

OLEC Special. Buy a 10-punch card for \$40 and receive 2 free passes to one of these classes: Zumba, Zumba Gold, 20/20/20, Yoga

Weight Training Seminar 101 for Seniors. As we age, weight training becomes more important for many reasons. Weight training enables better quality of life by increasing stamina which allows us to perform everyday activities. Join us on Tuesday, December 6, from 1:30-2:45 p.m. Call the OLEC at 753-3100 and speak with Tiffany Griffin or Judy Oros at 336-8639 to reserve your spot. The cost is \$10 for the session.

GUMC Youth Basketball is in full swing with 16 1st-12th grade teams and three kindergarten teams for a total of 180 players! The OLEC Staff sends out a big THANK YOU to all of our dedicated parent volunteer coaches. We hope you have a great season! 1st-12th grade teams play on Saturdays starting December 3. Kindergarten basketball begins in January and games will be played on Sunday afternoons.

Zumba is an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party that's moving millions of people toward joy and health. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m.; Monday and Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.; Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

20/20/20. Work the entire body by devoting 20 minutes to cardio like step, kickboxing or Zumba, 20 to toning and 20 to abdominal/stretching work. Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 a.m.

Yoga. In a flowing sequence of traditional poses come find the edge you've been looking for. Using movement with breath, increase your strength, coordination, concentration, and body awareness while calming your mind and reducing stress. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday and Thursday at 6:15 a.m.

Saturday morning **Zumba** and **Zumba Gold** will be a combined hi/lo class until the end of the year. Class will begin at 9:30 a.m. Come at 8:30 a.m. for Yoga and stay for the Zumba party!!

Older Adults

These events are for everyone—singles and couples. Our activities are open to all adults age 55 and older regardless of church membership

Senior News—December Brown Bag Lunch Series. Evonne Siemer will share fascinating facts about the writing of the lyrics and music when we “Name That Tune—Christmas Style.” This presentation will be Friday, December 2, in the Fellowship Hall. The program starts at 11 a.m. with lunch at noon. Bring your own sack lunch; the church will supply the beverages. Call Luci Cromer, 755-0803, for more information. No reservations are needed. There will be a crossing guard on West Street to help with overflow parking.

Senior News—XYZs January Event! Join us for a fascinating day when we visit Temple Israel and tour the chapel, sanctuary, and museum, featuring the Adler Judaica Collection, and eat lunch at Dan McGuinness Pub on Tuesday, January 17, 2012. We depart at 9:30 a.m., and the cost is \$3 per person plus lunch on your own. Call Luci Cromer, 755-0803, Louise McGhee, 755-3463, or Gretchen Blair, 755-0797, to make reservations before Friday, December 16.

Prayer Concerns

A complete list of prayer concerns is available at the Information Center and outside the sanctuary. To submit a prayer request, call Linda Terrell at 754-7216 or email lterrell@germantownumc.org. In the event of an after-hours emergency, pastoral help is available. Call our Emergency Pastoral Care number at 901-412-5776.

Births

Jessica and Justin Rhea—birth of twins, Wilson Oliver and Addison Olivia, November 9

In Deepest Sympathy

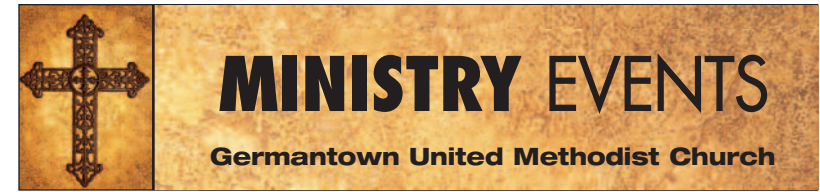
Michael Lemmons—brother of Karen Lochemes, nephews Andrew and Adam Lochemes, November 15
Catherine Ingram Doyle—sister of Mildred (Frank) Dyer, November 14
Janet Whitaker—mother of Bill (Cathy) Whitaker, November 15
Gladys Sisk—mother of Carolyn Phipps, November 11
Don Hubbard—brother-in-law of Robin (Marc) Tate, November 10
Maggie Greene—mother of Erin Leigh Greene (Mike) Nunn, November 7
Maryestel F. White—GUMC member, November 7
J. Mike Blair—father-in-law of Rocky Blair; grandchildren Kit Blair and Alanna Blair, August 21
Joe Bradshaw—father of Lyn (Will) Hays, grandchildren Taylor, Will, Brandon Hays, Caroline Kelly, November 1

In Hospital or Care Facility

Ronald Pugh

Congregational Concerns

Richard (Dick) Benson, Nancy Blake, Mary Carpenter, Jim Doran, Patricia Downing, Brooke Henderson, Charlie Jennings, Kimberly Jessop, Elizabeth Johnson, Werner Neubauer, Bill Peeples and Susan Peeples, Fred Smith, Myra Thomas, and Bill Troxel



November 20, 2011

Holiday Hours. Church offices will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. The Owings Life Enrichment Center will be closed Thursday, open Friday from 7 a.m.-noon and Saturday, from 8 a.m.-noon.

Receive Daily E-Devotionals. If you would like to receive Ponderings, an e-devotional from Rev. Richard Smith sent Monday-Friday, contact Donna Thurmond at dthurmond@germantownumc.org. The devotionals include a Scripture passage, thoughts from Richard, and questions for further reflection.

Greeters Needed. Would you like to enhance your Sunday morning worship experience even more? Come join us in our Greeter Ministry. This is such an important part of our hospitality and only requires serving one of the services once a month. If interested, please call Rev. Julie McKenna at 754-7216 or Lee Harber at 574-2855.

“A Second Look” at Sunday’s Sermon led by Rev. Richard Smith. Wednesdays, November 30-December 14, 6:30 p.m. (Rm 342) This is a unique opportunity to discuss the previous Sunday’s sermon and have a time for questions and discussion. The text and video of the sermons are posted to our website each Monday.

Holy Land Classic—June 6-18, 2012. Led by Rev. Steve Atkins, this journey through the Holy Land includes visits to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and the Sea of Galilee. Visit www.eo.travelwithus.com for a complete description, or contact Rev. Steve Atkins at 299-2375.

Church Board Meeting. All members are welcome to attend this meeting on Monday, December 12 at 7:15 p.m. The agenda will include year-end reports from all committees and ministry teams on 2011 accomplishments and plans for the upcoming year.

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who have received special training to provide one-to-one Christian care to people in our congregation and community. Perhaps you or someone you know is going through a tough time—either emotionally or spiritually. Why not consider the help that a Stephen Minister can provide? The care received is confidential and there is no fee. For more information, please contact Rev. Gail Bruno at 754-7216, ext. 125.

Alternative Christmas Market

Sunday, December 4 • 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

How does Alternative Christmas work?

Walk through the Fellowship Hall, visit the displays, and learn about the many worthwhile organizations that GUMC actively supports throughout the year. Buy the goods they have for sale as gifts for people on your Christmas list or make donations to the organizations in honor of a loved one. When a donation is made, you will receive a card you can give to the honoree to let them know the loving way in which you are remembering them this Christmas.

Can my children participate?

YES! We will have a children's room this year, for children up to 12, stocked with fair trade items from SERRV International so your children can buy a SURPRISE gift for parents, grandparents, etc. All items are made by artisans from around the globe in countries such as Israel, India, Chile, Indonesia, and El Salvador and will be on sale for \$5 each. We will have helpers present to help your children select and wrap their presents.

Please bring your checkbook or cash!

Missions

Toys Needed for Reelfoot Rural Ministries Toy Store. Last Christmas 1,593 children from 715 families received toys through the Reelfoot Rural Ministries Toy Store. Parents pay a small amount to "buy" five new toys for each eligible child. RRM also provides 60 senior participants with a personal gift. Gifts and toys should not be wrapped and price tags should not be removed. Leave toys in either of the two big Rubbermaid bins downstairs behind the Fellowship Hall before December 2.

Toy Examples: (A complete list of suggested toys is available at the Information Center and at the kiosk located outside the sanctuary.)

Infants under 12 Months: Toys and clothes; *Ages 1-5:* Educational Toys, CD/DVDs, Car and Riding Toy, Doll Accessories, Linking Toys, Lego, Stacking Toys; *Ages 6-8:* Silly Bands, Jewelry, Purse, Baseballs, Softballs, Gloves, Footballs/Soccer Balls; *Ages 9-13:* Nerf Balls, Video Games, Fishing Pole and Tackle, Hand Held Games, Transformer, Skateboard, Bike, Hair Products, Barrettes, Art and Craft Supplies; *Ages 14-16:* DVD/CD/MP3 Player, Outdoor Games, Pajamas, Craft and Art Supplies, Binoculars, Walkie Talkie, Board Games

United Methodist Women

Christmas Brunch. Germantown United Methodist Women will host a "Christmas Bells Brunch" on Tuesday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Entertainment will include the cast from Germantown Community Theater who will perform an act from C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*. A special feature of the unit meeting will be the presentation of "Membership Pins" that recognize members who have demonstrated outstanding service and leadership during the past year. Ladies are urged to deck themselves with Christmas bells and holiday colors! For reservations, call 754-7216 by noon Thursday, December 8. Child care is free if requested with reservations.

Youth Ministry

Jason Baker, 758-6515, jbaker@germantownumc.org

Lindsay Butler, 758-6516, lbutler@germantownumc.org

Element. Element, our version of United Methodist Youth Fellowship, meets on Sunday nights at the OLEC from 6-8 p.m. A snack supper is available for \$3. See you tonight for A Night of Worship, which will include an extended worship set with the band, and communion. This will be one you won't want to miss!

Trek 2.0. Our Trek Sunday School program now has a complete facelift! At each hour, students will have donuts and fruit, and will have the option to participate in a short devotional led by Butler or Jason, or visit the Prayer Chapel where an adult volunteer will lead the students in a time of quiet reflection.

Synergy/Synago Small Groups. Are you looking to invest a little more time in your faith journey? Are you craving more time with Christian friends outside of Element? Join us each Wednesday night for Synergy (6-8 grade) and Synago (9-12 grade) small groups. Synergy meets in the Oasis Youth Lounge from 6:25-7:25 p.m. and Synago meets at the home of Daniel and Whitney Oppenheim from 7-8:30 p.m. Synergy questions? Contact Lindsay Butler. Synago questions? Contact Jason Baker.

Turkey Bowl, November 27. It's almost time for our annual dodgeball tournament that happens each year around Thanksgiving. Entry fee for each player is \$5. Help us reach our goal of 100 participants, allowing us to make a \$500 donation to Manna House. Start rallying your team now! Each team must have between 7-10 players, with at least 2 females. Prizes will be given to overall winner, best dressed, and best attitude. See you on the court!

Night Owl Ski Trip, December 30. Mark your calendars now for our first annual Night Owl Ski Trip. Watch for the postcard in the mail!

Children's Ministries

Janelle Crist, 758-6525, jcrist@germantownumc.org

Shelley Haines 758-6512, shaines@germantownumc.org

Elementary Grace Place. Grace Place is the Sunday School program for children in senior kindergarten through 5th grade offered from 9:40-10:40 or 11:00-12:00. All children gather in the Chapel for assembly, then proceed to classrooms by grade level groups for experiential learning. This week we begin a special 4-week Advent rotation called "The Gift of Jesus." As children experience the Christmas story in weekly stations—crafts, games, story, and video—they will be reminded that Jesus is God's greatest gift to us.

Save the Date! Milk 'n Muffins with Santa will be Saturday, December 10, from 9-11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

November/December Art Classes for Kids

Join us in getting into the holiday spirit with these fun and educational painting classes for kids. Contact Melissa Cychowski at ecychowski@comcast.net or 753-2071 for more information or to register for classes. A portion of the proceeds for all December classes will be donated to Hannah's Hope (See www.hannahs-hope.org).

"Byzantine Madonna and Child" • December 2; 6-8 p.m.; Ages 9+; \$25

Fruit Series, Painting 3 - "Luscious Lemons" • December 9; 6-8 p.m.; Ages 9+; \$25

"Pretty Printed Painted Poinsettias" • December 10; 12:30-2 p.m.; Ages 6+; \$25

Personalized Snowman Family • December 16; 6-8:30 p.m.; Ages 9+; \$30

Health & Recreation Ministries

Tiffany Griffin, 753-3100, tgriffin@germantownumc.org

Patrick Peavy (sports), 753-3100, ppeavy@germantownumc.org

Turkey Burner Class! Skip the shopping, save money and burn calories on Friday, November 25. This 1½ hour class begins at 9 a.m. with cycling then 30 minutes of step/kickboxing followed by 30 minutes of strength training and abs. Come for the whole class or create your own workout. The OLEC is the only place to be the Friday after Thanksgiving!

New at the OLEC! Nite Nite Yoga: A time of exercise and relaxation for the busy man or woman. Taught by Amy Morse who is undergoing classical training in Ashtanga Vinyasa Yoga. Thursdays from 7:30-8:45 p.m. Begins December 1.