



THE WINDOW

A Publication of Germantown Presbyterian Church

October 2021

ENGAGE 2021

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



GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
C·H·U·R·C·H



*D*ear Church Family and Friends,

Jesus invites people to follow Him with two approaches to discipleship. One way is immediate: a quick decision of complete trust to follow Jesus no matter what. We see Jesus invite people to follow Him, and He does not appear to give them much time to deliberate. He called His first disciples by the Sea of Galilee, and all He said to them was: "Follow me." He offered no explanation of the benefits or a three-point rationale on why following Him was best. This happens on many occasions, and people stop what they are doing and follow Him.

The other way is slower and more deliberate. Some people have to scratch their head and search their heart before going all in. Nicodemus is one such person. He shows up at the beginning of John's gospel; he meets Jesus one night; and his heart is full of questions. He has listened to Jesus' teachings, and he knows that Jesus has a unique insight into God's will. He appears to leave Jesus in John 3 still confused and unsure. By the end of John's gospel, however, Nicodemus is a follower of Jesus. He takes the body of Jesus after the crucifixion and prepares it for burial. We don't know what happened in between that first meeting with Jesus and the last, but he became a believer and a follower.

The Apostle Paul's conversion also takes more time than we realize. He hated Christians and hounded them in order to crush the followers of Jesus. He had a dramatic encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus, and he was struck blind as he fell to the ground in the presence of the glory of Christ. He was led by the hand into the city, and he sat in darkness for three days before a man named Ananias was sent by God to lead him into faith. Ananias meets with Paul and oversees his baptism into faith.

Jesus tells people to be strategic and deliberate in their thinking when it comes to faith and following Him. One time, He makes an analogy between following Him in faith and building a building. "If you want to build a tower," says Jesus, "you first have to assess the cost and make sure you can complete it." Jesus also invites potential followers to imagine a king who wants to go to battle against another army. The king must analyze his forces and know his weaknesses, or else he will lose. Being strategic, deliberate, and forward-thinking is not opposed to faith.

GPC has always manifested both approaches toward faith and following Jesus. We celebrate those who follow eagerly and devote their whole being to Jesus. We also appreciate, however, those for whom faith and following require deliberation and discernment. As a congregation, we strive to use foresight and to be strategic in our actions as a body of Christ.

After many discussions, prayers, and deliberations, we have updated our Vision Plan for Ministry that will guide us for the next several years. You will see and hear more about this in the upcoming weeks, but I wanted to share them with you now in advance of unveiling them in a sermon series in November. Our visionary priorities are:

Connecting: Teach, guide, and support people through stages of faith formation, transitions, and seasons of life. Identify and use spiritual gifts, implement innovative Christian education, and emphasize intergenerational ministry to foster a sense of belonging.

Growing: Reveal the life-changing love of Jesus Christ to others by witnessing to the good news of God's transforming grace to enable growth in the body of Christ. Journey, through authentic relationships, with spiritual seekers and those looking for a church home to explore spiritual needs and questions that encourage drawing closer to God.

Caring: Work as community partners in local and global settings, emulating the example of Christ, to seek justice for the poor, the disadvantaged, and the oppressed. Offer resources, time, and talents to promote the good, economic well-being, and fair treatment of people.

Sharing: Utilize the most effective communication techniques, both internal and external, to share the work of Christ's church. Drive awareness to engage and promote involvement.

Each Session and Diaconate Committee has crafted goals for this year based on these priorities. Each committee looked at its current work and then envisioned where it might expand and grow with these four priorities in mind. You will hear more about these vision priorities in the weeks ahead, and I hope you will find your place of worship and service within the life of our church.

Grace, mercy, and peace,

Will

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

GPC is updating the church directory. Look for hard copies in the church narthex and AC Lobby, check you and your family's information, update or don't as needed, and then initial beside your name. You can also email a new family picture to the church office at office@germantownpres.org.

It's not important who
does the planting, or
who does the
watering.
What's
important
is that God
makes the
seed grow.

~ 1 Corinthians 3:7 (NLT)



SUNDAY NIGHT NURSERY

GPC is offering a nursery on Sunday evenings from 5:00pm-7:30pm. If you have children that need a nursery, this option is for you. Come drop your baby off and worship in the evening service on Sunday nights at 6:00pm in Warren Fellowship Hall.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Teresa & Nathan Boswell
8515 Farmington Blvd
Germantown, TN 38139
Teresa cell: 770-354-9557
Teresa email: tj_ledford@yahoo.com
Nathan cell: 901-355-1945
Nathan email: nathan.boswell@gmail.com

Teresa and Nathan Boswell were invited to church by Mary K Grantham. Their son, Nick, had been in pre-school with the Granthams' son James. Nick became involved with our PEACE program, and Teresa and Nathan became active in a Sunday school class. Nathan works in IT at University of TN Health Science Center and is a native Memphian. Teresa is an English professor and is originally from the Atlanta area. They have lived in Germantown since 2013. Nick is in 6th grade at Houston Middle School.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Spencer Harris
9242 Forest Estates Cv
Germantown, TN 38139
spencerdharris14@gmail.com

Spencer is excited to join the GPC family as an active member. He has been a Presbyterian his entire life. He has been coming to the 8:30am service at GPC for the past 2 years. Spencer has a wife, Molly, and 2 daughters, Ava and Emma. He is a resident of Germantown and a lifelong Memphian.



Shelby Montague
8981 Armdale Dr
Germantown, TN 38139
shelby.montague@gmail.com
626-826-3000

Shelby Montague grew up attending Presbyterian churches in South Carolina and Georgia. During college and grad school, she attended different churches but never joined anywhere. She was looking for the right fit. They moved to Germantown two years ago and Germantown Presbyterian was the first church they visited and it just felt right. She now has a church family for herself and her two children.



Katie Wiener
4369 Gwynne Rd
Memphis, TN 38117
katiewiener@icloud.com

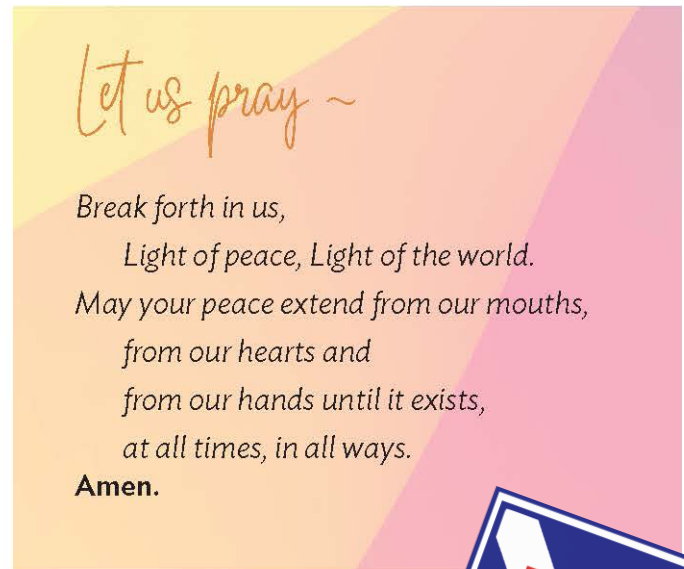
Katie Wiener is from Memphis and grew up in the Presbyterian church. She has two daughters. Bailey is 16 and Katie is 18. She was looking for a change and visited GPC after hearing Will preach at a few funerals. She's been attending Sunday school at one church and then worshipping at GPC. During COVID, she joined a Sunday School class via zoom so she could meet members of the congregation. Everyone has been extremely friendly and welcoming.

WELCOME, REV. JAMES AWUNI

Rev. James K. Awuni is the Chairperson of the Upper Presbytery, Presbyterian Church of Ghana. He is the former pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Bolgatanga, the Bolgatanga District Minister, and the Director of Finance of the Upper Presbytery.

GPC's partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Ghana began in the summer of 2017, when we sent an exploratory team to determine how we might best partner with the PCG. In 2018, the Rev. Emmanuel Atami, then Chairperson of the presbytery, came to GPC, and while with us, taught us so much about how they do evangelism. In 2019, we returned to the Upper Presbytery and learned even more about their mission outreach, and the areas where we could partner with them. In 2019, Rev. Awuni came to GPC for World Communion Sunday. Throughout 2020-21, the Ghana Mission Team (Lance Warren, Beth Brock, Erin Bowden, Ty Hardin, Molly Miller, and Pastor Susie Wiggins) have continued to meet (even during the COVID global pandemic via Zoom) and, with the support of the whole GPC congregation, have continued to work closely with the Upper Presbytery. We are thrilled to have Pastor James back with us as our guest preacher for the 2021 World Communion Sunday.

The Ghana Mission Team will host a luncheon following the 11:00am worship on October 3, and you are all invited to attend. Pastor James will share updates on the Upper Presbytery's mission and evangelism work. Please RSVP to Ann DeVere in the church office at office@germantownpres.org so we can know the number of box lunches to order.



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WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

"All who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgment against themselves." (1 Cor. 11:29)

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. Paul tells us that we are to "discern the body" when we partake of Holy Communion, mindful that we note our relationship to all our brothers and sisters in Christ in the celebration....

A Presbyterian Gift

World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) is a gift of the Presbyterian Church to the larger ecumenical church. The first celebration occurred at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1933 where Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr served as pastor.

John A. Dalles, a PCUSA pastor who has researched the history of World Communion Sunday notes this in his blog entry, reprinted from the October 7, 2002, issue of Presbyterian Outlook:

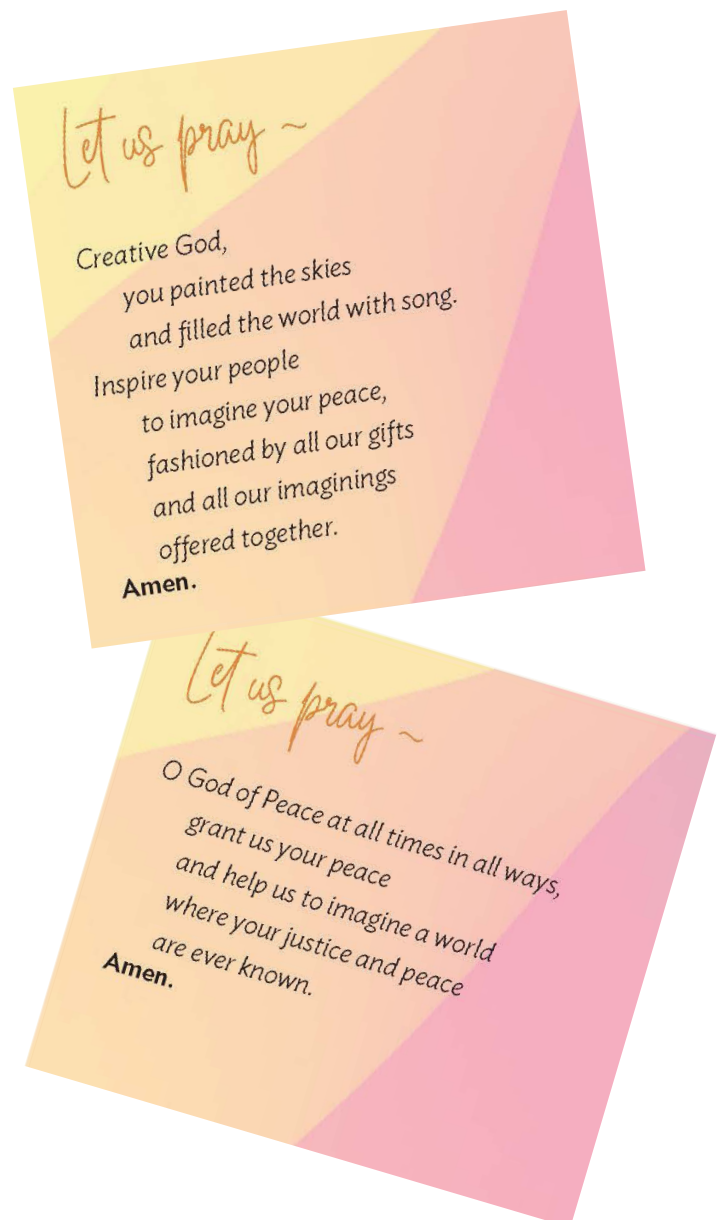
Davitt S. Bell (the late Clerk of Session and church historian at Shadyside) recalled that Dr. Kerr first conceived the notion of World Communion Sunday during his year as moderator of the General Assembly (1930). Dr. Kerr's younger son, the Rev. Dr. Donald Craig Kerr, who is pastor emeritus of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, was sixteen in 1933. He has related that World Communion Sunday grew out of the Division of Stewardship at Shadyside. It was their attempt to bring churches together in a service of Christian unity—in which everyone might receive both inspiration and information, and above all, to know how important the Church of Jesus Christ is, and how each congregation is interconnected one with another. When I asked Donald Kerr how the idea of World Communion Sunday spread from that first service to the world wide practice of today, this is what he replied,

"The concept spread very slowly at the start. People did not give it a whole lot of thought. It was during the Second World War that the spirit caught hold, because we were trying to hold the world together. World Wide Communion symbolized the effort to hold things together, in a spiritual sense. It emphasized that we are one in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Celebration of World Wide Communion Sunday was adopted as a denominational practice in the Presbyterian Church (US) in 1936. Churches in other denominations were invited to celebrate with us from the beginning, but it wasn't until 1940 when the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (a predecessor body of

the National Council of Churches) promoted extending the celebration to a number of churches around the world that the practice became widespread. Today, World Communion Sunday is celebrated around the world, demonstrating that the church founded on Jesus Christ peacefully shares God-given goods in a world increasingly destabilized by globalization and global market economies based on greed.

source: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/churchcalendar/world-communion-sunday/>



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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 communications@germantownpres.org or calling the church office 901-754-5195 and asking for the communications department.

October

1 – Sandy Roberts
2 – Gray Carter
4 – Susan Jones
4 – Jean Priester
4 – Eileen Scroggin
8 – Kay Donaho
8 – Jerry Huff
9 – George McGaha
9 – Sarah Thompson Riley
10 – Amelia Cates
10 – Josh Oldham
10 – Amy Phillips
11 – Kevin Floyd
11 – Aggie Losa
11 – Bob Schriner
13 – Cathy Borden
13 – Tucker Brock
13 – Alta Simpson
14 – Neal Horner
14 – Amanda Walters
15 – John Colmer
15 – Larry Hak
16 – Grace Jones
16 – Erin Potter
17 – Anne Allen
17 – Andrew Arthur
17 – Kriste Cullum
17 – Ty Hardin
17 – Tay Hyde
18 – Joe Crocker
18 – Shirley Howell
19 – Sherril Blair
19 – Jack Losa
19 – Dot Wieters
20 – Cathy Aslin
20 – Abby Chandler
20 – Jim Howell
20 – Norma Miles
20 – Cat Rice
20 – Janet Roll
21 – Tim Goss
21 – Katherine Willingham
22 – Martha Boyd
22 – Kay Collins

22 – Bob Eason
22 – Karen Fesmire
22 – Gisela Pickett
23 – Matthew Lindow
24 – Stacy Weiss
25 – Thomas Powell
26 – Nancy Wells
26 – Bill Wilson
27 – Vern Barton
27 – Kim Sauer
27 – Neil Southern
28 – Richard Fast
28 – Joe Lyle
29 – Ellie Goughnour
29 – Melinda Russell

20 – Tracy Whitaker
21 – Carol Barnes
21 – Gordon Cochran
21 – Dave Wells
22 – Jeff Bowlin
22 – Susan Morgan
24 – Frida Moky
25 – Emily Hak
26 – William Dellinger
26 – Diane Callahan Edens
26 – Woodson Farmer
29 – Rodney Strop
30 – Tamah Halfacre
30 – Kelly Phillips

October

3 – Ben Brock
3 – Brenda Jeter
4 – Meghan Aslin
5 – Jennie Fulmer
5 – Mike Threlkeld
7 – Beth Carter
7 – John Clay Durley
7 – Rebecca Laine
7 – Robbie Hughes
8 – Jenna Teachey
9 – Anne Zachry
10 – Chad Coursey
10 – Jean Hicks
11 – Noel Florendo
11 – Jeff Halfacre
11 – Carol Langsdon
11 – George Lumm
11 – Chuck Utterback
13 – Lorri Hughes
13 – Emmett Whitaker
15 – Dave Slott
18 – Erin Bowden
18 – Julianne Hurley
18 – Matt Mattila
19 – Joseph Butler
19 – Bill Fesmire
19 – George Menendez





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WOMEN'S RETREAT 2021

EAT, PRAY, PLAY:

GPC'S 2021 4TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT IS HAPPENING!

Eat, Pray, Play....it again, GPC Women!

We're not skipping a beat! While we all might think that the COVID global pandemic would prevent us from having a women's retreat this year ... we only need to recall what we did in 2020 in order to keep on keeping on (Enneagram Women's Retreat on Zoom!)

So, what are we doing in 2021?

We're so glad you've asked!

Well .. it will be something in-between an overnight at Pinecrest and a Zoom in your living room. Drum roll ... the 2021 4th Annual GPC Women's Retreat will be a one-day event held at GPC.

Date: November 6, 2021

Time: 9am-4pm (ish)

Location: GPC – stay tuned for the exact room

Lunch: Provided by your WRPT (Women's Retreat Planning Team)!

Coffee/Tea/Snacks: Same!

Cinnamon Rolls: Provided by PINECREST!

2021 Women's Retreat theme:

Generation After Generation: Learning From, Becoming, and Handing Down Women's Wisdom



Remember the meaning of R-E-T-R-E-A-T:

R: Relaxing Respite

For this one day - no errands, laundry, meals to prepare, or football games to watch!

E: Exceptional Eating

Pinecrest's delicious cinnamon rolls ... plus, snacks and lunch!

T: Terrific Teaching

Pastor Susie will lead our study of the Women of Wisdom - what have/can we learn from our foremothers in the faith - AND - how can we share our faith with our children and grandchildren – handing it down generation after generation?

R: Renew, Rejuvenate, Restore

Just being with WOMEN for even just one full day renews, rejuvenates, and restores our souls.

E: Enjoy Each Other

We'll have Soul Sisters (Prayer Partners) again. Each year this has been such a wonderful (and favorite) aspect of our retreats so, of course, we'll have it again. Always, we experience God's hand in whomever our Soul Sister is randomly chosen to be. It's a wonderful experience to make a new friend or strengthen existing bonds as we fellowship and pray together.

A: Assorted Activities

We'll also have some music, singing, and gentle stretching so we'll all stay energized and engaged.

T: Tremendous Together

Where 2 or 3 are gathered God is present and amazing things happen!

EAT, PRAY, PLAY 2021 is a gathering you won't want to miss.

And, for those of you with kids – what will they do that Saturday if you're away retreating? Well, we're also working with Pastor Will on a Dad/Kid event for that Saturday! Stay tuned!

Your WRPT: Elaine Cates, Ann Harbor, Wendy Holmes, Melinda Russell, Lacey Schepman, and Pastor Susie Wiggins

Come and join us in the fun, the eating, and the learning!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!

EAT. PRAY. PLAY. Women's Retreat T-Shirts are available for order, too!

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT (ICYMI)

New Mobile Giving App



Our credit card processor has updated the mobile app that we use to initiate contributions to GPC. This change applies only to new contributions and changes to existing contributions. It will not impact any existing recurring contributions that are made by credit card or direct transfer from your bank account. The previous application (MobileAccess) will not be supported after September 30.

If you need to make a new contribution or change an existing contribution after September 30, you will need to download the new Vanco Mobile app from the App Store or the Google Play Store. Just find Germantown Presbyterian Church and log in to this app with your existing user name and password to make your contribution – one-time or recurring – just as you have in the past.

If you have questions about this process, please call Fred Turverey in the GPC office at 901-754-5195.

Fred Turverey, Business & Facilities Administrator

GPC Appreciates the Staff

In August, GPC hosted an event featuring The Ramblers musical group and in appreciation of the staff. Everyone had an amazing time. Thank you, GPC.

Pastor Mike Was Installed in August - He's Official!



Pictured from L to R: Rev. Will Jones, Rev. James Gale, Mr. Tom Sauer, Rev. Mike Lyle, Ruling Elder Beth Brock, Ruling Elder Alex Ivy, Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

On Sunday, August 29, Rev. Mike Lyle was installed as Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Discipleship. Participating in this service were all the people pictured above who were on the Administrative Commission for Mike's installation. Rev. James Gale is the Executive Presbyterian of the Presbytery of the Mid-South.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

FINDING YOUR PEOPLE IN YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Each of our 5 adult Sunday School classes are back in the building and meeting every week as they grow closer together in faith and friendship. God has blessed our church family with a passion for helping each other grow as disciples of Jesus. And as we fully emerge from COVID, we have the opportunity to write a new chapter in that great history.

Each of our Sunday School classes are vibrant, healthy, and a wonderful place to connect meaningfully with others. So if you're curious about what it would be like to feel a

deep sense of belonging and friendship, our groups are an easy and enjoyable way for you to experience that sense of home. There is nothing better than growing closer to Christ through authentic relationships. So come check out our Sunday School classes. We can't wait to welcome you on the journey of faith.

If you want to get involved in a Sunday morning group, email Pastor Mike at mikel@germantownpres.org.

Name	Description	Location	Time	Point of Contact
Coffee & Conversations	Parents of young children, currently focusing on the Prodigal Son story	Second Floor Room UL-217	Sundays 9:40-10:40am	Candace Askew: candace.phillips@fedex.com
Paula's Hearts & Hands	Women's knitting group, currently focusing on 1 Corinthians	Second Floor Room UL-214	Sundays 9:40-10:40am	Susan Olinger: olinger.sh@gmail.com
Psalm 78	Parents of school age children, currently focusing on stories behind hymns	Second Floor Room UL-215	Sundays 9:40-10:40am	Rebecca Floyd: rebeccaflloyd1973@gmail.com
The Seekers	Adults of all ages, currently focusing on evangelism	Second Floor Room UL-216	Sundays 9:40-10:40am	Randy Harris: randyfarris2@yahoo.com
Hits of the Ages	Adults of all ages, currently focusing on the 12 Disciples	Second Floor Room UL-218	Sundays 9:40-10:40am	Alan Callicott: alan@callicott-insurance.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Morning

8:30-9:30am – Early Morning Worship
9:30am – Children's Sunday School Dropoff
9:40-10:40am – Sunday School Hour
10:45am – Children's Sunday School Pickup
10:30-11:00am – Coffee & Donuts
11:00am-12:00pm – Late Morning Worship

Evening

5:00pm – Nursery Open
5:30-7:30pm – Youth Group
6:00-7:00pm – Evening Contemporary Worship

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

MEN AT GPC

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast meets Friday mornings at 6:30am in Warren Fellowship Hall (with occasional exceptions for holidays). Breakfast starts at 6:30am (bring \$3) and Bible study at 7:00. Different men lead each week's study using Scripture from the lectionary. Come one, come all! Currently the meetings take place in a hybrid format, so you can attend in person or Zoom.



Men's Lunch Devotions

All men are invited to come as you can on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, 12:00pm. The group is currently discussing readings from the book *Mornings with Bonhoeffer*. Currently this group is meeting in person in Warren Fellowship Hall. Keep watching the newsletter for updates. Part of GPC's Men's Ministry, the contact person for this bimonthly lunch study is Anthony Duke (Anthony.Duke@ipaper.com).

Presbyterian Women ICYMI

In August the Presbyterian Women (PW) welcomed new officers and thanked those exiting for their service. The picture below includes everyone except Mary Ann Harris, who was unable to attend that meeting.



In the September meeting Beth Carter was presented with the Germantown Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership Award. She has been a Circle Bible leader for many years and has been actively involved with the leadership of PW.

WOMEN AT GPC

Presbyterian Women in October

Presbyterian Women (PW) Circles meet the first Tuesday of each month - Day Circles meet at 10:00am, and the Night Circle meets at 6:45pm. Gatherings are every other month and will feature a guest speaker or service project. We are all strongly encouraged to wear a mask.

In October, Circles will meet Tuesday, October 5.

Circle #1 - UL215

Circle #2 - UL216

Circle #3 - UL217

Circle #4 (night circle) - parlor

Our study for 2021 - 2022 is *What My Grandmothers Taught Me - Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. Books are \$10.

New members that are interested in joining or have questions, contact Bonnie Algee - bbalgee@bellsouth.net or Brenda Jeter - bjeter3044@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Women Are Cooking



On Tuesday, September 14, ten ladies from the Presbyterian Women Cooking for Missions Team gathered in Warren Hall and prepared 16 small casseroles that were then placed in the Activity Center freezer. These casseroles are available to take to those in need of a meal due to an illness or hardship. Simply sign them out on the sheet posted on the freezer door. In addition, 2 larger casseroles were made to support the Ukirk ministry at UofM and Rhodes. The old saying "many hands make light work" sure rang true. It was a good time of fun and fellowship with just a little bit of work thrown in. Thanks to all who participated. Please feel free to share in this ministry by taking a casserole to someone you know in need.

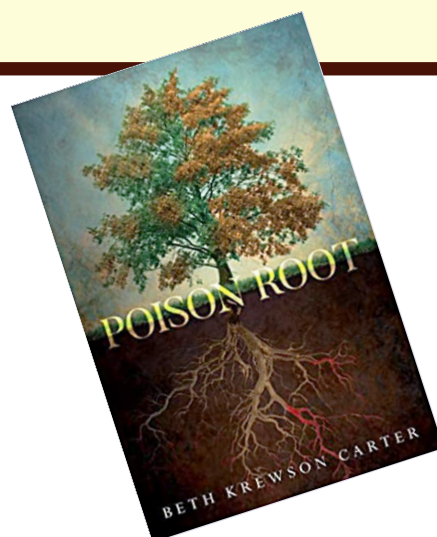
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



CampFood and Cocktails fundraiser is Sunday, October 24 on the grounds of Shady Grove Presbyterian Church from 5-8pm. It's a casual event, full of friends, with tasty food and our ever-popular "Pinecrest Cinnamon Roll" cocktail. Twinkly lights, a campfire and sing-along, plenty of convenient parking, and some delicious food round out this fun event. Taylor Cates, Ted Horrell, and David Bell invite you to bring your musical instruments for jamming if you want! For \$59 each, you can eat, drink, be merry, AND make sure Pinecrest Camp stays a "place set apart where people of all ages can come to listen for God." Want a ticket or 10? Eventbrite OR send your check to Pinecrest PO Box 36 LaGrange, TN 38046 We can't wait to see you! (Safety protocols being monitored.)

GPC congratulates member Beth Carter for having her second book published in March of this year.

You can find it on Amazon [here](#).



EAT, PRAY, READ WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

Come as you are for fellowship, prayer, and study

Eat, Pray, Read is a study group for those interested in expanding their faith and spiritual growth through Christian books and Bible study. This women's group meets on the second Monday of the month in the church parlor unless otherwise specified. The meetings are 10:00am-11:30am beginning with snack and fellowship followed by prayer and book discussion.

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

Everyone is invited! Come for one, come for some, come for all!

This year's reading lineup is:

September - *Discerning the Voice of God*, Priscilla Shirer

October - *Relentless: Unleashing a Life of Purpose, Grit, and Faith*, John Tesh

November - *A Place Called Heaven*, Dr. Robert Jeffress

December - *Gift From the Sea*, Anne Morrow Lindbergh

January - *The Second Mountain - The Quest for a Moral Life*, David Brooks

February - *Dietrich Bonhoeffer - Writings Selected with an Introduction by Robert Coles*, Robert Coles

March - *We Need to Hang Out - A Memoir of Making Friends*, Billy Baker

April/May - TBD

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

MEET MY FRIEND, CHRIS MITCHELL

By Jackie Classen

Chris has a WONDERFUL sense of humor! When asked to talk about where he was born, he laughed and said, "I was born in the hospital." His mom shared he was born at Baptist Hospital in downtown Memphis, three weeks early and weighing only 4 pounds!

Birthday: Monday, July 23, 1984

Name derivation: Maternal Grandfather (Christian) + Paternal Grandfather (Benjamin)

Parents: Chris lives with his mother, Heidi Krogh Mitchell, in Eads, TN. Two dogs and two cats live with them, too! His father, Reggie, lives in Somerville, TN. He said he doesn't see his dad much.

Siblings: Two sisters live in Collierville, TN, with their families:
1) The oldest, Kristi, is 43 and married to Shawn Jackson; they have 3 children and 4 dogs.

2) Katie, who is 13 months younger than Chris, married Christopher Walker (bringing another Chris into the family). The couple has 4 children and one big brindled English Mastiff!

7 Nieces and nephews!

Kristi and Shawn's kids are Autumn (18), Jade (16), and Asher (11). Katie and Christopher's kids are Lucas (11), Caroline (9), Charlotte (7), and Maggie (4).

Schools attended: Farmington Elementary, Collierville Middle, and Collierville High.

High School Graduation: 2006

- Favorite color: Blue, for Memphis Tigers & Dallas Cowboys

Other residences:

Growing up, Chris lived in a house in Memphis for a short time, then moved to Collierville, then to Eads, where he has lived for the past 25 years.

- Favorite foods: hamburgers and watermelon
"Sitting on the steps, eating watermelon, and spitting seeds reminds me of Grandpa Krogh," Chris recalls fondly. His maternal grandfather, Christian Krogh, lived with Chris and his mother for his four final years on earth.

- Dogs: Thor was Chris's grandfather's dog; a Great Pyrenees. Chris also got a 10-month-old puppy, which he named



Moose, from Santa last Christmas. Chris explained both dogs are BIG and very protective!!

- Cats: KitKat lives outside the house. Oscar is a fun, 4-month-old kitten.

- Favorite things to do:
- Chris shared that he LOVES to be with his family and friends.
- Going into the community.
- Listening to music on the radio – he loves all kinds of music.
- TALK-TALK-TALKING with anybody and everybody!!!

Chris is NOT shy! He met and made a friend at Aldi's, learned his new friend served as a clown on mission trips, and went to Branson to see them. (Not all in the same day, but... he's not shy!)

PEACE program participation! Over the years, Chris has attended Friendship Circle, Wacky Wednesday, and Parents' Night Out. He likes meeting new friends, having fun, and learning from Bible stories.

Other Programs of interest to Chris:

Hope Presbyterian's Macky & Friends Saturday night church; Vacation Bible School; and monthly activities and parties. Also Social Skills (which was on Tuesdays prior to COVID-19) and is now offered via Zoom on Wednesdays and Sundays. He also went to monthly dances at Heartsong Church (prior to COVID-19).

(continued next page)



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

(continued from page 13)

Impacts of COVID-19:

Like SO many of our participants, Chris tries to stay busy – not too busy. He enjoys the company of others and being out in the community. He enjoys hearing about Bible stories and even sharing his faith with others.

A good bit of the programming for our special needs community has shifted to online delivery. GPC's Special Needs Ministry continues to offer the online option for Friendship Circle; however, we also allow our participants to come to our Warren Fellowship Hall for in-person experiences. In our large hall we can socially distance, and wearing masks is a requirement unless eating or drinking. Many of our friends miss being around their friends, and we open our doors to facilitate an experience of togetherness.

Thank you for supporting our vital ministry!



Remaining Fall 2021 Schedule	
10/6 Luncheon	11/10 Luncheon
10/13 No Luncheon/Fall Break	11/17 Luncheon
10/20 Luncheon	11/24 Thanksgiving
10/27 Luncheon	Break
11/3 Luncheon	12/1 Luncheon
	12/8 Luncheon
	12/15 Fall Finale Feast

Save the Date!! December 12, 3:00pm, GPC sanctuary - AMPlify invites everyone to the 2021 Special Winter Program.



Remaining Fall 2021 Schedule

10/7 Class	11/25 No Class/ Thanksgiving
10/14 No Class/ Fall Break	12/2 Class /Rehearsal
10/21 Class	12/9 Dress Rehearsal @ 9:15am
10/28 Class	12/12 Special Winter Performance @ 3:00pm, GPC Sanctuary
11/4 Class/ Rehearsal	
11/11 No Class/Veterans Day Holiday	
11/18 Class/ Rehearsal	

BIRTHDAY SHOUT-OUTS FOR OCTOBER!

Hollie Raggett on October 4
Val Porterfield on October 8
Caroline Williamson on October 11

Special Occasion Shout-Out!

Ms. Jackie (Classen) is marrying Mr. Bayne Williams on October 9!

After the ceremony, they will honeymoon for a week. When she returns, her name will change to Jackie Williams.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



Thank you to the Petals & Prayers Ministry for providing individual arrangements of 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.

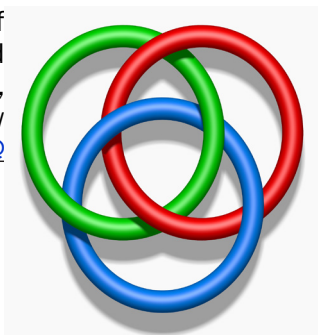
Typically Pastor Susie delivers these throughout the week, but anyone is welcome to share an arrangement with friends or family. Just come by the church office and you'll be directed to the flower room to choose a bright arrangement to share with a loved one.

CIRCLES OF CARE MINISTRY

This wonderful ministry bubbled forth during the very early days of the pandemic (March 2020), and now about 30 GPC parishioners are caring for about 216 other GPC parishioners.

How? Mostly by calling and checking on others. What do they say? "Hi, I'm (name) from GPC and I'm calling to check in on you. We want you to know that your church family loves you. How are you doing? Is there anything you might need us to do for you?"

If you'd like to be a part of this vibrant ministry and call on a handful of folks, please let Pastor Susie know by emailing her at care@germantownpres.org.



GPC's GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY

Grief Support Group Meets Every Month

The Grief Support Group has resumed its in-person meetings on the 2nd Thursday of each month in Warren Fellowship Hall 6:00pm - 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

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 this 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

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 a praying hands graphic or you can email prayers@germantownpres.org.
2. Prayer cards are in the pew racks and can also 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 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 or if you have a prayer request that you want to share, you may email her at margaretowens1@aol.com.
4. The pastors also pray over all confidential prayer requests. Or you can also send a prayer request directly to the pastors at prayers@germantownpres.org.

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

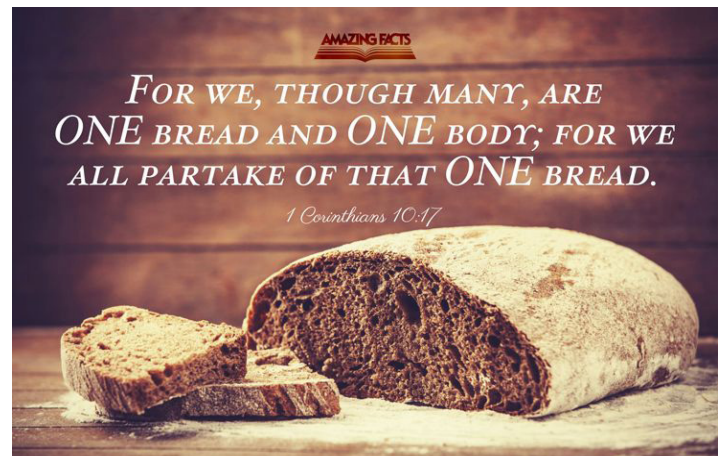


How To Dedicate a Sunday Worship Flower Arrangement

Ever wonder how to dedicate a Sunday flower arrangement for Sunday worship? It's easy.

Call or email the church office (901-754-5195 or office@germantownpres.org), ask if the date you're interested in is free and then provide your name and the wording you want to use in the worship bulletin, including the honoree and the occasion.

One arrangement is \$100 and two arrangements are \$150. When you give the church the money, make sure to put "flower arrangement" in the memo line.



MUSIC & WORSHIP ARTS

MUSIC NOTES

As we have all noticed there has been a cool breeze blowing .. let's enjoy the breeze and hope that it brings a beautiful Fall filled with color and crispness into the mid-south. A Fall that helps us forget the downside of COVID, a Fall that helps us enjoy the beauty of nature, art, music and the wonderful things God provides for us each day. Let us send up a prayer of thanksgiving!!

With the blessing of the Session I have begun to invite more choir members to join us each Sunday in singing either an anthem or supporting worship by leading our hymn singing. I am careful to watch the numbers and to space appropriately. It is a difficult time to plan and coordinate ensemble singing for worship. Our rule is safety first!

We begin the music and worship month of October with World Communion Sunday. A wonderful sacred Sunday celebrated around the world by fellow believers in Christ. Find below a glimpse of what you can expect to hear from music during October.

Oct. 03 > World Communion Sunday. Kerriann Otano and husband Dane Suarez will sing *Panis Angelicus* and *Let Us Break Bread Together* at both 8:30am and 11:00am.

Oct. 10 > Mike Anderson, a new baritone singing with us, will be our soloist at 8:30am and 11:00am. Mike, an attorney who now lives in Germantown, is a longtime friend of Stephen Cary, who was our pianist for 10 years while working as Music Director for Opera Memphis, before moving to Texas. We are delighted to welcome Mike to GPC. He will be joined by an ensemble for our 11:00am worship.

Oct. 17 > Brianna Reilly, mezzo-soprano, a doctoral graduate student at the University of Memphis, will be soloist. This is Brianna's third year singing with us at GPC. She will be joined by an ensemble from the choir at 11:00am.

Oct. 24 > Christina Crouse, soprano, will be joined by Karen Schowalter Cooper and Ethan Baskin in providing special music this Sunday. Christina will sing a solo; Karen and Ethan will sing a duet.

Oct. 31 > Desiree Soto, soprano, will be soloist at 8:30am and 11:00am. An ensemble from the choir will join her in singing an anthem at 11:00am.

A special Thank You is in order to our soloists and to Alex, our most talented organist. We all work very hard each week to be safe yet at the same time continue to offer quality music in worship at GPC!! Thanks to ALL!!!

As usual a Big Thank You to those who choose to support music through additional giving to our Music Fund and the Teachey Scholarship Fund. Your giving makes things happen musically here at GPC!! Thank You!!!

I look forward to seeing YOU in Worship >>> Jerold

**Our children are now meeting with Karen, Alex and Brianna in the Noah's Ark Room after 11:00am worship each Sunday (approx. 12:30). Please bring your children to join in the fun!! We are open to suggestions about the best time for Children's Music to meet .. we are combining bells and other instruments with our singing groups adding a lot of variety.*



MISSIONS & OUTREACH

LABOR OF LOVE 2021



People from St. George's Episcopal, GPC, GUMC, and Kingway's Christian churches all met at St. George's and created diaper bundles (diapers, wipes, and more), as well as ready-to-cook meals for Mid-South Food Bank.



Memphis Athletic Ministries
Love God...Love Others...Love Self

Memphis Athletic Ministries has been a vital mission partner with Germantown Presbyterian Church for over seven years. Volunteering at the Olivet location (4506 Knight Arnold Road), GPC members serve as tutors, mentors, and friends to 2nd - 4th graders. In the past we have also volunteered for special service projects and events at MAM.

This year a new reading program is being introduced at MAM called *Arise to Read*, and we are calling any GPC folks to join in this effort to improve the reading skills of children who are in danger of falling behind. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact Will Jones at the church (901-754-5195 or willj@germantownpres.org), or you may sign up by filling in a volunteer application at the MAM website: www.mamsports.org/volunteer. Our GPC group of volunteers will receive training on the *Arise to Read* program prior to starting. Thank you for volunteering and serving Christ in our community!

Torres
Chief Executive Officer
Memphis Athletic Ministries
(901)489-7866
mamsports.org



FAMILY MINISTRY

FAMILIES & CHILDREN

On Sunday, September 19, GPC gave its first-graders their Bibles during the 11:00am worship service. This was a special day for these children and one that they were very proud of!

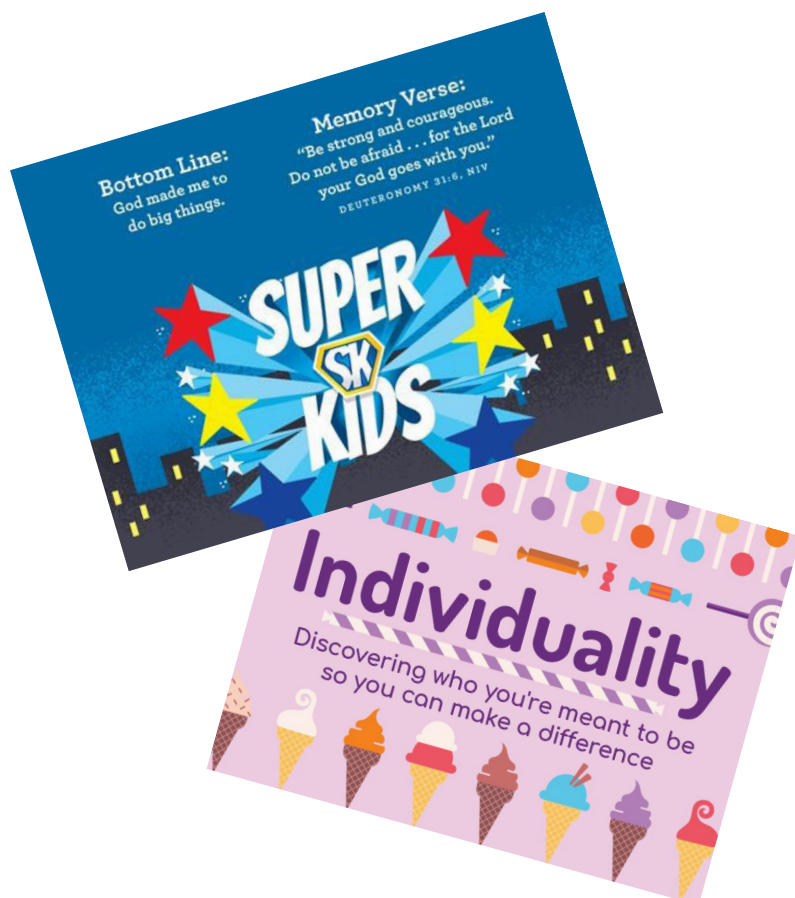
Their Sunday School teachers encourage them to bring their Bibles to Sunday School every week so that they can learn to look up the Bible verses and stories that they study in Sunday School.

These first-graders will even use highlighters, take notes, and talk about how each Bible verse and story is important in their lives.

Pictured left to right: Samuel Alden Coursey, Abigail Nan Draughton, and William Talmadge Gunn Harris. Congratulations, first-graders.



OCTOBER SUNDAY SCHOOL THEMES



MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE



Children's Music Wants You! GPCKids is ramping up the music program for the new year, but there are some differences. Children from preschool through 5th grade are invited to stay after the 11:00am worship, enjoy a light snack lunch and learn music – vocal and instrumental. They will also play games and take part in fun activities. Pick-up time is 1:30pm. Please email Alex Benford if you have questions and/or would like to be involved: alexb@germantownpres.org.

FAMILY MINISTRY

5TH GRADE WORSHIP LEADER FOR SEPTEMBER



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 worship and church life, and to successfully transition to GPC youth. Throughout the year you will see 5th-graders reading scripture in worship, participating in retreats and fellowship activities, gathering to meet junior high students, mentoring younger GPCKids at VBS, and serving in the community through Mission 901.

Tyler Christian Robinson was our 5th Grade Worship Leader in September. He is the son of Ashley and David Robinson and big brother to Charlotte and Anne Louise. Tyler attends 5th grade at Forest Hill Elementary School. Thank you, Tyler, for leading worship for your GPC family in September.

INTRODUCING GPC'S 5TH GRADE WORSHIP LEADERS IN 2021-22

On Sunday, September 26, 2021 Marjorie Reynolds and Bo Hormberg presented this year's 5th Grade Worship leaders to their GPC family in the 11:00am worship service. Throughout the year these 5th graders will take part in worship once a month as they lead part of a service.

Bo presented the 5th-graders with a notebook featuring the verse from 1 Timothy 4:12 - *Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.* Not pictured - Thomas Coursey, Jacob Schepman.



Jay Floyd



Wells Grantham



Max Lino



Tyler Robinson



Grey Smith

FAMILY MINISTRY

GPC YOUTH AT MESS FEST

By Christopher Greco

On the Eve of the Twelfth of September of the year Two Thousand and Twenty-One, five teams met on the battlefield of war. Two battalions of Middle Schoolers, two of regiments from the High Schoolers, and one garrison of Adult volunteers. Each group was tasked with building a mobile shelter out of old cardboard boxes and duct tape. Then, they must brave the mud pit as the other teams subject each group to an onslaught of water balloons. After all was said and all was done, the fearless regiment of High School girls were declared the victors.

Students also got the opportunity to play muddy kickball, do a tug-of-war, and of course splash each other and make a mess.



IN OUR PRAYERS

In the Congregation

>Shirley Billups	>Mark Cooper	>Judy Hobbs	>Susan Robinson	>Anne/Wayne Tansil
>Sherril/Jim Blair	>Kay Donaho	**Jerry Huff	>Jackie/Bill Ruleman	>Jan Thomson
>Huddy/Bayard Boyle	>Judy/Fred Frick	>Dot Ledlow	>Mary Blanche Scott	>Bob Thurman
>Tommie Faye Coffman	>Dot/Lamar Hartzog	>Carol/Bill Leppert	>Diane Short	>Amanda Walters
>Kay/David Collins	>Jean/Bob Hicks	>Aggie/Jack Losa	>Mary Strop	>Woodie/Johnathan Whited

The congregation extends its love, sympathy, and prayers to:
the family of Barbara Arthur in her death;
Pam Graddy & family in the death of her mother;
Kathy McCoy & family in the death of her mother;
the family of Lalla Mellor in her death.

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
Jared Smith - friend of Jennie Fulmer

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

**Mary Ellen Crouse - mother of Russell Crouse	Kroger on September 23	>Whitney & 4-yo son, Davis - friends of Karen Fesmire	Donna, her daughter Lauren, her grandsons Paul Thomas & William
>JoAnne Day - mother of Jeff Day	**McKenna & Paige - granddaughter & great-granddaughter of Barb Poier	**Yetman family - extended family of Neal Horner	>from Jeanie Hill - daughter-in-law's mom Norma, son Jeff
>Virginia Goss - daughter of Gloria/Tim Goss	>Louise Oaks - mother of Betsie Menendez	**multiple survivors from latest natural disasters - hurricanes/earthquakes/wildfires/floods	>from Violet Olsen - niece & nephew Kim & Chris Mitchell
>Allerie Hanlon (1st responder) - daughter-in-law of Susan Ollinger	>Mary Ann & Troy Odom - parents of Tracey Smith		>from Debbie Ragain - friend Tina Dodson
>Susan Hawkins - daughter of Ann Phillips	>Dr. Carlos Reyes-Sacin (1st responder) - son-in-law of Susan Ollinger		
**Michael Kempson - son-in-law of Norma Miles	**Davis Taylor - great-nephew of Judy Hobbs	<u>COVID-related</u>	
**family of Olivia King & all others affected by the shooting at the Collierville	**Donna Weaver - niece of Kristy Sneed	>from Martha Drannon - cousin Joette Sykes	
		>from Missy Gwin - cousin	

****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.

October 2021 GPC Family Prayer Ministry

<u>Oct 3</u>	<u>Oct 10</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>Oct 24</u>	<u>Oct 31</u>
Alex Benford, Patsy Benford	Laura Brown	Martha/Dennis Drexler	Martha Day	Shannon/Vache Cammack
Martha/Tom Drannon	Judy/Don Chandler	Cheri/Mike Howle	Susan Hanlon	Rebecca/Kevin Floyd, Charlie & Jay
Paula/David Hopkins	Susan/Bo Hormberg, Drew, Rachel	June/Mark McClellan	Lorri/Robbie Hughes, Allie	Nancy Hawkinson
Betty McCallen	Deranda/Caleb Lester, Darcy	Barb Poier	Kathy McCoy	Laurie Henderson
Teresa/Tim McCaskill	Luke McClellan	Suzanne Ray, Gracie	Christy/Walter Smalley	Judy Jones
Dale/Mike Rowland	Gaye/Bob Pitts	JoEllyn/David Slott	Tracy/Emmett Whitaker, Archie, Emmett	Kelly Phillips
Cynthia Shaw	Alta/Jim Simpson	Nancy/Dave Wells		Carolyn/Joel Porter
Anne/Mike Zachry				Susie/Jim Robinson

ENGAGE IN 2021

SESSION CORNER - SEPTEMBER

The Session reviewed Strategic Vision Goals of each Committee regarding Connecting, Growing, Sharing, and Caring.

Stephanie Wall has been added as a part-time staff member as Bereavement Specialist beginning in January 2022. She has touched so many lives with her dedicated expertise in this ministry. More information will follow.

November 21 will be Commitment Sunday for a 2-year debt retirement campaign.

We voted to continue current COVID policies to strongly encourage anyone in the church to wear a mask. If you are around children under 12 who are not eligible for the vaccine, you shall wear a mask to protect the vulnerable. Small groups may elect to remove masks if all agree. Soloists may remove their mask while singing if distanced from others.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Callahan Edens

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

Memorial Fund

In Memory of Terry Bishop
Kelli Ratton

In Memory of Tom Cates
Marci & Gary Mosley

In Memory of Jim Kinney
Janet & Don McCrory
(Semper Fi!)

In Memory of Wayne Russell
Marci & Gary Mosley

In Memory of Diane Stearns
Sammy Ann Marshall
Martha Stearns

Music Fund

In Memory of Gaye Pitts' father
Bonnie Algee

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of Jim Kinney
Kay & David Collins

The Session met on Thursday, September 17, and agreed to leave in place our current guidelines regarding our communal life at this stage of the pandemic (with a minor exception regarding choir/singers). For the next four weeks, the Session strongly recommends that everyone wear a mask while indoors. We believe this is a demonstration of self-sacrificial love for those who cannot be vaccinated for reasons of age (children under 12) or health. Everyone working with children under twelve (i.e. Sunday School teachers, nursery workers, etc.) shall wear a mask. We will continue to rely on expert medical advice as we discuss and discern what is best for our congregation, and we encourage everyone to do the same for themselves and their families. Groups where children are not involved may self-regulate their meeting space and procedures, subject to the above statements. The Director of Music has been given permission to explore how more singers may take part in the choir loft, provided they sing while wearing masks, and a soloist may remove his or her mask to sing if he or she is appropriately spaced from the congregation and other singers.

GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2363 S GERMANTOWN RD
GERMANTOWN TN 38138

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

WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

8:30AM WORSHIP

11:00AM WORSHIP

(ONSITE & ONLINE)

9:40AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

6:00PM WORSHIP

(ONSITE & ONLINE)

OFFICE HOURS:

8:30AM-4:00PM

MONDAY-FRIDAY

November Window Deadline: October 15

GPC Financial Summary, July 2021

	Aug 2021	2021 YTD		Aug 2020	2020 YTD
Revenue	\$122,030	\$1,355,287		\$115,691	\$1,169,497
Expenses	\$151,049	\$1,226,747		\$125,372	\$1,111,629
Net	(\$29,019)	\$128,540		(\$9,681)	\$57,868

We had a deficit of \$29,019 in August, which is typical for this time of the year. The good news is that with 67% of our year complete, our year-to-date income is about 73% of our annual budget and year-to-date operating expenses are 60% of the annual budget. Our year-to-date surplus is more than double that of 2020 and is the strongest since at least 2015. This is the result of good expense control on the part of our staff and faithful stewardship on the part of our members. COVID restrictions are still having an impact on some of our programs, and we can anticipate an increase in our expenses as we emerge from the pandemic.

WILLIAM G. JONES
PASTOR

TOM SAUER
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO
SENIOR ADULTS

JACKIE CLASSEN
DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL NEEDS
MINISTRY, ASST. TO DIRECTOR
OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

JOHN JOHNSON
WORSHIP LEADER/MUSICIAN

AMBER MILLER
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

RANDY SMITH
MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

SUSAN CARTER WIGGINS
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR
CONGREGATIONAL CARE
& NURTURE

ANNA WHITE
DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRY

JEROLD TEACHEY
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

JENNIFER GENRTY
DIRECTOR, GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

ANN DeVERE
CHURCH SECRETARY/
RECEPTIONIST

LAURIE HENDERSON
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

MICHAEL LYLE
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR
EVANGELISM & DISCIPLESHIP

CHRISTOPHER GRECO
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

ALEX BENFORD
ORGANIST/MUSIC ASSOCIATE

FRED TURVEREY
BUSINESS & FACILITIES
ADMINISTRATOR

CARL WOODS
MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT



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