

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





COVID UPDATE, SANCTUARY PROGRESS, AND A SUMMER READ.

I don't need to tell you how different our church has been since the COVID pandemic changed everything in March of 2020. Since then, we have dramatically changed so much of our usual worship, programs, Sunday School classes, meetings, and much more. Since the pandemic began, we have listened to medical experts, social scientists, and infectious disease specialists, and we have prayed to God for wisdom to know how to react at different times during the last fifteen months. Our main goal has been to keep people from getting sick and to do our part to prevent our healthcare system from being overwhelmed.

Now, the number of COVID diagnoses in Shelby County and around the country is significantly decreasing while the number of vaccinations is steadily rising. The Centers for Disease Control and the Shelby County Health Department have responded to this good news by lifting mask mandates and lowering expectations for social distancing. Following their guidance, GPC will also change our expectations and guidelines. Starting June 6, if you have been vaccinated then you do not need to wear a mask or spread out from your neighbor. If you need to wear a mask for any reason, then please know you are welcome to do so. While no one will be checking or asking about vaccinations, our expectation, following the CDC guidelines, is that if you have not been vaccinated, you will continue to wear a mask for the sake of your health and others. Following the practice of the Germantown Municipal School District, children are not required to wear masks at church events. If their parents prefer for them to wear masks, that is also fine, and we will make sure that their peers understand that some people will need to wear masks for their family's safety for a long time.

After June 6, we will have "business as usual as much as possible." Many people will have questions about how this might apply for them or their church group, meetings, food service, etc. The Session and Diaconate talked over a variety of scenarios, but I'm sure we couldn't anticipate everything. Please don't hesitate to be in touch, and we can see how these new guidelines might apply to your situation.

We are nearing the end of our construction following last February's terrible flood in the sanctuary and children's Sunday School area. The sanctuary has been repainted from floor to ceiling, and the new carpet is down. The most meticulous and time-consuming work will be repairing the "feet" of the pews and reconfiguring them to be placed back in the sanctuary. That work will happen in June, and we are scheduled to be back in the sanctuary Sunday July 4. For this summer, we will maintain our current schedule of two worship services at 9:30am and 6:00pm, while we have



Sunday School for various ages after the morning service. On August 15, we will begin our new 2021-2022 program year back to normal: worship at 8:30am and 11:00am, with Sunday School and fellowship time in between and evening worship at 6:00pm.

I've started my summer reading with the winner of Christianity Today's 2020 Book of the Year: Reading While Black by Esau McCaulley. Last summer was such a time of social unrest, and there were many hot cross-currents of opinions flowing against each other and all around us. McCaulley is an Anglican/Episcopal priest who earned his Ph.D. in New Testament from the University of St. Andrew's in Scotland. His approach in this book is to instruct how the New Testament applies to several hot-button issues facing black Americans (and all Americans!), including policing, justice, anger, and politics. Unlike so many other approaches that are singularly one-sided (in my opinion), self-righteous, and condemning of others, McCaulley understands the nuances and complexities of race in ways that many other current authors do not. He does not soft-peddle his analysis, and he speaks challenging words to everyone across the theological and political spectrum. I find the hair on my neck rising often, and I find myself needing to re-read several passages. I appreciate most of all McCaulley's Biblical approach and his weaving together the cardinal virtues of justice, righteousness, love, and forgiveness.

I anticipate leading a book-study on McCaulley's work at some point in the late summer or early fall, and I'd love for you to join me in reading this book in the next few months.

Have a great month of June!

Grace, mercy, and peace,

Will

GPC ONSITE & ONLINE

GPC continues to be cautious as we re-open the church facilities for worship and meetings - 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.

LIMITED ONSITE & ONLINE LIVESTREAMING

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THESE MEETINGS & HOW TO ENGAGE, CONTACT THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AT <u>COMMUNICATIONS@GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG</u>.

Men's Breakfast (Friday mornings) Sunday Morning Worship Service (9:30am Sunday mornings) Sunday Evening Worship Service (6:00pm Sunday evenings) Sunday Schools (10:45am Sunday mornings) Youth Fellowship - (Sunday mornings/afternoons 10:45am/4:30pm)

GPC IS LIVESTREAMING THE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:30AM AND SUNDAY EVENINGS AT 6:00PM.

Men's Lunch Devotion - 2nd/4th Mondays/month on Zoom - Contact Anthony Duke (<u>Anthony.duke@ipaper.com</u>) Presbyterian Women Bible Study Circles - 1st Tuesday/month on Zoom - Contact Nancy Halter (<u>ihalter2097@comcast.net</u>) Various Other Fellowship Groups - TBD

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

> > VIMEO - GERMANTOWN PRES (<u>HTTPS://VIMEO.COM/USER22619921</u>)

YouTube - GermantownPresTN (<u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwEm01y_cQ9Hys-</u> <u>3vytQOMPw/</u>)

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...

See below for the list of members' birthdays for the current and upcoming months. Be sure to wish your friends a happy birthday and if you know anyone who's been left out, let us know by emailing <u>communica-tions@germantownpres.org</u> or calling the church office 901-754-5195 and asking for the communications department.

<u>June</u>

4

- 1 Diane Stearns
- 2 Forrest Owens
- 3 Graham Askew
- 3 Laura Brown
- 3 Alex Cleveland
- 3 Anderson Holmes
- 3 Sally McCulloch
- 3 Patton Shaw
- 4 Annaleigh Eason
- 4 Diane Newton
- 4 Lacey Schepman
- 5 Michael Norman
- 6 Laura Schriner
- 6 Erwin Westmoreland
- 7 Kate Bingham
- 7 June McClellan
- 8 Kallen Esperian
- 8 Susan Hormberg
- 8 Sara Mayers
- 9 Evelyn Mosley
- 9 Caroline Oldham
- 9 Grace Sanders
- 10 Jim Carson
- 10 Peggy Hogan
- 10 Teresa Owens
- 11 Linda Shirley
- 12 Alma Crone
- 12 Amy Howell
- 13 Michael Goodin
- 14 Mike Wilson
- 15 Jim Morse
- 17 Linda Sue Bobo
- 17 Jeanie Crombie
- 17 Rob Draughon
- 18 Violet Olsen
- 19 Sharon Goldsworthy
- 19 Rob Russell
- 19 Quin Teachey
- 20 Kirsty Adams
- 20 Ann McGaha
- 21 Harrison Bingham

- 21 Zac Overbev
- 21 Arlene Wade
- 21 Barry Wall
- 22 Bryan Howell
- 22 Kathy McCoy
- 24 Barbara Armstrong
- 24 Don Powell
- 25 Leigh Powers
- 26 Betty Dowden
- 26 Bill Potter
- 28 JoEllyn Slott
- 29 Catherine King
- 29 Walter Shorter
- 30 Dan Work

<u>July</u>

- 1 Ollie Ciabattini
- 1 McKenzie Cotten
- 1 Jeanie Hill
- 1 John Seabold
- 1 Walter Smalley
- 2 Myles Beaupre
- 2 Joyce Cochran
- 2 Tre Luckett
- 3 Emmaline Farmer
- 4 David Collins
- 4 Barb Poier
- 6 Jay Chandler
- 9 Jean Carroll
- 10 Barry Phillips
- 11 Will Carter
- 11 Anna Lauren Hopkins
- 11 Jerold Teachey
- 11 Jane Young
- 12 Sherry Hurley
- 16 Jerry Daws
- 16 Brett Wells
- 17 Taylor Cates
- 18 Janet McCrory
- 18 Bob Pitts
- 18 Brett Wade
- 18 Jody Waldrop

- 18 Sherry Williams
- 20 Jan Davis
- 20 Miller Grace Jordan
- 20 Fred Norman
- 20 Elizabeth Powell
- 21 Karen Blount
- 21 Gracey Owens
- 21 Betsy Vacheron
- 22 Landon Hopkins
- 23 Clyde Blount
- 23 Laura Farmer
- 24 Mary Lennox Halfacre
- 24 Kevin Wade
- 25 Kay Dortch

26 - Braxton Groce

27 - Daniel Crocker

28 - Brian Waldrop

30 - Verna Arwood

30 - Huddy Boyle

30 - Bayard Boyle

30 - Dina Ciabattini

30 - Mary Ann Harris

30 – Carol Ann Trenor 31 – Scott Bingham

31 – Jane Craddock31 – Becky Stanley

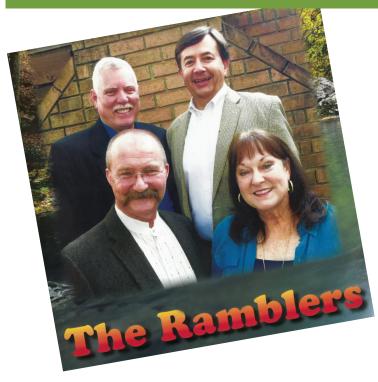
31 - Marlene Wilson

28 - Alice Franceschetti

29 – Margaret Oldham

27 - Kay Shelton

28 - Amy Barker



Saturday night, June 5 at 6:00pm, GPC member Chuck Utterback and his music group, The Ramblers, will perform a concert outside on the Arthur Road side of the church. Bring your lawn chairs and your picnic baskets and enjoy the shade from the trees 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.

This group came last August, and they were a tremendous hit.

Saturday, June 5 6:00pm Arthur Rd Parking Lot Outdoor Concert Fellowship Event

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.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Barbara & John Beauford 3301 Tournament Dr Memphis TN 38125 Barbara c: (843) 216-2730 John c: (770) 634-0592 John e: silvergf@aol.com



Cathy & Randy Smith 1966 Arden Walk Ln Germantown TN 38138 Cathy c: (901) 237-7710 Cathy e: ccsteach@gmail.com Randy c: (901) 671-7928 Randy e: rmscoffee@netzero.com

GPC will offer a joining opportunity Sunday, June 27 at 10:45am after worship.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Amy Phillips at 901-647-6433, Diane Callahan Edens at 901-262-1478 or any GPC minister at 901-754-5195.

You are invited to find a family of faith here.

SESSION CORNER

Highlights from our 5/20 Joint Diaconate & Session Meeting include:

1. Presentation of Faith Statements were given by New Officers. All New Officers present were approved to be ordained and/or installed on 6/13 at the 9:30am Worship Service.

2. The Stewardship Committee requested approval for the new employee handbooks (a multi-year task now complete; special thanks to Susan Morgan & Melinda Russell). Session reviewed these over the last month, and approved with the few revisions received.

3. COVID Update: In keeping with CDC and Shelby County guidelines, Session approved to lift mask and social distancing restrictions for those vaccinated, effective Sunday, 6/6. If unvaccinated, Session strongly recommends wearing a mask to protect yourself and others. For children & youth, masks will be optional, as based upon parents' wishes. Members are welcome to wear masks and social distance if they prefer. We respect those who choose to do so. "Loving our neighbors as ourselves" will be at the heart of this transition. The Building & Grounds and Worship Committees will work to prepare increased seating capacity in A/C for 6/6 Worship. 4. Sanctuary Update: Hopeful to return to our Sanctuary 7/4!

5. Worship Services Update: In an effort to accommodate the current Sunday School schedules, we plan to have one 9:30am Worship Service thru the summer. We will return to two morning services 8/15. More attending the 6pm evening Worship Service is encouraged.

6. There will be a GPC Strategic Visioning Leadership Retreat on 6/19.

For further insight, members are welcome to review Session meeting minutes & committee meeting minutes for all Ministry Teams available in our church office.

Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

- I Chronicles 16:11 -

MUSIC & WORSHIP ARTS

MUSIC NOTES

Summer is here - hopefully we will continue to make good progress in our fight against COVID. (Thank you to ALL who have or are getting their vaccine!!) I hope and pray that we will be back in the sanctuary and are able to resume a music program that is close to normal when we kick off our fall programming year on Sunday, August 15.

The month of June will be very active for music at GPC. There is much to look forward to:

• June 5, Saturday > 6:00pm Outdoor Concert with Chuck Utterback and the RAMBLERS. Bring lawn chairs and a snack - fun for ALL!!

• June 7-11 > VBS Anna and numerous volunteers are working and planning. Music plays a big role in VBS. Karen, Alex, Shannon, & Aaron will be busy working with our children.

• June 6 > Clara Norell, soprano. One of our university student soloists will sing for us in worship

• June 13 > Soloists in worship will be Ethan Baskin, tenor, student soloist and Stephanie Doche (former Chancel Choir member/Memphis Opera Apprentice/Now Young Professionals). She is in town to perform with Opera Memphis during May and June. I am always so pleased when our former soloists who have moved on are back in town and contact me offering to sing for our worship services. Stephanie is a superb singer!

• June 20 > Fathers' Day - We will enjoy a male quartet -Woodie Whited, Marcus King, Jeff Day, & Russell Crouse.

• June 27 > Tenor Aaron Redburn, who just completed his doctorate at UM (along with wife Shannon) will be our soloist.

• July 4 > Bo Cotten will play trombone. Jeff Day & possibly Shannon and Aaron will help us worship and celebrate.

Let me welcome soprano Desiree Soto as a GPC soloist. Desiree sang for worship Memorial Day Sunday, May 30, and she is an excellent young singer. You will love her voice. She just completed her masters at the U of M and is now beginning work on a doctorate. Desiree studies with Dr. Randall Rushing. As you are aware this has been an unprecedented year of loss in the Chancel Choir. Besides losing Sandy and Chelsea, Christa Navy completed her master's degree and is returning home to West Virginia. Kyle and Lexa Ferrill have moved to Traverse City, Michigan where her parents live, and baritone Coburn Jones is headed back to Miami and then to NY City to begin his career as a young professional singer. We will miss them all. We thank them for their years of service to music at GPC!! We are in the process of welcoming new singers. It is because of you, the GPC congregation who support our music program through the annual budget and your special gifts, that we are able to welcome student singers. They love singing with us, need to make a little extra money, and find GPC, their home away from home, welcoming and so friendly. They truly embrace being a part of the GPC family. Their parents often write and thank us for welcoming their young students to our church. You who contribute to the Music Fund and Teachey Scholarship give us the extra funding needed for our student singers and the many talented instrumentalist we enjoy each year. Thank YOU!! Alex and I and all of our musicians will continue to do our best to provide quality music in worship at GPC!!

I look forward to seeing you in worship soon.

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



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

THE GPC PRAYER MINISTRY

Contributed by The Congregational Care Prayer Team



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 and/or otherwise participate in prayer.

1. The website has a prayer request link on the home page with praying hands graphic or you can email <u>prayers@germantownpres.org</u>.

2. The prayer cards that used to be in the sanctuary pews can now be found in the AC lobby, the Welcome Center, the GPC office and elsewhere around the church. Just fill them out and put them in the offering plate. You can specify that your request be prayed over by pastors only, by a small prayer group, or be shared with the churchwide prayer list published in the monthly newsletter.

3. Another way to request prayer is through the email list that church member Margaret Owens oversees. She sends requests to a larger prayer list within the GPC family. If you'd also like to be included on this list to receive prayer requests, you may email her as well. Her address is margaretowens1@aol.com.

4. The pastors also pray over all confidential prayer requests. Or you can also send a prayer request to the pastors at <u>prayers@germantownpres.org</u>.

This is a great way for us to get renewal and strength.

GPC'S GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY

Grief Support Group To Begin In Person Meetings

Friends, at long last, the Grief Support Group will begin inperson meetings. The first meeting will be Thursday, June 24. The meeting will be held in the Warren Fellowship Hall, beginning at 6:00pm. We will follow GPC COVID policy (as of May 10, 2021 - social distancing & masks required). This COVID policy may be revised at any time.

On Thursday, August 12, the Grief Support Group will begin its monthly in-person meetings (held on the 2nd Thursday of each month). These meetings will also begin at 6:00pm with location TBD depending on ongoing restoration of the church parlor.

The group meetings are free and open to GPC members, visitors, and those from the greater community area. If you have questions, please feel free to contact one of the Grief Support Ministry Team listed below.

The Grief Support Ministry Team:

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

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

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

Contact information for Ministry Team:

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

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

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

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

FLOWER DELIVERY MILESTONE

Many thanks, as always, to the Petals and Prayers Flower Ministry for weekly preparing individual flower arrangements from each Sunday's worship flowers – the flowers that have heard the hymns sung, the prayers prayed, and the sermon preached and then are delivered to our GPC family by Pastor Susie Wiggins each week.

Last year on May 30, Pastor Susie began her delivery ministry. And as of this printing, a full year after she began, by May 30 this year, Pastor Susie reached 365 total deliveries! Can you believe it? Wow. Thanks, Pastor Susie and Petals and Prayers!

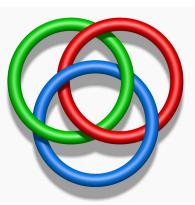
If you have small vases either from these deliveries or of your own that you could donate so this ministry can continue, please drop them off in the flower room (located right behind the sanctuary on the north side). Thank you so much!

Can you find Pastor Susie in the picture below? (Hint: I see familiar shoes....)



CIRCLES OF CARE MINISTRY

Last March the Circles of Care Ministry was launched with about 30-35 GPC members caring for about 150 GPC members aged 80+ - those who live alone and are the most vulnerable for feeling isolated and alone in the midst of the pandemic.



The Circles of Care Ministry falls underneath the umbrella of the Congregational Care Committee and Deacon Robbie Hughes is now overseeing the ministry, which is going strong. GPC members care for others by telephoning, texting, writing, emailing, preparing meals, delivering meals. Additionally, personal notes are being written and sent to Germantown's front-line workers, specifically our firefighters and police officers. If you know of someone who might need some tender loving care by the Circle of Care Ministry, please let Pastor Susie know at <u>care@germantownpres.org</u>, and likewise, if you would like to be involved in this vital ministry as a caring soul.

The Circles of Care Ministry launched on March 20, 2020 and continues to reach out and connect with many GPC parishioners - most especially our beloved seniors. Through all the ways we are connecting with people, we realize that there is a need to expand the care to younger parishioners and so we are wanting to expand the ministry. The way we do this is to assign those who are interested in participating 5-10 members that you are willing to connect with each month: either call, email, or write personal notes to - but commit to contacting each one once a month at least. If you are willing to join our ministry team, just let Pastor Susie know by emailing her at care@ germantownpres.org, and she will give you a group of people to connect with and their contact information. The relationships being formed are wonderful!

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

HOMELESS RESOURCES

<u>To help the homeless:</u> 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



<u>Remember</u> : DON'T GIVE OUT ANYONE'S PERSONAL NUMBER!

BINGHAMPTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

GPC MEMBERS KAREN LAWHORN AND BARB POIER POSE WITH THE BCA CLASS THEY SPONSOR AT THE YEAR-END PARTY



GPC MEMBER & MAGICIAN EXTRAORDINAIRE JEFF DAY WOWS WITH MAGIC AT THE BCA END-OF-YEAR PARTY



ANN HARBOR, KAREN LAWHORN, AND BARB POIER WITH TERI AND TORI, THEIR BCA PRAYER PARTNERS





MISSIONS & OUTREACH



Memphis Athletic Ministries

Love God Love Others Love Self

May 2021: contributed by Jonathan Torres, MAM CEO

Memphis Athletic Ministries is gearing up for the summer months and would love to get GPC members involved with our Summer Academy. Summer Academy is focused on slowing "summer slide" for rising 3rd - 8th grade students across the city. Historically, Memphis students decline in their reading and math skills due to learning inactivity in the summer months, and MAM is working hard to combat that decline. We provide all-day activities to keep students engaged in learning in a fun and safe environment. MAM families pay \$50 for the entire 5-week summer program. To offset costs, we are asking for support from friends across the city to cover our expenses to provide excellent programs to our families. To get involved, visit www.mamsports.org/summer to DONATE NOW! Thank you for your support.

Rising Together Roundation (RTF) 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.

Challenge 1:

Summer and After-School Programming

Students from under-resourced communities struggle to access high-quality summer and after-school programming. These students face socio-economic challenges that have brought them to this critical point in their educational development, but they are all eager to learn and thrive.

Challenge 2:

Educational Inequality

The need for educational transformation in the U.S. is real and urgent. Right now children from under-resourced communities are performing significantly below grade level.

With third-grade reading serving as a powerful predictor of lifelong success, this educational inequity is holding back generations of children from reaching their full potential. This community crisis will affect lifelong success and the economy.

Educational inequality is the greatest social justice and civil rights issue in the U.S. today. With about 200 schools and 7,000 teachers, Shelby County Schools* is among the 25 largest districts in the U.S. Of the approximately 106,000 students in the district, 80% are economically disadvantaged by free and reduced lunch standards.

Challenge 3: Community Impact Technology is a driving force of our economy. Well-paying jobs often require a college els of STEM skills. Yet stud-



ies show the U.S. lagging behind other developed countries in creating the workforce of the future, ranking 38th out of 71 countries in math and 24th in science.

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. These programs and events are a collaborative effort by individuals representing public and independent primary and secondary schools, universities and colleges, and other organizations dedicated to excellence in education and leadership.

GPC is excited to be an ongoing partner with RTF, founded by GPC member and community leader Judd Peters. There are lots of ways to get involved in this program: teach, volunteer, become a partner, donate. Check out the website (https://www.risingtogetherfoundation.com/) for more information. If you want to talk to Judd Peters about other opportunities, you can email him here (judd@risingtogetherfoundation.com).

*Shelby County Schools is the school district serving Memphis and unincorporated areas of the county.

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY



SPECIAL NEE

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO EVERYONE WHO PAR MEMPHIS JOY PROMA



DS MINISTRY

TICIPATED ON EVERY LEVEL TO MAKE THIS YEAR'S ADE A TERRIFIC SUCCESS!



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

By Jackie Classen MEET MISS MELINDA MCFALL

Melinda McFall makes melodies and memories as she engages with her PEACE program friends! Melinda has partaken of AMPlify lessons in guitar and bar instrumentation since its inception. Despite some interference related to the COVID-19 pandemic, Melinda remained faithful to the activity and made every effort to attend all available sessions. When the reliability of her transportation faltered, Melinda sought and gained support from the members of her home church, St. Patrick Presbyterian of Collierville. She did not miss many sessions by advocating for her needs with people she knew to be part of her support system.



orphaned with the passing of their mother, Emily, in 1996 and the passing of their father, Randy, in 2012. Their mother had been the second-youngest sibling of the aunts and uncles Melinda discussed, and she shared that her mother's youngest brother passed away a couple of years ago. Many of her mother's surviving relatives continue to reside in Kentucky. Melinda's other relatives live in Ohio, Georgia, Indiana, and California. And so, most of her support comes from her "big church family," who fills Melinda with loving encouragement, for which she expresses deep pride and appreciation.

Melinda epitomizes the social butterfly! She's a delightful lady who loves to meet, help, and serve people of all ages and backgrounds. In addition to her engagement in GPC's weekday PEACE programs, Melinda's interests stretch beyond even her home-church programs! For example, this year Melinda participated in the Memphis Joy Promade celebration! She thoroughly enjoyed receiving a corsage and being chauffeured through the Joy Promade stations! Melinda shared this year was her first opportunity to go to the Memphis Joy Prom. These memories will be with her for the rest of her life!

Melinda, who turned 40 years old on May 18, has few local relatives. She resides in a shared apartment, with her brother, Matt, who also has special needs. Their closest relatives, an aunt and uncle residing in Bartlett, are challenged to help Melinda and Matt. Their Aunt Becky suffered a stroke, which causes her limitations. Their Uncle Bill cares for his wife, Becky, so has little opportunity to assist Melinda and Matt. Though Melinda shared that she has two other aunts, another uncle, and "too many cousins to count," they all live in other states and are rarely able to get together. The pandemic has further hindered any prospects of reunion. Melinda counts the members of her church and in her programs as family. In their delight with helping Melinda, the members of her home church have made every effort to assist her.

Melinda was born and raised primarily in the Memphis area. She and her brother spent a couple of years with their mother in northern Kentucky, but they all returned to Memphis in September 1988. Melinda and Matt were Though Melinda's special needs call for some living assistance, she maintains a general independent drive. Despite the grief experienced with the passing of her mother, Melinda maintained her schooling, with the support of her father, and achieved a high school special education diploma from Kingsbury High School in 2003. She stated she was not interested in attending college, though she actively pursues and shares many hobbies. In May, Melinda led a needle-working craft hobby with the participants of our Friendship Circle. It was challenging but well-received. Melinda creates needle-worked coasters, which she gives as gifts for birthdays and Christmas. Melinda enjoys sharing her talents and creations, as well as her heart and humor!

Melinda's heart is fashioned for sharing and being helpful to others. Her kind-spirited wit evokes generous laughter in every setting. Her Friendship Circle friends were excited when Melinda reconnected, returning to in-person participation opportunities. Many participants missed her during her brief break. Melinda also seeks to recruit other participants to enjoy her activities. She has recommended GPC's programs to people she meets at her home church, other churches' programs, and through her various caregivers. It is safe to say Melinda is proud of what she experiences and wants others to share in the joy she feels while participating in her various special needs programs.

One cannot truly know Melinda without witnessing her vivacious love of children! With a Christ-like adoration for children, Melinda seeks opportunities to engage with and encourage them in their Christian development. She can often be found at St. Patrick's nursery, cradling, and comforting the babies. She also enjoys participating in St. Patrick's Field of Friends program, by hanging out with her

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

MELINDA McFall (CONTINUED)

special friends while they play and watch baseball games. To further share her joy with children, Melinda volunteers in Vacation Bible School and eagerly awaits the reopening of GPC's Parents' Night Out program, where she hopes to volunteer, too!

Melinda enthusiastically shares her joy and what she enjoys - helping others and being an active participant in many programs - Field of Friends, Breakfast Club, Joy Prom, community groups, Special Friends and Special Friends VBS, Friendship Circle, and AMPlify! Even with all these programs to attend throughout the week, Melinda has chosen to spend some summer-month time sampling the Shepherd's Haven day program. Melinda shared how she carefully chose days that would not interfere with her favorite GPC programs! We are grateful for her selections because Melinda brings us great joy as she engages in our programs throughout the week! Melinda has so much love and so many talents to share, with such tremendous enthusiasm and sparkle, we are thankful to know and spend time in her presence!

Photos: From top moving clockwise: Melinda can be seen hanging with her long-time buddy Jack. They played together in Field of Friends in 2019. Melinda in Friendship Circle with Kortney (Though Friendship Circle will be breaking for Summer Break, please check out our Wacky Wednesday in the Word Summertime program for similar engagement with God's love and teaching! Wacky Wednesday will begin on June 16. The program occurs weekly from 10:00am – 12:30pm.) Melinda practicing before the AMPlify Spring Performance, led by the incomparable Noel Wilkins.

If you were unable to attend the AMPlify Spring Performance in person, you may still access it through our website links and YouTube video.



WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES FOR MEN & WOMEN



The Thursday Bible Study Is Back Submitted by Jean Carroll

The Thursday Bible Study will resume on June 24 at 10am and will continue to meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. The room hasn't yet been determined.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

The first meeting will just be a social gathering to catch up with each other and meet any new members.

The Bible Study will be 1 & 2 Peter and Jude. We will use our Bibles and the study guide book, 1 & 2 Peter and Jude by N. T. Wright.

You may order the study guide from Amazon ($9 \circ 10$) Jean can order it for you, or you can check it out from the GPC library. I think most of us have the book because we were scheduled to start when the COVID hit.

There is not a Bible Leader for this group. We take turns reading the questions and everyone who wants to do so participates in a discussion. This group has been meeting for years using this format. We share prayer requests confidentially and pray.

Please let me know if you would like to join this group. I need to know the number of members so we can be assigned a room to meet. We would love to have you.

We would, of course, follow the guidelines as proscribed by the CDC and the Shelby County Department of Health.

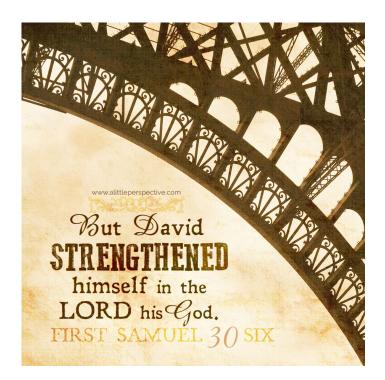
Jean Carroll (901-755-6950 home, 901-674-6950 cell or jeancarroll1@comcast.net)

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:

Press 1 for the staff directory.
 Enter the 1st 3 letters of the staff member's first name.
 You will be transferred to that staff member's personal voice mail.

Your call will be returned as soon as possible.



WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES FOR MEN & WOMEN



Men'a Breakfast resumes meeting in person and continues Zooming.

All men are invited.

Men: You have great small group options during the week. Yay!

<u>Breakfast</u>: The men Zoom for Men's Sonrise Ministry Breakfast every Friday morning. The contact for that group is Drayton Mayers, and you can email him at <u>draytonmayers@gmail.</u> <u>com</u> for more information and the Zoom codes.

<u>Lunch</u>: There is also a lunch devotional group that meets on the 2nd & 4th Mondays at 1pm via Zoom. Currently they're reading *Mornings with Bonhoeffer: 100 Reflections on the Christian Life* by Donald K. McKim. The contact for this group is Anthony Duke, and you can reach him at <u>anthony.duke@ipaper.com</u> to get involved.



Presbyterian Women (PW) Bible Study Presbyterian Women's last Bible study ended May 4.

There are no gatherings planned for the summer but our Bible Study will begin again in September.

If additional information is needed contact Nancy Halter at **ihal**-



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

ter2097@comcast.net or 731 267-0497 or Bonnie Algee at <u>bbalgee@bellsouth.net</u> or 674-2613.





SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION OPTIONS



These Adult Education classes are offered on Sunday mornings following worship both onsite and online. Here's what things look like this month.

In order to accommodate the 9:30am worship service, Sunday School classes (adult, special needs, youth, child) will follow the service, both in a limited capacity onsite and continuing online. All the study books being used by the classes can be found in your favorite online bookstore or from your class leader. Make sure you check in with your class coordinator to confirm your group's details. It's always a good time to join a Sunday morning group.

<u>Coffee & Conversations, coordinator Candace Askew</u> (candaceaskew84@gmail.com) - This group meets at 10:45am online and onsite in room UL-217. This class was designed especially for parents with children in Sunday School onsite. The group will meet throughout the summer and study the Tim Keller book <u>The Prodigal</u> <u>God</u>. In the electronic version, click on the book title to follow the link. You can also check it out from the GPC library. To participate, contact Anna White at <u>annaw@</u> germantownpres.org.

Hits of the Ages Class, coordinators Liz (lizcallicott@bellsouth.net) and Alan Callicott (alan@callicottinsurance. com) - In May Pastor Mike Lyle began facilitating the **ENGAGE** series which will conclude on the final Sunday in June. For information and how to join/participate with this class, contact the class coordinators.

Psalm 78 Class, coordinators Stacy Weiss (stacy.weiss@ comcast.net) and Kevin Floyd (kevinfloyd@comcast.net) - This class is made up of parents of school-age children, and over the summer class members will research and share the origins/history of their favorite hymns. Summer's the perfect time to drop in and be a guest of this class. They meet on Zoom each Sunday at 11am and would like to invite other young parents to jump onboard!

Pastor Mike Lyle will lead an **ENGAGE** series with them in early fall. The class will continue to be held over Zoom. When the class resumes meeting in person, a Zoom option will still be available.

For information and how to join/participate with this class, contact the class coordinators.

Seekers Class, coordinators Randy Harris (randyfharris2@yahoo.com) and Lanny Oakes (lannyoakes@bellsouth.net) - This group has recently completed the new **ENGAGE 2021** study with a focus on mission led by Pastor Susie. During July and August Pastor Mike Lyle will facilitate the class in the **ENGAGE** series with a focus on "Gospel." Following that, in September and October, Pastor Will Jones will lead the class in the **ENGAGE** series focusing on "Discipleship."

Currently the class is meeting via ZOOM but will return to incorporating an in-person Sunday School classroom format over the summer while still maintaining the Zoom option.

Paula's Hearts and Hands is a dedicated group of women that enjoys meeting together to knit prayer shawls, baby blankets, booties, hats, and other things for those in need of prayer and support. They pray over each item produced and often watch a Bible Study series together. They have resumed meeting in person at church in the GPC Session room on the 2nd floor of the new adult education building. To find out more about this class, contact Mary Rogers at <u>mlrogers44@bellsouth.net</u>.

It's simple to participate in any of these Sunday morning offerings using a computer, a tablet (iPad), or cell phone or by coming in person. These classes continue to meet over the summer, so for information and how to join/participate on Sunday mornings, contact the class coordinators.

WAYS TO GIVE

In the Mail

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





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

Text





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

Online

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



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!

Don't Forget GPC This Summer

GPC wishes you a safe, healthy, & fun summer, but don't forget your tithe.

Summer's typically a challenge to stay on budget, so your giving is just as important as it is during the year.

THANK YOU, & WHEN YOU'RE IN TOWN, MAKE SURE YOU COME WORSHIP WITH US.

<u>Help Needed with Worship Services:</u> 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. It's vitally important to our expanding presence on social. Please consider volunteering, and if you are interested you can contact the church office at <u>communications@germantownpres.org</u>.





HAPPY GRADUATION, GPP-ERS! GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL



Congrats GPP graduates from GPC families

Evelyn

FAMILY MINISTRY

FAMILIES & CHILDREN





This year's Children's Sunday looked a little bit different, but GPCKids did an amazing job leading their GPC family in worship.

Thanks, GPCKids!

FAMILY MINISTRY

FAMILIES & CHILDREN

VBS Decorating Day is Sunday, June 6!

We are so excited to welcome VBS back in the church this year! The decorating plan is organized and ready, and now we need a team of volunteers to help put it into action! Please join us on Sunday, June 6 following the 9:30 worship service to help decorate. We need 30 adults and youth to decorate 5 key areas of the church. We will decorate, have fun, and enjoy a pizza lunch together! Please email Anna if you can help! <u>annaw@germantownpres.org</u>



VBS Is June 7-11

FOCUS on the children in the building and the great team of 75 adult and youth volunteers helping to make this week happen, and please include this week in your prayers!

Registration is closed, but email Anna if you would like to be on the waiting list. Watch for pictures to be posted the week of VBS on the GPC Facebook page. Thank you all!





Tee Shirt Sundays are Back in Session this Summer!

Session 1: June 13, 20, and 27 Session 2: July 11, 18, and 25

Tee Shirt Sundays are a fun and relaxed way to join in with Sunday School this summer. Summer is a time for vacationing and lazy days, but we hope when your family is in town that your child will join us for a fun way to learn about Jesus! Tee Shirt Sundays will be held from 10:45am - 11:45am on the scheduled Sundays listed above.

We also need volunteers to help teach. All lesson plans will be prepared for you...just pick up your prepared supply bucket and you will be ready to go! All you need to do is sign up for a date that works for you. We need 2 elementary and 2 preschool teachers per Sunday. If you have ever felt called to teach Sunday School, this is a great way to try it out. If you can teach on one of these scheduled days, please email Anna (<u>annaw@germantownpres.org</u>) This is an easy and fun experience, and a great way to share your faith with the next generation. Watch for more details to come in the weekly eblasts.

Special Events Committee Needed for Children's Education

GPC's Children's Ministry is in need of a Special Events Committee to help plan and implement two important events this coming semester - the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, August 15 and the Christmas Party on Wednesday evening, December 22. These are both well-loved events that GPC has been doing for years, so the general plan is already in place. We need 5 volunteers to participate on this committee. Please email Anna if you are interested in getting involved with event plans for our GPCKids! (annaw@germantownpres.org)

FAMILY MINISTRY



IN OUR PRAYERS

In the Congregation

- >Shirley Billups>Fritz/Jeanie Crombie>Sherril/Jim Blair>Kay Donaho>Linda Sue/Bob Bobo>Judy/Fred Frick>Huddy/Bayard Boyle**Rachel Gwin>Jean/Gil Brooks>Dot/Lamar Hartzog>Tommie Faye Coffman>Jean/Bob Hicks>Kay/David Collins**John Hurt
- >Dixie Johnson
 >Dot Ledlow
 >Carol/Bill Leppert
 >Aggie/Jack Losa
 **Caroline Oldham
 >Pat Plunk
 **Greg Morgan
- >Jackie/Bill Ruleman
 >Tavia/Cole Sanders
 >Diane Short
 >Pam/Bill Spencer
 **Mary Strop
 **Anne/Wayne Tansil
 >Jan Thomson

The congregation extends its love, sypathy, and prayers to: the family of Betty McCallen in her death: Christy Smalley and 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, nurses, emergency workers dealing with COVID-19 Patients with COVID-19 Wisdom for church leadership Bethlehem Bible College

GPC Friends & Family Prayer Ministry

- **Brad & family friends of Jeanie Hill
- **Brandon PEACE program participant & friend of Jackie Classen
- >Clay Burrow son of Erwin Westmoreland
- **JoAnne Day mother of Jeff Day
- **Brad Flynn friend of Drayton Mayers
- >Virginia Goss daughter of Gloria/Tim Goss
- **Cliff Green brother of Susan Green Jones
- **Debra Hampton & family - co-worker of Woodson Farmer
- law of Susan Ollinger >Susan Hawkins - daughter of Ann Phillips **Aubrey Holder - brother of Debbie Florendo >Keegan - son of business partner of Dave Slott **Keynen - Brianna Reilly's boyfriend >Aunt Marion - aunt of Susan Morgan **Mary Jo - sister of Kristy Sneed

>Allerie Hanlon (1st

responder) - daughter-in-

>Bill McKinney & wife friends of Phyl Simmons >Mary Ann & Troy Odom parents of Tracey Smith >Randy & family - coworker of Eric Buring

- **Dad of Aaron Redburn >Rubye Reid - friend of Phyl Simmons & former GPC member
- >Dr. Carlos Reyes-Sacin (1st responder) - son-inlaw of Susan Ollinger
- **Patricia Rose sister of Shirley Billups
- >Bill Sims extended family of Missy Gwin

>William Steven, son of Hayley Steven - friend of **Mary C. Thrift - sister of Carol Barnes >Ruth Warren - mother of William Warren **Mary Ann & Merle

Susan Shirley Hurt

>Bob Thurman

Whited

>Amanda Walters

>Woodie/Johnathan

- Weaver friends of Jackie Classen
- **Amber West friend of Susan Shirley Hurt
- **Bryan & Robin Crouse Woodell - family of Althea, Russell, Christina Crouse

**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.

June 2021 GPC Family Prayer Ministry

Jun 6 Joe Crocker Bill Boyle Jeanie & Fritz Crombie Randy & Diane Callahan Edens Violet Olsen Jane Beth Page Karen & Rob Russell Tom Tweel Jun 13 Linda Sue & Bob Bobo Danielle Danforth Miller Fred & Judy Daniel Frick Linda & Donnie Harris Julie & Matthew Lindow, Jason, Victoria Kim & Tom Sauer Lauren & Chuck Utterback, Miller

- Jun 20 Xander Batey Edna & Jerry Daws Gloria & Tim Goss Ann Harbor Teresa & Forrest Owens, Addison, Gracey Pam & Bill Spencer Carol Ann & Tommy Trenor Kathy & Gary Veazey
- Jun 27 Liz & Alan Callicott, Ruth Janie Day Karen & Bill Lawhorn Tara & David Martin Laura & Bob Schriner Betsy & Dominique Vacheron

MEMORIALS

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

Building Tomorrow Today

In Memory of Andrew Arthur Mickie & Steve Nabers

In Memory of Tom Cates Mickie & Steve Nabers

Flower Fund

In Memory of Sandy Franks Kay & David Collins

Memorial Fund

In memory of Dianne Bell Mickie & Steve Nabers

In memory of Jane Deupree Mr. & Ms. Ken Derks

In memory of Tom Cates Bank Tennessee Sally & Bruce McCulloch Shirley Sims

Music Fund

In memory of Sandy Franks

Linda Sue & Bob Bobo Beth & Bill Boyle Sara & John Chiego Cindy & Howard Cleveland Gabriela Davila Kelly Greer Judge Kathleen Gomes Jerry Huff J. W. McAllister Wendy Robinson Morrow Helen & Fred Norman Amy & Barry Phillips **Barb Poier** Charmaine & Kelvin Sego **Diane Stearns Peggy Whitaker** Judith & Tom Wilson

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Painting is almost complete. Carpet in the Sanctuary has been installed. Pew restoration should start soon. Completion still expected in late June.

Fred Turverey, Business & Facilities Administrator

Germantown Presbyterian Church 2363 S Germantown Rd Germantown TN 38138

рн: 901/754-5195 Fx: 901/754-6961

www.GermantownPres.org

Sunday Worship Times: 9:30am Worship (onsite & online) Office hours: 8:30am-4:00pm Monday-Friday

10:45/11am Sunday School (onsite & online)

> 6:00pm Worship (onsite & online)

July Window Deadline: June 15

	Apr. 2021	2021 YTD	Apr. 2020	2020 YTD
Revenue	\$174,339	\$785,696	\$ 159,310	\$ 716,318
Expenses	\$ 166,033	\$601,697	\$ 131,675	\$ 571,843
Vet	\$8,306	\$183,999	\$ 27,635	\$ 144,475

We recognized a modest surplus in April after making a budgeted transfer of reserves for \$22,025. These funds were part of the forgiven PPP loan that we (and many other churches) received in late 2020. We may be starting to see a seasonal decline in contributions that could last through summer.

We continue to out-perform previous years. Our revenues are up, but more significantly, our expenses are reduced due to the curtailment of programs because of the pandemic. We are committed to continuing to resume programs and activities in a cautious and safe way and expect that the related expenses will increase accordingly in the remaining months of the year.

William G. Jones Pastor

Susan Carter Wiggins Associate Pastor for

Congregational Care Michael Lyle Tom Sauer Associate Pastor to Senior Adults

Anna White Director of Family Ministry

Christopher Greco Director of Youth Ministry

Jackie Classen Director of Special Needs Ministry, Asst. to Director of Children's Ministry

Jerold Teachey Director of Music Ministry

Alex Benford Organist/Music Associate John Johnson Worship Leader/Musician

Sandra Franks Coordinator of Children's Choirs

Jennifer Genrty Director, Germantown Presbyterian Preschool Fred Turverey Business & Facilities Administrator

Debbi Schweizer Financial Secretary

Ann DeVere Church Secretary/ Receptionist CARL WOODS MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

Randy Smith Maintenance Technician

LAURIE HENDERSON DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Associate Pastor for I Evangelism & Discipleship

> Visit Germantown Presbyterian Church online at www.germantownpres.org



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