



November 22, 2020

2363 S. Germantown Road
Germantown, TN 38138

WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG

**Please stand.*

Please silence electronic devices.

Commitment Sunday

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Dan Miller

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Will Jones

CHIME INTROIT

(Please use this time to pray and prepare your heart for worship.)

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 100)

Mr. Rodney Strop, Liturgist

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is He that made us, and we are His; we are God's people, and the sheep of His pasture.

People: Enter the Lord's gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, Bless His name.

Leader: For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

People: Let us worship the Lord our God.

***CONFESSION OF SIN** (in unison)

Loving God, you turn toward us with grace and generosity every day. You provide what we need for an abundant life. Yet we are sinful, and our priorities are tangled. We chase after fleeting fads and material means, yet we are rarely satisfied. The desire for more of everything distorts our view of everything. Please forgive our shallowness, and help us strive for you and your kingdom, first and foremost.

(Time of personal prayer)

Leader: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,

People: Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

***SHARING OF GRACE**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please remember those who usually sit near you, and pray for them and contact them later today to share your love for them.)

DEDICATION OF 2021 COMMITMENT CARDS

THE WORD

HYMN

All Good Gifts
Chancel Choir

David Schwoeb

*All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above; Then thank the Lord for all His love
We plow the fields and scatter the good on the land, But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand;
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain. The breezes and the sunshine and soft refreshing rain.
He only is the Maker of all things near and far, He paints the wayside flower, He lights the evening star;
The wind and waves obey Him, by Him the birds are fed; Much more to us His children, He gives our daily bread.
We thank Thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good, The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;
Accept the gifts we offer for all Thy love imparts, And what Thou most desirest, Our humble, thankful hearts.
All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above; Then thank the Lord for all His love.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
²Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! ³For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. ⁴In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also. ⁵The sea is His, for He made it, and the dry land, which His hands have formed. ⁶O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! ⁷For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand. O that today you would listen to His voice!

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know Him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power for us who believe, according to the working of His great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when He raised him from the dead and seated him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And He has put all things under His feet and has made Him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The King of Love

Dr. Jones

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

Hush, Hush, Somebody's Callin' My Name
Marcus King, baritone

arr. by Charles Lloyd, Jr.

*Hush, hush, somebody's callin' my name ... Oh my Lord what shall I do
I'm so glad trouble don't last always Hallelujah ... Oh my Lord what shall I do
Hush, hush, somebody's callin' my name ... Oh my Lord what shall I do
Oh I'm so glad I got my religion in time Hallelujah, Somebody's callin' my name
I'm so glad my soul's got a hiding place, O my Lord oh my Lord what shall I do*

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

*HYMN pg. 276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10 with refrain

Thomas Obediah Chisholm, 1923

William Marion Runyan, 1923

1. *Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Refrain

Great is Thy faith - ful-ness! Great is Thy faith - ful-ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have need-ed

hand hath pro - vid - ed; Great is Thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Great is Thy faith - ful-ness! Great is Thy faith - ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have need-ed hand hath pro - vid - ed; Great is Thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!'

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Toccata

David Hegarty

WORSHIP ARTS TODAY

We welcome distinguished organist/pianist and conductor Gary Beard who is playing organ for worship today in Alex's absence. Gary, a well known musician throughout the Mid-South, will accompany Kallen Esperian again this year on a concert of Christmas Music Sunday afternoon, December 6 at 2:30pm. Welcome Gary!!

On the cover: Artist unknown.

Welcome to worship online and limited onsite with Germantown Presbyterian Church. Our sincere prayer is that you will find a place here among those who already call GPC home. We know these are difficult days, and we are so glad you can join our service in the way you feel most comfortable. We are truly glad God brought you here!

Interested in joining GPC? *You are welcome here!* For more information on how to join, please contact Kathleen Boyd at 901-833-3413 or kkboyd@comcast.net.

GPC's pastors can always be reached in an emergency or crisis. Please call the church, 901-754-5195, and then press 1 to reach the on-call pastor.

The Session has called for a meeting of the congregation on November 22 at 11:00am on Zoom to hear a report from the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. The link to join the meeting is listed below, and you will need to enter the passcode 564220 to join the meeting.

Topic: Germantown Presbyterian Church Congregational Meeting

Time: Nov 22, 2020 11:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99818821356?pwd=cU1aaVICejV5a1ZMK0U2WCtpQmcrdz09>

Meeting ID: 998 1882 1356

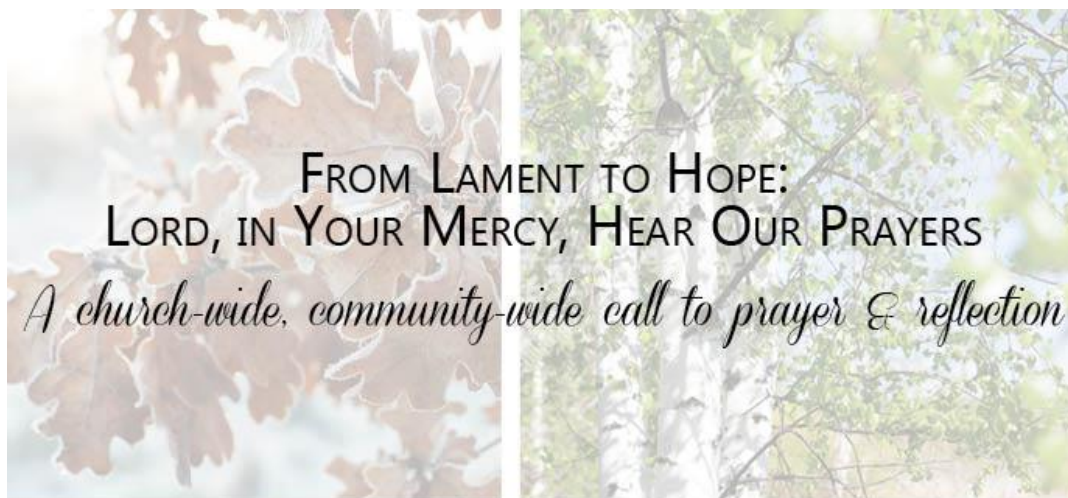
Passcode: 564220

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Anyone wanting to reach out to Dr. Alex Benford (&/or his family) can send cards/notes to his home: 7940 Poplar Pike, Germantown, 38138. Requests are for cards only - no calls or visits at this time. Obviously prayers are always welcome. Thanks so much.



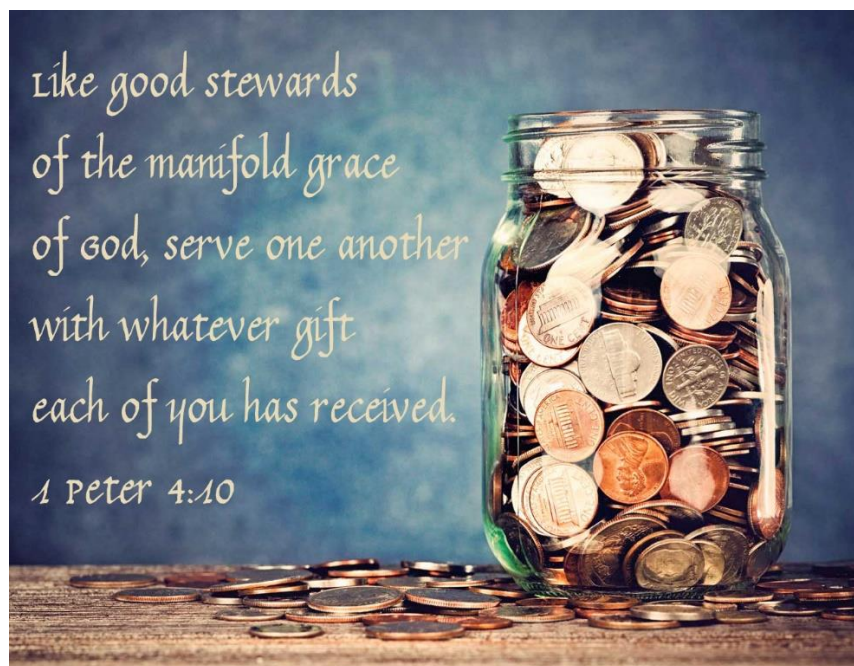
Lamentations 3:22-24 (NRSV)

²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
His mercies never come to an end;

²³ they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

²⁴ "The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in Him."

For more information on this,
go to the GPC website at GermantownPres.org and
click the *Lament to Hope* link.



Like good stewards
of the manifold grace
of God, serve one another
with whatever gift
each of you has received.
1 Peter 4:10

COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS TODAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020.

**MAY GOD GUIDE YOUR COMMITMENT
AS YOU COUNT YOUR REASONS FOR GRATITUDE.**

**Germantown Presbyterian Church Announcements
Week of November 22, 2020**

*Sign in to the online Friendship Pad [here](#) to indicate you attended the service,
whether onsite or online, (and/or to ask the ministers any questions)
and thank you for worshipping with us this Sunday.*

As part of the Church Family Prayer Program, members of the congregation are randomly selected each week to be lifted up. This week please pray for: Phil Carroll; Kathy & Steve Davis; September & Bob Eason, Annaleigh, Evey, Renn; Shirley Howell; Mary & Steve Nelson & Erik Nelson; Pat & Ken Plunk; Kristy & Vernon Sneed.

In November, please pray for these churches in the Presbytery:
Oak Street Community Presbyterian Church, Union City, TN
First Presbyterian Church, Caruthersville, MO

*Note: Any text that is [blue](#) is an active link in the electronic version.
You can click on that to go to a webpage or send an email.*

GPC NEWS

Did you know GPC has 2 video channels? We do! And make sure you subscribe! The more subscribers we have, the more we can post! If you missed any of the videos for any reason, you can catch them on either one of these channels.

> Check out the Vimeo channel [here](#)

> and the YouTube channel [here](#).

Help Needed with Worship Services: GPC is looking for volunteers who want to join an ongoing team that will form the core group who works with the audio-visual process of the livestream during Sunday morning and evening worship services. The people already participating will be happy to train you, and all you have to do is learn the user-friendly system. In addition, the volunteer will switch camera views during certain parts of the service for our livestreaming. It's all very easy, and yet vitally important to our expanding Internet presence. Please consider volunteering, and if you are interested you can contact the church office at communications@germantownpres.org.

ADULTS

Women: Membership in Presbyterian Women (PW) is open to all women and strives to help develop the gifts and talents of all women in our church. It's a great way to meet the other women of the church and grow in your faith. Please consider joining in as we unite with other women of the church and commit to helping every woman develop into the person God intends her to be and grow spiritually through prayer, Bible study, and mission work, keeping our hearts open to God's call to action and involvement. Individual Bible Study Circles meet the first Tuesday of every month on Zoom for now with both morning and evening options. For more information please call Nancy Halter, Moderator, 901-454-3268 or Bonnie Algee, Vice Moderator, 901-674-2613.

Men: The men of GPC have begun meeting back onsite in a limited way in Warren Fellowship Hall for their Sunrise Men's Breakfast Friday mornings at 6:30am. They are combining this format with ongoing Zoom options for those more comfortable staying at home. If you'd like to be involved in that fellowship and Bible study, contact Drayton Mayers at draytonmayers@gmail.com. In addition, the men's lunch devotion group has resumed meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 1pm via Zoom, so if you'd like to be plugged into that group, please contact Anthony Duke at anthony.duke@ipaper.com.

Onsite Sunday morning adult class: Coffee and Conversations is an onsite class designed to educate you about opportunities for education and church life within GPC. C&C meets from 10:45-11:45am in the blue Noah's ark room in the elementary hallway downstairs following worship. Join the class any Sunday as the class will feature different speakers each week as well as offer a devotion connected to what your children are learning in Sunday School.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Jump on Board!! The Special Needs Elementary Sunday School Class needs you! We need 2 teacher assistants. You would be helping under the guidance of our exceptional teachers, Mary K. Grantham or Julie Lindow! You would be teaching on a rotational schedule! This way teachers, assistants, and students get the best of both worlds.

You get to touch the lives of our special friends and you can still attend adult SS class! If you'd like to volunteer or ask questions please email me at specialneeds@germantownpres.org or call 901-626-3380. Thanks, Helen Warren

AMPLify is going strong! **AMPLify** is one of our PEACE Ministry programs. It is a music program which allows students who are differently abled to showcase their gifts and talents through rhythm, melody, and spontaneity. It is

led by the very talented, Noel Wilkins. Even though **AMPLify** looks a bit different this year because we are having temperature checks, wearing masks, and social distancing, there is still lots of fun and learning going on. **AMPLify** takes place each Thursday at 10:00am, and we will wrap up the semester in December with a winter performance in the sanctuary. We have room for more, so if you'd like to participate or volunteer, please email specialneeds@germantownpres.org. We'd love you to join us as we amplify our hearts, voices, and witness for the glory of God!

Keep watching this space, the website, and social media for upcoming special needs events. If you would like to be on the Special Needs Ministry email list, please email specialneeds@germantownpres.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS & CHILDREN

GPC's *Breathe* Parents' Night Out (PNO) is in full swing! The next PNO is scheduled for Friday, December 11. *Breathe* exists to provide a quiet night out for parents and a fun Bible experience with friends for kids. For the 2020-21 school year the theme is *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." The Bible focus verse for the year is: John 13:13 - *You call me teacher and Lord and rightly so for that is what I am.*

Make plans for your children to attend! Remember we include little ones as young as one year old through fifth grade as well as children with special needs. Visit our website at www.germantownpres.org/breathe to register for the first time and/or to make a monthly reservation. We will look for you in the months to come. (Please note: reservations for this event close at noon on the Monday prior to the event.) The cost is \$15/child per event night (includes a pizza dinner). Scholarships 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.

CHILDREN

Sunday morning adult class onsite for parents with children in Sunday School: Coffee and Conversations is an onsite class designed to educate you about opportunities for education and church life within GPC. C&C meets from 10:45-11:45am in the blue Noah's ark room downstairs in the elementary hallway following worship. Join the class any Sunday as the class will feature different speakers each week as well as offer a devotion connected to what your children are learning in Sunday School.

Keep watching this space, the website, and social media for upcoming children's events. If you would like to be on the Children's Ministry email list, please contact Family Ministry Director Anna White at children@germantownpres.org.

YOUTH

Sunday mornings and afternoons: Youth meet for Sunday School from 10:45 – 11:45am onsite and on Zoom and for Sunday afternoon fellowship from 4:30-6:30pm including dinner. *Due to the logistics of Youth Group at 4:30pm, Zoom is only available for 10:45am Sunday School at this time.

SPECIAL NOTE: If you are participating in Sunday School by Zoom, please bring a Bible to class! Also, look for a special email with papers to print for Sunday School.



Verse to Remember: Luke 19:10..."For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

To participate in the Bible reading plans, youth, here's what you do:

1. Download youversion
2. Open your yourversion Bible app.
3. Go to the "reading plans."
4. Search "It's Personal."

If you would like to be on the Youth Ministry email list, please email youth@germantownpres.org.

MISSIONS

In case you missed it. (ICYMI)

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!

Room in the Inn (RITI) Memphis is resuming a regular, limited schedule this fall to be evaluated on a month-by-month basis. Please see below for the details about the upcoming 2020-2021 season and how they plan to offer shelter as safely as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. We'll host on Saturday evenings.

Quick rundown of how RITI will work moving forward (re-evaluated on a month-by-month basis):

- GPC will join with Emmanuel Methodist hosting this year.
- We will host every other Saturday night starting in November.
- We will be back at The Cottage at Germantown Methodist Church.
- RITI Memphis (Carpenters House) will send the same eight guests to that location for the entire week, and the guests will sleep in the same bed every night, so that they can be better contact traced should the need arise.
- Emmanuel Methodist will provide the transportation and van driver every time.
- We will need only one person to spend the night and one person on call who lives close by.
- We will need four hands-on volunteers at night along with people who will make and drop off the food and take-away sacks for the following day.
- We will also need one person to do a quick clean-up and possibly some laundry (TBD).

To sign up and/or volunteer to help, email Susan Shirley Hurt at susanshirleyhurt@gmail.com.

UKirk Memphis is a ministry serving the campuses of Rhodes College, the University of Memphis, and beyond. UKirk is a nationwide campus ministry affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in partnership with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We seek to reach, love, and teach college students to be lifelong followers of Jesus Christ. In the season of COVID-19, we have pivoted from our normal in-person events to holding our weekly gatherings online for a time of fellowship, conversation, and prayer. We are holding some small socially distant gatherings outdoors, along with providing opportunities for one-on-one conversation with the campus minister. We have also sent care packages to our students as tangible reminders that they are loved! Although we are doing ministry differently this year, its importance in the spiritual lives of our students has not waivered, nor has our need for support from congregations and individuals.

We ask for your prayers for our students as they navigate life in this time. And if you feel called to donate financially, you can do so online at www.ukirkmemphis.com under the "Support Us" tab. There you can also sign up for our quarterly newsletter. If you would rather write a check, you can make it out to the Presbytery of the Mid-South with UKirk in the memo line and send to the Presbytery office at 449 Patterson St. Memphis, TN 38111. UKirk Memphis sends a big thank you to Germantown Presbyterian Church for their continued support of our ministry!

Questions? Contact Rev. Elizabeth Doolin, the UKirk Campus Minister, at ukirk-memphis@gmail.com.

Follow us on social media! On Instagram and Twitter @ UkirkMemphis, and Facebook @ UKirkatMemphis

Our Ghana missions team asks that you pray for good health and safety for our friends in the Upper Presbytery as well as the country of Ghana. Our committee remains in contact with the Upper Presbytery, as they too are being impacted by Covid19. They are behind us in numbers of confirmed cases; however, as we have all witnessed, these numbers will climb.

The Upper Presbytery sends their prayers and well wishes to all members of our GPC church family. Our Ghana missions committee will share their needs as we come to know them. If you feel called to support them, we will share more details soon of how you can. If you have questions, please contact team members Erin Bowden (901-371-7884) or Beth Brock (901-355-0262).

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

GPC Prayer Ministry - These times are filled with anxiety and unrest. We as a church want to pray for all our members. There are several ways to request prayer. The website has a prayer request link toward the bottom of the homepage page with praying hands graphic. We also have replenished the pew prayer cards. Just fill them out and put them in the offering plate. Another way is the email that church member Margaret Owens oversees. The address is margaretowens1@aol.com. Or you can also send a prayer request to the pastors at prayers@germantownpres.org. The pastors also pray over all confidential prayer requests. This is a great way for us to get renewed strength during these uncertain times.

GPC offers a Grief Support Ministry. The Grief Support Group isn't meeting together currently, but if you or someone you know needs to talk to someone, note your options below. Contact the church office (901-754-5195) or **Stephanie Wall**, Certified Grief Counselor, American Academy of Grief Counseling and Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, Grief Recovery Institute (901-494-7786) or **Beth Brock** (901-355-0262) or **Linda Oakes** (901-237-6566).

GPC family: please be assured that GPCKids, PEACE the Special Needs Ministry, and GPC Youth all follow the CDC/WHO Covid-19 guidelines to ensure the safety of our participants and our leaders as we resume meeting onsite.

If you're reading this digitally, you can click [here](#) to read the updated policies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Director of Family Ministry Anna White at family@germantownpres.org.

GIVING

Even if you're not here physically, you can give to support the ministries of GPC during this time. For more information please call Fred Turverey in the church office at 901-754-5195.



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



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!



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



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