

*Our sole purpose is to glorify God, proclaiming through word and deed the love and compassion of Jesus Christ. We trust God's Spirit to lead and nurture us in all our community and congregational endeavors. We desire that all who come through our doors find deeper faith, larger hope, and more complete love.*

**Service For The Lord's Day  
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
23 July 2017**

**We Assemble to Worship**

RINGING OF THE BELLS  
BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

\*\* PRELUDE "The Still, Small Voice" Lani Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\* THE CONGREGATION GATHERS  
Minister: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP (See hymn #453 for the text.)  
"Open Your Eyes, O Faithful People" YISRAEL V'ORAITH

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 139 (NRSV) Logan Dodson  
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me.  
2 **You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.**  
3 You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
4 **Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O LORD, you know it completely.**  
5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.  
6 **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**  
7 Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?  
8 **If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in She'ol, you are there.**  
9 If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
10 **even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**  
11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night,"  
12 **even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as  
bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.**  
23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my thoughts.  
24 **See if there is any wicked way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.**

Let us pray together: **Almighty God, creator of the universe, we are awed by your wondrous works and overwhelmed by your infinite wisdom. For all your majesty we praise you; yet even more, we rejoice that you do not forget us, that you want to know us, that you come to care for us, sisters and brothers of Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.**

Now let us join together in the prayer that our Lord taught us,  
**Our Father Who Art in Heaven ....**

\* HYMN 718 "Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said" BOURBON

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray: **All-loving God, who knows the secrets of our hearts even when they are a puzzle to us, we admit to you the problems in our natures. We are seldom satisfied with what we have in life. We long for what others have, though we would be bored with it if it were ours. We do not realize our real worth, and would like to be admired and famous. We often miss the simple gifts of everyday because we are searching for what we do not have. Teach us to wait before you in prayer. Open our eyes and ears to the beauty and mystery of what is ours. Give us wholeness in you kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* Silent Confession

\* KYRIE ELEISON *Lord, have mercy upon us;  
Christ, have mercy upon us;  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: We have the word of the scriptures that God loves us  
and wants only the best for us.

**People: God wants us to be whole and loving and at peace  
with ourselves.**

Leader: God has given us his Son to die on the Cross.

**People: Surely he has forgiven our sins and will heal our  
brokenness. Amen**

\* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

\*\* Commissioning of GMPC Leaders:  
Montreat Youth Conference  
Princeville, N.C. Mission Team

**We Proclaim the Word**

FIRST LESSON: Matthew 16:21-28 NT 18

\*\* CHILDREN'S PROCESSIONAL "This Is the Day" Les Garrett  
*"This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made."*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: "Solomon Was Just a Kid"

*(No worship readiness during July. Children will remain in worship with their parents.)*

ANTHEM "Seek and You Will Find" Natalie Sleeth

SECOND LESSON: 1 Kings 3:1-21 Message Bible

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE "A God Listening Heart" Rev. Jerry Bron

\* HYMN 421 "Have Mercy, God, Upon My Life" IRISH

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "Apostles' Creed" (Hymnal) pg. 35

PASTORAL PRAYER

**We Respond to God**

OFFERTORY Psalm 139 (See hymn #29 for the text.) B. Ferrell

*(Visitors, please fill out cards in pew rack and place in offering plate.)*

\* DOXOLOGY (Hymnal) No. 606

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**We Go Forth to Serve**

\* HYMN 450 "Be Thou My Vision" SLANE

\* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

"Go With Us, Lord" TALLIS CANON

\* TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

\* POSTLUDE "Teach Me Thy Way" Stewart Landon

\* Those who are able, please stand

\*\* Seating of worshippers

**We welcome our visitors today. If you wish more information about this congregation or the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), please speak with the minister. New members are received by 1) Re-Affirmation of Faith; 2) Transfer of Membership; and 3) by Profession of Faith and Baptism.**

During worship on Sunday, July 16, 2017, at the congregational meeting, the **Designated Pastor Nominating Committee (DPNC) was elected.** They are as follows: Bill Aiken, Justin Lockamy, Brenda Nordin, Lauren Perry, Darby Scott, Amelia Surratt, Paul Viser.

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS: **REMEMBER IN PRAYER...**

**HOSPITAL/ASSISTED LIVING**

Doc Fields – Southwood; Rm. 109  
Frances Hubbard - GlenAire  
Margaret Faircloth – Mary Gran; Rm. 715

**AT HOME**

Barbara Kerr  
Martha Dunn  
Tink Purcell  
Don Wilson  
Margaret Register  
Linda Williamson  
Geneva Matthis  
Betty Heaton

**OTHERS:**

*Angie Prucha – (Daughter of Edwin Danford)  
Betty Hairr – (Mother of Vickie Pope)  
Joyce Carlton – (Former GMPC member)  
Joe Butler – (Brother-in-law of Penny Horne)  
Juaweese Franklin – (Mother of Melissa Nimmo)  
Margaret Williamson – (Mother of Kermit Williamson, Dale Purcell & Wanda Coleman)*

July ushers are: David Brock, James Dodson, Logan Dodson,  
Curtis Lindsay, Neal Matthews, John Surratt

<b>Sunday, July 16, 2017 ~ I will be loyal to GMPC and support it with ...</b>		
<b>My Presence:</b>	Sunday School Attendance 41	~ Worship Attendance 103
<b>My Gifts:</b>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Tithes and Offerings	\$2,958.48	\$173,212.11
Building Fund Offerings	\$ 290.00	\$ 27,088.83
<b>Needed for the Church Budget:</b>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Operating Budget	\$4,504.63	\$130,634.27
Building Fund	\$1,525.38	\$ 44,236.02

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*THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY  
 OF WILLIAM TIMOTHY "LITTLE BUD" MATTHIS AND TIM MATTHIS BY  
 MRS. WILLIAM T. MATTHIS, MR. AND MRS. MARSHALL LEE,  
 MR. AND MRS. NATHAN HAMPTON AND MR.  
 AND MRS. DON HOLLINGSWORTH*  
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**July: (Wednesday's: Handbells (Summer Break)/Choir at 7:00 p.m.)**

- 23 - 7:00 p.m. - Session Meeting \*(Note change of date.)  
\*NO Diaconate meeting during the month of July.
- 26 - 1:45 p.m. - Staff Meeting  
6:30 p.m. - Summer Picnic #3  
7:00 p.m. - Designated Pastor Nominating Committee 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting  
7:30 p.m. - Choir meets at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays that have a dinner.
- 28 - 7:00 p.m. - Contradance at GMPC
- 30 - 11:00 a.m. - Worship (\*Sunday School weekly at 9:45 a.m., Adult Class: 9:30 a.m.)

**OTHER CONCERNS / LOOKING AHEAD . . .**

**GMPC SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL:** (Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. thru September 3, 2017.)  
**Adults: *The Reformation for Armchair Theologians by Glenn S. Sunshine.*** (The Adult Class will meet at \*9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.) **Youth: *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe; K-2nd & 3rd-5th: Journey Through the Lord's Prayer***

The **6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Summer Picnics (Covered Dish) are always a delightful treat!** Bring your favorite dishes - enough for your family plus one. The **July 26<sup>th</sup> Committee is as follows:** (Chairs: Mac Spell & Peggy Lindsay), Doris Hollingsworth, Joni Fay Fetterman, Janie Faircloth, Amelia Surratt, Betty Blue Packard, Erma Faircloth, Geneva Matthis, Charlotte Harrell, Sallie Adams, Glenice Webster, Alice Lockerman, Carol Wilson, Wanda Coleman, Mary David Morris; **August 9<sup>th</sup>** (Chairs: Ann Johnson & Allison Brock ).

***If it isn't Contra, it isn't Dancing! A Contradance is coming to GMPC!*** Contra dancing is close to square dancing. It is fun interaction, meeting people, and making new friends, all set to music. Want to know more? YouTube has a bazillion examples. It is our hope to begin a recurring event for Clinton & surrounding communities...everyone is welcome!

**First Dance: Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-10:00 p.m. A Dance for All Who Will: Young and Old, Live Dance Caller & Live Music!** A "Beginner/Introductory Session" at 7:00, Dance begins 7:30ish, until 10:00ish. This first event is free to everyone!

\*If you'd like to be put on the Contradance mailing list, email [melissagriffin@embarqmail.com](mailto:melissagriffin@embarqmail.com).

**Montreat Youth Conference & Princeville Mission Trip, July 30<sup>th</sup> – August 5<sup>th</sup>:** Please keep GMPC's Youth & Leaders in your prayers as they go forth to serve.

**The Christian Education Committee is seeking input from parents, who have children ages 3 through grade 12, concerning the direction they would like to see the church move in regard to Sunday School, Youth, and Presbycrew.** Please contact Mac Spell #592-8838, Mary Lou Faircloth #592-4174 or Myrtle Petty #592-3380 with your suggestions.

**The GMPC Prayer Quilt Ministry Is Seeking Volunteers!** The Prayer Quilt Ministry meets on the Third Tuesday of the month, at 9:30 a.m., approx. 6-7 times a year. Four quilts are prepared at each meeting, than sent home with a sewer to complete at home. The idea behind these quilts is simple, yet powerful. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is offered and symbolically tied into each quilt. Each "comforter" is a gift of love, a statement of faith and a testimony to our belief in God and the power of prayer. If you know how to sew, and would like more information on how you can be of service to this wonderful ministry, contact Bill Scott, Missions Chair, cell #990-3474.

**A special thank you** to Friends in Faith Ministry Group #5 for their hardwork in maintaining the beauty of GMPC, and to Hal Price for his hardwork at the Honeycutt Manse. The shrubbery and landscape look fabulous! Thank you!