

## Ministry News & Events

### Children's Ministry

Lisa Pierce, Director, 901-758-6512, lpierce@germantownumc.org  
Callie Beaver, Assoc. Director, Elementary, cbeaver@germantownumc.org  
Kristin Dickerson, Assoc. Director, Preschool, kdickerson@germantownumc.org  
Natalie Adkinson, Assoc. Dir. Special Needs, nadkinson@germantownumc.org

**Special Needs Ministry:** If you are interested in participating in this ministry in any way, Contact Natalie Adkinson.

**Elementary Expedition:** Begins Wednesday nights (5:30-7:15) on January 16! Dinner followed by worship, games, crafts, and lessons.

**Preschool Stepping Stones:** We learn by moving, singing, and storytelling. This month, we are learning that "Jesus is God's son." (John 3:16). Please join us in the Hamilton Nursery, directly across from the main sanctuary entrance.

### Music Ministry

Todd Wilson, Director of Music, 754-7216, twilson@germantownumc.org  
Natalie Duncan, Associate Director of Music, nduncan@germantownumc.org  
Eva McPeters, Organist and Music Assistant, emcpeters@germantownumc.org

**Children's choirs resume** rehearsals on Sunday, January 6 at 5:00 pm - this be a great time to get involved in the children's choir program! The Testimony Youth Choir also resumes rehearsal Sunday, January 6 at 5:00 p.m. For more information contact Director of Music Ministry, Todd Wilson .

**1 Corinthians 14:40** "But all things should be done decently and in order." Is organizing in your blood? The music ministry needs someone to organize and maintain the handbell music library. Getting this resource in tip top shape will help in many ways. Contact Director of Music Ministry, Todd Wilson.

### Youth Ministry

Sue Hyland, Director of Confirmation & Middle School Ministry, 901-758-6516, shyland@germantownumc.org  
Brian Richards, Director of High School & College Aged Ministry, 901-758-6515, brichards@germantownumc.org

**Trek** will not meet on Sunday, December 30. We encourage each of you to worship with your families at 10:00 a.m. This will be a great opportunity for our entire church family to worship together. Please join us!

**Element** will meet again on Sunday, January 13 for our Spring Kick-Off! Tune in to our weekly e-newsletter and January Tidings for more info!

**Prayer Breakfast** will begin meeting again in January. Keep an eye on your mailbox for our Spring Semester calendar.

**High School Retreat** will be Friday, January 4 through Sunday, January 6 at Pickwick Lake. Register for this event ASAP because we do have limited space. Join us for a weekend of rest and relaxation, something we all need. We will have talk time, worship, yummy food, and more. Come renew your heart and mind.

### College and Young Professionals Ministry

Brian Richards, Director of High School & College Aged Ministry, 901-758-6515, brichards@germantownumc.org

**College Age Sunday School will not meet today, December 30.**

**College Birthday Cards.** GUMW Faith Circle will be praying for each GUMC college student by name this Thursday, January 3. They will also be sending birthday cards to all students with birthdays in the month of January. For more information, contact Lauren Boswell, laurenboswell@icloud.com.

### Older Adult Ministry

Luci Cromer, 901-755-0803, luci2@comcast.net. Our activities are open to all adults age 55 and older. Full event descriptions may be found in Tidings.

**Senior News-January Brown Bag Lunch Series!** Marc Perrusquia, Author and Director of the Institute for Public Service at the University of Memphis, will discuss his book, A Spy in Canaan, the story of photographer Ernest Withers. This presentation will be on Friday, January 4, in the Fellowship Hall. The program starts at 11:00 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.**

**XYZ's February Event!** Come with us for a music history lesson when we tour the Memphis Music Hall of Fame Museum and Sun Studio and eat lunch at Blues City Cafe on Tuesday, February 26, 2019. We depart at 9:30 a.m. from the OLEC parking lot, and the cost is \$16 plus lunch on your own. Call Luci Cromer, 755-0803, Gretchen Blair, 755-0797, or Garnet Brenneman, 754-3711 to make reservations and pay before Tuesday, January 29. Waiting list availability only.

### United Methodist Women (GUMW)

Chesley Porteous, women@germantownumc.org. All women are invited to attend any of our GUMW events! Website [www.germantownumc.org/umw](http://www.germantownumc.org/umw)

**Germantown United Methodist Women** would like to thank all who supported the Christmas Cookie Shoppe. It was a tremendous success - raising almost \$6000! The proceeds from this event will benefit the many missions of GUMW. Thanks to all who worked, bought and supported this annual event. Join us again next year on December 7th!

### United Methodist Men

Church office, 901-754-7216, or contact Jack Henton at [jhenton1@earthlink.net](mailto:jhenton1@earthlink.net).

**The next UMM Monthly Breakfast** will be Saturday, January 12 at 8:00 a.m. in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker will be Germantown Mayor, Mike Palazzolo. We urge all men to attend. Members need only to call with regret.

### Adult Education

Mary Groh, [mgroh@germantownumc.org](mailto:mgroh@germantownumc.org), 901-754-5093

**Disciple Fast Track - Into the Word, Into the World** starts Sunday, January 6, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. This 12 session in-depth study of the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles explores some of the best loved stories in the Bible and is ideal for busy people who want to fit a Bible study into their schedule. Cost is \$20, and preschool childcare is available. Register online or call Mary Groh.

**Our Membership Class "Welcome to GUMC!"** is Sunday January 13, from 9:40 - 10:40 and continuing from 12:00 to 1:00. Join our ministers to get an overview of Methodist history, traditions and beliefs and GUMC's missions and ministries. This study is open to newcomers and longtime members and is a great opportunity to meet our ministers and learn about GUMC. Lunch is provided and childcare is available. Register at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org).

**Time is running out to register for the 2019 Womens Retreat** January 25-26, at St. Columba Conference Center. This retreat is for women of all ages and is an opportunity to connect with God and each other through small group discussions and activities. Stay overnight in comfortable lodging or join us on Saturday. For more information, pick up a brochure at one of the kiosks or call Mary Groh. Registration deadline in January 11.

### Health and Recreation Facility (OLEC)

Todd Hinton, Director of Health & Recreation, [thinton@germantownumc.org](mailto:thinton@germantownumc.org)  
Judy Oros, Assistant Director of Health & Recreation, [joros@germantownumc.org](mailto:joros@germantownumc.org)

**The new year is quickly approaching.** This is a good time to re-evaluate your fitness goals. We offer a line-up of fine classes - and more - to help you in your fitness journey. Find class schedules in our lobby or online at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org).

## CHRISTMAS PRESENCE

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERIES FOR  
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 30, 2018

  
Germantown  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Congregational prayer lists are available at the Welcome Center.



# Welcome

Welcome to Germantown United Methodist Church!

If you are visiting with us today, we hope you find a meaningful time of worship and a welcoming community of faith. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know more about membership, we would be happy to talk with you. For more information about our membership classes, contact Mary Groh at 754-7216 or mgroh@germantownumc.org

**Sanctuary Flowers.** Flowers for the sanctuary are a treasured way to enhance worship while honoring or remembering loved ones or commemorating a special occasion.

Please email Anne Bush at abush@germantownumc.org, or call 754-7216 for more information or to reserve a date.

**If you are a GUMC member and a new parent,** we want to celebrate with you! Let us know of your new arrival so we can share in your joy. Please contact the church office at 754-7216 and we will recognize your child with a complimentary rosebud placed by the altar and an announcement in the worship bulletin.

**Children are welcome in our worship services.** We also offer a nursery and a nursing mother's room across the narthex from the Sanctuary. One of our ushers will be happy to direct you.

**Adult Sunday School** offers a great opportunity to develop friendships and enjoy Christian community. Our adult program includes a wide variety of classes at 9:40 and 11:00 in a wide range of sizes, formats, and content. Adult Sunday school brochures are available at our kiosks or call Mary Groh for information. Visitors are always welcome!

**Large Print Hymnals & Hearing Devices** are available from the ushers.

**Have You Considered Remembering GUMC in Your Will?** A charitable bequest can mean that you help continue your church's good work long into the future. For more information, talk to one of our pastors or consult with your lawyer or estate planner.

**Did you know?** Every week, our Worship Bulletin and Ministry Events insert are made available online at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org). You can even see an archive of past bulletins. A video of every Sunday's sermon is also available.

**All charitable donations for the 2018 tax year** must be received in worship today, December 30, or postmarked or transmitted electronically by December 31. Arrangements may be made for donations to be received at the church after business hours on December 31 by calling the church office before December 31.

**In the process** of always making improvements to the OLEC, we have security doors that now require a card for entry. Please come by the OLEC between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to get your card.

## Entrance

**PRELUDE** *What is This Lovely Fragrance* arr. Paul Manz

### WELCOME AND GREETING

#### \*OPENING PRAYER

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.  
Those who lived in a land of deep darkness -  
on them light has shined.*

***We long for a light to guide us.***

*You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy.*

***We long for God's joy in our lives.***

*For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.*

***We long to be relieved of all that we carry.***

*For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

***He is named Emmanuel: God with us.  
In this tiny baby, this vulnerable child,  
we find our light, our joy, our comfort.  
Joy to the World! The Lord is come!***

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE 246** *Joy to the World*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 880** *The Nicene Creed*

#### \*GLORIA



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## Proclamation & Prayer

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** Titus 2:11-14

**ANTHEM** *The Holly and the Ivy* arr. Richard Shephard

### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### OUR LORD'S PRAYER

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen***

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP

**OFFERTORY** *When Hope Came Down* Ben Glover/Kari Jobe

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

#### \*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION 221** *In the Bleak Midwinter*  
(Children are invited to come forward during the last stanza)

### A TIME FOR CHILDREN

**\*GOSPEL LESSON** Luke 2:8-20

**SERMON** *Christmas Presence: "The Praise"*

## Going Forth

### INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION 224** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

#### \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** *Let Us Sing Praises* Jean-Francois Dandrieu

#### Leading in Worship...

Rev. Dr. Brad Gabriel, Executive Pastor • **Preaching**  
Rev. Erin Beasley, Associate Pastor • **Liturgist**  
Todd Wilson, Director of Music • Natalie Duncan, Associate Director of Music  
Nancy Graham, Guest Organist • Chancel Choir  
Rev. Erin Beasley, Scott Davis, Natalie Duncan, Dallas Pope • **Praise Band**  
Callie Beaver, Associate Director of Children's Ministry • **Children's Message**