

THE WINDOW

A Publication of Germantown Presbyterian Church

August 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

SEE INSIDE FOR THE ONLINE
AND ONSITE OFFERINGS IN AUGUST

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life,[a] and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:1-5 (NRSV)

Germantown Presbyterian Church * 2363 S Germantown Rd * Germantown TN 38138
www.GermantownPres.org



GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
C·H·U·R·C·H

Dear GPC Members and Friends,



As we begin another program year during this month of August, I approach you with eagerness and trepidation. At the same time, I am so excited about and so uncertain about how this next year will proceed. Never before in my career as a minister have I approached a church program year with such an entrepreneurial spirit all around me in our staff and membership. Usually, the church year is programmed with an anticipated rhythm of how things will proceed, and we rarely deviate from our patterns and schedules over the course of a year. We know what will happen in the fall, and we are rarely surprised by much as we move into the holiday season, especially as we gear up for Christmas and all of its beautiful busy-ness. Have we grown too comfortable? Perhaps....

Maybe God is inviting (inspiring) us to shake things up a little bit. In the last few months, we have learned to throw many expectations out the window, and we have lost (or rather postponed) many of our traditions and practices. We have adapted to circumstances we never would have chosen. We know this is not unique to churches: so many of your small and large businesses have had to adjust to circumstances that have wreaked havoc on your incomes and routines. As a church, we have learned to lean on God in ways that are new and difficult...and that are a blessing!

God is answering and blessing our desire to remain faithful to the Spirit's leading. As we approach this new season in our church life, I am reminded of the Scripture passage from Isaiah where God declares a fresh approach for His people: "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert" (Isaiah 43:19). God spoke these words to a weary people who had been in exile for many years. They were isolated from the familiar settings of their homeland, and they were wondering about what their future would hold. Would God be faithful? Would they ever return to "normal?" Will they see a better day than the present?

As we look out into our future, I believe that God intends to bless us by doing new things among us. We have glimpses of what the next year will look like. In all of our planning, we are anticipating that the status quo will remain for one year regarding Covid-19. Until there is mass-immunity or a vaccine, we will have limited worship attendance, smaller onsite Sunday School classes and Bible studies, increased online groups and studies, and more live-streaming of the morning traditional worship service and the evening contemporary service (coming in September). We will not be

physically present with each other as much, but is it not possible that God will lead us into deeper and better relationships — first and foremost with God and also with each other? It is during exactly these kinds of times that God causes us to grow, be better, deepen our faith, and increase our love.

To respond to God's leading, we are relying heavily on prayer and inspiration, and we are praying for God to be creative among us. We are hoping that our church members will respond to new ways of being the church in service to the world and new ways of learning about God's will for our lives. I believe we will rise to the challenge — and a great challenge it will be! Here are some that I see: how to teach children and youth who are not adapting well to "social distancing" (but who is?); how to help older adults plug in to unfamiliar technology; how to worship when we're mostly online; how to minister to our isolated, sick, and older members..... and the list goes on.

The challenges are mighty—but God's power is stronger than all challenges. God's grace is sufficient in all of our personal and communal weaknesses, and God will bless us if we stay prayerful and faithful. Children and youth will learn the faith, adults will experience the blessing of growing, and our church will emerge stronger and better than we've ever been. In the 180-plus years of GPC, God has been faithful and seen us through many difficult times, and I believe 2020 will prove to be another beautiful chapter God is writing in the life of our church.

May God bless you this summer and fall as you find new ways to love God and neighbor for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Grace, mercy, and peace always,

Will

VIRTUAL & ONSITE EVENTS

GPC IS SLOWLY BEGINNING TO RE-OPEN THE CHURCH FACILITIES FOR WORSHIP AND MEETINGS, BUT WE MUST CONTINUE TO BE CAUTIOUS - LIMITING OUR CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER; MAINTAINING SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCE FROM EACH OTHER; AND, OUT OF LOVE AND CONCERN FOR OUR CHRISTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WEARING A MASK WHILE WE'RE INSIDE THE CHURCH BUILDINGS. PLEASE CONTINUE TO WATCH THE GPC WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE LATEST UPDATES ON THESE AND OTHER EVENTS.

IF YOU ARE NOT GETTING GPC EMAILS AND WANT TO, PLEASE CONTACT COMMUNICATIONS@GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG.

CURRENT ONLINE/VIRTUAL MEETINGS

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THESE MEETINGS & HOW TO CONNECT, CONTACT THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AT COMMUNICATIONS@GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG.

MEN'S BREAKFAST (FRIDAY MORNINGS)
VARIOUS ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (SUNDAY MORNINGS)
SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS (SUNDAY MORNINGS)

LIMITED ONSITE & ONLINE LIVESTREAMING VIRTUALLY
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE (9:30AM SUNDAY MORNINGS)
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL (BEGINNING SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 AT 10:45AM)
YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL & FELLOWSHIP - (BEGINNING SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 AT 10:45AM & 4:30PM)

GPC IS NOW LIVESTREAMING THE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:30AM, AND THE SANCTUARY IS RE-OPENING FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF PEOPLE TO ATTEND ONSITE. YOU CAN MAKE A RESERVATION TO ATTEND EACH WEEK BY GOING TO THE GPC HOMEPAGE HERE ([HTTPS://GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG/](https://germantownpres.org/)) AND CLICKING ON THE BIG BLUE BOX.

MEN'S LUNCH DEVOTION MEETINGS - TBD
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN AUGUST GATHERING - AUGUST 18, 10:30 (LIMITED ONSITE SANCTUARY & ONLINE VIRTUALLY)
THEATER FELLOWSHIP GROUP - TBD
VARIOUS OTHER FELLOWSHIP GROUPS - TBD

ONLINE SERVICES CAN BE FOUND ON GPC'S WEBSITE, GPC'S VIMEO AND YOUTUBE CHANNELS, & GPC'S FACEBOOK PAGE. BE SURE TO LIKE, SHARE, & SUBSCRIBE. YOU'LL BE NOTIFIED EVERY TIME A NEW VIDEO IS UPLOADED.

VIMEO - GERMANTOWNPRES ([HTTPS://VIMEO.COM/USER22619921](https://vimeo.com/user22619921))

YOUTUBE - GERMANTOWNPRES TN ([HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCwEm01Y_cQ9Hys-3vYtQOMPw/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwEm01Y_cQ9Hys-3vYtQOMPw/))

REMEMBER: EVERYTHING IN BLUE TYPE IS A LIVE LINK IN THE ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



Sunday, August 2

6:30pm

**Arthur Rd Porte Cochere
& Parking Lot**

**Outdoor Concert
Fellowship Event**

Sunday night, August 2 at 6:30pm, GPC member Chuck Utterback and his music group, The Ramblers, will perform a concert outside under the porte cochere on the Arthur Road side of the church. Pull into the church parking lot using the Germantown Road entrance and park in the lower part of the lot. Bring your lawn chairs and your picnic baskets and enjoy the shade from the trees in the upper parking lot on the Arthur Road side of the church as you fellowship at a safe distance from each other and enjoy music. Please bring/wear your masks if you plan to interact more closely with others. No reservations are necessary.

For the past 39 years, The Ramblers have been entertaining audiences throughout the southeastern United States with their unique brand of harmony and humor. Tim Parrish, Randy Mathenia, and Chuck Utterback started performing together in college and have gone on to produce three albums. A number of major country music stars have closed The Ramblers' shows, including Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Barbara Mandrell, George Jones, and Steve Wariner. The Ramblers have appeared on The Nashville Network and continue to delight audiences young and old. Each member has a great deal of musical experience and a wide range of influences. The Ramblers feature tight harmonies, great instrumentals, and a really fun time for all their audiences.

The Ramblers also feature good old Southern Gospel Quartet style harmony with the exquisite keyboards of Cheryl Maccarino.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

New Sunday Morning Fellowship Group for Adults with Young Children



“Coffee and Conversations” is a new Sunday morning fellowship class for adults with young children highlighting GPC structure and life.

How are decisions made at GPC? Who are active leaders and what do they do? What events are important for my family?

This class will feature different speakers each week from among church leadership and attempt to answer these questions and others, and this class includes an adult devotional related to what your child is learning in Sunday school each week.

This class begins on Sunday, August 16. Drop your child off at the Pancake Breakfast after worship and then join us in the blue Noah's ark room on the elementary floor (lower level) at 10:45am.

Questions? Email Anna at annaw@germantownpres.org.

Sunday Morning Adult Education Options for Fall

These are tricky and challenging times. As such, the Adult Education classes being offered on Sunday mornings following worship will change as we move forward and circumstances change for all of us. That being said, here's what things look like beginning in August.

In order to accommodate the 9:30am worship service, all (adult, special needs, youth, child) Sunday School classes will follow the service, both in a limited capacity onsite and continuing online. Make sure you check in with your class leader to confirm your group's details.

Coffee & Conversations, new adult class for parents of young children - see description and information in adjacent column.

Hits of the Ages Class, class leader Alan Callicott - This class will study the book of Romans; class members Beth Willingham and Liz Callicott are selecting the study book they will use. This class will meet via Zoom and onsite in a limited capacity in Warren Fellowship Hall.

Psalms 78 Class, class coordinators Stacy Weiss and Kevin Floyd - Beginning on August 9, they will begin a brief study of the history of Judaism. There will not be any books required for this study which should last 4 weeks. After completion of that study, they plan to begin a study on *Hebrews* by Earl S. Johnson (Interpretation Bible Studies), to bridge the teachings of the Old Testament with the New Testament. They are searching for a study book. That study should last through November. This class will meet via Zoom and onsite in a limited capacity. Location TBD.

Seekers Class, class coordinator(s) TBD - This group will study *The Twelve Disciples* by Douglas Connelly, a Life Guide series. This class will meet via Zoom and onsite in a limited capacity. Location TBD.

GPC is moving!

That is - GPC is moving from the Go To Meeting platform for meetings and classes to Zoom effective August 1. With Zoom we will have the opportunity to see more participating faces than GoTo provides. This will be good! Be on the lookout for new links to meetings and classes from the organizers of these events.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

It's Still Vital to GPC That You Give During This Time

Ways to Give



Text

Set up a recurring or one-time donation by texting the amount you wish to give to 901-295-0202.



Giving App

Download the "GivePlus Church" app to set up recurring or one-time donations. You can also manage and view your giving from the convenience of your smartphone!

In the Mail

Mail checks to:
2363 S Germantown Rd
Germantown TN 38138.



Online



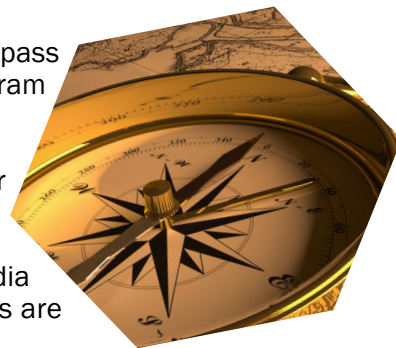
Visit germantownpres.org/giving or scan the QR Code to set up and manage your recurring or one-time gifts.

*For more information please call
Fred Turverey in the church office at 901-754-5195.*

During the fall quarter, with circumstances in a continued state of flux, the Compass Team has decided to postpone the opening of the Wednesday night Compass program until sickness and infection numbers stabilize.

The team will meet again toward the end of the year to evaluate the situation for the new year, and an announcement will be made at that time.

Evening Bible study options will be offered in the fall, so watch GPC social media and all other publications for information on those opportunities as soon as plans are made for them.



Did You Know that GPC Is on YouTube & Vimeo?



Yep. GPC has its own YouTube and Vimeo channels. You can search us online, or if you're reading a digital copy of this newsletter, you can click [here](#) for YouTube and [here](#) for Vimeo. You can also access these channels from the website - www.GermantownPres.org.

MAKE SURE YOU SUBSCRIBE! These channels reward high numbers of subscribers with more privileges and permissions.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

New GPC Book Study



New GPC Book Study: Debby Irving's "Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race," (Cambridge, MA: Elephant Room Press, 2014, ISBN 978-0-9913313-0-7).

Irving writes of her own personal recollections of her experiences of being an American white woman and coming to terms with the complexity of race in the United States.

Pastor Susie Wiggins will lead this book study and discussion on Monday evenings beginning September 8. This will be a 9-week virtual book group meeting on Zoom. If you are interested in participating in the book study, please call the church office (901-754-5195) or email Pastor Susie at susiew@germantownpres.org.

Irving writes, "Thinking myself 'raceless' allowed for a distorted frame of reference built on faulty beliefs."

Pastor Susie says, "This was me, too. I grew up in the 1950s and 1960s and the photo on the cover of the book could easily be me – blonde curly-haired girl child. Studying and learning about racism has caused me to step out of my comfort zone, and to grow in empathy for my brothers and sisters of color. I've had to be vulnerable, but doing so has given me new strength and confidence in who I am as a human being and follower of Jesus Christ. I invite you to join me in this journey as we learn more about race and racism together. I promise we will create a safe space for rich conversation."

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE – THIS COMMITTEE IS MEETING MONTHLY TO DETERMINE WHAT KIND OF FELLOWSHIP EVENTS WE CAN HAVE THIS FALL AT GPC. TO BEGIN WITH THE CLC WILL HOST AN **OUTDOOR MUSIC EVENT ON AUGUST 2**. SEE FURTHER DETAILS ON PAGE 4.

STAY TUNED TO LEARN WHAT SORTS OF CONGREGATIONAL EVENTS THE CLC COMES UP WITH AS FALL AND WINTER APPROACH.

Welcome, Randy Smith

In July GPC welcomed Randy Smith on board the staff as Maintenance Technician. Tommy Adair retired at the end of June, and Randy replaces him.



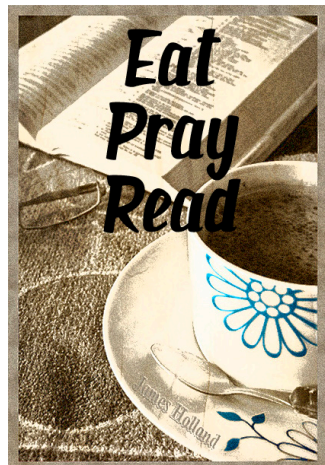
Randy began retirement in March of 2020 after working 20 years for S&D Coffee Company. Prior to that he managed multiple properties in the restaurant and hospitality industry. He is married to Cathy Smith and has three grown children, two sons and a daughter. You can still see him cheering for LSU and MSU, both schools he attended.

He is an avid Arsenal soccer fan. His hobbies include music, traveling, and spending time at the lake house with his grandchildren.

Welcome, Randy. We're glad you're here.

Eat, Pray, Read Fellowship Group

Eat, Pray, Read is a study group for those interested in expanding their faith and spiritual growth through Christian books and Bible study. This woman's group meets on the second Monday of the month in the church parlor unless otherwise specified.



Participants take turns leading the monthly time of discussion, prayer, food, and fellowship. Each person is responsible for purchasing her own book and reading it before the day of discussion.

This group is currently considering returning onsite in September to meet using the social distancing guidelines as provided by the WHO/CDC, strongly encouraging the wearing of masks, and using a reservation system. If you are interested in joining this group, either onsite or online, please contact JoEllyn Slott at JGSlott@aol.com.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Summer Series #2
July 12 - August 16, 2020



Beginning July 12 the GPC pastors began a new sermon series based on the Apostle Paul's letter to the church at Rome: "Broken – Good News for Tough Times"

This series uses the lectionary epistle passages from:
 Romans 8: 1-11, Romans 9:1-5,
 Romans 8:12-25, Romans 10: 5-15, and
 Romans 8:26-39, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32.



Each of these epistle readings looks at our brokenness as human beings, and, most importantly looks at how God sustains us in the midst of brokenness, no matter the struggles we face in the world, culture, society, community, families, or within our own personal lives. We invite you to join us for worship each and every Sunday – either in-person or online to hear more about the enveloping and healing love of God in Christ Jesus come what may, including our own sin and need of God's redeeming grace.

The GPC Blog

Contributed by
Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

Within the GPC website you can find the GPC Blog. "What is the GPC Blog?" you may ask. It is another means for GPC to communicate and connect with those who visit our website. Presently you will find daily writings on blog. These are like the daily devotions that I began to write before the 2020 COVID-19 Global Pandemic. That is, on Ash Wednesday, I began a 54-day daily devotion and accompanying journal on "Lent and Easter from the Wisdom of Henri Nouwen" (compiled by Judy Bauer, Ligouri, MO: Ligouri Publications, 2005). Following this study, I began a new series of daily devotions that I titled a "Study of Time; our relationship to time," using as a primary resource Dorothy C. Bass' "Receiving the Day: Christian Practices for Opening the Gift of Time," (San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2000). I wrote these daily devotions until Pentecost, and afterwards began another study on "the church" – who we are as the people of God and who God calls us to be. Presently, I am writing on "The church - Lament to Hope" - how we journey through lament to find hope again as the people of God.

All of these daily devotions are posted each morning on the Pastor Susie Wiggins Facebook page as "Morning Blessings." Many of those who visit our GPC website, however, do not have Facebook and so miss out on the "Morning Blessings" daily devotions there. The GPC Blog, then, provides an additional resource for these daily devotions for a different population of our followers.

I hope you will find these writings meaningful and that they will, in turn, provide meaningful personal reflections for you. I would love to hear from you as you read and reflect on them. How are they causing "stirrings" in your soul? How is God speaking through them to you? How do you feel called to respond to God's calling on your own life as you read and reflect? I look forward to hearing from you via email at: susiew@germantownpres.org.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Germantown Ministers Offer A Joint Statement

The ministers of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Germantown United Methodist Church, Germantown Presbyterian Church, Kingsway Christian Church, and St. George's Episcopal, neighbors and partners in Christ's service for decades, recently gathered to discuss matters regarding racial unrest, inequity, inequality, and injustice present in our culture and society. We also discussed the great progress our country has made in racial reconciliation and civil rights and all of the many good things that have happened over the long years of faithful witness by Christ's church against racism. We also voiced our appreciation and support for police officers and elected leaders and the good they do every day, and we are grateful for police officers, emergency responders, and military members who sacrifice so much to protect us in the face of immense danger and threats to their lives every day. Together we crafted a single statement, speaking with one voice, as brothers and sisters in Christ who follow in the footsteps of Jesus Himself who stood against oppression in the first century and whose mission included lifting up all those who are oppressed in any way.

We stand together.

We, the ministers of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, St. George's Episcopal Church, Kingsway Christian Church, Germantown Presbyterian Church, and Germantown United Methodist Church serve churches who have been neighbors and partners in Christ's service for many decades. We represent a people diverse in race and creed, and our churches have intentionally come together for conversations, worship, and fellowship for the last six years.

Today, in our nation's time of strife, we continue to stand together:

We stand together as brothers and sisters in Christ:

- for treating every person with full human rights, respect, and dignity of being created in the image of God;

- for abolishing any systematic forms of racism;

- and for the persons who have been victimized by racism,

- acknowledging the pain, grief, and anger that it has caused.

We stand together for the witness of scripture:

- to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God, as Micah prophesied;

- to seek accord through the bond of peace in one body and one Spirit, as Paul taught;

- to love one another and be known by that love, as Christ said His followers would do.

We stand together for unity in Christ:

- through the building of relationships;

- through conversations that seek understanding;

- and through intentional efforts of racial reconciliation.

We stand together for all those in civil authority:

- who would faithfully serve the community in fairness and equity; and

- we ask for intentional training, oversight, and transparency of civil authority to ensure equal protection of all under the law.

We commit ourselves to continue these efforts, and invite those of like mind and heart to join us, as we seek the love and welfare of all humanity, to the glory of God.

On this, we stand together.

Dr. Will Jones, Senior Pastor, Germantown Presbyterian Church

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, Germantown Presbyterian Church

Rev. Tim Carpenter, Senior Pastor, Germantown United Methodist Church

Rev. Donald R. Ester, Sr., Pastor, New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Rev. Dorothy Sanders Wells, Rector, St. George's Episcopal Church

Rev. Dr. Ryan Starr, Senior Minister, Kingsway Christian Church



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Presbyterian Women in August



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Installation of officers for the 2020/2021 year will be on August 18 at 10:30am in a limited capacity the GPC sanctuary and online. All ladies are invited to attend. We will be socially distanced, and all are strongly encouraged to wear a mask.

From 11:00am-12:00pm, packets will be given out to everyone. Included in the packet will be the year book, instruction letter, and pledge cards. Study guides will be available for purchase. Pick-up for the packets will be under the drive-through at the portico by the sanctuary on the Arthur Road side of the campus.

Circles and Bible Study will be meeting on Zoom.

An instruction letter for Zoom will be in each packet for the option of online or listening. Our first Circle meeting and Bible Study for the year will be on September 1 at 10:00am. The Circles will remain the same as last year.

Threads of Love and the Gatherings will not be meeting.

Our Bible Study will be *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament* by P. Lynn Miller with Suggestions for Leaders by Dee Koza.

This 2020–2021 PW/Horizons Bible study revives lament as a proper theological response to the difficult situations of our world.

One of the foundational points of the study is that, in scripture, lament usually leads to hope. After crying out to God, the one who laments remembers God. And while that doesn't fix things in the moment—the injustice, the loss, the wrong still exist—the one who laments is strengthened to face the world and to hope.

When we lament, we move from suffering to faith. In our faith there is hope. We lament in order to hope. Recovering lament may be one of the church's most timely gifts to the world. Explore lament with PW!



HOW TO LEAVE A VOICE MAIL FOR GPC STAFF

IF YOU'VE CALLED THE OFFICE AND TRIED TO REACH THE STAFF BUT GOTTEN A MACHINE INSTEAD, HERE'S WHAT YOU DO:

1. PRESS 1 FOR THE STAFF DIRECTORY
2. ENTER THE 1ST 3 LETTERS OF THE STAFF MEMBER'S FIRST NAME
3. YOU WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THAT STAFF MEMBER'S PERSONAL VOICE MAIL.

YOUR CALL WILL BE RETURNED
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



GPC HAS PUT UP A DROP BOX JUST OUTSIDE THE OFFICE BUT INSIDE THE BUILDING SO YOU CAN MORE EASILY BRING BY YOUR GIFTS OR OTHER ITEMS AND DEPOSIT THEM IN THE BOX IN THE SAFEST POSSIBLE WAY.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

CIRCLES OF CARE MINISTRY CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE

Contributed by Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

The Circles of Care Ministry teams continue to:

- make phone calls to those who are the most vulnerable to feeling isolated and alone in our family of faith;
- write personal notes, emails, and text messages;
- prepare meals for those in need;
- deliver meals;
- help with technology support.

Others are also staying in touch with our parishioners, active participants, and visitors:

- the Membership Committee connects with those who've visited GPC in recent months;
- the Belonging Ministry connects with our newest members;
- the Prayer sub-committee of the Congregational Care committee connects with those who are prayed for by the congregation each week;
- Fellowship Group conveners connect with their fellowship groups;
- Men's Breakfast participants connect with each other;
- Presbyterian Women connect with each other;

- Sunday school class conveners connect with participants;

- the Petals & Prayers Flower Ministry connects with GPC members by creating beautiful flower arrangements for us all to see each Sunday, as well as individual arrangements that are hand-delivered each week;

- Friends in Christ connects with those they normally visit monthly;

- Erin Bowden connects with the youth;

- Anna White connects with GPC's children and their parents;

- Helen Warren connects with the special needs members.

Pastoral Care is happening, too. Will, Tom, and I are calling members, writing personal notes, emailing, and texting with those in need of pastoral care.

The golden thread running throughout is "connect" – we – the pastors and staff of GPC are connecting to people in all the ways we can think of. So ...

- if you have an idea of a new way for us to connect, please let me know;
- if you know of someone in need of connection; or

- if this is you and you would like a phone call, a personal note, an email, or a text message, let me know that, too.

We are here to serve God through serving you, the people of God, and we want to know all the ways you might need us to care for you.

Email: care@germantownpres.org.

The 2020-2021 Congregational Care Committee:

Staff liaison: Pastor Susie Wiggins
Committee Chair: Bonnie Algee

Subcommittees:

Belonging Ministry: Gary Veazey

Circles of Care: Robbie Hughes

Fellowship Groups: Martha Drannon

Friends in Christ: Bonnie Algee

Grief Support: Stephanie Wall

Prayer Ministry: Shirley Billups,
Pam Graddy

Retreats: Pastor Susie Wiggins



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

To My GPC Family and Friends:

Losing my daughter suddenly and unexpectedly was one of the most challenging things I have ever faced. And for those of you that know me, I have faced a host of challenges in the past 2 years. But, God and my church family has seen me through it all. And you were there again to help me navigate through this new pain. Thank you so much for all the calls, flowers, text messages and cards. I would read each one of them to her and place it in a basket next to her picture. On the especially hard days, I would sit down and quietly read those cards, every one of them, and be comforted by the thoughts and kind words, love and peace that would come when I was done reading them.

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, but love leaves a memory no one can steal.

With abundant Blessings and Love and Gratitude I again say THANK YOU to my GPC church family and friends.

Blessings,

Barb Poier

Who Is That Masked Woman?!

Pastor Susie loads up and delivers more flowers prepared by The Flower Committee for their Petals & Prayers Ministry.



Thank you to the Petals & Prayers Ministry for providing flowers every week from the Sunday chancel arrangement.

Each Sunday or Monday, flowers from the chancel will be placed into portable sized vases to take to the sick, bereaved, or shut in.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The Ministry of Flowers

GPC's Flower Committee works very hard each week, week in and week out, behind the scenes to prepare the sanctuary for Sabbath worship. Twenty-one members rotate in groups - some do the Sunday flowers and other groups break down the flowers to make small vases for distribution to members who are unable to come to church or are shut-ins.

See these recent photos of committee members working hard in the sanctuary. Whether you worship onsite or online, make sure to notice the stunning arrangements each week and offer thanks to God for His great creative work and for the members of The Flower Committee for using their talents in creating beautiful arrangements to enhance worship each week. This is a vital and beautiful ministry. Below are the members of the 2020-21 Flower Committee.

Sandy Jones, Chair

Barbara Armstrong
Beth Boyle
Diane Callahan
Jill Crocker
Bev Froelich

Ellie Goughnour
Cheri Howle
Patty Jackson
Nicki Lamar
Jo Lawson
Martha Mayers
Anne McGaha
Evelyn Mosley

Diane Newton
Gisela Pickett
Barb Poier
Carolyn Porter
Cynthia Shaw
Nancy Wells
Billie Work



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

By Helen Warren

MEET TIM McNATT



Our PEACE program has many terrific participants. There is no better way to see the value of the PEACE program than to get to know those that attend!

It's hard not to love Tim. His smile and happy personality is infectious! Tim lives in Bartlett with his dad, step mom and his black lab, Buddy, who is his best friend. He is 32 years old and the youngest of three siblings. His brother and 2 nieces live in Nashville, and his sister lives in Collierville.

Tim went to Madonna Learning Center and Adult Program for 20 years, and graduated in May 2016.

His favorite color is Memphis Tiger Blue, and you can find him wearing a University of Memphis shirt or Memphis blue just about every day. One of the things I wanted to learn about Tim was, "How did he get to be such a huge University of Memphis fan?" Here's his stepmom, Shelia's, response. "His dad is an Alumni, and we always watched all the games on TV. We got him a shirt (he dresses for whatever occasion, even if it's only watching on TV). He was given tickets to several basketball games for a few years, where he stands, yells, cheers and tells them how to play. Before long, everybody was buying him Tigers shirts, socks, hats, scarves, flags, glasses, etc... and now he's in blue about 90% of the time."

Tim plays the drums and listens to music. He listens to everything from Elvis to country to classical; he loves using finely detailed markers in adult coloring books, loves crafts, watching all sports and participating in Special Olympics basketball and bowling. Tim actively participates in gardening; his family grows most everything they eat. He is a member of Company D dance -- this talent often shows up during Wacky Wednesday when Karen Cooper is leading us in music!

He attends all the PEACE programs at GPC -- he attends Wacky Wednesday, Friendship Circle, Amplify, and Sunday School online. He said his favorite thing about the GPC PEACE programs is learning the Bible stories and getting to see his friends!

We at GPC are so excited to get to know you better, Tim. Thanks for sharing and being a part of our programs!



WE ARE GEARING UP FOR FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17

The mission statement of this program is "Friendship Circle at GPC exists for the special needs community to facilitate building God-like character through Bible study and creative outlets all while developing sincere and lasting friendships."



This group of friends meets each Wednesday during the school year for lunch and fellowship. Attendees participate in a character-building lesson and a different activity each week. The activities include a skill, a craft, a service project, or a game. In the past, we have enjoyed being in the kitchen with Mrs. Nance, art with Mrs. Patty, playing Bingo, and helping Mrs. Susan set up for RITI. This year we'll get to enjoy chair yoga with Mrs. Wendy and a visit

from Search Dogs South, a non-profit, all-volunteer search and rescue team.

How can you help foster the success of this program? Share your ideas, passions and talents. You may have a hobby or a service area that is close to your heart that you could share with our friends. Another way you can help is to spread the word. Do you have a neighbor, friend, co-worker that has a special needs adult that might like to attend? Tell them about our PEACE program, direct them to our web-site or share our e-mail address with them, specialneeds@germantownpres.org.

Whether we meet in person, through Zoom or both, please come join us! You can come for part of the program or stay the whole time. The participants would love to have you!

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

THE SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM IS LOOKING FOR A NEW DIRECTOR

The Director of Special Needs Ministry is responsible for developing, implementing, and supervising the PEACE Program of GPC. PEACE stands for the Place where Exceptional Adults and Children are Embraced. This position is a part-time, 12 month-a-year, salaried position averaging 25 hours per week.

We would like to ask for your help. First, we ask for your prayers to help guide us in finding the right person to lead our PEACE program. Secondly, we ask that you help us communicate this position. You may



know of someone or you may have a neighbor, friend, co-worker, or even a church connection that knows a person that has a special calling to work with this great group of people.

If you have any thoughts or recommendations you'd like to share, please contact our Special Needs Ministry Support Team or SNMST: Mary K. Grantham, Neal Horner, Cathy Borden, Mary Nelson or Helen Warren at specialneeds@germantownpres.org.

Director of Special Needs Ministry

Description: The Director of Special Needs Ministry is responsible for developing, implementing, and supervising the PEACE Program of GPC. PEACE stands for the Place where Exceptional Adults and Children are Embraced.

This position is a part-time, 12-month-a-year, salaried position averaging 25 hours per week. Included in these hours are Sunday and Wednesday services and weekly meetings with the whole staff and program staff. This position works along with the pastoral staff, program staff, and support staff to ensure that persons with special needs are ministered to in the most effective ways possible.

The Director of Special Needs Ministry will be expected to lead program volunteers effectively with the support of the SNMST to accomplish the total ministry. The Director of Special Needs Ministry will be responsible for the programs under this position, while empowering volunteers to help lead the ministry.

The Director of Special Needs Ministry reports directly to the Senior Pastor.

Experience: A minimum of 5 years in special needs ministry, either in a leadership or lead volunteer role. Or, in the alternative, a degree in special education or a related field would be accepted.

The person in this role will have a mature faith in Jesus Christ and an ability to articulate how his or her relationship with God is maintained over time. This ministry director will work well with other staff members as a team player and will seek to love and minister to all people. This person will seek to integrate into a wide variety of aspects of church life.

Responsibilities

- Know special needs students and the special needs ministry.

- Maintain a fresh approach to special needs and special needs ministry. The Director of Special Needs Ministry will be expected to pursue current field information that will help develop and advance the ministry, as well as attend professional special needs training conferences/conventions.

- Provide ministry care to special needs students and their families. Counsel special needs students and their families when needed. Visit students when they are injured or have a major illness. Support students involved in team or individual activities (e.g., sports, recitals, etc.) whenever possible.

- Develop and maintain ministry budget.

- Maintain supplies necessary for the various ministry programs.

- Recruit and train volunteers for the ministry.

- Lead a robust Sunday School for students with special needs, which includes: expanding leadership of teachers, recruiting and ongoing training of teachers, curriculum ordering and distribution, outreach, and creating new classes as needed.

- Expand the ministry, which includes: develop and implement joint ministry opportunities for the PEACE Program. This would apply to Sundays and Wednesday evenings, and other days as needed when acting in conjunction with other ministries.

• Programs

Maintain regularly-scheduled programming (e.g., including but not limited to Wacky Wednesdays, Amplify, Breathe [Parents Night Out] and Friendship Circle).

• Community Involvement

Seek out and develop community relationships as opportunities arise.

• Communications

Prepare at least one article for the church newsletter (The Window) per month. Regularly review the church website to make sure all materials regarding the Special Needs Ministry are up to date. Create brochures/flyers or other materials to distribute to the community.

• PEACE Program Special Events

Plan, promote, market and conduct special events (e.g., Special Needs Emphasis Sunday, guest speakers, performances or conferences).

• Vacation Bible School ("VBS")

In the event any elementary-aged student(s) with special needs wish to attend VBS, the Director of Special Needs Ministry will work in conjunction with the Director of Children's Ministries and/or VBS Coordinator to adapt any activities as needed.

• Parent/Caregiver Support Group

Maintain an active dialogue with the facilitator(s) of the parent/caregiver support group, and assist as needed in developing discussion material. Pray regularly over the group's participants.

• Comfort and Care Ministry

Maintain a ministry with parents who are expecting the birth of a special needs child, whose children are recently diagnosed with a special need, and who need ongoing encouragement necessary for these families.

- Germantown Presbyterian Preschool ("GPP") Provide GPP with resources regarding relevant special needs, programs, therapies or events.

- Other duties as agreed upon by the ministry team and/or Senior Pastor.

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Project Outreach Needs Your Help

Contributed by Shona Moore



This is a really tough year to raise funds and a new procedure for Project Outreach.

Hello DEAR friends of Project Outreach - it's July again...

and the world seems to have turned upside down. But one thing that hasn't changed is Project Outreach's commitment to making a difference in the lives of the families we have served in Fayette County for over 40 years. Our mission to improve nutrition has a second phase and that is improving education. That is THE WAY OUT of poverty, but it's extremely tough for people whose families have had little education for 150 years. We are encouraged in 2020 by many success stories coming out of the families we serve and witnessing these educated young people giving back to their communities. It's beautiful.

Great News: We are offering 7 scholarships this year.

Without collecting school supplies at churches, without shopping all the discount stores, without sorting and packing, Project Outreach is still distributing supplies to these kids in need. The only way to keep our volunteers safe and our students safe is to buy what is needed. We won't ask you to shop, but we are asking for your supporting donations. This can not be accomplished without help from the same hundreds of friends who respond each year. Please stick with Project Outreach as we answer Christ's instruction to care for our neighbors in need under these strange and challenging circumstances.

HUGE thank you and kudos from the former director (me) to the new director, my friend Gretchen Kirk, and her talented, hard-working board of directors, and from the entire team. We thank God for all of you. (Big hugs from Spring Hill, TN and from Phil.)

You can donate on the website:

www.projectoutreachfayette.org

or send to our address:

9245 Poplar Ave. Ste 5, #317
Germantown, TN 38138

With blessings and gratitude,

Shona Moore



The teachers and students at LaGrange Moscow Elementary loved getting Classroom Sanitizing Kits!

Keep checking back to see how to help with next month's special initiative!

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Mission Partners - Local & Worldwide

For more information about GPC's mission projects locally and globally, go to <https://germantownpres.org/missions-at-gpc> and see where you can plug in to be a disciple and serve generously and shrewdly.

Homeless Resources

To help the homeless: There are some terrific ways to help the homeless in the Germantown/Memphis area. If you want to help, please donate and/or give out the numbers listed here:

1. Hospitality Hub - 901-522-1808
info@hospitalityhub.org
2. Room in the Inn (RITI) - 901-395-3329
innkeeper@roomintheinn-memphis.org
3. MIFA - 901-527-0208
jseacat@mifa.org



REMEMBER :

DON'T GIVE OUT ANYONE'S
PERSONAL NUMBER!

GPC: THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO CAME OUT ON THURSDAYS DURING THIS HOT, HUMID SUMMER TO HELP HAND OUT FOOD FOR THE MIDSOUTH FOOD BANK. HUNDREDS OF FOOD-INSECURE FAMILIES IN OUR AREA WERE HELPED DURING THIS VERY DIFFICULT TIME.

THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED ONSITE; THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO DONATED TO MIDSOUTH FOOD BANK; AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE PRAYED FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED THROUGHOUT THIS TIME.

GPC HAS ALWAYS BEEN A GENEROUS CONGREGATION. THANK YOU, AGAIN!

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Rising Together Foundation

Bridging the Education and Opportunity Gap

Contributed by Judd Peters



Rising Together is dedicated to serving and supporting elementary-, middle-, and high-school students by creating, administering, and supporting excellent academic, leadership, and social programs and events, and to providing necessary financial assistance so that disadvantaged students from under-served communities may participate.

Rising Together promotes high academic, leadership, and character standards and broadens peer relationships among students throughout the greater community. Designed to foster academic preparedness for a group of emerging academic and social leaders, the programs and events develop and connect future leaders of our community. Ultimately, Rising Together strives to introduce all participants to college- and life-preparatory experiences and expectations while promoting inclusive community relationships for a lifetime of leadership and service.

Disadvantaged students in under-served communities often do not receive the support and opportunities needed to become successful students and leaders. As a result in the summer months they experience “summer slide” where they regress academically, physically, and socially. The Rising Together Foundation is dedicated to addressing these challenges by providing excellent college- and life-preparatory programming and events designed for students.

In the summer of 2020 Rising Together anticipates serving approximately 180 disadvantaged students in the Summer SLAM programs (Scholars, Leaders, and Athletes in Memphis) at three locations in the Memphis area: The Neighborhood Christian Center, Star Academy Charter School,

and Evangelical Christian School. Rising Together will work with schools and organizations to establish a team of leaders, teachers, coaches, and student leaders who will work at the program locations. These full-day, multi-week programs incorporate the programs listed below.

Features of the Summer SLAM program include:

- College- and Life-Preparatory Programs for Students;
- Academic Enrichment in Language Arts, Writing, Math, and Technology;
- Leadership Development and Public Speaking Courses;
- Physical Fitness, Sports, and Games;
- Community Relationships, Outreach, and Engagement.

RTF requests help from the GPC family in three ways for the Summer SLAM programs: prayers, people, and purse.

- **Prayers:** Pray for the student participants and adults involved. (A specific list of those involved will be provided later.)
- **People:** Week-by-week committed volunteers are needed to serve as teachers, high school/college students as counselors, and general help is needed serving meals and cleaning up. These decisions can be made a week at a time.
- **Purse:** Financial contributions are needed to provide scholarships for student participants and to help pay for other costs of the programs.

For more information please contact Judd Peters at 901-378-3251 or judd@risingtogetherfoundation.com, or check out their website here (<https://www.risingtogetherfoundation.com/>).



MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Rising Together Foundation

Bridging the Education and Opportunity Gap

On page 18, GPC has re-run the article contributed by Judd Peters on the Rising Together Foundation. Although the summer has begun, there are still significant ways GPC can help this worthwhile local organization.

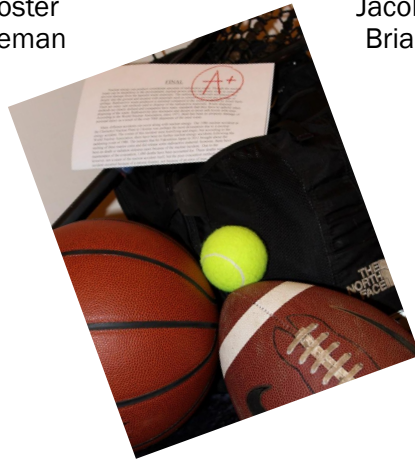
This summer is a particularly challenging time in which to offer these resources to area disadvantaged students. Rising Together offers Summer SLAM programs (Scholars, Leaders, and Athletes in Memphis) at three locations in the Memphis area: The Neighborhood Christian Center, Star Academy Charter School, and Evangelical Christian School. Rising Together offers full-day, multi-week programs, so GPC can still contribute by taking note of the 3 P's listed below.

- **Prayers:** Pray for the student participants and adults involved. (As promised, these are the names of this summer's group of students for GPC to put on our prayer list. GPC, please lift up these young people all summer as they participate in this program.)

Joshua Allen
Felipe Anderson
Jasmine Anderson
Keziah Beauregard
Kataurus Blackshire
Tianna Boone
Kirianna Brooks
Leotha Bush
MacAngelo Campbell
Javariua Clay
Jemariaun Ellis
Kenyatta Ellis
Mahogany Foster
Arieanna Freeman

Zion Goolsby
Terineisha Granger
Torineisha Granger
Joshua Grant
LaDarius Gray
Markel Gray
Cathy Holliday
Amya Jackson
Branyce James
Tamarion Jefferson
DeEric Jones
Ian-Micheal Jones
Jacob Monger
Brian Moody

Deonte Nelson
Nicklous Phippis
ZaKobe Price
Anailya Rucker
Cornelius Smith
Davion Smith
Kenyatta Vaughn
Antonio Taylor
Terry Tucker
LaQuvia Tucker
Shakia Tucker
Vinchelle White



- **People:** Week-by-week committed volunteers are needed to serve as teachers, high school/college students as counselors, and general help is needed serving meals and cleaning up. You can volunteer for one week at a time or the rest of the summer.

- **Purse:** Financial contributions are needed to provide scholarships for student participants and to help pay for other costs of the programs. Donations are always welcome to help provide resources for these area students.

For more information please contact Judd Peters at 901-378-3251 or judd@risingtogetherfoundation.com, or check out their website here (<https://www.risingtogetherfoundation.com/>).

MUSIC & WORSHIP ARTS

August is here... Summer 2020 is moving on. Worship at GPC has resumed on Sunday mornings on a limited basis at 9:30am. Things are not as they were or as we would want them to be, but worship is taking place; livestreaming is taking place, and we are doing all in our power to maintain quality music in worship at GPC! A big thank you to all of our soloists, choir singers who have provided support for corporate service music (responses/hymns etc.), guest instrumentalists, Alex on organ and piano, our ministers and program staff and, of course, our technical support who keeps our livestreaming up and running, and the office staff who keeps us all running and in the know. No doubt it's a team effort - thanks to all!!

The month of August will see more activity here at the church - a number of programs will resume although slowed and limited as we all are due to COVID. Music in worship will remain as it currently is with soloists, instrumentalists, and singers to support the service music. Until we as a community/society make sustained progress in controlling the spread of the virus, music at GPC will respect the guidelines of the CDC and our own GPC task force who is making recommendations regarding church programming. We all miss the Chancel Choir and the energy and vitality that our full music program brings to the worship experience. We all continue to pray for better days ahead!!

Mark your calendars for Sunday evening August 2 at 6:30pm. We are going to welcome Chuck Utterback and his well-known group The Ramblers for an outside concert of gospel and country-pop music as only they can perform. You are invited to bring lawn chairs for your family (food

or snacks if you like), social distance, and set up in the shade on the Arthur Road side of the church for a brief meditation and then music to clap and tap to. Music that your kids or your grandparents will thoroughly enjoy!! For our Sunday morning worship during the month of August we are scheduling soloists Althea and Russell Crouse, Shannon and Arron Redburn, Chelsea Miller, Karen Schowalter Cooper, and Ethan Baskin.

As I always do, let me thank those of you who support music at GPC throughout the year with your gifts and contributions to our Music Fund and the Teachey Scholarship Fund in addition to your giving to the annual church budget. It is my prayer that someone, someday will feel inspired to establish a substantial music endowment that will assure quality music at GPC for years to come. If you or someone you know might have this dream, let me know and I will help you dream!

I look forward to the day when we can all meet in the sanctuary and again worship together!! See u soon.

Jerold C. Teachey, DM, Director of Music



FAMILY MINISTRY

FAMILIES

While we have been away from church during the corona virus season, plans have been made for our GPC families. We hope these classes and events will bring opportunities for your family to grow in faith and love for Jesus Christ. While accommodations will be made due to corona virus, we hope this is the year that you will make church part of your family's weekly rhythm!

New Sunday Morning Fellowship Group for Adults with Young Children



"Coffee and Conversations" is a new Sunday morning fellowship class for adults with young children highlighting GPC structure and life.

How are decisions made at GPC? Who are active leaders and what do they do? What events are important for my family?

This class will feature different speakers each week from among church leadership and attempt to answer these questions and others, and this class includes an adult devotional related to what your child is learning in Sunday school each week.

This class begins on Sunday, August 16. Drop your child off at the Pancake Breakfast after worship and then join us in the blue Noah's ark room on the elementary floor (lower level) at 10:45am.

Questions? Email Anna at annaw@germantownpres.org.

Sunday School for Children and Youth

Sunday School for children and youth begins on Sunday, August 16 with our annual Pancake Breakfast! Please make sure to register your child for Sunday School. This will help us make the best social distancing plans for the health and safety of our children and youth. Registration will remain open all year. If you are not comfortable joining us in August for Sunday School, please feel free to register whenever you feel is the appropriate time for your children to return to Sunday School. We look forward to seeing each one of our GPCKids and youth!



A New Look for the Pancake Breakfast!

Join us Sunday, August 16 at 9:30am on the SOUTH FIELD for our annual welcome back Pancake Breakfast! Bring your beach towel and look for your class's balloon. We will socially distance as we enjoy pancakes from McDonald's, visit with church friends, and see our teachers. Welcome back!

FAMILY MINISTRY

FAMILIES



A QUIET NIGHT OUT FOR PARENTS; A FUN BIBLE EXPERIENCE WITH FRIENDS FOR KIDS.

GPC Children's Ministry Team exists to provide a safe and loving environment for all children to know God as their Father and Creator. Through a developmentally appropriate environment with Biblically based curriculum we partner with families to nurture children's faith and to lay the foundation for a lifelong journey as a disciple of Christ. We seek to nurture relationships for each child with their peers, leaders, and church family.

Ages

One year old through current 5th grade and any children with special needs are welcome!

Dates - 2020 - 2021

Aug 14; Sep 11; Oct-off (Fall Break); Nov 13; Dec 11

Jan 8; Feb 12; Mar-off (Spring Break); Apr 9; May 14

Time

Doors open at 6:30pm and pick-up is promptly at 10pm.

Cost

\$15/child per event night (includes a pizza dinner). Scholarships for those in need are available upon request. If requesting a scholarship, while checking out choose the "cash" option and contact 901-754-5195 to speak with Anna or Helen.

2020-21 Theme Parable Quest

The fun and excitement of exploring the Amazon rainforest is combined with the discovery of what it means to "follow Jesus on a life changing adventure."

What You Need to Do

- > Register your child in order to provide needed health and insurance information.
- > On a monthly basis, reserve your child's spot by the deadline - noon on the Monday before the event night.

One year old - Kindergarten

Parents enjoy a quiet night out together knowing their toddler or preschooler is having fun with friends and experiencing the Bible in a safe environment.

What to Bring:

- > Favorite toy
- > Sleeping bag & pillow
- > Diaper bag for toddlers

F² - Friendship Fellowship - 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grades

F² is an opportunity for friendship development through an engaging Bible experience, guided Bible lessons, and free play with friends!

What to Bring:

- > Favorite toy
- > Sleeping bag & pillow

FFFF - 4th & 5th Grades

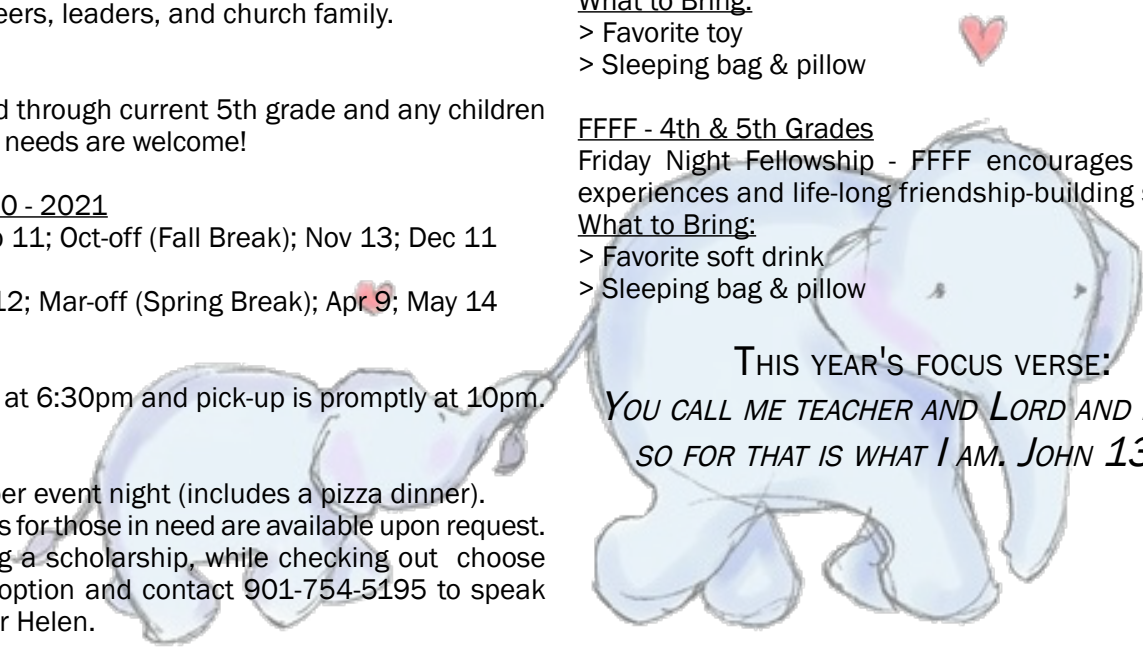
Friday Night Fellowship - FFFF encourages fun Bible experiences and life-long friendship-building skills.

What to Bring:

- > Favorite soft drink
- > Sleeping bag & pillow

THIS YEAR'S FOCUS VERSE:

*YOU CALL ME TEACHER AND LORD AND RIGHTLY
SO FOR THAT IS WHAT I AM. JOHN 13:13*



FAMILY MINISTRY

CHILDREN

While we have been away from church during the corona virus season, plans have been made for our GPC families. We hope these classes and events will bring opportunities for your family to grow in faith and love for Jesus Christ. While accommodations will be made due to corona virus, we hope this is the year that you will make church part of your family's weekly rhythm!

Thank You to July's 5th Grade Worship Leader - Julianna White



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 GPC Kids at VBS, and serving in the community through Mission 901. Questions about this program can be directed to Anna White, Director of Family Ministry (annaw@germantownpres.org).

What's your full name? *Julianna Grace White*

Who are your parent(s) and sibling(s)? *Anna and Jeff White, sister Alyssa*

What school do you go to? *Bailey Station Elementary in Collierville*

What have you most enjoyed doing at GPC? *Mostly, I have enjoyed VBS! It is so fun playing and praying with my church friends!*

What have you learned at GPC? *Mostly, I have learned that God loves me.*

In the future what do you hope to experience at GPC? *I can't wait for the church lock-ins with the youth group!*

Sunday School Teacher Training

GPC Kids Sunday School teachers will meet on Sunday, August 2 at 10:45am in The Well for training. Youth teachers will meet at the same time in the senior high room. Join us following the 9:30am worship service. We will enjoy muffins and coffee as we prepare for the new Christian education year. We can't do Sunday School without these very committed and loving teachers!



5th Graders & Parents - Mark your Calendars

5th grade Worship Leader Training will be held during the Sunday School hour, 10:45-12pm on Sunday, August 30. Following this, 4th and 5th graders will be invited to a pool party! Look for more details to come!

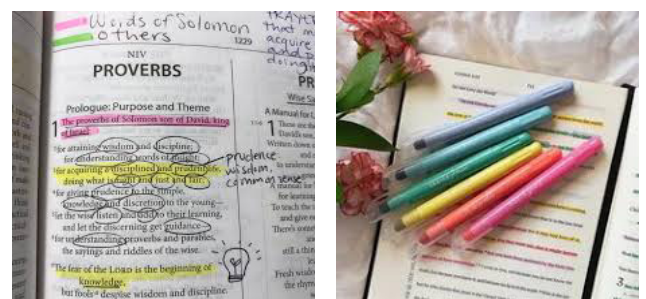


What Are GPC Kids Doing This Year on Sunday Mornings?

The Children's Ministry Support Team is making wonderful plans for our GPC Kids Sunday School this year!

This year we are introducing "Bible Study Skills" for our children. We want them to actively participate in reading and learning from their Bibles. Come be a part of these important relationships in the lives of our children. We need people with a HEART FOR KIDS! It is our job as Christian parents, grandparents, and adults to teach the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord.

Email Anna to volunteer (annaw@germantownpres.org).



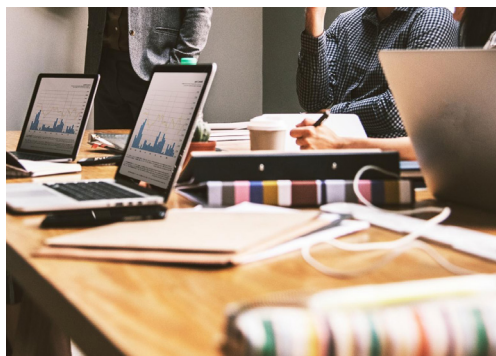
FAMILY MINISTRY

CHILDREN/YOUTH

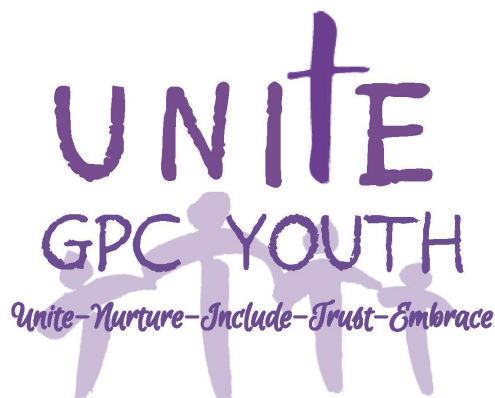
Parent/Child & Youth Meeting

Parents and GPCKids, join us Sunday, August 9 at 10:45am in Warren Fellowship Hall for a parent and child meeting. We will highlight the education year including Sunday School, F² and FFFF at Breathe (GPC's parents' night out program), a new gardening opportunity and more! We have a LOT to discuss.

Parents and Youth (6th grade - seniors in high school) will meet in Warren Fellowship Hall at 4:30pm. Erin Bowden will highlight new opportunities, procedures, thoughts, and ideas for our youth!



Youth News - Who? What? Where? When?



This year, as we start a new season of youth, we want to focus on **U**nity, **N**urturing of faith, **I**ncluding all, **T**rusting God and each other, **E**mbracing our faith. Therefore, we will **U.N.I.T.E.** In all of our activities, we will **UNITE!**

First up- August 30 UNITE@ MESS FEST!

UNITE - Youth DATES

August 2- Youth Sunday School/Youth Leader Training
Sr. High room following 9:30am worship service
We will discuss the plan for the fall and review the curriculum.

August 9- Parent and Youth Meeting
4:30pm Warren Fellowship Hall
We will discuss the plan for Sunday School and Sunday night youth, curriculum and COVID-19 procedures and virtual alternatives to in-person participation.

August 16- Kick-off Sunday
Pancake Brunch on the south field following 9:30am worship service.
Evening - Jr and Sr High Pool Parties (details to come).

August 23- Regular Sunday School/Sunday evening Youth Sunday School following 9:30am service - we will begin a 5-week study of GOALS through Paul's letters to the churches scattered throughout Galatia.

We will continue looking at these letters in Youth Group in the evening and how they are relevant for us today.
Jr and Sr High Youth 4:30pm-6:30pm.

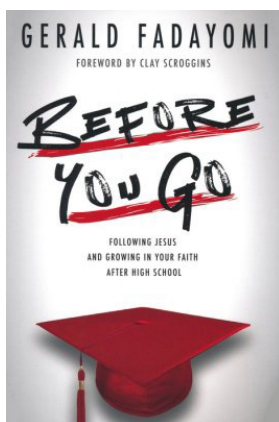
August 30- UNITE: Mess Fest (formerly known as CRUD Day)
Get Ready to Get Messy
(details to come)



FAMILY MINISTRY

YOUTH

Rising 2020-2021 Seniors... What's a Dinner & Devotional?



Class of 2021- Erin and Anna have had a chance to connect with most of you and a parent for lunch at some point this summer and receive the book *Before You Go* by Gerald Fadayomi. This is YOUR year, and we want to add something special. Summer was for lunch, and fall is for dinner! Starting in September, seniors will participate in Dinner and Devotional. We will gather once a month to discuss the book *Before You Go* and share a meal together (as we are able). The specific night will be determined once the fall schedule is in swing.

We look forward to walking with you this year as you think about many wonderful future decisions and opportunities. It is our sincere prayer that as you round the corner into adulthood, you are active in your faith with Jesus Christ.

Well Done, Eagle Scout!

John Rice, son of April and Patrick Rice, is the 105th Eagle Scout from Troop 270. John began Cub Scouts at Pack 368. His scouting journey led him to Troop 48, then finishing at Troop 270. John's most memorable Scouting experience occurred during a troop backpacking trip to the Ozark Mountains with a high temperature of 23 degrees.

John had the wonderful opportunity to participate in a high adventure trip to Sea Base located at St. Thomas Island along with his dad, uncle, and cousins.

John's favorite Scouting activity is canoeing. He earned his first merit badge in plumbing. John plans to pursue a career in plumbing.

For his Eagle Scout Project, John chose to make "no sew" comfort blankets which were donated to the Ronald McDonald House in Memphis. John and multiple volunteers completed 35 blankets. John, fellow Scouters of Troop 270, as well as several other volunteers totaled more than 135 hours completing the project.

John has been a member of the Houston High School Varsity soccer team for the past 4 years. He was co-captain for the 2020 season. John also played with the Lobos Rush '02 Premier Soccer team.

John is a member of Germantown Presbyterian Church where he has contributed time as a Vacation Bible School leader, Youth Deacon, Youth Pastor nominating committee member, and active with the church youth group.

John is a 2020 graduate of Houston High School. He will begin college at the University of Memphis Fall 2020. He plans to pursue a business degree in addition to an apprenticeship in plumbing.



IN OUR PRAYERS

In the Congregation:

**Barbara Arthur	>Jean/Gil Brooks	>Jean/Bob Hicks	>Cy Pipkin	>Erwin/Wes Westmoreland
>Gay Beaumont	>Hazel Canon	>Dot Ledlow	>Jackie/Bill Ruleman	>Woodie Whited, Johnathan Whited, Sandy Franks
>Shirley Billups	>Elaine/Tom Cates	>Aggie/Jack Losa	>Diane Short	
>Sherril/Jim Blair	>Jane Craddock	>Willa Lowry	>Pam/Bill Spencer	
>Linda Sue/Bob Bobo	>Judy/Fred Frick	>Tom Oldham	>Jan Thomson	
**Beth Boyle	>Nancy/Peter Hawkinson	**Jenny Overbey	>Bob Thurman	
>Huddy/Bayard Boyle		>Mack Pepper	>Amanda Walters	

The congregation extends its love, sympathy, and prayers to:
 Barbara & Andrew Arthur & their family in the death of their son;
 Patti Bradford & her family in the death of her mother;
 the family of Gerry Mills in her death;
 Evelyn Mosley & her family in the death of her father.

In Service in the Military:

Sidney Baker - niece of Kay 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

Coronavirus Prayers

Doctors and nurses, emergency workers dealing with COVID19
 Wisdom for church leadership

GPC Friends & Family Prayer Ministry

**Lawrence Anderson - friend of Matthew Lindow	**Tish Carter/Carson Carter Sanders - nieces of Pastor Susie	>Allerie Hanlon (1st responder) - daughter-in-law of Susan Ollinger	**Ilace Mears & family - former GPP director	**Carole Scruggs - friend of Phyl Simmons
>Katie Badgett - friend of Halfacres	>Carrington Davis, mom, rest of family - friends of Susan Jones	>Carna/Doug Harper - neighbor of Jean Carroll	>Chris Mitchell - nephew of Violet Olsen	>Lane Steen, children Josie/Will - friends of Marjorie Reynolds
>Lilly Baughman - niece of Sandy Wilson	**Rev. Alan Ford family - friends of Pastor Susie	>Susan Hawkins - daughter of Ann Phillips	>Cindy Moore, daughters Isabelle/Lucy - daughter & granddaughters of Elaine/Tom Cates	>William Steven, son of Hayley Steven - friend of Susan Shirley Hurt
>Melissa Benson, Chalmers/William - sister & family of Lauren Utterback	**Patricia Forrest - sister of Pam Spencer	>Jeff Holt & family - friends of Mickie Nabors	>Todd Mosley - son of Evelyn/Phil Mosley	>Lois Strock & rest of Henry Strock family - friends of Louise Lawson Johnson
**Linda Bowers - cousin of Jean Carroll	>Murre/Ryan Foster, baby Ryan - friends of Jeanie Hill	**Robert Hornberg - father of Bo Hornberg	>Alice Phillips - mother of Barry Phillips	>Kila Tripp - daughter of Cindy/Rick Tripp
**Mary Lou Brown - mother of Don Willingham's brother-in-law	>Tim Gibson, sons Brayson/Kaben & Donna Bowers - friends of Phyl Simmons	>Don Jones - family of Mlssy Gwin	>Dr. Carlos Reyes-Sacin (1st responder) - son-in-law of Susan Ollinger	**Frank Wiggins - brother-in-law of Pastor Susie
>Jo Carrington - cousin of Jean Brooks	>Virginia Goss - daughter of Gloria/Tim Goss	**Joan Lindow - mother of Matthew Lindow	>Fred Sauer & family - father of Tom Sauer	**Jennifer Wortham - friend of Lea Buring

****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.

August GPC Family Prayer Ministry

<u>Aug 2</u> Beth Boyle Susan/Scott Bingham, Harrison, Kate Nancy/Jeff Halter Becky Long Sally/Bruce McCulloch Sue/Jim Perrin Robert Shaw Donna/Jerry Wilhite Anna/Jeff White, Alyssa, Julianna	<u>Aug 9</u> Barbara Branch Eleanor/David Denton John Edmonds Leah/George Lumm, Emma Grace, George Carolyn Pearce Beth Schriner Mary Alice Turner Cackie/Robert Walker, Alexander, Madeleine, Olivia	<u>Aug 16</u> Beth Bowman Paul Boyle Kriste/Kevin Cullum Judy Hobbs Lindsay/Zac Overbey, Everett, Isla Carole Phelps Linda/Bill Shirley Frida Walters Moky, Dilon, Isabella	<u>Aug 23</u> Beth/Ben Brock Christy Campbell, Claire, Max Lino Teresa/Ty Hardin, Sarah Jeanie/Walter Hill Kelly/Thomas Lackey, Catherine Morgan/David Paris, Darcy, Jean, Roy Sandy Roberts	<u>Aug 30</u> Tucker Brock Kay Donaho Joyce Henry Molly/Chip Miller, Andrew, Mattie, Miller Grace Pamela Palmer Martha Shuler Fred/Gerre Craig Turverey
--	---	---	---	---

MEMORIALS

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

<p>To the Memorial Fund <i>In Memory of Danny Boyd</i> Dixie & Bob Johnson</p> <p><i>In Memory of Jack Kelley</i> Lee Stalker</p> <p><i>In Memory of Joe Donaho</i> Anonymous Martha Davis Beverly & Ben Froelich Nancy & Jeff Halter</p> <p><i>In Memory of Karen Ford Mitchell</i> Brenda Hopper</p> <p><i>In Memory of Paul Phillips</i> Helen & Fred Norman</p>	<p><i>In Memory of Scott Moore</i> Barb Poier Dixie & Bob Johnson Kay & David Collins</p> <p>To the Music Fund <i>In Memory of Robert Ratton, Jr.</i> Dixie & Bob Johnson Anne & Wayne Tansil</p> <p><i>In Memory of Holly Dyer</i> Ann Harbor</p> <p><i>In Memory of Elaine Brown,</i> <i>Cheri Howles' mother</i> Becky & Vern Barton</p>
---	---

GPC Budget Update

GPC Financial Summary, June 2020

	June 2020	2020 YTD	June 2019	2019 YTD
Revenue	\$130,907	\$952,548	\$136,563	\$910,088
Expenses	\$123,952	\$815,638	\$124,562	\$864,078
Net	\$6,955	\$136,910	\$12,001	\$46,010

We achieved a small surplus in June of \$6,955 bringing our total surplus to almost \$137,000 through June. We continue to outperform our 2019 results but our program expenses have been reduced to a minimum since March. Thank you to all who have adapted to the current environment by giving online.

The Stewardship Team has extended the *Building Tomorrow Today* campaign through the end of 2020 in order to give those

whose finances have been disrupted by the pandemic an opportunity to complete their pledges. We still have pledges of just over \$343,000 outstanding, and every dollar received between now and the end of the year will go to service the existing debt on our new building. We anticipate a loan balance of approximately \$1.5 million at the end of the year when these pledges are received and excess reserves are applied to the loan balance as approved by the Session.

Session Corner

Session has kept in close communication over July; however, there was no formal meeting this month. Session will resume monthly meetings in August.

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

ERIN BOWDEN
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

TOM SAUER
PASTOR TO SENIOR ADULTS

JEROLD TEACHEY
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

ALEX BENFORD
ORGANIST/HANDBELL DIRECTOR

JOHN JOHNSON
WORSHIP LEADER & MUSICIAN

ANNA WHITE
DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRY

HELEN WARREN
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL NEEDS
MINISTRY

September Window Deadline: August 15

Important Prayer Requests for GPC

Please lift these up to God every day for the foreseeable future.

We have three crucially important staff positions that we are eager to fill in God's good timing - our new Youth Director, Associate Pastor, and Special Needs Director.

Youth Leader: We are growing our commitment to serve the children and youth of our church, and we are committed to growing these programs numerically and spiritually. We are losing touch with some of our participants and their families. Please pray for our search committee that is looking for a new Director of Youth Ministries. This is a very important hire for us, and we have a good team doing the work of reaching out to contacts and networks to spread the word about our job opening.

Associate Pastor: The search committee for an Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Discipleship is also working hard. Please pray for their listening, interviewing, and discernment about the right person to come to GPC to help us grow God's kingdom as we reach out to the world around us with enthusiasm and conviction.

Special Needs Leader: Over the last several years, our ministry to people with Special Needs has taken on so much momentum, and we have grown our program in numerous ways. The Special Needs community in the Greater Memphis area has come to rely on GPC as a vital partner and resource, and we are filling a crucial need for many families, many of whom are growing in their appreciation of GPC as a church home. Please pray for our Special Needs Ministry Support Team as they seek the right person to fill this position. We do not want to fall back from the increased ministry we have added over the years, and we want our momentum to continue.

Thank you for being a praying church, GPC!



VISIT
GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ONLINE AT
WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG



LIKE US!
FACEBOOK.COM/
GERMANTOWNPRES



CHAT WITH US ON TWITTER!

@GERMANTOWNPRES
@GPTNYOUTH
@WILLGRAYJONES