

GRAPEVINE

January 6, 2010

A new year, a new decade has begun! If you're like many people, you are starting the year with a few New Year's resolutions. Perhaps you want to exercise more, lose some weight, or stop smoking. These are all good goals and I would encourage you to pursue them. However, remember that our annual resolutions are only really strategies to achieve a larger goal. The resolutions above could improve your health, for example.

Jesus had something to say about the larger goals, mission, or calling of our lives. *“Strive first for the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”* (Matt. 6:33) We have been designed and placed here on the earth to be partners in God's plans for our world. What would New Year's resolutions look like for someone who takes this calling seriously?

There would probably be something about developing our devotional life (prayer, meditation, Bible reading), for it is there that we connect with our Lord. There would need to be something about worship participation as well as study and fellowship with others, because it is there that we connect with other followers of Jesus. There would be something about serving others and giving generously, because that is an important component of how we are called to live.

What New Year's resolutions could you make for your spiritual life?

Inside:

- Islam Series during Sunday School
- Christmas Fair Results
- Exploring Membership Class
- All Church Lunch & Congregational Meeting
- 4 Mission Trip Meetings
- The WORD by word Bible study

THANK YOUS:

 * Special Thanksō *
 * Thank you to the fol- *
 * lowing who gave up *
 * part of their Christmas Eve to *
 * help in our church nursery: *
 * Betty Brownley, Courtney *
 * Weaver, Dillman Family, Kay *
 * McClain, Marion Lambert and *
 * Judy Bullis. *
 * We appreciate the time *
 * you gave that night to enable *
 * parents to attend worship. *
 * *****

The Worship & Music Committee and the entire GPC church family thanks Paulette Brabender for planning, organizing volunteers, and decorating the church for the Advent season. The sanctuary was beautiful!

I would like to thank Mary Lou Seamens, Mary Miner, Sheryl Suplee, Amy Deitch, Sharon Kuntzman, Carol Heiser, Tracy Boyer, Pam Rowland, Joanna McGuire, Barb Ebaugh, Allen Duncan, Scott McPherson, Lee Weber, Gary Morrision and Don Clark for all their help with the Christmas decorations in the church.

THANK YOU!
 Paulette Brabender

Thanks for a Special Advent Program

Thank you to the following for participating in
 "The Real Twelve Days of Christmas" on December 13
 Service - Adapted by Bruce & Pam Rowland

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Pam Rowland & Phyllis Dowd - Readers | Amy Hieber - Choir Director |
| Chapel Choir - singing the theme song | Becky Wareham - pianist |
| Families who presented objects for each day | All who provided delicious desserts |
| Susie Snyder and the Fellowship Team who coordinated the refreshments | |
| All GPC members and friends who sang and worshipped that night. | |

A Huge Thank You!

We offer a big **thank you** to the following people who so graciously provided music for our Christmas Eve services: Beth Christopher, Adam Boyer, Chapel Choir, Chapel Bell Choir, Johnna Sanders, Beth Jones, Jean LeGros, Laura Pennings, Becky Wells, Adult Choir, Nick Telenson, Stephen, Tammi and Christian Swartzbaugh, Dave Conklin, Ben Kolmer, Michael Lobaugh and Barry Wareham.

"O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt His name together."

As you pass the church at night, you'll now notice the beautiful stained glass window above the door. This light had been off for a while. Due to the work and expertise of three generous and wise men of the congregation, Barry Breighner, Allen Duncan and Lee Weber, this window is again a lovely sight to see. We are blessed by these members and many others who take such loving care of our church property.

A special THANK YOU to the cast of *The Christmas Guest*

which was performed on Christmas Eve at the 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. worship services.

- Mary Miner as "Martha"*
- Lou Nyiri as "Conrad"*
- Larry Sanders as "Hans"*
- Barb Sanders-Hartwig as "The Beggar"*
- Johnna Sanders as the "Old Woman"*
- Emma Sanders as "May"*
- Alex Nyiri as the "Voice of God"*

We are grateful to each of these actors for the time they gave in practice and preparation for this beautiful play about welcoming the Christ Child!

An Extraordinary Gift for the Christ Child

Congratulations to GPC! Our church family continues to give, and give, and give, despite hard economic times.

Below are the eight projects and totals for each:

1. Mission Honduras 2010	\$4,909.00
2. Heifer International	\$3,926.00
3. Mission South Dakota 2010	\$3,464.00
4. Operation Move Out	\$2,002.00
5. Presbyterian Coffee Project	\$1,957.00
6. Mission Mexico 2010	\$1,722.00
7. Sea Island Habitat for Humanity	\$1,487.00
8. Import Peace (olive oil)	<u>\$ 235.00</u>

GRAND TOTAL \$19,702.00

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, Ande Flagg and Marlene Tindall. Thanks also go 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.

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 well as staff members Don Clark, Scott McPherson, Dave Wright, Lou & Candace Nyiri, and Libby Crowe.

As we close out the year 2009, 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.

Gratefully, 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. Thirty-three children attended as we told the Christmas Story, sang, and made nativity pictures. The children then sang "Happy Birthday" to Jesus before blowing out candles and eating decorative cupcakes. Each child received a tableau of the Christmas Story plus goodies for their gift bag. My very special thanks go to Libby Crowe, Andrea & Daniel Crowe, Pam Rowland, Trevor Meckley and Sydney and Alexis Tomassini for all of their help with our party. Also, thanks to Deb Meckley, Lucy Breighner and Sue Hain for providing the cupcakes. See you next year!

—Blessings, Phyllis



Let's Read!!
Be a part of the
2010 Faithful Journey Book Group

The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian and a Jew-
Three Women Search for Understanding

by Idliby, Oliver, Warner
April 18

When Joy Came to Stay

by Karen Kingsbury
May 23

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life

by Barbara Kingsolver
September 26

Have a Little Faith

by Mitch Albom
October 24

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!

by Barbara Robinson
Nov. 20 (Sat. Morning)

Weather Cancellations

In case of inclement weather, call the church office number and press 2+ for the Special Announcements mailbox. We will also try to post information on air and on the websites of radio 1320 WGET and 107.7WGTY, as well as ABC27 and WGAL8 TV.



Love One Another As I Have Loved You...

In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Loving and caring for one another is not just the pastor's job - it's something Jesus calls us all to do! **Stephen Ministry** is a ministry in which people with special gifts for caring ministry can put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus' love and care to those who most need it. If you or someone you know is going through a difficult time and would benefit from receiving the gift of a Stephen Minister, contact Rev. Lou Nyiri at 334-1235, ext. 4 or gpclou@embarqmail.com. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care and to help you experience the healing power of Christ's love in your life.

Christian Unity Service

Sunday, Jan. 24 @ 3 p.m.
at the College chapel

Sponsored by the Ministerium, this service celebrates Christian unity with lots of music as many local church choirs will participate.

Condolences:

Our thoughts and prayers are with:
Tom Piper on the recent death of his brother.
Jan Piper on the death of her brother-in-law (in addition to Tom's brother).
Jeff Anderson on the death of his father.
Barb Ebaugh on the death of her mother.

Adult Sunday School Series on Islam begins January 10

Three Islamic scholars from Gettysburg College will be sharing their expertise with us for six weeks this winter. Beginning January 10th, Drs. Amy Young, Karen Pinto, and Megan Adamson Sijapati will be lecturing on various aspects of Islam. The schedule and topics to be covered are as follows:

January 10	Dr. Pinto	General Overview of Islam
January 17	Dr. Pinto	Islam-Christian Civilization
January 24	Dr. Sijapati	Islamic Beliefs and Practices
January 31	Dr. Sijapati	Contemporary Islamic Revival/Extremism
February 7	Dr. Young	Women in Islam
February 14	Dr. Young	Youth and Social Change

We look forward to hosting these scholars and broadening our understanding of Islam. The class will be held in the MacAskill Room from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings.



Ski RETREAT at Camelback Ski Resort, Tannersville, PA

January 30-31, 2010

High School Fellowship (Grades 9-12)

7:00AM (Saturday) to 3:00PM (Sunday)

(Leave from & return to Church Parking Lot)

Cost to go is \$40.00 NON-REFUNDABLE (unless the ski trip is cancelled)

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 Retreat at the Camelback Ski Resort in Tannersville, PA January 30-31, 2010.*

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, \$40.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and ski rental payment by Wednesday, January 27, 2010. No Exceptions!!!!

On the Road
with Ken & Barbie

Join us for a "ROAD TRIP" on one of our mission trips this year!!!!



**Honduras Medical/Dental
Mission Trip Meeting
January 28, @ 7:00
p.m.**



If you are interested in this year's Honduras Mission Trip please join us Thursday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the MacAskill Room. Please come whether you want to sign up or just get information about our trip in June. If you have any questions, please contact Brad Hoch at 334-8211.

**South Dakota Mission Trip Meeting
January 31 @ 6:30 p.m.**

A meeting for all those interested in this year's South Dakota Mission Trip will be held on Sunday, January 31 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 15 - 25, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis or Penny in the church office 334-1235, ext. 5.

Hope to see you on January 31!

**2010 South Carolina
Mission Trip
Meeting**



On Monday, February 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Eisenhower Lounge there will be a meeting for all those interested in the April 18 - 24 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 334-6108.

Mexico Mission Project Update

Dates: July 6-13, 2010



What will we do? Construction, Vacation Bible School, glasses ministry, fellowship and worship with Mexican brothers and sisters, and see some Mayan ruins!

Interest Meeting: Sunday, Jan. 24 at 7:30PM in the Eisenhower Lounge. If you are interested, you need to be at this meeting! Parents of interested youth (9th grade and up) should also plan to attend.

Exploring Membership Class: Sunday, Jan. 31

If you are interested in learning more about GPC, plan to attend the Exploring Membership Class on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 31. Following the 11:00 a.m. service, we'll have lunch with the congregation. Then you'll have a chance to learn more about Presbyterians and opportunities for spiritual nurture and service here at GPC, and to meet our staff. Following the class, you may meet with the Session and join the church if you so desire. Childcare is available. Call the church office to register. (334-1235).

Jan. Music Schedule

Jan. 10	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
Jan. 17	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
Jan. 24	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bell Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Choir Youth Bell Choir
Jan. 31	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

January

January 10	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	New Year's visits
January 17	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship - Christmas Gift Exchange
January 24	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship
Jan. 30 - 31		Ski Retreat
February 7	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	**SuperBowl Game

** Dress warmly to play outside and bring two cans of soup or \$4 for the Soup Kitchen.

Would you like to sing?

February 14th is Women's Sunday. We would love to have a choir of female voices for the services that day. If you are interested in participating, please let Becky (359.7623 or bbwareham@embarqmail.com) know so that we can have music for you. Rehearsals will be at 12:00 on

MidSHIP Schedule

January

January 10	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship/Games
January 17	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship/Games
January 24	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	*Pizza/Bowling
January 31	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship/Games
February 7	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	**SuperBowl Game

* Bring \$5 for bowling. We will leave from and return to the church at the regular times.

** Dress warmly to play outside and bring two cans of soup or \$4 for the Soup Kitchen.

PW CIRCLES

Elizabeth Circle

Monday, January 18, 1:00 p.m.

Hostess: Sarah Lambert
363 W. High St.
Gettysburg, PA 17325
334-4667

Study Leader: Linda MacAskill

Lesson 4: Joshua 1:2-3, 10-15, 5:10-12

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, January 18, 7:30 p.m.

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

Study Leader: Judy Bullis

Lesson 4 & 5: Joshua 1:2-3, 10-15, 5:10-12

Joshua 6: 1-8: 28; 10: 16-11:23

Esther Circle

Thursday, January 21, 9:30 a.m.

Eisenhower Lounge at GPC
Study Leader: Barbara Finrock
Lesson 5: Joshua 6: 1-8: 28; 10: 16-11:23



Announcing 2010 Lenten Study Small Groups

In 2007 we studied *The Lord's Prayer!*
In 2008 we studied *The Beatitudes!*
In 2009 we studied *Christian Prayer!*

**Be a part of the 2010 study of
The Apostles Creed
where we will explore the basics of Chris-
tian belief.**

The basics of the Christian faith have remained the same for centuries. Affirmed by the church around the world since its earliest years, these truths are summarized in documents known as creeds, the Apostle's Creed being most important.

Our resource for this year's study is the book
"I Believe": Exploring the Apostles' Creed
by Alister McGrath.

Sign ups will begin Jan 17th!
Contact Candace Nyiri for more details.

Young at Heart

January 14, 2010 at 12:00 Noon

Our January meeting will be a homemade soup and salad luncheon at noon at the church. A modest donation will be collected to cover the cost of the luncheon. Place settings for the luncheon will be provided.

Following lunch Mac Heebner, a member of our church, will give a presentation on his work with disabled children at a camp in Massachusetts.

Everyone is welcome to attend; it is not necessary to be a regular attendee at YAH. If you are not on a regular call list and would like to attend please contact Pam or Dick Wisor at 717-359-8896 no later than Monday, January 11th.

NEED A RIDE?



If you are having trouble attending church services and/or church functions due to not having transportation, let the Deacons help you. We are only a phone call away. The transportation Deacon for January is Ann Cook, 334-4642.

The WORD by word

Do you have the desire for a richer understanding of Scripture? Do you sense that your heritage as a Christian is, frankly, not so well understood? Are you open to something provocative and mind-expanding to do on Sunday evenings?

No matter how well founded you are in the Bible, there are always more insights and inspiration to be gained. This is the attitude we have as we gather from 6:00-7:00 pm downstairs in the MacAskill room for an in-depth study of the Word.

We resume January 10 as we delve into the Acts of the Holy Spirit in the Lives of the Apostles. Bring your favorite Bible as together we open to Acts 1:1. Do you love God? Then this book is dedicated to you!

Some parts of the story are thrilling, some parts befuddling, some parts troubling, some parts simply curious. By examining the text word by word, we're sure to

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 Sunday, January 31st at the Congregational Lunch/ Meeting in Fellowship Hall and end Sunday, February 21st. A schedule will be made and distributed by March 7th which designates one person to coordinate and host the dinner in their home. (You do not have to be a host). The host/ hostess prepares the main course and drinks for the evening while the 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.

All Church Luncheon & Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 31st beginning with lunch at 12 Noon followed by the Congregational Meeting at 12:30 for the purpose of reviewing the annual report and approving the terms of call for the pastors. Please do the Fellowship Team a favor and let us know how many will be attending from your family so we have enough food for lunch. You can let us know by leaving a message in the church office (334-1235, ext 4 Rev Nyiri) , returning the slip below via offering plate, snail mail, or e-mail to Rev Lou Nyiri (gpclou@embarqmail.com)

Suggested donation of \$3 per person is requested.

****Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, January 27th, 2010****

----- Tear off -----
All Church Lunch & Congregational Meeting

Name _____ will be attending the lunch and meeting.

I will have _____ in my party.

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church

208 Baltimore Street

Gettysburg, PA 17325

Office: (717) 334-1235

Fax: (717) 334-0666

www.gettysburgpresbyterian.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, January 14, 2010**

January 2010

GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Services @ 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

Contemporary Service @ 9:30 a.m.

Sermon Series - A Four-part Series on Work!

January 10	The Meaning of Work
January 17	Discerning Your Calling
January 24	Balancing Your Work Life
January 31	Called to Integrity

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

May this be a year of great beginnings for you!

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2010!