

GRAPEVINE

February 11, 2009

Parson to Person

The first weekend of this month, Charlotte and I visited her 97 year old aunt in Gainesville, FL (that is why you did not see me). Her aunt is unable to travel or to hear it, so she no longer participates in worship. Where to worship? From the phone book we chose The First Presbyterian Church, because it was between our motel and her retirement community. The congregation turned out to be about the same size as ours, and also located downtown. There were many similarities, yet many differences.

One of the differences was the Order of Worship. They use one of four common Orders of Worship in PC (U.S.A.) churches.

(1) The Order that we use has the sermon near the end, emphasizing God's Word to us, and helping us carry the message with us as we leave for service in the world.

(2) The Scripture and sermon are in the middle, followed by the offering, prayers, communion, and baptism as responses to God's Word. This is the Order used by the Gainesville church, and probably most common.

(3) Then, of course, there are Contemporary Services, such as our 9:30 a.m. service, which basically follow the Order with the Scripture and sermon in the middle, followed by responses. The uniqueness is the contemporary words, audio visuals, and music teams.

(4) The fourth Order blends traditional with contemporary styles.

This diversity makes worship a source of much tension in churches. People can get very emotional over Orders of Worship! Usually these feelings have little to do with theology, but with familiarity and style preference. In a few churches this tension has gotten so high that the disagreements have been called the "Worship Wars." God seems to get pushed aside in the passion. (How such conflict must grieve God!)

Which is right? Sermon last? Sermon in middle? Contemporary? Blended? I don't think that there is a "right." We may worship using any of the Orders or styles. God looks at the heart of the worshipper. Remember: Jesus said to the Samaritan woman at the well, "true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth." We like or are more comfortable with an Order and style, and may be tempted to get so hung-up on our preference that we forget that God is the hub of worship. We have to be careful to not make worship about us. God is the focus!

What worship theology will our future pastor advocate? What Order will he/she use? Only God knows. Let's be open-minded. Let's be flexible. Let's resist making worship about us, and make worship a time together to connect with God.

Yours,
Harry

Inside:

- Ash Wednesday Service
- Middle & High School Lenten Breakfast
- Kids Club
- Student Care Packages
- Buz Myers Series

Thank You's:

Once again, I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to all of my GPC family who sent cards, plants and said prayers for my recovery after my recent surgery. There is not a week that goes by that someone doesn't offer a word of encouragement or tells me of prayers offered. I am truly blessed to be a part of this loving, caring church.

With Love,
Don Clark

Special thanks to GPC Presbyterian Women for their leadership on Women's Sunday which took place on February 8, 2009. Thanks to Susan Kolmer and our guest pastor, Rev. Heather Sigler. Thanks to the all female choir for their wonderful anthem.

Thank you to Kate Moyer and Austin Herzing for sharing their gifts of voice and guitar at Contemporary Worship.

Many thanks are given to Susan Kolmer who coordinated Women's Sunday this year and to everyone who assisted with the service.

Sherry Farkas, PW Moderator

Preschool Toys Needed

Are many of you struggling to find room for all of the kid's new Christmas toys? If so, we've got the answer. The Pre-school Sunday School class is in need of preschool age toys such as baby dolls, trucks, puzzles, trains, Playdoh tools, Legos, and any other gently used toys for ages 3-6 years old. If you're interested in helping, please place your donations on the tables in the preschool classroom (yellow room next to the nursery). Thank you so much for helping our little guys and gals enjoy some free play time during class!



FILE CABINET DONATION

Do you have a 2 or 4-drawer file cabinet in good condition that you don't need any more?

If you do, please contact **Becky Wareham at bbwareham@embarqmail.com or Lou Nyiri at gpclou@embarqmail.com, 334-1235, ext. 4. Thanks!**

Need Any More Coffee or Cocoa?

We have the following left over from the Christmas Fair:



- 2 Breakfast Blend
- 13 Mind Body & Soul
- 2 Hot Cocoa

If you would like to purchase any of the coffee for \$4.00 or cocoa for \$3.00, see Phyllis in the church office.

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

Condolences:

Our sympathy and prayers are with:

- Mark Grim, Jr. on the recent death of his mother.
- Alva Ecker on the recent death of her father.
- Greg Beegle on the recent death of his mother.

Upcoming Events:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Vacation Bible School will be held
from June 22—26, 2009.

We want YOUR CHILD to be there!

Any Thespians Out There?

We are looking for GPC members and friends interested in participating in a Drama Ministry to enhance our worship services. Let's get creative! Please call Mary Miner at 334-8198 if you would like to be involved in any way!



Kids Club

Kindergarten - Grade 2

March 3 - 31

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 Spring series, "Old Testament Friends". These programs will be held every Tuesday from March 3 — 31, one 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.

Registration forms will be mailed out later this week. If your child is interested in Kids Club and you do not receive a registration form, please call Phyllis in the church office (334-1235, ext. 5) or pick one up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. 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 who is coming. Hope your child can join us for this church activity for younger members.

— Blessings, Phyllis

We Need Brawn, Not Brains!!

As we prepare for our South Dakota mission trip to the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation next summer, we had hoped to buy supplies to make bunk beds for the homes there. Well, God answered our prayers - and then some! A friend of a church member in Waynesboro has offered to give us 30 used sets of metal bunk beds, 29 mattresses, and 8 single beds. However, we need to move these onto a storage trailer as soon as possible.

That's why we need your help.

On Saturday, February 28 we will meet in the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m., drive to Waynesboro, load up the storage trailer, and be back at GPC by noon. The more muscles we have, the faster this job will go.

If you can help, please call Phyllis or Penny in the church office (334-1235). Most people we know on the reservation sleep on the floor or share mattresses on the floor with many others. We can already envision the looks on the faces of the Indian children when they see their new beds!! Thanks in advance for your help in making this dream come true.

**February
Music Schedule**

Feb. 15	8:15	Early Choir
	11:00	Adult Choir
Feb. 22	8:15	Chapel Bell Choir
		Chapel Choir
	11:00	Youth Bell Choir
		Youth Choir
Feb. 25	7:30	Flute Trio
		Adult Choir

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

February

February 15	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship
February 22	5:30 - 7:00	Family Musical Night
February 25	6:45 a.m.	Lenten Breakfasts
	(runs through April 8th)	Begin

MidSHIP Schedule

February

February 11	5:30 - 8:00	Snowtubing @ Ski Liberty
February 15	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship & Games
February 22	5:30 - 7:00	Family Musical Night
February 25	6:45 a.m.	First Lenten Breakfast

**Hey Middle School &
Senior High Youth!**

It's Almost Time for

LENTEN BREAKFASTS

Wednesday Mornings, 6:45 - 7:10 a.m.

Begins Wednesday,

February 25, 2009

Join Chef Lou for French Toast
and a short devotional to start your day!!

Grief Support Series

We are again offering a spring 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 done extensive grief counseling, and Phyllis Dowd. We will meet on Sunday evenings from March 1 through March 22 in the church library from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. This group is open to anyone who has experienced death or loss of a spouse or loved one, and who would be interested in exploring this 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.



**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 in the third floor room of the church 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)

"How We Got The Bible"

March 1—29

Rev. Dr. Charles (Buz) Myers

Some people believe that the Bible we use today merely fell out of heaven in its present form. But nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, the Bible stands at the end of a long process of **selection, transmission, and translation**. But what books were excluded, and why were others included in the canon of the Bible? How were these writings passed down through the centuries? And why are there so many different translations of the Bible into English? These and other questions will be addressed in this five-part series, led by the Rev. Dr. Charles (Buz) Myers, as we will look at exactly how we came to have the Bible that we know and love.

So come join us on Sundays, March 1—29 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in the MacAskill Room. Rev. Buz Myers, an ordained Presbyterian minister, holds a Ph.D. degree in New Testament language and literature from Princeton Theological Seminary. He has taught Bible courses at two seminaries and Swarthmore College before coming to Gettysburg College in 1986. Dr. Myers also served as recording secretary on the committee that produced the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

February 25 @ 7:30 p.m.

With Holy Communion

Scripture: Luke 10: 38-42

Sermon: "The Hostess Who Missed Her Party"

Adult Choir

Monthly Financial Report

As of January 31, 2009, we completed 8.33% of 2009 with our budget of \$720,567.

Income for the year to date was 6.82% (\$49,178).

Expenses for the year to date were 7.37% (\$53,096).

Our Amount Available for Operating Expenses was \$34,970.

PW Churchwide Gathering Louisville, Kentucky July 11—15, 2009

Registration is now open for the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women, July 11-15, in Louisville, KY. In addition to wonderful worship and plenary sessions, 60 workshops, afternoon journeys and special tours are offered. The registration fee of \$380 includes all these plus a tote bag, 4 dinners, 4 breakfasts and two lunches. Not included in the registration fee are some optional tours, hotel, the Synod lunch and transportation. (The registration fee is \$430 after May 15.)

Scholarship money is available from PW Churchwide, PW in Carlisle Presbytery (for women 19-35 or first time attendees) or from PW in GPC (for first time attendees). Contact Sherry Farkas 642-1552 or Sarah Lambert 334-4667 for an application.

A bus to Louisville is being planned from Carlisle Presbytery, leaving from Chambersburg on July 10. Cost should be \$250 or less. The coach is fully equipped and will make stops for meals as well as to stretch. A deposit of \$100 is required by March 15. Make check payable to PW in Carlisle Presbytery and send to: Sue Mummert, 376 Briar Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17202.

Join your sisters in this extraordinary experience. This is the last time the Churchwide Gathering will be in Louisville for a long time.



Undergraduate Student Care Packages

If you are the parent of an undergraduate college student from our congregation, you can help ensure your child gets a Spring semester care package from their church family by submitting the following information below to Rev. Lou Nyiri in the church office or by email gpclou@embarqmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Return the following information to Rev. Nyiri by **March 1st**.

Name of Student: _____

Postal Mail Address of Student: _____

Email Address of Student: _____

Food Allergies of Student: _____

Parent's Name & Phone Contact: _____

GPC SMALL GROUP MINISTRY 2009 LENTEN SMALL GROUPS Christian Prayer for Today by Martha Moore-Keish

Now is your chance to be a part of an exciting opportunity for spiritual growth and fellowship! Our annual Lenten Small Groups will explore together one of the most central and important aspects of Christian living—the practice of prayer. We will talk about the challenges of prayer at different times and in various contexts, and we will look at questions such as “Who is the God we encounter in prayer?”, “Who are we who pray?” and just “What does prayer do?” This book is “wonderfully readable” and helpful for revitalizing one’s prayer life which after all is one of the most important exercises of our faith!

Groups will meet weekly during the six weeks of Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25th. Groups will meet in homes, at the church and at local restaurants. You will be contacted by your group leader about the exact starting date and location. Each session will run approx. 75 minutes and will include fellowship, informal discussion, and a time of prayer. Please call Candace Nyiri at 337-2939 if you have any questions.

Deadline to sign up is Sunday, February 22nd.

2009 Lenten Small Group Sign-Up
(Please mark 1st and 2nd preference-exact locations to be announced)

- Sunday 12:15 p.m. Lunch Group
- Tuesday mornings 7:15 a.m. (Dunlap’s Restaurant)
- Tuesday mornings 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday evenings 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 12:00 noon (Brown Bag Lunch Group)
- Thursday Lunch Group (Hanover - Hoss’ Restaurant)
- Thursday evenings 7:00 p.m.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

Cost of the book is \$12.00

High School Workcamp Brunch is March 15th



- What: Food, Fellowship and Fundraiser for high school workcamp
- When: Sunday, March 15, 2009
- 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 Peterstown, WV from July 9—18, 2009.

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 2009, 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 Peterstown, WV. You have supported us generously in past years and we thank you in advance for this year's support.

"A Night of Music"

Sunday, February 22nd - an evening of food and fun! A Potluck Dinner at 5:30 begins our evening. This will be followed by a program at 6:30 of great GPC musical talent! You will not want to miss the fantastic show.

For the Potluck Dinner - If your last name starts with A-M please bring a side dish or salad. If your last name starts with N-Z bring a dessert to share. The meat and drink will be provided by the Fellowship Team. Please call Lou at 334-1235 x4 or send an email to gpclou@embarqmail.com by *Wednesday, February 18th*.

Attention: Rev. Lou Nyiri

The following number of people - _____ - will attend the Potluck Dinner on February 22nd ..

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday mornings in the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m.
Join us for an engaging worship experience centered in God's Word!
Everyone is invited! Bring a Friend.

February 15 The Great Adventure: Companions on the Journey

February 22 Ordinary Radicals: Service of Communion

*“Lord Jesus Christ, show me who you are and how
I can follow you today.”*

 **Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, February 19, 2009**

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