday, October 1st, in worship. If you have a child in 4th grade or higher, you will be receiving a letter in the mail with more information. Please contact Kyle at 334-1235, ext. 5 or kyle@gettysburgpresbyterian.org if you have further questions.

“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:
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, toothbrushes, tooth paste, floss, hair brushes, individually packaged crackers, cookies or candy.

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.

Sept. 11 - Oct. 8 Don Stabler
 at: 717-451-4310 

The Congregational Life Team is delighted to sponsor a trip once again to
The Christian Life Assembly in Camp Hill for their annual
Christmas Wonderland presentation;

“The Not So Perfect Christmas”

Saturday December 9, 2023 @ 2:00 PM



It's Christmas at the Mistletoe Lodge! What could be more perfect than a Hollywood film production company coming to shoot a Christmas Special right there in the small town of Mistletoe? Well, let us just say, things do not go quite as planned. With the help of the staff and local friends of the Lodge, you will learn that things do not have to be perfect to be meaningful.

In “The Not So Perfect Christmas,” you will enjoy beautiful music and dance, lots and lots of laughter, and a telling of the actual Christmas story that shows us, once again, that the most significant moments can come from the most unexpected places.

The Christmas Wonderland Lobby Experience, enjoy special music, live nativity, tasty treats and more in the lobby. Doors open one hour prior to performances.

Tickets cost \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students (age 5-18) Sign up in Fellowship Hall or you can contact Peter North at (717)339-9594 or by email at pnorth@gettysburg.edu with questions.

Sign-ups for this event will end Sunday October 2 as tickets sell out quickly.

GPC NEEDS YOUR VOICE



WE NEED YOUR VOICES (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) for our ONE GPC Adult Choir.
This choir sings for the 8:30 a.m. traditional service.

This choir meets for weekly rehearsals on Wednesday evenings, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the church balcony. We also have a brush-up rehearsal Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. prior to the service. We rehearse songs [of wide variety] ahead in the schedule, which are a mix of SATB, SAB, and two-part mixed pieces. We also do occasional cantata length pieces for special times of the year (i.e.. Advent, Lent, etc.), usually with an orchestra brass group or solo instruments.

A CHOIR IS NOT A CHOIR WITHOUT A VOICE....YOUR VOICE!!

Please pray about it, and join us for some fun fellowship, in this important ministry of our church.

You may contact me, David Conklin (*Director of Music/Choir Director*), at dconklin721@comcast.net or my cell (717) 357-7753, if you are interested in singing with one of our choirs, or just come to rehearsal.

If you love to sing...

If you love to serve God...

Come and join our choir...no audition necessary!



Other Music Ministry Opportunities Here at GPC

Chapel (Children's) Choir
(ages 3 - 5th grade)

Directed by Krystal Nolte—will rehearse weekly following the children's dismissal from the 11:00 a.m. service, beginning Kick-Off Sunday, September 10.

Adult Bell Choir

Directed by Carrie Conklin—will rehearse weekly on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs choir room, beginning September 13.

Youth Choir

Directed by Carrie Conklin—separate from the Omega Praise Band, singing a wide variety of styles. Rehearsing at the Director's discretion and singing three to four times a year at our Traditional service and occasionally at combined services.

Omega Praise Band

Directed by Bonnie Wright—this is a youth contemporary worship Band. They lead contemporary worship Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. on the second Sunday of each month and will usually Rehearse Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

Alpha Praise Band

Directed by David Conklin—this is an adult contemporary worship band. They meet to rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 5:45 - 7:00 p.m., down in the MacAskill Room. They are the anchor group, leading worship all Sundays except the second of each month.



Join us at Gettysburg Presbyterian Church!

Sunday, September 17th from 3pm – 6pm as we pack 25,000 individual meals to fight hunger around the world!

Registration and donations accepted at www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org



Your Missions Team is happy to present the opportunity to participate in the Rise Against Hunger meal packing event TODAY at GPC from 3pm-6pm. This is a fun event for all ages, and a great chance to be impactful with your friends and community members! This event is appropriate for children as young as 6, adults of all ages, and can accommodate those with mobility needs!

We currently have 102 volunteers registered to participate, and you are still welcome to come! We will run two shifts of packing, one from 3-4:30, and one from 4:30-6pm. The staff members from RAH will lead us in packaging 25,000 individual meals to be sent around the world, helping to alleviate food insecurity. Our donations are approaching 95% of the total needed to make this happen, THANK YOU! Any donations in excess of those required for the event will go directly to RAH to help with their projects around the world!

Registration and Donations can still be accomplished through the link provided at the top right of the church website: www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

Sign up with your friends and neighbors! Bring a work group as a team-building opportunity! Invite someone outside of our GPC community to see all the good things happening here!

Please mark your calendars for September 17th, visit the information and registration sites. There have been some difficulties registering on the website. If you encounter this, PLEASE COME ANYWAY! We will put you to work! Please notify me at the address below.

For more information, please contact GPC Missions Chairman Tom Kolmer at tomkolmer@gmail.com or 717-634-0258.

Thank you!

RISE AGAINST HUNGER MATCHING FUND CHALLENGE!!

GPC has received a generous offer to match all donations for RAH made between now and September 17th up to \$2000 total! Please click on the link on the church website at www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org today to make a donation today and to register to participate in the food packaging event!

Thanks for your support...we'll see you at the Rise Against Hunger event



Sunday School at 9:45am!

Join us for an hour of faith development at all ages.

Men's Bible Study - Crane Library
Family Class - Eisenhower Lounge
Adult Class - MacAskill Room
High School - Youth Room 3rd Floor
Middle School - Sewing Room 3rd Floor
Elementary Classes - Lower Hallway

*Nursery care is provided during this time

For information or questions
 Contact kyle@gettyburgpresbyterian.org

The Sunday School offering for fall 2023 will be donated to Source of Life Ministries and the people of Haiti. Please prayerfully consider a weekly Sunday school offering. Thank you for your help with this worthwhile mission.



Peace Offering Sunday

Sunday, September 24 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.



One of the first things I noticed when I came to Gettysburg Presbyterian Church was the number of talented musicians and singers. GPC has a strong music program. We have several choirs from tiny tots to adult-aged members as well as a beautiful bell choir.

Music is integrated into our lives. We have music at weddings, funerals, worship services, Sunday school classes, Vacation Bible School, etc. Music is relational. Music connects us. We can be transported back to a specific time when we hear a specific song. Music is a large part of all our lives. We sing in the car, we sing in the shower, we sing at work, we sing lullabies to babies, we sing nursery rhymes, we sing in church, and the list goes on and on.

There are multiple genres of music that we each enjoy. Music is a form of therapy. Music is a therapeutic way to help us accomplish a goal under a trained music therapist. The evidence-based approach includes techniques of listening, reflecting, and creating. This therapy is beneficial for all ages.

Music brings us joy, can help with pain, and is effective in treating a variety of health conditions, including cardiac, cancer, dementia, and diabetes. Music lowers stress, improves sleep, lowers heart rates and blood pressure. Music has been shown to help those who are suffering from depression and autism, to name a few.

We have lost some incredible musicians of late. The recent death of Jimmy Buffett has affected many people. With his music, you could escape to an island to get away from your daily woes. You could be transported to another place, even if only for a few minutes.

Looking for an outlet for your musical talents? GPC offers plenty of opportunities to develop and showcase your musical talents here at GPC. Reach out to Dave Conklin, our Music Director, to find your niche.



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

GPC 2023 FALL SMALL GROUPS

Engaging God's Word - Colossians

Discover the peace of meeting the God of the Bible in the pages of His Word. Engage Bible Studies take you verse by verse into the richness of the scriptures in ways that impact your heart and illumine your mind.

This is a six-week study. Groups will meet weekly for six weeks beginning the week of October 2. Groups will meet in homes, at the church, retirement communities or restaurants. You will be contacted by your group leader about the exact starting date and location. Each session will run approximately 60-75 minutes. Small group settings promote fellowship, robust discussion, spiritual growth, and prayer. Please call or contact Lloyd Schaeffer, Elder for Adult Discipleship at 717-334-0586 (clschaeffer2009@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Deadline to sign-up is September 17th
===== 2023 Fall Small Group Sign-Up =====

_____ Monday – 7:00 p.m. via Zoom - Leader: Sue Kolmer

_____ Tuesday – 10:30 a.m. at GPC in Eisenhower Lounge - Leader: Richard Hagee

_____ Wednesday – 1:30 p.m. at Cross Keys Village - Leaders: Rev. Harry Winsheimer and Mary K. Johnson

_____ Friday – 4:00 p.m. at SpiriTrust Lutheran Village - Leader: Merida Hurkett
 (This group is called "All Are Welcome". We are meeting in the conference room at SpiritTrust Lutheran. You do not need to be a resident of Spirit Trust to attend.)

NAME _____
 PHONE _____ EMAIL _____
 ADDRESS _____
 NUMBER OF BOOKS _____ Cost of book is \$8.00

Kids Club

It's time for the Fall session of Kids Club! We will meet on Wednesdays from Sept. 27 to October 25. This series is for children in Kindergarten – Grade 2 and will be held in Fellowship Hall. Our theme will be "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know." 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 Wednesday, September 20**. Just fill out the registration form below and bring, email (kyle@gettysburgpresbyterian.org) 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 Kyle in the church office at 717-334-1235, or call or text Pam Rowland at 717-357-0820 if you have any questions.

In His Service,

Pam



Kids Club Registration Fall 2023

Wednesdays, September 27 - October 25 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM.

Child's Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Home Address _____

Phone _____ Cell: _____ (Do you accept texts? __Yes __No)

E-mail _____

Birth Date _____ Grade _____ School _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Phone _____

Allergies or Medical Condition that we should be aware of _____

Parent Help:

___ Sept. 27 ___ Oct. 4 ___ Oct. 11 ___ Oct. 18 ___ Oct. 25

Media Opt Out

We may feature your child in photos, videos, or audio recordings, or identify them by name in print and/or digital media. We will assume that we have your permission to do so unless you indicate otherwise by checking the box below.

- DO NOT** use photos, videos, or audio recordings of my child, or my child's name in any media.

Please note: GPC cannot control the disclosure or use of photographs or video taken by participants at events that are open to parents and community members. We encourage all parents to use social media sites responsibly.

Parent Signature _____

Date _____


Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
208 Baltimore Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Office: (717) 334-1235
Fax: (717) 334-0666
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, September 21, 2023**

September 2023
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Traditional Worship @ 8:30 a.m.
Contemporary Worship @ 11:00 a.m.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| September 17 | Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching
"Capital Fund Drive" |
| September 24 | Rev. Michael Allwein preaching |
| October 1 | Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching
Communion |

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