



# THE WINDOW

A Publication of Germantown Presbyterian Church

February 2020

## IN THIS ISSUE

**THE YEAR OF GRACE -  
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?**

**WHAT IS THE BELONGING  
MINISTRY?**

**HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED  
IN LITURGICAL ARTS?**



***Pastor Will's letter from this year's annual report and his thoughts on grace on this page and the next are being reprinted here in order to reach the largest number of people in the GPC family.***

*D*ear GPC Family and Friends,

The themes of continuity and change are always on my mind as one year gives way to the next. Continuity, on the one hand, is so important for a church body. Each church has a personality, and each congregation maintains certain traditions, programs, and expectations from one year to the next. As I reflect on what those are for our church, I cannot help but think of worship, education, and mission. These elements have been part of the foundation of GPC for as long as anyone can remember.

Worshipping God is essential to what we do. Each week we offer strong worship following the principles of the Reformed Tradition. Those principles include glorifying God through music, confessing sin, listening to Word of God read and interpreted, and responding to God's Word through acts of offering to support the church's mission. GPC approaches God through worship first and foremost, and everything we do proceeds out of our call to worship and enjoy God.

Another continual element of our church is strong Christian education. Now that we are in our new building, our adult education program is growing week after week. We have dedicated teachers who enjoy preparing lessons, and we have lively and edifying classes that help people in their Christian growth. The same is true for our children, youth, and special needs individuals. We have specially called guiding and mentoring teachers for our younger disciples and special needs disciples, and their present and future faith is being built on a firm foundation.

One prominent 20th Century theologian named Helmut Thielke, said: "The church exists for mission as a fire exists for burning." We are called by God to serve each other, our community, and the world by acts of love. This automatically requires a sacrifice on our part, which will always include our time, energy, and resources. We believe that our lives ought to be patterned after the life of Jesus, who spent so much time – in addition to teaching – healing and redeeming. We believe our mission work also promotes wholeness and redemption.

Carrying our emphasis of worship, education, and mission into the new year and the next decade is vitally important, and yet we know that change is also part of God's way of reforming and sanctifying us. Even though our commitments to these three priorities are solid, we are in search of new ways of serving these priorities.

In regard to worship, I will be inviting our Worship Leadership Team to help me explore what a third worship service on a Sunday would be like. Various people around GPC have approached me about another format of worship that involves different styles of music, teaching, and prayer. Some people call it "Contemporary Worship" while others recognize that "Contemporary Worship" means many different things in church circles today. We will be exploring a "blended" worship service that includes ancient forms of prayer and liturgy, coupled with traditional hymns accompanied by guitars and other instruments. For our traditional worship services, we are exploring ways that we can utilize technology to live-stream our services on the Internet.

For education, we are hoping to offer more Bible studies online. People can click a link and join in no matter where they are – traveling or at home – without needing to be at church in person for a teaching lesson. Of course, there is something we lose without being physically present with each other, but there is also much to gain by learning at a time and in a way that is convenient in our hectic world.

In our mission and service, we are seeing new opportunities to serve those in the community and world around us. "There is a role for everyone" is a mantra you will hear repeated in 2020 regarding mission. Whether it is with Room in the Inn, Memphis Athletic Ministries, Binghampton Christian Academy, Porter Leith, Team Read, Team Math or a host of other mission projects, there is a role for each person who has a heart to serve. We are always looking for new ways for the fire of missions to burn more and more brightly inside GPC members and the church as a whole.

Each year provides continuity and change, and I'm so grateful to God for them both within the body of Christ that is GPC. May you have a wonderful and blessed 2020.

Grace, mercy, and peace always,

*Will*

# 2020 - A YEAR OF GRACE

The GPC Mission Statement is all about grace. Grace is an attribute of God that we cherish dearly. God is graceful, i.e. full of grace, and God offers that grace to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Grace is God's unconditional love freely given to us so that we might have forgiveness of our sins. We can do nothing to earn grace. Grace is God's gift to us so that we will be changed in our relationships with God and one another. Grace calls us into discipleship, and grace empowers us to live as God's people freed from the consequences of sin.

Our Mission Statement guides us to accept, live in, and share God's grace. As a church, we will emphasize God's grace this year. We will spend much time sharing our stories and narrating the power and beauty of God's grace, including the following.

- How God's grace comes to us in our lives
- How we are affected by grace
- Why it is important to acknowledge God's grace in our lives
- How being a disciple is to live within God's grace
- How living by grace changes us for the better to be more like Jesus
- Why we are called by God to share the good news of God's grace
- How we can emulate God's grace and offer unconditional love to others
- How we can build up the church as a community of grace

This year we look forward to joining together in our celebration and sharing of God's grace in our community and beyond.

*Grace* GRACE *Grace* Grace *grace* GRACE  
*Grace* Grace *Grace* GRACE *grace* Grace  
 GRACE *Grace* GRACE *Grace* GRACE  
*Grace* Grace *Grace* GRACE *grace* *Grace*  
 Gr a c e *Grace* Grace *Grace* grace Grace

# MUSIC & WORSHIP ARTS

In February, the Chancel Choir will be presenting anthems including *Let Us Break Bread Together*, *Shall We Gather By the River*, and *Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing*. For Ash Wednesday, we will present a new setting of Psalm 51, *Create in Me a Clean Heart*. Looking forward to solos by four of our GPC choral scholars in the coming weeks.



Youth handbells will begin preparing to play for Confirmation Sunday on March 1. Rehearsals are scheduled for February 9, 16, and 23 at 4:00pm.

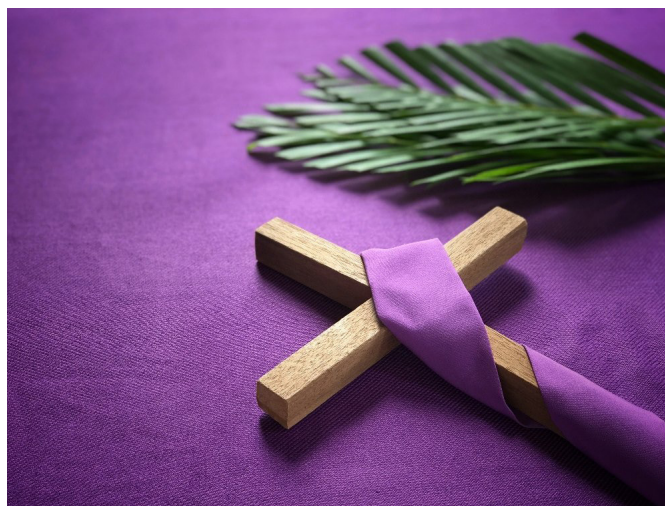
Children's Sunday February 23 - Children's choirs and handbells and a special "eclectic ensemble" will be participating as the children lead our 11:00am worship service.



We extend our thanks to all of you who support music at GPC through your participation and your generous giving contributions to both the Teachey Scholarship Fund and our Music Fund.

## Preparation for Lent Special Compass Program February 19

Dr. Alex Benford will be joined by several of our choral scholars to present a preview of music for Lent, including selections from Handel's *Messiah* and Lenten hymns and organ works.



## Liturgical Arts Leadership Team

We have received exceedingly positive feedback regarding the introduction of banners into our sanctuary. Our team is hard at work exploring ways to create our own custom banners, as well as ways to involve the children of our church in creating some!

Are you interested in participating in this ministry opportunity but don't feel particularly artistically inclined yourself? Along with banners, the team's bulletin art project has also been a huge success. Artwork is selected based upon the scripture for the coming week. Frequently we come across works by living artists. We contact these artists and ask for permission to use their work. While artists will very occasionally (i.e. rarely) donate use of their work for our purposes for free, it is much more common that they ask us to pay a standard \$25 license fee. If you would be interested in sponsoring bulletin art for a week (or two, or more!), please speak with Dr. Alex Benford ([alexbenford@germantownpres.org](mailto:alexbenford@germantownpres.org)), GPC's liaison for Liturgical Arts.

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE

## BELONGING MINISTRY 2020

### CONNECTING PEOPLE INTO THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

The vision of the Belonging Ministry is for everyone at GPC to feel loved and included in our family of faith. In the summer of 2019, our ministry began with a focus on our most recent new members, sharing with them ways to become involved and to shorten the time it takes for new members to feel as though they truly belong at GPC.

The Belonging Ministry is built on the concept that we are all called to build relationships that resemble a cross – vertical with God and horizontal with the people of God. We are called to be bridge-makers and connectors between the people of God and God in Christ Jesus. We are called to help one another grow in faith through both word and deed. This happens through Bible study, discipleship, and fellowship together as a family of faith.

Thus, the mission of the Belonging Ministry is to create a pathway for everyone to belong to our family of faith through active participation. To expand our mission in 2020, the Belonging Ministry will be exploring multiple opportunities to expand our reach. We strive to continue this mission until every single person in our church family feels like they truly belong!

If you want to know more or know of someone who would benefit from our ministry, please contact Pastor Susie Wiggins at [susiew@germantownpres.org](mailto:susiew@germantownpres.org).



### Golf cart drivers are needed!!

If you are available on Sundays to drive the golf cart to help shuttle people between the parking lot and the church, please contact Bob Johnson at [rhjohnson9@gmail.com](mailto:rhjohnson9@gmail.com) or 901-754-1812.

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE



Need to take some flowers to someone in need? Go to the flower room! Each Sunday or Monday, flowers from the altar will be placed into portable sized vases for GPC members or staff to take to the sick, bereaved, or shut in.

Please come to the flower room (north side of the choir loft) and help yourself to these flowers in the cooler.

*The Flower Committee*

## MEDICAL SUPPLY CLOSET

Items in our medical supply closet are available to borrow for members of the congregation. These items can be checked out through the church office by calling 901-754-5195. We have canes, walkers, crutches, shower safety stools, portable toilets, and even a hospital bed. Donations of more medical equipment, especially wheelchairs, are always welcome.



## THE FRIENDS IN CHRIST MINISTRY

The Friends in Christ Ministry is a sub-committee of the Congregational Care Committee and is another way GPC wants every member of the church family to feel they belong. Volunteers visit Germantown Presbyterian's senior parishioners – mostly those who are unable to attend worship – on a monthly basis. The purpose of Friends in Christ is for everyone, no matter one's age or ability to come to worship, to know they are loved and connected to their church family – and for us to be connected and in relationship with each one of them. These relationships are nurtured by home visits, telephone calls, cards, and emails.



If you are interested in volunteering as a visitor or if you know of someone who would like to be visited, please share this information with Pastor Susie Wiggins at [susiew@germantownpres.org](mailto:susiew@germantownpres.org) or call 901-754-5195, ext. 122.

No worries about knowing what to do - Pastor Susie will provide a brief training for all new Friends in Christ, teaching empathic listening, healthy boundaries, careful observation, and other necessary skill sets.

Since its inception in February 2018, we've witnessed both the necessity and the beauty of the Friends in Christ Ministry. It is greatly benefiting our family of faith and helping us to care for each other, no matter our age or circumstance, all in the name of Christ Jesus.

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE

## GPC's GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY

Grief is the normal and natural emotional reaction to loss or change of any kind - the conflicting feelings caused by the end of or change in a familiar pattern of behavior.

The feelings, emotions, and experiences of grieving occur in no less than 40 types of significant loss - with loss through the death of a loved one being the loss we most typically associate with grief. It is not until someone experiences significant loss that they really understand how hard grief is to navigate.

Research has shown that many people do not deal effectively with grief, and unresolved grief can and does have long-term negative effects - in the work place, in relationships, and in physical health.

Only by experiencing grief and loss first-hand do people realize how ill-equipped they are to navigate and work through all of the emotions, feelings, and countless manifestations associated with grief.

By themselves books on grief and loss often do not adequately aid in helping the bereaved navigate this journey of loss and life. Often faith alone is not enough for those who are struggling mightily to learn how to live without their loved one.

Over five years ago, GPC began its Grief Support Ministry in an effort to reach out to bereaved individuals within the GPC family and throughout the greater Memphis/Shelby County area. This ministry seeks to provide an emotionally and physically safe environment in which participants can, in the context of community, become better equipped with tools for effectively navigating grief's difficult journey.

The Grief Support Ministry Group meets the second Thursday of each month at 6:00pm in the church parlor (January 9, February 13, March 12). This ministry is open to the public.

In recognition that a group setting will not always meet the needs of each bereaved individual, the Grief Support Ministry offers a one-on-one setting in which the bereaved can get the help they need.

If you or someone you know has experienced significant loss through the death of a loved one, please consider participating in this ministry through the group or one-on-one setting.

### The Grief Support Ministry Team:

**Stephanie Wall** - The Grief Support Ministry leader, GPC member and former GPC staff member, Elder, Deacon, Certified Grief Support Specialist and Certified Grief Counselor, through the American Academy of Grief Counseling, The American Institute of Health Care Providers, and The Grief Recovery Institute

**Beth Brock** - GPC member, Elder, Deacon, Board Member of Memphis Crisis Center

**Linda Oakes** - GPC member, Deacon, Retired Nurse St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Hospice Volunteer

### Contact information for Ministry Team:

**Stephanie Wall**-901-494-7786 or stephaniewall@hotmail.com

**Beth Brock**-901-355-0262 or beth.coleman.brock@gmail.com

**Linda Oakes**-901-237-6566 or linoakes@bellsouth.net

Please also note that in the event of inclement weather, the church follows the Shelby County Municipal Schools for weather-related delays and closings.



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## Thank you to January's 5th Grade Worship Leader, Jason Lindow

The Fifth Grade Bridge program exists to guide children as they begin to live their lives of faith in Jesus Christ, to encourage friendships among one another, to actively participate in church life, and to successfully transition to GPC youth. Throughout the year you will see 5th graders reading scripture in worship, participating in retreats and fellowship activities, gathering to meet junior high students, mentoring younger GPCKids at VBS, and serving in the community through Mission 901. Questions about this program can be directed to Director of Children's Ministry, Anna White (annaw@germantownpres.org). January's 5th Grade Worship Leader was Jason Lindow.



What is your full name? *Jason Edward Lindow*

Who are your parents and siblings? *Julie and Matthew Lindow; sister Victoria*

Where do you go to school? *Homeschool*

What have you most enjoyed doing at GPC? *NaCoMe*

What have you learned at GPC? *Playing the bells and reading music*

In the future what do you hope to experience at GPC? *Looking forward to youth group*



NEW LENTEN COMPASS SERIES FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS

## New Lenten Compass Series for Children & Adults

Coming up: a new Lenten series for both children and adults during Lent at Wednesday Night Compass. On Wednesdays, March 4, March 11, March 25, and April 1, Pastor Susie Wiggins will be leading a Lenten series for adults in Warren Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:15pm following the 5:30pm meal. At the same time, Anna White, Director of Children's Ministry, will be leading the children in a creative Lenten program downstairs involving the visual arts. This series won't be like anything the children have ever participated in, so make sure to watch for more details. Questions? Contact Pastor Susie Wiggins (susiew@germantownpres.org) or Anna White (annaw@germantownpres.org).

## News from GPP in the New Year

During the month of February, Germantown Presbyterian Preschool will hold its fourth annual Giving Tree Fundraiser. This is a huge benefit for the school each year! The proceeds of last year's fundraiser allowed for the purchase and installation of artificial turf for the playground! This has been a huge improvement to the play space outside – it dries very quickly and has given the children a wonderful space to run and play! This year, funds will be earmarked to go toward playground toys and materials and will allow each teacher to buy additional learning materials for her classroom. If you are interested in contributing, you may mail donations to GPP, 2363 South Germantown Road, Germantown, TN 38138, or contact Jennifer Gentry, Director of the Preschool, at preschool@germantownpres.org. Donations are tax deductible.





# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**Join the Eclectic Ensemble for  
3rd, 4th, and 5th Graders  
in preparation for  
Children's Sunday!**



Ms. Shannon and Mr. Aaron are leading an "Eclectic Ensemble" to play instruments on Children's Sunday! This special group of instrumentalists will practice following worship until 12:45pm on February 2, 9, and 16 to accompany our Sunday School Singers on Children's Sunday (February 23). If your child is in 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade and would like to play instruments such as xylophones, metallophones, and glockenspiels, please email Director of Children's Ministry, Anna White (annaw@germantownpres.org) to let her know.

**Mark Your Calendar for  
VBS & Mission 901  
June 1-5**

This year 3-year-olds (as of the week of VBS) through rising 5th graders will dive deeper into their faith by putting their

**FOCUS** on God and His amazing plan for their lives! They will discover how to trust in what they CAN'T see because of what they CAN see!

We will use this week to explore four different ways we can **FOCUS** on God: Hear, Talk, Pray, Live! Current 5th Graders will again serve as VBS Mentors for the week! VBS takes place in the morning from 9:00am - noon, and Mission 901 occurs in the afternoon.

Mission 901 Week is for rising 6th graders – rising 8th graders and will be all around the Memphis area during the afternoon hours of June 1-5.

Look for more information and registration for both of these events to open on March 29.

**MEMORY VERSE**

**Let us keep looking to Jesus.**  
He is the one who started this journey of faith.  
And he is the one who completes  
the journey of faith.

**HEBREWS 12:2A (NLT)**

**Next Paraclete Breakfast is  
Sunday, February 16**



"Paracletos" is the Greek word for encourager. Sixth and 7th grade students serve as encouragers to the 5th graders who will soon be joining them in the GPC Youth program. Parents, please be on the look-out for specific information regarding these special Sundays.

Current 5th graders and Junior High Youth! Don't forget that the next Paraclete breakfast will be on Sunday, February 16 during the Sunday School hour. Mark your calendar to attend! This is a great way to get to know friends who will be part of your group next year. Paracletes, what can you do to encourage your 5th grader?

Parents, we are in need of breakfast sandwiches, and you can sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b48aea82aa75-5thgrade>.

This is the second in a series of Sundays this coming semester in which 5th graders have the opportunity to experience Junior High Sunday School, begin to know the teachers, and especially begin to connect with a new cohort of church friends.

The Bridge program exists to guide 5th graders as they begin to live their lives of faith in Jesus Christ, to encourage friendships among one another, to actively participate in church life, and to successfully transition to GPC youth.

Questions? Email Anna White, Director of Children's Ministry (annaw@germantownpres.org) or Amanda Mackey, Associate Pastor for Youth (amandam@germantownpres.org)

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY & SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY



"Breathe" is a Parents' Night Out Program offered by Germantown Presbyterian Church to its membership and the community. Our desire is to provide the respite parents need in today's fast-paced world.

Children as young as one year old are welcome. We also have room for individuals with special needs of any age that require adult supervision.

An evening lasts from 6:30–10pm and includes a meal, themed crafts and activities, and the evening concludes with a movie.

Following a program called *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* based on Psalm 139:14, each month is dedicated to a different day of creation. Join us as we enter the science lab and explore God's wonderful creation through lab exploration (lab coats and safety glasses included!).

This month on Friday, February 14, how do fish swim?! How do birds fly?! We will attempt to answer these questions and more as we look at Genesis 1:20-23 and the 5th day of Creation! Make plans now for your children to attend! Visit our website at [www.germantownpres.org/breathe](http://www.germantownpres.org/breathe) to register for the first time and/or to make this month's reservation. We will look for you on February 14 from 6:30-10:00pm. (Please note: reservations for this event close at noon on the Monday prior to the event.)

Questions? Email Anna White (annaw@germantown-prse.org), Director of Children's Ministry, or Monica Kirby (monicak@germantownpres.org), Director of Special Needs Ministry.

## A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL MODEL

*By Monica Kirby*

Over the holidays all the families of 4th and 5th graders at GPC received a letter inviting their students to be part of a new Sunday school model called reverse inclusion. Here is an excerpt from that letter:

*The Children's Ministry along with the Special Needs Ministry of GPC would like to put a new challenge on the table for you and your student(s). While your students meet each week for Sunday School, in the classroom next door is another 4th grader who attends Sunday School each week by himself. Nick is curious, fun-loving, structured - and did I mention he has autism? When his family first started attending GPC over four years ago it was determined a self-contained classroom was the best setting for his learning style. But as the years have rolled on and Nick has matured, he wants and needs to spend some time with his peers.*

*After much conversation, the children's ministry, the special needs ministry, and Nick's family would like to try a reverse inclusion model. What is that? Well, I am glad you asked! Reverse inclusion simply means that Nick's typical learning peers would on occasion spend a portion of their Sunday School hour in Nick's classroom working a puzzle or playing a game with him as part of his lesson. This would provide Nick with social interaction as well as the peer support every young person needs. And the benefits do not stop there! Your student would learn to put into action the things you have been teaching at home - fair treatment of others, tolerance, acceptance...the list goes on!*

We, the Special Needs Ministry, the Children's Ministry Leadership and Nick's family then met with the 4th and 5th grade Sunday School class to talk and learn more about how they could be a part of this model. The response was overwhelming! The students were so excited to embrace Nick and to step into this role of reverse inclusion! At the writing of this article we have had two Sundays with visitors from the 4th and 5th grade class come to Nick's classroom. They were engaging, kind, and considerate, and Nick loved their interaction.



You will often hear people in church settings say, "We have never done it like this before..." when change is proposed. But this change was welcomed with open arms, and the 4th and 5th graders are proving that GPC can "embrace the special needs community as if they were embracing Jesus Himself!"

# SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

## Prom Dresses & Tuxedos!!

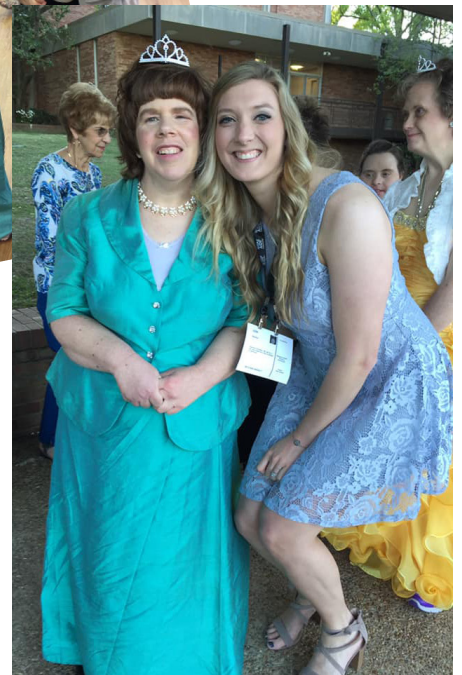
*By Monica Kirby*

When the call for prom dresses and tuxedo sponsorships goes out you know Memphis Joy Prom is just around the corner! Memphis Joy Prom is a full-scale prom experience offered to individuals ages 16 and up who have exceptional needs. It is a product of our partnership with JoyLife901 and gives Germantown Presbyterian Church a huge platform on which to engage the special needs community of the Greater Memphis Area. This year's prom will be held on April 17 at Christ Church Memphis.

Leading up to the prom JoyLife901 offers a Dressfest – an event where girls attending the prom can come and select a dress free of charge. This year's Dressfest will be held on Saturday, March 28, from 10:00am-2:00pm at Second Presbyterian Church at 4055 Poplar Avenue. Volunteers to serve as personal shoppers are needed as well as anyone willing to help with minor alterations. Donations of gently used prom and formal dresses are also being accepted and can be dropped off at Second Pres.

In addition to dresses, male prom attendees will be fitted for a tuxedo to wear to this year's event. For the last two years and through your generosity GPC has paid the bill for all of the tuxedos rented! Sponsoring a tuxedo is very simple. The cost is \$40 to outfit one young man. If you wish to sponsor a tuxedo (or two!), simply write a check for the amount to cover the number of tuxedos you wish to sponsor, make it out to GPC, and write "MJP Tuxedo" on the memo line. And we will take it from there!

Together we can "embrace the special needs community as if we were embracing Jesus Himself!"



# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

## SUNDAY MORNING & SMALL GROUP OPTIONS

All Sunday morning classes meet 9:30am-10:30am.

All of these groups offer a powerful way to come to know the Lord more deeply.

### Psalm 78 MFXS

Coordinator: Kevin Floyd  
Room: UL215 (2nd level)

Psalm 78 class is a group of parents with mostly school-aged children who meet for weekly study and fellowship. Beginning in February the class will continue to examine certain ethical questions through a Christian lens and following that will study the Beatitudes in depth. We love to welcome new members.

### Hits of the Ages MFXSA

Coordinator: Alan Callicott  
Room: UL218 (2nd level) MFXSA

The Hits of the Ages Sunday school class membership spans a range of ages from the 50s to the 80s. We're a Sunday School class, but we've also become a group of friends who look forward to our Sunday mornings together! There is always room for more.

We cycle through Bible studies... from the Old Testament to a Gospel to something else from the New Testament. We are looking at the Gospel of John from the series using the NT Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides. We take turns leading the lesson each Sunday, but leading is not required to be part of the class. We would love to welcome new members!

### Paula's Hearts and Hands FXSA

Coordinators: Elaine Cates, Melissa Ivy, Mary Rogers  
Room: UL212 (2nd level)

Paula's Hearts and Hands combines Bible Study and service to the church. Each week this group gathers around a table to study Scripture and knit prayer shawls, baby blankets, and hats for

newborns. These are for members to use and share with friends, neighbors, family - anyone who has a need. This group is studying Paul's letter to the Ephesians. You're invited to join this class for the Bible study and fellowship whether you can stitch or not.

### Seekers MFXSA

Coordinators: Jean Carroll, Nancy Halter  
Room: UL216 (2nd level) MFXSA

The Seekers class spans a range of ages and always welcomes new members. This winter the group finishes the book of Romans and begins a study on Peter - *Peter, Learning to Be Like Jesus* by Robbie F. Castleman, part of the Lifeguide Bible Studies Series. A copy of this book can be checked out from the GPC library. Members of the class take turns facilitating each lesson, but facilitating is not a requirement of this class. While our group has been together for a while, new members are always welcome.

### Faith in the Real World MFXSA

Coordinators: Susan Bingham, Gray Carter, Scott Hall, David Hopkins  
Room: UL217 (2nd level)

This class is designed for adults of all ages and stages as a way to explore what God's Word tells us about living Christian lives in a divided, post-Christian culture. The studies for this term are: *Faith: Depending on God* and *Forgiveness: Making Peace with the Past*. Both of these books are from the Lifeguide Bible Studies Series, and a copy of each can be checked out from the GPC library.

Key: M (male). F (female). X (married), S (single), A (all ages)

## Bible Studies and Small Groups

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 the groups meeting and get connected!

### Monday

Eat, Pray, Read (monthly book discussion group)

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

\*Meets in the church parlor

Contact: JoEllyn Slott (jgslott@aol.com)

Men's Lunch Devotional

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

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

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

Contact: Anthony Duke (Anthony.Duke@ipaper.com)

Women's Book Group

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

\*For February reading *Hiding in the Light* by Rifqa Bary (Each book will be discussed in its entirety at the meeting.)

Contact: Beth Willingham (bethwillingham@comcast.net)

### Tuesday

Presbyterian Women (PW)

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

3rd Tuesdays; 10:00am; Gathering, Warren Fellowship Hall

Contact: Sue Perrin (sue.perrin@att.net)

### Wednesday

Compass meal and programs (see page 13)

### Thursday

Thursday Bible Study

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

\*Studying the book of James using the NT Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides

Contact: Jean Carroll (jeancarroll1@comcast.net)

### Friday

Men's Breakfast

Fridays, 6:30am-7:30am, Warren Fellowship Hall, \$3 breakfast

\*Using the lectionary to study Scripture

Contact: Jim Boyd (jboyd10@comcast.net)

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

## Compass in February

*Contributed by George Barnes*

February 5

Presenter: Stephanie Wall

Subject: "Bear One Another's Burdens"

Background: In this session and the next Stephanie will impart to us ways to better understand the nature, scope, depth, and magnitude of grief and what that magnitude is and is not.

February 12

Presenter: Stephanie Wall

Subject: "Become a Light Bearer"

Background: From her depth of experience, Stephanie will provide insights to inform, equip, and empower us to deepen our understanding of the many manifestations of grief. She will visit ways we can walk alongside and aid those who are grieving.

Compass programs begin with supper at 5:30pm (\$7 per person - reservations REQUIRED). The programs run from 6:15 to 7:00pm and are presented in Warren Fellowship Hall. Please make reservations for supper EACH week, either by signing the friendship pad in church or by calling the church office (901-754-5195) before noon on the Monday before.

February 19

Presenter: Dr. Jerold Teachey & Dr. Alex Benford

Subject: "Music for the Lenten Season"

Background: Our adroit music director and purveyor of fine music and wonderful singing talent, accompanied by our talented and proficient organist, will musically and verbally explore the beauty and majesty of sacred music written and performed by several honored composers of bygone days. You will be charmed and mesmerized.

February 29 - Ash Wednesday

5:30pm - Supper served in Warren Fellowship Hall

6:30pm - Ash Wednesday Worship Service in sanctuary

No regular Compass programming this evening.



## Compass for the rest of 2020

February 5

Presenter: Stephanie Wall

Subject: "Bear One Another's Burdens"

February 12

Presenter: Stephanie Wall

Subject: "Become a Light Bearer"

February 19

Presenter: Dr. Jerold Teachey &

Dr. Alex Benford

Subject: "Music for the Lenten Season"

February 26 - Ash Wednesday

Supper will be served at 5:30pm in Warren Fellowship Hall followed by an Ash Wednesday worship service at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.

March 4

Presenters: Rev. Susan Wiggins & Ms. Anna White

Subject: a Lenten study program for children & adults (first in a series of four)

March 11

Presenters: Rev. Susan Wiggins & Ms. Anna White

Subject: a Lenten study program for children & adults (second in a series of four)

March 18

NO COMPASS: school spring break

March 25

Presenters: Rev. Susan Wiggins & Ms. Anna White

Subject: a Lenten study program for children & adults (third in a series of four)

April 1

Presenters: Rev. Susan Wiggins & Ms. Anna White

Subject: a Lenten study program for children & adults (final in the Lenten series)

April 8

NO COMPASS: Holy week

April 9 - Maundy Thursday

5:30pm - Supper served in Warren Hall  
6:30pm - Maundy Thursday Worship Service in sanctuary

No regular Compass programming this evening.

April 15

Presenter: Roscoe Phillips  
Subject: "Bible Jeopardy"

April 22? or April 29?

Presenter & Subject: TBD

April 29

END OF COMPASS SESSIONS for winter/spring 2020

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Garrett Guynes (youth advisor, church member) has started a men's drop-in basketball practice from 7:00-9:00pm in the Activity Center on Wednesday nights running through April 1.



**Save the Dates!**  
**NaCoMe Churchwide Weekend Retreat**  
**May 15-17**  
**Contact: Brooke Duke**  
**([brookebduke@yahoo.com](mailto:brookebduke@yahoo.com))**



Join us for a night of fun, fellowship, food, and an opportunity to meet new friends and dine with current GPC friends.

**When:** 5:30 pm, Saturday, February 29

**Where:** Hosts are needed to volunteer to prepare a dinner party in your home. The host decides the size of party: six, eight, twelve, or more including the hosts. Hosts may want to recruit co-hosts for larger parties. Hosts can be creative with their planning: a barbecue, pizza party, chili dogs, a formal dinner, or your favorite meal.

**How it works:** hosts prepare for a dinner party and don't find out who their guests are until they arrive. Guests come to the church and find out which dinner party they are going to and get directions to the host's home.

**Reservations Required:** Contact Brooke Duke at [brookebduke@yahoo.com](mailto:brookebduke@yahoo.com) or the church office at [office@germantownpres.org](mailto:office@germantownpres.org) for more details, to sign up, or to volunteer as a host.

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

## ONLINE BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES



Though this Bible study has already begun, everyone is invited to join this group on an ongoing basis or just drop in as you can. The full schedule is listed below

When: Wednesday nights from 8:00-8:45pm led by Rev. Will Jones.

What: Video-Conferencing Bible Study on Matthew.

Material: *Knowing the Bible: Matthew* by Drew Hunter.

Jan 15 Matthew 1-2; chps 1-2: Overview & The Arrival of Jesus the Messiah

Jan 22 Matthew 3-4; chp 3: Jesus Prepares for Ministry

Jan 29 Matthew 5-7; chp 4: Jesus' Authoritative Message

Feb 5 Matthew 8-10; chp 5: Jesus' Authoritative Ministry

Feb 12 Matthew 11-13; chp 6: Emerging Opposition

Feb 19 Matthew 14-17; chp 7: Growing Clarity about the Messiah's Identity

Feb 26 Matthew 18-20; chp 8: The Community of the Kingdom

Mar 4 Matthew 21-23; chp 9: Jerusalem Condemned for Rejecting the Messiah

Mar 11 Off - No Meeting

Mar 18 Matthew 24-25; chp 10: Jerusalem's Impending Judgment & the End

Mar 25 Matthew 26-28; chps 11-12 The Crucifixion, Resurrection, & Commission; Summary & Conclusion

## MEN AT GPC

### *Men's Breakfast*

Men's Breakfast meets Friday mornings at 6:30am in Warren Fellowship Hall (with occasional exceptions for holidays). Breakfast starts at 6:30am (bring \$3) and Bible study at 7:00. Different men lead each week's study using Scripture from the lectionary. 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, 11:30am-12:30pm at the Paradise Café (6150 Poplar Ave #120). Part of GPC's Men's Ministry, the contact person for this bimonthly lunch study is Anthony Duke (Anthony.Duke@ipaper.com).

## WOMEN AT GPC

### *Presbyterian Women in February*

Circle Meeting will be on February 4 at 10:00am. The ladies will be studying Lesson 6 in the Horizon Bible study - *Love Carved in Stone*. Circle 1 - Room UL215, Circle 2 - Room - UL216 and Circle 3 - UL217 and the Night Circle 4 will meet at 7:00pm in the church parlor. For more information and/or to get involved, please contact Sue Perrin at sue.perrin@att.net.

The Gathering on February 21 at 10:00am in Warren Fellowship Hall will be "Loving Yourself." Church member Wendy Holmes will show ways to take care of the whole self through yoga. The moves will be done in and next to our chairs, so wearing comfortable, loose clothing is recommended.

Wendy has a BS in Education with a concentration in Fitness Management and an MS in Health Services Administration from Central Michigan. She has been the owner of Pike Yoga for five years and has been in the fitness industry since 1990. She and her family are active members of GPC.

Come to the Gathering prepared to be pleasantly relaxed as we learn more about loving ourselves through wellness.

Threads of Love will meet on February 11 from 9:30-12:00 in the sewing room on the first floor of Evans Chapel. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend. Sewing is not required. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Ann Harris at mah174@yahoo.com.

# MISSIONS & OUTREACH

## Christmas Eve Giving Challenge Update

Every year for the Christmas Eve giving challenge everyone is encouraged to match what they spend on gifts for families and friends with the donation they give on Christmas Eve.

The total this year was \$22,291 and was divided among Binghampton Christian Academy, Memphis Athletic Mission, and Room in the Inn.

As always, GPC, thank you for your generosity.



### GPC is now a Room in the Inn (RITI) host church!

This is a perfect time to get involved. GPC hosts guests in the new community room on the second and fourth Saturday evenings each month. Please join the other dedicated volunteers who help show the love of Jesus as GPC ministers to the homeless. Thanks! and we're excited to work with you this year.



Susan Shirley Hurt ([susanshirleyhurt@gmail.com](mailto:susanshirleyhurt@gmail.com)), the RITI Core Team, & the Mission Leadership Team

### NEW RITI donations for February:

INDIVIDUAL SIZE WET WIPES  
FOOT POWDER  
RAIN PONCHOS

DEODERANT  
WOMEN'S UNDERWEAR  
(SIZES 6 & 7)

## How Is GPC Working in Ghana?



The Ghana Mission team would like to cordially invite the GPC family to join us Sunday, February 9. Immediately following the 11:00am service, we will be hosting a lunch, during which, members of the team will share about our latest trip to Ghana and present more opportunities for GPC members to become involved with the Ghana mission. We have many new ways that our members can support the Upper Presbytery of Ghana in their evangelism efforts and the growth of the presbytery. Please RSVP to Ann DeVere at [office@germantownpres.org](mailto:office@germantownpres.org) by Wednesday, February 3.

So many of you have expressed interest in helping...now is your chance to find out how! See you then!



# YOUTH MINISTRY

Hi Friends,

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 life of Jesus in the gospels. The confirmation class is preparing to meet with Session and share their faith statements. The senior high youth will be exploring Jesus at the End of Time.

Sign-ups for the Pinecrest Youth Retreat, the Jr. High Mission Trip and the Sr. High Mission Trip are active on the GPC website. Please register if you are planning on going on these fun trips!

February dates:

February 2-Jr. & Sr. High Pizza Lunch after 11am worship, 12pm-1pm in the Activity Center

February 5-Compass at Panera, 6-7pm

February 8-Jr. & Sr. High helping at Room in the Inn

February 12-Compass at Panera, 6-7pm

February 16-Jr. High 4:30-6:30pm Sr. High 6:00-8:00pm, meet in the Activity Center

February 19-Compass at Panera, 6-7pm

February 21-23-Pinecrest Youth Retreat

February 26-Ash Wednesday Service



This year's Youth Auction Hawaiian Luau is on Sunday, March 1 at 6:00pm in the Activity Center. Tickets are on sale now. This event usually sells out, and tickets are only sold

in advance, so get yours today. You can reserve a table of 8 for \$100. Otherwise, tickets are \$10 for individuals ages 13 and older, \$5 for ages 6-12, and childcare is available for children 5 and younger, but you must make reservations for that. This event is fun for the whole family including silent and live auctions and a delicious meal. Donations are now being accepted. The proceeds from this go to help fund youth mission trips.

If you have any items to donate for the youth auction (gift baskets, sports/ theatre tickets) please drop them off in the church office.

*Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for God's glory. 1 Corinthians 10:31 (HCSB)*



# IN OUR PRAYERS

## In the Congregation:

- |                       |                          |                    |                        |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--|
| >Gay Beaumont         | >Judy & Fred Frick       | >Dot Ledlow        | >Erin & Thomas Powell  | >Amanda Walters                                  |
| >Shirley Billups      | >Susan & Michael Gyura   | >Aggie & Jack Losa | >Jackie & Bill Ruleman | >Woodie Whited, Johnathan Whited, & Sandy Franks |
| >Sherril & Jim Blair  | >Nancy & Peter Hawkinson | >Willa Lowry       | **Pam & Bill Spencer   |  |
| >Huddy & Bayard Boyle | >Jean & Bob Hicks        | >Boyd Maize        | >Jan Thomson           |  |
|                       |                          | >Debbie Moseley    |                        |  |
|                       |                          | >Mack Pepper       |                        |  |

The congregation extends its love, sympathy, and prayers to:  
 the family of Suzanne Bowlin in her death;  
 Beth Carter & family in the death of her father;  
 the family of Roy Hendrix;  
 the family of Bobby Lanier;  
 Libba Schatz in the death of her husband;  
 the family of Patti Tracey.

## 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  
 Jason Ragain - son of Debbie Ragain

## From Room in the Inn Ministry

Past Guests

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

## GPC Friends & Family Prayer Ministry

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| >Frances Blackwell - grandmother of Anna White         | >Jay Gray - friend of Julie & Matthew Lindow                    | >LaLisa Lindemann - daughter of Dot Ledlow  | of Diane Stearns   |
| >Julie Bland - daughter of Mary & Rodney Strop         | >Susan Hawkins - daughter of Ann Phillips                       | **Hilliard Morgan - brother of Greg Morgan  | >William Steven, son of Hayley Steven - friend of Susan Shirley Hurt           |
| >Elaine Brown - mother of Cheri Howle                  | >Roy Hill - brother of Walter Hill                              | >Rev. Philomena Ofori-Naaph - sister/friend/colleague of Pastor Susie                                   | >Kila Tripp - daughter of Cindy & Rick Tripp                                   |
| >Thomas Canale - father of Bob Bobo's neighbor         | >John Howle - son of Cheri & Mike Howle                         | >Ginger & Thomas Payne, daughter Tori, Ginger's parents, Myra & Dale - friends of Sherrie & Neal Horner | >Dick Vosburg - friend of Margaret Owens                                       |
| **Janet & John Clark & family - friends of Mary Rogers | >Jen & Bobby Ireland, sons, Nick & Matt - neighbors of Bob Bobo | >Shane Stanford - pastor at Christ Methodist Church   | >Jerry Wilson, Sr. - father of Jerry Wilson                                    |
| >Pat Fox - mother of friend of Sherrie Horner          | >Debbye Jensen - cousin of Jeanie Hill                          | **Jane Stearns - sister-in-law  | **Diane Young, daughter Jennifer - friends of Laura & Woodson Farmer, Emmaline |

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

*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.*

## February GPC Family Prayer Ministry

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| Feb 3<br>Barbara & Bill Armstrong<br>Joyce & Gordon Cochran<br>Jeff Day<br>Sally & John Humphrey,<br>Campbell, Thomas<br>Donna & Steve Morley<br>Harriett Reed<br>Mandie & Chris Shepherd,<br>Cami<br>Matt Slott | Feb 10<br>Sondra Biggs<br>Bob Cook<br>Beverly & Ben Froelich<br>Helen Georgi<br>Meredith & Matt Mattila, Risto<br>Darwyn Mitchell, Andrew,<br>Stephen<br>Dorothy Reger<br>Sherry & Jason Williams | Feb 17<br>Andrew Arthur, III<br>Karen & Mark Cooper, Aidan<br>Dixie & Bob Johnson<br>Kathy Kalagias, Addison,<br>Kinley<br>Debbie & George Moseley<br>Ann & Harry Reed, Andrew,<br>Emma, Sarah<br>Sandy & Gerald Wilson | Feb 24<br>Barbara & Andrew Arthur<br>Lisa & Rob Clapper, Lily & James<br>Sherry & Bud Hurley, Jake,<br>Julianne, Lauren<br>Susan & Will Jones, Grace,<br>Lelia, Mary<br>Betsy & Noell Moseley<br>Betty Reschenberg<br>Agnes Thomas<br>Billie & Dan Work |
|--|---|---|---|

# MEMORIALS

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

<u>Building Tomorrow Today</u> In Memory of Scott Ruleman Mickie & Steve Nabers	In Memory of Ernest Mellor Mary & Rodney Strop	In Honor of Brenda & David Jeter Macie Houston
<u>Grief Ministry</u> In Honor of Stephanie Wall Randy Edens	In Memory of Scott Ruleman Barbara Armstrong Linda Sue & Bob Bobo Kay & David Collins Bobby Lanier	In Honor of Susan & Will Jones Linda & Donnie Harris  In Honor of Nicki & Tommy Lamar Macie Houston
<u>Memorial Fund</u> In Memory of Bobby Lanier Jerry Huff	Debbie & Jim Ragain Connie & Tom Scott Alta & Jim Simpson Anne & Wayne Tansil	In Honor of Aggie & Jack Losa Linda & Donnie Harris
In Memory of Carolyn Hayward Sammy Ann Marshall	Jan Petri & Jerold Teachey Judith & Tom Wilson	In Honor of Amanda Mackey Linda & Donnie Harris
In Memory of Frank Williams Mary Williams	In Memory of Frank Williams Linda Sue & Bob Bobo Jo Ann & Kirk Lendeman	In Honor of Kim & Tom Sauer Linda & Donnie Harris
In Memory of Scott Ruleman Allenby Lakes Owners Association Terry & Rich Aust Katie Burrow Jerry Huff Dixie & Bob Johnson Sammy Ann Marshall Jane Morris	In Memory of Gracie & Ed Willingham Caroline & Tom Willingham	In Honor of Ramona & John Seabold Macie Houston  In Honor of Kristi & Vernon Sneed Macie Houston
In Honor of Lelia Gray Jones Natalie & Davant Latham	In Honor of Jean & Ray Carroll Macie Houston	In Honor of Dr. & Ms. Jerold Teachey (Dr. Jan Petri) Linda & Donnie Harris
<u>Memorial Garden Association</u> In Memory of Bobby Lanier Connie & Tom Scott	In Honor of Beth Carter Linda & Donnie Harris	In Honor of Peggy Whitaker Anne & Wayne Tansil
<u>Room in the Inn</u> In Honor of Susan & Will Jones Nancy Jones	In Honor of Kay & David Collins Macie Houston	In Honor of Susan Carter Wiggins Linda & Donnie Harris
<u>Music Fund</u> In Memory of Carolyn Hayward Macie Houston	In Honor of Nancy & Jeff Halter Macie Houston	
In Memory of Bobby Lanier Bonnie Algee Delores Durley Jan Petri & Jerold Teachey	In Honor of Linda & Donnie Harris Macie Houston  In Honor of Frances & Jay Howell Linda & Donnie Harris	

GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
2363 S GERMANTOWN RD  
GERMANTOWN TN 38138

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

WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG

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

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

WILLIAM G. JONES  
PASTOR

SUSAN CARTER WIGGINS  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR  
CONGREGATIONAL CARE

AMANDA MACKEY  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

TOM SAUER  
PASTOR TO SENIOR ADULTS

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

**March Window Deadline: February 15**

## Churchwide email lists:

If you want to receive a weekly informational email from GPC's Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, and/or from GPC with all the latest news and updates, contact the Communications Department at [communications@germantownpres.org](mailto:communications@germantownpres.org).



VISIT  
GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ONLINE AT  
[WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG](http://WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG)



LIKE US!  
[FACEBOOK.COM/  
GERMANTOWNPRES](https://FACEBOOK.COM/GERMANTOWNPRES)



CHAT WITH US ON TWITTER!  
[@GERMANTOWNPRES](https://twitter.com/GERMANTOWNPRES)  
[@GPTNYOUTH](https://twitter.com/GPTNYOUTH)  
[@WILLGRAYJONES](https://twitter.com/WILLGRAYJONES)