

GRAPEVINE

March 12, 2008

Parson to Person

Congregations have mission statements and so do individual Christians. Here is my personal mission statement, crafted after reading Ben Franklin's *Autobiography* in which he delineates his thirteen principles for living. I wrote my mission statement fifteen years ago and have tried to live by it ever since ó with a mixture of success and failure. I pass it along to you as food for thought. While Franklin organized his life around thirteen principles, it takes me fourteen!

What I am is God's gift to me; what I become is my gift to God. Holding to a faith built upon grace and gratitude, I am committed to becoming a person who, in all things, seeks to glorify God. In relationship with other people I seek to give blessing and delight (as God gives to us) rather than burden and demand. In this life-long pursuit, I constantly work on these fourteen areas of my life:

1. *Appreciation – Be still and notice the world around me, especially notice people close to me. Be grateful for God's blessings.*
2. *Affirmation – Speak that which builds up others. If I don't have anything good to say, don't say anything. (We listen to our supporters better than to our critics.)*
3. *Moderation – Live a balanced life eating and drinking nothing in excess and maintaining a healthy diet and adequate exercise.*
4. *Priority – Don't let the urgent crowd out the important. Eliminate the unnecessary. Elevate the necessary*
5. *Sincerity – Be honest in word and action. Mean what I say and say what I mean.*
6. *Patience – Don't let little things become annoying. Try relaxing before reacting. Ask whether the issue is worth getting upset over.*
7. *Initiative – Take responsibility for my circumstances rather than making excuses for them. Be proactive.*
8. *Humility – Recognize that I have been, I am now, and I always will be a sinner before the Holy God. Every ability and opportunity is a gift.*
9. *Humor – Laugh a lot and tell jokes often.*
10. *Respect – Never say something behind a person's back that I would not say to his/her face.*
11. *Justice – Hear both sides before judging. Give everyone a fair chance.*
12. *Stewardship – Waste nothing: not money, not time, not natural resources, not opportunities, and not words.*
13. *Listening – Listen to what people are saying instead of thinking about how I will respond. Hear what they say and do not say.*
14. *Unconditional love – Remove conditions from love. Never use love as a bargaining tool. Give love for one reason – the other person needs to be loved.*

Inside:

- Hans Family Farewell
- New Hearing Aids
- Labyrinth
- Holy Week Events
- Workcamp Brunch
- Congregational Meeting

Faithfully yours,

A Goodbye Party For Dan & Beth Hans and Family March 30th @ 3:30 at the Majestic Theater

As we plan our farewell celebration for Dan and Beth Hans we are looking for photos from the past 20 years. We are planning a slide show that will chronicle their 20 years of ministry and friendship here at GPC. Please write your name on the back of the photos and submit them to Candace Veon-Nyiri in the church office. Your photos will be returned. Email digital photos to gpcclou@embarqmail.com. We need photos as soon as possible!

RESERVATIONS FOR CHILDREN ON MARCH 30

March 30 is Dan Hans' last day at GPC, and that day is fast approaching! This is a reminder for all parents. If you will be attending the program at the Majestic Theater at 3:30 p.m. that day, you need to make a reservation for your children ASAP. Childcare for ages 0-4 years old will be held in the church nursery. Children ages 5 and older will enjoy a movie and popcorn in a separate room at the Majestic. Please contact Phyllis Dowd at 334-1235, ext.5 or gpcdce@embarqmail.com with the names and ages of the children who will be coming.

We hope you can attend this farewell celebration on March 30. It will be a wonderful tribute and thank-you to Dan and Beth.

Thank You:

HUGE THANKS

Goes to Candace Veon-Nyiri for arranging for our guest preacher, Rev. Dr. Bill Carl, President of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, on Sunday, March 9. If you missed church that day you missed a great sermon. You can listen to it on our church website. Only an audio copy is available.

Condolences:

Our thoughts and prayers are with:

- Betty Huettner on the recent death of her daughter-in-law
- Becky & Barry Wareham on the recent death of Becky's father

Monthly Financial Report

As of February 29 we are 16.7% into 2008 with our budget of \$693,936.

Receipts to date are 15.2% (\$105,122)

Expenditures to date are 21.7% (\$150,555)

Our current amount available for operating expenses is \$48,638.

New Hearing Aides

With Gifts & Memorials donations made in memory of Dorothy Ketterman our church recently acquired a new hearing assistance system for use in the sanctuary. GPCers who would like to purchase their own personal receiver can do so by calling the church office.

Upcoming Events

March Music Schedule

3/16	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir Primary Choir
3/20	7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir
3/23	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	9:30 a.m.	Brass Quartet Adult Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Brass Quartet Adult Choir
3/30	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bell Choir Carrie Trax
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Bell Choir Youth Choir Carrie Trax

MidSHIP Schedule

March 15	12:00 - 4:00	Labyrinth Fund Raiser *
March 16	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship / Games
March 23	NO MIDSHIP	EASTER
March 30	NO MIDSHIP	Farewell Party for The Hans Family

* Information to follow

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

March 16	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship & Discussion
March 23	NO SHIP	EASTER
March 30	NO SHIP	Farewell Party for The Hans Family

Mid-Ship News:

The Mid-Ship group has attempted twice to go snow-tubing, with no success thus far. The evening of the first attempt, it was 67° and raining. The second time around, it was 30°, snowing and sleeting, with a winter storm warning in effect. What a spring! Eleven of the Mid-Ship kids were able to make the best of things during the second attempt and go sledding close to the church instead. Question: How many eighth-grade boys can you get on a child's sled? Answer: At least four.

Ten eighth-graders from the Mid-Ship group, two high school advisors, and Libby Crowe went to a Young Life camp in Rockbridge, VA, for three days, where they joined with middle-schoolers from four other states. It was wonderful! In addition to dramas, speakers, and praise singing, the kids enjoyed the rock climbing wall, the big swing, the pamper pole, basketball courts, and the hot tub, as well as an awesome foursquare tournament. Thanks to the Doehring family for donating the use of their 15-passenger van for the trip and to Mike Crowe for driving everyone to and from Rockbridge.

MidSHIP Labyrinth Fundraiser

The Middle School Fellowship invites you to participate in a multimedia labyrinth experience. The labyrinth will be set up in the "Fish" classroom downstairs at the church. Participants will "journey" through the labyrinth guided by a CD that provides devotional narration set against a worshipful music backdrop. Twelve stations on their journey will lead them through Christ's final days. We hope that this will be a wonderful, meditative way for GPC members to begin Holy Week. The labyrinth will be available on Saturday, March 15 from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, March 16 from 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

There will be a grace offering after the labyrinth experience with all proceeds to benefit World Vision's 30-Hour Famine, which the Mid-Ship group will be participating in on April 19th & 20th.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, March 21st, 2008 @ 12:00 noon

at the prince of Peace Church

at the corner of Baltimore & High Streets

**Hosted by the Churches
of the Gettysburg Ministerium**

For more information contact

Prince of Peace Church at

717-334-6463

Everyone Welcome!!

Maundy Thursday Service March 20th @ 7:30 p.m. "Song of the Shadows"

The Adult Choir will present a beautiful and moving cantata, "Song of the Shadows", by Joseph M. Martin, at the Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday, March 20th as a part of the regular service. The service begins at 7:30. Communion will be served as a part of the cantata.

Good Friday Movie Night

Mel Gibson's *The Passion of The Christ* will be shown in our church sanctuary on Good Friday, March 21, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. We are reserving 1/2 an hour after the movie for discussion for anyone interested. You might consider bringing a friend or friends with you to the movie, then staying for the discussion afterwards. Please keep in mind that this movie is rated R+ for sequences of graphic violence. As such the movie is not recommended for children, and those under 18 are not allowed to see the movie unless accompanied by an adult parent.

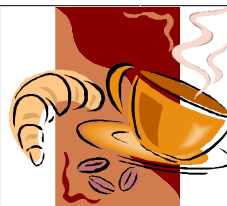
Use the **Easter Celebration** insert to :

1. Decide which service you will attend this year and
2. Share with a friend as an invitation to attend Easter worship

There will be **NO** Sunday School classes on Easter Sunday, March 23. Classes will resume on Sunday, March 30.

Help Needed in the Nursery on Easter

Easter Sunday, March 23, is fast approaching! Worship services will be held at 8:15, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. We need a total of six volunteers (two for each service that morning). Please contact Phyllis at 334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@embarqmail.com if you can spare one hour to care for our littlest church members so their parents can worship on Easter.



Easter Continental Breakfast

Your church's Deacons invite you to the all-church Easter Continental Breakfast buffet on Easter Sunday, March 23rd. Serving times will be 9-9:30AM and 10:30-11:00AM in fellowship hall. The menu will include an assortment of homemade muffins, cheeses, fruit, coffee, tea and juices. We hope you will join us for fellowship before or after the worship service you choose to attend as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

High School Workcamp Brunch is April 13th

- What:** Food, Fellowship and Fundraiser for high school workcamp
When: Sunday, April 13, 2008
Where: Fellowship Hall
Time: 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. (**After 1st Service & Before 3rd Worship Service**)
 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon (**After Sunday School**)
 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m. (**After 3rd Worship Service**)
Cost: \$8.00 (13 years and older) \$5.00 (12 years and younger)
Why: To raise money to off-set the cost per student to go on this year's workcamp to
 Monroe, NC from July 18—26, 2008.

The brunch is catered by the Dobbin House and features: egg-bake; waffles; bacon; potatoes; fruit and cheese tray; muffins; with orange juice, coffee, tea, and water to drink. To reserve a seat at the Brunch for one of the times above you **must** purchase a ticket in fellowship hall Sunday mornings; throughout the week in the church office; or email Rev. Nyiri at gpclou@embarqmail.com (put %Workcamp Brunch+in subject line). If you cannot attend the brunch and would like to support Workcamp 2008 contact Rev. Nyiri in the church office. This is the high school workcamp's **only** fundraiser and your generous support helps send students to serve God in Monroe, NC. You have supported us generously in past years and we thank you in advance for this year's support.

Dinner & A Movie March 15th from 5-8:30 PM

Saturday, March 15th we will gather in Fellowship Hall for a pot luck dinner from 5:00-6:00PM. Please bring place settings for your party and a main dish, dessert or salad/vegetable to share with eight. After Dinner, we'll move into the Sanctuary to watch the movie **Amazing Grace** from 6:00-8:00/8:30PM. **Amazing Grace** is based on the life of antislavery pioneer William Wilberforce who, as a Member of Parliament, navigated the world of 18th Century backroom politics to end the slave trade in the British Empire. Elected to the House of Commons at the age of 21, and on his way to a successful political career, Wilberforce, over the course of two decades, took on the English establishment and persuaded those in power to end the inhumane trade of slavery. The film is rated PG for thematic material involving slavery and some mild language.+

Childcare is available during the movie time for those requiring this service. Contact Rev. Lou Nyiri in the church office (gpclou@embarqmail.com or 334-1235, ext. 4) with your name, phone number, number and ages of children requiring childcare. Please make childcare reservations ASAP. Otherwise, you can simply show up for the dinner and/or movie.


 Vacation Bible School
 will be held
 on **June 23—26, 2008**
 for ages 3 - Grade 5.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Communion Date Change
 The next Sunday on which Communion will be celebrated is March 30, Dan Hansølast Sunday. There will be no Communion on April 6 as there will be a guest preacher, Rev. Dr. Mark Krieger, Executive Presbyter. Also on that date Lou & Candace Nyiri will be out of town conducting a family wedding. So mark your calendar for Communion on Sunday, March 30.



VBS Leaders Needed!!
 Vacation Bible School will be held on June 23-26 this year and we need help!!
 If you can be a planning leader for preschool, snack, games, drama, crafts or Bible activities, please let me know as soon as possible. We will start our planning in early April.
 I know that you - **yes, you** - have lots of great ideas and enthusiasm for our children's ministry here at GPC. This may be just the opportunity you've been looking for. Let me know at 334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@embarqmail.com. THANKS!
 Blessings, Phyllis

FIRST ALERT

2008 SPRING RUMMAGE

Yes, it will soon be here. It is time for the PW Spring Rummage and Bake Sale. Now you know you have a place for all those items that you will be cleaning out of closets, basements, and garages during your spring cleanup. We want to remind you that we cannot accept any chemicals or items that require special handling or disposition. Items must be clean and in working condition. Also, we ask that you please do not tell your friends and neighbors that they can leave their discarded items at our church for sale. We have plenty from the church members. The limited number of helpers and time allotted for the sale makes it difficult to process any more than what comes from church members. We need brown bags for the Saturday bag sale. You can drop those off when you bring in your items for the sale. We will have the plant and bake sale and lunch items. A complete schedule of times and information will be coming.

If you have questions or to sign up to help, call Melanie Keller (334-7392), Susie Snyder (642-9199) or Kathy Kircher (334-5294). Even one hour of helping is greatly appreciated.

Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting has been called by the Session of the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church for March 30, 2008 immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary. The purpose of this meeting will be to vote to dissolve our pastoral relationship with Rev. Dr. Dan Hans. The second item on the agenda will be to elect members to the nine-member Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). A list of nine nominees has been prepared by the congregation's Nominating Committee, was reviewed by the Session, and will be presented at the congregational meeting. Nominations can be received from the floor, providing the nominee has agreed to serve and understands the commitment involved in serving on the PNC.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S SPRING TEA

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

at the home of Diane Hoy - 133 Tiffany Lane

ALL WOMEN of the CHURCH ARE INVITED

DIRECTIONS TO DIANE HOY'S HOME:

From the church, travel north one block on Baltimore Street. Turn left onto W. Middle Street (PA 116). Go about 1.3 miles to Old Mill Rd. Turn right onto Old Mill Rd. and travel about 0.7 miles to Tiffany Lane. Turn right onto Tiffany Lane and travel to 113 Tiffany Lane (brick house with white trim in middle of the loop).

Youth Club's Annual Night of "NO Sleep"

Our Youth Club Lock-In was held on March 7 & 8. Thirty-two 3rd- 5th graders and their friends plus 10 middle-schoolers spent the night at the church and had a great time! Special thanks to the following:

Chaperones: Gina Plamann, Amy Deitch, Bruce Bridel, Clay Barrow, and Dana Hubble

Stayed from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.: Leonard Kulkusky (Thank You)

Stayed all night: Mike Kulkusky, Alva Ecker, Sarah Morton, and 10 Middle School Aides (Thank You)

Easter Egg Hunt: Amy Deitch

Capture the Flag and Mini-American Idol: Sarah Morton

Breakfast Crew: Rich Watson, Lucy Breighner, Wendy Heiges and Cinnamon Hosterman

Clean-Up: Ann & Kirk Cowden, Carolyn Sautter and Teresa Gard

It took us (me!) several days to recover, but it was worth it! Looking forward to next year? Ask me later!

Phyllis (yawning)

MARCH CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Join us for worship in a relaxed, creative style!

March 2008

- 3/16 It's Time to Make Some Noise
- 3/23 6:30AM Easter Sunrise Worship at the Eternal Peace Light,
Gettysburg National Military Park
(In case of extreme weather, Sunrise service will be held in GPC sanctuary)
- 3/30 Rev. Dr. Daniel T. Hans Service of Communion
Was It Just A Dream?
(Dan's final Sunday in the pulpit. Plan on being in worship!)-

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation.” 2 Cor. 5:17

Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, March 20, 2008

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(717) 334-1235

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Palm Sunday, March 16