

THE WINDOW

A PUBLICATION OF GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 2019

**IMPORTANT
SPRING
DATES,
ACTIVITIES,
AND
MUSIC INSIDE**



GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH * 2363 S GERMANTOWN RD * GERMANTOWN TN 38138
WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG

THE WINDOW

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Dear GPC Family and Friends,

As our calendars turn to April, we are eager to remember and celebrate the most important days for Christians: Good Friday and Easter. These two days are so tightly-connected, yet their meanings and moods are so different.

Good Friday is the day we remember with tears in our eyes for the cruelty and violence that Jesus suffered. How could someone so innocent suffer so intensely for the sake of others? It does not seem right that an innocent person should suffer, especially when someone else should instead be held accountable. Jesus suffered immense cruelty at the hands of His tormentors. They mocked, spit upon, and whipped Him. Worst of all, they nailed His flesh and bones to a wooden cross with the specific intention of maximizing His pain and anguish. Good Friday is a dark day of suffering, and we tremble at the thought of the vicious violence that Jesus experienced.

celebrate grace

Good Friday humbles us because we know that what Jesus suffered is intimately related to our actions and to justice. God is just, and human beings' decisions and behaviors matter in a moral light. We live in a world created by a just, loving, and righteous God. Sinful violations of God's standards for right and good living cannot be ignored by God, and justice demands accountability. What could God do to ensure that divine justice and accountability for sin are realized? Who should suffer the God-forsakenness of the agony of separation from God? We deserve God's condemnation for sin, and we deserve to be removed from God's goodness and presence because of our choices.

Good Friday and the cross are God's way of swallowing up into His own life what we would otherwise have to face in ours: alienation and separation from God. It is hard to understand the meaning of the crucifixion because there is no comparable event like it in history, but on the cross in the person of Jesus, God experienced abandonment, condemnation, and punishment for sin. It was violent and horrible, and through His personal self-sacrifice, God liberates us from accountability for our choices that are wrong. It is the act of God's grace that defines the very nature of divine love and grace.

Easter is the triumphant return of Jesus out of death's claw and hopelessness. The cross ushered Jesus into death's domain and power, which is akin to a spiritual black hole. In the Bible, death is described as something much more than the cessation of breath and heartbeat. Death is a force that destroys. Death is tied to sin and rebellion from God. Death is a spiritual power that swallows people and never releases them. Death and its darkness are the final consequence for people who turn away from God.

Easter is light and glory because Jesus has returned from the realm of darkness and death. God did for Jesus what we assumed no one could ever do: bring someone back from death and release Him from this spiritual black hole. God proves His power over death and its destruction. God blesses Jesus with a life beyond life as we know it, and the resurrection is God's validation of life and love beyond sin and punishment. Easter is such a happy day because God demonstrates His love for humanity by releasing Jesus from death's grip, and He offers that same resurrection into new life after death for all of us.

All of these powers are at work within us when we have faith in God through Christ. The Apostle Paul tells us that even though death is at work with us, we have been crucified with Christ. Our "old selves" have been crucified with Christ, and we have died to the consequences of sin in us.

We still sin and desire things that are deadly, but we will not be held accountable for them in the same way that we would have before faith in Christ. Faith in Christ is trust in our atonement for sin through His death on the cross.

The power of Resurrection is especially alive in us as we follow God through Christ. Again, the New Testament promises that we are made alive in Christ, and we are assured of our own resurrection to life beyond death. It is the ultimate joy in a world where death is at work. It is our joy to know that nothing can separate us from God's love in Jesus Christ, as we hear so amazingly in Romans 8:38-39: For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The love of God in Christ is on display the most during Good Friday and Easter. May we, as a church family, worship and celebrate these gifts of grace during April 2019.

Grace, mercy, and peace,

Will

WHAT'S THE LATEST?

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ALL THESE DATES ON YOUR PLANNER

SPRING/SUMMER DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- April 14, Palm Sunday: 3:30pm Easter Egg Hunt
- April 21, Easter: 8:30am & 11am Resurrection Worship
- April 28, Youth Sunday: 8:30am & 11am Worship
- May 3, Friday: 10:30am AMPLify Grand Spring Performance
- May 10, Friday: 7pm Alex Benford Organ Recital
- May 12, Sunday: between worship services, Children's Musical
- May 17- 19, Fri-Sun: NaCoMe Churchwide Retreat
- June 3-7, Mon-Fri: Vacation Bible School & Mission 901
- August 4, Sunday: New Building Opening/Dedication
- August 11, Sunday: Kick-off Sunday

CONGREGATIONAL BRUNCHES DURING SUMMER

- Sunday, May 26 (Memorial Day Weekend), 9:30am, AC
- Sunday, June 30, 12:10pm (after 11:00 worship), AC
Notice time change.
- Sunday, July 28, 9:30am, AC

MUSIC IN APRIL

Palm Sunday, April 14 begins Holy Week. We will begin this service with shouts of Hosanna, our adult bell choir will play, and then turn to a more somber note as we focus on the events of the week to come. We will sing two numbers from Handel's *Messiah* in the second half of this service. *Behold the Lamb of God* for the Offertory and *Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs* to close the service. Our final hymn *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* will be sung as our Response.

On Maundy Thursday, April 18 we will build the service around a work, *Lamentations of the Lamb*. This service takes us from The Last Supper through the events of Good Friday and the Crucifixion. This is a worship experience that no one should miss. You will walk with the disciples and Jesus experiencing the emotions and events of Holy Week through music and the spoken word. Make every effort to attend this most holy service; invite guests; it's difficult to go from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday without experiencing the emotions of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

On Good Friday, April 19 GPC offers a service of Music and the Spoken Word with organist Alex Benford and Ministers in the GPC sanctuary at 6pm.

Sunday, April 21, EASTER SUNDAY offers the most exciting worship services of the year at GPC - a true celebration of our Risen Lord! We will lift the rafters with joyous sounds of praise as you, the congregation, join our Chancel Choir and Brass Quintet in singing *Christ the Lord Is Risen Again!* Alex Benford will close the service with the perennial favorite, Widor's *Toccata*. Bring guests - use this glorious day of celebration as your opportunity for evangelism. If you introduce new people to GPC on this Sunday, be assured that they will want to return. To GOD BE THE GLORY!!

I look forward to seeing you in worship each and every Sunday. Know that your contributions to the Music Fund and the Teachey Scholarship

(above and beyond your commitment to the church budget) allow me the freedom and flexibility to enhance our worship through music with student scholarship singers and guest artists throughout the church year. I consider it a privilege to be Director of Music at GPC!!

Jerold C. Teachey, D.M.
Director of Music

LENTEN Outline of Services to CIRCLE on your Calendar:

- *Palm Sunday, April 14> Worship 8:30am & 11:00am (handbells/choir/soloists)
- *Maundy Thursday, April 18, 6:30pm> *Lamentations of the Lamb* (a service that includes the Last Supper/events of Holy Week/Good Friday)
- *Good Friday, April 19, 6pm > Music and the Spoken Word, GPC sanctuary, organist Alex Benford and Ministers
- *EASTER SUNDAY, April 21 > Worship celebrating our Risen Lord / 8:30am & 11:00am Chancel Choir, Brass Quintet, Widor *Toccata*
- Friday, May 10, Alex Benford Organ Recital, 7pm



A NOTE FROM PASTOR JAY



My Friends,

By now, many of you will have gotten word that I have received and accepted the call to be the Pastor and Head of Staff at Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, TN. Pending acceptance into the Presbytery of East Tennessee, I will begin in ministry there on August 5, 2019.

Lest I repeat what I shared in my letter to the congregation in its entirety, please let me simply restate my deep and undying gratitude for this congregation and for your support of me and my family as we move into this new chapter in ministry and life. Rest assured, it was not for lack of love for GPC that Frances and I sensed God's call to Knoxville.

Now, my focus turns to help ease any transition there may be in areas of GPC's ministry in which I have had a direct hand these past seven years, in particular Adult Education and Missions. I ask all of you that have been, currently are, or would like to be engaged in those areas of ministry to work with me diligently and deliberately to prepare for a season in those ministries in which there will inevitably be transition.

Though this has yet to be finalized, tentatively my final Sunday with you will be June 30, 2019. Selfishly, Frances and I look forward also to these next few months with you, not only to prepare for the coming year in ministry at GPC, but also to meet with many of you and to look back fondly at what we consider to be some wonderful years.

Please don't be a stranger, and know that I will always be grateful for my years here at GPC, and that I will miss you deeply.

Gratefully in Christ,
Jay

ADULT CLASSES AND GROUPS

OneGroup: Bible Studies and Small Groups

The goal of GPC's Adult Education Ministry is that every adult be connected to a Bible Study or Small Group, gathering regularly for study, fellowship, and prayer. Groups meet throughout the week, especially Sunday mornings. There's something for everyone, so get plugged in! If you have limited availability, let's work to gather a new one that works for you. Contact Pastor Jay (jayh@germantownpres.org), or check our website (<https://germantownpres.org/ministries/adult-education/>).

Check the following for options on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, or throughout the week.

Sunday Mornings, 9:30am-10:30am Winter-Spring 2019

Take a look at what will be going on this month on Sunday mornings. Our hope is for every adult in the GPC community to be plugged into one group dedicated to study, fellowship, and prayer. All of these groups could be a powerful way to come to know the Lord a little more. Contact Pastor Jay (jayh@germantownpres.org; 901-754-5195 x112) with any questions or for more information on any of these groups.

The Gospel of Matthew

Room: P-1 (Preschool Wing, lower level)

Leader: Drayton Mayers, Jack Gates, Jim Morse, Bob Pitts
This weekly Bible Study will be going through the Gospel of Matthew through late spring, bit by bit. Join this group to explore Matthew's account of Jesus' life.

Hits of the Ages

Room: P-3 (Preschool Wing, lower level)

Coordinator: Alan Callicott, Liz Callicott, Bo Hornberg
This ongoing group for adults of all ages has been meeting for the past two years and is going strong! The group typically studies books of the Bible and has recently begun a study of the Gospel of Luke.

Psalms 78 Class

Room: LL-115 (Noah's Ark Room, lower level)

Coordinators: Kevin Floyd, Stacy Weiss
This group, originally started as "Sticky Faith" for parents of younger children but open to all adults, has met for two years. The group is currently the book and video series *Sacred Parenting* by Gary Thomas.

Cobblestone Bible Study

Room: Mellor Library (main level)

Coordinators: Holly Hensarling, Frances Howell
This ongoing group is in part an extension of the Cobblestone Fellowship Group (ages 20-40) but is open to everyone. Meeting in the church library, the group is studying the Gospel of John.

Presbyterian from Scratch

Room: UL-212 (upper level)

Teachers: Jill Crocker, Jay Howell, Lanny Oakes, Barbara Ragsdale

Following up on last year's series "Christian from Scratch," this year-long series is covering the distinctive qualities of the Presbyterian "lens" on the Christian faith. After studying the particulars of Presbyterian history and doctrine in Fall 2018, this class will be a primer in Presbyterian church governance and worship. Why are we organized the way we are? Why do we worship the way we do? This class will explore the answers.

Paula's Hearts & Hands

Room: UL-214 (upper level)

Coordinators: Elaine Cates, Amy Eoff, Mary Rogers
This group combines Bible Study with service to the church in knitting prayer shawls. This group is currently studying the Gospel of Mark.

Bible Studies and Small Groups Winter-Spring 2019

Discipleship isn't just for Sunday mornings. Throughout the week, there are a number of other opportunities to gather for study, fellowship and prayer. Take a look at what groups are meeting and get connected! Contact Pastor Jay (jayh@germantownpres.org; 901-754-5195 x112) for more information on any of these groups.

Monday

Eat, Pray, Read (monthly book discussion group)

2nd Mondays, 9:30am-10:30am

*Meets off-site in group members' homes

Contact: Carol Barnes (ccbarnes35@gmail.com)

Men's Lunch Devotional

2nd and 4th Mondays, 11:30am-12:30pm

*Studying daily devotionals from Dallas Willard's *Hearing God*

*Meets at Paradise Café (6150 Poplar Ave, #120)

Contact: Jay Howell (jayh@germantownpres.org)

Women's Book Group

3rd Mondays, 6:30pm, Room: Church Library

*Currently reading *The Book of Joy* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama

Contact: Beth Willingham (bethwillingham@comcast.net)

Tuesday

Presbyterian Women (PW)

1st Tuesdays; 10:00am or 7:00pm; Bible Study Circles, multiple locations

3rd Tuesdays; 10:00am; Activity Center

Contact: Billie Work (billiehwor@aol.com)

Wednesday

Compass meal and programs (see Compass write-up on page 8 for details)

Thursday

Thursday Bible Study

2nd & 4th Thursdays, 9:30am-10:30am, Church library

*Currently in an 8-week study of Sabbath

Contact: Jean Carroll (jeancarroll1@comcast.net)

Friday

Men's Breakfast

Fridays, 6:30am-7:30am, Activity Center, \$3 breakfast

*Using lessons from the *Men of Integrity Devotional Bible*

Contact: Jim Boyd (jboyd10@comcast.net)

LAISSEZ LE BON TEMPS ROULER

It was indeed good times as saints of the Keystones fellowship group gathered on Sunday eve, March 3, to support the GPC youth auction. With gratitude to Ellie and Dick Goughnour and Carol and George Barnes for their sponsorships of two tables, sixteen Keystones were together to support a worthwhile cause for our church's youth. We also recognize, with gracious thanks, the fine auction item donation of the future days/nights at the resort home in Mountain View, AR of fellow Keystoners Sandy and Gerald Wilson.



MEN AT GPC

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast meets Friday mornings at 6:30 am in the Activity Center (with occasional exceptions for holidays). Breakfast starts at 6:30 am (bring \$3) and Bible study at 7:00. Different men lead each week's study. Come one, come all!



Men's Lunch Devotions

All men are invited to come as you can on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, 11:30 am-12:30 pm at the Paradise Café (6150 Poplar Ave #120). Part of GPC's Men's Ministry, this bimonthly lunch study is facilitated by Rev. Jay Howell.

WOMEN AT GPC

Presbyterian Women Meet in April



Presbyterian Women (PW) Bible Study (circles) will meet on Tuesday, April 2 at 10:00am and the Gathering will be Saturday, April 20 (note date change). All women are invited to attend.

Speaker for April Gathering is James Grubbs, publisher of *The Best Times* magazine.

The Threads of Love sewing group will meet on April 9 from 9:30 - 12:00.

Project Outreach: The Circle Challenge continues. Circle 3 won February and Circle 4 won March. Total collection for these two months was 421 cans of food. Let's make a strong finish for April. The Circle winning the challenge will be awarded the Circle Challenge prize in May.

Food bins are located in the Activity Center. Anyone who wishes to contribute is welcome to participate. Canned pasta and healthy snacks are requested from March 12 -April 15. Cereal (no sugar) and dry milk are requested from April 16 -May 13.

For more information, contact Billie Work at 901-351-0273 or billiehwor@aol.com.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AT GPC

WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMPASS

DINNER: 5:30PM, ACTIVITY CENTER
PROGRAMMING: 6PM-7PM

Our mid-week ministry, Wednesday Night Compass, continues. Compass is a wonderful way to share in fellowship and grow in discipleship in the heart of each week.

Join us weekly for dinner in the Activity Center at 5:30pm. Adults: \$7, Children <12: \$4, Max per Family: \$20. (Check out more details on our Compass webpage: <https://germantownpres.org/involvement/the-compass/>.)

Most weeks, our Youth (grades 6-12) meet off-site at a Germantown restaurant (this month Panera, 7850 Poplar). You can catch a ride from church with Pastor Amanda at 5:30pm, returning at 7pm, or meet everyone there!

Compass April Schedule for Adults:

March 27 – April 10

Guest Speaker Series: A Mayor, a Priest, and a Rabbi

For the final three weeks of Compass, we'll welcome three guest speakers who will share on their experience, joys, and challenges, as people of faith within our community.

March 27: Sharon Goldsworthy

April 3: Rev. Dr. Dorothy Wells (from St. George's Episcopal)

April 10: Rabbi Katie Bauman (from Temple Israel)

Thursday, April 18: Maundy Thursday
 Dinner: 5:30pm
 Worship Service: 6:30pm

Support Our Mission Partner in Asia! "Hannah Johns"

Last month, GPC hosted our Mission Partner in Asia at Wednesday Night Compass. Because she is serving in a country that is often unreceptive to Christian evangelism, her name and her location cannot be shared in electronic formats. But, for the sake of spreading the word more effectively about this partnership, she has approved the use of a pseudonym, Hannah Johns.

Hannah shared of the difficulties facing her and her family in Asia and of the slow process in forming relationships with those with whom she would hope to share the gospel.

GPC will continue to partner with Hannah, and as Hannah's financial needs have changed, our Missions Leadership Team encourages everyone in GPC to consider partnering with Hannah directly.

If you're curious how you can support Hannah Johns and her mission in Asia, or if you'd like to know more about this particular mission partnership, contact Pastor Jay (jayh@germantownpres.org, 901-754-5195 x112).



**Save the Date!!
NaCoMe
GPC's Churchwide Retreat**

May 17- 19

Look for registration details soon.

At Eastertide, it is a tradition to decorate the church with Easter lilies given in memory or honor of loved ones. If you would like to take part in this tradition, please fill out an envelope located in the pew racks, the narthex, the AC lobby, and the Welcome Center and put it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by Monday, April 15. Donations in any amount are welcome. Please write *Easter Flowers* in the check memo line.



Join the children of the church for an afternoon of Easter fun on April 14. The Congregational Life Committee is hosting the **annual children's Easter Egg Hunt**. The egg hunt begins at 3:30pm. Following the hunt, a petting zoo will be set up so children can experience petting and feeding the animals. For questions, you may email Elizabeth Wilson at ewilson@southwest.tn.edu. Feel free to invite friends and family.



We need the congregation's help to gather enough candy. Please bring individual sized, wrapped candy (no chocolate please) to the AC lobby on Sunday April 7. No bag is too small! If you are interested in volunteering with this event, please contact Elizabeth Wilson at ewilson@southwest.tn.edu.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AT GPC

FRIENDS IN CHRIST: A MINISTRY OF CARE IN CHRIST'S NAME

The Congregational Care Committee's vibrant visitation ministry FRIENDS IN CHRIST continues to flourish, serving the most senior parishioners of Germantown Presbyterian. At a recent gathering of current FIC "visitors" (those doing the visiting), even more "visitees" (those being visited) were identified. Soooooo – we are in need for more FIC participants – and we invite YOU to join us in this incredible new way to keep each and every parishioner connected to their church family, and thus to their sense of belonging and being loved by God in Christ Jesus. Through monthly visits, our hope is that Christian friendships will be seeded, nurtured, and nourished.

Additionally, we are initiating a new aspect of FIC that is like the old-fashioned "Pen Pals" – with a new twist – an email version. This aspect of the ministry meets the needs of those who need connection and relationship, but aren't able to receive visits due to compromised immune systems or other health concerns.

How can you participate? Well, we are glad you asked!

- If you would like to become a FRIEND IN CHRIST who visits others - please contact Pastor Susie Wiggins at susiew@germantownpres.org or 901-754-5195, extension 122.

And ...

- If you are someone – OR you know of someone who would like to receive visits from a FRIEND IN CHRIST – please contact Pastor Susie Wiggins at susiew@germantownpres.org or 901-754-5195, extension 122.

Note: For new "visitors" we will schedule a one-hour training before you are deployed as FIC.

Thank you for your interest in this vibrant ministry of the Congregational Care Committee of GPC. We truly believe FRIENDS IN CHRIST will nurture and greatly benefit our family of faith and help us to better care for one another in Christ's name.



EASTER MORNING FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

In spite of its function as a brutal form of execution, the cross stands at the center of our faith as a symbol of life. Saint Paul speaks of the shame of the cross, while Saint John portrays the cross as the principal sign of the glory of Christ, but both recognize that the cross is the source of life.

There can be no Easter without Good Friday, no Resurrection without the Crucifixion. Indeed, the cross, rather than the empty tomb, has held the place of honor as the primary symbol of the Christian faith.

Christian art certainly has many examples of the cross as an instrument of suffering and death, but some of the earliest depictions of the cross emphasize its life-giving qualities. The flowering cross is found in Christian art as early as the sixth century and is based on a legend that says that the cross itself burst into bloom at the moment that Jesus died. The legend of the True Cross describes how the wood of the cross came from a



tree that sprang from a seed taken from the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden.

A modern expression of this idea may be found in the custom of flowering the cross. On Easter morning, flowers are used to decorate a cross. If gardens are in bloom, bringing cut flowers from home can be a wonderful offering in

honor of the risen Lord, and can also provide an opportunity for families to talk about the meaning of the cross and the resurrection.

So, on Easter Sunday, please bring flowers of any kind and place them on the cross in the church yard near the Arthur Road entry as you come in for services. Since it will be conveniently placed for access, this is a great opportunity for everyone - old, young, and in between - to participate. Let our flowering cross demonstrate the beauty of God's creation, glorify Him, give thanks for His many blessings, and demonstrate the new life Christ's sacrifice upon the cross has given us.

GPC'S MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT

On Saturday, March 23, GPC hosted the first marriage enrichment retreat it's hosted in 25 years titled *Hold Me Tight*®. The material was presented by Michael B. Taylor and our own Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins, both ministers and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists. The workshop provided a wonderful opportunity for couples to enhance and enrich their marriages and grow their relationships even closer while interacting with each other as well as other couples.

The *Hold Me Tight*® Workshop was developed by Dr. Sue Johnson and is designed around seven conversations, all of which have been shown to be essential to successful relationships. These couples learned how to understand and improve relationships through presentations by the workshop leaders, private exercises and conversations with their spouses, and by watching video demonstrations of other couples. This conversational workshop was a great experience for everyone involved.



Those interested in learning more about Stephen Ministry are invited to attend an Introductory Workshop 9:00am – 1:00pm on April 6 at Collierville United Methodist, 454 W. Poplar Ave. (Registration begins at 8:00am.)

The purpose of the workshop is to introduce Stephen Ministry to congregations and their members, to strengthen the caring ministries of congregations, and to equip laity as caregivers by teaching caregiving skills that can be used right away.

Session 1 – Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief

Session 2 – An Introduction to Stephen Ministry

Session 3 – How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way

The cost of this workshop is \$15 per person or \$50 for a group of four or more from the same congregation. Germantown Presbyterian will cover the cost of your attendance. For more information or to register for this half-day Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop, contact Pastor Susie Wiggins at susiew@germantownpres.org or 901-754-5195, ext. 122.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AT GPC

WORSHIP & THE ARTS LUNCHEON APRIL 7, 2019

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE OF GPC WILL HOST A LUNCHEON ON SUNDAY, APRIL 7 IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER TO CONTINUE DISCUSSING THE MANY WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN INCORPORATE THE ARTS INTO OUR WORSHIP SPACE, USING VARIOUS MATERIALS, E.G., SILK, EMBROIDERY, BULLETIN ART, ETC. ALL INTERESTED IN THIS TOPIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND, WHETHER OR NOT YOU ATTENDED THE JANUARY 13 WORKSHOP WITH THE REV. DR. ANN LAIRD JONES. PLEASE CONFIRM TO ANN DEVERE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE YOUR INTENT TO ATTEND FOR THE PURPOSE OF ORDERING LUNCH.

COME ONE – COME ALL!

SAVE THE DATE!

by *Monica Kirby*

May 2, 2019 @ 10:30am will be the spring performance for the special needs music program, **AMPLify!**

If you were at our fall performance, you know how incredible the music was. If you missed us in the fall, then you do not want to miss us this spring! Mark your calendars now!

AMPLify is a product of our special needs ministry and allows students who are differently abled to showcase their gifts and talents as they learn to amplify their **voices**, their **hearts**, and their **witness** for the glory of God and is led by the very talented Noel Wilkins.

Light refreshments will be served afterwards.



This summer GPC is proud to announce its third year of providing an alternative Vacation Bible School for older individuals with special needs. Better known as WACKY WEDNESDAY, this year we will explore the six Parables of Jesus and how His stories relate to our lives today. A 9:30 to 12:00 day in the program includes Bible story, refreshments, crafts, and games. The program is free of charge and is offered to individuals ages 15 and up. The registration for this highly sought after program will open on April 1 and is limited to the first 25 participants. See the schedule of days and story lessons below.

- June 12 – Wacky Sunglasses Day (The Parable of the Good Samaritan)
- June 19 – Wacky Hair Day (The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant)
- June 26 – Wacky Necktie Day (The Parable of the Wise & Foolish Builders)
- July 10 – Wacky Tie Dye Day (The Parable of the Sower)
- July 17 – Wacky Hat Day (The Parable of the Prodigal Son)
- July 24 – Wacky Sock Day (The Parable of the Talents)



Now in it's third year, Mission 901, the mission component of Vacation Bible School for rising 6th graders, is expanding to include rising 7th and 8th graders!

The week of June 3-8 our middle school students will have the opportunity to serve with different missions in the MidSouth and have some fun, too! Students will meet in the AC gym each day at 12:15 for a sack lunch together and learn about their Mission of the Day. After lunch, the group will depart for an afternoon of service.

On Monday, our students will be delivering pop-sicles to youth who are participating in Service Over Self summer camps (sosmemphis.org). We will bring cool snacks to these students on a hot summer day and interact with people from around the country who are making critical home repairs on the homes of Memphis residents.

On Tuesday, our youth will visit GPC members who live at Kirby Pines (kirbypines.com). They will

have a great time of fellowship playing bingo and enjoying snacks together.

Wednesday, the Mission 901 youth will volunteer at the Mid-South Food Bank (midsouthfoodbank.org). They will sort food donations in the warehouse that will later be distributed to hungry people throughout the MidSouth.

The Memphis Ronald McDonald (rmhc-memphis.org) house serves families with children undergoing treatment at St. Jude. Thursday, our youth will visit the Ronald McDonald house to bake cookies and put together snack bags for these patients and families.

Our last mission project will be Saturday afternoon at 4:30 when our students have the opportunity to help with a summer session of Room in the Inn (roomintheinn-memphis.org). The youth will prepare the cottage for guests by setting up beds and tables. They will offer holy hospitality by serving Room in the Inn guests dinner and drinks then assist with kitchen clean up. The week is packed with a variety of service, but we didn't forget the fun!

We want our junior highs to be building friendship connections through fellowship as well so we have planned an afternoon of hang-out time and fun! Friday afternoon we will go to lunch at Memphis Pizza Café and then head to Urban Air...a reward for a busy week of service! Questions? Contact Anna White at annaw@germangownpres.org or Amanda Mackey at amandam@germantownpres.org. Look for registration and more details at germantownpres.org.

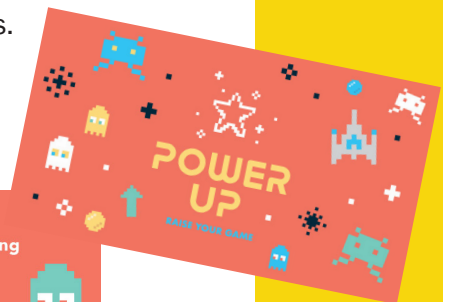
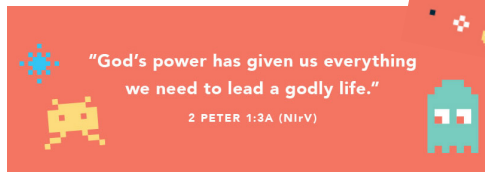
THIS YEAR'S VBS IS GETTING READY TO POWER UP!

VBS is for current 3 year olds (as of the week of VBS) through rising 5th graders from 9:00am - 12:00pm, June 3-7

We will once again need shepherds to navigate a group of children through the morning. A teacher for the activity will meet you at each station to lead and teach the activity. Your job will be to encourage the children in your group! We cannot have VBS without our children and volunteers!

There is a registration form on the GPC website for child participants and volunteers.

Bulletin boards with donation items needed will go up soon. Large boxes are still needed, and the week's mission project is collecting items for Room in the Inn - travel sizes of the following are needed: bug spray, wet wipes, tissue, sunscreen, purell, deoderant.



CHILDREN AT GPC

THANK YOU, CHARLIE FLOYD, FOR LEADING YOUR GPC FAMILY IN MARCH WORSHIP

At Germantown Presbyterian Church our 5th graders participate in the 5th Grade Bridge program. At the beginning of the programming year, they participate in a leadership workshop in which they study 1 Timothy 4:12. "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." Throughout the year each 5th grader has the opportunity to read scripture during the 11:00am worship service. They also have opportunities to participate in mission activities and retreats in order to learn the importance of an active church life as well as to deepen church friendships. As 5th graders begin to transition to the GPC Youth program, they will have the opportunity to visit youth activities to become acquainted with a new cohort. March's worship leader was Charlie Floyd.

What is your full name? *Charles Holden Floyd*

Who are your parents? *Kevin and Rebecca Floyd*

Where do you go to school? *Woodland Presbyterian School*

What have you learned at GPC? *I have learned that even when you are down, God is always with you no matter what.*

What have you most enjoyed doing at GPC? *I have enjoyed spending time with friends during Sunday School and reading during baptisms.*

In the future what do you hope to experience at GPC? *I am looking forward to going on youth trips and playing gaga ball.*



A VBS-style Sunday school designed for Bible truths, child's choice of related activities, and hang time with friends! Kids, put on your VBS or any other appropriate tee shirt, and join us for Tee Shirt Sundays beginning June 2, 9:30–10:40am!

For more info, contact Anna White at annaw@germantownpres.org.

Look for more details to follow.

Children/Youth email lists:

If you want to receive a weekly informational email from GPC's Children's Ministry or Youth Ministry, contact Anna White for children (annaw@germantownpres.org) or Amanda Mackey for youth (amandam@germantownpres.org).

Xpujil, Mexico June 17-24, 2019

In Mexico, we will continue our partnership with missionary Todd Luke, the church he serves, and the clean water ministry his church directs, constructing water cisterns for households in the community

Northern Ghana July 17-27, 2019

In Ghana, we will deepen our relationship with our friends in the Upper Presbytery and Rev. Emmanuel Atami, who visited with us here in October.

Ukraine *New trip!* **August 2-14, 2019**

New trip! Led by our own Nate Hicks, this new mission trip will travel to Ukraine with Nate Hicks, a member of our choir and graduate student at the University of Memphis, with a combined group from a church in Florida. This team will serve with a Christian camp ministry called Camp Living Hope, sharing the gospel in an area surrounding Kyiv.

This is a new possible global partner, so we are hoping to send a small exploratory team with Nate to discern whether this could be a more long-term global partnership for GPC.

Are you called to serve on one of our Global Mission Teams in 2019? Contact Pastor Jay (jayh@germantownpres.org, 901-754-5195 x112) to learn more about any of these mission teams. Registration open at <https://germantownpres.org/involvement/global-missions>.

GLOBAL MISSIONS AT GPC

Room in the Inn Volunteers & Donations Needed!



Home is where the ★ is. This has been such an amazing inaugural year for Room In The Inn with our GPC family! We have been able to help hundreds of people have shelter during these cold winter months.

We'll take off the month of April to give our amazing volunteers a much needed break from all of their hard work and to start our women's-only summer program from May-September.

And we always need donations! Drop in bin outside of church flower room.

Susan Shirley Hurt
901-491-4890

For summer, we need travel sizes of the following.

bug spray	sunscreen
wet wipes	purell
tissue	deoderant

Memphis Athletic Ministries in 2019!

Tutoring and coaching with our mission partner Memphis Athletic Ministries (MAM) continues through the rest of the school year. Help us finish strong. MAM runs a number of after-school ministries across the city, and each week members from GPC join MAM's gym at Olivet Fellowship Baptist Church (4450 Knight Arnold) to coach reading and vocabulary and to help with homework, usually on Tuesday afternoons but any weekday available.

Contact Lisa Patterson (lpattersondrg@gmail.com) or Pastor Jay (jayh@germantownpres.org, 901-754-5195 x112) for more details.



Memphis Athletic Ministries



On Sunday, February 17 at Alfred's on Beale Street GPC's own Lydia Waldrop and a variety of vocalists sang to benefit MAM. There was also a silent auction. Thanks to all who took part in raising funds for GPC's mission partner.

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to and supported our youth at the Youth Auction! We raised over \$15,000 for our summer trips! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



Sunday, April 28 will be Youth Sunday. We look forward to having the youth leading worship and hearing from our senior class!

We are continuing to study God's Word in Sunday school and the youth are enjoying growing in their faith. The junior high youth will be studying the book of Acts and how the early church began. The confirmation class is continuing to grow in their faith and how they will engage with the church as members. The senior high youth will continue to explore the early church in the book of Acts.



YOUTH AT GPC

IN OUR PRAYERS

In the Congregation:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| >Gay Beaumont | >Ruth Grosshuesch | >Boyd Maize | >Amanda Walters |
| >Sherril & Jim Blair | >Susan/Michael Gyura | >Betty McCallen | >Margaret Williams |
| >Huddy/Bayard Boyle | >Nancy/Peter Hawkinson | **Judy & Dick Nokes | >Barbara Wright |
| >Jane Craddock | >Roy Hendrix | >Mack Pepper | >Bud Webb |
| >Virginia Dickinson | >Jean Hicks | >Rachel & Jones | |
| >Judy & Fred Frick | >Aggie/Jack Losa | Peterson, Ethan & Jayden | |
| >June Garfinkel | >Willa Lowry | >Diane/Fred Stearns | |

The congregation extends its love, sympathy, and prayers to:
Marjorie Marshall and her family in the death of her husband, Dennis.

In Service in the Military:

- Sidney Baker - niece of Kay & Joe Donaho
 Kyle Bishop - grandson of Brenda Bishop
 Trip Hiller - grandson of Anne & Wayne Tansil
 Johnny Nowell - son of Jo & Adm. John Nowell
 Patrick Peak - son of Eleanor Denton
 Meredith & Greg Wagner, Angela, Cooper -
 daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren of Stephanie & Barry Wall

From Room in the Inn Ministry:

March 9 guests

- Bert, Charles, Douglas, Fred, Howard, Johnnie, Kenny,
 Kristen, Lois, Orson, Roger, Rosaland, and Tyronne

GPC Friends and Family Prayer Ministry

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| >Walker Bartlett - family of Susan Crain | >Melinda & Fred Burson - daughter & son-in-law of Jackie & Bill Ruleman | >Anne Holtsford - aunt of Beth Brock | >family of David Massie - family of Susan Crain | >JoAnn & Rush Stuart - former members |
| >Melissa & Bill Benson, Chalmers & William - sister & family of Lauren Utterback | >Sheryl & Napo Cassibry - friends of Phyl Simmons | >John Howle - son of Cheri & Mike Howle | >Scott Moore - son-in-law of Elaine/Tom Cates | >Sarah Tobin - niece of Joe Graddy |
| >LA Billups - brother of Shirley Billups | >Caudriet & Park families - Collierville house fire | >Ron Jackson - relation of Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins | >Nancy Rivera - niece of Violet Olsen | >Nick Vergos - friend of Jeff Halfacre |
| >Elaine Brown - mother of Cheri Howle | >Judah Davis & father Berry - family of Mary Rogers | >Chrissy & Walter Lydick - sister-in-law & brother of Mary Rogers | >Scott Ruleman - son of Jackie & Bill Ruleman | >Vicki Weaver - daughter of Judy Hobbs |
| >Rev. Dr. Georgine Buckwalter - friend/mentor of Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins | >Susan Hawkins - daughter of Ann Phillips | ** Naomi Lyle - granddaughter of Susie & Joe Lyle | **Steven Russell - brother of Phil Russell | >Jimmy Wise - family of Susan Crain |
| | >Leigh Hinshelwood & daughter, Caroline - GPP teacher | **Meghan & Graham McPherson - niece & husband of Ann Harbor | **Liz & Arthur Rust - parents of Amy Barker | |
| | | | >Ted Schuler, Jr. - son of Martha Schuler | |

Friends and family requests submitted to the office for prayer will remain for 30 days before being removed. If you notice someone you requested prayer for is no longer on the list, simply notify the office, and they will be placed back on the list.

April GPC Family Prayer Ministry

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Apr 7 | Apr 14 | Apr 21 | Apr 28 |
| Morgan Arthur | Amy & Tim, Jay Barker | Jane & Culver Craddock | Honour & Eddie Batey |
| Becky & Vern Barton | Pat Beard | Susanne Crain | Pat & Dick Bevier |
| Steffie & Rob Draughon, Abigail, Amelia | Lalla & John Colmer | Betty Green | Scott Hall |
| Ernie Goad | Andrea Goughnour | Jane & Jim Kinney | Mary Ann & Randy Harris |
| Jean & Robert Hicks | Peggy Hogan | Helen & Fred Norman | Margaret & Tom Oldham, |
| Jo Ann Owens | Betsie & George Menendez | Marjorie & Chance Reynolds, | Caroline, Josh |
| Janet Roll | Patti Tracey | Chancellor, Kate, Rees | Mary Rogers |
| Carol Ann & Tommy Trenor | William Warren, Kyle, Tyler, Will Jr. | Meredith & Greg Wagner, | Libba Schatz |
| | | Angela & Cooper | Mary Jane Thompson, Viktor |
| | | Barbara Wright | |

****Indicates new request added since last month.**

MEMORIALS

During the month of February GPC received the following honorarium and memorial gifts.

In Honor of Jennie Fulmer Linda & Donnie Harris	Jerry Huff Agnes Hyers Jean Robinson Becky Stanley The Chuck Tribble Family	Donna Green Carolyn Hayward
In Honor of Lalla Mellor Linda & Donnie Harris	In Memory of Chance Reynolds' mother Mary Rogers	In Memory of Marion Slawson Katie Burrow Becky Stanley
In Honor of Rebecca Laine Linda & Donnie Harris	In Memory of Denton McLellan Jerry Huff Dixie & Bob Johnson Becky Stanley	In Memory of Susan & Joe Harris Linda & Donnie Harris
To the Memorial Fund In Memory of Ann Heffernan Molly Churchill	In Memory of Dr. Ed Scott Mr. & Ms. Richard Blankstone Carol & George Barnes Lea Davis Mr. & Ms. Lawrence Elder Patti Tracy	To the Music Fund In Honor of Bobby Lanier The Wharton Law Firm
In Memory of Bill Carrington Jones Paul Boyle	In Memory of Gene Veazey Mr. & Ms. Carl Flynn	In Memory of Bobbie Templeton David Collins The family of Bobbie Templeton
In Memory of Bill Houston Linda & Donnie Harris	In Memory of George Walters Carol & George Barnes Robyn & David Buechner	In Memory of Denton McLellan Mary & Rodney Strop
In Memory of Bobbie Templeton Carol & George Barnes Katie Burrow David Crawford Carolyn & John Dobson Robert N. Hefley Mr. & Ms. Tom Holliday		In Memory of George Walters Bobby Lanier

GPC Budget Update

GPC Financial Summary, February 2019

	Feb. 2019	2019 YTD	Feb. 2018	2018 YTD
Revenue	\$ 153,957	\$ 353,720	\$118,445	\$ 253,097
Expenses	\$ 136,211	\$ 318,139	\$ 116,845	\$ 247,228
Net	\$ 17,746	\$ 35,581	\$ 1,600	\$ 5,869

Total revenue for February was \$153,957, and expenses were \$136,211, for a monthly surplus of \$17,746. Our Year-to-Date surplus is now \$35,581 – significantly better than 2018 results.

Contributions to *Building Tomorrow Today* for the February were \$31,011, and construction expenses were \$579,741. We borrowed an additional \$350,000, bringing our total debt on the new building to \$1,535,000.

GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 2363 S GERMANTOWN RD
 GERMANTOWN TN 38138

PH: 901/754-5195
 FX: 901/754-6961

WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG

WORSHIP TIMES:
 8:30 WORSHIP
 9:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
 11:00 AM WORSHIP

OFFICE HOURS:
 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
 MONDAY-FRIDAY

WILLIAM G. JONES
 PASTOR

JAY HOWELL
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR
 DISCIPLESHIP & MISSION

SUSAN CARTER WIGGINS
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR
 CONGREGATIONAL CARE

TOM SAUER
 PASTOR TO SENIOR ADULTS

AMANDA MACKEY
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

JEROLD TEACHEY
 DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

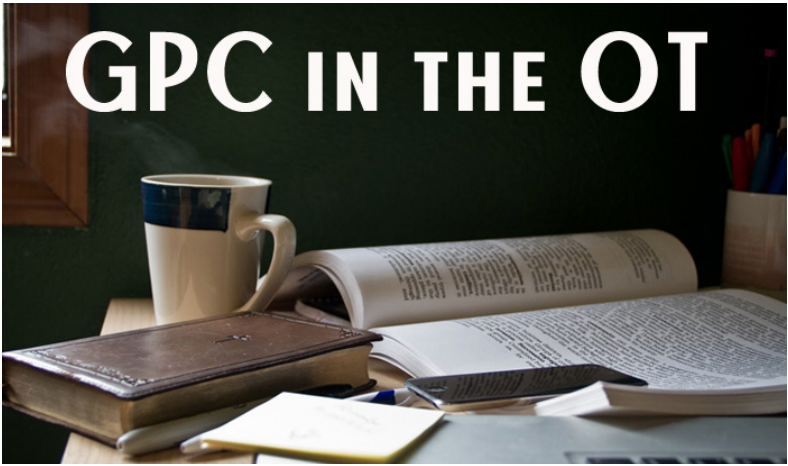
ALEX BENFORD
 ORGANIST/HANDBELL DIRECTOR

ANNA WHITE
 DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

MONICA KIRBY
 DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY



May Window Deadline: April 15



April Readings

Week of:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4-7-19	Deu 3-4	Deu 5-7	Deu 8-10	Deu 11-13	Deu 14-16	Deu 17-20
4-14-19	Deu 21-23	Deu 24-27	Deu 28	Deu 29-31	Deu 32-33	Deu 34-Jsh 3
4-21-19	Jsh 4-6	Jsh 7-9	Jsh 10-12	Jsh 13-14	Jsh 15-16	Jsh 17-18
4-28-19	Jsh 19-20	Jsh 21-22	Jsh 23-Jdg 1	Jdg 2-4	Jdg 5-6	Jdg 7-8



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