

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
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
30 July 2017**

We Assemble to Worship

RINGING OF THE BELLS
BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

** PRELUDE "Rise Up and Serve the Lord" W. Walter/P.L. Harris

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!" LOUEZ LE SEIGNEUR

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 128 (NRSV) Gabriel Capparuccia
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

- 1 O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 **Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.**
- 3 Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 **Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.**
- 5 Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,
- 6 **O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**
- 7 He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.
- 8 **He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that
he commanded, for a thousand generations.**
- 9 the covenant that he made with Abraham,
his sworn promise to Isaac,
- 10 **which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant,**
- 11 saying, "To you I will give the land of Ca'naan
as your portion for an inheritance."
- 45 **that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws.
Praise the LORD!**

Let us pray together: **God of our salvation, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, you have fulfilled your promise to our ancestors in the faith to redeem the world from slavery and to lead us into the promised land. Grant us living water from the rock and bread from heaven, that we may survive our desert pilgrimage and praise you forever; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

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

* HYMN 385 "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" OLD HUNDREDTH

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray: **I ask to be forgiven, O Lord, for the hold of cynicism on my life; for the way I distrust the motives of others, attributing to them the darkness of my own thoughts; for the skepticism with which I hear the biblical word and the stories of others' faith; for my failure to believe that you can make my life new and beautiful this day, and cause me to live with power and joy. Sometimes my life is a misery, Lord, because of my unbelief. Help me to be committed to you, and to find delight and innocence through purity of heart. For your love's sake. Amen.**

* Silent Confession

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

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Our God is just, like the cleanness of the hills.

People: But he is also tender, like the heart of a mother beholding her child.

Leader: He will forgive our sin and pardon our iniquity.

People: He will bind up our wounds and pour oil on our troubled spirits.

Leader: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven all your wrongs.

People: Let us rise up in newness of life, and praise his name. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

We Proclaim the Word

FIRST LESSON: Matthew 20:1-16 NT 21

** 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: "Like A Kaleidoscope"

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

ANTHEM "Amazing Grace" arr. Jay Althouse

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 2:1-10 Message Version

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "What's So Annoying About Grace?" Dr. Jerry Bron

* HYMN 435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" IN BABILONE

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: **We believe that God is Spirit, and they that worship him must worship in spirit and in truth. We believe that God is Light, and that if we walk in his light, we have fellowship one with another. We believe that God is Love, and that everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that in him we have life now and forever. We believe that as Christ loves us, so we must love one another. And we believe that salvation and glory and power belong to our God who reigns forever and ever. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

We Respond to God

OFFERTORY "God of Grace" with "Grace Greater than Our Sin"
Getty/Rea/Fettke

(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 33 "Praise the Lord! Gods' Glories Show" LLANFAIR

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
"Thou Art the King of Mercy and of Grace" TOULON

* TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

* POSTLUDE "Te Deum Laudamus" (Praise to God) C. Nordman

* 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.

*THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY
OF KATHERINE MCMILLAN FULTON, RICHARD WARREN TANNER
AND MATTHEW TANNER FULTON BY THE FAMILY*

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
Diane Westerbeek

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)
Jay Pope - (Father of Susan Westerbeek)
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

July/August: (Wednesday's: Handbells 6:00 p.m./Choir at 7:00 p.m.)

- 02 - 6:00 p.m. - Handbells; 7:00 p.m. Choir
- 06 - 11:00 a.m. - Worship (*Sunday School weekly at 9:45 a.m., Adult Class: 9:30 a.m.)
- 09 - 1:45 p.m. - Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. - Summer Picnic #4 (Last)
- 7:30 p.m. - Choir meets at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays that have a dinner.
- 13 - 11:00 a.m. - Worship (*Sunday School weekly at 9:45 a.m., Adult Class: 9:30 a.m.)
- 3:00 p.m. - Summer Concert Series

OTHER CONCERNS / LOOKING AHEAD . . .

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

Thank you to Jeff Warren, David Brock & the GMPC Youth for organizing the French Toast Breakfast Fundraiser held on Sunday, July 16, 2017. Working together we raised \$847.00 to go towards the GMPC Building Fund!

It's Time to Update Annual Directories/Service Lists ... Now through July 31st.

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 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.

The remaining **Wednesday Night Summer Picnic @ 6:30 p.m.** is as follows: **August 9th** (Chairs: Ann Johnson & Allison Brock), Debbie Sinclair, Diane Westerbeek, Lisa Spell, Hollis White, Nita Aiken, Debbie Martin, Melissa Nimmo, Shannon Sinclair, Susan Westerbeek, Mary Stephenson, Joan Carr, Joan Lee, Mariana Sanderson, Natalie Sanderson, Mary Carol Todd.

Summer Concert Series: Please make plans to attend GMPC's Summer Concert Series. Each concert will be at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. GMPC is presenting this series as a way to engage the Clinton community, so please invite your friends and neighbors.

August 13th: The Duplin Dulcimers, folk/mountain music.

September 10th: The Clinton Ringers Handbell Concert.

Calling all Men! The Graves Memorial Men's Chorus will be singing September 3rd for worship. We will have a couple of rehearsals in late August. Please consider lending your voices to the Chorus for this event. See Sean or Lara Capparuccia after worship if you are interested and would like more information.

Copies of **These Days,** July - September, are available in the narthex & outside the church office.

Columbarium Committee to be formed. The Session has approved the formation of a committee to gather specific information about a columbarium for GMPC. This committee should be representative of our membership but is open to anyone interested in serving. Our first meeting will be in late August; the date and time of which will be determined by the majority of those who volunteer to join us. The committee will report findings and recommendations back to the Session and the duties will be threefold: 1) Determine the location, design and layout of the proposed columbarium and associated memorial garden. 2) Provide the economic and financial justification for construction cost, maintenance and on-going care with the stipulation this project will not pull funds from our operating account. 3) Develop an operating policy to include governance and administrative guidelines, rules and regulations. *Anyone interested should contact the church office or Bill Scott (910.990.3474) for more details.

A **PW Coordinating Team Organization Meeting & Salad Dinner** is scheduled for August 28th at 7:00 p.m. **PW Circle Meetings** will resume with a Quarterly Gathering on Monday, September 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.