

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

April 16, 2024

"Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you have believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

– John 20:29

It is Easter Still! Christ is risen! Alleluia...Still! I say 'still' because the Resurrection of our Lord continues for a 50-day season and is not just one day celebrated only a few Sundays ago. Easter still remains a time of self-reflection in how and where God wants us to be in our lives; just as Easter is also a time and place where we look for how and where we find God.

John, in his gospel, reminds us that Easter should be seen every day of our lives – in a place where we can look at it and not mistake it for a one-time event. Though Christ was resurrected by God only once, our faith in the resurrection ought to be something that we recognize again and again each day we live. Jesus' rising from the dead is the absolute miracle and promise that defines who we are as Christians and grants the promises we have been given, including eternal life. And yet, we did not see it...but we still believe? Or do we?

The Apostle Paul reminds us from his Letter to the Romans that: "For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we will certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His." (*Romans 6:5*) We share in the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord. These words parallel Jesus' statement to Thomas because not all the disciples were present on that first Easter morning. Not all were able to physically touch the wounded hands and side of Jesus. But the story is told in order that those who hear it may come to believe; and in believing, might know Christ's name.

Maybe the familiar saying is reversed. Perhaps it is not, "Seeing is believing," but rather, "Believing is seeing." Through the eyes of our faith, we see the presence of the risen Christ in our midst, giving us the gift of life, forgiveness, everlasting peace, and sending us forth to tell the Good News that Christ has risen...and that He has risen, indeed! We are called as Christians to proclaim these assurances even more so as we emerge from this global pandemic.

I encourage you over these remaining weeks of the Easter season to explore your own lives: what it means for the resurrected Christ to come and see you. What does forgiveness mean? How do God's promises affect and effect your personal lives? What kind of proof – if any – do you need to know that Jesus has risen from the dead? And where does any doubt seep into your faith life, if you question some scenes in the Passion story? But most importantly...where is God in your life and what is God pushing you to do?

Peace,
Pastor Pete

Inside

- Help Cook a Meal for Youth Club
- Hershey Park Tickets Are Here
- Hiking Club
- Trivia Night
- VBS Volunteers Needed
- Worship & Music Concert for Scofield School in Kenya
- Summer Children's Church Volunteers Needed
- Adult S.S. Classes

“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 Mission board in Fellowship Hall.

For the month of:

April

Adams County Office of Aging

Adult pull-on briefs (not the kind with tape on the sides) in sizes M, L, XL, disposable bed pads, Ensure or Boost nutritional supplement drinks and flushable wipes.

To all the people who prayed for us while Barry was recuperating from his fall. We thank our GPC Family for

- * Keeping in touch
- * Calling on the phone
- * Texts & emails

He's on the mend, starting to move the right arm ever so slightly, walking with assistance, gaining more balance, getting some strength back with healing naps.

We are home and he has resumed therapy to hopefully recover use of the right arm. Patience, patience, patience for recovery takes time!

So grateful for God and the power of prayer from all peoples.

Thanks,
Carole Simon

Kids Club Retirement..... Thank You!

It has been a joy and blessing to lead Kids Club the past 20 years. I would like to thank the church staff and leadership, Kids Club families, the congregation, and my husband Bruce, for your love and support.

I would also like to thank Penny, Kyle, Sophie and Bruce for organizing the wonderful retirement reception. It was a joyous time! Many thanks to Dave, Pat, and Bruce for the beautiful “Garden Song.” I was surprised and overwhelmed. I am also full of gratitude for the gift of the sweet gum tree planted in my honor.

Last but not least, I am thankful for all the amazing children that taught me so much about love and faith!

To God be the Glory!
Pam Rowland

Want to help out the various Youth Groups but aren't sure how? Consider cooking us a meal in 2024! On Sunday evenings, we eat from 5:30 to 6pm and the youth are grateful for a homecooked meal around the table and leaders are thankful it is not pizza every week.

For more information use the following

<http://tinyurl.com/ymhte7r8> or scan the QRcode!



Hershey Park



are IN!

If you pre-ordered tickets with us, please see Kyle Clark on Sunday morning or stop in the office during the week to collect yours.



HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

April / May

| | | |
|----------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| April 21 | 12:30 - 3:30 | Lunch, Hike & Prep for Youth Sunday |
| April 28 | 5:30 - 7:00 | Prep for Youth Sunday |
| May 5 | 5:30 - 7:00 | Prep for Youth Sunday |

Mid-SHIP SCHEDULE

April / May

| | | |
|----------|--------------|-----------------------|
| April 21 | 12:30 - 3:30 | Lunch & Hike |
| April 28 | 5:30 - 7:00 | Discussion/Games |
| May 5 | 5:30 - 7:00 | Prep for Youth Sunday |

YOUTH CLUB

April / May

| | | |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|
| April 21 | 12:30 - 3:30 | Lunch & Hike |
| April 28 | 4:30 - 6:00 | Beatitudes @ GPC |
| May 5 | 4:30 - 6:00 | Prayer Walk from GPC |

GPC Hiking Club

April 20

Cunningham Falls area, leave church at 10 a.m.

May 18

Pine Grove Furnace area, leave church at 10 a.m.

Bring a lunch, dress in layers and bring plenty of water.

Can't wait to see you all again.

Have a great weekend,
Jen

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.

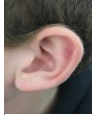
April 15 - May 19
Contact Lois Kime at
717-752-6249



Thank you to those who attended the Heart Lunch and Learn on April 4th at GPC. There were 23 signed up and 14 people attended. A delicious heart healthy lunch was prepared by Penny Messinger. Topics were Stress and the Heart and Heart Failure. Thank you to Margo Har who assisted with the cleanup. I appreciate any feedback you might have if you attended.



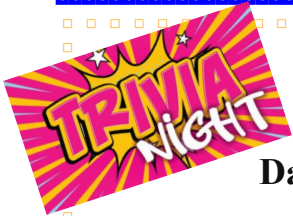
Future Events at GPC:



Hearing Screenings are being offered Sunday, April 28th in the morning, 9:30-11am and 12-12:30. The hearing screenings will be completed by our 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.* Signups sheets are available in Fellowship Hall.

Patient Advocate: I am available to meet with you to review medications, review questions that you want to ask your health providers, attend Doctors appointments, assist with preparation of Advanced Directives, discuss the difference between Palliative Care and Hospice Care etc. Please reach out to me if you want any assistance or have any questions regarding your health.

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



A Fellowship Trivia Night at GPC!

Date: April 26, 2024

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Location: Fellowship Hall

Join us for an evening of **fun, fellowship, and brain-teasing questions** Hosted by our own Kyle Clark and Penny Messinger, our church trivia contest is back, and everyone is invited. Whether you're a seasoned trivia buff or a first timer, this event promises excitement and friendly competition.

What to Expect:

- **Teams:** Form your own team (up to 8 members) or join one on the spot.
- **Categories:** Categories and questions for ages 5 - 99
- **Refreshments:** Pizza will be provided by the Congregational Life Team; we ask you to bring a side or snacks for the table.
- **Childcare:** (ages 0-3yrs. old) will be provided in the Nursery to encourage parents with young children to attend.
- **Prizes:** Fabulous prizes await the winning team! (Well bragging rights anyway)

Be sure to sign up in Fellowship Hall to secure your spot! This is also a great opportunity to invite friends to join us as well. Let's celebrate community, challenge our minds, and have a blast together.

See you there!



Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the "Hallelujah" banner, which was hidden during Lent and reappeared on Easter Sunday.

Special thanks to Erika Shearer and Emma Sanders, who stenciled the banner before it was decorated, and to Erika Shearer (again) and Luke Daniels, who manned the decorating table during the church's Shrove Tuesday dinner. The banner is beautiful!

Thanks to the special participants during the Contemporary Worship Service on Laity Sunday: Curt and Donna Harrison, Luke Daniels, Andrea Crowe, Pam Phillips, and Anne Gallon. The service was really enjoyable.

THANK YOU

The Workcamp Fundraising Breakfast was a huge success! To everyone who purchased tickets, enjoyed breakfast and tipped. To anyone who donated muffins and time to this project. Especially to our kitchen staff: Peter and Jane North, Penny Messinger, Beckie Carbaugh, Kelly Jones, Mike Brubaker, Nancy Cook, Tom Kolmer, and Sean Hosterman. Our youth and adult leaders are grateful for all the support of our trip to Gatlinburg, TN from July 6th to the 13th!

CAMP Firelight

Join us June 17th to 20th
From 9am to 12:15pm
As we learn to put our trust in
God in every situation!

Registration open
May 5th to June 9th



Vacation Bible School Volunteers

We need you! For set-up, clean-up,
running groups, stations and
marketplace. Sign-up in
Fellowship Hall starting May 5th.

VBS WEEK IS JUN 17 - 20





Worship *Music* Concert

with

Jim and Melody Scofield

Sunday, May 5, 2024 @ 2:00 PM

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

208 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA



Join us for a time of beautiful music and fellowship on May 5th from 2-4pm at GPC! Jim and Melody Scofield will lead a program featuring familiar contemporary praise and worship songs, traditional hymns, and original music that speaks of their love for service and mission. Jim and Melody are members of First Presbyterian Church of York, are members of the Baltimore Choral Arts Society and perform with the award-winning Unforgettable Big Band based in York. 100% of the free-will offering from this concert will be given to The Scofield School in Suna, Kenya to support the work of Ben and Emily Okello and the students at the school. Join us for an afternoon of music with a mission. We hope to see you there!



**Summer
Children's Church
Volunteers
Needed**

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

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity will be having a Blitz Build at 41 Craftway Dr. in Littlestown on the following weekend:

April 18 -20

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



(The Build will continue Saturdays ONLY beginning April 27th until completed)

Anyone who is willing to help with the Build please sign up in Fellowship Hall. Please contact Benjy Conover if able to help.

Church Women United

Adams County Church Women United will meet Wednesday, May 1, 11:30 a.m. at Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, 1710 Biglerville Rd. We will celebrate MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY. Bring a bagged lunch, desserts & beverages will be provided. Everyone welcome!

Men's Interfaith Luncheon

All men are invited on Wednesday, May 1st 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.

Blessing Box

A blessing box is located on the corner of our church parking lot. The Girl Scouts recently gave up their sponsorship of the box. Please help us to continue this vital ministry to our community. When you are shopping at the grocery store, please pick up an extra item or two to donate to the box. Bring your donations with you when you come to church and place them in the bin that is labeled "Blessing Box." You will find the bin on a cart located in front of the Local Missions bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Your donations will be used to keep the Blessing Box stocked.



Sunday School Adult Discipleship Classes

Please join is in the MacSkill Room Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. for the following classes:

April 21st

Led by Rev. Harry Winsheimer

Relations between church and government have been friendly and tense throughout history. And, a red hot issue now! The purposes of this lecture/discussion is to provide background information from King David and the prophet Nathan, to the year 2000 drawing upon Biblical, Western European and American models. The approach will be by hop & skip between major models. (Current political debate is not the purpose of this class; background is.)

April 28th & May 5th

Led by Susan Kolmer


Does it ever seem that there are a lot of reasons NOT to believe in Jesus and His message? Many people you encounter have a whole list of arguments they can trot out to "prove" why Christianity isn't real. But we know that it is! And that belief in Jesus is foundational to our lives now and throughout eternity. Come to the second part of the *Tactics* series to find out how to nicely dismantle arguments against Christianity and help others to see the flaws in their thinking.

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
208 Baltimore Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Office: (717) 334-1235
www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

“Gathering People in Christ
to Teach, Learn, and Live
God’s Message.”


**Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, April 25, 2024**

April / May 2024
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Traditional Worship @ 8:30 a.m.
Contemporary Worship @ 11:00 a.m.

- April 21** Rev. J. Caleb McClure
- April 28** South Carolina Mission Trip Report
- May 5** Rev. J. Caleb McClure
 Communion

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