



RECENT SCENES AT GPC

IN THIS ISSUE

New Worship/Education/
Fellowship Schedule 3

Discipleship/Stewardship 5

August 2019 Calendar 7

Meet the New Elder
Nominee..... 8

Fall Mission Trip to
Cumberland 9

Update on Small Groups 9

The Good Grief Group 9



From the Heart of Pastor Jay

FAREWELL AND SUCCESS!

It is with bittersweet emotion that Susan and I bid farewell to Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church. The calling of Rev. Mary Austin, the much anticipated Senior Pastor, naturally requires that I, the Interim Pastor, vacate the office. For a new pastor to move in, I must move on.

It is not as if Susan and I leave into unemployment oblivion. We have been offered and accepted a call to begin another interim pastorate at Massanutten Presbyterian Church in Shenandoah Presbytery, just one Presbytery to the west and south of National Capital.

We leave with innumerable strong and positive memories. Our time here has been one of joy and fulfillment. More than 2-1/2 years ago, you greeted us with open arms and invited us into your fellowship. We were made to feel the most at home we have ever felt in any other interim. It has been a blessed sojourn for both of us.

We have walked together through a serious and deep discernment process. We have wrestled together with what is GPC's call from God, not yesterday, last year, or last decade, but today and into God's future. It is a tough question but, like Jacob and the angel, you have taken the process seriously and wrestled the question to completion.

I wish to thank the Session members over these three classes, who have sought the Spirit's leadership, held to the course so diligently, and formed the leadership core leading the discernment groups. The PNC has worked long and hard on your behalf—over a year in fact—to bring the name of a candidate before you. And I especially wish to thank the Strategic Planning Committee, which has done the lion's share of the heavy lifting in the mission visioning part of the process.

May God continue to bless GPC into God's glorious future.

The Rev. Dr. D. Jay Losher
Interim Senior Pastor
jloser@gpchurch.org

CONNECT WITH GPC!



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*

Sunday Coffee Fellowship follows 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 AUGUST



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



NEW WORSHIP/EDUCATION/FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

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

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS' MINISTRY

*Please keep our Youth in your prayers
for safe travels back to the U.S.
as they return from their
Mission Trip to Costa Rica.*



ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION THIS SUMMER

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.

SUNDAY MORNINGS Rooms 205 and 206

- 10:00** "The Imitation of Christ" | Liz Holdridge – *Will continue to meet in August*
- 10:00** The Present Word: Our Love for God | John Coburn – *Will continue to meet in August*
- 10:00** The Bible as a Whole: Romans | Sue Farrand, Stuart Hayes – *Will resume meeting in September*



FOURTHNIGHT CLASSES AND CONVERSATIONS

Beginning again in September, plan to set aside your Wednesday nights for dinner, fellowship, and a new series of adult programs and Small Groups!

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG FAMILIES' MINISTRY



THANK YOU, THANK YOU to ALL of our wonderful volunteers who helped with Vacation Bible School in July!

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:00

- **September 1 – Labor Day Weekend** – Take your parents to church at 8:45 or 11:15!
No Children's Sunday School.
- **September 8 – First day of Children's Sunday School for 2019–2020** (all together in Rooms 30/31)
- **September 8 – Parent Coffee and Meet/Greet** in Rooms 32/33
This event is for parents and children in pre-kindergarten through 5th Grade.

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 11:15

- **August 4, 11, and 18 – Children's Summer Sunday School** – Children will sit with their parents in the Sanctuary during the first part of the service. After the children are dismissed, teachers will escort them to Fellowship Hall. Parents should pick up their children there and sign them out.
- **August 25** – Take your parents to church at 8:45 or 11:15! Last day of the Mystery Box during worship.
No Children's Sunday School.
- **September** – Children may attend the worship service in the Sanctuary with their parents. Following the *Time with Children*, those in 3rd Grade and younger will be dismissed to Sunday School; 4th and 5th Graders will remain in the Sanctuary with their parents for worship.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- **Friday, August 2** – Family Night at the Movies has been **POSTPONED** until **September 6**.
- **Saturday, August 31 – Sunday, September 1 – Greenbrier Family Camping Weekend** – Lindsay Hall
For more details, see the flyer at primelabel.com/gpc.pdf or contact Kwang Choi (khchoi3@gmail.com) or Fred Mosher (camgua@verizon.net).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **Monday, September 9, 7:00 p.m. – Meeting of Children and Young Families Committee** – Carolyn's office
(The agenda will be sent out in August but there will be no meeting on August 15.)
- **Sunday, September 29, 5:00–7:00 p.m. – Fifth Sunday Potluck** – Lindsay Hall



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS (FOURTHNIGHT)

FourthNight will resume on September 12, with dinner at 6:15 and programming at 7:00:

- Kids Club
- Adult Small Groups, Conversations, and Classes.
Details to follow.

Carolyn Hayes

Director of Children and Young Families
chayes@gpchurch.org



Vacation Bible School, July 2019





MUSIC NOTES

SUMMER MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Greetings! Summer is upon us, and we still have openings at the 8:45 service for instrumentalists and vocalists to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. If you are interested, please contact me.

Best wishes for a happy and blessed rest of the summer.

Bill Wisnom

Director of Music and Worship Arts
bwisnom@gpchurch.org

DISCIPLESHIP/STEWARDSHIP

August is traditionally a time of transition—a time to look back on what has occurred in our lives this year and what we will plan for the remainder of the year. We are still enjoying those lazy, more relaxed days of summer and know that we will soon be making arrangements for the fall. So it is here at GPC. We reflect on what has been and what will be, what we have done and what we will do, who we are and who we want to be, and what we have done and what we wish to do.

There are many programs and activities offered to and for the members of the church and the community. Primary is Sunday worship, a time of celebration and faith-sharing. Education, fellowship, outreach, support, service, and mission opportunities abound at GPC—youth and adult Sunday School, financial planning classes, the church library, Vacation Bible School, GPP&K, VIPS, Sunday coffee fellowship, Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Passover Seder, Dinners for Eight, FourthNight, SOME, MCCH Men's Shelter, SHES, youth and adult mission trips, Rebuilding Together Montgomery County, Feeding the 5000, Employment Support Group, and the list goes on!!

It is because of YOU that this happens. Being a disciple of the Lord requires you to spread His good news and His message. Your strong and steadfast commitment to the church professes this and enables these programs to flourish and allows new ones to be planned. And, of course, having a fully staffed leadership group and a building that is safe and welcoming are the foundation for these opportunities. With the calling of a senior pastor, new paths may be explored and new directions taken. It is an exciting time to be here, involved and engaged.

It is with a grateful heart and thankful spirit that we celebrate your faithfulness to the Lord and to GPC with your gifting of your time, talents, and resources. Your generosity enriches our lives and that of others.

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." —Proverbs 11:25

—*Sharon Mastroni*



VERY IMPORTANT PRESBYTERIAN SENIORS {VIPS}

VIPS will be on vacation during August. Our next meeting is Thursday, September 5.

Upcoming VIPS Activities | Save the Date!

Thursday, September 5: Presentation by GPC's own Roisin O'Hare – *A Success Story from the World of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities*

Thursday, November 21: Trip to Weisser Stained Glass Studio, Kensington, where each participant will be able to create a fused glass Christmas ornament or suncatcher

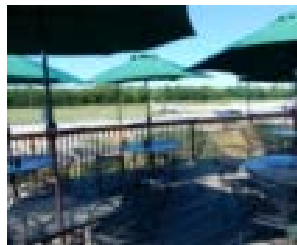
Saturday, December 7: Trip to Best Medicine Theater, Gaithersburg, for a 2:30 p.m. performance of *Crater Sisters Christmas Special*



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Saturday, August 3
8:00 a.m. | The Airport Café

This month's meeting 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 Farrand @ tfarrand@comcast.net.



Our next meeting is September 7 in Lindsay Hall.



CRAFT GROUP

Sunday, August 4 | 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 September 8.



2ND FRIDAY BOOK CLUB

Friday, August 9 | 7:30 p.m. | Spencer Hall

We will discuss Chapter 3 of our new book, *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo and Michael Eric Dyson. All are welcome, whether or not you've started reading the book or can attend meetings regularly. For more information, contact Cindy Cennam (cennamlee@gmail.com).

Our next meeting is September 13.



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 August. Stop by often and see what you might enjoy reading.



AUGUST 2019 EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 REV. MARY BETH LAWRENCE PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM						3 MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST 8:00 AM The Airport Café in Gaithersburg Airpark
4 REV. MARY BETH LAWRENCE PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM Communion CRAFT GROUP 12:15 PM					9 2ND FRIDAY BOOK CLUB 7:30 PM	
11 REV. MARY BETH LAWRENCE PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM						
18 REV. MARY BETH LAWRENCE PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM						24 GOOD GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP 10:00 AM
25 ELDER KRIS MALDARELLI PREACHING 8:45/11:15 AM					30 COOKING FOR MCCH MEN'S SHELTER 11:00 AM FAMILY CAMPING Greenbrier State Park	31 DAY AT THE LAKE Greenbrier State Park

MEET THE NEW ELDER NOMINEE FOR CLASS OF 2021!

Elder Charles Tchimou and his wife, Irene, are moving to Philadelphia, where he will begin studying for the ministry. Ann Hayes has accepted the nomination to complete the remainder of his term.

NOMINEE



ANN HAYES

I grew up in Bethesda and was blessed to have been raised in a multi-generational household that included my maternal grandmother, Sarah; my mother's sister, Barbara; my parents, Joe and Pixey Hayes; and my brother, Stuart. I graduated from Walter Johnson High School and the University of Maryland, and although my degree is in Elementary Education, I've spent most of my professional career working as a paralegal in the real estate, estate planning, and estate administration fields.

My home church was a small Baptist church in downtown Bethesda, where my mother served as Director of Christian Education for 14 years. I started singing in church choirs when I was in 3rd Grade and was very active in my Youth Group. Following my parents' examples, as an adult, I served on various boards and committees, including the Board of Christian Education and the Board of Deacons.

When my dad passed in 2013, I moved to Gaithersburg to be closer to my brother and his family. During their lifetimes, my parents and I had the opportunity to attend many services at GPC. Since it felt like a second home to me, it was with a joyful heart that I joined the church in 2015.

I currently serve the Lord at GPC by singing in the Chancel Choir, participating in a Sunday School class, and making baked goods for special occasions. It would be an honor and a privilege to serve the Lord and my brothers and sisters in Christ in this new and additional role as Elder.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERFAITH 5K!

Labor Day, September 2 | Maryland Soccerplex Dairy Mooseum, 18028 Central Park Circle, Boyds, MD



The goal of the churches sponsoring the race 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, 8/1 – 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 is now available.

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





MANY THANKS FROM THE GPC PRISON MINISTRY!

When Kingsley Anpoma and Gaelle Mensah renewed their wedding vows recently, a collection was taken to benefit the GPC Prison Ministry. These funds will be used to purchase items for the inmates at the jail in Clarksburg. May God bless Kingsley, Gaelle, and their family and friends who were so generous in their offering, which will be used to brighten the lives of the inmates.

—Mary Wasik



FALL MISSION TRIP

October 13–18 | Cumberland, MD

Join us for GPC’s Mission Trip #28 for rebuilding. The cost will be \$50/person for the agency for which we will work, plus \$10/day for food. We will stay at the First Presbyterian Church.

If you have questions and/or to sign up for the trip, contact Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence, 301-948-9418 or mlawrence@gpchurch.org, or Mary and Bob Wasik, 301-351-0614 or Marywasik2000@yahoo.com.

UPDATE ON



Small Groups are scheduled to begin meeting in the fall.

It's not too late to sign up! Contact Carolyn Hayes at chayes@gpchurch.org.



THE GOOD GRIEF GROUP

The Good Grief Group, which was started several years ago, met for several years, and then disbanded, has been reactivated recently. If you’ve suffered the loss of a loved one or some other loss that you’re dealing with, we invite you to come to GPC’s bereavement support group. We meet in Room 202 at 10:00 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of the month. We are a small group, typically 8 to 12 people, including a facilitator. Everyone has an opportunity to talk (or may refrain from talking, if they wish) and everything we say there stays there. Coffee, tea, and water are provided. For more information, contact John Slavcoff at jslavcoff@aol.com or 301-987-6903.

INTERFAITH WORKS WOMEN'S CENTER REQUEST

We can help the residents of the IWWC **GO GREEN** by donating new or used **flatware**, so that they can stop using (and then throwing away) plastic cutlery after every meal. Please email Denise Schleckser at dschleckser@verizon.net for a link to purchase from Amazon, or to donate flatware. Thank you!



It won't be long before GPC will be providing meals at the IWWC during Christmas week! Mark your calendars now for December 22–28. More information and online sign-up sheets will be provided later.



WE'VE MOVED!

Please note this new information in your church directory.

Ishmael Appiah*

(202) 534-2409

9533 Copps Hill Drive

Montgomery Village, MD 20886-0467

Mary Caruso*

(301) 977-3747

16401 Kipling Road

Derwood, MD 20855-1928

Mona Caruso*

(301) 977-3747

16401 Kipling Road

Derwood, MD 20855-1928

Tchipkam Nguebdob &

Marie Tchienang

(202) 704-9037

602 Eisenhower Drive

Frederick, MD 21703-8445

Merilee Worsey*

(301) 515-0027

18827 Summer Oak Court

Germantown, MD 20874-1944

**New Member*

HELP COOK FOR THE MCCH MEN'S SHELTER!



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

Friday, August 30

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!



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

The sympathy of our congregation is extended to the friends and family of

Rosalie Sidieu

on the death of her aunt,
Pauline Tchuekou,
in Cameroon
May 29, 2019

Jim Zammit

on the death of his mother,
Maria Margot Zammit,
in Silver Spring, Maryland
June 27, 2019

Amelia Hayes

on the death of her mother,
Mildred Piland,
in Virginia Beach, Virginia
July 6, 2019

Stacey Imboden

on the death of her mother,
Geri Fox,
in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
July 7, 2019

Alan Hayes

on the death of his sister,
Mary Ann Greene,
in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida
July 8, 2019

FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

June 2019

	2019 YTD	% OF BUDGET
INCOME		
Worship Offering	\$496,188	49%
Rent	\$22,668	47%
Other Income	\$4,769	51%
Total	\$523,625	49%

EXPENSE

NCP Membership	\$14,918	50%
Human Resources	\$286,148	47%
Buildings & Grounds	\$129,790	56%
Office & Administration	\$20,742	41%
Community Engagement	\$46,006	46%
Equipping Disciples	\$9,660	39%
Vital Worship	\$996	12%
Congregational Life	\$3,005	40%

Total \$511,266 **48%**

NET..... \$12,359

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

ARE YOU SOCIAL?

Find/follow/like GPC on social media!

 facebook.com/GaithersburgPresbyterianChurch

 instagram.com/gpchurch_moco

 twitter.com/GPChurch_Moco

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.
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Suburban Maryland
PERMIT NO. 10005



HOPE THAT YOU'RE HAVING A GOOD SUMMER!



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