Germantown
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Week of October 25, 2026

Announcements

Volunteers Needed at our Welcome Center: GUMC is looking for a few friendly faces to help at our Welcome Center. This is a wonderful opportunity to greet visitors, welcome members, answer questions, and help make everyone feel at home. The best part is you choose the hours you are available! Please contact Brenda West, bwest@germantownumc.org, to become part of the team.

Mahjong for Missions: Join us on November 15, from 2-5 pm, in the OLEC, for an afternoon of fun playing Mahjong to help support the many missions of GUMC. Purchase a table and invite 3 friends, or sign up as an individual, and we will help you find a table. Be sure to register by Sunday, November 8, on our Sign Up & Events page.

Ministry News and Events

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 are also found in the monthly Tidings.

November Brown Bag Lunch Series! Trey Crump, Executive Director of Memphis Heritage, will tell us about "Preserving Memphis: Our History, Our Stories, Our Future." This presentation will be on Friday, November 6, 2026, 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.**

XYZ's December Event! Celebrate Christmas with us at the historic Peabody Hotel and Capriccio Grill Restaurant on Monday, December 7, 2026. We depart at 9:30 am from the OLEC parking lot, and the $40 cost includes lunch. This trip is being subsidized by a generous donation to the XYZ's. Call Luci Cromer, 755-0803, or Garnet Brenneman, 754-3711, to make reservations and pay before Friday, November 6.

Our Handy Helpers are waiting for your call… Handy Helpers can do light carpentry, plumbing, electrical repairs, routine outdoor maintenance, and computer troubleshooting for GUMC members age 60+ who need help with home repairs or maintenance. Services are provided without labor charges, but the cost of the materials used is to be paid by the homeowner. To put in a job request, contact the Handy Helpers Coordinators, Ron or Nina Gaddy, 754-1238.

Care Ministries

Yolanda Toney, Director of Care Ministries
ytoney@germantownumc.org

Steady Ground is a supportive atmosphere which meets on the third Sunday of each month at 11:30 am, in room 339, immediately following worship. Please register online. You are welcome to bring your own lunch. Questions? Contact Yolanda Toney.

Germantown United Women in Faith (GUWF)

Stephanie Adams, GUWF President
women@germantownumc.org

Gift Bags for Seniors - Golden Cross Senior Ministries serves over 2,000 underprivileged seniors. Please help them have a Merry Christmas by donating any of these items to fill gift bags: oatmeal microwave packets, popcorn microwave packets, tuna packets, ramen noodles packets, individual coffee and hot tea packets, peanut butter crackers, granola bars, and candy canes. Please leave your items in the Golden Cross Drawer, just outside of the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall, **through Sat., Oct. 31**. Questions? Contact Sherry Raggett at sherryraggett@yahoo.com

November Speaker Luncheon - Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 10,11:30 am, in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall for a catered lunch and inspirational message from Joshua Conley, Executive Director – Foster Village Memphis. **All women are invited!** Register with your payment of $15 by **NOON, Nov. 5**, online with credit card, at germantownumc.org, Sign Up & Events, or use QR code, Checks, memo-"Nov. lunch" or cash deposited in GUWF box located in Information Center.

Gift Cards Needed for the UMNC - United Methodist Neighborhood Centers of Memphis is in need of $25 Kroger or Walmart gift cards to distribute through their supported food pantries. Gift card donations may be placed in the GUWF mail slot at the Information Center, just outside of the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall until **Tuesday, Nov. 10**. Place gift cards in a sealed envelope marked to the attention of Stephanie Adams.

Adult Education

Mary Groh, Director of Adult Education
mgroh@germantownumc.org

Join the Monthly Book Group on Monday, Oct. 26, at 10 am, in room 338, for a discussion of *The First Witch of Boston* by Andrea Catalano. No need to register, just purchase the book or check out from the library and join us for a lively discussion.

Behold the Savior – Treasuring the Story of Christmas starts Wednesday, Nov. 18, 9:45-11:45 am, via Zoom. (We will not meet Nov. 25.) Join us for this 4-session women's Bible study as we take a slow walk through the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke. This study is an invitation to slow down and refocus our hearts on Jesus this Advent season. Facilitator: Chesley Porteous. Cost: $19.00.

Fourteen Adult Sunday school classes meet from 9:00-10:00 on Sunday mornings. Please check out the list of classes, locations, teachers, and topics at the Welcome Center or online and join us. Visitors are always welcome!

GUMP Preschool

Sarah Sutton, Director of GUMP
ssutton@germantownumc.org

GUMP friends and classrooms celebrated all things Halloween, including our special family event, Gumpkins and Giggles! The evening was filled with fun activities, including a hayride, face painting, Ben & Jerry's ice cream, Marco's Pizza, balloons, and bubbles. Families arrived in festive costumes, and children enjoyed trick-or-treating in their classrooms. It was a joy to see our students, families, and staff come together to make the season so memorable!

Owings Life Enrichment Center (OLEC)

Gordon Kelly, Director of Health & Recreation,
gkelly@germantownumc.org | 901-753-3100
Kim Marsh, Assistant Director of Health & Recreation,
kmarsh@germantownumc.org

Daytime Pickleball: Mon, 12 pm-3 pm. Tues-Fri, 9 am-12 pm.
Nighttime: No Wednesday Night Pickleball.
Try one of our group exercise classes:
Gentle Yoga: Mon & Wed, 3:30-4:30 pm.
Vinyasa Yoga: Wed, 2-3 pm.
Senior Fitness Walk Fit: Tues, 10-11 am.
Senior Fitness Chair Class: Thurs, 10-11 am.
Stroller Strides: Mon, Wed, Fri, 9:30-10:45 am.
Hatha Yoga: Mon, 6:30-7:30 pm.
Open Gym times: Please call the OLEC office to check for available times.
*Open Gym times are for church members only. Guests must purchase a $10 pass.

For more information about events, visit GUMC's website: germantownumc.org or download our app! Interested in an event that requires registration? Click "Sign Up & Events" at the top of the page.
Viewing online? Tap the QR codes!

Children's Ministry

Becca Keel, Director of Children's Ministry
bkeel@germantownumc.org
Janelle Crist, Assoc. Director of Nursery
jcrist@germantownumc.org
Hayley Heard, Assoc. Dir. of Elementary
hheard@germantownumc.org

Join us for our Family Fall Fest on Wednesday, October 28, from 5:30-7 pm, in the OLEC. Bring the whole family for a fun-filled evening of food, games, inflatables, cookie decorating, and MORE! Don't forget to wear your non-scary Halloween costumes! Free event! Register online so we can plan for food.

Preschool Stepping Stones (Newborn-PreK): The Hamilton Nursery is open from 8:45-11:30 am on Sundays. Preschool Sunday school meets from 9-10 am.

Elementary Sunday school (K-5 grade): Drop children off in classrooms at 9 am. Room numbers are posted outside the Huddle. Pick up is at 10 am, in the Huddle.

Acolytes Needed: Scan QR code to sign up to acolyte! Must be in the 2nd grade or older. There is no age limit! If your child is interested and has not been trained, contact Becca Keel to schedule a brief training session.

Youth

Chloe Granberry, Director of Youth Ministries
cgranberry@germantownumc.org
Courtney Brookshire, Associate Youth Director
cbrookshire@germantownumc.org

Sunday Morning Trek: Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join us in the Oasis at the OLEC at 9 am for snacks, games, and discussion!

Element: There will be Element tonight in the OLEC from 6-8 pm! Grades 6-12 are invited, bring $5 for dinner!

High School Prayer Breakfast: This Tuesday morning! We'll be meeting in the Pavilion behind Houston High School at 6:30 am - Chloe will bring Chick-fil-A!

Synergy/Synago: Synergy will be at the Fall Fest this Wednesday! Synago, our high school group, will meet from 7:15-8:30 pm in the Oasis!

Crave: Our annual Fall Retreat to Victory Ranch will be Nov.13-15 this year! All youth, grades 6-12, are welcome. Registration is open! Cost is $180. Spots fill up fast!

Stay Informed: Check us out on Instagram (@ gumcyouthmin) or like us on Facebook (GUMC Youth Ministry) to keep up with our activities and announcements. Please visit our GUMC webpage and sign up for youth emails for more details.