

## A Message from Tim



### The Lenten Mirror

I have a new enemy: the mirror.

It continually reveals an aging and out of shape body. Inside I feel younger, but I look in the mirror and reality crashes in, shattering blissful

illusions. I am not in the shape I was when I ran a mile a day and regularly played racquetball.

Maybe I should join others my age in making plans to start an exercise regimen, with all of the sacrifice and pain that will accompany it. "Hip hip hooray!" I think, sarcastically.

Of course, eating habits have to be modified. "High fiber, low carb," I know the mantra. Basically, I will need to eat the things my mother made me eat when I was a child. "But it's good for you," I can hear her say, the "but" betraying the fact that beets and broccoli do not taste good to me.

The ironic thing is that none of this is my fault! The blame can only lie in one place. The mirror. The rotten mirror.

I wish it were that simple.

Once on a radio show, an author said, "Now is the season of Lent, the forty days before Easter, when Christians look in the mirror and face the truth." So it is.

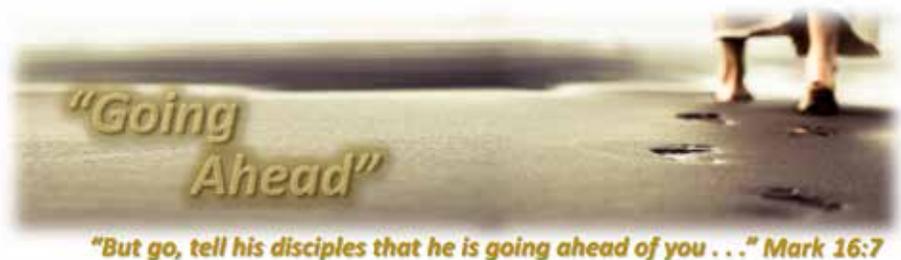
In the Bible, Jesus spent forty days and nights fasting in the wilderness. It was a time for him to confront the devil, numerous temptations, and himself. It was an opportunity to focus his whole being on the reality of his mission.

That's why we have a season of Lent, a time for self-examination and repentance. It calls us to look in the mirror and behold our shortcomings, fears, pain, and sin. Hopefully, looking in the mirror encourages us to determine to act. Good physical health has a cost in the exercise of the body. Good spiritual health lies in the sacrifice and repentance of discipleship.

Lent is the most somber time of the Christian year, this season that calls us to face the truth of our sin, and to remember our need for the forgiveness, strength, and relationship of Christ. We can try and shift the blame for our human condition, but only for so long. In the end, we realize that the Lenten mirror is a messenger that shows what stands before it. Our souls, just like our bodies, respond to what we feed and take out of them.

Use the mirror of the Lenten Season to examine your soul, but do not blame the mirror if you do not like what you see.

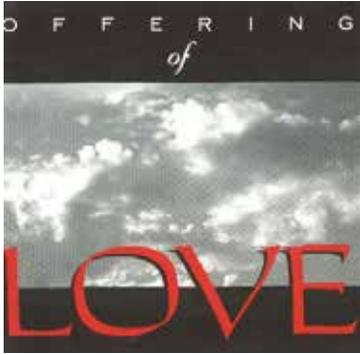
The mirror does not lie.



Coming Easter Sunday, April 1  
8:30 a.m., 9:40 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

# March Communion Offering

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Monthly offerings left on the communion rail are what used to be commonly called "second mile giving." After we have tithed or given what we can, Christians often have a response of gratitude to the grace of God expressed in the sacrament. At those moments, we remember all that God is doing through GUMC for the redemption of the world. We may think of the wonderful worship space we have to gather in weekly. Some think of our ability to support long term mission work in Central America, the African Continent, and here in the US.

God is doing great things by your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. In this time, much of this work is possible only because of your financial generosity. So, on the first Sunday of March, as you come forward to receive the bread and the cup, as you reflect on God's grace, don't restrain your generous impulse. Your second mile gift on the communion rail continues the ministry of GUMC.

## McKendree House Sold

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At the direction of GUMC's 2016 Church meeting and 2017 called Charge Conference, a portion of the church's property on the east side of South Germantown Road was sold January 31, 2018. The small, two story office building known as the "McKendree House" because it housed the offices of the McKendree District Superintendent for a brief time, was separated from the rest of the property. A two person commercial property appraisal firm purchased the building. The sale includes permission for church members to park in the spaces adjacent to the building after 5:00 pm on Wednesdays and all day Sunday. GUMC secures a right of first refusal should the new owners wish to sell the property. Again, following the direction of the Church Meeting and Charge Conference the proceeds from the sell will be in a designated fund, separate from the church's General operating budget, and be used to provide funding for significant, large scale capital needs as identified by the church task force. These needs include items such as, parking lots, HVAC, roofs, fire suppression systems and the like. Many thanks to all GUMC members who have worked to make this a reality.



## Music

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### Testimony and Youth to Present Tenebrae Service for Holy Thursday

**March 29, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

The first question you probably have is, "What is a Tenebrae Service?" Tenebrae, Latin for darkness, is a service that focuses on the final hours of Jesus' life beginning with the preparation for the Lord's Supper and concluding with the crucifixion. Through the reading of scriptures, presentation of music, singing of hymns, and the darkening and stripping of the sanctuary throughout the service, we will feel the anguish of Jesus in the garden, the agony of His final moments, and the hope in the promise of eternal life.

Your next question might be, "Why Holy Thursday and not Maundy Thursday?" The word Maundy is derived from the Latin word *mandatum*, or commandment. John 13:34 (NRSV) reads, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." As an act of service, Jesus washed the feet of the disciples after the Lord's Supper. The Maundy Thursday service incorporates the washing of the feet. As we will not be washing feet in this particular service, we will refer to it as Holy Thursday.

This predominantly youth-led service will usher in Good Friday as we anticipate the resurrection on Easter. All are welcome to participate in this Holy Thursday Tenebrae service.



# Missions

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## Update on the Weekend Food Program

It is always a good thing to share good news about something so important such as feeding children that are hungry and dealing with issues at home or in their neighborhood that most of us cannot imagine. The Weekend Food Program at Germantown United Methodist Church, which began in 2013 at Caldwell Guthrie School, is now feeding 350 children almost every weekend of the school year!!!

These children fall into the category of “food-insecure”, since they cannot be sure that they will have the food at home that they need to grow properly and do well in school. The school provides breakfast and lunch but often the weekend is where the struggle begins, especially at the end of the month. The program provides a box of food containing 6 meals and snacks, full of fruit, vegetables, milk, protein, and of course some peanut butter and jelly! It also includes a coloring sheet about making good food choices and a Bible verse.

The name of the school may have changed (it is now called Memphis Scholars/Caldwell Guthrie) but the passion of the volunteers and the generosity of our church members and friends has not waned! The cost to sponsor a child for the school year is \$300. A team of dedicated folks has been going to the Mid-South Food Bank to pack this weekend food for almost 6 years! Generous persons give monthly or yearly to support one child or multiple children! These are children who live but a half hour away from our church, not across an ocean! When you look into their eyes you see their heart and their potential! We cannot allow them to be hungry! There are more than 350 children at the school and the goal is to increase the number of children served in the next school year.

To sponsor a child or help pack the meals, contact [barcons@comcast.net](mailto:barcons@comcast.net). A check may be placed in the offering plate to GUMC, memo line: Weekend Food. Be a blessing!!



## GUMP Weekday Preschool

*Sarah Sutton - [ssutton@germantownumc.org](mailto:ssutton@germantownumc.org) - 901-753-3109*

As GUMP anticipates spring weather - warmer days, constant sunshine and bursts of green all around, we also begin to anticipate our annual spring assessment. Each spring season the state of Tennessee visits GUMP to observe the required of all preschools throughout our state. This includes a level of details covering seven categories: Directors Qualifications, Professional Development, Developmental Learning, Parent and Family Involvement, Ratios and Group Sizes, Staff Compensation, and Program Assessment. The highest attainable level is “3 Stars.” GUMP has far exceeded expectations in the past, and we anticipate another glowing report!

Also, this spring we welcome three interns from the University of Memphis who are acquiring degrees in Child Development. We love the opportunity to share and teach future educators about the wonderful things GUMP has to offer young children and their families. These interns are a wonderful addition to our weekday preschool, and GUMP is grateful for the partnership we have with the University of Memphis.

## Don't Forget the March Brown Bag Lunch Program!

Steve Bradshaw, local author, will talk about "Forensic Investigation: The Chilling Pursuit of Real Monsters." This presentation will be Friday, March 2, 2018, in the Fellowship Hall. The program starts at 11 AM 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.**



## XYZs Hear Jim Witter's *Fire & Rain* in April!

Jim Witter has been entertaining crowds for over 30 years with his multimedia tributes to decades gone by, creating a musical time capsule for all to enjoy. His music and songwriting have earned him multiple awards, and his versatility as an artist has allowed him the opportunity to reach out and share his own music as well as the music of others. Come with us to hear a celebration of the era of James Taylor and Carole King, singer-songwriters who were at the forefront of the 1970s, taking them all the way to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and both continue to perform today. Whether you sing along to "You've Got a Friend" or you just prefer to "Feel the Earth Move," you are guaranteed to have a fun-filled evening of great music.

**Where:** Halloran Centre

**When:** Friday, April 20, 2018

**Cost:** \$27 per person cost includes reserved seat.

**Departure:** 6:15 p.m. from OLEC parking lot. (Be there by 6 p.m.)

**Reservations:** Call Luci Cromer, 755-0803, Gretchen Blair, 755-0797, or Garnet Brenneman, 754-3711. You must make your reservation before paying.

**Deadline for Money and Reservations:** Tuesday, March 20



**Our events are open to all adults age 55 and older, singles and couples, regardless of church membership. Mark your calendar and make your reservations for these events today!**

## Linn Sitler Talks About Filmmaking in Memphis at April Brown Bag Lunch!

For the fifth consecutive year, Memphis made the cut in MovieMaker Magazine's annual survey of the best movie cities in North America and hosted 119 projects in 2017. The Memphis Film Commission recruits and assists production and offers resources ranging from financial incentives to finding locations. Linn Sitler, who has been with the Commission for 30 years, will tell us what it takes to get films made in Memphis—everything from recruiting to final production to her favorite film experiences—at the April Brown Bag Lunch Series, an adventure in learning sponsored by the Older Adult Council.



**TOPIC:** "Making Films in Memphis"

**SPEAKER:** Linn Sitler, Film Commissioner, Memphis and Shelby County Film and Television Commission

**WHERE:** Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall

**WHEN:** April 6, 2018. Program starts at 11 a.m.; Lunch is at Noon.

**COST:** FREE—the church will supply beverages.

**RESERVATIONS:** No reservations are needed. Just bring your sack lunch and enjoy the program and the fellowship.

**QUESTIONS?** Call Luci Cromer, 755-0803, or Beverly Rhoads, 754-7216, ext. 107.

**There will be a crossing guard on West Street to help with overflow parking**

## XYZs Take a Riverboat Cruise in May!

Come with us to take a Paddlewheeler a few miles up and down the greatest river in the United States. We are going to eat lunch first at Bosco's Squared, then we will board our boat from the new Beale Street Landing. This 90-minute sightseeing cruise will give us a step back into Tennessee history as we hear live commentary by a Riverlorian that will cover river history in Memphis, the Mississippi River itself, the Sultana, present river life, and other fascinating facts. [Waiting list availability only.](#)

**WHERE:** Bosco's Squared and the Memphis Riverboats

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 3, 2018

**COST:** \$18 per person cost plus lunch on your own.

**DEPARTURE:** 10:45 a.m. from OLEC parking lot. (Be there by 10:30.)

**RESERVATIONS:** Call Luci Cromer, 755-0803, Gretchen Blair, 755-0797, or Garnet Brenneman, 754-3711. You must make your reservation before paying.

**DEADLINE FOR MONEY and**

**RESERVATIONS:** Tuesday, April 3



## Two New Adult Small Group Studies Starting in March

### The Parable of Jesus in Luke's Gospel

Wednesdays, March 7 - April 11, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Human beings love to listen to stories – and Jesus loved to tell them. Much of Jesus' teaching was accomplished through the telling of parables. From shepherds to Samaritans, Jesus used common reference points to teach important truths that turn the familiar world upside down. Join Rev. Tim Carpenter as he discusses parables found in Luke and how those parables provoke serious thought and call us to be more loving, forgiving, and accepting. There is no charge for this study, but please register at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org). Childcare is available with advance reservation.

### Entrusted - A Study of Second Timothy (Women's Bible Study)

Wednesdays, March 21 - April 18, 9:45 - 11:45 a.m.

In the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy, Paul charges Timothy to not be ashamed to fulfill God's call on his life. This 6-session Bible study by Beth Moore will encourage women to guard what God has entrusted to them, further His kingdom by sharing Christ with others, and mentor younger generations of women just as Paul guided Timothy. Cost for this study is \$25 and childcare is available. Register at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org).

## 2018 Women's Retreat Something Out of Nothing

On the outskirts of Shelby County the women of GUMC traded in their hectic schedules for a relaxing overnight retreat at St. Columba Conference Center. For some, it was a time to spend quality time with friends and for all it was a time for spiritual and physical renewal, a time to draw closer to God, and cultivate new relationships.

Sixty-two women ages 32 to 81, representing 16 of our adult Sunday school classes, attended the 2018

women's retreat on January 26 - 27 at St. Columba for an amazing 24 hours of studying, playing, sharing, laughing, singing, and praying together. Keynote speaker, GUMC member, and psychotherapist, Melissa Bosserman spoke on the topic: "Something Out of Nothing" taken from Genesis 1:1-2 "God created the heavens and earth – all you see, all you don't see. God created something out of nothing." Melissa led the women through a study that she wrote specifically for our retreat. We explored mindfulness, emotional regulation, setting boundaries, being reliable and accountable, loving ourselves and others and learning spiritual practices that would help us be more "in tune" with others.

Eva McPeters provided our music on the piano throughout the weekend and for our concluding worship service she played her harp and Amanda Horrell joined with flute during our communion service. Our theme song for the retreat was "Change My Heart, O God"

The planning team (Jan Bobbitt, Ann Gee, Mary Groh, Emily Moore, Susan Solomon, and Peggy Warner) had fun activities and games to keep us moving and to help us meet each other. One activity that will probably be repeated in future years was our Pajama Pageant on Friday night. Awards were given for the craziest pajamas, best Christmas pajamas, coziest pajamas, and best overall.

We gathered for delicious meals around a huge stone fireplace in the dining room and after the planned activities had ceased many stayed there for extended discussion and laughter with old and new friends.

The retreat was a special "moment in time" for all of us, giving us a feeling of family, deepening our connectedness with each other and with God.



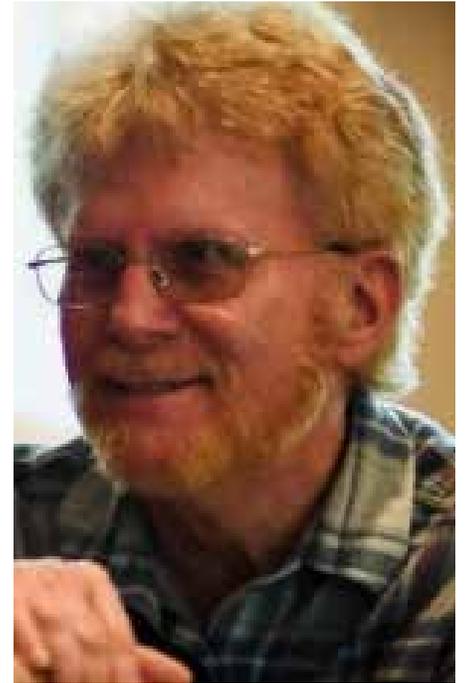
## 2018 Faith Seeking Understanding • April 27-29, Dr. James Fleming **Barriers to Growth and Unity in the Early Church**

GUMC hosts its third annual Faith Seeking Understanding weekend event speaker series April 27-29. The series features noted religious speakers, thinkers, musicians, and other who can inspire and challenge the congregation and community beyond our current routines and comfort zones.

Dr. James Fleming, one of the best-known teachers of Biblical Archaeology, will serve as the keynote speaker. Dr. Fleming lived and taught in Israel for 37 years and is currently the director of Biblical Resources and the CEO of the Biblical History Center, a museum of daily life in biblical times, located in LaGrange, GA.

Dr. Fleming uniquely ties his lectures on historical geography with the biblical text and includes an emphasis on the theological implications. He will bring his scholarship to GUMC in the form of a weekend experience entitled “Barriers to Growth and Unity in the Early Church”. As the Disciples and followers of Jesus carried his teachings and the good news of his resurrection to the Mediterranean world and beyond, they faced great diversity of religion, politics and culture. We can examine in scripture some of the barriers to unity the early church faced and ask if we face some of the same road blocks today.

The series of events begins on Friday night with dinner and a lecture. A seminar takes place on Saturday morning, and Dr. Fleming closes the weekend by sharing his insights in a lecture during the 9:40 and 11 a.m. Sunday school hours on Sunday morning. A complete schedule of events will be available by March 15th.



“Dr. Jim Fleming is one of the most respected teachers and lecturers on archaeology and biblical studies in the world,” said Rev. Tim Carpenter. “He brings an incredible passion for archaeology, geography, culture, and scripture and weaves them together in ways which illuminate the gospel and help apply it for today. ‘Barriers to Growth and Unity in the Early Church’ is a fascinating study of challenges faced by the New Testament church that seems remarkably contemporary. I have been blessed many times by Jim Fleming’s teaching, and look forward with anticipation to his return visit with us. I highly recommend experiencing Dr. Jim Fleming’s teaching as he has had a tremendous impact on my life and ministry.”

Launched in 2016, the Faith Seeking Understanding series originated from the findings of a survey that was commissioned by GUMC’s visioning committee in 2013. The goal was to identify key areas of emphasis that required the attention of the church. After reviewing and analyzing the feedback, “spiritual formation and personal development” emerged as one of the five main focus areas.

One of the guiding principles for Faith Seeking Understanding Ministry Team is to develop and host a periodic, ongoing speaker series, geared toward GUMC members and the community at large that would focus on how to interpret and apply biblical truths to current events that shape our lives and the world in which we live. The team believes periodic renewal enhances our spiritual lives, just like it does our minds and bodies.

For more information about the Faith Seeking Understanding weekend, please contact Mary Groh at 754-5093 or [mgroh@germantownumc.org](mailto:mgroh@germantownumc.org).

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## New Adult Sunday School Class

If you think you might be interested in participating in a new Sunday school class for couples and singles in their 40s and 50s that will meet at the 9:40 Sunday school hour, make plans to attend an informational get together on Sunday, March 25 at 9:40 in the Conference Room (# 329 on the third floor of the Hamilton Ministry Center). We will be discussing programming, mission projects, socials and more. Be in at the beginning of this wonderful new class!

## Spring/Summer GUMW Children's Consignment Sale

Shop Friday and Saturday,  
March 23-24!

It's that time of year! Clean out the closets, rummage through the attic, and sort through the garage for children's clothing, furniture, toys, baby equipment, and more. GUMW Children's Consignment Sale registration is now open! Visit [gumwclothingsale.com](http://gumwclothingsale.com) to review guidelines and details. All proceeds from this sale benefit GUMW missions. It's a 29-year tradition of community outreach!

Can't consign? We love donations! Coordinate with us in advance of the sale to donate your gently used items. We will price and tag each item, with 100% of the sale price going to local missions! You receive an early consignor shopping pass in return, along with a thank you letter as your receipt for tax purposes. Please be sure your donated items have an approximate value of more than \$40. Email [info@gumwclothingsale.com](mailto:info@gumwclothingsale.com) for more information.

We also need volunteer help and have many shifts available! Volunteers who work at least four hours get to shop early at the Thursday pre-sale event. Sign up online at [gumwclothingsale.com](http://gumwclothingsale.com).

Our consignment sale serves as a wonderful outreach to the community, attracting people from all over the Mid-South and bringing them into our church as consignors, shoppers, and volunteers. Join us and help make a difference. Thank you for your support!

### Important Dates:

**Consignor Registration deadline/inventory entry is Tuesday, March 20**, at midnight. Refer to the website for complete information about accepted merchandise and consignment instructions.

**Drop off:** Wednesday, March 21, 5-8 p.m. and Thursday, March 22, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Pre-sale:** Thursday, March 22, 5:30-8 p.m. Volunteers who work 8 or more hours may shop at 5:30 p.m. Those who volunteer 4 or more hours may shop at 6 p.m. Consignors may shop at 6:30 p.m.

**Public Sale:** Friday, March 23, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Public Half-price Sale:** Friday, March 23, 5-7 p.m. and Saturday, March 24, 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Pick-up:** Sunday, March 25, 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**GERMANTOWN UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**GUMW**

Children's Consignment Sale

Buy. Sell. Serve.

**Spring/Summer Sale**

March 23-24, 2018

**Germantown United Methodist Church  
Owings Life Enrichment Center (OLEC) Gym**

Sell or shop for gently worn, excellent condition children's clothing, furniture, toys, baby equipment and more! To learn more about our sale or to register to sell, visit [gumwclothingsale.com](http://gumwclothingsale.com).

**Open to the public!**

Friday, March 23, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. and 5 - 7 p.m.  
Saturday, March 24, 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Find us on Facebook: GUMW Children's Consignment Sale**

All proceeds benefit the locally supported missions of GUMW.

## GUMW's 2018 Spring Bridge and Games Benefit

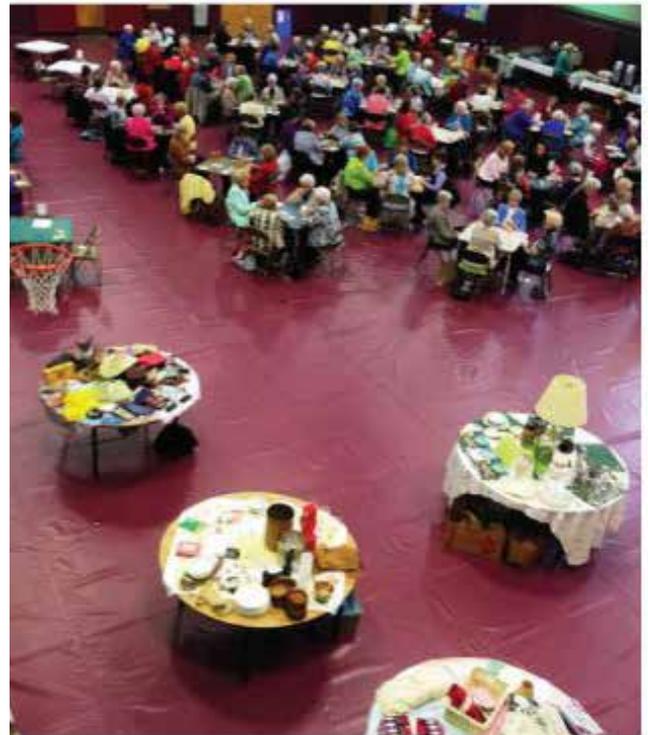
Tuesday, April 10th | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | OLEC

Get ready for GUMW's Annual Spring Bridge and Games Benefit! All proceeds from this event benefit GUMW Missions. This eagerly awaited day of fun features bridge, card and board games. Remember to bring your own card and game supplies. In addition to playing cards and games, you'll have a heavenly lunch prepared by Celebration Circle, a Spring Fashion Show by Dillard's, and some great Door Prizes! Perhaps best of all—is our Unique Boutique which promises to bring shoppers all kinds of treasures at great bargain prices! Shopping starts early at 9am. For more information contact Pat Gill at 756-8151 or Tina Gregory at 854-0848. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center, OLEC or online at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org).



## Unique Boutique Items for Spring Bridge and Games Benefit

Donations are now being collected for GUMW's annual Unique Boutique at the Spring Bridge and Games Benefit. We are collecting household goods, small furniture, lamps, kitchen, bed and bath items, table linens, books, puzzles, luggage, pictures, holiday décor and accessories such as jewelry, purses and scarves. (no toys or clothing!) To arrange drop off, please contact Stephanie Adams at 756-9748\* or 488-4748 or at [monacodog@aol.com](mailto:monacodog@aol.com). Items can be dropped off at 2931 Mallard Lane any time before April 7.



*"I will bless you... so that you will be a blessing." - Genesis 12:2 ESV*

All women are welcome to attend Germantown United Methodist Women events. If you are looking for the camaraderie of Christian women, fellowship while serving others, and the opportunity to make lifelong friends, consider joining one of GUMW's many Circles (small groups). For information, contact GUMW Membership Chair Yolanda Toney at [ytoney@germantownumc.org](mailto:ytoney@germantownumc.org).



## Discovery Weekend Review by Melissa Smith

Discovery Weekend is a youth-led retreat. All talks, devotions, prayers, discussion questions, skits, etc. are planned under the guidance of Sue Hyland and Brian Richards. As a parent, a small group youth leader, and an attendee this is a compelling and meaningful experience.

The retreat began on an upbeat, fun, and welcoming check-in for the 107 youth. The bustling activity promptly transitioned into a high energy kick-off party with a Christian rock band playing songs we knew and even a few new ones. Witnessing the youth jumping, dancing, singing and praising God free of restraints indeed caused my heart to swell. The tone for the weekend was set: open your heart and mind to God without worry. Our theme for the weekend retreat was "Light It Up."

Throughout the weekend, five talks were given by the seniors: Friendship, Family, Missions, God Talk, and The Church. Revealing themselves to their peers in a very raw and vulnerable way, the seniors shared their stories. The talks offered insights into how each senior's life experiences led them back to God. I can testify that I was moved so much by listening to the senior talks that I stole a quiet moment to reflect on my personal walk with God.

After each talk, we met in discussion groups. We tackled questions presented by the youth planning committee. The powerful discussion questions were a vehicle by which each person on the retreat would come to understand each senior's talk more keenly as well as considering how each talk has relevance in their life. In addition, we discussed how we see God's light in our family, friends and daily interactions. We also explored how to keep God's light illuminated within us and how our good choices reflect God's light. We pondered the Christian priorities we have set for ourselves, from how we can spread His light to how to continue to let our light shine long after the retreat. As with the other retreats I have attended with the GUMC youth, I witnessed the youth relishing this time to reconnect with God.

A favorite moment for both the youth and parents was certainly the Saturday evening service.



The preparations for this service were extremely powerful. It began with the senior "God Talk" by Elizabeth, followed by a small group discussion. We shared what area of our life needed more Light. We wrote these confessions on lanterns and launched them into the evening sky. Afterward, Rev. Tim Carpenter guided us through communion. With reverence, yet excited, we moved to the Chapel for a time of sharing, singing, and preparations for Saturday evening prayer service. The highlight was that each youth was individually called to the kneelers and prayed over by Sue and Brian. The fact that Sue, Brian, my husband, small group leader Alise Davis, and I prayed for my daughter Dorothy was a singular moment. When it was my time to be prayed over, which was a surprise, the tears rolled down as I felt His love wash over me.

I can not express in words the significance of this retreat. They say it takes a village to raise a child, and in this sense, it takes the whole church to shine His light on events such as this. The retreat might have been less than 48 hours, but the impact that Discovery weekend had on those who attended will last a lifetime. Set up crew, clean up crew, folks donating snacks, people serving meals, volunteers monitoring free time, adults volunteering to stay the night, adults volunteering to attend the weekend, Sunday Schools donating their spaces for the youth to camp out, planning committee's time spent creating the event, the church administrators assisting with all the paperwork, youth committing their weekend to attend (and their parents for paying for it), all of those who prayed for us, and most importantly God's work through Sue and Brian is what it took to make this retreat happen. I do believe His light was shining ever more brightly in us this past weekend, as we were illuminated in His word, His calling, and His work. The youth will indeed walk purposefully with God.

*Melissa Smith, 9th Grade Girls Small Group Leader and Youth Parent*

## Discovery Weekend Review by Matt Nicell

My name is Matt Nicell I am a freshman at Houston High School and I also am a member of the youth group at Germantown United Methodist Church. Discovery Weekend is an annual youth led retreat and tradition at GUMC. The high school youth meet every Wednesday Night from 7:00-8:30 at what we call Synago leading up to this amazing retreat. Discovery Weekend is full of Talks, Skits, and Small group time which is all planned by the high schoolers.

Discovery's theme this year was Light It Up which was chosen by our two Youth Directors Brian Richards and Sue Hyland. This theme's purpose was to show how we as people can show God's light to others. Discovery has put a real impact on me every year since my sixth grade which was my first year in the youth group and as I went to my first Discovery.

This Discovery was extra special to me as I had the opportunity to be on the planning team and also lead one of the small groups. I also starred in our first skit of the weekend in which we explained the rules in a game of family feud which I portrayed the role of Steve Harvey. We as people can be the light of the world, Discovery Weekend, has shown me the true meaning of God's light and help me be a light to the world.



## Save the Date: Senior Sunday - May 6th

Attention High School Senior Families! This year's Senior Recognition Sunday will be May 6th and we would love for everyone to be present. Be on the lookout for a packet in the mail with all of the information about college choices, pictures, scholarships, bio information for the bulletin, and the time and place for the banquet.

### Other important info for seniors:

Please make sure GUMC has your current and accurate contact information to ensure you receive a Senior Packet in the mail in March.

Applications for the two 500 dollar scholarships in memory of Jim Roberts and Mike Wilson will be included in the senior packet and we ask that seniors will prayerfully consider applying for these as they continue their faith journey in higher education.

Please confirm with Rachel Moore your contact info and mailing addresses at [rmoore@germantownumc.org](mailto:rmoore@germantownumc.org).

## Save the Date: Daddy Craw's - April 21st

Daddy Craw's is the youth's annual Crawfish boil and youth missions fundraiser.

This is a Church wide event with something for all ages. Even if you are not a fan of Crawfish we will offer burgers and hotdogs with all the sides and fixings. If you happen to not be hungry that day we would still love for you to join us for a place of friendship, fellowship, games, music, and a lot of desirable auction items. Be on the lookout for some more details and our youth advertising and promoting this event on Sunday mornings. All of the proceeds benefit our youth summer mission opportunities and allow Youth to partner with great mission organizations like Mountain T.O.P. , Service Over Self, Memphis Athletic Ministries, and Manna House.





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901-754-7216

*Editor's Note: The deadline for submitting articles for Tidings is the 10th of the month prior. Submissions received after this deadline are not guaranteed to run.*



**COMMUNITY**  
REWARDS

## **Support GUMC Missions with Kroger Community Rewards**

The Kroger Community Rewards program is an ideal way to support GUMC Missions. The program allocates funds to participating organizations based on the purchases that registered members have made at Kroger using their Kroger Plus card. You will continue to receive your purchase discounts and gasoline points.

Each individual should enroll their Kroger Plus cards online at the Kroger secure website, [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and then choose Germantown United Methodist Church Missions or #81237. If you prefer, you can call 877-KRO-PLUS. And remember, you must register and link your card to GUMC Missions each year. An instruction sheet can be found at the entrance to Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for supporting GUMC Missions!