

GRAPEVINE

March 11, 2009

Parson to Person

I was raised in a small country church. The building was plain, and so was the worship service. We followed the order of worship in the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship, although I did not know about the Book -- only the preacher had one.

Liturgical year I never heard of it. We celebrated Christmas, Palm Sunday and Easter. I knew of Lent because I had Roman Catholic friends. They talked, even bragged, about what they gave up for Lent. It was not until I became a pastor that I learned of the Liturgical Year, i.e., on particular days or weeks, the church emphasizes certain biblical events or aspects of our relationship with God. Lent is one of the major seasons. Coming from my non-liturgical background, I asked, "What is Lent?"

Here is a brief history, according to "Liturgical Year, Supplemental Liturgical Resource 7", published by our denomination.

Though the earliest traditions are unclear, Lent apparently evolved as a time for training, particularly as a time of final preparation of candidates for baptism at Easter.

Lent also became a time for the renewal of the faithful, as well as a time for the excommunicated to prepare to return to the community of faith.

By the fourth century, Lent had developed from a two-day fast, through a week-long fast, to a biblical "forty days." Originally, though Lent contained elements of penitence, it was primarily a time devoted to preparing those who were to be baptized. The Lenten season seems to have developed as a period of learning with a focus on what it means to be a follower of Christ. Those preparing for baptism learned the Creed, the teachings of Jesus (perhaps the Sermon on the Mount), and the disciplines of the Christian faith.

The period of Lent had and still has an emphasis on reaffirming baptismal identity, of knowing and living the faith. During Lent, we have the opportunity to reaffirm who we are and always will be, in anticipation of Easter.

The Lenten journey signifies a time to turn around, to change directions, to repent. Unless we are willing to die to our old selves, we cannot be raised to new life with Christ.

For many Lent is a time of "giving up", but it is intended to be a positive, life-enriching, faith-growing time. We "give up" in order to replace with a better something, someone or quality. Surrender makes room for Christ and abundant life with him. One of our members said that she takes on a mission during Lent -- isn't that an intriguing idea?

Yours,
Harry

Inside:

- Family Game Night
- Easter Flowers
- Easter Continental Breakfast
- Work Day at Camp Krislund
- Discount Hershey Park Tickets
- Book Club

Happy Birthday to...

March 1

John Angstadt
Matthew Beamer
John Egloff
Sarah Landauer
Bruce Rowland

March 2

Larry Snyder
Erica Wareham

March 3

Kevin Burke
Lindsay Hartwig
Steve Toddes

March 4

Deb Carman
Richard France
Dortha Haskins
Kenneth Hickey

March 5

Eric Smarsh

March 6

Andrew Dreves
Dawn Harvey
Tyler Scudder

March 7

Ande Flagg
Susan Kolmer
Lindsay Steinour
Karen Swartz

March 8

Eleanor Nucelli
Barbara Underwood

March 9

Barbara Eriksen
Sue Hudson

Madysen Schubbe

March 10

Sawyer Hoover
Nicole King
David LaRochelle

Helen Maitland

Emily Manning

Alison Peterson

March 11

Bette Fissel
Margaret Hays
Charlie Marks

March 12

Dean Bohner
Brion FitzGerald Jr.

Beth Heeschen

Morgan Soliday

March 13

Lauren Scudder
Joan Thomas

March 14

Nathaniel Priel
Bob Spertzel
Joshua Warcup

March 15

Amy Deitch
Benjamin Kolmer
Tim Rohrbaugh
James Sheen

March 16

Adelaide Aldinger
Ronald Hankey
Pauline Peterson

March 17

Ken Hoy
Mary Robinson

March 18

Wendy Beauchat
Morgan Ely

Donald Fennimore
Heather King
Kathleen Kircher

March 19

Brion FitzGerald (Sr.)
Steve Kareha

Jane Patrono

Connilu Petrie

William Settle

March 20

Claire Freeman
Arthur Kennell

Sheryl Suplee

Dana Witt

March 21

Kim Hubble
March 22
Kiersten Bankert
Jill Eskildsen
Patrick Reisinger

March 23

Tracy Boyer
Paulette Brabender

March 24

Emily Jeffrey
Michael Heeschen

Carrie Soliday

Tessa Trax

March 25

Penny Messinger
Kelly Sanders

Linda Thompson

Ethan Wagner

Barbara Zimmerman

March 26

Katelyn Gormley

March 27

Christina Soliday

March 28

Keily Doehring

March 29

Judy Adams
Daniel Beegle
Richard Haskins
Aubrey King
Daelyn Stabler
Marjorie Swatsworth

March 30

Bethany Ely
Sarah Fossett
John Kuntzman
Kristin North
Mary Lou Seamens

Jane Welsh

March 31

Jason Bahm



Join the GPC Tech Team!

We need you! We are looking for members and friends who want to help out with the media/technical aspects of our services!

We need volunteers to help with taping services, set up/tear down of audio equipment and powerpoint operation.

If you have gifts to share or this is an area you would like to learn about, please call Candace Nyiri at 337-2939.



They Had Brains and BRAWN!

A huge thank-you goes to all who gave 4 hours last Saturday morning to move mattresses, bunk beds, metal dressers, and nightstands into storage. All of these items will be transported to South Dakota in July by our Mission Team to provide beds and dressers for children and adults on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation. Our work crew included: Mike Crowe, Denny & Phyllis Dowd, Allen Duncan, Ken Elledge, Cheryl & Megan Gochenauer, Drew Messinger, Skip & Penny Messinger, Bruce & Pam Rowland, Brian Unger, Rich Watson, and Lee Weber. We can highly recommend any of them!

Condolences:

Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Jim & Ann Biggar on the death of Ann's father.

Bob Lindsay on the recent death of his father.

Carolyn Smarsh on the death of her brother.

Beth Jones on the death of her brother-in-law.

Libby Crowe on the death of her uncle.

Look for the poster of the 2009 Mid-Ship Scavenger Hunt in Fellowship Hall. This year's winning group was driven by Alva Ecker and included Casey Ecker, Alex Heeshen, Gary Hubble, Kody Kulkusky and Sam Tomassini.

Congratulations, guys!





Hershey Park Tickets

Thinking of going to Hershey Park this summer? Want to buy tickets at a cheaper rate? We've got the answer for you! You can order and buy tickets through the church group rate. These tickets can be used by you ANY DAY of the 2009 season. The rates are \$28.50 for ages 9-54 (regular rate is \$51.95) and \$24.00 for ages 3-8 and \$24.00 for ages 55+ (regular rate is \$30.95).

You may order these tickets by calling Phyllis at the church office (334-1235, ext. 5) or by signing up in Fellowship Hall beginning March 22. FINAL DATE TO PAY FOR THESE TICKETS IS SUNDAY, APRIL 5th. Please make checks out to %Gettysburg Presbyterian Church.+ There will be no refunds for tickets not used. You do not have to be a church member to participate. Thanks!!

PW CIRCLES

Elizabeth Circle

Monday, March 16 @ 1:00 p.m.

Hostess: Helen Stabler
726 Pine Run Rd.
Abbottstown, PA
624-2252

Study Leader: Carolyn Durboraw

Lesson 7: Luke 13: 1-17, 18-21; 14:1-6

Carpool from GPC parking lot @ 12:30 p.m.

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, March 16 @ 7:30 p.m.

Hostess: Kathy Schneider
95 Ridgewood Dr.
Gettysburg, PA
334-6642

Study Leader: Nancy Cook

Lesson 6: Luke 10: 25-37; 17:11-19

Esther Circle

Thursday, March 19 @ 9:30 a.m.

Members meet in Eisenhower Lounge.
Study Leader: Kay McClain
Lesson 7: Luke 13: 1-17, 18-21; 14:1-6



Keep Filling Up Those Fish Boxes!

Recently, all of the children in ages 3-6 Grade 8 Sunday School received fish boxes and corresponding calendars for the One Great Hour of Sharing. If your child did not receive one, see Phyllis ASAP, because the season of Lent is well underway and we want your child to be a part of this exciting opportunity!

For those who already have them, keep filling your fish box each day according to the directions on the calendar. Remember to bring the box back on Palm Sunday, April 5.

A One-Day Mission Opportunity at Camp Krislund in Madisonburg, PA Saturday, May 2, 2009

A one-day work camp has been scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2009, at Camp Krislund, a youth camp in Northeastern PA.


We will do general maintenance at the camp. Some of the work to be done will include:

- Repairing or replacing the tent platforms and erecting the tents for the summer season;
- Repairing the doors, windows, and various hardware on the Upper Lodge, the Lower Lodge, the youth cabins, and the various outbuildings at the camp;
- Repairing or replacing the partitions in the bathhouse and repainting the bathhouse;
- Repairing the covered wagons, the Adirondacks, the teepees;
- Cutting and trimming acres of grass and removing fallen debris from various campsites;
- Assisting in the kitchen to feed lunch to what we hope are hundreds of volunteers;
- Do some skilled electrical, plumbing and finish carpentry work.

A bus has been leased for this trip, limited to 55 passengers. **COST will be \$25** to cover the cost of the bus and the lunch at the camp. **We will leave from the Lend A Hand Office, 3040 Market Street, Camp Hill at 6 a.m.** Arrive at the camp by 8:30am ..work until 5 p.m. arrive back in Camp Hill around 7:30 p.m.

If interested, or have any questions, please contact Ken Elledge at 334-1617. Also download a Skills Inventory form from www.lendahandmissions.com and complete and send it to the LAH office. There is a chance we'll take the church van and leave directly from Gettysburg at 6:00 a.m. to go to Krislund if that is the option you choose, please indicate so when you sign up.


Upcoming Events:




**Family
Game Night on
Friday, March 27**

The Family Ministry Team is sponsoring a "Game Night" on Friday, March 27 from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will be games for all ages, including Bunco, Twister, Spoons, Bible Charades, Yahtzee, Sorry Sliders and many more. There will even be a Wii Bowling Contest! There will also be a special area with games for ages 6 and under. A Snack Bar will be open all evening.

So, bring your family and friends, and come join us on March 27 for an evening of fun, fellowship, and laughter. Stay as long as you want - 1/2 hour or all night. We guarantee you will have a good time!




GPC POPCORN and THEOLOGY MOVIE NIGHT
Friday April 3, 2009
7:00 p.m.



**“God Grew Tired of Us:
The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan”**
(Rated PG-13)

Many popular movies and documentaries today provide us with stories and subjects that entertain, make us laugh, make us cry and make us think.

Join us for an opportunity to view the moving documentary “God Grew Tired of Us”. Afterwards we will have a brief discussion. If you have any questions, please contact Candace Nyiri at 337-2939.





WORD by WORD will be taking a break during the Lenten season. Be watching the Grapevine and bulletin for news of when this study will resume. Thank you to Rev. Chuck Teague for sharing his gift of teaching and love of scripture with us!

Easter Flowers

Honor your loved ones with the beauty of flowers at Easter. This year we offer you a choice of three flowers: lilies, tulips, and hyacinths. Please fill out the information below and return this form with your check (**payable to Gettysburg Presbyterian Church**) to:

Myrt Watson
95 Twin Lakes Dr.
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Any flowers not picked up by Monday, April 13 at noon will be taken to shut-ins.
Deadline for order is March 29.

<p>_____ Easter Lily \$10.00 (4-6 blooms)</p> <p>_____ Tulips \$10.00 (8 bulbs)</p> <p>_____ Hyacinth \$10.00 (4 bulbs)</p>	<p>In Memory of / In Honor of (circle one) <i>(please print clearly)</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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Given by: _____ Will pick up _____

Deliver to shut-ins _____

March
Music Schedule

March 15	8:15	Early Choir
	11:00	Adult Choir
March 22	8:15	Kristin North and Nick Telenson Early Choir
	11:00	Kristin North and Nick Telenson Adult Choir
March 29	8:15	Adult Bell Choir
	11:00	Youth Bell Choir Youth Choir

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP - March

Wednesdays	6:45 - 7:10 a.m.	Lenten Breakfasts in Fellowship Hall
March 15	9, 11 & 12 Noon	WORKCAMP BRUNCH
March 22	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship
March 29	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship

MidSHIP Schedule - March

Wednesdays	6:45 - 7:10 a.m.	Lenten Breakfasts in Fellowship Hall
March 15	12:00- 1:30	Pizza / Bowling *
March 22	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship & Games
March 29	5:30 - 7:00	Fellowship & Games

*Meet downstairs in the green rug area & bring \$6.00

VBS Leaders Needed!!

Vacation Bible School will be held on June 22-25 this year and we need help!!


If you can be a planning leader for preschool, snack, games, drama, crafts or Bible activities, please let me know as soon as possible. We will start our planning toward the end of this month. I know that you - **yes, you** - have lots of great ideas and enthusiasm for our children's ministry here at GPC. This may be just the opportunity you've been looking for. Let me know at 334-1235, ext. 5 or gpcdce@embarqmail.com. THANKS!

— Blessings, Phyllis



Easter Continental Breakfast

Your church's Deacons invite you to the all-church Easter Continental Breakfast on Easter Sunday, April 12th. Serving times will be 9-9:30 a.m. and 10:30-11:00 a.m. in fellowship hall. The menu will include an assortment of homemade muffins, cheeses, fruit, coffee, tea and juices. We hope you will join us for fellowship before or after the worship service you choose to attend, as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.



Faithful Journey Book Group!

The Memory Keeper's Daughter
by Kim Edwards

Discussion date is May 2nd (Sat. Morning @ 8:45 a.m.)

Coffee, tea, fruit and pastries provided. All GPC members and friends are invited. Buy the book on your own or order one through the church office. Contact Candace Nyiri if you have any questions at 337-2939.

Join the National Christian Choir for an inspirational evening of Christian music.

Saturday, March 28, 6:30 pm
Hanover First Church of God
600 Fairview Drive
Hanover, PA

This 150-voice group celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. The visual interpreter is a gifted artist. She significantly adds to this worship experience. Don't miss it. It's well worth a trip to Hanover. Check out the Choir's website: www.nationalchristianchoir.org

MARCH CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Join us for an engaging worship experience centered in God's Word !
Everyone is Invited! Bring a Friend.

Each Sunday morning in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m.

Lenten Sermon Series: *What's on Your Mind??*

- March 15 ó Faithfulness: Hold On!
- March 22 ó Surrender: Go with the Flow
- March 29- Humility: It's Not About You

"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." Phil 2:5

Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, March 19, 2009

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

One
 great hour
 of sharing

Palm Sunday, April 5th