

# GRAPEVINE

## "The Pastor's Page"

June 27, 2023

### One Score and Seven

On July 9<sup>th</sup> we will close the chapter on twenty-seven years of ministry together as the congregation gathers in worship, then votes to dissolve my pastoral relationship with this beloved congregation – The Gettysburg Presbyterian Church.

As we prepare to close the chapter on these last 27 years of service together, I lean into the words found in the 2018 Book of Common Worship's liturgy for the *Dissolution of a Pastoral Call*:

With God's help and love may our lives be blessed,  
and our labors fruitful  
as we offer ourselves gladly  
in the service of our common Lord.

I also find the words of the Hymn Blest Be the Tie That Binds singing in my mind:

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love:  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.

Twenty-seven years is a long time.

Candace and I have lived in Gettysburg almost half my life.  
Gettysburg is the longest place either of us has lived and it is the only home our son, Alex, has known.  
This congregation has been a blessing to our family:  
Welcoming and loving Candace and me into this community as newlyweds and seminary graduates.  
Baptizing, Confirming and Loving Alex into the Body of Christ.  
Helping to form Candace's and my pastoral identities.

Again, I borrow words from the liturgy for the *Dissolution of a Pastoral Call*:

Let us give thanks for our journey together in this place:  
For friendships made,  
for joys celebrated  
and for times of nurture and growth, **thanks be to God.**

For wounds healed,  
expectations met,  
gifts given and promises kept, **thanks be to God.**

For our fellowship in Jesus Christ,  
and for the love of God, which has sustained us, **thanks be to God.**

With Gratitude to God for the Journey and Love in my heart for the People,

### **Inside**

- Celebrate Rev. Lou on July 9th!
- Congregational Meeting July 9th
- Calendar of Giving
- New Adult Study
- Children's Church Volunteers **STILL NEEDED**
- Holiday Family Outreach
- Prayer Project Calendar



# Happy Birthday to...

**July 1**

Dennis Meckley  
Erin Stephens

**July 2**

Chris Landauer

**July 3**

Pam VanHoutte

**July 4**

Benjy Conover

Jessica Stone

**July 5**

Kyele Bridel

Michael Kulkusky

Lane Mosser

**July 7**

Leo McGuire

**July 8**

Harrison Crow

**July 9**

Grace Moroz  
Joseph Tassin

**July 10**

Emily Bankert

**July 11**

Deb Bowersox

Robert Lewis

**July 12**

Garrett Kolmer

Frank Pennings

Joan Pore

**July 13**

Zane Graff

Gail Hull

Ellen Raggets

**July 14**

Marlyn Burdge

Carol Merwede

Cynthia Schaeffer

**July 15**

Henry Isherwood  
Audrey Jahn  
Bradley Kime

James Newman

**July 16**

Brian Campbell

Susan Sanders

Randy Umbrell

**July 17**

Chloe McMaster

Grant Sanders

Anne Simpson

Adalyn Smarsh

Adair Toddes

**July 18**

Fred Guinn

Kevin Schmitz

**July 19**

Kim Landauer

Carson Pennings

Randy Smith

**July 20**

Richard Beamer  
Tessa Beauchat  
Robert Deitch

Cathy Franek

Alexander Nyiri

**July 21**

Brayden Beamer

Adelyn Hieber

Sarah Lambert

**July 22**

Caroline Peck

**July 23**

Nancy Coombs

Phyllis Dowd

Marie Levenstein

Daniel Murray

**July 25**

Perla Niguidula-Gish

Patrick Sullivan

**July 26**

Elizabeth Burke  
Melany LaRochelle

**July 27**

Nancy Ball

John Snyder

**July 28**

Doris Elledge

Carol Heiser

Peter North

**July 29**

Emma Dennison

Braden Unger

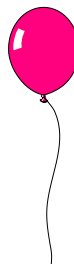
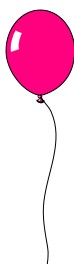
Jonelle Warcup

**July 30**

David Bowman

**July 31**

Jean Sumser



Dear Church Friends,

Words cannot express our gratefulness for all the comfort and support shown by all the cards that grace our home. We thank you also, for poems, books, texts and emails, nature walks, a prayer shawl and phone calls.

The grief journey goes on, but with hope and faith that our loved ones are at peace with Jesus: no more pain and no more troubles. We look for the joy in our daily lives, of which there are many to lift our spirits.

I thank our church for the wonderful Vacation Bible School we recently completed: for the children, the songs, the skits, the lessons and all the laughter that came with it. Many thanks to the VBS team and all their hard work.

Sincerely,  
Carole and Barry Simon

## MISSION PRAYER LIST

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

- 7/2 Marta Bennett**  
Marta is a long-time missionary teaching Theology and Leadership in Nairobi, Kenya.
- 7/9 Habitat for Humanity**  
GPC was a founding church for this ministry which provides home ownership for working poor families.
- 7/16 Carpenter's Gift**  
GPC ministry building primarily handicapped ramps for local people.

Please consider including them in your own prayers!

## Save the Date!

Thursday Night Adult Study is back!

Beginning July 20th, in the MacAskill Room at 7pm.

The study is called "What does it Mean to be Presbyterian?" and will run for five consecutive weeks. More information to come soon.



**CONGREGATIONAL METING** will be held Sunday July 9th immediately following worship for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relationship between Gettysburg Presbyterian Church and Rev. Lou Nyiri.



## Celebrating Rev. Lou Nyiri's Ministry at Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

**Sunday, July 9th**, following the Congregational Meeting we invite you to join us for a special service of celebration as we show our love and appreciation to Pastor Lou! The service will include presentations, stories, and skits.

We are asking that everyone wear a bowtie to worship on that Sunday as a special nod to Pastor Lou. Following worship there will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall with cake and refreshments. After the festivities for the day conclude, you may give the bowtie to Pastor Lou for him to keep. A love offering will be collected - a basket will be on a table in the Fellowship Hall.

Between now and then there is a brown leather journal in the Fellowship Hall for everyone to sign and write special notes to Pastor Lou. Additionally, Libby Crowe is collecting any and all "Lou-isms" for one of the skits - if you have a saying of Lou's memorized, please submit it to Libby.

Please join us as we say goodbye to Reverend Nyiri, and give thanks for his long and beautiful ministry at GPC.

### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United will meet on Wednesday, July 5, 11:30 a.m., at Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, 1710 Biglerville Rd. Following the (\$4) luncheon, our guest speakers will be from Adams County's Collaborating for Youth. Please join us & bring a friend. No reservations needed.

### 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.

June 12 - July 9 please contact Steve Swartzbaugh at: 717-677-1849

July 10 - Aug. 13 please contact Elly Cleaver at: 240-938-4045.



### "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:

**July**

We will be collecting items for  
**Manos Unidas**

Snacks, Paper and School Supplies.



**Summer Children's Church Volunteers Needed**

For the 9:30am service, sign-ups in Fellowship Hall

From July 1 to September 1

Penny Messinger,  
GPC's Administrative Assistant,  
is on "summer hours" which are:  
Mon. - Thurs.  
**8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
&  
**OFF on Fridays.**



**Holiday Family Outreach**  
Raising Money to bring Holiday Joy to local families

**Chicken BBQ Fundraiser**  
Saturday, July 22 11 AM-Sold

Location: Parking area between the Seminary and the YWCA  
To the right across from 464 Springs Avenue, Gettysburg  
Use Springs Avenue, Cross Seminary Ridge, follow signs

\$12 Includes:  
Half Chicken  
Baked Potato  
Apple Sauce  
Roll  
Cookies

\$12 per meal  
Donations appreciated!


• Use this QR code to pre-order your meal or to make a donation  
• Pay during pick-up using cash or check

**MEN'S INTERFAITH**

All men are invited on Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon for light lunch (\$5.00) 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.

**Stephen Ministry**

Stephen Ministers have been called "The After People"



*A Stephen Minister is there:*

- after you've washed and returned the last casserole dish.
- after the last child honks, waves and drives away – and the house seems incredibly empty.
- after you arrive home following the service and the emotions you've held off come crashing in on you.
- after the nursing home director says, "Welcome to your new home."
- after you realize the hands on the retirement watch you received move more slowly than you ever imagined.
- after family and friends have heard your story, but you still need to talk it out.


Stephen Ministers will walk alongside you, your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives.

Stephen Ministers will provide compassionate care, comfort, and support for as long "after" as they are needed.

To learn about Stephen Ministry call the church office at 717-334-1235.

[The Prayer Project](mailto:sebkolmer@gmail.com)— If you would like to engage more in this new project, please contact Susan Kolmer at [sebkolmer@gmail.com](mailto:sebkolmer@gmail.com).

# THE PRAYER PROJECT – JULY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> Spirit of all great gifts, we thank You today for Dave Conklin, his gift of music and all he brings to GPC. Please bless his wonderful ministry.	<b>3</b> Holy Spirit, please bless our state lawmakers as they set a new budget. May it be fair and a good use of taxpayer's funds.	<b>4</b> God of history, please bless the USA today and always. May we cling to You and the Christian principles upon which the US was founded, so that we may always be part of His-story.	<b>5</b> Guiding God, we pray that no one this summer makes the mistake of leaving a child nor a pet in a hot vehicle.	<b>6</b> Compassionate Jesus, thank You for the South Central PA, Gleaming Project. Bless this ministry, and may many participate in it, and many benefit from their work.	<b>7</b> Lord of Truth, enable each of us to only speak truth in our daily lives, but lovingly. Let Your truth come forth and be seen throughout the world.	<b>8</b> Lavish Lord, We thank You and praise You for all the earth puts forth. We especially thank You today for the gift of wild berries which are everywhere.
<b>9</b> God of the Earth, enable each of us to be mindful about the trash we create. Help us each find ways to create less trash and reuse or re-purpose items more.	<b>10</b> Holy God, we thank and praise You for the commands which You have given us and taught us through Your Son. Enable each of us to forever walk in Your ways.	<b>11</b> Ever-loving God, many are those who are lonely. Let this be the day You whisper to us to befriend a lonely person and help us to bring joy into another's life.	<b>12</b> God over all, You know how complicated our modern lives have become. Enable us to simplify our lives, and in so doing, to make more room for You each day.	<b>13</b> Perfect Jesus, You were never a hypocrite, but we often are. Please rid us today of such tendencies, so that we may reflect You more accurately to the world.	<b>14</b> Wonderful Shepherd, You gave us bovine creatures like cows and oxen who give us so many things like meat, milk and labor. Bless these creatures and all who raise and care for them.	<b>15</b> Glorious God, today we simply praise You for all that You are. Great are the works of Your hands, and wonderful is Your name! Glory, praise and honor to You forevermore.
<b>16</b> Loving Lord, we're far from the New Year and its resolutions. Nonetheless, help us to set goals in our faith journeys and then enable us to meet them.	<b>17</b> God of the Tempest, please let no one die or suffer any property damage due to lightning strikes this year.	<b>18</b> Whispering Spirit, You gave us two ears but just one mouth. Help us to be better at listening than at talking, both in our human relationships, and in our relationship with You.	<b>19</b> Holiest God, help us to be problem solvers in your church and in your world as we seek to build up your Kingdom.	<b>20</b> Awesome God, You permitted man to reach outside of Earth and literally to the moon! Help humanity to cooperate both on Earth and outside of it, to better lives for all.	<b>21</b> Abba, we pray for all those grown children who were raised to know You, yet became apostate. Bring each back into a vibrant relationship with You.	<b>22</b> Healing God, we pray today for all who suffer from eating disorders. Bless them with self-acceptance and remove the causes for their struggles. Help them to find You and to overcome.
<b>23</b> Prince of Peace, too many people resort to violence to solve their perceived problems. Please cure our warring and violent madness.	<b>24</b> Loving Mother, You not only gave us nuclear families, but extended ones as well. We thank You for so many precious people in our lives and pray that no family may experience division.	<b>25</b> Lord of All, keep our hearts open to all who differ from us, whether by race, ethnic group, economic status or anything else. Help us to value each just as much as You do.	<b>26</b> Compassionate Christ, now that homeless shelters are less full over summer, remind us to still care for those less fortunate. Remind us to provide snacks, hygiene items and clothes.	<b>27</b> Gentle Jesus, please bless all those who are deaf or hearing-impaired. Help us to support them in life-giving ways.	<b>28</b> Lord of Love, remind those who date to simply enjoy the experience and not pressure themselves nor the other person to take the next step. Help both to follow Your will.	<b>29</b> Jehovah Jireh, bless the work of the Adams County Community Foundation. Help them to positively impact all kinds of needs within Adams County and be a force for positive change.
<b>30</b> Merciful Father, grant us the patience of Job. Although few of us are as afflicted as he, remind us to trust that You will see us through each trial. May we always be patient with You.	<b>31</b> Great God, keep us focused on Your word always as we seek your Kingdom first.					 <p>Lord Jesus, as many people indulge in fireworks this time of year, may there be no injuries, deaths or loss of property resulting from their use.</p>

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**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, July 6, 2023**

**July 2023**  
**GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

<b>July 2</b>	Rev. J. Caleb McClure preaching Communion
<b>July 9</b>	Rev. Lou Nyiri Preaching Congregational Meeting following worship Celebration for Lou after meeting
<b>July 16</b>	Rev. J. Caleb McClure preaching

To view live stream, go to: [www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org](http://www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org)  
Just below the announcement pictures.