

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

May 14, 2024

As I sit at my desk with the trolly running back and forth (you really need to visit me in my office if you do not know what this means...) I cannot believe how fast May is flying by. Mothers' Day & Youth Sunday have just been celebrated, in our home we have two graduations (well, three if we count Pre-K) next week. So much to be thankful for, yet we are also mourning the loss of one of our neighbors to cancer. The many events in our lives got me thinking about one of the stained-glass window in the chapel of Gettysburg Hospital which has this verse...

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven..."
Ecclesiastes 3:1

King Solomon writes that there is an appropriate time for everything, the unpleasant as well as pleasant experiences. This is not just a description of what happens in life; it is a description of what God sends. Times and seasons have been predestined by God who has scheduled each day of our lives. So often, we think that we know what would be best for ourselves and humanity at large, and our own perceived ideas are often reflected in our prayers... and yet the desires of our heart and our urgent pleadings to the Lord, too often conflict with God's wider will for our lives and God's greater desire and destiny for us.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 is a simple, yet timely reminder, that we are to live by faith in the Word of Truth, and to trust God's judgement in all things, for He sends blessings on the just and unjust alike, and God takes our foolish schemes, and rebellious actions, and turns them to God's greater glory, in order to fulfil God's ultimate plan and purpose, which is that Christ is all in all.

It was King Solomon who saw that God has established specific times and predetermined seasons, which influence the affairs of our own individual lives and affects everything that takes place, down throughout history. This cyclical pattern was set in motion by God, when God spoke the world into being. It was then, that in God's wisdom that Our Creator put in motion a series of unchangeable, natural laws, which were determined by God, and which have an impact on every area of our own lives, as well as the wider world and universe.

In the beginning, the Lord said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night." (Genesis 1:4) He placed the sun and the moon in the sky of heaven, for signs and for seasons and for days and years. He called them into being, to govern the day, and to govern the night. When God called Israel out of Egypt to be God's chosen people, God also set some appointed times and seasons for them, together with feast days and sabbath days. God ordered holy convocations on which to present offerings by fire to the Lord. Burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and drink offerings, each at certain appointed times.

This caused Solomon to reach the understanding that God has made everything beautiful in its own time, and that the Lord has placed eternity in the heart of every-person. Solomon realized that in God's economy there is an appointed time for everything, and a scheduled time for every event under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to gather; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to tear down and a time to build up. Solomon identified times for all sorts of contrasting events that continue to impact the lives of everyone under the sun.

As we enter these new seasons, be they in church, in school, in work, in family, or in life, we should be mindful that God has reasons for what we experience. As my dear friend John David Bryant would often say, "We Plan, God Laughs." May we all find the Joy and Purpose of the season we are in.

AMEN
Pastor Peter

Inside

- Special Music Needed
- Congregation Meeting
- PW Luncheon
- Pentecost This Sunday
- VBS Registration
- VBS Volunteers Needed
- Movie Night
- Flying Boxcar Baseball Game
- Walk For Water
- Nursery Help Needed
- Summer Worship Schedule

From the GPC Music Department

Our church has moved to one service during the months of June, July, August and the 1st week of September. During these summer months we are looking for vocal and instrumental soloists, duets, trios, quartets, etc., to fill our special music slots, both traditional and contemporary.

Jamie Bowman and Carrie Conklin are available as piano accompanists, and I am available as guitar accompanist. You may know others throughout our talented congregation who are capable and may be willing accompanists too. You can either secure your own accompanist or I can help you secure one.

Please contact me if you would like to be a part of our musical offering this Summer; and choose a couple of preferred dates and I will do my best to schedule you or your group. June is almost here so those are priority dates that we need to fill soon.

Dates are: June 9, 16, 30; July 7, 14, 21; August 4, 11, 18, 25; Sept. 1

Thank you for being a part of our music ministry here at GPC.

David Conklin
 Director of Music
 Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
dconklin721@comcast.net
 (717) 357-7753



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



**THE CHURCH PARKING LOT WILL BE
 CLOSED STARTING MAY 20 TIL MAY 30.
 IT WILL BE OPEN FOR
 WORSHIP ON MAY 26.**

Thank you to our GPC family for all the healing prayers for our Granddaughter, Kenzie. She is home and recuperating from a very difficult medical situation. Continued prayers as she waits for a surgery date in the near future.

Also, many thanks for the inquiries regarding Chet and his recent prostate cancer diagnosis. His procedure was changed to June 5th.

We appreciate your calls, cards, and hugs!

Chet and Pam Phillips

I make walking sticks, and I enjoy doing so. If you need one, or if you know anyone who needs one, I'd be happy to provide a hand-made one at no cost. Phone 717-334-2096 email mayapple@embarqmail.com

In His service,
 Leo McGuire



Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting
to elect an APNC
on June 2nd right after worship.

Church Women United AND Men's Interfaith Fellowship

We will have their annual picnic on Wednesday, June 5, 11:30 a.m. at Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, 1710 Biglerville Rd. Food, beverages and condiments will be provided by Church Women United. Please join us for a time of good food & fellowship.

The Presbyterian Women Invite You to: A LUNCHEON

WHERE: ANNE GALLON'S HOME
18 Vista Larga Dr.
Gettysburg

WHEN: JUNE 22, 2024

TIME: 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

COST: \$5.00/person.
Cost may be waived if needed

PLEASE
come and enjoy
Food and
Fellowship



Questions: Call
Debbie Farnsworth
at 717-451-6851

SIGN UP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

"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:

May

Agape House

Bath towels, kitchen towels, toilet paper,
laundry detergent, twin and queen-sized
sheets, brooms, dust pans and
utility buckets.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with
Karen Breighner on the recent death of her husband, Barton,
Barry & Sandra Breighner on the death of his brother,
and Lucy Breighner on the death of her brother in-law.

SHIP & MidSHIP



SHIP and Mid-SHIP youth should bring a side to share and a lawn chair!

LAST MEETING FOR THE SUMMER

Pentecost Sunday

Join us by wearing red on Sunday May 19th in celebration of Pentecost. This will also be the day we recognize and thank the individuals who have led a Sunday School class this past year. We will have one combined Sunday School in Fellowship Hall at 9:45am as we close up the programmatic year!

Summer Children's Church Volunteers Needed

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

YOUTH CLUB

May

May 19 12:30-3:00 Pizza & Movie

LAST MEETING FOR THE SUMMER!

GPC Hiking Club

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



May 20 - June 9
Contact Ellie Bilz at 201-739-8774

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!**

Child's Name: _____ Child's Birthdate: _____ Child's Age: _____
Parent's Name: _____ Cellphone: _____ Grade Completed: _____
Address: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ E. C. Phone Number: _____
Physician: _____ Physician Phone Number: _____
Allergies: _____

Special Notes: _____

Media Opt Out:

We will be taking photos and videos during camp week. These may be posted to our social media account, website and newsletters. Children/Youth will not be named directly except if a name tag shows in a photo. We will assume that we have your permission to do so unless you indicate otherwise by checking the box below. **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.**

Please **DO NOT** use my child in media.

Special Accommodations:

We love having your child with us for Vacation Bible School! However please know that our VBS is staffed by volunteers and don't have the training necessary to meet any special needs. Should your child require special services, that responsibility will fall to the parent/guardian/caregiver.

I understand that should my child require special care, myself or an appropriate caregiver will be in attendance with them.



**Use Scan Code for
Easy Online
Registration:**



Lights, Camera, Action!

Join us for the next Fellowship Fun Night on Friday, May 17, for a fun movie night as we watch Encanto. A critics choice as one of the best Disney animated films; it is enjoyed by young and old alike.

Encanto is a story about the Madrigal family, who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia. They reside in a magical house within a vibrant town, all situated in a wondrous, charmed place called an **Encanto**. Each child in the family is blessed with a unique magical gift, ranging from super strength to healing abilities. However, there's one exception: **Mirabel**, who doesn't possess any magical powers. When she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is in danger, Mirabel becomes her family's last hope!

There will be a dinner of sandwiches and subs in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 PM; please bring a side dish to share with others. The movie will be shown in the Sanctuary beginning at 6:15 PM.

Please plan to join us!



Congregation Life Event Sat. June 29th

Game Starts: **Cost:**
6pm **\$10**

Join us for a field trip to see Hagerstown's own Atlantic League professional baseball team!

Ticket Sign-up in Fellowship Hall
Please RSVP no later than June 9th

Questions, contact Peter North:
pnorth@gettysburg.edu

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 JUNE 17 - 20



Walk for Water with the GPC "Water Striders!"

The GPC Missions Team is sponsoring a team from our church to participate in the Central PA Walk for Water on Saturday, June 1st, 2024 from 9-11am. This year's walk will be held close by at Oakside Park, Biglerville, PA.

We will walk about one mile carrying empty buckets, fill them from a local stream, then carry them back to the start point and empty the dirty water into a receiving cistern. From there you will see the science of clean water in action as the Water Missions unit transforms our stream water into clean, healthy water that you can try!

Families, adults, youth and children are welcome to participate! Even if you can't walk with us, please register to support our team, and plan to come out to send us on our way and cheer us when we return!

This is a FUN activity for everyone in our community!

YOU can be part of the action by logging onto:

www.walkforwater.rallybound.org/central-pa

and registering to participate in the event! Adult registration is \$25, and youth ages 5-17 are \$10. Be sure to sign up under our Team Name: GPC Water Striders! Your registration includes a Water Missions T-Shirt!

Our goal this year is to raise \$1000 to support Water Missions, International and their efforts to bring sustainable clean water solutions to impoverished areas of the world. Questions? Call Tom Kolmer at 717-634-0258.

"When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst, I the Lord will answer them; I the God of Israel will not forsake them." —Isaiah 41:17

We walk, so others don't have to... See you there!



Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are sad that our Nursery Care Providers, Sheri and Paige, are leaving on May 26th. With that said, we have started the search for 2 new Nursery Care Providers, but that takes time. While we receive applicants, we are in need of 2 volunteers per Sunday to help cover the nursery starting June 2nd.

This is during our Summer schedule, so the time frame would be for approximately 1.5hrs. If you are able to help on a Sunday, please email kyle@gettysburgpresbyterian.org.



May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month!

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States. Look for free screenings throughout your community.

Be Sun Smart! Sun exposure occurs whenever you are outside. As warmer weather approaches, we want to be gardening, fishing, hiking, swimming, doing water activities, etc. Remember ultraviolet rays (UV) are present even on cloudy days. Everyone is at risk for skin cancer. Protect yourself from the sun.

Slip! Slop! Slap! and Wrap!

Slip on a shirt to protect your skin.

Slop on sunscreen. Choose a broad spectrum with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 30. Say *YES to minerals*. Natural minerals reflect UV rays to protect from burning and aging. Because minerals are not absorbed, they are safe and gentle on sensitive skin. Examples are Zinc oxide and titanium dioxide.

Slap on a hat! Shade your face, neck, and ears.

Wrap on sunglasses. Protect your eyes from UV rays.

Limit exposure between 11am and 3pm when UV rays are the strongest!



Thank you to Dr. Kathy Mellott for providing a hearing screening on April 28th. Ten people participated in this Free Hearing screening offering.



Chair Yoga Friends: Join us for a special "Smoothie" treat after Yoga on Tuesday, May 28th in the Fellowship Hall.

No Chair Yoga on Tuesday, June 11 or June 18th.

Next Blood pressure screening is THIS Sunday May 19th 8-1230 in Fellowship Hall

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




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, May 23, 2024**

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| <p>Summer Worship Schedule</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Combined Services will run from May 26 through September 1 this Summer.</p> | <p>May / June 2024 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>May 19</td> <td>PENTECOST SUNDAY Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 26</td> <td>Summer Worship Schedule Begins 9:30 a.m. Combined Worship Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June 2</td> <td>Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching Congregational Meeting after worship</td> </tr> </table> <p>To view live stream, go to: www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org Just below the announcement pictures.</p> | May 19 | PENTECOST SUNDAY Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching | May 26 | Summer Worship Schedule Begins 9:30 a.m. Combined Worship Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching | June 2 | Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching Congregational Meeting after worship |
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