# Gettysburg Presbyterian Church



# Parson to Person

#### Whilst in Scotland

In January, while studying for my Doctor of Ministry in Aberdeen, Scotland, I had the wonderful opportunity to worship at St. Machar's Cathedral in Old Aberdeen. St. Machar's has been in existence since 580 AD, becoming Presbyterian in 1689. Following worship, as I wandered around the church, I thought about the many visitors and worshippers who passed in and out of this church over the centuries. As I looked around I happened upon a poem which spoke to me. As we settle into this Easter Season and make way for the Holy Spirit's bestowal upon Christ's Church at Pentecost, I pray these words speak to you too, as we remember how together we make up the Body of Christ – a group of folks from all ages and stages of life who seek to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ...

#### I've Been Coming Here On Sundays

(by Barbara Robinson)

I've been coming here on Sundays for seventy year or so. "Twas here that I was Christened and ' tis here I'll want to go.

Now I know you all gets vexed about changes in belief. Well frills on top don't matter if you're comfy underneath. I never lets it bother if I'm High or Low or what, While I've got me Ten Commandments I shan't go wrong a lot.

Now, I likes old-fashioned prayer book
And they like A.S.B.\*,
And they can have what pleases them,
And I'll read what suits me,
And half the hymns we sing these days
I've never heard before,
But I can stand and listen, and perhaps I'll learn some more.

All these guitars and instruments It's no more than they had
Afore they put the organ in,
When my Granddad was a lad,
And I don't suppose God'll worry
He wouldn't make a fuss,
As long all the singing's mean't for Him and not for us.

We've had clergy coming straight from college, Full of summat new, From incense on the altar to posters in the pew. And I lets 'em all get on with it, 'cos all these fashions pass, And you'll still do the flowers, me dears, And I'll still clean the brass

I got this seat I always have, no draughts and nice and near, So I can hear the organ and see the vicar clear, And I tells God what's been happening, And what a week I've had, And I thanks Him for the good times, And He helps me through the bad, 'Cos all that really matters, as far as I can see, Is that I, down here, remembers Him, And he remembers me.

\* A.S.B. is the Alternative Service Book which is similar to our Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship*. See you in worship!

P.S. - This poem sounds even better when read with a Scottish brogue.

May 2, 2012

#### Inside:

- Items needed for South Dakota
- Reception for Christian Education Leaders
- Congregational Meeting
- May Calendar of Giving
- Young at Heart
- Save the Date for Strawberry & Ice Cream Social

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#### What a Delightful and Inspiring Day!

Last Saturday 53 GPC women and friends gathered at the Hickory Bridge Farm for a day of "Grace, Gratitude & Gladiolas", and Good Grub! Thank you to our very special leader, Rev. Candace Veon-Nyiri for an inspiring program which touched our minds and our hearts. Through fellowship, crafts, songs, video clips and well-researched teaching, we focused on the Christian discipline of gratitude and its many benefits.

Thanks go to Bonnie Wright, Libby Crowe, Candace Veon-Nyiri, Penny Messinger, and Phyllis Dowd, who served as the organizing committee; to Bonnie Wright, Linda Thompson and Beth Christo-

#### An Author Among Us!!

Congratulations to GPC member Rich Pierson who recently published a children's book entitled Adventures of Fred the Donkey. Rich has always enjoyed creative writing as well as telling stories to his two children. He combined these two passions to write his first children's book, which encourages children to follow their dreams. As a bonus, Rich's son, Blake drew many illustrations of Fred the Donkey which are included in the book.

Rich has donated a copy of <u>Adventures of Fred</u> the <u>Donkey</u> for our Children's Library. Thanks, Rich, and we look forward to the sequel!

### WHERE DID MY PEACEMAKING OFFERING GO?

Here is a Thank-You from one of This Year's Recipients:

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION OF \$800 TO PRINCE OF PEACE CHURCH FOR THE "MEALS AND MORE" PROGRAM.

We have an exciting program scheduled for our 9th Year of education, enrichment activities, and fun for our blessed children. each Year, we continue to grow in size, and this summer we anticipate 22 children.

SOME OF OUR CHILDREN ARE HOMELESS, and others are abused, neglected, or in dire poverty. "meals and more" provides a safe haven for them in the summer months where they are fed, nurtured. educated. and Loved.

I am LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR 2012 PROGRAM WHICH WILL BEGIN ON JUNE 11TH. YOUR DONATION WILL GREATLY ASSIST US IN OUR EFFORTS TO PROVIDE THE VERY

# FISH BOXES WERE FULL



Congratulations to all the children and families who filled up those fish boxes for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

There was a total of \$57.50 in quarters, \$44.90 in dimes, \$16.70 in nickels, \$15.30 in pennies, \$.50 in half dollars, one \$1.00 coin, and 6 dollar bills for <u>a grand</u> total of \$156.90.

Special thanks to each child who participated and to Bill & Kathy Faloon who counted all those coins ... by machine.

#### **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. We are only a phone call away. The transportation Deacon for May is Dick Wisor 359-8896.

# **Upcoming Events:**

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1, 1	Music Schedule		
May 6	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Early Choir Adult Choir	777
<b>M</b> ay 13	8:15 a.m.	Youth Choir Youth Bell Choir	777
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Choir Youth Bell Choir Primary Choir	
<b>7</b> May 20	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir Adult Bell Choir	RRRRRRR
7777	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir Adult Bell Choir	777
May 27	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Early Choir Adult Choir	TITE
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#### May

May 6 5:30 - 7:00 Fellowship/Games

May 13 8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 YOUTH SUNDAY

May 20 5:30 - 7:00 Year End Picnic

#### MidSHIP Schedule

#### May

May 6 5:30 - 7:00 Fellowship/Games

May 13 8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 YOUTH SUNDAY

May 20 5:30 - 7:00 Year End Picnic

#### ITEMS NEEDED FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Preparations are underway for our South Dakota Mission Trip from July 19 - 29 and the excitement is building. Thank you to all for the contributions made so far.

We are still in need of some very important items which we give out as prizes at the Festival. If you can donate any of the following "new or nearly new" items, please bring them to the church office:

Sheets or Sheet Sets Towels Blankets Dish Sets Tool Sets Box Fans Weather Radios Tire Repair Kits Sleeping Bags New Bibles -Fabric (cotton or silk) Sewing Notions School Supplies Backpacks either NIV or Sewing Machines (new or nearly new & portable) "The Message"

Thanks for all your prayers and support as we return to the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation this summer.

— Penny Messinger (334-1235)

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# Reception for Christian Education Leaders on May 20th

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To honor the leaders of our Christian Education programs, there will be an Appreciation Re-★ ception in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 20. The reception will be held throughout the morn- ★ ing and will give each of us the opportunity to thank these members of our congregation who have faithfully led our children, teens, and adults in the many Christian Education programs. So ★ come to worship on May 20 and keep your eyes open for all those people wearing stars. Then please give them your personal thank-you for all they do.

#### **PARKING CHANGE**

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For many years we have had permission to park in the Adams County Housing Authority lot at 40 E. High St. We no longer have permission to park there, so please refrain from parking in their lot. Remember that street parking is free on Sundays. If you need help finding alternative parking, please consult the parking maps we have available at the Welcome Station in the Fellowship Hall between services.

# Small Group

An extension of the Small Group Lenten Study will meet on Thursday, May 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in Eisenhower Lounge. The topic of discussion will be John Ortberg's book If You Want to Walk on Water You Have to Get Out of the Boat.

New and old members are welcome. If you have questions please contact Karen Breighner 717-476-3993 or karenbreighner@centurylink.net.

# Historic Church Walking Tours

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We are preparing for our NINTH Season - 2012

We thank all the members and friends who have supported us over these past years.

Last season we had 356 visitors who came on our tours and 92 others on specially arranged group tours. So as not to overwork our very loyal Tour Guides, we welcome anyone of any age to join our team of people who accompany the groups to each of the churches on the Wednesday evening tours. A meeting for Guides will be held on ★ Monday, May 21 at 7:00 in the MacAskill Room. At this time, after discussion of info, guides may sign up for de-★ sired times to lead tours.

The tours begin on Wed. June 13th and run each Wednesday evening starting at 6:00 and again at 6:30. The last tour will be August 29th.

Plan to treat your guests to a tour this season. For information you may go to our web site: www.historicchurchwalkingtours.org or call Joan Pore - 337-1718.

# Congregational Meeting: Sunday, May 20 at noon

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, May 20 at noon for the purpose of making several changes in the GPC by-laws. The Presbyterian Church recently revised the "Form of Government" section of our Book of Order. That has necessitated these changes in our by-laws. In some cases the changes are mandated. In other cases, congregations now have flexibility where previously we didn't. A task force of Jean LeGros, Susan Kolmer, and Whitney Coombs reviewed our by-laws and the new Book of Order and made these recommendations, which were reviewed by the Session. The Session now recommends their approval by the congregation.

Copies of the revised by-laws will be available on May 6 in the Fellowship Hall and on our website (<a href="www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org">www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org</a>). Jean LeGros will be available in Fellowship Hall after each service on Sunday, May 13 to answer any questions you may have.

# "A Rock Named Peter"

The Fisherman Who Became Jesus' Go-To Guy!

Vacation Bible School will be held on

June 25—28

for ages 3 - Grade 5 (completed)

Registration for VBS will be held from May 13 - June 10

(Look for the registration form in the next Grapevine)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!



## **Spotlight on Missions - Mexico Mission Trip**

On July 19-26 a team of 17 will travel to Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. Under the direction of Accion Ministries, they will journey to the village of Molas where they will do construction work on homes or a church, run a Vaca-

tion Bible School for village children, and give out eye glasses to folks who need them. In addition to the help provided to our Mexican brothers and sisters, this trip is a time for spiritual growth and reflection for us! Pastor Dave, who has been leading trips to the Yucatan for over 20 years, will lead us again this year.

Participants are paying about \$795.00 to cover most of their expenses. Your giving pays for construction materials, scholarships, and some on-the-ground expenses which make this trip possible. Thank you!

#### **PW CIRCLES**

Elizabeth Circle Monday, May 21, 1:00 p.m.

Paideia House, First Floor Hostess: Barbara Forrest Study Leader: Joan Pore

Lesson 9: Matthew 5:11-12; 23:29-36;

Luke 6:22-23

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. Hostess: Kathy Wark

87 Twin Lakes Dr. Gettysburg, PA

334-6407

Facilitator: Bonnie Wright

Lesson 8: Matthew 5:10; 13:20-21 Romans 8: 31-39

**Esther Circle** 

Thursday, May 17, 9:00 a.m. Eisenhower Lounge at GPC Study Leader: Janet Dewar

Lesson 9:Matthew 5:11-12; 23:29-36;

Luke 6:22-23



# **May Calendar of Giving**

Calendar of Giving - For the month of May, GPC will be collecting items for Survivors, Inc. This vital organization in our community supports those who experience domestic violence or sexual assault, and works toward ending assault and abuse in Adams County. Survivors is committed to reaching out to all who are victimized and oppressed in this way. We are asking for the following NEW and UNOPENED donations.

Sheet sets Blankets Plug-in alarm clocks Towels

Washcloths Diapers Baby Wipes Baby Bottles

"Sippie" Cups Toiletries - e.g soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.

(Please note, Survivors is unable to accept "hotel-size" toiletries)

Thank you for your continued support of the Calendar of Giving.

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# Calendar of Giving Update for March

We supported the Gettysburg Soup Kitchen whose vision is to "Live out the words of Christ, who called us to love those in need, by partnering with churches, community groups and individuals committed to serving the hungry in our community..."

This church made a donation of the following requested supplies:

20 large juices (V-8 and Fruit) 16 cleaning liquids (Mr. Clean and Dish Detergent)

11 towels (dish towels and wash cloths) 1 case and 2 reams of printer paper

7 packages of napkins 7 non-perishable food items

4 deodorants 4 oven mitts

3 boxes of cereal 1 ten-dollar gift card to Kennies

These contributions will help the soup kitchen continue its ministry which serves over 10,000 meals each year. Thank you!

#### Sunday School Series Continues through May 13

#### "Earthquake Zone: The Middle East in Transition: Shaking Foundations and Shifting Sands"

Rev. Dr. Bill Harter continues to lead a Sunday School series at 9:30 a.m. in the MacAskill Room. Rev. Harter is a graduate of Williams College, then received his Master of Arts at Harvard, and his Masters of Divinity at Union Theological Seminary in NYC. He later got his PhD from Union in New Testament studies with an emphasis on the origins of Christianity and Judaism. Rev. Harter lived and studied in Jerusalem for a year, plus he has been to the Middle East 40+ times, including this winter. He is currently Pastor Emeritus of Falling Spring Presbyterian Church.

Session Three - May 6: "Iran: Aspirations and Reality"

Session Four - May 13: "Israel and Its Neighbors"



# <u>Hershey Park</u> **Tickets** Have Arrived!!

☆ Pick up your pre-ordered tickets on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall or through the church office ☆ (see Phyllis or Penny) during the week.

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#### Young at Heart

Our May get-together will be a covered dish luncheon on Thursday, May 10th at 12:00 noon. After the meal Brion FitzGerald, a member of our church and Chief Park Ranger will give a presentation on the Restoration of the Cyclorama.

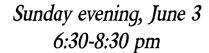
All are welcome. If you are not on a regular call list and would like to attend please bring a covered dish of your choosing and your own place setting and join us for this wonderful time of fellowship.

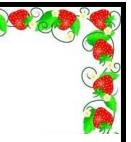
If you have any questions please contact Pam or Dick Wisor at 359-8896 or email us at pwisor@hotmail.com.



# Save the Date: Strawberries and Ice Cream Social

at the Historic Round Barn





Come for Dessert and stay for Fun and Fellowship with your Church Family.

Hymn Sing

Hay Rides

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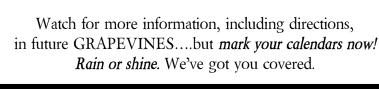
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Petting Zoo

Kiddie Train



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# Congregational Notification

Would you like to be notified of prayer concerns and significant events in the life of our church? Contact Penny at the church office (334-1235) to be added to our group email list!

We currently send out emails to the congregation around twice a month.



# **GPC WORK DAY**

May 5th 8:30 - 12:00 Noon

Work Day set for this Saturday, May 5 - we promise with a start of 8:30 to end by Noon. The Property Committee is looking for willing hands to undertake some of the maintenance and repair items that have accumulated. A willingness to paint and perform some minor repairs is more important than being a skilled technician.

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Come & join us this Saturday!!

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

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Fax: (717) 334-0666

www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

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#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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# Next Newsletter Deadline: Noon, Thursday, May 10, 2012

# May 2012 GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE Traditional Worship @ 8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship @ 9:30 a.m. 5/6 "God of Our Losses" Communion 5/13 Youth Sunday 5/20 Encounters with Jesus: Nicodemus