

GRAPEVINE

January 7, 2009

Parson to Person

One assumption pertinent to this season, the current economy and lifestyle is this: "The best if not the only road to social progress lies in continuous expansion of the gross output of material goods and services on a national and global basis." . That old quote from my file seems very fitting to the values by which most Americans have lived in recent decades. I add to it, the gross accumulation/consumption of those material goods and services, especially prior and post Christmas.

Now, the economy challenges us to question goods and services being the primary goal of life. What if the economy does not perform? Are we then failures? Is our worth tied to production and accumulation? What goals are primary or essential?

I learned the value of goods as a child--probably you did, too. I thought Christmas morning would never come. I physically ached because it approached so sluggishly. Why? I wanted my presents! What would I get? When mother was out, I sneaked about the house, searching every hiding place. (Once in a sermon I mentioned where I looked. Parents were furious with me ó I had exposed their secret hiding places.) Then, back at school, we compared gifts with each other. That is how I discovered if I had gotten really good gifts. I learned that life's richness came from things.

However, things too often have the quality of decoration. Looks good. Feels good. But, if the foundation of the house is vulnerable, then?

Remember the words of Jesus: "I have come that you may have life, and have it abundantly." Jn.10:10 öStrive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.ö Matt. 6:33 Relationship with God incarnated in Jesus Christ is primary. Accumulations and services become secondary goals, tools for our well-being and to be used in God's service.

If you are doing self-examination as we enter 2009, ask the Lord to help you resolve to have your priorities right.

May the Lord bless Gettysburg Presbyterian Church, and each of you personally, in 2009!

Yours in Christ,
Harry

Inside:

- High School Ski Day
- Dinners for 7 or 8
- Congregational Lunch & Meeting
- Christmas Fair Results
- Jan. 25th Estate Planning Seminar

Thank You's:

We appreciate officers who serve as our leader-servants.

Two of our elders have completed two terms of three successive years, the maximum allowed. They are Jim Biggar who chaired Personnel and Administration, and Carol Heiser who chaired Evangelism. Thank you!

Bill Fitzpatrick, and Bob Remaley were reelected to second full terms. Susie Snyder has served one year and accepted reelection for a full term. Thank you!

We welcome onto the session, Mark Grim, serving the first time as a Presbyterian elder, and Bev Weber who served as an elder in her previous church. Thanks for being willing to serve!

From the deacons, Judy Bullis and Anne Gallon have completed two successive three-year terms, Paulette Brabender and Jim Newman have completed one three-year term, and Pauline Peterson two years of her second three-year term. As deacons these individuals have spent time visiting shut-ins, organizing transportation for members to attend worship, delivering flowers after Sunday worship and organizing the ushers. Thank you!

Elected to the deacons for the first time are Ann Cook, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Sue Pizzuto and Karen Swartz for three-year terms. Also, Andy Miner will serve a one-year term.

Thanks for being willing to serve!

I would like to thank Jean Sixeas, Liz Conover, Judy & Rick Beamer, Bev Weber, Amy Deitch, Pam Rowland, Cheryl & Megan Gochenauer, Judy Miller, Don Clark and Mary Lou Seamens for all their help with the Christmas decorations in the church.

THANK YOU!

Paulette Brabender

Special Thanksõ

Thank you to the following who gave up part of their Christmas Eve to help in our church nursery: Chelsea Cook, Chad

Cook, Andy Miner, Betty Brownley, Anne Stuart, Kathy & Mike Wark, Marion Lambert, and Deb Siefken.

We appreciate the time you gave that night to enable parents to attend worship.



A Mission Bright Star Thank You

Sincere thanks go out to our congregation for participating in this year's **Mission Bright Star** ministry. Through your generosity, 196 beautifully wrapped gifts were delivered the week before Christmas to 98 children whose parent or parents are inmates in the Adams County Adult Correctional Facility. Special thanks go to the following for their help in assisting with this year's **Mission Bright Star** program:

Phyllis Dowd, Wayne and Judy English, Bill and Kathy Faloon, Cheryl and Megan Gochenauer, Georgia Kuhn, Lori and Brian May, Lori, Alex, and Scott McNair, Scott McPherson, Penny Messinger, Steve, Tammi, and Christian Swartzbaugh, Dick and Pam Wisor, Dee and Alex Yakencheck and to the Youth Club and their adult and teen helpers.

Additional thanks go to Hal Camlin for providing opportunities for these families to obtain additional gifts through the US Marine Corps Reserve project Toys for Tots and to the Prison Chaplain Will Olsen, for helping to coordinate MBS sign-up at the prison.

Bruce and Pam Rowland

THANK YOU!

A very special thank you goes to Mary Miner and Lou Nyiri for the time and effort they gave in preparing and performing the drama "Stolen Jesus" at the 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. services on Christmas Eve. Thanks also go to Andy Miner and Ned Brownley for designing and building the manger set.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

As we begin the second half of our Sunday School year, below you will find the listing of our regular adult classes plus several special series: All classes run from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

<u>Class</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>The Wired Word</u> Today's hot topics are explored in depth from a Christian point of view. Class participants, if interested, can receive Sunday's topic each Thursday for a preliminary study via email.	January - May (except March)	MacAskill Room
<u>Financial Seminar</u> See description on page 5 of this newsletter	January 25	Eisenhower Lounge
<u>You Matter More Than You Think</u> In this DVD/discussion series for women we will explore the power of a woman's life and the ways in which a woman can make a difference in the world. Workbooks will be available for each participant.	January 18 - February 22	Top Floor Room
<u>How We Got the Bible</u> This 5-week series will be led by our favorite guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Charles (Buz) Myers. Look for more details in the next newsletter.	March 1 - 29	MacAskill Room
<u>Young Marrieds</u> This group for young married couples will discuss ways to live a life with purpose, using the video series and Bible study called "Elevate".	January - May	Eisenhower Lounge
<u>Men's Bible Class</u> <u>Women's Bible Class</u> These 2 classes will study "Old Testament People of Commitment".	January - May January - May	Crane Library Paideia House (downstairs)

Need Any More Coffee or Cocoa?

We have the following left over from the Christmas Fair:

- 2 Breakfast Blend
- 2 French Vanilla
- 13 Mind Body & Soul
- 6 Hot Cocoa

If you would like to purchase any of the coffee for \$5.00 or cocoa for \$4.00, see Phyllis in the church office.



The money will go toward next year's Christmas Fair!

Nursery Pagers and the "Calming Room"

A nursery paging system has been purchased and is now being used in our church nursery. The pager will vibrate and light up if for any reason the nursery staff needs to contact the parent of a child. Special thanks goes to Ann Cowden for researching the system and to the Ketterman family for approving the use of funds from the Dorothy Ketterman memorial for purchase. We know Dottie would be pleased with this addition to the nursery since she served as Nursery Superintendent for many, many years.

During the 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. services, our church library can now be used as a "Calming Room". This is a place for parents to go with a child or baby who needs special attention during the worship service time and which enables the parent (and child) to view our service on a television in that room. Thanks to Bill Fitzpatrick and Steve Kinsey for facilitating the set-up of this new way to help parents of young children continue to be a part of our worshipping community.

An Extraordinary Gift for the Christ Child

Our church family continues to give, and give, and give, despite hard economic times and despite this being a year of transition for GPC. Our totals for the Christmas Fair are almost \$900.00 higher than last year!

Congratulations! Below are the seven projects and totals for each:

1. Mission Honduras 2009	\$6,366.00
2. Mission South Dakota 2009	\$4,032.00
3. Heifer International	\$4,016.00
4. Adams County Homeless Shelter	\$2,562.00
5. Presbyterian Coffee Project	\$2,175.00
6. Sea Island Habitat for Humanity	\$2,040.00
7. Faith in Action	<u>\$1,780.00</u>

GRAND TOTAL \$22,971.00

Christmas Fair Thank You:

Our Christmas Fair is held each year thanks to the efforts of our Christian Education team, including Susan Kolmer, Ann Cowden, Carole Simon, Heather Tschop, Libby Crowe, Teresa Gard and Marlene Tindall. Thanks also go to the Mission Team for providing the food, Becky Beegle for coordinating the games, Bill and Kathy Faloon for making and donating the cotton candy, a wonderful volunteer crew for setting up the fair, Donna Heebner for coordinating the crafts, Mary Ann Remaley and Jean Sixeas for serving at the "Help Table", and Anne Kern and Kelly Jones who managed the change table.

This fair would not be possible without the dedication and time commitment of Bob Remaley who each year serves as cashier and "accountant" for the entire fair, from start to finish.

Thank you also to all the church members who volunteered to run the games, all who donated crafts and baked goods, and to each of you who purchased alternative gifts. And a very special thank you to Penny Messinger, our Administrative Assistant, who worked many extra hours for the Fair.

As we close out the year 2008, I thank you on behalf of all those in our community, country, and around the world who will receive food, shelter, medicines, and spiritual guidance because of your willingness to reach out in Christian love. What a wonderful witness this is to the Spirit of Christ's love as we pass these blessings from God through our hands to be blessings to others. ô Phyllis



Birthday Party for Jesus



During the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service, we held a "Birthday Party for Jesus" for children ages 2 - Grade 2. Fifty children attended as we told the Christmas Story, sang, and made Christmas Cross crafts. The children then sang "Happy Birthday" to Jesus before blowing out candles and eating decorative cupcakes. Each child received a book of the Christmas Story plus goodies for their gift bag. My very special thanks go to Pam Fake, Nichol Fake, Liz Fake, Cole Young, Andrea & Daniel Crowe, Travis & Trevor Meckley, Sam and Sydney Tomassini, Pam Rowland and Alexandra Chandon for all of their help with our party. Also, thanks to Pam Fake for providing the cupcakes AND coordinating the party every year.

—Blessings, Phyllis

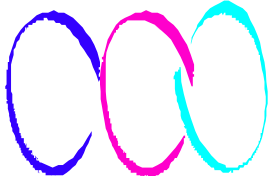
PW CIRCLES

Elizabeth Circle

Monday, January 19 @ 1:00 p.m.

Hostess: Jean Holder
180 Ridgewood Dr.
Gettysburg, PA
334-6678

Study Leader: Helen Stabler
Lesson 4: Luke 8: 22-39
And Lesson 5: Luke 8: 40-56



Mary Martha Circle

Monday, January 19 @ 7:30 p.m.

Hostess: Bev Weber
67 Cedarfield Dr.
Gettysburg, PA
337-2194

Study Leader: Judy Bullis
Lesson 4: Luke 8: 22-39
DIRECTIONS: Take Rte. 116 to
Bonneauville. Make a right opposite
of Weaver's Hardware Store; bear left
on Maple St.; first cross street is
Hickory; continue past Hickory and
make the second left onto Cedarfield;
#67 is the last house on the right.

Esther Circle

Thursday, January 15 @ 9:30 a.m.

Members meet in Eisenhower Lounge.
Study Leader: Charlotte Winsheimer
Lesson 5: Luke 8: 40-56

Ruth Circle

Tuesday, January 13 @ 7:30 p.m.

Members meet in GPC library.
Lesson 4: Luke 8: 22-39



Ski-DAY at Camelback Ski Resort, Tannersville, PA January 24, 2009

**High School Fellowship (Grades 9-12)
6:30AM to 10:30PM**

(Leave from & return to Church Parking Lot)

Cost to go is \$5.00 NON-REFUNDABLE

Register using the form below:

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

- Needs: Lift Tix \$36.00
- Ski Rentals (skis, boots, poles) -- \$20.00
- Ski Lesson -- \$19.00
- Ski Package (lift, lesson, rental) -- \$60.00
- 1st Time Skier Package (lift, lesson, rental) -- \$53.00 (*Beginner Slopes Only*)
- Snowboard Rentals (board & boots) -- \$28.00
- Snowboard Package (lift, lesson, rental) -- \$66.00
- New Snowboard (lift, lesson, rental) -- \$59.00 (*Beg. Slopes Only*)
- Snow Tubing 3-Hour Session -- \$19.00 (**Bring tubing money** to pay @ the slopes.)
- Snow Tubing Unlimited -- \$32.00 (**Bring tubing money** to pay @ the slopes.)

I give permission for _____ to attend the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church High School Fellowship *Ski Day at the Camelback Ski Resort in Tannersville, PA January 24, 2009.*

I understand my son/daughter will be traveling in personal cars and vans.

In the event that my child gets hurt, I give permission for my child to receive emergency medical treatment.

In the event of an emergency, the following information may be given for medical purposes:

Parent or Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Insurance Carrier: _____

Policy No.: _____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

I can be reached at: Home #: _____; Office #: _____; Cell #: _____

or you may contact _____ at _____ who has agreed to be notified if I cannot be reached.

Signature

Date

Make Check Payable to: *Gettysburg Presbyterian Church*

RETURN permission form to Lou, \$5.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and ski rental payment by Wednesday, January 21, 2009. No Exceptions!!!!

NEW MEMBERS CLASSES to begin January 18, 2009

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about our church and possibly becoming a member of our church family, please contact the church office to register. Call Rev. Harry Winsheimer for details and to register at 334-1235, ext. 3, or email him at gpcharry@embarqmail.com.

**2009 Lenten Small Groups
begin the week of Feb 25th!**

Together we will read:

Christian Prayer For Today

by Martha Moore-Keish.

One of the most central and important aspects of Christian living is the practice of prayer. Join us as we read and discuss this practical guide to developing a more meaningful prayer life. See Candace for more details.

Sign ups will begin Jan 25th!



**Let's Read!! Be a part of the
Faithful Journey Book Group**

**The Shack by William P. Young
Discussion Date Sunday, Feb 22nd
(after 11:00 service)**

We will meet from 12:15-1:15 p.m. on Feb 22nd for an informal discussion on The Shack. Bring a bag lunch if you wish. Coffee and tea provided. All GPC members and friends are invited. Buy the book on your own or order one through the church office. Contact Candace Nyiri (337-2939) if you are interested.

The Memory Keeper's Daughter

by Kim Edwards

Discussion - May 2 (Saturday morning)

The Last Lecture

by Randy Pausch

Discussion - Sept. 26 (after the 11:00 service)

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

by C.S. Lewis

Discussion - Nov. 14 (Saturday morning)

South Dakota Mission Trip Meeting **January 25, 2009 @ 6:30 p.m.**

A meeting for all those interested in this year's South Dakota Mission Trip will be held on Sunday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Eisenhower Lounge. Come join us whether you want to sign up or just get information about our trip to the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation from July 16 - 26, 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis or Penny in the church office at 334-1235, ext. 5.

Hope to see you January 25!

The Word-word by word

Those desiring a more intense study into Scripture are welcome to join Dr. Charles Teague in our weekly study, "The WORD, word by word." We meet from 6:00-7:00 on Sunday evenings, in the MacAskill Room, downstairs. Participants are invited to bring the translation of their choice as we seek to appreciate the insights and nuances of the text. Our new semester is now underway as we look to Mark 9-10 and experience Jesus in his approach to Jerusalem.

The Gospel of Mark is considered by most scholars to be the first one written, though today it often does not receive the attention it deserves. There is a dramatic pace and vivid imagery. Important issues are frankly addressed, including faith and unbelief, evil, learning from children, marriage and divorce, wealth, death, healing, and the future. You'll find that even familiar passages offer new meaning and inspiration.

Unlike other opportunities here at GPC, there is no registration required nor attendance taken. Each night's study is complete in itself. We move reflectively verse by verse. What better way to brighten up dark winter nights than to open the Scriptures with fellow Believers? If you have questions, you may e-mail Chuck at cteague@paonline.com or call him at 338-9919.

**January
Music Schedule**

1/11	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
1/18	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
1/25	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bell Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Bell Choir Youth Choir

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

January

January 11	5:30 - 7:00	New Year Visit with Christmas Tree Folks
January 18	5:30 - 7:00	What Are You Planning For 2009?
January 24	6:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.	Ski Day @ Camelback Ski Resort (Reference to page 6)
January 25	5:30 - 7:00	Laughing At Drama
January 28	5:30 - 6:45	"The 12" Begins (runs every Wednesday through Feb. 25th)

New Sunday School Series

For Women

January 18 - February 22

Come join us for this new class entitled "You Matter More Than You Think." This six-week DVD series includes teaching from nationally – known marriage and family therapist Dr. Leslie Parrott. Through our discussions we will explore the power of a woman's life and the ways in which a woman can make a difference in the world. Workbooks will be available for each participant. We will meet from January 18 - February 22 at 9:30 a.m. in the top floor room of the church.

**There is no need to sign up.
Just come!**

MidSHIP Schedule

January

January 11	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship & Games
January 18	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship & Games
January 25	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship & Games

Honduras

Information Evening

There will be an informational meeting on January 29, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the MacAskill Room.

All individuals who are planning to go on the Honduras mission in June, 2009, or who are considering going on this mission are highly encouraged to attend, as there are significant changes to our routine this year.

It is expected that the meeting will last approximately one hour.

2009 South Carolina Mission Trip

On Tuesday, February 3rd at 7:00 in the Eisenhower Lounge there will be a meeting for all those interested in the April 19 - 25, 2009 Sea Island Habitat for Humanity trip to South Carolina. It is important that all who have registered or intend to register for the April trip attend this meeting.

If you have any questions or are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Dick Wisor at 359-8896 or Ron Hankey at 334-9581.

Read Aloud Bible Story Time for Children

- WHAT:** A four-week program led by Pam Rowland, in which the children will be listening to and reading aloud stories from their Beginner Bibles. We hope to read our Bibles from cover to cover! If your child does not have one, we will give them a Beginner Bible to keep!
- WHO:** Children in Kindergarten - Grade 2
- WHEN:** Thursdays, January 22 - February 12, from 3:30 - 5:00 pm
- WHERE:** "Beach Room" (K - Grade 1 Sunday School Room)
- WHY:** To give children the opportunity to listen to and read aloud the wonderful stories of our Christian faith.

Registration letters will be sent at the end of this week with more information. If you have any questions, call Phyllis at 334-1235, ext. 5. We hope your child can join us!

Dinners for Seven or Eight Are Coming Soon!

The goal of these dinners is to provide church members the opportunity to enjoy fellowship with other members at three casual, adult-only dining experiences. If getting to know eighteen to twenty-four church members in this type of setting sounds appealing to you, then Dinners for 7 or 8 is for you.

Sign-ups begin January 25th at the Congregational Lunch/Meeting in Fellowship Hall and end February 15th. A schedule will be made and distributed by March 1st which designates one person to coordinate and host the dinner in their home. (You do not have to be a host). The host prepares main course & drink for the evening while other guests provide accompanying dishes of vegetable, salad or dessert. Our hope is that 25 dinners will occur each month, which means we need a minimum of 100 singles or couples to sign up.

PER CAPITA

Each year at this time our Session encourages our members, who are able to do so, to make an extra contribution to the church to help defray our annual per capita payment to our denomination. The per capita funds provide a variety of services which our Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly provide to local congregations.

This year the per capita assessment is \$22.00 per active adult member. Your extra generosity will help us greatly. You will find a per capita envelope among your contribution envelopes between the January 25th and February 1st dates. Thank you for your ongoing support of the life and work of this congregation.

All Church Luncheon & Congregational Meeting will be held January 25th beginning with lunch at 12:15PM and the congregational meeting at 12:45PM in fellowship hall. Please do your church's fellowship team one favor and let us know how many will be attending from your family so we have enough food for the lunch. You can let us know by leaving a message in the church office (334-1235, ext. 4), returning the slip below via the offering plate, snail mail or email to Rev. Lou Nyiri gpclou@embarqmail.com. Suggested donation of \$2.00 per person is requested.

Registrations due by Wednesday, January 21st.

All Church Lunch & Congregational Meeting January 25, 2009


CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

- Jan 11 Re-Solutions
- Jan 18 Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly
- Jan 25 Service of Communion

“In the beginning was the Word...” John 1: 1

May this be a year of great beginnings for you!

 **Next Newsletter Deadline:**
Noon, Thursday, January 22, 2009

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

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