

GRAPEVINE

January 5, 2011

What Are You Saving Yourself For?

A number of years ago during a worship service at the church I was serving, there was a Minute for Mission encouraging people to go on a mission trip the coming year. After the service, Marna, a member of the congregation, was approached by a friend who had previously participated on mission trips, asking if she would consider going on one this year. Marna was non-committal, so the mission trip veteran replied, "Marna, what are you saving yourself for?" Marna had no good answer to that question, so she decided to go and has been deeply involved in mission trips ever since!

Inside:

- "10 Great Dates"
- 2010 Christmas Fair Totals
- REACH Workcamp needs homes to work on
- All-Church Lunch and Congregational meeting

During January you will have several opportunities to attend interest meetings for our 2011 mission trips. Maybe this is the year for you! Please consider attending an interest meeting to see if this experience might be for you. Benefits include: the satisfaction of helping folks who really need your help, making new friends (both in the group and where you're serving), renewed spiritual growth, learning about a new place, and learning new skills. If you are unable to go, we appreciate your financial and prayer support!

South Carolina	January 4th @ 7:00 p.m.
Honduras	January 13th @ 7:00 p.m.
Mexico	January 16th @ 7:30 p.m.
South Dakota	January 30th @ 6:30 p.m.

THANK YOU:

To all gleaning volunteers,

At this time of year I like to look back on all that has happened over the last year. We had a very successful gleaning season, in spite of the hot, dry summer. As of December 14th, this year we were able to harvest and distribute over 123,000 lbs of fresh fruits and vegetables to those that would otherwise not be able to afford them. This number is up from the 80,000 lbs from last year. Although we had less volunteers and less volunteered hours this year we were able to increase the total poundage due to the generous donations of already harvested produce from some wholesale growers.

I know that we are all feeling the pinch of the current economy so I really appreciate your willingness to help out others. We were recently told by one of the food pantries that they are seeing 40-50 new families per month. Last year one in four kids in our school districts was receiving free or reduced lunches. This year that number has increased to one in three. So as you can see the need is greater than ever.

At this time of year there are little fresh fruits and vegetables to supplement the boxed and canned products that they will receive at the food pantries. Also this time of year will see an increase in heating costs as well as increases in medical bills. So please keep those less fortunate in your thoughts and prayers this winter.

Although most of the gleaning is over for the year, we will continue to pick up and deliver potatoes, squash, and other fruits and vegetables that are in cold storage. Also this winter we will be meeting with several receiving agencies to explore more options to coordinate receiving and distribution for 2011. Cold storage is also a major concern that we will try to address. We will be looking into the legality of canning, freezing, and dehydrating for future use at some of the shelters. So as you can see we are already preparing for next year's crops.

So thank you for so generously giving up your personal time to help those less fortunate in our community. It is such a blessing to work with each and every one of you. Jan and I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Stay safe and warm and we hope to see you all next year.

God bless,
Jerry Althoff, Volunteer Gleaning Coordinator

Allow me to convey my thanks for the many cards, prayers and expressions of sympathy shown to me after the death of my brother. My parents, siblings and I were able to be in Germany with him during his last days. There was a Divine Hand that helped all of us quickly schedule flights and time off from work to be able to go and say goodbye. Thank you for interceding. Trials such as these are made more bearable when there is knowledge of support and prayers from fellow believers.


With much thanks,
Leah Teague

A special THANK YOU to the wonderful group of our own church carolers who surprised and greeted us with Christmas carols sung at our front door Sunday evening, Dec. 19. We feel very blessed to be part of a church family of so many folks, young and old, who give of themselves to so many others.

Rush & Marge Benson

THANKS FOR THE HOLIDAY SINGING

Thanks to all the church members, friends, and members of MidSHIP who participated in Christmas caroling on Sunday, Dec. 19. After singing to church members and others at the Lutheran Home and the cottages nearby, all returned to the church for delicious goodies and hot chocolate. Special thanks to Amy Hieber for organizing and coordinating the carolers.

*  Special Thanksō
* Thank you to the follow-
* ing who gave up part of
* their Christmas Eve to
* help in our church nursery:
* 4:00 p.m. - Cowden &
* Hosterman families
* 5:30 p.m. - Kathy Dudash
* Lucy Breighner
* 7:00 p.m. - Sandra Reed
* Marion Lambert
* 8:30 p.m. - Marion Lambert
* Sarah Lambert
* We appreciate the time you
* gave that night to enable par-
* ents 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!



Every year we are so grateful for all the contributions from church members for our South Dakota Mission trip. However, we have an overabundance of stuffed toys for next summer. As cute as all those little animals and creatures are, we cannot accept any more for our 2011 trip. Thanks so much for all your donations and interest in this mission.



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 2011	\$ 5,900.00
2. Mission South Dakota 2011	\$ 2,872.00
3. Heifer International	\$ 2,828.00
4. Adams County REACH Workcamp	\$ 2,324.00
5. Mission Mexico 2011	\$ 2,030.00
6. Presbyterian Coffee Project	\$ 1,992.00
7. Sea Island Habitat for Humanity	\$ 1,229.00
8. Import Peace (olive oil, soap, zaatar)	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$19,475.00

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, and Jen Kareha. Thanks also go the Mission Team for providing the food, Barb Sanders for coordinating the games, Karen Breighner for obagging fishö all evening, 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 for serving at the öHelp Tableö, and Anne Kern, Kelly Jones and Melanie Keller 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 öaccountantö 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 Steve Reinheimer, Scott McPherson, Dave Wright, Lou Nyiri, and Libby Crowe.

As we close out the year 2010, 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

“10 Great Dates” Program Begins February 5th!

Come two, come all! All married couples in our church are invited to be part of a new exciting program called “10 Great Dates”. By combining fun dates and marriage education skills, couples take time out to build their marriages and enrich their relationships.

So how does this program work? It will be held on the first Saturday of each month starting February 5th. All couples who have signed up will meet as a group to watch a short DVD on one particular aspect of marriage, then you go out on a date! With your spouse! That’s it! Childcare will be offered at the church by members of our Mid-SHIP program.

Topics for each month include “Choosing a High-Priority Marriage,” “Finding Unity in Diversity,” “Resolving Honest Conflict,” “Building A Creative Love Life,” “Balancing Your Roles As Partner and Parent,” and others.

To sign up, fill out the tear-off below and return it to the church office, or sign up in Fellowship Hall on any Sunday in January. The cost is \$12.00 for one participant’s guide for each couple. Any questions, call Phyllis Dowd in the church office (334-1235 ext. 5) or Bob Remaley (642-8334).

P.S. By the way, husbands, this is a great Valentine’s gift for your wife. Nothing to buy, nothing to wrap, everything to gain!

NAME _____ PHONE # _____ EMAIL _____

- Yes, we would like to participate in “10 Great Dates”.
- We would like to reserve childcare for Feb. 5.
- Please contact us with more information.

Presbyterian Women 2010 Gift Recipients

Again this year, Presbyterian Women have been blessed by the generous giving from members and friends of our church. Adding these donations to income from our semi-annual Rummage Sales has allowed us to make the following gifts to organizations and groups that provide a wide range of services to those in need. We also support missions in our own church and meet our annual commitment to PW of the Presbytery. **Thank you for helping make all of this possible.**

PW of the Presbytery (Ongoing Mission of the Church Worldwide and support for the Church Worldwide Coordinating Team)	\$2,800
ACOFA (Faith in Action)	200
Burden Bears	250
GPC – Mexico Mission Trip	500
Samaritan Fund	300
S. Dakota Mission Trip	500
Youth Work Camp Scholarship	500
Habitat for Humanity	250
HART	200
Heritage Comfort Quilts	50
Holiday Family Outreach	200
PW Sewing Circle	100
Salvation Army	200
SCCAP (Homeless)	300
Survivors	500
The Okellos	500
Write from the Heart	200
Total	\$7,550

Need Any More Coffee or Cocoa?

We have the following left over
from the Christmas Fair:

8	Toffee Caramel Coffee
7	French Vanilla Coffee
4	Hazelnut Crème Coffee
4	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!

NEW ARRIVALS:

Congratulations to:

Tim & Ande Flagg on the birth of
their second child, a son, Jon
Bennett Flagg on December 11, 2010.

Robert & Elizabeth Farnham on the birth
of their daughter, Laura Lambros Farnham,
on December 27, 2010.



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. Forty children attended as we told the Christmas Story, sang, and completed a craft. The children then sang "Happy Birthday" to Jesus before blowing out candles and eating decorative cupcakes. Each child received a "Story of Jesus" cube and a Nativity picture to color, plus goodies for their gift bag. My very special thanks go to Nichol Fake who planned and coordinated the craft, gift bags, decorations and volunteers for the party. Also, thank you to Rachael Jones, Dustin Hare, Andrea Crowe, Pam Rowland, Trevor Meckley, Olivia Cowden, Kayla Hosterman, and Sydney and Alexis Tomassini for all of their help with our party, and Amy Tomassini for providing the cupcakes. See you next year!

—Blessings, Phyllis

Upcoming Events:

January Music Schedule

Jan. 9	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
Jan. 16	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir
Jan. 23	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bell Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Bell Choir Youth Choir
Jan. 30	8:15 a.m.	Early Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir

HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

January

Jan. 9	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship
Jan. 12 - Feb. 23	5:30 - 7:00	The "12" Wed. evenings
Jan. 16	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship
Jan. 23	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship
Jan. 30	12:15 - 3:30 p.m.	Roller Skating at Magic Elm
February 6	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	*SouperBowl Game

* Information will be given out at Jan. SHIP meetings.

MidSHIP Schedule

January

Jan. 9	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship/Games
Jan. 16	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship/Games
Jan. 23	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship/Games
Jan. 30	12:15 - 3:30 p.m.	Roller Skating at Magic Elm
February 6	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	*SouperBowl Game

* Information to follow.

Exploring Membership Class:

Sunday, January 23

12noon - 4:00 p.m.

If you are interested in learning more about GPC, plan to attend the Exploring Membership Class on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 23. Following a lunch together, 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, Session will meet to receive new members at 4:00 p.m. Childcare is available. Call the church office (334-1235) if you are planning to attend.



REACH Workcamp is returning to Adams County to repair homes (must be a homeowner-not rental property). The repairs are done for no charge by compassionate youth supervised by adults. Youth pay their own way, travel from around the country, and will live in the New Oxford school for one week to help our citizens in our community who cannot afford the home repairs themselves. We are fortunate to have this organization return to Adams County and they are looking for applicants. They need low-income homeowners to fill out the very short form. For an application, or if you know of anyone who would qualify, please contact the church office at 334-1235.

In case of inclement weather...

- In case of inclement weather, here's what you can do to find out about any change in plans at the church:
- We will try to notify everyone by email who has signed up for our congregational notification system.
 - You can call the church office (334-1235, ext. 2) and listen for updated information.
 - You can check the church website for updates.
 - You can check the following radio and TV stations. In some cases our information will only show up on the station website.

WGAL TV (News 8)- WGAL.com

ABC27 TV- abc27.com

WGTY (107.7) and WGET (1320) radio- wgyt.com and wget.com

PW CIRCLES

Elizabeth Circle

Monday, January 17, 1:00 p.m.
 Paideia House, 1st floor, front
 Hostesses: Faye Johns and
 Caroline Wintrode
 Study Leader: Jean Holder
 Lesson 4 & 5: Revelation 6; 7 - 8:5

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, January 17, 7:30 p.m.
 Hostess: Barb Fair
 294 Oak Lane
 Gettysburg, PA
 334-3839
 Study Leader: Sheryl Suplee
 Lesson 4 - Revelation 6

Esther Circle

Thursday, January 20, 9:30 a.m.
 Eisenhower Lounge at GPC
 Study Leader: Sue Kolmer
 Lesson 4 & 5: Revelation 7 - 8:5



Condolences:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Dan Snyder, Brandy Mosser, Seth Snyder and their family on the recent death of Susie Snyder.

All Church Luncheon & Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 30th 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) , 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 26th, 2011****

----- Tear off -----

All Church Lunch & Congregational Meeting

Name _____ will be attending the lunch and meeting.

I will have _____ in my party.

Mexico Mission Trip Meeting

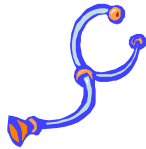
The Mexico Mission trip interest meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011 @ 7:30 p.m. in the MacAskill Room. Please come if you'd like to learn more about this exciting trip to the Yucatan!



Dates: July 19-26

Honduras Mission

Trip Meeting



There will be an informational meeting on January 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the MacAskill Room.

All individuals who are planning to go on the Honduras mission in June, 2011, or who are considering going on this mission are highly encouraged to attend.

Young at Heart

January 13, 2011 at 12:00 Noon

Our January meeting will be a 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, Curt Musselman, President of Historic Gettysburg and Adams County, Inc. will give a presentation on "The Barns of Adams County."

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 10th.



South Dakota Mission Trip Meeting

January 30, 2011 @ 6:30 p.m.

A meeting for all those interested in this year's South Dakota Mission Trip will be held on Sunday, January 30 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 14-24, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis or Penny in the church office 334-1235, ext. 5. Hope to see you January 30!

New Adult Sunday School Course "A Brief History of Protestantism in the United States"

Rev. Paul Wilson will teach a five-week course on "A Brief History of Protestantism in the United States" beginning January 9 and continuing through February 6, 2011. It will be held in the MacAskill Room at 9:30 each Sunday. The course will look at some general timelines of the Protestant church in our country, as well as topics such as the Scopes Monkey trial and its impact, the definition of Evangelicalism and the rise of Pentecostalism.

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 Cheryl Gochenauer, 337-0406.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Next Newsletter Deadline:
Noon, Thursday, January 13, 2011**

JANUARY 2011	
GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE	
Traditional Services @ 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.	
Contemporary Service @ 9:30 a.m.	
1/9	Jeremiah Series: Called For a Purpose
1/16	Jeremiah Series: Ultimate Security
1/23	Jeremiah Series: The Price of Peace
1/30	Jeremiah Series: Disappointment with God