

GRAPEVINE

"The Pastor's Page"

June 11, 2024

"Often when you think you're at the end of something you're at the beginning of something else. I've felt that many times. My hopes for all of us is that "the miles we go before we sleep" will be filled with all the feelings that come from deep caring- delight, sadness, joy, wisdom, -and that in all the endings of our life, we will be able to see the new beginnings."

~ Fred Rogers

These words from "Mister Rogers" really spoke to me these last couple of weeks, both personally, and within my ministry here at GPC. Like in scripture with Ecclesiastes "For every season turns, turns."

Within my household the "end of the school year" brought us "graduations" on multiple levels. Little Charlie finished preschool, Casey graduated from Gettysburg High School, and "Daddy's Tinkerbell", Caroline, earned her associate degree from FIT in NYC. For each of them (and their other siblings and mom who were finishing their academic years) it was the end of something as well as the beginning of something else. The Holy Spirit presence was felt in these moments of endings and beginnings.

I am witnessing "endings" and "beginnings" within GPC as well. We have entered our "Summer Season" with the beginning of combined services for the next three months. We begin with yet another change in our worship schedule (it is now a single service at 9:30... right?) and we will be ending and saying thank-you (not good-bye) to Miss Libby as her seasons of leadership of Contemporary Worship and Middle School Fellowship are concluding. While she and her family will remain worshipping with us it will be an ending of something. With Miss Libby's ministry "ending," I will be experiencing, with you all, some "new beginnings" as I will be taking on many of her responsibilities as the role of Covenant Associate Pastor role expands from part-time to full-time. So, for as long as the Holy Spirit needs to collaborate with the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee in their discernment of the next Called Associate Pastor, I will be blessed in my continued ministry with this wonderful community.

Then there are the endings and beginnings many within our church family are experiencing. Last week there was the passing of Allen Duncan, a long-time member of this congregation, as well as Sue Wagner, the wife of Larry our Church Sexton. Each have now completed "...the miles we go before we sleep", completing their earthly journey with us. In my brief conversations with their loving spouses last week, in the hours after their passings, I know Allen's and Sue's lives were filled with all those feelings Mister Rogers lifted up "... the feelings that come from deep caring- delight, sadness, joy, wisdom, -and that in all the endings of our life, we will be able to see the new beginnings." The promise Jesus Christ has made for each of us.

I encourage each of you to remember and reflect on these words as we continue our journey together.

Peace Be with You,
Pastor Peter

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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

July 12

Robert Lewis
Garrett Kolmer
Frank Pennings

July 13

Joan Pore

July 14

Zane Graff

July 15

Gail Hull

July 16

Ellen Raggets
Marlyn Burdge

July 17

Carol Merwede

July 18

Lloyd 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

July 18

Adalyn Smarsh

July 19

Adair Toddes
Kevin Schmitz

July 20

Kim Landauer
Carson Pennings

July 21

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

July 24

Phyllis Dowd

July 25

Marie Levenstein

July 26

Daniel Murray

July 27

Perla Niguidula-Gish

July 28

Patrick Sullivan



July 26

Elizabeth Burke
Melany LaRochelle

July 27

John Snyder

July 28

Doris Elledge

July 29

Carol Heiser

July 30

Peter North

July 31

Emma Dennison

July 32

Braden Unger

July 33

Jonelle Warcup

July 34

David Bowman

July 35

Jean Sumser



I would like to thank everyone who delivered food, sent a card and prayed for us during my wife's illness.

I really appreciate what everyone has done.

Larry Wagner

DEAR, GPC FAMILY

YOU'RE INVITED!

TO HELP US CELEBRATE THE MINISTRY OF

LIBBY CROWE

JUNE 23, 2024

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP



Our thoughts and prayers are with:



Steve Kinsey and Joan Kinsey on the recent death of his brother and her son.

Peter North on the death of his cousin.

Natalie Hinton on the recent death of her husband Vann.

Marie Duncan on the recent death of her husband Allen.

Larry Wagner on the recent death of his wife Sue.

Worship and Music Summary Update Regarding Fall Schedule 2024

Greetings from the Worship and Music Committee! Since our new Worship schedule began on 9/10/23, our committee has been monitoring and evaluating how Worship is offered at GPC. In general, we have listened to feedback (both positive and negative) about the Worship schedule, monitored weekly attendance, and considered the needs of our Worship partners such as the choir, musicians, Sunday School, congregants, etc. Specifically, we reviewed 5 different scenarios for Worship:

1. The Current Schedule (Keep Things the Same)– Traditional at 8:30 am, Fellowship and Sunday School from 9:45 – 10:45 am, and Contemporary at 11 am. Comments from the Committee:

- Attendance has been highest at the 8:30 am service, with an average of 40 more congregants than the 11 am service. We reviewed and compared weekly numbers.
- There has been an increase in new families and more children at the 8:30 service.
- The 8:30 am service has on Choir has grown at the 8:30 am service.
- Coffee hour and Fellowship time have grown and are well received.
- Positive feedback about blended services for months having 5 Sundays.
- Complaints were received from some members who prefer Traditional, that the 8:30 am service is too early.

2. Flip schedule to Contemporary at 8:30 am Sunday School and Fellowship time 9:45- 10:45 am Traditional at 11 am.

Comments from the Committee:

- Would be more popular with congregants who prefer the Traditional service and feel it is currently too early.
- The Band raised concerns about it being too early to set up and rehearse.

3. 9 am Traditional, 10 am Sunday School and Fellowship time, and 11 am Contemporary. Comments from the Committee:

- General feeling that the schedule would be too rushed.
- Congregants who participate in Sunday School would not have adequate time for Fellowship time.

4. Two traditional services on Sunday morning with evening Contemporary. Comments from the Committee:

- It would be a long day for staff and musicians.
- There would be a lack of Fellowship time between Traditional and Contemporary congregants because of differences in the times.

5. Keep one combined service in the fall until new associate pastor is called. Service would be at 9:30 am and Sunday School would be at 10:45. Fellowship time could be offered before worship and after Sunday School. When the new associate pastor is called, the schedule could resume to two services. Comments from Committee;

- Combined service very popular over the summers.
- This model would be advantageous if there were staffing shortages.
- Congregants would not get the full taste of either Traditional or Contemporary.
- Fellowship time would be chopped up.
- Sunday school would be getting out late for many families.

Conclusion: All of the above models were considered at great length and reviewed in committee, with staff, and at Session. As a result, it was decided to stay with Option 1 – which includes 8:30 am Traditional, 9:45-10:45 am Sunday School and Fellowship time and 11 am Contemporary. We would like to thank the members of our congregation for their feedback, kind words, and support over the past months. We will continue to prayerfully monitor the above metrics and reevaluate the needs of our church family.

Thank you and God bless from the Worship and Music Committee.

Mary Flinner (maryflinner@hotmail.com 717-805-9842)

Merida Hurkett (mhurkett778@gmail.com 204-505-8905)

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:

June

Blessing Box

Bottled water, sunscreen, hats, gloves, books, canned or boxed goods, feminine products, hygiene products (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, floss, etc.) socks, washcloths, hairbrushes, dog & cat food or treats and small bags of cat litter.

[While June is the designated month for giving, donations are accepted throughout the year. Simply drop off the items to the Blessing Box on High St.]

“A Family Night in the Park 2024”

August 16th, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Hey there! Save the date for "A Family Night in the Park 2024" event at Gettysburg REC Park on August 16, Friday evening. It's going to be a fantastic evening filled with free food, Christian music, a car show, skateboard riding demos, a children's message, and adult religious testimonies. Food trucks will also be there selling ice cream and cold drinks. The event will run from 4 PM to 7 PM. Don't miss out!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Rebekah Reaver and Josh Fair! Rebekah won first place in the Robert Curtis Peace Essay Contest with an award of \$500.00. Josh Fair won the second place award of \$300.00 for his entry.



Summer Children's Church Volunteers Needed

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

Vacation Bible School Volunteers Still Needed:

Marketplace Volunteers
Group Leaders
Helpers for setup and tear down
Middle and High School Youth
for Drama and Group Aides

For a list of supplies needed, see the board in Fellowship Hall with cards that you can take.

VBS WEEK IS JUNE 17 - 20



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 10 - July 14

Contact Stephen Swartzbaugh
717-677-1849



Save The Date!

The Worship and Music and the Congregational Life Committees will be offering our next outdoor event at the Rec Park on Sunday, September 1, 2024. The outdoor service will be at 10:30 am at the Amphitheater followed by the Church Picnic at the Fireman's Pavilion on the same property. Watch for more details in upcoming newsletters and bulletins!

Please pray for the Mexico Mission Team who will travel to the Yucatan from Monday, June 24 until Monday, July 1st to serve with brother's and sister's through the Accion Ministries. (* GPC Members)

- Christine Canaga
- Leslie Casteel*
- Debbie Farnsworth*
- Mark Grim
- Phoebe Kammerer
- Tom Kolmer*
- Wendy Pearson
- Doug Rhodes
- Don Stabler*
- Dale Williams
- Amy Wenninger
- Dave Wright*

Keep all in your daily prayers for safe travel and that the team will fulfill God's will to serve both collectively and individually.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

Nursery Volunteers Needed

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.



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, June 27, 2024**

<p>Summer Worship Schedule</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Combined Services will run from May 26 through September 1 this Summer.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 2024 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">June 16</td> <td>9:30 a.m. Combined Worship Rev. Peter J. Roy Preaching</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">June 23</td> <td>9:30 a.m. Combined Worship Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching Libby Crowe’s Celebration after worship</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">June 30</td> <td>9:30 a.m. Combined Worship Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">To view live stream, go to: www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org Just below the announcement pictures.</p>	June 16	9:30 a.m. Combined Worship Rev. Peter J. Roy Preaching	June 23	9:30 a.m. Combined Worship Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching Libby Crowe’s Celebration after worship	June 30	9:30 a.m. Combined Worship Rev. J. Caleb McClure Preaching
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