



RECENT SCENES AT GPC

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From the Heart of Pastor Mary Beth

MANY BLESSINGS

News and MORE News!

Friends, God is good. All the time. We see God's goodness so clearly, so sweetly, when things are going well for us. It's sometimes harder to experience God's goodness in the more challenging moments of life, or in the in-between times when we are waiting for something to be resolved.

But, though it may be hard to see or experience, God's goodness is still there. God is good. ALL the time.

I want to remind you of the change in our Sunday morning schedule, beginning this month on July 7. I hope to see you in worship, either at 8:45 or 11:15 a.m. In the fall, we will have a full program of classes and groups at the 10:00 hour, but during the summer months we will be highlighting a variety of fellowship activities at 10:00. On July 7, we will have an ice cream social! God is so good!

And the news gets even better. The Session has called a congregational meeting for July 21, following the 11:15 service, for the purpose of hearing a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee, and acting on their recommendation. The PNC has identified a candidate (who cannot be named until July 21) who will preach both services that morning. At 10:00, Congregational Life Ministry will host a reception to introduce the candidate to the church. Again, the formal meeting to call a new pastor will take place after the 11:15 service.

The PNC has worked hard on your behalf for over a year. They have read a hundred resumes and listened to almost as many sermons. They have prayed and listened and prayed some more. I know that you will join me in thanking Mary Spencer and Bob Wasik (co-chairs), Yaw Obeng, Carole Tukes, Andy Pollack, Jeff Hildebrant, Kris Maldarelli, Annette Ward, and Rev. Ed Taylor (presbytery liaison) for their faithful, prayerful ministry. God is good. All the time. All the time. God is good.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence
Associate Pastor
mlawrence@gpchurch.org

CONNECT WITH GPC!

 www.gpchurch.org

 Find Us on Facebook:
Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church

 (301) 948-9418

 (301) 869-3043



STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

GAITHERSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Telephone: 301-948-9418 | Fax: 301-869-3043 | Website: www.gpchurch.org

- The Rev. Dr. D. Jay Losher, *Interim Senior Pastor* jloser@gpchurch.org
- The Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence, *Associate Pastor* mlawrence@gpchurch.org
- The Rev. Jacob Rodawla, *Parish Associate* rodawla@hotmail.com
- Bill Wisnom, *Director of Music and Worship Arts* bwisnom@gpchurch.org
- Carrie Larsen, *Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries* clarsen@gpchurch.org
- Carolyn Hayes, *Director of Children and Young Families* chayes@gpchurch.org
- Lisa Lee, *Accounting Manager* accountingmanager@gpchurch.org
- Andy Gosnell, *Facilities Manager* agosnell@gpchurch.org
- Jimilee Kalu, *Office Manager* jkalu@gpchurch.org
- Jenna Obermiller Bruni, *Communications Manager* jobermiller@gpchurch.org

GAITHERSBURG PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN STAFF

Telephone: 301-977-5787 | Website: www.gppk.com

- Amy Smith, *Director* school@gppk.com
- Cathy Fantacci, *Administrative Assistant* schooloffice@gppk.com

The Mainstream is published monthly by Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church, 610 South Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877-1297. The newsletter is a product of GPC's Communications Committee, Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence and Jenna Obermiller Bruni, staff liaisons. Copies are available in the church's Narthex and Main Office. **Copy deadline is by the 15th of each month unless otherwise specified. Submit material electronically to Jenna Obermiller Bruni, Communications Manager, at jobermiller@gpchurch.org.**

MORE BLESSINGS | *From the Congregational Life Ministry*

Because of the adjustment to the Sunday morning worship schedule beginning on July 7, **Sunday Coffee Fellowship will now be held following the 8:45 and 11:15 worship services.**

With the support and generous contributions of the Angel Network, the Congregational Life Ministry coordinates a variety of activities and events. To join the Angel Network, contact Shari McCann at shari.mccann@yahoo.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JULY



KEY ● Sunday Coffee Fellowship ● Ministry of the Week ● Receptions ● Seasonal Events ● Special Recognition

NEW WORSHIP/EDUCATION/FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINNING JULY 7, 2019

8:45	First Worship Service
10:00	Education/Fellowship/Small Groups
11:15	Second Worship Service

Why change? We are making this change, in part, because of declining worship attendance over the last 25 years, but mostly because of the growing consensus that God is calling GPC to spend more time building relationships with one another in the body of Christ. Surveys, focus groups, and the February Series all say, "We want to know and love one another the way Jesus taught his disciples to do."

Why now? We want to be ready for the new pastor. Having two services that are more fully attended is attractive to visitors and communicates the message, "These people are alive with God." Having church members who attend both worship and education/fellowship/small groups says, "We value our life in Christ and want to grow in our connections with God and with one another."

Copies of the report made to Session are available in the Narthex.
This report includes feedback and suggestions made by the congregation
at the Town Hall Meetings on May 5.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS' MINISTRY

*Please keep our Youth in your prayers for safe travels
and memorable experiences as they participate in Mission Trips
in the United States and Costa Rica.*



CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG FAMILIES' MINISTRY

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 11:15

- **Beginning on July 7: Children's Summer Sunday School** – Children will sit with their parents in the Sanctuary during the first part of the service. Starting on July 14, teachers will escort the children to Fellowship Hall after the opening of the Mystery Box. Parents should pick up their children there and sign them out.

Looking ahead to Fall:

- Beginning in **September**, Children's Sunday School will be at **10:00** – the same time as Adult Education classes and Small Group meetings.
- Following the *Time with Children* at **11:15**, children may attend the worship service with their parents. Children in 3rd Grade and younger will be escorted to Godly Play by their teachers; 4th and 5th Graders will remain in the Sanctuary with their parents.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- **Fridays, July 5 and August 2, 7:00–9:00 p.m. – Family Night at the Movies** – Lindsay Hall
- **Sunday, July 7, 10:00 a.m. – Ice Cream Social** – Lindsay Hall
Come enjoy some ice cream and time set aside for fellowship and catching up!
- **Monday, July 8, through Friday, July 12, 9:00 a.m. to noon** – Vacation Bible School
Our theme this year is "To Mars and Beyond." *Note: VBS registration is now closed.*
- **Sunday, July 14, 10:00 a.m. – VBS Mission Tithe Presentation and Slide Show** – Lindsay Hall
Children from VBS will present their mission tithe to Carrie Larsen and the Youth Group to support the group's upcoming international trip. Also, the Youth Group will present a slide show covering some of their past international mission trips.
- **Monday, July 15, 7:00 p.m. – Children and Young Families Committee Meeting** – Carolyn's office
- **Sunday, July 21, 10:00 a.m. – GPC Mission Experience** – Lindsay Hall
What better way to get to know one another than working side by side on mission projects to benefit local organizations? These projects are designed for everyone from 8 to 80+.
- **Sunday, July 28, 10:00 a.m. – Our Stories** – Lindsay Hall
An interactive experience with people of all ages and from all cultures. Through asking and answering questions about our shared experiences, we will learn about the stories of others.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **Saturday, August 31 – Sunday, September 1
Greenbrier Family Camping Weekend**
For more details, see the flyer at primelabel.com/gpc.pdf or contact Kwang Choi (khchoi3@gmail.com) or Fred Mosher (camgua@verizon.net).
- **Sunday, September 8, 10:00–11:00 a.m.,
Rooms 32/33 – Back-to-School Open House**
This event is for parents and children in pre-kindergarten through 5th Grade.



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS (FOURTHNIGHT)

Kids Club programming will resume in September.

Carolyn Hayes

Director of Children and Young Families
chayes@gpchurch.org





MUSIC NOTES

O CLAP YOUR HANDS,
ALL YE PEOPLE!

One hotly debated issue that many churches wrestle with is the subject of applause in worship. Some object to the practice entirely while others are eager to applaud whenever they are moved. Ultimately, I believe it comes down to motive; applauding with the intention of praising a musician is much different than clapping to make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

J.S. Bach, who is arguably the greatest composer of western music, concluded each of his works with the phrase "Soli Deo Gloria," which translates into English as "Glory to God alone." Bach's message is clear—in the house of the Lord, all praise belongs to God and God alone. Therefore, I invite you who are moved to applaud in worship to remember the phrase "Soli Deo Gloria" and offer all applause to the one who is worthy of all praise, not the musician making a musical offering. Soli Deo Gloria!

Bill Wisnom

Director of Music and Worship Arts
bwisnom@gpchurch.org

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN JULY & AUGUST

As disciples of Christ at GPC, we are called to grow in our faith and knowledge of God. The Adult Education program offers a range of opportunities to learn, discuss, and share in a small group atmosphere. Two classes will continue to meet and one class will take a break.

SUNDAY MORNINGS Rooms 205 and 206

10:00 "The Imitation of Christ" | Liz Holdridge – *Will continue to meet in July & August*

10:00 The Present Word: Our Love for God | John Coburn – *Will continue to meet in July & August*

10:00 The Bible as a Whole: Romans | Sue Farrand, Stuart Hayes – *Will resume meeting in September*

SIGN UP FOR THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERFAITH 5K!

As a symbol of interfaith respect, Shaare Torah Jewish Community, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, and the Islamic Society of the Washington Area are again partnering to host the annual Montgomery County Interfaith 5K on **Labor Day, September 2**, at the **Maryland Soccerplex Dairy Mooseum, 18028 Central Park Circle, Boyds, MD**. Their goal is to bring together communities of faith so that people from diverse backgrounds can share a fun and health-promoting activity, teach tolerance through exposure and friendship, and enjoy one another's company.



Registration Fees

- Online, 7/1 – 8/16: \$30, credit cards accepted
- Online, 8/17 – 9/1*: \$35, credit cards accepted
*Registration closes on 9/1 at 8:00 p.m.
- Walk-up, 9/2: \$40, cash or check only!

Other Options to Support the Event

If you're not a runner, you can also support the event financially or through in-kind donations (*see the Sponsorship page for information*).

Volunteer Opportunities to Help With the Race

There are jobs for adults and teens, and SSL hours are available! An online sign-up sheet will be available in August.

For detailed information about this event, go to mocointerfaith5k.org.



VERY IMPORTANT PRESBYTERIAN SENIORS {VIPS}

Thursday, July 4 | 4:00–7:00 p.m. | Clubhouse at the Villas at Asbury Methodist Village – 400 Russell Avenue
Annual Fourth of July Party

Let's come together to celebrate the birthday of our country with fellowship, good food, and patriotic songs and activities! Please bring an entrée, side dish, or dessert to contribute to the potluck dinner.



Questions or new to VIPS? Contact Nancy Sanders at 301-963-1357.

Note: VIPS will be on vacation during August – *there will be no regular meeting.*

Our next meeting is September 5.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Saturdays, July 6 and August 3
8:00 a.m. | The Airport Café

Our summer meetings will be held at The Airport Café in the Gaithersburg Airpark. Come for breakfast and fellowship, and watch the airplanes take off and land. (Attendees pay for their own breakfasts.) Contact Ted at tfarrand@comcast.net.



CRAFT GROUP

Sunday, July 7 | 12:15 p.m. | Rooms 30/31

Bring your lunch and come join the fun as we sew, crochet, and knit. Start or finish projects! There are also ongoing needs for small knitted/crocheted animals, lap robes, and prayer shawls. Patterns are available for these projects. If you have a special project in mind, would like a materials list, or have questions, contact Barbara Clark, 240-988-9572 or bellbarb@yahoo.com.

Our next meeting is August 4.



2ND FRIDAY BOOK CLUB

Friday, July 19 | 7:30 p.m. | Spencer Hall

We will discuss Chapters 2 & 3 of *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo and Michael Eric Dyson. All are welcome, whether or not you've started reading the book. If you're attending for the first time, contact Cindy Cennam (cennamlee@gmail.com) so that you can be notified of any meeting changes.

Our next meeting is August 9.



GPC EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP



Those seeking employment opportunities are encouraged to take advantage of the various resources posted at www.gpchurch.org/esg. If you wish to be added to the ESG distribution list, need additional employment support, or have job openings and other suggestions to share with job seekers, contact Clara Pratt at pratt6901@comcast.net.



CHURCH LIBRARY NOTES

by Linda Hastings

A wide variety of books will continue to be on display in the church library during July and August. Stop by often and see what you might enjoy reading this summer.



JULY 2019 EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 REV. DR. D. JAY LOSHER PREACHING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 12:15 PM	1	2	3	4 JULY 4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED VIPS 4:00 PM Clubhouse at the Villas at Asbury	5 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT 7:00 PM	6 MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST 8:00 AM The Airport Café in Gaithersburg Airpark
7 REV. DR. D. JAY LOSHER PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM Communion CRAFT GROUP 12:15 PM	8  VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9:00 AM—Noon	9  VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9:00 AM—Noon	10  VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9:00 AM—Noon	11  VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9:00 AM—Noon	12  VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9:00 AM—Noon	13
14 REV. DR. D. JAY LOSHER PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM	15 CHILDREN AND YOUNG FAMILIES MEETING 7:00 PM	16	17	18	19 2ND FRIDAY BOOK CLUB 7:30 PM	20
21 PNC CANDIDATE PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 12:15 PM	22	23	24	25	26 COOKING FOR MCCH MEN'S SHELTER 11:00 AM	27 GOOD GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP 10:00 AM
28 REV. MARY BETH LAWRENCE PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM	29	30	31	1	2 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT 7:00 PM	3 MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST 8:00 AM The Airport Café in Gaithersburg Airpark



THE GREAT COMMISSION FOR DUMMIES (LIKE ME) |

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:19–20)

The Great Commission. It was always the holy grail of mission, the pinnacle of evangelism, the hallmark of kingdom work. I memorized it, I quoted it, I exegeted it . . . but for years I had no idea how to actually do it.

But I'm learning. Here's what the Great Commission means to me now:

Make Disciples – I always thought that this meant sitting down one on one with someone, reading the Bible with them, praying with them, asking them how their life is going, and tracking/monitoring the progress of their faith. Well, that's not a bad model; would that more of this would happen. But I'm realizing that it can take many other forms, because, at its most basic form, it means to train (just as our Vision Statement says: "training people to share His life everywhere we go.") This means helping someone do or live like you do.

Baptizing/Sprinkling – A sacrament. Prayer over water. These are the usual associations. But this is simply a symbolic ritual of the actual "baptizing" that happens when someone is initiated into a community; becoming part of a new community is, in fact, what baptism entails. Has someone joined you in the Rebuilding Together project? Are they following you to a Vacation Bible School week? They are being "baptized" into your network.

Teaching Them to Obey – Again, a Sunday School classroom, curriculum, and attendance records are the usual association. But this phrase simply describes learning a new skill or discipline—how to hit a ball with a bat, how to treat your spouse, or how to begin your day with meditation. This is people imitating your way of life – that's it!

"Making disciples" happens when people are learning how to live life from you and are becoming a part of your spiritual community.

Is someone learning a life practice by watching you? Are they joining you as you participate with the body of Christ? Don't look now, but you are discipling!

Norm Gordon is a Bridge Leader serving as a GPC Missionary in Central Montgomery County among the unchurched. For more information, contact him at ngordon0522@gmail.com.



MEET THE CANDIDATE!

Class of 2022

TRUSTEE



FRANCIE WHITLOCK

I was born in the Pennsylvania town of Vandergrift, northeast of Pittsburgh, and was raised in the Methodist church. Later, as a young adult, I converted to Presbyterianism. In 1975, after moving to Montgomery County, I began to attend Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church. I joined in 1979, and my husband, Ward, and three sons are also members of GPC.

I have participated extensively in activities at GPC. I sang in the choir, was elected Elder, and have chaired the Congregational Care and Witness Ministries and the Nominating and Communications Committees. I've also served on the Personnel and Administration Ministries. Presently I serve on the Communications Committee and Congregational Life Ministry. I participate in and have enjoyed GPC's Sunday School classes, which have deepened my understanding of the Lord and how to be a better Christian. I am also a member of a covenant group.

I have more than 32 years' experience in real estate. I've helped buyers find wonderful homes, sellers get the most from their investment, and agents become more focused on making their business successful doing it God's way.

I'm looking forward to continuing to apply my skill set to praising the Lord and moving forward with His mission for GPC.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, June 30 | 12:15 PM
Sanctuary

Members will vote for the Elder, Deacon, and Trustee nominees for the Class of 2022.

Bios for Elder and Deacon nominees were published in the June Mainstream.

MIZO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH INVITATION

The Mizo congregation, which worships at GPC on Sunday afternoons, has invited members of GPC to join them at any of their Silver Anniversary celebration activities listed below.

SATURDAY, JULY 20

9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Barbecue at Black Hill
Regional Park in Boyds

4:30–5:30 p.m.
Light Dinner at GPC

6:00–8:30 p.m.
Celebration Service at GPC

SUNDAY, JULY 21

2:00–4:00 p.m.
Worship Service at GPC

5:30–6:30 p.m.
Dinner at GPC

7:30–9:00 p.m.
Worship Service at GPC

RSVP to the Jubilee Celebration Committee at jubileempc@gmail.com.



UPDATE ON



The Equipping Disciples Ministry is organizing Small Groups for individuals who have completed forms to participate. Those who indicated their interest in leading Small Groups will attend leader training over the summer.

Dates and times that the groups will meet will be set up over the next few months, based primarily on availability and secondarily on area of interest. Small Groups are scheduled to begin meeting in the fall, at the start of the 2019–2020 program year.

*It's not too late to sign up
to participate in Small Groups!*

Contact Carolyn Hayes
at chayes@gpchurch.org.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Congratulations
to
Ray & Linda Carricaburu
on
50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE
April 26, 1949



HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY!

Congratulations
to
Lucile Rawcliffe
(Linda Carricaburu's mother)
June 3, 1919

HELP COOK FOR THE MCCH MEN'S SHELTER!



We cook hot breakfasts that are delivered to the MCCH men's shelter in Rockville. 200 residents receive hot breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday!

Friday, July 26

11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the GPC kitchen

IMPORTANT: PLEASE RSVP so that we know how many helpers to plan for. Sign up at kind-works.org/news/new-project-help-cook-hot-weekend-breakfasts-mens-shelter or contact Denise Schleckser at dschleckser@verizon.net.

Spaces fill up quickly!



WE'VE MOVED!

Please note this new information in your church directory.

Kristina & William Bodner

240-506-8873
10212 Coolfont Crossing
New Market, MD 21774-6803

Emmanuel Mbaiti

301-640-1501
8308 McCullough Lane, #204
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-1125

Martha Ngong

240-421-4255
9733 Lake Shore Drive
Montgomery Village, MD 20886-4264



STOCK AND SECURITIES DONATIONS

GPC has opened a new account with Merrill Lynch to facilitate the sale of donated securities, replacing the previous broker. Anyone wishing to give stock or other securities to GPC should contact Lisa Lee, GPC Accounting Manager at accountingmanager@gpchurch.org, for details and processing instructions.

ARE YOU SOCIAL?

Find/follow/like GPC on social media!

facebook.com/GaithersburgPresbyterianChurch

instagram.com/gpchurch_moco

twitter.com/GPChurch_Moco

FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

May 2019

	2019 YTD	% OF BUDGET
INCOME		
Worship Offering	\$417,830	41%
Rent	\$22,668	47%
Other Income	\$4,514	48%
Total	\$445,013	42%
EXPENSE		
NCP Membership	\$14,918	50%
Human Resources	\$235,207	38%
Buildings & Grounds	\$115,095	50%
Office & Administration	\$22,775	45%
Community Engagement	\$37,679	38%
Equipping Disciples	\$7,535	30%
Vital Worship	\$696	9%
Congregational Life	\$2,737	36%
Total	\$436,642	41%
NET	\$8,370	

To request a complete financial summary, email accountingmanager@gpchurch.org.

GPC MEDIA POLICY

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church (GPC) uses print and digital media of church life in communications materials to share the ministry of GPC with our congregation and community at large. GPC reserves the right to use any media taken at any activity sponsored by GPC, without the express written consent of those individuals included within the media. GPC may use any such media in publications, social media, and any website.

SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to share a family milestone, please submit material electronically to jobermiller@gpchurch.org on or before the 15th of each month.



THE MAINSTREAM

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church
610 South Frederick Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-1297

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT U.S.
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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (July 8–12)



OUR VISION AND MISSION

GPC is called by God to be: A global, caring community of faith, centered in Jesus Christ, training people to share His life everywhere we go.

Our top three priorities are:

- To worship the Lord with heart, soul, mind and strength
- To engage our neighbors in central Montgomery County
- To equip each generation for Christian discipleship