

# GRAPEVINE

November 5, 2008

## Parson to Person

### Stephen Ministers Are "The After People"

In one of my pastoral care courses in Seminary we learned about what is called "Ministry of Presence." The basic idea of a ministry of presence is to avoid getting theological or "preachy" when the bottom has just fallen out of someone's life. Instead of trying to answer some of life's most difficult questions, one simply agrees to be present in the midst of life's struggles - to walk alongside another - to be a trusted friend. This ministry of presence does not offer solutions, only comfort and support during difficult times.

There is a group of people within our church family who have been called into this very kind of ministry. They are **Stephen Ministers**. The following explains a little better what Stephen Ministry is all about: Stephen Ministers are the "After People." They are there:

- í after you've washed and returned the last casserole dish.
- í after the divorce papers have been served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- í after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away - and the house suddenly seems incredibly empty.
- í after you arrive home following the funeral service and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- í after the relationship has ended but the wounds are still bleeding and painful.
- í after the doctors have said, "There's nothing more we can do."
- í after the door has slammed shut - for the very last time.
- í after the phone call you'd always hoped you'd never get.
- í after you realize the hands on the gold watch you received at your retirement party move more slowly than you ever imagined.
- í after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- í after the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- í after the baby has arrived, putting more demands on you than you ever dreamed possible.
- í after you find the pink slip inserted with what is now your final paycheck.
- í after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

**Stephen Ministers** are the "After People." They are ready to come alongside you - or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives - and provide comfort and support for as long "after" as they are needed.

For more information about Stephen Ministry or to request a Stephen Minister please contact Rev. Harry Winshaimer, Rev. Lou Nyiri or Rev. Candace Veon-Nyiri through the church office 717-334-1235.

God's Peace,

#### Inside:

- Thank You from Becky
- PW Thank Offering
- Program for Preschoolers & Parents
- Christmas Fair
- Living Options for Seniors

## 2009 Stewardship Campaign

As for my family and me, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church makes a difference to our church family and to our world. Each year we receive many letters of gratitude for the gifts we share through serving the Lord, and here are just a few:

Dear Bell Ringers,

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to share your talent with all of us at GPC. We feel blessed to not only have such a wonderful set of handbells, but the finest ringers to be found anywhere! Your music is simply outstanding! You work well together, under great leadership, to lift praises to our risen Lord. May He bless each of you.

In Christ's Love,  
Write from the Heart

Dear Candace and Church Members,

Gratefully acknowledging and thanking you for your kind expression of sympathy... Thanks so much for the beautiful vase of flowers. Although we enjoyed the contemporary service, we never had the chance to introduce ourselves to the church family. I appreciate your thoughtfulness, visits and prayers during this difficult time. Thanks again.

A grateful parishioner

Certificate of Appreciation:

"In recognition of outstanding contributions to the citizens of D'Iberville, Mississippi, in their Hurricane Katrina Recovery."

This is a thank you to all from GPC who went to D'Iberville to help people in their recovery and for the financial contributions that were sent.

2009 Stewardship Team: Chrissy Ely, Sherry Farkas,  
Jeff Hieber, Kim Landauer, Jean LeGros and Peter North

## 2008 Christmas Fair on December 7

It's Christmas Fair time once again! The 23rd Annual Christmas Fair will be held on Sunday, December 7, from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will be games and prizes for children and adults, a light supper, craft tables, baked goods, and coffee for sale. Bring your whole family to enjoy this kick-off to the Christmas season. Do your Christmas shopping at the Fair where money raised will benefit six projects listed below. You will also be able to shop at the Fair on Sunday mornings, December 7, 14 & 21. **Specific wish lists will be available in the next newsletter, so that you can purchase an item in honor of someone on your holiday list.**

1. **MISSION: HONDURAS 2009** Each summer our congregation sponsors a medical/dental mission team of our church members headed by Dr. Brad Hoch, Dr. Tom Soliday and Dr. Lee Flinner to Honduras. Next summer our members will join with others from around the country to provide health care and health education to over 7,000 adults and children in San Luis de Santa Barbara, Honduras. Through your contribution you can help provide medicine, dental care, vitamins, etc. to the Honduran people.
2. **LAKOTA INDIAN PROJECT** in Cherry Creek, South Dakota. Each summer, 25 - 30 members travel to the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation. There they renovate and repair Indian homes, build handicap ramps, host a potluck dinner and pow-wow for local residents, donate diabetic equipment, offer 2 nutrition classes and provide a Festival with free food, clothing, games and prizes for 550 residents of the reservation. Your contribution can buy needed supplies to help this extremely poor community.
3. **SEA ISLAND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** Habitat for Humanity is an international Christian organization in which volunteers build homes for low-income families. These families then provide their own labor and can purchase homes with no-interest mortgages. Nineteen members of our congregation travel to Johns Island, South Carolina every April to participate in various building projects.
4. **HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL** Our Christmas Fair first began in 1986 to support HPI, a self-help program which sends livestock to needy families in the U.S. and around the world. These families become self-sufficient through training and gifts of livestock to help them become responsible for their own food needs. Farmers who receive animals must commit to pass on the first born off-spring of that animal to a neighbor in need.
5. **ADAMS COUNTY HOMELESS SHELTER** This local organization provides temporary housing for adults and families and enables residents to find permanent housing, stable incomes, and other skills and services to prevent them from returning to a homeless situation. Next spring the shelter will be moving to a new, larger location where 45 beds will be available (10 more than the current facility). Your contribution at the Fair can provide needed aid for the residents of the shelter.
6. **FAITH IN ACTION** Volunteers for Faith in Action provide basic services to Adams County's older and disabled adults whose needs go unmet due to lack of family, friends or funds. Services provided include transportation, grocery shopping, visiting, telephone reassurance, yard work, light housework, respite care, minor home repairs. . . AND MORE! Volunteers come from area churches and provide services without charge.

Come to the Christmas Fair to buy "gifts that will keep on giving" to people in need throughout the coming year. If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis Dowd in the church office 334-1235 ext. 5 or [gpcdce@embarqmail.com](mailto:gpcdce@embarqmail.com). See you on December 7 !!

## **Thank You:**

### **A Big Thank You!**

Wow! Sunday was an exhilarating and moving day. The number of people involved in the celebration of my 20 years at Gettysburg Presbyterian Church was overwhelming! My initial reaction to the idea was apprehension; the outcome was a sense of joy that I had been "a good and faithful servant". There are so many people to thank for the wonderful celebration, and I hope that no one is omitted. Lou - coordinator and dancer, TJ and George - emcees for the program, Susie, Deb, Sue, Sharon and the rest of the kitchen crew - the reception and great meal, Don and Scott - set-up and tear-down, Dave and the Adult Choir - the beautiful anthem, Ann Settle - for accompanying the Adult Choir, Dana and the Adult Bell Choir - a bell version of "When In Our Music God is Glorified", Deb and the Youth Bell Choir - another beautiful bell anthem, Amy and the Chapel Choir - a wonderful addition to the Adult Choir anthem, Rebecca Wells - what a poem!, Bill and Steve - videotaping of the program, Carrie and Dave - they provided the postlude for the 11:00 service so that I could get to Fellowship Hall sooner, Candace - what would she do without a camera in hand?, Bob Remaley for behind-the-scenes arrangements for the music groups, Darling Debbie Doxology and the Boomwhacker Choir (Lou, Harry, Candace, Phyllis, Penny, Don, Libby) - I'm hoping that they will do an encore for Music Night in 2009!, my family - for the support and juggling of schedules and love throughout the 20 years and the congregation - all of the cards, emails, arrangement of flowers and Apollo's Fire CDs. I know that George is concerned that there will be a blizzard in January, but Barry and I are looking forward to your wonderful gift of a flight to Cleveland, the accommodations at Glidden House, money for meals and car and the concert by Apollo's Fire at the end of January. It will be a glorious birthday weekend!

All of this would not be possible without the participation of many people throughout my 20 years at GPC. Choir members, soloists, instrumentalists, directors, the congregation - thank you for being there to give our praise to God through song!

Yours in music,  
Becky

### *Presbyterian Women*

PW would like to thank everyone who supported the 2008 rummage sales and Celebration Offering giving. Because of your generosity, we have had a very successful year. Our donations to the local community for 2008 include Holiday Faith Outreach, Survivors, the Salvation Army, H.A.R.T., Habitat for Humanity, ACOFA - Faith in Action, SCCAP - Homeless Shelter, and the Burden Bear Workshop. Within our own church, we have made contributions to work-camp scholarships, the Samaritan Fund, Write From the Heart, and the Sewing Workshop. We have made gifts to PW Global Missions and the PW Synod for the Palm Project. In memory of Paul Karchner, a special gift has been given for the 2009 South Dakota Mission Trip. In addition, we have established two scholarships for first time attendees from GPC to go to the PW Churchwide Gathering.

The PW officers for 2009-2010 are: moderator - Sherry Farkas, co-moderator - Amy Stewart, secretary - Sheryl Suplee, treasurer - Dori Elledge, mission - Amy Deitch, Church Women United - Rachel Parmentier, corresponding secretary - June Wescott. Circle leaders are: Elizabeth - Faye Johns, Esther - Rebecca Zepp, Mary Martha - Bev Weber, Ruth - Laura Davis and Amy Stewart.

Mary Smith, moderator

A Big Thank you to all who contributed to Becky Wareham's Celebration Reception and Luncheon.

Thank you to those who helped decorate on Friday morning: Sharon Baker, Sheryl Suplee, Kathy Wark, Bev Weber and Scott McPherson.

Also, thank you to all reception and luncheon help on Sunday: Sharon Baker, Bob Bigham, Jeff Cook, Marie Duncan, Barb and Ken Fair, Sue Hain, Mimi Johnson, Deb & Dennis Meckley, Evelyn & Dick Small, and Bev Weber.

And thanks also to everyone who contributed food to the morning reception and the luncheon desserts.

Without each of your talents, Fellowship events would not be possible.

Susie Snyder  
Fellowship Team

### **RUMMAGE SALE FINALE**

Our gross sales were:

Rummage Sale	\$3,105.23
Bake Sale	<u>\$ 315.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,420.23</b>

WOW! What a sale!

Many, many thanks to all of you who helped with and/or donated to our Presbyterian Women's Fall Rummage & Bake Sale. You made it happen.

**THANK YOU!!**

The return envelopes were inadvertently left out of the Stewardship Mailing.

You can pick one up at church or mail your pledge card directly to the church. Thank you!

Enclosed in this newsletter you will find our PW THANK OFFERING envelope.

A sampling of this year's PW Thank Offering recipients include:

1. Service Project in Puerto Rico
2. Milk Production and Sales Project in Kenya
3. HIV / AIDS Center in Malawi
4. Dental Clinics in South Carolina and Alabama
5. Center for AIDS-orphaned children in India
6. Program for Abused Women in Florida

See our poster in Fellowship Hall for many more worthwhile projects. And we hope you continue your generous giving to our PW Thank Offering.

### Extra Crafts for the Christmas Fair

Do you have any crafts you would be willing to donate for sale at the Christmas Fair on Sunday, December 7? If you make crafts to sell this time of year, perhaps you have some extras you would be willing to give. If you like to make crafts in your spare time, perhaps you could make some just for the Fair. All proceeds from items sold at the tables will go to the mission projects. (You can choose the specific project for the proceeds from your crafts.) Contact Phyllis Dowd at 334-1235, ext. 5, or [gpcdce@embarqmail.com](mailto:gpcdce@embarqmail.com) if you have any questions. Please bring crafts to Fellowship Hall **BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, AT THE LATEST.**

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### Condolences:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Kathleen & Steve Redding on the recent death of Kathleen's mother.

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### Soup Kitchen Meals Are Up 22%

The number of meals served at the Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen jumped 22% last month over 2007 data.

Donations are slightly down at the same time, according to the kitchen's organizers.

In September, 969 meals were served. Officials expect that number to continue to increase as cold weather sets in.

The Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen is located in the Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, 20 W. High St. in Gettysburg. Meals are served daily to anyone who shows up.

Contact Denise Weldon-Siviy at the [outreach@gettysburgsoupkitchen.org](mailto:outreach@gettysburgsoupkitchen.org) for more information on how to donate.

**Upcoming Events:**



**November**

**Music Schedule**

11/9	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
11/16	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
11/23	8:15 a.m.	Sonja Brown and Dana Witt  George Marguglio
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Bell Choir  Youth Choir
11/30	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir

**HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP**

**November**

November 9	5:30—8:00 p.m.	Bonfire Night *
	(Note time change)	
November 16	5:30—7:00 p.m.	Discussion Night
November 23	5:30—7:00 p.m.	Game & Discussion
November 30		NO SHIP-Thanksgiving

\*For directions to bonfire site call or email Rev. Nyiri in the church 334-1235, ext. 4 or gpclou@embarqmail.com. Rides leave from Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m.

**MidSHIP Schedule**

**November**

November 9	5:30—8:00 p.m.	Bonfire *
November 16	5:30—7:00 p.m.	Fellowship / Games
November 23	5:30—7:00 p.m.	Fellowship / Games
November 30		NO Mid-SHIP Thanksgiving

\*For directions to bonfire site call or email Libby Crowe at 359-9719 or fourcrowes@embarqmail.com. Rides leave from Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m.

**Bring Children's Stewardship Toys THIS SUNDAY**

As part of our fall stewardship campaign, we are asking the children of our church to share (donate) one of their own treasures. This could be a toy, game, book, puzzle, etc. and must be in VERY GOOD condition. We do not want parents to buy a new item. We want the children to truly share something that is theirs. Our South Dakota mission team will deliver these "treasures" to the Indian children on the Cheyenne River Lakota Reservation next summer.

Please have your child bring their toy to church this Sunday, November 9. They can either bring it up during the Children's Message or place it in the marked container in Fellowship Hall. Thanks for your help in this special project.

Blessings, Phyllis

**"The Keys" Program for Preschoolers and Their Parents**

All 3 and 4-year-olds and their parents are invited to a 2-part program entitled "The Keys". It will be held on Sundays, November 16 and 23 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in Eisenhower Lounge. These two sessions will be an important time for learning more fully the meaning of saying "sorry" and "I forgive you". Jesus called these actions, "The Keys of the Kingdom."

We as parents are primarily responsible for our children's faith formation. Come to this class to discover simple ways to make your home a "faith home". Contact me at 334-1235, ext. 5, or gpdcde@embarqmail.com if you have any questions. See you on November 16!

Blessings, Phyllis

## ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

(Nov. 30 - Dec. 21)

Frenzyamas! It's what most of our country celebrates each December 25th. For many Christians, the emphasis on commercialism, greed and hype makes it almost impossible to find the Christ in Christmas. Come join us for our Advent Sunday School series, based on the book, *Unplug the Christmas Machine*. You may sign up for the series and pre-order the book (\$1 1.00) on Nov. 9 and 16 in Fellowship Hall, or by calling Phyllis in the church office at 334-1235, ext. 5 or Susan Kolmer at 229-9884.

During the four weeks of Advent, we will look at the following:

1. Men vs. Women: Their Differing Roles and Stress Points
2. The Four Things Children Really Want for Christmas
3. Tug of War: The Extended Family
4. A Simpler, Holier Christmas

We hope you can join us as we look at ways to put the Reason back into the season!

### *You're invited:*

#### The Word—word by word!

<b>WHO:</b>	All GPC family and friends
<b>WHAT:</b>	Bring your Bible and study God's word led by Rev. Chuck Teague
<b>WHERE:</b>	MacAskill Room
<b>WHEN:</b>	Sunday evenings 6:00—7:00 p.m.

## COWBOY CHRISTMAS!

(At Antietam Recreation in Hagerstown, MD—where the Rowlands' Thank-You Party was held)

Friday Evening December 12, 2008

6:00 p.m.                      Wagon rides, Old Time Photos, Live Nativity, Square Dancing, Marshmallow Roasting, Pony Rides

7:00 p.m.                      Dinner & Live Music

7:45 - 9:30 p.m. Cowboy Christmas Show featuring Cowboy Andy Guinness, World Record Holder for Roping

<b>COST:</b>	Senior (ages 60+)	\$36.63
	Adult (ages 13-59)	\$38.85
	Child (ages 4-12)	\$28.86

Sign-up will be held in Fellowship Hall on Sundays, Nov. 9 and 16.  
Checks should be made out to "Antietam Recreation".

DEADLINE for reservations and payment November 16th.

QUESTIONS? Call Pam & Bruce Rowland @ 642-8802

Come and experience this heartwarming, action-packed Christian show about Christmas.  
(We will carpool - time & place of departure to be announced.)

**Congregational Meeting**  
**November 23 @ 12:00 p.m.**

The Session calls a meeting of the congregation for November 23, 2008, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service, in accordance with the bylaws which read: "There shall be a stated meeting of the Congregation on the Sunday preceding Thanksgiving of each year for the purpose of: (1) election of elders for Session, deacons to the Board of Deacons, and at large members of the Nominating Committee, and (2) trans- action of any business properly coming before such meeting." (Financial mat- ters are handled during a meeting on the last Sunday of January.)

**LIVING OPTIONS  
 FOR SENIORS –  
 A COMPLICATED CHOICE**

Have you ever wondered how to start a conversation with your parents or loved ones regarding planning for the future **before** a crisis occurs?

What are the living options available to seniors as the aging process begins to limit mobility and independence?

How can our denomination help us and/or our parents with these important decisions?

Are there community resources to help us as well?

Answers to these and other questions will be addressed **SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 23 AT 9:30 a.m. during the Sunday School hour** in a workshop led by Jane Erikson, Assisted & Independent Living Sales Director for Presbyterian Homes Inc. (PHI).

Church members and friends are encouraged to attend and bring questions you may have.

Ellen Arnold  
 GPC Finance Committee

**YOUNG AT HEART**  
**Wednesday, November 19th**  
**4:45 p.m.**

Join us for a Thanksgiving dinner and a time of fellowship with the Youth of the church. If you feel you would like to donate a toy for the Toys for Tots campaign, please bring an unwrapped toy and place it in the Toys for Tots collection box.

**YOUNG AT HEART**  
**Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.**

We will be going to St. Matthew's Lutheran church in Hanover for a presentation of holiday music by Mr. Scott Frederickson. He will explain and demonstrate the church's magnificent pipe organ and if time permits will discuss their beautiful stain glass windows. Following this we will proceed to The Victory Restaurant on Carlisle Street for lunch.

The program starts at 10:30 a.m. Those wishing to carpool should depart GPC no later than 9:30 a.m.

In order to obtain the correct number of tickets for those wishing to attend, I will need to know your interest no later than Sunday, November 30th. The cost of this program is \$6.00 per person. Lunch at the restaurant can be ordered off the menu at very reasonable prices. As always, everyone is welcome to join the Young at Heart group for our activities.

Regular attendees of Young at Heart will be contacted through our caller's lists with details. Others wishing to attend or with questions please contact Dick Wisor at 359-8896.

## PW CIRCLES

### Elizabeth Circle

**Monday, November 17 @ 1:00 p.m.**

Hostess: Lillian Hoffman  
6375 Chambersburg Rd.  
Fayetteville, PA  
352-2475

Study Leader: Jean Holder

Please bring monetary donations for  
Holiday Family Outreach (formerly  
Holiday Bureau). Carpool from GPC  
parking lot at 12:30 p.m.

### Esther Circle

**Thursday, November 20 @ 9:30 a.m.**

Members meet in Eisenhower Lounge.  
Study Leader: Janet Dewar

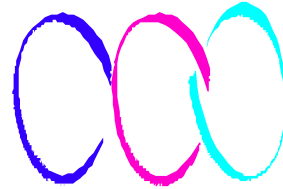
ALL CIRCLES - Lesson 3 - Luke 7:36 - 8:3

### Mary Martha Circle

**Monday, November 17 @ 7:30 p.m.**

Hostess: Carolyn Hankey  
205 Tiffany Lane  
Gettysburg, PA  
334-6108

Study Leader: Sheryl Suplee



### Ruth Circle

**Tuesday, November 11 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Members meet in GPC library.  
Contact Amy Stewart at 677- 8426 or  
Laura Davis at 334-1557 for more information.

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**Gettysburg Community**

## Thanksgiving Service

**Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**

Trinity United Church of Christ

60 E. High Street

*Come with  
thanksgiving!*



*Members and friends of the Gettysburg Ministerium  
are pleased to extend a cordial invitation to the  
Gettysburg community to share in the  
2008 Celebration of Thanksgiving.*

*Our guest speaker will be the **Rev. Jeanette Leisk**  
Associate Pastor of St. James Lutheran Church*

***Please plan to come and share in worship.***

# CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

*Jesus' Facebook Friends*

- Nov. 9 Jesus and the Samaritan Woman
- Nov. 16 Jesus and the Lawyer
- Nov. 23 Thanksgivers Sunday
- Nov. 30 1st Sunday of Advent - *Service of Communion*

## GIVE THANKS!

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love endures forever. *Psalm 107:1*

**Next Newsletter Deadline:**  
**Noon, Thursday, November 13, 2008**

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

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