



THE WINDOW

A Publication of Germantown Presbyterian Church

November 2021



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



GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
C·H·U·R·C·H

Dear Church Family and Friends,

The month of November always leads us in the direction of gratitude and Thanksgiving. As a nation, we pause twice in our schedules and routines to be grateful for our blessings. One occasion comes on November 11 as we thank our veterans for their sacrificial service to all of us. On the fourth Thursday of November, we count our blessings for the abundance of God's goodness to our land.

As a church, we focus on stewardship each year at this time, and we remember all that God has done for us. We pause to recommit ourselves to God with faithful giving. This year we have a unique opportunity in front of us that I believe will invigorate our faithful stewardship as a congregation. We have a goal around which we can all rally and prove once again that we are a church guided by a generous spirit.

Engaging Our Potential is the name of our stewardship campaign for the next two years. We are combining two years' worth of annual giving with a special campaign to eliminate the remaining debt we have from our new education building. The total amount we are looking to raise is \$5.6 million. We expect our annual budget to be at \$2 million for the next two years, and our remaining debt is now just over \$1.5 million. We believe that we have the potential to raise this amount of money and thereby enable incredible ministry to flow from GPC to our neighboring community and beyond. This total is actually less than the amount we raised annually during the last capital campaign in 2017-2020, and I am confident our membership will rise again to the occasion.

Please allow me to take each word of this campaign and explain its relevance. To be engaged is to be seriously committed. When two people become engaged, they are committed to one another on the way to marriage. To be engaged in battle is to contend seriously and to be committed to winning. We are seriously committed to Christ and to one another as disciples, and we believe in the winning quality of God's grace through Christ. We are employing an active form of this verb: *Engaging*. By doing so we emphasize that we are very active and alive as a church, and we are moving forward with God despite potential setbacks and obstacles.

The word *Our* signifies the unity we have in the body of Christ. The Christian poet John Donne wrote that "No man is an island," and we believe the same for us as Christians. We cannot be Christians alone; we must have others beside us in our walk of faith. We depend on others for our own growth as we love, serve, and challenge one another in faith. When Paul writes to New Testament churches, he always speaks to them collectively, never speaking of faith in individualistic terms. Each person does believe on his or her own, but that belief is solidified within Christian community.



The word *Potential* comes from the word potent, meaning power. We believe in God's (not our) power that is at work in the world to redeem and save. God's power is the power of grace and goodness, and we believe that God's powerful love is at work in the person of Jesus. The Holy Spirit moves in our world in mysterious ways, and we are responding to the Spirit's invitation to witness to God's powerful love in our spheres of influence.

In this *Engaging Our Potential* campaign, we are coming together as a generous church to join in God's powerful love at work in the world. God has invited us to minister in several places where our gifts and talents match the world's needs. As we witness to the goodness of God in Christ, I invite you to consider prayerfully your role in this effort. Will you join in the church-wide prayer initiative we are having this month? We will pray for each other by name, along with praying for our church and community. We will pray for this campaign and our ministries that will be funded by it, and we will pray prayers of gratitude and thanksgiving during this month of joyful gladness.

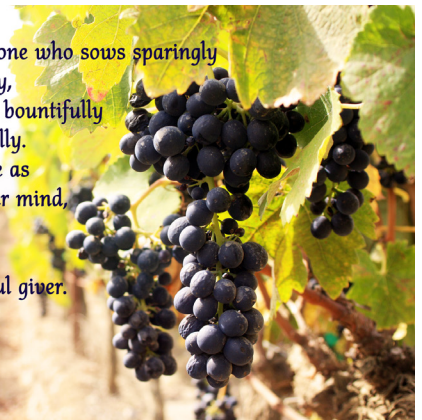
I am so grateful that together we are *Engaging Our Potential*.

Gratefully,

Will

"The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 NRSV



ENGAGE 2021

ENGAGING OUR POTENTIAL CALL TO PRAYER

November 2021

*EG*reetings Fellow GPC Members,

My name is Paul Gwin. A few months ago I was tasked with leading our prayer effort for the *Engaging Our Potential* campaign. Since that time I have read, thought, and prayed more than ever before about stewardship and sacrificial giving.

This campaign and its success begins with prayer. Rev. Will Jones started praying about this early last spring. More recently, our Leadership Team has been in daily prayer for our staff, one another, and for the planning and implementation of this campaign.

Now it's your turn. With a lot of help from Pastor Susie Wiggins, the Congregational Care Prayer Committee, and our Communications Director, Laurie Henderson, we developed this comprehensive prayer and devotional guide to lead us through the 3 weeks in November leading up to a Prayer Vigil in Evans Chapel (and virtually) on November 19 and culminating with Commitment Sunday on November 21. Let's join one another and commit to 21 days of dedicated prayer and reflection.

Week 1 – Beginning 10/31
Selected Scriptures and Prayer for One Another

Week 2 – Beginning 11/7
Devotional and Prayer for One Another

Week 3 – Beginning 11/14
Devotional, Prayer for One Another, and for GPC and our Role in the Community

Emails will be sent out each Sunday beginning October 31 to remind you to reference this guide for each day's prayer prompts and devotional lesson.

You are encouraged to "Pray on the 9's" (9am and 9pm), or you may wish to pick a different time more suited to your personal schedule. You may even set a reminder on your phone as well!

So let's get *Engaged*, pray faithfully and see *Our Potential* in where the Lord leads us.

Peace and Blessings,

Paul and Missy Gwin and the EOP Prayer Team

How *Engaging Our Potential* Prayer Effort Works

- > Praying on the Nines (9s): set aside a few minutes every day at 9am and 9pm to pray.
 - * you'll receive a devotional booklet in the mail to guide your prayers;
 - * set your alarm, your phone, your watch, whatever else you need to remind you.
- > That booklet includes:
 - * a 21-day prayer guide to equip you to pray for every member in your GPC family culminating with a 12-hour prayer vigil on Friday, November 19 prior to Commitment Sunday on November 21;
 - Week 1: you'll begin with a verse and prayer prompt to pray for the members of your GPC family by name;
 - Week 2: you continue praying for GPC families and add a short devotional;
 - Week 3: you finish praying for GPC families by name, continue with the devotions, and finally, add prayers for GPC's local and global presence which includes a list of GPC's current mission partners;
 - * an updated, current GPC directory so you can look at pictures of the families you're praying for.

ENGAGE 2021

12-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL, NOVEMBER 19

On Friday, November 19, GPC will hold a 12-hour prayer vigil from 6:00am-6:00pm just before Commitment Sunday on November 21. A Sign-Up Genius form is being created, and you will be asked to choose a 1/2 hour time slot in which to pray. The hope is that church members will be praying for the church, her members, her ministries, and her missions during the full 12-hour time span.

You don't have to pray for 30 minutes straight, just any time within that time frame. Prayer prompts are provided in the devotional guide you'll receive in the mail.

You may pray anywhere; GPC's historic Evans Chapel will be open for those 12 hours for those who want to come into the chapel and pray onsite. Hard copy prayer prompts will also be available in the chapel for you to use.

Watch your email for the Sign-Up Genius link and choose a time to pray for the church and each other and God's work in the future.



COMMITMENT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

As hearts turn toward thankfulness and Thanksgiving in November, GPC also begins to think about stewardship and budget-planning for the future. GPC's focus word this year has been **ENGAGE** and has been all about engaging and re-engaging membership in the life of the church as everyone begins coming back in person and re-establishing church as a priority in your and your family's lives. This year, GPC's stewardship campaign, *Engaging Our Potential*, is slightly different from those in previous years. Rather than asking for a one-year commitment, GPC wants everyone to consider a two-year commitment that includes a debt-retirement element in the budget plan. As Commitment Sunday on November 21 approaches, please prayerfully consider how you want to use your resources to support the work of the church for the next two years and even further into the future. As always, thank you, GPC, for your generosity.

As Pastor Will said in his letter:

In this *Engaging Our Potential* campaign, we are coming together as a generous church to join in God's powerful love at work in the world. God has invited us to minister in several places where our gifts and talents match the world's needs. As we witness to the goodness of God in Christ, I invite you to consider prayerfully your role in this effort. Will you join in the church-wide prayer initiative we are having this month? We will pray for each other by name, along with praying for our church and community. We will pray for this campaign and our ministries that will be funded by it, and we will pray prayers of gratitude and thanksgiving during this month of joyful gladness.

ENGAGE 2021

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.

November

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
 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

December

1 – Sarah Cannon
 2 – Martha Day
 2 – Susie Lyle
 2 – Betsy Moseley
 3 – Macie Houston
 3 – Bud Hurley
 4 – Susan Crain
 6 – Anna Smith
 7 – Patrick Rice
 8 – Marjorie Reynolds
 8 – Kim Ramos
 9 – Honour Batey
 9 – Jarmon Peregoy
 10 – Dan Young
 11 – Tommie Faye Coffman
 11 – Susan Pasley
 11 – Steve Morley
 11 – Cindy Geyer
 13 – Don Willingham
 14 – Drew Arthur
 14 – Lindsey Butler
 14 – David Hopkins
 14 – Lewis Perkins
 14 – Joel Porter
 15 – Lisa Cook
 15 – Katie Eleazer
 15 – Jackson Harding
 15 – Cheryl Riedel
 15 – Christy Smalley
 15 – Alexander Walker
 16 – Missy Gwin
 17 – Barbara Greebon
 19 – David Jeter
 21 – Bonnie Algee
 21 – Rush Smith
 22 – Rod Olinger
 24 – Steve Nabers
 24 – Renn Eason
 25 – William Wilson
 27 – Vicki Arthur
 27 – Lauren Beaupre
 27 – Drew Russell
 27 – Ramona Seabold

29 – Nick Brown
 29 – Jane Kinney
 29 – Helen Warren
 30 – George Barnes
 30 – Harriett Reed
 31 – Bill Carmichael





ENGAGE 2021

WOMEN'S RETREAT 2021

EAT, PRAY, PLAY:

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

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

The 2021 4th Annual GPC Women's Retreat will be a one-day event held at GPC on Saturday, November 6, 9am-4pm (ish). Coffee, tea, snacks, and lunch will be provided by your WRPT (Women's Retreat Planning Team)! Pinecrest will provide their famous, fabulous cinnamon Rolls.

And, for those with kids – what will they do that Saturday while you're away retreating? Well, Pastor Will has organized a Dad/Kid day at the Memphis Zoo that Saturday. Dads and kiddos meet Pastor Will at the Memphis Zoo at 11:00am. You'll walk around, see the animals, and eat lunch. And for all the kids still there after 1:00pm, Pastor Will will treat you to ice cream! Don't miss it!

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

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 going to be an exciting gathering.

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



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT (ICYMI)

AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR WORLD OF TRAVEL!

By Ann M. and J. Roscoe Phillips

This book is a collection of many stories of our long distance trips by bicycle and the wonderful people we met. These are stories of people, places, and travels from our beginning as a couple, to retirement, and to the end of our ability to travel long distances by bicycle. It is sad and difficult to admit the fun of long distance travel by bicycle is over.

I hope these stories will bring a smile to your face, and encourage you to find your own adventures as you travel through life.

There were many training rides in order to have the ability to ride our bicycles 60 to 80 miles per day. During our travels we even rode 119 miles in one day. Read about that part of our travels in *The World Was Our Oyster, Until!* The "Until" is related to the events of 9/11, when the world changed from a trusting lifestyle to one of mistrust. With the many changes, it made traveling by bicycle difficult and very expensive to fly with a bicycle.

**THE WORLD
WAS OUR
OYSTER
UNTIL!**



J. Roscoe Phillips

UPCOMING EVENT

Cycling Around the World: A Discussion about Memoirs and Memories

November 16th 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Come meet J. Roscoe Phillips - a local author who recently self-published his memoir, *The World Was Our Oyster, Until!* - and learn about about his cycling journeys that took him all over the world. Join Phillips in a discussion about what it takes to write and publish a memoir and his experiences with both writing and cycling!

This program will be hosted on Zoom. Pre-registration is required. Sign-ups start Nov. 2nd.

Visit the information desk or call for more information!
Ages 18+

Germantown Community Library
1925 Exeter Road | (901)757-7323 | www.germantown-library.org



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 via 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).

WOMEN AT GPC

Presbyterian Women in November

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 November, Circles will meet Tuesday, November 2.

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.

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!

The schedule for the rest of the year is:

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

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



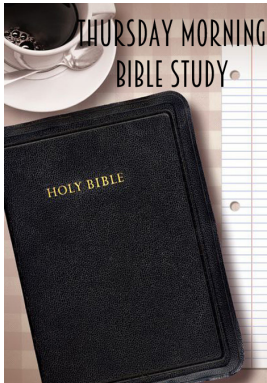
GPC MEN ON MISSION IN THE COMMUNITY

Every year Pinecrest Retreat Center has a fundraiser in the fall called Campfire and Cocktails. This year this event was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, and members of the Men's Breakfast Fellowship Group cooked up a bunch of delicious sliders for all those who attended. Thanks, GPC men, for ministering in this way!

Pictured below: Clyde Blount, John Colmer, and Greg Morgan

ADVENT WEDNESDAY EVENING DEVOTIONAL SERIES!

This Advent we're gathering together each Wednesday evening in Warren Fellowship Hall, starting December 1, from 5:30-7:00pm for dinner and an evening devotional for adults with a separate and exciting Lessons & Carols unit for our kids. More information to come during the month of November. Mark your calendars and join us as we prepare to welcome the Christ child this Advent Season!



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY INVITES YOU TO JOIN!

This group meets at 10:00am in room UL- 216 on the second and fourth Thursdays. They are studying *1st, 2nd Peter and Jude* by N.T. Wright. After the Bible study, for those that are interested, they become a prayer group using the prayer sheet in *The Window* newsletter. They also share and pray for one another. Everyone is invited, and the group is always excited to welcome new members. If interested, please contact Jean Carroll at jeancarroll1@comcast.net or (h) 901-755-6950 or (c) 901-674-6950.



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

GOD ANSWERS OUR PRAYERS

By Jackie (Classen) Williams

In the March 2021 edition of *The Window*, I shared how God led me back to my hometown, by specially delivering this opportunity to serve as the Special Needs Ministry Director of GPC. It concluded, “I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all the marvelous things you have done” (Psalms 9:1, NLT), which has led me to continue my statement of how God works in seekers’ lives. By sharing this testimony, I hope you will “Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together.” (Psalms 34:3, NIV)

First, I confess to consciously committing myself to enhancing my relationship with God, specifically, the sincerity with which I sought God. I searched His Word, copied Scripture onto notecards – to carry and memorize. As the Holy Spirit allowed me to see areas in which I frequently failed, I sought out relevant Scriptures, which I posted throughout my home. I also heightened my participation – from attending Bible study classes to co-leading classes. I listened more attentively to presented sermons and volunteered in a church-wide program for new members that ensured my weekly attendance. Though it could seem that I worked hard to develop my spiritual character, I assure you that all the Glory goes to God, who was working in me. My prayers became centered around “God working in me to also work through me” – the goal was for others to see Jesus in their encounters with me. Of course, as I broadened these endeavors, other, less spiritually rewarding activities fell by the wayside but were not missed.

My deeper relationship with God cultivated the fruits of the Spirit! I experienced joy, recognizing the blessing of being known by, and being able to know, our Holy Creator! Challenges offered opportunities to faithfully believe God could and would handle them – and always for my best interests, which brought peace and patience. Better relationships with truer friends developed in me a deeper kindness toward others, a higher regard for their needs and desires. Through His process of rebuilding me, God restored in me a desire to share His Love with others. Then, He blessed me with the truest human love I’ve ever known – the gift of a real soulmate! On October 9, 2021, Jacquelyn (Jackie) Classen married Bayne T. Williams, “and the two [became] united into one” (Mark 10:8a). Our miraculous union brought my new name – Jackie Williams, which I believe God revealed to me when I read the Charles Stanley commentary entitled *Matthew – Leaving It All Behind*, nearly a year ago! We praise God for bringing us together!

God’s responsiveness to a sincere seeker seems indescribable, so I encourage others to “seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, [because] He will give you everything you need” (Matthew 6:33, NLT).

I can attest that when we “take delight in the Lord... He will give you your heart’s desires,” (Psalms 37:4, NLT) – because He did that for me!



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY



a part of GPC's
PEACE Special Needs Ministry

Remaining 2021 Schedule

11/3 Luncheon	11/24 Thanksgiving Break
11/10 Luncheon	12/1 Luncheon
11/17 Luncheon	12/8 Luncheon
	12/15 Fall Finale Feast

Save the Date!! Sunday, December 12, 2:30pm, GPC sanctuary - AMPlify invites everyone to the 2021 Special Winter Program.



The JoyLife901 Breakfast Club is back on Friday, November 12, hosted by GPC! If you missed the exciting return on October 29, this is a great opportunity to volunteer and get in on the great food, fun, and fellowship. The Men's Breakfast fellowship group will

cook breakfast for all the attendees, caregivers, and volunteers for this special occasion.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for this piece of our PEACE Ministry outreach, and if you'd like to volunteer, please contact Ms. Jackie at jackiec@germantownpres.org.



Remaining 2021 Schedule

11/4 Class/ Rehearsal	11/25 No Class/ Thanksgiving
11/11 No Class/Veterans Day Holiday	12/2 Class /Rehearsal
11/18 Class/ Rehearsal	12/9 Dress Rehearsal @ 9:15am
	12/12 Special Winter Performance @ 2:30pm, GPC Sanctuary

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.

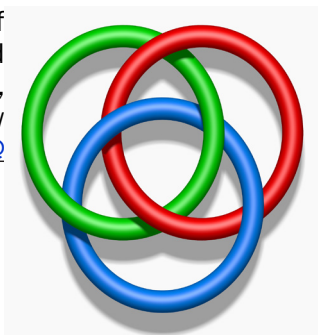
Typically Pastor Susie delivers these throughout the week, but anyone is welcome to share an arrangement with friends or family. Just come by the church office and you'll be directed to the flower room to choose a happy arrangement to share with a loved one.

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 the church parlor from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. All are invited 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.

Updates from Fellowship Group Conveners

Susan Jones reported that the PNO NO MO group had an event on October 30 at the Holmes'. It was outside, and those who liked to play pickle ball had the opportunity to do so. Everyone brought their own food and drinks.

The Greatest Hits of the 50s and 60s had a potluck on October 15. Everyone was encouraged to invite someone - for example, a new GPC member or a neighbor who needed a church home.

Our newest Fellowship Group, formed out of the Coffee and Conversations Sunday School class, has organized, with the aid of Pastor Mike, and has their first family-friendly event scheduled for November 13. Contact person is Candace Askew.

There will be a future Conveners' meeting with Pastor Susie to discuss upcoming events and activities. Date is to be announced.

Interested in joining a fellowship group? Contact Pastor Susie at susiew@germantownpres.org.

Martha Drannon



MUSIC & WORSHIP ARTS

MUSIC NOTES

Thank you, congregation, for your very positive response to having an ensemble sing in worship on Sunday mornings. About two months back the Session told me that we could add singers in the choir loft for Sunday worship as long as we wore masks and kept an appropriate distance. Ever since we have been having a modest ensemble sing each Sunday, so far ALL has been GOOD!! At the same time the Session allowed our soloists to sing without mask if they stood behind the modesty rail. What a relief that has been! ALL of our singers find it very difficult to sing with masks! Deep breathing and vocal projection is MOST difficult when wearing a mask. Thanks to all of our talented singers for doing what is necessary to participate in worship in a manner that is as safe as possible! Pray for COVID relief. We ALL look forward to no masks and worshipping in a normal manner!!

The 2021 calendar year is quickly moving by. We are entering November and moving with great speed toward that magical month of December. The first Sunday in November begins with All Saints Sunday - a Sunday in which we honor those saints who have left us during this the past year, moving on to life eternal. Their names will be read in worship as we reverently remember them.

Following is an outline of music in worship for the month of November:

November 7 > All Saints Sunday - anthem at 11:00 is *How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place* from the Brahms Requiem. Jeff Day will be soloist at 8:30 and 11:00.

November 14 > The focus for this Sunday is **CARING**. Marcus King will be soloist, and the anthem at 11:00 will be *Almighty God of Our Fathers*.

November 21 > This is Commitment Sunday. The anthem at 11:00 will be *The Church's One Foundation*. Kerriann Otano will be soloist at 8:30 and 11:00.

November 28 > 1st Sunday of Advent - Special music at 8:30 and 11:00 is a duet with Althea and Russell Crouse; the anthem at 11:00am is *E'en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come*.

MARK your calendars for December 5. This will be a special music Sunday. Invite guests to join you for worship and for the afternoon concert!!

* 8:30am & 11:00am > *Messiah* selections with string quartet, trumpets, choral ensemble, and soloists. (Favorite selections from the Christmas portion of Handel's *Messiah*.)

* 2:30pm > Concert with Kallen Esperian, soprano; Gary Beard, pianist; GPC soloists; Chancel Choir ensemble; and string quartet. Make plans to attend and invite guests. This is our annual concert of Christmas music held the first Sunday in December for many years. Help us get the word out!!

December worship at GPC will, as usual, feature special music in each service. This is a great month to invite friends and bring guests with you to any and all of our worship services.

A BIG thank you to ALL of you who support music at GPC through the annual budget process and also make special contributions to our Music Fund and to the Teachey Scholarship. Your support for music through the years is most appreciated. Quality music in worship at GPC is our goal. Thank You!!

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



MISSIONS & OUTREACH

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY AT GPC

This year, GPC celebrated World Communion Sunday on October 3 by welcoming Rev. James Awani from Ghana. While he was in town, he also celebrated his birthday. Thank you for coming, Rev. Awani, and GPC looks forward to seeing you again soon.



MISSIONS & OUTREACH



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



BINGHAMPTON MINISTRY BECKONS

Contributed by Helen Norman



An exciting opportunity for mission will open up early next fall, 2022, when GPC launches its second Prayer Partners initiative with Binghampton Christian Academy (BCA). For the past eight years 11 volunteers from Germantown Presbyterian—Prayer Partners—have befriended, supported and prayed for a class of students at BCA, a small, private Christian school which serves students from one of the most disadvantaged sections of the city. The school, located in Binghampton—a block from the corner of Walnut Grove Road and Tillman—is for students in K-4 through 8th grade.

As part of their responsibilities, these Prayer Partners plan and execute all four of the school-day parties for this one class of students: a party in the fall, one around Christmas and Valentine's Day and an end-of-the year party. Basically the Prayer Partners act as room mothers for the class, providing classroom supplies, bringing refreshments, doing crafts with the students, playing games and sometimes taking them on field trips or meeting them for lunch on campus with a Happy Meal in tow. Each volunteer is paired with a student, and each month the volunteers receive prayer requests from the students. Some, but not all, Prayer Partner groups continue with the same class throughout those students' entire career, as the current group of GPC volunteers have done. The current GPC volunteers became prayer partners with a class of first-graders and now those students will graduate from 8th grade this May. The second BCA Prayer Partner Initiative from Germantown Presbyterian will choose how long to serve as Prayer Partners.

For anyone desiring a real hands-on ministry—the chance to work with young children in a fun but meaningful way—this BCA program offers all that and more. It's a chance to make a difference and be a part of a child's life. The longer the volunteers serve, the deeper the bonds grow.

GPC is looking for at least ten volunteers who would like to take on the ministry of prayer partnering with one of the younger classes at BCA beginning next fall, 2022. Training will begin next spring. Anyone interested can contact Helen Norman (helenwatnorman@mac.com) or call the Missions Committee of the church at 901-754-5195.

FAMILY MINISTRY

FAMILIES & CHILDREN

THANK YOU TO OCTOBER'S 5TH GRADE WORSHIP LEADER, GREY SMITH



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.

The October worship leader was Grey Smith. Grey Odom Smith is the son of Tracey and Rush Smith and big brother to Susie. Grey attends school at Forest Hill Elementary School.



SHOW GRATITUDE IN NOVEMBER

Have your family think about what they are thankful for each day in November. Join GPC families as we spend November focusing on gratitude. Gratitude calendars can be found in the GPC Welcome Center, the AC Lobby, the narthex, and the Welcome Desk in the elementary hallway beginning Sunday, October 31. Activity pages follow in this newsletter.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE



Children's Music Wants You! GPCKids offers a fantastic music program for children. 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: alex@germantownpres.org.



FAMILY MINISTRY



Nursery and Toddler Childcare Providers Needed

At **Germantown Presbyterian Church:**

Alternating Sunday mornings, some
Sunday evenings, some Wednesday
evenings, and occasional special events.

Submit resume to
children@germantownpres.org

FAMILY MINISTRY

November 2021

Take some time for gratitude every day in November! Write what you're thankful for in the space provided or use it as a prompt for a longer reflection.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 A freedom am thankful for is ...	1 A color am thankful for is ...	2 A memory am thankful for is ...	3 A friend am thankful for is ...	4 A thing in nature am thankful for is ...	5 A goal am thankful for is ...	6 A family member am thankful for is ...
7 A freedom am thankful for is ...	8 A possession am thankful for is ...	9 A place am thankful for is ...	10 A song am thankful for is ...	11 A mystery am thankful for is ...	12 A sound am thankful for is ...	13 A book am thankful for is ...
14 A promise am thankful for is ...	15 A teacher am thankful for is ...	16 A gift am thankful for is ...	17 A smell am thankful for is ...	18 A treasure am thankful for is ...	19 A time of day am thankful for is ...	20 A moment from today am thankful for is ...
21 A challenge am thankful for is ...	22 An act of kindness am thankful for is ...	23 A movie am thankful for is ...	24 A life lesson am thankful for is ...	25 A tradition am thankful for is ...	26 A moment from yesterday am thankful for is ...	27 A taste or food I am thankful for is ...
28 A piece of advice am thankful for is ...	29 An article of clothing am thankful for is ...	30 A dream am thankful for is ...	1	2	3	4

FAMILY MINISTRY

November 2021

WEEK 1 (11/1-11/7)

Take some time for gratitude every day in November! Write what you're thankful for in the space provided or use it as a prompt for a longer reflection.

MONDAY

A color I am thankful for is ...

TUESDAY

A memory I am thankful for is ...

WEDNESDAY

A friend I am thankful for is ...

THURSDAY

A thing in nature I am thankful for is ...

FRIDAY

A goal I am thankful for is ...

SATURDAY

A family member I am thankful for is ...

SUNDAY

A freedom I am thankful for is ...

Make one copy of this page for each week in November.





FAMILY MINISTRY



Make your own *Gratitude Tree*

Instructions

Make your own gratitude tree this year! This is a two-page digital download to make the ornaments for your gratitude tree. When printed on both sides of the paper, one side has the image of a leaf, and the other side has space to write the things for which you are thankful this year. Hang on branches you have found in the yard, on an actual tree, or anywhere you like!

Licensed from Traci Smith www.traci-smith.com





FAMILY MINISTRY

GPC YOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK-IN

By Christopher Greco

Youth held a lock-in for Middle Schoolers on October 22. Twenty different sixth, seventh, and eighth graders poured onto the church grounds anticipating what the evening held. The students began their evening by solving a mystery as they each took on the image of a different classic monster. From George Lumm as the Werewolf Waylon Lepusca to Madison Wilson as the human spider Nic Morales, they solved the mystery of The Thing at 213 Elm Street. Following this chilling adventure, students prepared personal pizzas for dinner. Each person got to prepare their own pie with sauce, cheese, onions, pepperoni, and mushrooms. The remainder of the evening into the early morning consisted of game such as Sardines, Alien v. Predator, GROG, and Mission Impossible as they explored the entirety of the church using only glow sticks and their wits. A special thanks to April Rice for helping with the behind-the-scenes, Marjorie Reynolds for food delivery, and Garret Guyenes and Susan Shirley Hurt for roughing it the whole night (and then going home to their own kids)!



IN OUR PRAYERS

In the Congregation

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

The congregation extends its love, sympathy, and prayers to:
Jan Petri & family in the death of her brother;
the family of Margaret Williams 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

**Glen, Martha, extended Carr family - family of Catherine Johnson	>Michael Kempson - son-in-law of Norma Miles	responder) - son-in-law of Susan Ollinger	<u>COVID-related</u>
**Cynthia Chitwood (& husband Clark) - former member & friend of Billie Work	>family of Olivia King & all others affected by the shooting at the Collierville Kroger on Sept. 23	>Davis Taylor - great-nephew of Judy Hobbs	>from Martha Drannon - cousin Joette Sykes
>Mary Ellen Crouse - mother of Russell Crouse	**Lois & Walter Lockhart - friends of Will Jones	**Bud Waldren - cousin of Linda Sue & Bob Bobo	>from Missy Gwin - cousin Donna, her daughter Lauren, her grandsons Paul Thomas & William
>JoAnne Day - mother of Jeff Day	>McKenna & Paige - granddaughter & great-granddaughter of Barb Poier	>Donna Weaver - niece of Kristy Sneed	>from Jeanie Hill - daughter-in-law's mom Norma, son Jeff
>Virginia Goss - daughter of Gloria/Tim Goss	>Mary Ann & Troy Odom - parents of Tracey Smith	**Fran Wilson (Denise, Jerry, Sr. & Jerry) - husband & family of Elizabeth Wilson	>from Violet Olsen - niece & nephew Kim & Chris Mitchell
>Allerie Hanlon (1st responder) - daughter-in-law of Susan Ollinger	**Family of Drew Ranier (Andy, Keith, etc) - friends of September Eason	>Yetman family - extended family of Neal Horner	>from Debbie Ragain - friend Tina Dodson
>Susan Hawkins - daughter of Ann Phillips	>Dr. Carlos Reyes-Sacin (1st	>multiple survivors from latest natural disasters - hurricanes/earthquakes/wildfires/floods	

****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.

November 2021 GPC Family Prayer Ministry

Nov 7

Carolee & Stewart Carlin,
Cat, Will
Barbara & Randy Greebon
Kelly & Brett Hogan, Austin
& Kelsie
Betty & Bill Potter
Kim Ramos
Linda & Bob Thurman

Nov 14

Phil Carroll
Kathy & Steve Davis
September & Bob Eason,
Annaleigh, Evey, Renn
Shirley Howell
Mary & Steve Nelson
Erik Nelson
Pat & Ken Plunk
Kristy & Vernon Sneed

Nov 21

Jean & Ray Carroll
Kelly & Richard Fast,
Carter, Jordan
Virginia Herrin
Anne & George McGaha
Elizabeth & Don Powell
Carl Woods

Nov 28

Patsy & Jim Carson
Alinda & Charles Fahrenkopf
Erin & Thomas Powell,
Hayden
Jean & Bill Priester
Wes Robinson
Martha Stanley
Marty & John Wheeler

ENGAGE IN 2021

SESSION CORNER - OCTOBER

The Session met October 21.

- We elected Helen Warren and Beth Willingham to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- Beth Willingham and Elizabeth Powell will be our Commissioners for the November 9 Presbytery Meeting at Idlewild.
- The Covid Committee recommended we continue our current protocol for the next month, which we approved.

• Karen Schowalter Cooper has been hired to lead our Children's Music Ministry.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Callahan Edens

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

Memorial Fund

In memory of Barbara Arthur

Carol & George Barnes
Linda Sue & Bob Bobo
Dixie & Bob Johnson
Steven Fittes
Mary Rogers
S.E. & B.A. Shindler
Barbara Walters

*In memory of Angielyn &
Jimmy Phillips*
Ami & Mark Kelley

In memory of Diane Stearns
Amy & E. Scot Davis
Carol & Robert Frist

Music Fund

In memory of Barbara Arthur
Bonnie Algee
Carol & Bill Leppert
Barb Poier
Becky & David Stanley

In memory of Lalla Mellor

Carol & George Barnes
Linda Sue & Bob Bobo
Huddy & J. Bayard Boyle
Angela & Andy Crone
Michelle & Mike Hanson
Jerry Huff
Dixie & Bob Johnson
Christopher Kelley
Alice & Edward McClanahan
Julie & Gregg Meeks
Barb Poier
Mary L. Rogers
Shaw Investment Group
T.P. Sutton
William Ward
Virginia & Eddie Wilson
Judith & Thomas Wilson

*In memory of Martha Nell
Warren Maize*
Rebecca & Michael Cain

*In honor of Alex Benford, Karen
Fesmire, & Will Jones*
Paula Stack

*In honor of Will Jones &
Karen Fesmire*
Paula & John Hurt

Building Fund

*In honor of Will Jones 10 years
of ministry at GPC*
Helen & Fred Norman

GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2363 S GERMANTOWN RD
GERMANTOWN TN 38138

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

WWW.GPCTN.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

December Window Deadline: November 10

GPC Financial Summary, September 2021

	Sep 2021	2021 YTD		Sep 2020	2020 YTD
Revenue	\$210,801	\$1,566,088		\$115,951	\$1,301,955
Expenses	\$214,645	\$1,449,351		\$125,372	\$1,204,504
Net	(\$3,844)	\$116,737		(\$9,421)	\$97,451

We showed a small deficit in September after the transfer of \$100,000 from our reserves. This was a planned transfer and not a cause for concern. Our year-to-date results are positive and above our results from a year ago. As we begin the 4th quarter of 2021, it's time to begin looking forward to 2022 and how we will meet the challenges ahead of us. The budget process is well underway but will not be complete until we receive the ultimate message of support from our members. Please continue to pray for the continued financial health of our church.

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 GENTRY
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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