

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

October 10, 2023

"Let our Faith be More than Anthems"

We sang this song on Sunday at the Contemporary Worship Service and I was moved into an emotional place I rarely find myself on Sunday mornings. As a pastor, it is difficult for me to both lead you in worship and worship myself, and yet from time to time the Spirit moves and confronts me with a truth: our faith must be more than anthems.

This song was sung right after Bonnie Wright shared a story about her dear friends who took a trip to Israel just before Hamas attacked. She shared that they had made it to Jordan and were safe, with all praise and thanksgiving to God.

And yet we know so many did not make it to safety. Now, as bombs land on the Gaza Strip, estimates of 180,000 people have been displaced. The conflict between Israel and Palestine is decades old and beyond nuanced, and difficult to wrap our minds around.

When the way forward is hard to conceptualize, when the problem is too large for simple solutions, we must remember: we believe that Jesus conquered death. We believe in the resurrection. If this is true, and we affirm that it is, then how much more so is it true that with prayer, God will help us all to find a resolution to conflict everywhere? Amen, we know God will.

And we also know that prayer is an action verb. Let your faith be more than anthems. Right now, if you wish to support those innocent festival goers who were attacked, if you wish to support children and families in Gaza who no longer have access to food, water, electricity, there are several international organizations that are doing their best to work with innocents on either side of this conflict:

To help humanitarian efforts in Gaza:

Doctors without Borders (quickly running out of medical supplies)
Egyptian Red Crescent (medical supplier for Gaza)
Mercy Corps (food and water for Gaza)
Palestine Children's Relief Fund (food, clothing, medication)

To help humanitarian efforts in Israel:

The Women's Zionist Organization of America (hospital in Jerusalem - treating soldiers and civilians)
The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (families, children, elderly)
IsraAID (Israeli based humanitarian group)
Magen David Adom (National EMS Organization)

We believe. Know that God hears our prayers.

Pastor Caleb

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*We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's comin' back again
We believe*

*So, let our faith be more than anthems
Greater than the songs we sing
And in our weakness and temptations
We believe
We believe*

Travis Ryan Music ©2013

A Heartfelt Thank You from Jerry Cleaver

I want to thank my family, my friends, neighbors and all the members of GPC for their prayers and kind words for my neck surgery on September 26th at York Hospital. I am especially thankful for the doctors and staff at York for their skills, whose work was guided by OUR LORD. I am getting better each day, but will not be back to "normal" for probably another 6 weeks.

God bless you all,

Jerry Cleaver

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

October

Oct. 15	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Discussion/Games
Oct. 22	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Discussion/Games
Oct. 29	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fire Pit in GPC Parking lot

Mid-SHIP SCHEDULE

October

Oct. 15	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship & Games
Oct. 22	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship & Games
Oct. 29	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fire Pit in GPC Parking lot

"Bear One Another's Burdens" October 22

Led by Jen Clark,
a Stephen Minister and Leader

Part One of the class is a Bible study about "one another" passages found in the New Testament. Part Two of the class is a presentation about Stephen Ministry, detailing what it is and how it operates in our congregation. Stephen Ministry is a wonderful outreach of Christ's love both to our own members and to the community. Come learn more about this program.

YOUTH CLUB

October

Oct. 15	4:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Beatitudes at GPC
Oct. 22	4:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Beatitudes at GPC
Oct. 29	4:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Halloween Party Costumes

Miriam, Through the Looking Glass – Women's Retreat

Explore the life of Miriam, the sister of Moses, as we see ourselves reflected in the roles we take. Debby Madden, Associate Certified Christian Educator, will lead us through portions of Exodus which highlight Miriam's role in "Greatest Story Ever Told." We will share our stories too!

The women from **Gettysburg Presbyterian Church (GPC)**, **Great Conewago Presbyterian Church (GCPC)**, and **Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church (LMCPC)** are invited to come together for this day of study, sharing and community building. Babysitting will be provided for children up to the age of 5. **GPC Adult Education is organizing the event.**

Date: October 28, 2023

Time: 8:00 Arrival and Registration
8:30am – 3:00pm Program

Location: Great Conewago Presbyterian Church, 174 Red Bridge Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Cost: \$25 per person (includes lunch) (Financial assistance available)

Register by Oct 22: Email: NatureStabler@gmail.com

Call: Becky Stabler, 717-688-5183

In-Person: between services and Sunday School in Fellowship Hall

Brochures will be in the Church office of GPC, GCPC and LMCPC.



**SAVE THE DATE:
Rummage Sale will be
October 20 & 21**

The Fall Rummage Sale is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 20, 8:30-5:00 and Saturday, Oct. 21, 8:30-1:00. A Bake Sale and Lunch Food Sale will be held on Friday.

We are asking only 3 bags OR boxes of clean clothing per family IN ADDITION TO usable household goods in working condition. Please donate household items, jewelry, Christmas items, tools. We are not able to take electronics, single drinking glasses (sets only), knives, or plastic deli containers. Any furniture larger than an end table, coffee table or book case, please call or text or email a picture to Debbie Farnsworth.

We'd like to get an idea of the number of volunteers who can help with set up, work the days of the sale, or both. Set-up volunteers are needed Tuesday-Thursday, October 17-19 from 10-5. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or **contact Debbie Farnsworth at 717-451-6851 or debra_farnsworth@yahoo.com**.

Donations can be dropped off Tues.-Wed. (Oct. 17-18) 8:30-5 and Thurs. (Oct. 19) until noon.

Thank you in advance,
Presbyterian Women

**ITEMS FOR RUMMAGE SALE
3 BIG BAGS OR BOXES OF CLOTHING PLUS HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

**CLOTHING – CLEAN SHIRTS, COATS, PANTS, SHOES AND BOOTS, BELTS, SOCKS,
JEWELRY**

GAMES AND TOYS

CDS, RECORDS AND BOOKS

HOUSEWARES

GLASS SETS (NO SINGLE GLASSES)

PLATES AND DISHES

COFFEE MUGS

COOKIE TINS

SETS OF CHINA

WORKING APPLIANCES - COFFEE MAKERS, CAN OPENERS, TOASTERS, CLOCKS

COOKWARE AND UTENSILS - NO KNIVES

TOOLS

ARTWORK, FRAMES, PICTURES

LAMPS AND SHADES

FURNITURE- SIDES TABLES, COFFEE TABLES

NO SOFAS OR LARGE FURNITURE OR CONTACT DEBBIE FARNSWORTH



CHILDREN'S CHOIR
(ages 3 to 5th grade)

Meets every Sunday
 during the 11AM
 Worship Service

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.

Oct. 9 - Nov. 12 contact Mary Ann Remaley at: 717-642-8334.



Preparing Through Life for End of Life

The End-of-Life Committee (an affiliate of Healthy Adams County) is holding an Interactive Resource Fair: "Preparing Through Life for End of Life," on Sunday October 22nd, 2023 from 12:00-3:00 pm at Trinity United Church of Christ in Gettysburg. Representatives from the committee will be on hand to answer questions about the following topics: Advanced Directives, pre-planning for funerals, home care and hospice, grief support, non-medical providers, palliative care and financial planning. Whether you are a caregiver concerned about a loved one, parents who want to plan early to make sure your children are taken care of and do not have to make tough decisions if something should happen to you, or individuals who have questions regarding any of the topics above, this is the event to attend.

In addition to being able to ask questions at the tables, there will be three presentations on three different topics: 12:30-1:00 – Legal Considerations; 1:15-1:45 – Care Provider Panel; 2:00-2:30 – Pre-Planning for Funerals. Each presentation will last about 15 minutes and then there will be 15 minutes for questions.

The event is free and a light lunch will be available. Every attendee will receive a ticket for door prizes and there will be giveaways and resource information.

"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:

October
A Special Offering
"Bag the Bounty"

Participating Food Programs: Adams Rescue Mission, Campus Kitchens, Gettysburg Soup Kitchen, God's Meal Barrel, HACC Career boxes, John's Meals, Ruth's Harvest, Safe Home in Hanover, SCCAP Homeless Shelter & Food Pantry.

Most Needed Items: single serving items, canned fish & meat, canned & boxed meals, Chunky soups & stews, canned fruits & vegetables, rice & pasta, boxed cereals, 100% fruit juice, peanut butter & jelly, shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, deodorant, baby food, diapers, dish soap, laundry detergent, cleaning products, toilet paper, paper towels, toothpaste & toothbrushes.

**FUN AND
FELLOWSHIP
FOR ALL AGES.**



**GAMES,
MUSIC,
CANDY,
FUN, FUN, FUN !**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26TH,
6-8 P.M., FELLOWSHIP HALL**



POT LUCK DINNER
Please bring a dish to share, if able.
BUT MAKE SURE TO ATTEND.

PUMPKIN PAINTING AND DECORATING.
Pumpkins will be provided.

PUMPKIN PARADE for everyone to view our talents.

PLEASE WEAR A COSTUME but it's not required

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall

**stephen
MINISTRY**

Confidentially Caring for Others

Contact:

Rev. J. Caleb McClure, Senior Pastor

Pam Phillips, RN., Faith Community Nurse

Judith Morris; Referral Coordinator

Stephen Ministers Are There to Care!

Are you going through a difficult time —
emotionally, spiritually, or relationally?

Are you lonely, experiencing a crisis,
or simply stressed by everyday life?

You don't have to face it alone.

Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing.

Grief Support Group

October 22, 29, November 2, 12 & January 7

Facilitators: Anne Gallon & Diane Weikert

9:45–10:45 a.m. in Eisenhower Lounge

RSVP: Pam Phillips at 410-596-0777 or

gpcfcn@gettysburgpresbyterian.org

"Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love." Lamentations 3:32

An Invitation to Visit Ben and Emily Okello!

Have you ever wanted to visit the school/orphanage we support in Kenya? Gale Pollock, an Elder of the church, is planning a visit there in the summer of 2024 and wondered if anyone would like to go with her? Ben and Emily have been encouraging a visit from GPC members for many years...this could be your chance! Gale is planning to fly into Nairobi, Kenya and from there to the smaller regional airport near the orphanage. The group would be met by Ben, who would escort us to Scofield School in Suna, Kenya where we would stay in their guest lodge. He would like us to stay for 3-5 days. Don't speak the language? Not to worry! In Kenya people speak both English and Swahili, so most of the children and staff will be able to talk with us and we with them! Following our visit to Scofield, the group could visit one of the National Park/Reserves to see the wildlife.

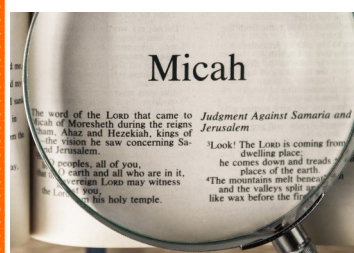
Gale has information from the State Department and the Centers for Disease Control—there are both medical and societal challenges to prepare for, but she is comfortable planning and making the trip. Please let Gale Pollock or the Mission Team know if you would like to participate in this adventure as soon as possible, plans must start in October in order to make this happen!

Gale Pollock, 703-969-3383 galespollock@gmail.com or,
Tom Kolmer, 717-634-0258 tomkolmer@gmail.com

Pastor Caleb's Fall Study

Join us on October 12th at 7pm for a five week study as we dive deep into the prophetic book of Micah and ask a simple question: "What does God require of us?" In this study, we will take a deep dive into Micah's seven chapters as we learn how this prophetic book speaks still speaks truth to us today, even as we prepare for Advent.

Our schedule: October 12th
October 19th
November 2nd
November 9th
November 30th



Hiking Club

Our October Hike is going to be on October 21st. We will leave the church parking lot at 1pm. We are going to be hiking in the Pine Grove Furnace area. It is the fall festival that weekend up there. If you are interested in going up early to the festival let us know and we will meet you somewhere to then go on the hike.

Dress appropriately.

Bring water and a snack.





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@gettysburgpresbyterian.org

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



Special thanks to Josh and Ava Fair for giving a presentation on Source of Life Ministries to our Sunday School classes. More information on Source of Life can be found in Fellowship Hall.

2023 Advent DEVOTIONALS Tales of Christmases Past



Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org


It's time to start preparing our Advent Devotional 2023, entitled "Tales of Christmases Past". This is a congregational project, and we need your submissions. Inspirational stories, memories, poems, photos, or drawings are requested. A page for the Devotional booklet will be made using your submission. There will be a page in full color for each day of Advent with a memory, story, poem, photo or drawing, plus a scripture and/or prayer. The first Sunday of Advent 2023 is December 3rd. Please submit your story, poem, photo or drawing by **November 12th** so that the booklets can be printed in time. If you have any questions or would like to submit a devotion please email

Kathy.Mellott@gmail.com

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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, October 19, 2023**

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

October 15 Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching
October 22 Rev. Peter Roy
October 29 **9:30 a.m. Combined Worship** (NO Sunday School)
Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching

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