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PASTOR'S COLUMN

REV. DR. ROBERT COOK Interim Pastor

On May 1st, my longtime Friend, Mark Abbott and I started out on the Camino de Santiago. From where we started in the small city of Ponferada in western Spain, we would walk 217 KM, or about 130 miles.

Ever since I heard of the Camino, I knew I wanted to walk it, or at least a part of it. To qualify as a "peregrino," or a pilgrim, one must walk at least 100 KM, or 62.2 miles. There are 4 basic routes to the Camino. We took the Camino Frances, which begins over the Pyrenees in France. All routes end in the town of Compostela de Santiago. (The entire Camino Frances is 500 miles and takes at least 30 days of walking.)

The legend is that in the mid first century (C.E.) the Apostle James was called to Europe to preach the Gospel. He started in France and ended near to the present day Compostela De Santiago. Along the way, he is said to have made a large impact for good upon the people and villages he passed through. His tomb was discovered sometime during the 8th century (C.E.) and his bones were taken to a site where a large cathedral would be built—the Cathedral de Santiago. In medieval times it was considered to be the third holiest site in Christendom, after Jerusalem and Rome. Peregrinos have been walking the Camino ever since.

Mark and I prepared ourselves well. Good shoes and socks for hiking. Gathering rain gear, clothes that would be

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

comfortably layered depending on the weather and comfortable backpacks. We also contracted with a local company that for a modest fee had a clean hotel room, a nightly meal and breakfast in the morning. And they transported our luggage to the next hotel each morning. This ensured we would walk 12-15 miles every day. Mark lived in Madrid for 20 years, teaching in a seminary there. His Spanish is perfect. That was a real help to us both.

Our first day we had sunshine, clouds, rain, heat and cold. If we didn't like the weather, it would soon change. We walked through old roads first built by the Romans 2,000 years ago. Steep hills with grape arbors everywhere and steep valleys to descend. Every 3-4 miles we would come upon a little café for a rest stop. They were always hospitable and wished us "Buen Camino!" at every café.

We saw a number of homes that were abandoned and in ruins. We saw tiny hamlets with farms and gardens everywhere. The vistas were beautiful. The parts of the Camino overshadowed with trees were also beautiful. It rained off and on for about 5 days. We were prepared for it, though we would have much preferred sun and 75-degree weather.

Over the past ten years, through my work as a pastor, I have had regular conversations with unchurched people—usually in times of crisis. Often in caring for a family in the passing of a loved one, or with folks in personal or marital difficulties, I knew I would have to not use the in-group language of the church community, but look for ways to address what I call their secular spirituality.



In those rainy days, where there still was so much beauty all around me, I began to wonder how St. James might have shared the Gospel.

James would not have approached his witness through the typical 20th century style of pointing out sins and their remedy. Besides, James was a provincial Jewish man who might only have spoken a crude style of Latin at best. His mother tongue was Aramaic—a regional dialect of Hebrew. How could he be understood? Certainly not in ways we think of in our time.



James would have known the issues the people faced, so he likely started there.

The ancient Roman world was one where 60% of the people lived in some form of servitude to a wealthy landowner. Some would be outright slaves. Others would be paying off debts with their labor. Still others attached themselves to a landowner in exchange for room and board. James would tell them that Jesus has set them free and that God loved and cared for them. Further, that before God there was equality between servant and master. Moreover, that women were free before God and equally beloved. Women were often

less valued than cattle in those days. James would have shared that Jesus has brought God's kingdom to them and they all are God's beloved children. And he would share the promise of eternal life in Christ.

As I walked and pondered this with each step, I thought of so many people I've met who might resonate to the message of Jesus as St. James pre-

sented it. He invited them to follow the path of Jesus. That is more significant than a message that says, “go to church.” I’ve come away with the need and desire to pursue this thread much further.

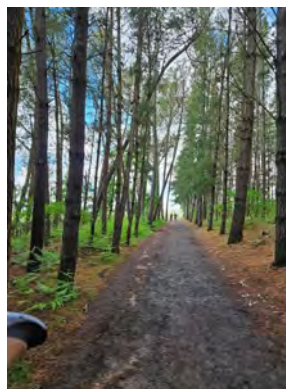
We met at least 100 different people each day. Everyone we met was on a journey of some kind. For some, it was a walk. For others a spiritual journey. I found a lot of solitude on the Camino, but as much conversation with other Peregrinos as I wanted. We met people from all over the U.S. and from about 30 different countries. I met a guy from Italy wearing a Tee-shirt from Shippensburg University.

On day ten, Mark and I walked into Compostela De Santiago and up to the cathedral. It was Ascension Day. A stage was set up and an orchestra was playing. Several thousand people were milling about the courtyard there. Some groups came in shout-

ing and cheering. Others came in quietly. We looked at each other with a sense of accomplishment— not because we had walked all those miles. Rather, we had been transformed as we walked and there was something new inside us as a result. I felt a deep sense of appreciation for the journey and for where this may lead me in time to come. I also felt a deep appreciation for my family and you, my church family for your kindness and support.

Walking the Camino de Santiago is amazing and transformative. I’d encourage most any healthy person to do it. You will get sore and tired. Your feet will hurt. You will meet wonderful people. You will eat well—and you will need to in order to keep strong. Most of all it will change you as you discover that all of life is a Camino and you are not alone.

Buen Camino! – Pastor Bob



Liturgists and Communion Servers

June 2 – Ben Herrmann

June 9 – Patsy Lee

June 16 – JoAnne Lewis

June 23 – Cindy Marconi

June 30 – Albert Miller



Communion servers for June 2

Dottie Davison

Sheila Gates

Anne Larew

Cindy Marconi

BOARD OF DEACONS

MARY ANN ACKERMAN

Moderator

Deacon Meeting Minutes May 9, 2024

In attendance: Moderator Mary Ann Ackerman, Ben Herrmann, Kelsey Marshall, Diane Mills, Brian Rice, Candace Rutherford, Deb Shank, Efren Creamer (sign language interpreter)

Absent: Louise Kemper, Evelyn Lindecamp, Pastor Cook

Deb opened our meeting with Psalm 145, focusing on the character of God, and followed with prayer.

Care Cell reports were given. Discussion followed about how to best serve our members and friends moving forward. It was suggested that our four remaining board members meet before our June Elder/Deacon training to continue this discussion and adjust care cells as needed.

New Business:

Mary Ann shared that we will need to replace Mary Sauder as meal coordinator, as she is stepping down from that role. Mary has been doing this for many years and we so appreciate her service. Thank you, Mary!

Reminders for exiting board members:

Please remember to return your church key to Sue at the church office.

Any unused cards or stamps are to be returned to the file cabinet in the workroom.

Please remember to empty your mailboxes, as they will be needed for new deacon members.

Deb asked about taking Pastor Cook's suggestion of purchasing a large quantity of stamps since there will be a price increase this summer. After checking our budget and the amount we've already spent this year, it was decided to follow through with the purchase of 22 books of stamps.

Diane and Bryan delivered May 5 Communion flowers. June Communion flowers: TBD

Mary Ann closed our meeting with prayer.

Our evening ended with a celebration time for those leaving our deacon board. Many thanks to Mary Ann, Diane, Evelyn, Kelsey, and Louise for their service these past years!

Next meeting: Elder/Deacon training on June 13, 2024 starting with 5:30pm dinner.

Joyfully submitted,
Deb Shank



GREENCASTLE-ANTRIM FOOD PANTRY

717-597-8333 ext. 2 • gafoodpantry@gmail.com

Call or email to schedule a time to drop off the food donations.

Thursday, June 6 • 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Wednesday, June 12 & 19 • 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

CURRENT FOOD NEEDS

cereal, peanut butter, pasta sauce in cans or plastic, canned fruit, soups
potato mixes, rice mixes, dry pasta, vegetables
Any non-perishable food items are greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE FOOD PANTRY!

NOTE: Because the 1st Thursday of the month is July 4, we will be closed on that evening. We will open for food distribution on Wednesday evening July 3 from 6-8 pm

'Lift Up The Word - Light Up The World' National Day of Prayer Observance

Dotti Zimmerman, co-leader of the Greencastle-Antrim Christian Women's Fellowship, gave the welcome and opening prayer at the 2024 National Day of Prayer sponsored by the fellowship and the Greencastle-Antrim Ministerium on Thursday, May 2, at GPC. Diana Reinert provided music for the service.

People bowed their heads in prayer; with hands over their hearts, people recited the Pledge of Allegiance; and sang songs of praise and thanks to God.

Sheila Gates prayed for our nation's military. Sheila and Gabe's son, Zachary serves in the U.S. Marines Corp. as a Chief Warrant Officer 2, giving her understanding of the commitment of our military members and their families.

Pastor David Rawley of Otterbein United Brethren Church gave the closing benediction.

Ami Myers worked with the prayer warriors and the musician. She livestreamed the program and then made it available on the GPC YouTube channel. [Follow this link to see the full program.](#)

There were about 65 people in the Sanctuary and anticipated views expected to quickly surpass 100.

Shawn Hardy/Echo Pilot



PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE

DAVID LINDECAMP *Moderator*

A quick reminder that our summer clean-up will soon be here, please mark your calendars for the following.

Saturday, June 15th, 2024 at 9am – Spring Clean-up at the Church grounds and Moss Spring Cemetery. We had scheduled our rain date for Saturday, July 13th at 9am, but that will not work as that is the weekend for the Greencastle Sidewalk Days. We will announce an alternative plan if one is needed. As always, we would appreciate some additional participants, more hands help to lighten the load.

A brief update on our activities:

PROJECTS STARTED:

- There are some other items that are in the quotation process. More information to follow.

PROJECTS COMPLETED:

- As many of you are well aware, our parking lots were damaged by heavy equipment last September 5th. Since that happened, we had contacted the insurance company and completed the requested information on the incident. After many months of little or no response, we were finally offered a settlement for the damage. Elder Ed Wine has been working with me on the communication with the insurance company, and Ed presented the details of the offer to the Session, who approved the settlement by a virtual motion.
- Some additional repairs were needed to the church push mower. Brian Rice installed a new

carburetor, leveled the mower deck and it is back in service.

- We were informed of some concern with the operation of the AC unit in the Youth room. After listening to the unit in operation, it seemed abnormally louder than it should be, so we placed a call to the installer to check out the unit. During their visit, they determined that the fan motor needed to be replaced. This work has been completed, and the part and labor costs are covered under the warranty.

Until next month, Peace and Love in Christ!



2024 Matthew Anderson Scholarship Recipients

Candace Rutherford, Moderator of the GPC Mission Committee presented scholarship recipients with their awards at the Worship Service on May 19.

Pictured left to right: Eli Sterling (PSU), Elayna Shank (PSU), Shelby Zimmerman (Shippensburg Univ.), Luke Barnhart (PSU), Megan Kilcup (Cairn Univ.), Owen Monday (Liberty Univ.), Candace Rutherford. Recipient Miana Kauffman (PSU) was unable to attend the service.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

KERI PAPA *Director of Christian Education*

MINDY BARNHART Moderator

Our next committee meeting is on Tuesday, June 4th at 6:30pm.
Come share your ideas on how to improve our program!
We are also finalizing a great week of community camp for 2024.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Our last day of class was held Sunday, May 19th. We as a committee are very appreciative of those people who have volunteered this year in the nursery or the Sunday School classroom. **THANK YOU!** *Our program cannot exist without volunteers! Below are the links to the clearances if you haven't filled yours out yet. We will staff the **nursery** as needed this **summer** for children **ages BIRTH THROUGH PRESCHOOL**. Older children are asked to stay in the sanctuary with their families. There are busy bags in the cabinet by the elevator if your child would like one.*

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/PA-Child-Abuse-History-Clearance.aspx>

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/Criminal-Background-Check.aspx>

YOUTH GROUP

We take a break for the summer. As a reminder, when we resume meetings in the fall, they are for children in grades 6th-12th only.

COMMUNITY CAMP

Planning is well underway. It is not too late to volunteer. Camp will take place from June 17-21. If you'd like to be a part of this week, see Keri with questions. We have 41 children signed up, with a waitlist. We are in need of many helpers to make this week happen and be a blessing to our community. There are volunteer forms on the table next to the bulletins & tithing basket in the front of the sanctuary. We will host another crafting meeting for decorations on Saturday, June 1st @ 10am. We are also looking for volunteers to set up equipment on Sunday, June 16th following church/ coffee hour.

FAITHFUL FAMILIES

Pool Party @ Moss Springs in July! Stay tuned for more details!

PERSONNEL

ED WINE Moderator

It is with great regret that I share with you that Keri Papa has decided to step down from her position as Director of Christian Education at GPC, effective August 31, 2024. We are grateful to Keri for her years in this position guiding and nurturing our youth in Christian values. Fortunately for GPC, Keri and her family will continue to be active in our church family outside of this position.

GPC is searching for a replacement for Keri as Director of CE. This is a part-time salary position. If you know of someone who might be interested in applying to fill this position, please contact our Office Manager Sue Miller gpc.office17225@gmail.com or me.

Ed Wine edanddebbiewine@gmail.com



For children who
have completed
kindergarten
through
5th grade

Healthy Snacks
and beverages
provided.
Please bring a
bagged lunch.

Scholarships
Available!

KIDS SUMMER Day Camp

June 17-21, 2024

Greencastle
Presbyterian Church

Monday - Friday
8:30am - 3:00pm

Daily Bible Study!
Play Games!
Sing Songs!
Crafts!
FUN!

For more information or to register:
717-597-8333



To my GPC family,
 A simple thank you seems far to simple
 a thing to say for all the many ways you
 have lent your support to me + Tony
 through my recovery from surgery.
 I am so grateful for the prayers,
 cards, calls, visits and most of all the
 delicious meals to nourish us over
 these last several weeks. Tony really
 enjoyed not having to work.
 Our hearts are full from the love we
 feel from our church family. Thank you
 so very much. God's blessings on you all,
 Peggy + Tony Coulter



New Deacons and Elders were installed during the worship on Sunday, May 26. Pictured left to right: Pastor Robert Cook, Virginia Vallillo, Dee Patton, Debra Miller, JoAnne Lewis, Carole Malin, and Jenn Robertson, Clerk of Session.

SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2025 Anne Larew, David Lindecamp, Ed Wine

Class of 2026 Racheal Marconi, Scott Peterson, Jenn Robertson

Class of 2027 JoAnne Lewis, Carole Malin, Dee Patton

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2025 Brian Rice, Deb Shank

Class of 2026 Ben Herrmann, Candace Rutherford

Class of 2027 Polly Coulter, Kelly Kerstetter, Debra Miller,
 Virginia Vallillo



The second annual Jean Widder Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Eli Sterling, GAHS graduating senior, by Paige Widder, Jean's daughter, and Lisa Booze, Jean's sister. Thank you to the many people in the GPC congregation who helped make this scholarship possible! (Eli was also a recipient of the Matthew Anderson Scholarship.)



OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Marna Yingling recovering from COVID-19
(submitted by Anne Larew)

Becky Hess health concerns (friend of Ed & Debbie Wine)

June Marshall health concerns

Nancy McIntyre health concerns

Nursing Home Residents Herb Layton,
Bernice Walck

Patti Sechrist health concerns (submitted by
Marcie Tinninis)

Alan Shope health concerns

Tim Walck health concerns

Mary Lou Riddle health concerns (submitted by
Mary Ann Ackerman)

Steven Bishop health concerns

Mindy Grosh health concerns (Dick & Donna Grosh's
daughter-in-law)

Michael Paylor complications from leg amputation
due to hit and run accident in 2012 (cousin of Weslie
Johnson)

Linda Pittman health concerns (submitted by Jan McClain)

Rachael, Christopher & Anna Lee Massieu
(submitted by Evelyn Lindecamp)

Mary Buhl health concerns

Cullen Gaston young child with Leukemia

Bob & Sandy Seidel (submitted by
Marcie Tinninis)

The Gagne family mom was diagnosed
with acute transverse myelitis (submitted by
Jan McClain)

Bill & Kathy Kendall health concerns
(submitted by Weslie Johnson)

Aaron Frick (submitted by Mary Ann Ackerman)

Ray Spitz (brother-in-law of Ed & Debbie Wine)

Sue Angle health concerns

Rev. Bill Beck (submitted by Patti Divelbiss)

Caroline Robinson going through chemo
for leukemia (submitted by Patti Divelbiss)

Dian Bishop health concerns

Dan Patton health concerns

Vasilija Milanovic health concerns

Tracey Hammond and family struggling with
loss of a loved one (Scott Peterson & Candace
Rutherford's cousin)

Bethany Yeager missionary work in South
America (submitted by Scott Peterson & Candace
Rutherford)

Penny Mohler battling ovarian cancer
(submitted by Nancy Lee Moore)

Cathy Thomas health concerns (Beth Taylor's mother /
submitted by Sheila Gates)

Dominic Frampton health concerns

Sue Lum, recovering from broken kneecap
(Fred Davison's sister)

Jan Shafer health concerns (submitted by Patti Divelbiss)

Rowan Stotler recovering from brain surgery
(submitted by Mary Ann Ackerman)

Jane Everetts health concerns

Laura diagnosis of breast cancer, chemo (submitted by
Bonnie Speaks)

Shawn Schaeffer (submitted by Diane Mills)

Sandra Meadows oral cancer (submitted by Kim Tarlaglia)

Frank Marconi knee replacement at age 84 (submitted
by Racheal Marconi)

Frank & Tracey Toston health concerns (submitted by
Scott Peterson)

Bill Horst health concerns (submitted by Cindy Marconi)

Colin Rinker health concerns

Tiffany Robinson health concerns

The Bentley Family displaced by house fire

Jean Zimmerman health concerns

*I would like to thank everyone who prayed for me,
sent me cards and notes, called, texted, visited, and
otherwise supported me during my recent health issues
this past year. Knowing others care has helped and
continues to help me heal. I am very grateful to all of
you for showing and sharing God's love.*

Most Sincerely,

Roberta (Bobbi) Biesecker

Thank You

Get to know the newest staff member of the Presbytery of Carlisle



Rev. Dr. Jaime McLeod
Presbytery Leader for Vision
and Transformation

What does co-leadership mean to you?

At the core of the Church's mission is the belief we are called to journey with one another in our efforts to proclaim the Holy Realm of God. When Jesus sent out his disciples he did so by first pairing them up and then giving them their missions. We in the Presbyterian Church take seriously those words by relying on a co-leadership model between pastor and session. Those groups, when healthy, become a singular powerful force within a community by listening for the still small voice dwelling somewhere within the space between the two bodies. As a person who navigates best when I can build relationships and speak with others, I really have appreciated models allowing for intentional communication between the leaders of an organization.

On an individual level, the co-leadership model has the potential to elevate persons to places of responsibility taking seriously their individual abilities and opportunity for growth. No person possesses all the abilities necessary for the successful completion of all tasks. As individuals, we have different God-given gifts as well as interests. Ideally, our calls will take seriously our talents while also being aware of those places in which we are not drawn. Co-leadership seeks to address the individual realities of being a broken child of God and create teams of leaders who can support one another. Moreover, there is a degree to which, when the challenges of an organization are shared between multiple people, the difficulties are less daunting and the successes are all the more joyous.



In Memory of Leah Straley

FIDDLIN' IN THE FIELD 2024

Leah's Legacy and F&M Trust present **Fiddlin' in the Field**, an evening of bluegrass on Thursday June 27th at 6:00 pm featuring Deeper Shade of Blue

Event location: 10437 Grant Shook Road, Greencastle, PA 17225

Bring your own lawn chair or blanket.

Come hungry to purchase food from Lizzy's Food Truck and Edwards Kettle Corn.

Silent Auction items up for bid and delicious cookies by Leah's Cookie Bite Bake Shop.

Credit Cards Accepted.

All Proceeds benefit Leah's Legacy.

Held rain or shine. A large tent provided for coverage if rain. No pets or alcoholic beverages allowed on premises.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2024

Sat June 1

Crafting for Community Day Camp 10:00am

Sun June 2

Worship with Communion 10:00am

Lemonade on the Lawn / 1st Sunday Food Drive

Tue June 4

NEW ELDER TRAINING 10:00AM

CHRISTIAN ED MEETING 6:30pm

Wed June 5

Wednesday Prayer Circle 9:00am

Bell Choir 6:00pm

Chancel Choir 7:00pm

Ladies AA Meeting 7:00pm

Thur June 6

Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry 6:00pm

Sat June 8

Racheal Marconi & Christopher Bowman Wedding

Sun June 9

Worship 10:00am followed by Coffee Fellowship

Wed June 12

Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry 9:00am

Wednesday Prayer Circle 9:00am

Bell Choir 6:00pm

Chancel Choir 7:00pm

Ladies AA Meeting 7:00pm

Thur June 13

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MEETING 1:00pm

JOINT TRAINING MEETING –

NEW ELDER AND DEACONS 5:30 pm

SESSION MEETING 6:30pm

BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING 6:30pm

Sat June 15

Spring Clean-up 9:00am –

Church grounds and Moss Spring Cemetery

Sun June 16 Father's Day

Worship 10:00am followed by Coffee Fellowship and set up for Community Day Camp
Dementia Caregivers 2:00pm

Mon June 17 – 21 8:30am—3:00pm

Kids Summer Day Camp

Wed June 19

Wednesday Prayer Circle 9:00am

Bell Choir 6:00pm

Chancel Choir 7:00pm

Ladies AA Meeting 7:00pm

Sun June 23

Worship 10:00am followed by Coffee Fellowship

Wed June 26

Wednesday Prayer Circle 9:00am

Bell Choir 6:00pm

Chancel Choir 7:00pm

Ladies AA Meeting 7:00pm

Sun June 30

Worship 10:00am followed by Coffee Fellowship



GPC

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Mark Metz
- 3 **Tony & Diane Mills**
- 4 Barbara Grane
- 7 Dan Patton
- 9 **Dick & Sue Bell**
- 11 **Jeff & Deb Shank**
- 13 **Bob & Reba Jones**
- 16 Dave Durff
- 17 **Bob & Terri Brust**
- 17 **Alan & Becky Sucke**
- 19 Keith Marconi
- 21 Wanda Koons
- 21 **Tim & Lisa Walck**
- 25 **Chuck & Marcie Tinninis**
- 26 Ethel Quigley
- 26 Patsy Lee