

GRAPEVINE

April 23, 2008

Parson to Person

I thank you for your welcome as the Temp. Pastor. I am beginning to know where things are and how things are done, not having to pester Penny and others about everything, e.g., where is the pencil sharpener, or who prepares the session docket? All have gone out of their way to be pleasant and tolerant of my queries. Without exception, people have been very willing to help.

In this learning process, I have discovered the mantra of the congregation. It goes like this: I ask a question, and people say, "Dan did it." I have heard it so often that it has become comical. I have concluded that there were several Dans. Had to be!

In addition to the alpha pastor, God has blessed this church with an outstanding staff. I was impressed with them before working with them. Now, I am impressed by their personalities, dedication and competence, and I am grateful to them for their gracious help.

I admire the elders and members. When Dan announced his new call, a tsunami of grief and anxiety swept us. The separation anxiety and the way it has been handled were and are a sign of healthy Christians and church. Why would I say that? Because people regretted his departure, but did not wring their hands. They invested in giving Dan a proper thank you and send-off. Well done!

At the same time, the staff and leaders stepped up their pace. They went into sprint speed. Immediately the marvelous farewell/send-off was planned. The elders got the Nominating Committee working on securing nominees for the Pastoral Nominating Committee, which we elected. They decided on plans for the interim period, what would be done and who would do it. A special thanks to the nine members of the PNC. (Let us commit to pray regularly for the PNC.) Many people have altered their schedules to do well the farewell and transition.

Your staff, leaders and other volunteers have blessed the church, including me, over recent weeks. It is a delight to be served by and to serve with such loving, upbeat, resourceful, capable, and committed Christians.

Thank you, Lord!

Yours,
Harry

Inside:

- "Meet & Greet" the Winsheimers
- PW Birthday Offering
- Church Work Day
- Rummage Sale
- May Banquet
- VBS Dates

Thank You:

Thanks to Sheryl Suplee and Sherry Farkas for making soup for the Lenten Small Group Supper on Maundy Thursday! It was delicious!!

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP NEWS

We want to thank Doug Forbeck for all he does each week to help keep the Contemporary Worship Service running smoothly! Doug sets up our banners and worship visuals, greets worshippers and acts as head usher. He has served as worship leader on several occasions. Thank you, Doug!

We also want to thank Betty Forbeck, Carol Merwede, Heide Merwede, and Pam Rowland who serve on the Usher and Greeters Team. We appreciate you!

If you might be interested in helping with the ministry of Contemporary Worship contact Candace at 337-2939.

Condolences:

Our thoughts and prayers are with:
Sandra Breighner on the recent death of her uncle;
Linda MacAskill on the recent death of her father;
Friends and family of Miriam MacCallum who died recently.

Monthly Financial Report
As of March 31 we are 25% into 2008 with our budget of \$693,936.
Receipts to date are 25.6% (\$178,099)
Expenditures to date are 29.49% (\$204,674)
Our current amount available for operating expenses is \$68,345.

**Please Pray for our
Pastor Nominating Committee**

Our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is hard at work preparing to search for our new senior pastor. We urge all members to support our PNC by offering daily prayer for them and their work.

Over the next three Sundays, please come to Fellowship Hall and sign your name to express your prayer commitment. Our Pastor Nominating Committee appreciates your support.

Listen On-line

Missed a Sunday, worked in Children's Church or in the nursery and missed the message? Now you can listen online. Just go to the church's website: www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org and click on %Sermons.+ Sunday's message is usually available online by 5:00 PM on

P W Birthday Offering

Please give generously to the PW Birthday offering (envelope enclosed).

This year's recipients will include:

Lakeview Presbyterian Church Weekday School This daycare center in New Orleans which was flooded out during Hurricane Katrina will be rebuilt.

The Presbyterian Churches of Congo and Kinshasa These churches strengthen ministries in education, nutrition and technical assistance, improving the lives of at least 700,000 Congolese people. This offering will help provide roofing materials for 19 schools, rebuilding materials for 5 schools, textbooks, teacher manuals, teacher training seminars and education supervisors will receive motorbikes.

You may put the envelopes in the church offering plate or turn them in at the church office. If you have any questions about the Birthday Offering please call Amy Deitch 337-3534.



SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

Now, more than ever, the Gettysburg Soup Kitchen plays a vital role in the well being of this community. In 2008 GPC volunteers Paulette Brabender, Carolyn Duboraw, Beth Fitzpatrick, Pat Hickey, Barbara McHenry, Lori McNair, Dale Molina, Kathy Schneider, Evelyn Small, Suzanne Steinour and Bev Weber have been very supportive of the kitchen by preparing delicious casseroles for the guests. GPC provides the meal the second Monday of each month. As the economy slows, the need has become greater. Your contribution of time and talent is significant. Please call Cathy Carson @ 359-0034 if you are interested in helping with this worthy GPC mission.

The Wired Word

The former Pastor's Class Sunday School will continue for the next month using a curriculum called The Wired Word. Each week's installment of The Wired Word will involve a lively, timely lesson that will both educate class members biblically and engage us in energetic discussion over matters in the news that very week. We hope to see you there!

Are You Willing To Do More Laundry?

We have 10 bags of clothing for the South Dakota Mission Trip that need to be laundered. If you are willing to take one bag home and wash the clothes, please look for the designated table in Fellowship Hall this Sunday. We ask that the clean clothes be returned by Sunday, May 11th. Thank you!

GPC Youth Member in Musical

Rachel Doehring, an eighth grader from GPC, will be performing in "The Children of Eden", a musical about family and faith at the Eichelberger Performing Arts Center on May 8th—11th. Tickets and information can be found at www.theeich.org.

Upcoming Events

May Music Schedule

5/4	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
5/11	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
5/18	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bell Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Bell Choir
		Primary Choir
5/25	8:15 a.m.	Youth Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Early Choir
		Adult Choir

PRIMARY CHOIR

All children ages 3 through 2nd grade are invited to join the Primary Choir as we prepare for our last performance this Sunday School year. We will be singing at the 11:00 a.m. service on May 18th. Practices are only 15 minutes long, immediately following Sunday School, down on the green rug in the basement, next to the stage. Parents are more than welcome to attend as well!! Please note that we will NOT practice on Mother's Day, May 11th - so please make sure to attend the May 4th rehearsal.

FAITH & FITNESS

Spring Walking Small Group

Our spring Walking Small Group will begin Thursday, May 1st and run for 6 weeks through June 5th. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for a brief devotion and then a 2-mile walk on the battlefield. All are welcome and you can walk at your own pace! Why not invite a friend? Contact Candace Nyiri at 337-2939 if you would like to join us!



**WE WILL WALK IN THE LIGHT OF
YOUR PRESENCE, O LORD! Psalm 89:15b**

MidSHIP Schedule

April 27	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship / Games
May 4	5:30 - 7:00	Picnic @ Lake Heritage

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

April 27	8:15 - 11:00 a.m.	Youth Sunday (No evening H.S.F. due to Youth Sunday)
May 4	5:30 - 7:00	PICNIC (site to be determined)

Community Prayer Breakfast

May 1st, 2008

8:00 a.m.

Lutheran Seminary Refectory

John Wega, U.S.C.C., Speaker

"The Adventures of Paul"

Vacation Bible School

will be held on

June 23—26

for ages 3—Grade 5 (completed)

Registration for VBS will be
held from May 18 - June 15

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

SWING INTO SOFTBALL

Sign up to play softball in our church league. Call or email Rev. Lou Nyiri at 334-1235, ext. 4 or gpclou@embarqmail.com.

ALL CHURCH WORK DAY!



Our Property Committee has set Saturday, May 10th (8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) as a church work day to complete repairs, clean up and do painting projects around the church. Please email or call the church office to let us know if you can help. Thanks, The Property Committee

ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH MAY BANQUET



**TUESDAY, MAY 6th @ 6:00 p.m.
In Fellowship Hall**

**Sponsored by Presbyterian Women
Catered by the Fairfield Inn**

Performance by
JUBILATE CHORAL ENSEMBLE

Tickets are \$8.00

Last day to buy tickets is

April 27th

in Fellowship Hall
between Sunday worship services

Ticket info: Rebecca Zepp 337-9571

PW RUMMAGE, PLANT & BAKE

MAY 2 & MAY 3, 2008

SET-UP STARTS ON APRIL 29TH

Please schedule some time to help with the Rummage Sale. Set up is on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, sale days on Friday and sale & clean-up on Saturday. Call Melanie Keller at 334-7392, Susie Snyder at 642-9199 or Kathy Kircher at 334-5294 to schedule a time to help with the sale. **Please, NO toxic substances or items that require special handling for disposal. Bring only items that work, are clean and in good condition. See you at the sale!!**

Rummage & Plant Sale: Friday, May 2, 8:30 am - 5 pm and Saturday May 3, 8:30 am - 12 noon

Bake Sale & Lunch: Friday, May 2, 8:30 am - 12 noon (or until sold out). Lots of scrumptious baked goodies. Lunch menu is hot dogs with a variety of toppings, Sloppy Joes, chips & soda.

Drop-Offs: On Monday, **April 28**, put everything in the corner next to the main outside entrance of Fellowship Hall. **Deadline to drop off is Noon on Thursday, May 1.**

Marking & Sorting: Tuesday, April 29, 1 pm - 5 pm; Wednesday & Thursday, April 30 & May 1, 9 am - 5 pm.

Baked Goods: Drop off by 8:00 am on **Friday, May 2** or the night before if frozen.

Plants: Can be dropped off on Monday or Tuesday, but please be sure they are moist: **Wednesday or Thursday, April 30 or May 1 is best.**

Clean-Up: Saturday, May 3 from 12 noon until done.

Volunteers are needed. The more help available, the faster and easier this big job gets done. Please call Melanie, Susie, or Kathy to offer your help. Your few hours of help ultimately help a lot of others.

Thank you in advance for your wonderful support of this worthwhile PW project.

“Meet & Greet” the Winsheimers on May 4th

Join us to formally meet and greet our Temporary Pastor, Rev. Dr. Harry Winsheimer and his wife, Charlotte.

Come listen to Rev. Winsheimer in worship that morning and stick around in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and the opportunity to talk with Harry and Charlotte in between and after one of our three worship services. We are blessed by God to have Harry and Charlotte in our midst! We hope you will be in worship that morning and stay around to welcome them on May 4th.



Most first time worshippers will decide to return the following week within the first 120 seconds (2 minutes) of their visit.

- Ushers & Greeters are the first welcome to worship for new and returning worshippers. Ushers and Greeters play a vital role in fostering an open, caring & friendly place for people to connect with God and other Christians.

What do ushers do on Sunday Mornings?

- Arrive one half hour before the service begins
 - Offer a friendly smile & greeting
 - Pass out worship bulletins
 - Provide an escort (if needed) to a pew
 - Assist in collecting offering
 - After the offering ushers participate in the worship experience with family and friends.
- Following worship ushers will help tidy+the sanctuary up for the next service.

What do greeters do on Sunday Mornings?

- Arrive one half hour before the service begins
 - Provide a warm smile & friendly handshake to welcome new and returning worshippers
- After the call to worship a greeter is finished with their duty and will participate in worship.

Could you help out some Sunday?

Return the information below to Rev. Lou Nyiri in the church office.

Yes, I am willing to help foster a welcoming worship atmosphere at our church on Sunday mornings.

I prefer to be an (circle one) usher / greeter / I can be either an usher or greeter.

I usually worship at (circle one) 8:15AM / 9:30AM / 11:00AM service.

Name: _____

Phone Number & Email: _____

The following dates would work in my calendar:

May 4, 2008	June 1, 2008	July 6, 2008
May 11, 2008	June 8, 2008	July 13, 2008
May 18, 2008	June 15, 2008	July 20, 2008
May 25, 2008	June 22, 2008	July 27, 2008
	June 29, 2008	

**Return this form to the offering plate or to Rev. Lou Nyiri in the church office.
A Deacon will contact you.**

(Calendar Page)


GPC CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Worship with us Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.
Join us for prayer, song and God's Word in a relaxed, creative style.
All are welcome!!

May 2008

- 5/4 It's the Growing Season!
- 5/11 Making a Difference (Day of Pentecost & Mother's Day)
- 5/18 Night Light
- 5/25 Service of Communion (Memorial Day Weekend)

*The Christian life is not a matter of doing great things FOR God.
That's religion. Christianity is doing great things WITH God.
That's the life of Jesus Christ in us. The Spiritual Formation Bible*



**Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, May 1, 2008**

*Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
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Gettysburg, PA 17325
(717) 334-1235*

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