

*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  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
17 September 2017**

**We Assemble to Worship**

RINGING OF THE BELLS  
BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN

\*\* PRELUDE "Toccata all' Offertorio" Domenico Zipoli (1688-1726)

ANNOUNCEMENTS  
Minute for Missions Bill Scott

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

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "God Is Here!" ABBOT'S LEIGH

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 114 (NRSV) James Dodson  
Congregation Responses in **Bold**

1 When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a  
people of strange language,  
2 **Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion.**  
3 The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back.  
4 **The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.**  
5 Why is it, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back?  
6 **O mountains, that you skip like rams?  
O hills, like lambs?**  
7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD,  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,  
8 **who turns the rock into a pool of water,  
the flint into a spring of water.**

Let us pray together: **Mighty God, by your power you led your people out of slavery in Egypt, and you raised the dead Christ to life. Deliver us continually by your power from slavery to freedom and from death to life, for the glory of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

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

\* HYMN 697 "Take My Life" HENDON

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray: **I am embarrassed to admit, O God, how seldom I have thanked you for the many gifts in my life. You have given me so much that I have learned not to notice. Forgive me and teach me to see with new eyes. Help me to share with others out of my abundance. Then I will understand what it means to be part of the body of Christ and the family of man. Amen**

\* Silent Confession

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

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: It is learning to say "I am sorry" that we learn to change.

**People: It is in changing that we find new life and hope.**

Leader: It is as we find new life and hope that we are able to change the more.

**People: Thus God gives us in Christ the power to become new men and women.**

Leader: And saying "I am sorry" leads to the power of Christ.

\* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal) No. 581

\*\* **Installation Service of GMPC Presbyterian Women  
Officers and Leaders 2017-2018**

**Kristi Williford, Moderator, GMPC Presbyterian Women**

\*\* CHORAL DEDICATION "Rise Up, Women of the Truth"  
(See Hymn #319 for the text.) Martin Smith, 1995

**We Proclaim the Word**

FIRST LESSON: Malachi 3:6-12 Message Version

\*\* HYMN 188 "Jesus Loves Me!" (first verse)  
*Jesus loves me! This I know, for the bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong.  
They are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: "How Much Is Enough?"

(Children age 4 - grade 1 depart for worship readiness with leader Tami Warren)

ANTHEM "I Surrender All" with "I Need Thee Every Hour"  
arr. Lennart Sjolholm

SECOND LESSON: Mark 12:41-44 Message Version  
Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE "Confessions from a Prodigal Son" Dr. Bron

\* HYMN 822 "When We Are Living" SOMOS DEL SENOR

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: **I believe in the God who made and owns the world, and in the Son he sent to redeem the world, and in the Holy Spirit who is his presence in the world today. I believe that everything I have is really his, given into my keeping for the good of the world. I believe that I am expected to live spiritually in the world, dealing justly with all persons and contributing to the care of the poor and needy. I believe that my own life and the lives of those I love will be blessed by my faithfulness in stewardship and my devotion to spiritual matters, for God rewards those who seek him with a greater sense of his presence. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

**We Respond to God**

OFFERTORY arr. Cindy Berry  
"Here I Am to Worship" with "Crown Him with Many Crowns"  
(*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 708 "We Give Thee But Thine Own" SCHUMANN  
\* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN  
"Lord of All, of Church and Kingdom" ABBOT'S LEIGH  
\* TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD  
\* POSTLUDE "SCHUMANN" arr. Robert W. Thygerson

\* 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 DR. AND MRS. L.C. (BILL) PEAK BY WHIT AND JAN TART

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

**HOSPITAL/ASSISTED LIVING**

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

**OTHERS:**

*Angie Prucha – (Daughter of Edwin Danford)  
Betty Hairr – (Mother of Vickie Pope)  
Juaweese Franklin – (Mother of Melissa Nimmo)  
Joe Butler – (Brother-in-law of Penny Horne)  
Jim McGuirt – (Former GMPC member)*

**AT HOME**

Barbara Kerr  
Martha Dunn  
Tink Purcell  
Don Wilson  
Margaret Register  
Geneva Matthis  
Deborah Hall  
Betty Heaton

September ushers are: David Brock, Hampton Brock,  
Rick Green, Sim Green, Mark Harrell, Allison Martin

**September: (Wednesday's: Handbells 6:00 p.m./Choir at 7:30 p.m.)**

- 17 - 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group
- 6:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting
- 18 - 6:30 p.m. - Friends in Faith Leaders Meeting
- 19 - 9:30 p.m. - Prayer Quilts (Begin) / Newsletter Deadline
- 20 - 4:00 p.m. - PresbyMusic: 4:00 Cherub Choir; 4:30 Youth, 5:00 Children's
- 21 - 7:00 p.m. - Clinton Ringers: A Combined Handbell Concert (Fellowship Hall)
- 24 - 11:00 a.m. - Worship (\*Sunday School weekly 9:45 a.m.)
- 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group
- 27 - 3:00 p.m. - PresbyCrew; PresbyMusic: 4:30 Youth, 5:00 Children's

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

**Wes and Nancy Cowand and Boy Scout Troop 80 cordially invite you to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Wesley Cowand today, Sunday, September 17, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. at Graves Memorial Presbyterian Church. Reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.**

**Plans to begin the church officer nominating process have been put on hold** pending the beginning of conversations regarding the implementation of a unicameral (one board) system of church government. Stay tuned! Dr. Bron

**The Session is pleased to relay a short (good news) summary of the financial report through August 31, 2017.** Our y-t-d offerings of \$201,530 are outpacing our pro-rata budget amount by \$40,735. Further, our y-t-d operating expenses of \$169,700 are less than our budgeted amount by \$9,859. The resulting \$50,994 is in our operating account that has a current balance of \$91,134. The Session is very thankful for your generosity and commitment to GMPC just as they continue to show tremendous diligence to control all costs. As our savings accumulate and just as promised, the Session has made mid-year adjustments to the budget to restore giving to missions (\$4,000 now with consideration for another \$5,500 later this year) and retro-actively reversing the 5% pay cut for the office staff. We are making progress and financial momentum grows as we enter a new stewardship season. To God be the glory! Bill Scott

**Youth Group:** will meet this Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in the Youth Room for Group Chat (Devotional) before walking to dinner at Hwy. 55. Bring dinner \$ & wear your walking shoes!

**GMPC Prayer Quilt Ministry (Third Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.) resumes September 19th** in the Fellowship Hall. **Volunteers Needed!** 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 or the church office.

**High School Bible Study for Mothers & Daughters**, led by Lee Howard & Amelia Surratt, will resume on **Wednesday, September 20th from 5:30-6:30 p.m.**, in the Memorial Room. Grandmothers are welcome to participate with their granddaughters if mothers cannot come. Invite your friends & their mothers and join us as we gather to grow, fellowship & learn as a community of faith.

GMPC's **Summer Concert Series** will conclude on **Thursday, September 21st at 7:00 p.m.** with a **Handbell Concert featuring the Clinton Ringers: Handbell Ringers of GMPC, FUMC, Grove Park & St. Paul's**. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us for a lovely evening of music, sacred, secular, patriotic, and pleasing, on this last day of summer.

**The Designated Pastor Nominating Committee continues its weekly meetings.** Ten Pastor Information Forms (PIF) have been referred to the committee by the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina. As we have examined these PIF's, certain ones have been eliminated from consideration, others have elected to withdraw their names from deliberation, and the committee has asked others to submit additional information. The committee will continue to review PIF's as they are received. Members of the committee include the following: Bill Aiken, Chair, Darby Scott, Secretary, Amelia Surratt, Paul Viser, Justin Lockamy, Lauren Perry, Brenda Nordin.

**PresbyMusic: Cherub Choir** (Prek-1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 4-4:30);  
**Children's Choir/Handbells** (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Wednesdays, 5-5:30);  
**Youth Choir/Handbells** (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30).

**The Balcony Team is crafting devotionals to share with the congregation over the coming year.** The devotionals are centered on the ideas of promoting peace, unity, and purity of God's church here at Graves Memorial. If you have a passage of Scripture that inspires you on this subject, we invite you to craft a brief devotional around it. The Balcony Team (Amelia Surratt, Anne Price, Linda Williamson, and Justin Lockamy) will provide the template and feedback for the devotional. We will then share it with the church family. And don't worry, no one will know who wrote what devotional – these are by the people of GMPC, for the people of GMPC.