

GRAPEVINE

September 24, 2008

Parson to Person

What do you do every day? What do you do all day?

Practice stewardship!

Not the answer that you expected, right?

Stewardship is the Christian word for management. What we do with our time, how we spend our money, what is stressed, what is ignored, what we do to invigorate ourselves, what we do for money, what we do for pleasure. All the decision making pertaining to our lives, in the broadest sense, is stewardship.

Christian stewardship is management for the Lord. It is consciously acknowledging that we belong to the Lord. And, if we belong to the Lord, then so does our time, talent, knowledge, energy, creativity, funds, etc. The Lord entrusts all to our use for the support of ourselves and our families, for the enhancement of our communities, for the lifting of those less fortunate, for worship, for the pursuit of happiness and love, for the quest of justice and peace for all. And, very importantly, we manage to share the Good News of Jesus by words and deeds!

In other words, Christian stewardship is a view of one's self as an agent for God.

That makes it a daily self-view and practice.

What a privilege God has given us to be God's managers!

Stewardship applies to church, too. The stewardship of the members of GPC is vigorous. Activities and relationships continue. New connections are being made. Original things are being planned. The staff and you volunteers keep the Lord's work booming! You keep giving of yourselves in many ways. That is good stewardship! That is the way a church should be.

Our Stewardship Team will be approaching us soon about future financial support of God's work within us, among us, and through us. I encourage you to listen to their requests and prayerfully consider your participation. It is one part of our daily Christian stewardship.

Your fellow-steward,
Harry

Inside:

- Peace Offering
- Celebration for Becky Wareham
- All-Church Dinner & Dance
- Rummage Sale
- Grief Group

P A R K I N G L O T W I L L B E C L O S E D

Our parking lot will be closed for the week of Sept. 29 - October 3 to be resurfaced and relined.

The PW Luncheon and Men's Interfaith will go on as scheduled; parking has been arranged.

Condolences:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Clay Whitlock on the recent death of his wife, Kathy.

Thank You:

Dear GPC Church Family,
I want to express my sincere gratitude for the support you provided to Carolyn and me and to Herb's wife Pat before and after the death of my brother Herb. Your phone calls, emails, cards, and visits to the funeral services after his death played a special role in helping us to deal with our loss. At a time like this it means a great deal to have caring friends such as you.
God Bless you!
Sincerely, Hugh Ferguson

A very big "THANK YOU" to all of my church family who sent cards, made phone calls and offered much needed prayers to me during my recent illness. I know that each card, call and prayer has helped tremendously toward my on-going recovery. Special thanks to Pastor Harry who called every day to ask about me and to offer comforting words; to Lou & Candace Nyiri for their calls and prayers; and to Phyllis Dowd, Penny Messenger and Scott McPherson for their love and concern.
I have always known what a wonderful, caring group you are and to experience it first hand is truly God at work. I look so forward to regaining my strength and returning to my position as church sexton and my seat in the tenor section of the 11:00 a.m. choir.

May God bless you all!
Don Clark

Special thanks to Paulette and Tom Brabender for designing and painting the beautiful fall Contemporary Worship banner! The banner quotes Jesus' words in John's gospel to "Come and See". We hope you will worship with us and "come and see".

Also thank you to our worship assistants for September: Sue Moyer, Heide Merwede, Linda Thompson and Ben Thompson.

HISTORIC CHURCH WALKING TOURS

The 2008 Tour Season ended with the West tour on August 20th. On 12 Wednesday evening tours, and 1 bus tour, guides took 425 patrons to the 8 churches in the program.
We took in \$2,004 from tickets at \$5/person 14 and older. Children 13 and under are free. The churches support us with \$100/year. This is the first year that we haven't received grant funds. Our expenses include insurance and publicity. Publicity is in the form of our beautiful rack cards, articles in newspapers and one Civil War publication. We have a membership in the Gettysburg Convention and Visitors Bureau and have an ad in their publication, which is widely distributed in season. Our web site linked to the GCVB site is the most used information source for tourists.

The following members participate in the tours as guides: Judy English, Mary Miner, Tom Piper, Carrie and Greg Trax – in our church's program: Margaret Curtis, Dan Ebaugh, Joan Miller, Ellen Piacentine, Suzanne Snook – ticket sellers: Lucy Breighner, Art Pore - as Board members: Dan Ebaugh, Publicity and Joan Pore, Treasurer. We can use more guides and if you are interested, please call Joan Pore: 337-1718, artjo@superpa.net

We thank you for this church's contributions in money as well as participants. Ask any of us about the satisfaction we get from working with people who really love seeing our churches, their programs and our historic town. Local people are our most supportive patrons. Some keep returning with guests. Join us next season as patrons or guides.

Happy Birthday to...

October 1

Chelsea Banks
Kyleigh Grim
Will Matthews

October 2

Barbara Ebaugh
Don Saunders
Seth Snyder

October 3

Briannah Rohrbaugh

October 4

Barbara Angstadt
Elizabeth Fitzpatrick
Karen Lamb

October 5

Emery Weisenborn

October 6

Jim McCoy
Scott Nevins

October 7

Jeff Banks
Laura Davis
Linda Larson
Barbara McHenry
Ralph Siefken

October 9

Tamara Doehring

October 10

Anne Gallon
John Smarsh
Suzanne Steinour

October 11

Greg Beegle
Chrissy Ely
Brendan McQuaide

Rachel Pierson

Janet Piper

October 12

Jonathan Patrono

October 13

Carolyn Hoffman
Chloe Pennings

October 15

Caden LaRochelle

October 16

Susan Aldinger
Wayne English

October 18

Aaron Conklin

October 19

Matt McCracken

Brody Wagner

October 20

Archie Graff

John Harman

Christopher Lewis

Tony Poe

Gwen Scofield

Chad Weikert

October 21

Jack Haskins
Allegra Heebner
Preston Hull
Catherine Stabler

October 22

Adam Boyer
Dave Conklin
Brandon Gladfelter
Mike Gladfelter
Mark Keller

October 23

Aiden Weisenborn

October 24

Larry Bullis

October 25

Emily Clark

Molly Clark

Amy Hieber

Laurie Lewis

Nell Matthews
Heather Tschop

October 26

Frannie King

October 27

William Johnson

Ronald Weigle

October 29

Mary Camlin

Leah Teague

October 30

Jean Thomas

October 31

Terri Stephens

Andrew Stone

WHAT IS STEPHEN MINISTRY?

Stephen Ministry is named for Stephen, the first layperson commissioned by the Apostles to provide caring ministry to those in need.

Stephen Ministry is the art of using the power of caring and listening. The Rev. Kenneth C. Haugk, PhD., founder and Executive Director, said that, "I was intent on the fact that this should not be some watered-down, namby-pamby ministry. My goal was to make Stephen Ministry as substantive and high quality as any kind of para-professional caregiving that existed in the secular sphere." There are now 450,000 trained Stephen Ministers in 10,000 congregations, in all fifty states, nine Canadian provinces and 21 other countries. More than a million people have received care from Stephen Ministers.

Responding to Christ's love, two needs which Stephen Ministry attempts to meet are:

- the need of support by people who are experiencing life crises, or are otherwise hurting;
- the need of laypeople to use actively their gifts in meaningful, substantive ministry.

One care receiver, who lost her job and her father at the same time, speaks of her experience. "There wasn't anything magic about it. There were no pat answers, no judgments, and none of those slick clichés. There was just somebody out there who knew I was going through a tough time and would listen as I talked it out, and began to make decisions again."

The Stephen Minister's role is not to solve problems for anyone (God is the cure-giver), but rather to help the person—through prayer, trust, and support—to find strength and courage to resolve the problems him/herself. Stephen Ministers are not counselors, but are caring listeners who keep in touch, probably weekly, with their care receivers.

Confidentiality is the cornerstone of distinctively Christian caregiving. The only people who will know a caring relationship even exists are the care receiver, the Stephen Minister, the Stephen Leader who made the assignment, and possibly the pastor. Only the care receiver is free to speak of the relationship outside of these boundaries.

The Lord said to "love your neighbor", and this is a way to do just that.

We are reactivating the Stephen Ministry of Gettysburg Presbyterian Church. If you, or someone whom you know, would appreciate a confidential caring Christian friend to walk along side, please get in touch with Pat Hickey, 334-0237, or one of the pastors.

Upcoming Events:

October Music Schedule		
10/5	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
10/12	8:15 a.m.	Youth Bell Choir
		Youth Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Bell Choir
10/19		Primary Choir
	8:15 a.m.	Chapel Bell Choir
		Chapel Choir
		Early Choir
10/26		Adult Choir
	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

October

- October 1 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. The Twelve Begins
(Runs every Wednesday through Nov. 19th)
- October 5 5:30—7:00 p.m. Car-Chase
- October 12 12:15—3:00 p.m. We'll walk to a nearby Spot for lunch after church and then go somewhere surprising for our afternoon devotion (bring about \$10 to cover lunch and BRING A FRIEND)
- October 19 5:30—7:00 p.m. Game & Discussion
- October 26 5:30—7:00 p.m. Halloween Party & Game Night

MidSHIP Schedule

October

- October 5 5:30—7:00 p.m. Fellowship/Games
- October 8 3:00—4:30 p.m.. Small Group Begins
- October 12 12:15—3:00 p.m. Rollerskating *
- October 19 5:30—7:00 p.m. Fellowship/Games
- October 26 5:30—7:00 p.m. Costume Party & Game Night

* We will leave from the church. Please bring \$6.00 to cover costs.



Don't Miss the Bus!

We currently have only 2 seats available for the NYC Bus Trip on November 29th. Cost is \$40.00 per person for the bus. Please call Mary Weigle at 677-7904 to reserve your seat or if you have any questions. Those of you who have already reserved your seat, payment will be due by October 15, 2008. Make check payable to: Gettysburg Presbyterian Church with NYC on the memo line and mail or drop off in the church office.



Kids Club (Kindergarten - Grade 2) Begins Next Week!!

October 2—30

Kids Club is a time of fun, friendship, Bible stories, scripture activities, crafts, and games under the leadership of Pam Rowland. We will offer two identical programs for our Fall series of Kids Club, both on Thursdays from Oct. 2 - 30. One will be held from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. and the other from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Both programs are for children in Kindergarten - Grade 2 and will be held in the MacAskill Room (Heritage Room)

It's not too late to register. Call Phyllis at 334-1235 (ext. 5) ASAP! There is no fee and the program is open to any child in Kindergarten - Grade 2 who is interested, but we do need to know ahead of time who is coming. Hope your child can join us for this church activity for younger members.

Blessings, Phyllis

You're invited:

The Word - word by word!

**Bring your Bible!
Sunday evenings @ 6:00 p.m.
MacAskill Room.**

Faith & Fitness Fall Walking Group

**Wear your sneakers for a 2 mile walk!
Friday mornings at 8:00 a.m. (Sept. 12 - Oct. 17.)
Meet in Fellowship Hall.**

**Grief Support Series
Begins on October 5**

We are again offering our fall grief support group. This four-week series is entitled "Dealing with Grief and Loss: Hope in the Midst of Pain." The group will be led by Donna Heebner, a member of our church who has experience in grief counseling, and Phyllis Dowd. We will meet on Sunday evenings from October 5 through October 26 in the Crane Library from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. The group is open to anyone who has experienced death or loss of a spouse or loved one, and who would be interested in exploring their experience further with others in the same situation. If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis Dowd in the church office at 334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@embarqmail.com. There is no need to sign up ahead of time.

YOUNG AT HEART

YAH will be taking a bus trip to Harrisburg to tour the State Museum of Pennsylvania, including a show at the Planetarium entitled "Mars". We will stop for lunch at Bakers on the way home.

**Five
For
Five**

2008 Peacemaking Offering

The theme of this year's peacemaking offering is "Five for Five". We will be supporting five missions involved in peacemaking efforts through this year's offering. We hope to send at least \$800.00 to each of the following ministries:

- **Soup Kitchen** - serving over 1,100 meals a month to those who are hungry.
- **Seeds to Success** - helping incarcerated individuals on work-release learn life-skills to leave prison on firmer ground.
- **Survivors Inc.** - local shelter that provides a safe haven to women and children seeking to break free from the domestic violence cycle.
- **Homeless Shelter** - Begun in 1991 this ministry has helped over 3,000 people develop plans for living outside of the shelter once their stay in the shelter is over.
- **Haitian Church** - an extension of our Haitian migrant camp ministry which will support a Haitian church as it seeks to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ in Creole.

If every member gave \$5.00 (over a 30 day period, that's 17 cents a day) we will meet this year's goal of \$4,000.00. Prayerfully consider how you will support these ministries this year. On September 28th we will receive the 2008 Peacemaking Offering.

PW RUMMAGE

OCTOBER 17 & 18

Please schedule some time to help with the PW Rummage Sale by calling Melanie Keller, 334-7392, Kathy Kircher, 334-5294, or Susie Snyder 642-9199.

Rummage & Plant Sale: Friday, Oct. 17, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 18, 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Bake Sale & Lunch: Friday, Oct. 17, 8:30 - 12 Noon (or until sold out). Lots of scrumptious baked goodies. Lunch menu is hot dogs with a variety of toppings, Sloppy Joes, chips and sodas.

Drop offs: On Monday, Oct. 13, put everything in the corner next to main entrance of Fellowship Hall. Deadline for drop-offs is Noon, Thursday, Oct. 16.

Marking and Sorting: Tuesday, Oct. 14, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday Oct. 15 & 16, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Baked Goods: Drop off by 8:00 a.m. Friday Oct. 17 or the night before if frozen.

Plants: Can drop off on Mon. or Tues, but please be sure they are moist; Wednesday and Thursday Oct. 15 & 16 are best.

Clean up: Saturday, Oct. 18 from noon until done

Volunteers are needed. The more help available, the faster and easier this big job gets done. Your few hours of help ultimately helps a lot of others.

Contemporary Worship Needs YOU!

The 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service is growing!

We are looking for volunteers to serve on teams that will help occasionally with the service throughout the year. Please check off a team you would be interested in learning more about. Contact Rev. Candace Veon-Nyiri for more information.

-
- Creative Arts (visuals/drama/dance)
 - Worship Assistants/Scripture Readers
 - Ushers/Greeters
 - Communion Prep
 - Music Team (Instruments and voices welcome!)
 - Technical Team (computer, audio visual/powerpoint)

NAME _____ Phone _____

Email _____

CALENDAR PAGE

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Join us Sundays at 9:30 am in the sanctuary!
Come and worship God with us!

Sermon Series: *Jesus' Facebook Friends-The Galilean Network*

- Oct. 5 Jesus and the Children-*World Communion*
- Oct. 12 Jesus and Bartimaeus
- Oct. 19 Jesus and Mary and Martha
- Oct. 28 *Service of Communion*

What are you looking for? Come and See

John 1: 38a and 39a

Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, October 2, 2008

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church
208 Baltimore Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
(717) 334-1235

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Gettysburg, PA 17325
 Permit No. 198
