

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
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
6 August 2017**

Assemble In God's Name

RINGING OF THE BELLS
BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

** PRELUDE "Here the Bread and Wine Is Offered" H. S. Livingstone
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP (See hymn #497 for the text.)
"Bread of Life from Heaven" ARGENTINE SANTO

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 17 (NRSV) Brad Spell
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

- 1 Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.
- 2 From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.**
- 3 If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
If you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.
- 4 As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.**
- 5 My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.
- 6 I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me, hear my words.**
- 7 Wondrously show your steadfast love, O savior of those who
seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand.
- 15 As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness;
when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your
likeness.**

Let us pray together: **Good Lord, you are the searcher of human hearts. When we are surrounded by dangers, show us your favor, without which we would perish. Let not our hearts be earthbound, but may we follow your commandments and aspire to heaven's joy, which is won for us in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

* HYMN 835 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" CLOSER WALK

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray: **O Lord our God, we confess that we do not reflect your glory. You bless us so generously, but we deny your blessing to others. You provide for us so richly, but we are slow to share your gifts. Forgive us; restore and reorder our lives by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may proclaim with gratitude the great abundance of your love, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

* Silent Confession

* KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and forgive us from all unrighteousness.

People: We believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

Proclaim God's Word

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 32:22-31 OT 30

** HYMN 19 "God of Great and God of Small" (first verse)
*God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

** P.A.T.H. OFFERING
(Children age 4 - grade 1 depart for worship readiness with leader Tami Warren)

SECOND LESSON: Matthew 14:13-21 NT 16
Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Parting Gifts" Rev. Katherine Blankenship

* HYMN 846 "Fight the Good Fight" DUKE STREET

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

Give Thanks To God

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "For the Bread" John Horman
(Visitors please fill out cards in pew rack and place in offering plate)

* DOXOLOGY (Hymnal) No. 606

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

(Hymnal) pg. 35

BREAKING THE BREAD AND OFFERING THE CUP
PRAYER

Go In God's Name

* HYMN 498 "Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"
BEACH SPRING

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

"Dresden Amen"

Johann G. Naumann

* TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

* POSTLUDE "Chime Postlude on 'Dresden Amen'" Allen James

* Those who are able, please stand

** Seating of worshippers

The **P.A.T.H. Offering (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger)** is being received this morning. This offering, collected by GMPC since 1986, is sometimes called the 2 Cents a Meal Offering. Families are requested to "set aside" this amount per person, per meal in your family home and given bi-monthly on the 1st Sunday when Communion is observed (February, April, June, August, October, December). Of this, 25% is withheld and used to supplement our own "Sick and Relief" benevolence. The remaining 75% is forwarded to our Presbytery of Coastal Carolina. The presbytery's disbursement formula for what they receive from participating churches is as follows: 40% for International support (countries such as Haiti, Malawi and Bangladesh); 25% for PC(USA) hunger projects; 25% for local hunger programs within our Presbytery and 10% for administration.

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.

We are delighted to welcome to our pulpit today Rev. Katherine Blankenship as she leads us in worship. Katherine is originally from Asheville, NC, a place she credits in the formation of her love of service, the mountains, and God. She is a graduate of Appalachian State University, received her Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Practical Theology at Columbia Theological Seminary, and is an ordained teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Before working with Raleigh Youth Mission, Katherine interned with Asheville Youth Mission and served as the Director of Youth Ministry for a congregation in Atlanta, GA. Through her ministry with youth and young adults, she works to name creative gifts and profound truths in their lives, most often through music, art, prayer, and laughter.

August ushers are: Matt Johnson, Bill Aiken, Gary Wayne Hall,
Robert Sink, Jimmy Sinclair, Josh Coombs

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

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)*

Margaret Register
Linda Williamson
Geneva Matthis
Betty Heaton
Diane Westerbeek
Deborah Hall

August:

- 09 - 1:45 p.m. - Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. - Summer Picnic #4 (Last)
- 7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice
- 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
- 16 - 1:45 p.m. - Staff Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. - Handbells / 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice
- 19 - 9:00 a.m. - Community Food Bank of Salemburg

OTHER CONCERNS / LOOKING AHEAD . . .

GET INVOLVED SPOTLIGHT: Back Pack Buddies

**(In an effort to bring awareness to the many mission opportunities here at GMPC we will "spotlight" one mission every month. We ask that you please give regularly to these programs in need of your help.)* GMPC has been a part of the Backpack Buddies Food Ministry since 2010.

Backpack Buddies is a Christian, non-profit program organized by the First United Methodist Church of Clinton, N.C. in the fall of 2008. Backpack Buddies provides weekend food to over 250 "food insecure" Clinton City School children, ages PreK - 8th grade, weekly. Volunteers meet at Sunset Avenue School every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. (following the school calendar) to sort and pack the bags. *What you can do to help: Volunteer Your Time! Donate Food Items! (canned soups, juice boxes, raisins, fruit cups, pudding cups, granola bars, pop tarts, trail mix & individual cereal boxes)* ***A collection bin is located in the GMPC fellowship hallway throughout the year, and in the Narthex (month of August), for your convenience.**

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 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 will be held on August 9th at 6:30 p.m.** Beginning this year, the Summer Picnic #4 Committee will be hosting a Back-to-School Supply Drive as part of Summer Picnic #4. All donated supplies will benefit students & teachers in Clinton City Schools, Pre-K through 8th grade. A donation basket is located in the Education Building Hallway for those not able to attend Picnic #4 but would like to contribute.

Current Opportunities & Future Possibilities: The Christian Education Committee invites any church members interested in sharing ideas concerning activities for children in grades pre-K - 12 to a meeting on Wednesday, August 9, 2017, following Summer Picnic #4, at approximately 7:30 p.m. We want to explore current opportunities and future possibilities for the children and youth of GMPC and the community.

GMPC Choir & Handbells Practice: HANDBELLS: Will resume their regular schedule beginning Wednesday, September 6th, meeting from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.; **CHOIR:** Will resume their regular schedule beginning Wednesday, August 9th, meeting from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.
**** New members are welcome!***

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.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY: Christian Food Bank of Salemburg, every third Saturday, monthly, bags of food are given to those in need beginning at 9:00 a.m. What you can do to help: *Volunteer Your Time! Donate Food Items!* **Next Food Bank: August 19, 2017.**

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

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.

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.