

GRAPEVINE

July 25, 2007

Parson to Person

What follows is some wise counsel to reflect upon as we enjoy the summer and find ourselves sitting on a beach, staring at mountains, working in a garden or waiting to tee off at the golf course.

All of life would become prayer

If we knew how to listen to God, if we knew how to look around us, our whole life would become prayer. For it unfolds under God's eyes and no part of it must be lived without being freely offered to him.

At first we communicate with God through words, which may be dispensed with later on. Let us then make use of spoken prayers, but soon discard words, as one does the peelings of a fruit. Words are only a means.

However, the silent prayer which has moved beyond words must always spring from everyday life, for everyday life is the raw material of prayer.

*(Prayers*ô Michael Quoist)

Faithfully Yours,

Dan

Inside:

- VBS Report
- GPC Top Growing Congregation in 2006
- Camp Krislund Capital Campaign
- Rally Day

MacAskill Room

The former Heritage Room, downstairs beneath the Eisenhower Lounge, has been renamed the MacAskill Room. This action is done in honor of Rev. Dr. Bob MacAskill who was the pastor of GPC from 1957 - 1986. Bob died in 2001. His widow, Linda, provided a few items for display on the walls. Also, the photos of the old church have been returned to the walls. Stop by the MacAskill Room sometime and take a look. A special thanks goes to Gail Hull and Ron Jones of the Property Committee who arranged all wall displays.

Email from a visitor:

Dear GPC,

I just wanted to say that I have worshiped with you the last two Sundays (July 1 & 8) and I was made to feel so welcome. The fellowship was wonderful and I will treasure the memories of my first communion as a Christian forever.

God Bless you all.

Brian Beck

Portadown, N. Ireland

Thank You:

The children and families of Dorothy Ketterman would like to thank the members of the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church for their many acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy during our mother's brief illness and after her death. We would like to thank Jan Piper, Memorial Luncheon Chairman, and the women of her committee who served the nice luncheon following the memorial service. Also, many thanks to the women who provided food for the reception. This was greatly appreciated by our families. We thank Dan and Lou for their visits to the hospital and for the lovely memorial service for our mother.

Thanks goes to the following for volunteering their Saturday morning to install insulation at the Habitat for Humanity site in Arendtsville: Scott McPherson, Bob Remaley, Dick Wisor, Dan Ebaugh and Dennis Meckley.

BIG THANKS
This year's Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering was supported by many generous gifts. We collected \$945.00 from GPC women this spring. GPC joins many other congregations in combining our donations to fund agricultural, health, childcare and educational programs worldwide. Thank you for your caring support.

Amy Deitch
Presbyterian Women
Birthday Offering Coordinator

A Big Thanks to:
Barb Fair, Jan Piper, Lucy Breighner, Kathy Kircher, Mary Lou Seamens, Sandra Breighner, Sheryl Suplee, Betty Brownley, Georgia Kuhn, Don & Ron Clark, and all who made food for the wonderful receptions after the funerals for Jackie Knox and Murray Frazee.

We would like to thank all the people from our church family that volunteered to help with the Adams County Workcamp. We worked on 51 homes during the one-week camp. The staff was amazed at the number of people from our church that signed up and helped make the camp a huge success! — Bill & Kathy Faloon

It Was A VBS Mountaintop Experience!

During the last week of June, 115 children, 35 teens and 36 adults gathered in our church each morning to "Climb The Mountains With Jesus!" Through drama, games, "scripture rocks" and scripture booklets, snacks, Bible stories, singing and of course many wonderful crafts, we all experienced four mountain stories from the New Testament. These stories included Jesus Faces Temptation, Sermon on the Mount, Jesus Meets Moses and Elijah, and Breakfast by the Lake and the Great Commission.

Many children participated in our Scripture Challenge and received a prize for memorizing the Golden Rule, Lord's Prayer, and/or the Great Commission.

For our mission project, each VBS family donated one or more new books to the Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program here in Adams County. And on Thursday afternoon we served pizza to the children in Grades 3-5, and then 56 adults and children traveled to Gateway Theater to see "Evan Almighty" as a "cool" ending to our week!

I will not attempt to list all the names of adults and teens who made this program possible. From the leaders on the VBS planning team, to those who carried out the program, to the teens who made the dramas come alive, to the behind-the-scenes workers, to those of you in the congregation who donated needed items, I SAY "THANK YOU!" Thank you for your commitment, your faith, your time, and most of all your love for God's children. What a great VBS you provided! Looking forward to next year!

Blessings,
Phyllis

Nursery Staff Back-Up Needed

Nichol Fake is our staff member for the 11:00 a.m. nursery each Sunday. However, because of Nichol's regular job, she is sometimes called at the last minute to work on Sunday mornings. We are looking for 2-3 people to serve as back-ups for Nichol on these Sundays. If you are willing to do this, please call Phyllis at 334-1235, ext. 5.
ô Thanks

Volunteers Needed!

Be a Part of the GPC Tech Team!

The Contemporary Worship Service is growing and so are the technical and media needs of many activities here at GPC. We need your help. We are training individuals to help with running the computer, video projector and soundboards during worship services. Individuals are especially needed to help with set up and tear down of the audiovisual equipment between services. If you are able to commit to at least 1 Sunday a month, please let us know! Contact Bill Fitzpatrick (334-4960) or Candace Nyiri (337-2939).

As of June 30 we are 50% into 2007

Expenditures to date are 54%

Receipts to date are 48% of anticipated budget.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP REMINDER:

The Contemporary Worship Team is taking a break during the summer months of July and August. The Contemporary Worship service will resume on Sunday, September 9th at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary.

Join us for the 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. worship services during August.

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS:



The Gettysburg Soup Kitchen provides a nourishing environment six days a week. The tables are covered in lovely cloths with small vases of colorful silk flowers. Manager, Jan Guillory, reads a brief Bible passage and leads everyone in grace before the noon meal. GPC's calling is to prepare the meal for the second Monday of each month.

Volunteers and guests get a welcome respite from their busy, often challenging lives. Jane Patrono, Ellie Sheen and Susie Snyder volunteered in May. Paulette Brabender, Dale Molina and Joan Kinsey prepared the meal for June. Thanks to each of you for your talent and kindness.

The need for volunteers is constant. If you are able to help, please call Cathy Carson @ 359-0034.

Condolences:

Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Monty & Betsy Illick and Becky Beegle on the death of their niece and her cousin's wife and daughter.

Betty Frazee on the death of her husband Murray.

Kay Knox on the death of her daughter Jackie.

Upcoming Events

Did You Know?

The Faith and Fitness Walking Group met for brief devotions, prayer and a 2-mile walk on the battlefield on Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m. for 6 weeks this summer.

Participants were Lou and Candace Nyiri, Beth Fitzpatrick, Dorie Elledge, Nancy Heller and Sherri Farkas. In addition to inspiration, fellowship and physical fitness, cold water and bug repellent were also provided!

If you would be interested in a walking group this fall, please contact Candace at 337-2939 or lucan615@comcast.net.

Growing Churches

The Presbytery of Carlisle office has received the compiled 2006 statistics for our member churches. Fully 1/3 of our churches had an increase in members during the last calendar year.

While growth in membership is not the only indicator of a vital church, it is certainly one marker of a healthy congregation. We rejoice with the congregations listed below which had an increase in membership between January and December 2006.

Top 10 Numerical Increases

- * 29 Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
- 18 Harrisburg Korean Presbyterian Church
- 16 Derry Presbyterian Church
- 16 Greencastle Presbyterian Church
- 11 Upper Path Valley Presbyterian Church
- 9 Central Presbyterian Church
- 8 Lower March Creek Presbyterian Church
- 8 Great Conewago Presbyterian Church
- 7 Hope Presbyterian Church
- 6 First Presbyterian Church, Newville

Top 10 Increases by Percentage of Membership

- 16% Harrisburg Korean Presbyterian Church
- 8% Great Conewago Presbyterian Church
- * 7% Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
- 7% Greencastle Presbyterian Church
- 7% Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church
- 7% Upper Path Valley Presbyterian Church
- 5% Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church
- 4% Hope Presbyterian Church
- 4% Lower Path Valley Presbyterian Church
- 4% First Presbyterian Church, Newville

August Music Schedule

| | |
|------|----------------------------|
| 8/5 | Chelsea Cook |
| | Rachel Parmentier |
| 8/12 | Don Clark |
| 8/19 | Kristin North |
| | Rachel Doehring |
| | Nick Telenson |
| 8/26 | Classic Trombones |
| | Heather Miller & Dana Witt |

AUGUST DATES TO REMEMBER

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| August 1 | 12:00 p.m. | Men's Interfaith Luncheon |
| August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 1:30 p.m. | Weekly Cancer group |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Divorce Support group |
| August 5 | 9:30 a.m. | Worship & Music Team |
| August 6, 13, 20, 27 | 9:30 a.m. | Burden Bears |
| August 7 | 9:30 a.m. | Sewing Workshop |
| August 9 | 12:00 p.m. | Newsletter Deadline |
| August 12 | 12:15 p.m. | Deacons Meeting |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Session Meeting |
| August 14 | 7:00 p.m. | Christian Education Team |
| August 19 | | WORKCAMP SUNDAY |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Property Committee |
| August 20 | 7:00 p.m. | Mission & Interpretation Team |
| August 23 | 12:00 p.m. | Newsletter Deadline |
| August 27 | 7:30 p.m. | Personnel & Administration Committee |
| August 29 | 7:00 p.m. | Adult Choir |

**Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, August 9, 2007**

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