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As we journey through March, many of us find ourselves deep in the season of Lent—a time the Church has long set aside for reflection, honesty, and renewal. At the heart of this season stands a word we often misunderstand: repentance.

For some, repentance sounds like shame, guilt, or spiritual scolding. But Scripture paints a very different picture. Repentance is not God wagging a finger at us; it is God extending a hand. It is less about condemnation and more about invitation—an invitation to turn from what drains life and turn toward the One who restores it.

The biblical word for repentance, *metanoia*, means “a change of mind,” a reorientation of the heart. It’s the moment in Luke 15 when the prodigal son realizes that life with the father is better than life on his own. It’s the request David prays in Psalm 51, “Create in me a clean heart, O God,” not because he is crushed beyond repair, but because he trusts that God can make him new. Consider these and other scripture passages:



Scriptures on the Heart of Repentance

- Joel 2:12-13 — “Return to Me with all your heart...for He is gracious and compassionate.”
- Isaiah 55:6-7 — God’s invitation to return and receive abundant pardon.

Scriptures on God’s Kindness and Mercy

- Romans 2:4 — God’s kindness leads us to repentance.
- 1 John 1:8-9 — Confession and God’s faithfulness to forgive.
- Micah 7:18-19 — God delights in showing mercy and casting our sins into the depths of the sea.

Scriptures on Turning Back to God

- Acts 3:19-20 — “Repent...that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.”
- 2 Chronicles 7:14 — God’s promise to heal when His people humble themselves.
- Hosea 6:1-3 — A call to return to the Lord who restores.

Scriptures on Transformation and New Life

- Ezekiel 36:25-27 — A new heart and a new spirit.
- Romans 12:1-2 — Renewal of the mind.
- 2 Corinthians 7:9-10 — Godly sorrow leading to salvation.

Gospel Passages on Repentance

- Mark 1:14-15 — Jesus’ opening message: “Repent and believe the good news.”
- Luke 18:9-14 — The tax collector’s humble prayer.

Senior Pastor

Rev. Tim Carpenter | tcarpenter@germantownumc.org

...Continued

This March, I invite you to think on these scriptures and embrace repentance, not as a burden, but as a blessing. Let it be a time to lay down what is heavy, to release what is broken, and to receive what is healing. Let it be a season of returning—returning to prayer, to Scripture, to community, to the quiet voice of the Spirit who calls us home again and again.

May this month be marked not by sorrow, but by renewal. Not by fear, but by freedom. Not by looking back in regret, but by looking forward in hope. For the God who calls us to repent is the same God who delights to restore.



Prism

Rev. Mimi White | mwhite@germantownumc.org



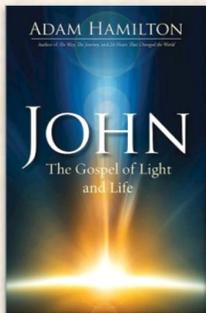
Sundays | 10:30 am

Owings Life Enrichment Center



Rev. Mimi White

During this season of Lent, at Prism, we are exploring **John: The Gospel of Light and Life**, with some help from Adam Hamilton's book of the same title. The Gospel of John is the most mystical of all the four Gospels, telling us who Jesus is, using metaphors and imagery, such as "the light of the world."



As we approach Easter, we'll be focusing our attention on modern day examples of light and life in the world and looking for where the Holy Spirit is nudging us to become that light and life for those in need.

Right now, all of us are living through challenging times, but, even though they are challenging, they are filled with opportunities for us to do better and to become Jesus' hands and feet to a hurting world.



We will follow Jesus through the Gospel of John, paying close attention to what He told us to do and say, so that we, too, can encourage and inspire others to have the kind of faith that brings hope in distressing times and light that dispels the darkness.

Join us on Sunday mornings, in the OLEC, at 10:30, and invite all your FRANS (Friends, Relatives, Associates, Neighbors, and Strangers) to come with you, so we can be inspired and encouraged together by Jesus' teachings and incredible music from Prism Riot. We'll have the coffee and snacks ready!

Executive Minister

Rev. Dr. Scott Alford | salford@germantownumc.org



Rev. Dr. Scott Alford
Executive Minister



Each year, on St. Patrick's Day, we celebrate more than shamrocks and green attire. We remember a life rooted in deep faith, courage, and selfless generosity. St. Patrick's story is one of gratitude to God and a commitment to share God's love with others, even in the face of hardship.

St. Patrick was born around 386 in Britain. He was captured by Irish pirates at the age of 16 and enslaved for six years. During this time, he developed a deep devotion to Christianity, which shaped his future mission. He eventually escaped back to Britain, where he studied under the missionary, Saint Germanus, and was ordained as a bishop.

St. Patrick continuously preached forgiveness and reconciliation. Even after his enslavement as a young man in Ireland, he returned as a missionary to the land of his captors, baptizing thousands and ordaining hundreds of priests. He also started schools and promoted education. St. Patrick founded many monasteries and schools and worked hard to educate those who were disadvantaged or marginalized. One lesson we still recall today is his use of a clover (shamrock) to illustrate the Holy Trinity.

St. Patrick understood that everything he had—his faith, his strength, his purpose—was a gift from God. In response to that gift, he gave freely of himself. He dedicated his life to serving the Church and spreading the Gospel, trusting that God would provide along the way. His generosity was not just about material offerings, but about offering his whole heart in service to God's mission.

This month, as we reflect on his legacy, St. Patrick's Day invites us to consider our own response to God's blessings. How are we called to give back? How can our generosity strengthen our church and support the ministries that serve our community and beyond?

When we give to the church through our time, talents, and financial gifts, we help ensure that God's work continues to prosper. Our generosity supports worship, outreach, education, and care for those in need. Like St. Patrick, we may not always see the full impact of our giving, but we can trust that God multiplies every faithful offering.



Let us celebrate St. Patrick's Day with joyful hearts and grateful spirits. Let us honor St. Patrick's example by renewing our commitment to service and generosity, trusting that, when we give ourselves freely, God's grace flows even more abundantly through our church and into the world.

Generosity



“For it is in giving that we receive.”

St. Francis of Assisi

*Ways
to
Give*

- **Cash and Checks** - Given in the offering plates or mail
- **Electronic Giving** - See below
- **Venmo:** @GermantownUMC
- **Text:** “GIVE” to 901-910-1220
- **Automatic Bank Drafts** - Organized through your personal bank or the church office
- **Required Annual Distributions from IRAs/Stock Transfer** - Organized through your broker
- **Wills and Estate Planning** - Organized through your attorney to designate the church as one of the beneficiaries

Electronic Giving:

Go to our church website www.germantownumc.org and click on “Give”.

If reading this digitally, click [here](#) to give

Scan to Give



2026 Estimate of Giving



For help with any of these options, contact Sharon Panis in the church office.

Finance

| GUMC BUDGETED FINANCIAL SUMMARY as of January 31, 2026 | ACTUAL YTD | BUDGET YTD | OVER/UNDER BUDGET | JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2026 ANNUAL BUDGET | % ACTUAL YTD to ANNUAL BUDGET |
|--|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| TOTAL INCOME | 1,851,983.50 | 1,820,506.25 | 31,477.25 | 3,120,868.00 | 59.34% |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 1,736,496.13 | 1,819,755.90 | (83,259.77) | 3,120,868.00 | 55.64% |
| NET INCOME OVER EXPENSE | 115,487.37 | 750.35 | 114,737.02 | | |

Churchwide



Each month we recognize a volunteer or volunteers who *make an impact* by selflessly sharing their time and talents for the betterment of our church and community.

Jim and Betty Allbright - Serving at the Lord's Table

Jim and Betty Allbright first joined GUMC in the fall of 1983. After business moves to Atlanta and Philadelphia, they returned to Memphis and GUMC in 1990, where their roots in worship and service continued to grow.

Today, Jim and Betty serve as our **Communion Stewards**, a meaningful role at the heart of our worship life. They prepare the elements and serve as members of the Worship Committee. This is not their first time in this role. After first assisting with Communion setup, they later became Communion Stewards for several years, passing the responsibility on, and then faithfully stepping back into the role, following COVID, when the need arose. In addition, they have also served as Greeters and Ushers, welcoming and assisting worshipers each week.



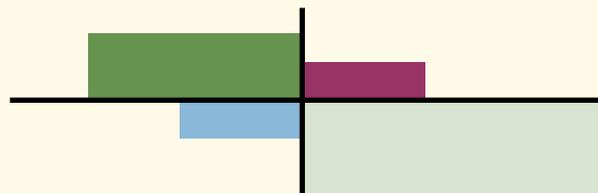
Over the years, Jim and Betty have been involved in numerous volunteer and mission activities inside and outside the church. They volunteered extensively with Habitat for Humanity, with Jim also serving a six-year term on the Habitat Board of Directors. Both were also actively involved in Scouting for many years.

Their service to the wider church has also included four years as Lay Delegates to the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Annual Conference, a role they recently stepped away from so another couple could have the opportunity to serve. According to Jim and Betty, "The worship services are outstanding and will bring blessings into your life."

Betty stays active through women's circles and has helped with the Spring and Fall Children's Consignment Sales and the Christmas Cookie Shoppe. Jim serves on the safety team. Together, they regularly assist with the weekend meals mission and the Cordova food mission.

When asked about what service means to them, they shared: "Serving God through volunteering brings joy into our lives. It provides comfort and stability from the stresses of this crazy society. Serving God helps polish our souls, so they reflect the light of Jesus to others."

We are grateful to Jim and Betty Allbright for the many ways they continue to bless our church family through their service.



Churchwide

Part-time Associate Youth Director Needed

Germantown United Methodist Church is seeking a **Part-Time Associate Youth Director** to join our ministry team.

This person will work alongside our youth director to nurture meaningful relationships with our middle and high school students, support youth activities, and assist with special events and mission opportunities.

The ideal candidate has a heart for young people, a love for Christ, and a desire to help teens grow spiritually, socially, and emotionally.

If you, or someone you know, might feel called to this important role, we would love to hear from you.

For more information about the position, visit our church's webpage. Send resume, a short introduction, and your favorite youth group game to Scott Alford (salford@germantownumc.org).

Join our Team!



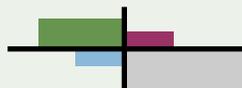
Work Begins at the Trinity Center in McVay Gardens



Work at the Trinity Center in McVay Gardens is underway! The project will make this space even more welcoming and functional for everyone. Improvements include the installation of ADA-compliant walkways, allowing all visitors to comfortably and safely access the grounds. A new concrete deck will be added at the amphitheater, creating a more durable and user-friendly area for wheelchairs and strollers. Updated lighting and improvements to the parking area will enhance both visibility and accessibility. These upgrades will ensure that people of all ages and abilities will be able to gather, worship, and enjoy God's creation.



The Trustees will also soon work to improve the lighting in the sanctuary, converting all lights to LED to save energy and removing the chandeliers to eliminate shadows and reduce maintenance costs. This project will enhance our worship, offer flexibility in lighting for special services, and keep our lovely sanctuary welcoming for generations to come.



Churchwide

A Request for Silent Auction donations

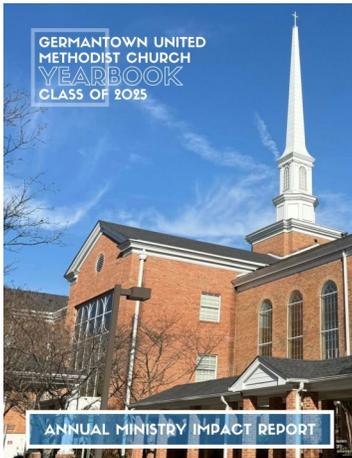
Save the date! “Spring into Auction”, April 24, 6-8:30 pm, in the OLEC.

The finance committee is sponsoring an evening filled with music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and great fellowship with friends. Tickets are \$10 per person. A silent auction benefitting GUMC's mission and ministry will be the highlight of the evening. We're inviting members of our community to donate things that make an auction exciting — gift cards, unique experiences, vacation home rentals, artwork, services, and other special items on which people love to bid.



If you have something to donate for our silent auction, please contact Jennifer Predmore (jenn_38138@yahoo.com) or Patty Harriman (patty.harriman@gmail.com)

Celebrating a Year of Impact: Annual Report 2025



As we reflect on the past year, we are grateful for all God has accomplished through GUMC. Our Annual Report is a true celebration of ministry, showcasing the amazing ways God has worked through our church, members, volunteers, and generous supporters. This report is a testament to the dedication of everyone who makes GUMC a vibrant, welcoming community. Together, we've made a lasting impact in Germantown, our region, and beyond, through service, love, and the transformation of lives.

As we move through 2026, may we carry forward the passion and commitment that defined this past year. The report offers a glimpse of our collective impact, and we are excited for what's to come. To access the full report on our website, click [here](#) or scan the QR code.



Have
you
signed up
yet?

If not, click [here](#) or scan the QR code.



GUMC DAY OF SERVICE

**Germantown
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MARCH 28**

After the GUWF Children's Consignment Sale, we need all hands on deck to get the OLEC ready for PRISM

Here are some of the volunteer roles we need teams to fill:

AVAILABLE SHIFTS

12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

- Pulling out items for donation
- Sorting by Consignor Number
- Sit Down Jobs

(signage sorters and supply organizers)

3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

- Lots of walking as item groups are combined
- Consignor items consolidated for pick up
- Rubber banding bundles of clothing

Go to grco.de/dayofservice or scan the QR code to sign up for a shift.

We can't do it without you!



Churchwide

Lenten & Easter SCHEDULE



Lenten Worship Series - Traditional & Prism

Worship with us at 10:30 am

During Lent, join us for the Lenten Worship Series, *Seven Last Words*, during our traditional worship service, or join us at Prism, for the Lenten Worship Series, *John: The Gospel of Light and Life*.



Palm Sunday - March 29

Worship with us at 10:30 am

Join us as we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. In our 10:30 am traditional service, the children will process with palms. Hosanna, Alleluia, and Chancel Choirs will sing.



The Seven Last Words of Christ - March 29

6:30 pm in the sanctuary

GUMC Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists offer a musical retelling of the events of Holy Week through the music of composer Michael John Trotta.



Holy Week Worship Schedule - March 31-April 3

12 pm worship (followed by a light lunch Tuesday - Thursday)

Tues. March 31 - Germantown UMC

Thurs. April 2 - New Bethel Missionary Baptist

Wed. April 1 - Germantown Presbyterian

Friday, April 3 - St. George's Episcopal Church



Is it I, Lord? - Holy Thursday - April 2

Worship with us at 7:00 pm

This *Living Last Supper and Communion* worship experience, led by the Testimony Youth Choir and youth participants, brings Holy Thursday to life through reflective storytelling, choral anthems, congregational singing, and the celebration of Holy Communion.



Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 4

McVay Gardens - Register for a Family Time Slot at 10 am or 11 am

Petting zoo, train ride, games, crafts, and the Easter Bunny!
Register online for a family time slot at germantownumc.org or scan QR Code



Easter Services - Sunday, April 5

Join us as we experience the proclamation of the Risen Lord in Scripture, message, and songs of faith.

6:30 am - Youth Led Sunrise Service (Trinity Center in McVay Gardens)

8:30 am - Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

10:30 am - Prism Contemporary Worship in the Owings Life Enrichment Center

10:30 am - Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Music Ministry

Rev. Todd Wilson, Minister of Music | twilson@germantownumc.org | 901-754-7216

Holy Week is a special sequence of events that helps mark our Christian journey. Each year, we recognize the death and resurrection of Christ through the retelling of the story. Many traditions skip this important part of the chronicle. I am grateful that we understand you cannot have resurrection without the death of Christ.

We will mark this truth with relatively new music from composer Michael John Trotta: *The Seven Last Words of Christ*, written in 2016.

On the night of Palm Sunday, while the palms are still in the sanctuary and fresh in our memories, we will tell—through music—the story we are about to experience during Holy Week. A sermon series on each Sunday in Lent will explore these seven last words as well.

I pray you will make it a point to join the GUMC Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists as we share this work on Sunday, March 29, at 6:30 pm. Click [here](#) for a sneak peak of each movement, or scan the QR code. It will certainly be time well spent if you choose to give a listen.



SEVEN LAST WORDS

Septem Ultima Verba

Sunday, March 29 | 6:30 pm | Sanctuary

GermanTown
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GUMC Chancel
Choir offers the
*Seven Last Words of
Christ*, by composer
Michael John
Trotta



IS IT I, LORD?

Living Last Supper & Communion Service



**Holy Thursday, April 2
7 pm in the Sanctuary**

The *Testimony* Youth Choir and youth participants will present “Is It I, Lord?” on Thursday, April 2, at 7 pm, in the sanctuary. This *Living Last Supper* worship experience brings Holy Thursday to life through artistically scripted monologues, voiced from the perspective of each disciple, as they respond to Jesus’ words that one of them would betray Him. Each disciple ponders who would do such a thing, and asks, “Is it I, Lord?”

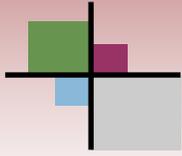
Through reflective storytelling, choral anthems, and congregational singing, the service invites us to step inside the Upper Room and examine our own hearts. As the worship transitions into the celebration of Holy Communion, you will be invited to receive the elements from the disciples and from Jesus, deepening the connection between Scripture, sacrament, and story.

The evening will conclude with the solemn stripping of the sanctuary and a time of quiet meditation, guiding us prayerfully toward Good Friday.

We invite you to join us for this meaningful and moving service and to support our youth as they lead us in worship during this sacred week.

Care Ministries

Yolanda Toney | ytoney@germantownumc.org | 901-801-6368



“So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.”

~ 1 Thessalonians 2:8



CLM Yolanda V.C. Toney
Director Of Care Ministries

Spring Prayer Vigil

A prayer vigil is an act of public witness. It offers our community a space to connect with God, so that God's vision can be carried out through us. As United Methodists, we understand prayer vigils to be grounded in the power of the Holy Spirit, to change people's hearts and minds, and to strengthen us in our work and witness (UMC Church & Society.) Participating in prayer vigils can stretch us in our prayer life.

Commit to pray on **Thursday, March 26**, by registering online. What a blessing it would be for the entire church to pray together. Registering says you are committing to pray on March 26 **anytime** between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. The chapel will be open for prayer; however, if you can't come to the chapel, pray at home.

What should you pray? Here are few scriptures to get you started.

Prayers of Worship

Psalm 8:3-4

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, [4] what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

Prayers of Confession

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Prayers of Intercession

Hebrews 7:25

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

Praying together strengthens our relationship with God and gives us an opportunity to share our burdens. When we pray together, we grow and become more comfortable worshipping together.

Looking forward to seeing you! Contact Yolanda Toney at ytoney@germantownumc.org if you have any questions.

Don't forget to register for "Steady Ground," Sunday, March 22, in the fellowship hall, immediately following the worship service. Please see the flyer on page 12 for more information.

Care Ministries

Yolanda Toney | ytoney@germantownumc.org | 901-801-6368

Are you being called from the pews into the mission field?

Here are some ways you may answer that calling. Your options are not limited to this list. There are many ways to serve. Contact Yolanda Toney to discuss how you may serve.



- **Prayer Ministry** - Join a team of volunteers, who arrive 30-45 minutes before worship, to pray throughout the church for all who enter the sanctuary before worship begins. The team also prays with the pastors. New members are welcome. **Contact Yolanda Toney if interested.**
- **Monday Night Visits to First-Time Visitors** - Armed with fresh cookies, you will visit first-time visitors. You may bake cookies, go on visits, or both. **Contact Sue Myers, 901-756-7919 or joelmyers1@comcast.net.**

To serve in the following ministries, Contact Yolanda Toney:

- **Grief Ministry** - Commit to stay in touch with a person, who has suffered a close familial loss, for a year. Regularity of contact would be determined by the person affected by the loss and you. Contact might include calls, notes, or visits.
- **Note/Card Writing Ministry** - Once a month or less, you will write notes to assigned persons. Adults, youth, and children may contribute to this ministry.
- **Calling Ministry** - Monthly or bi-monthly (determined by you) you will call assigned persons to check in with them. These people may be ill, shut-ins, or may be absent from church for several Sundays.
- **Meal Ministry** - Occasionally, persons or families may appreciate a meal during a difficult time. You would make the meal or purchase a meal and deliver it.
- **Care for the Caregiver** - Give a caregiver at least an hour break. Sign up to be contacted if/when needed.

GUMC Care Ministries

Spring Prayer Vigil

Thursday, March 26, 2026 | 8 am—4 pm | In the chapel

Germantown United Methodist Church
2331 S. Germantown Rd.
Germantown, TN 38138

Click [here](#) to register online,
or scan QR code



Questions? Contact Yolanda Toney at 901-801-6368 or ytoney@germantownumc.org

Care Ministries

Yolanda Toney | ytoney@germantownumc.org | 901-801-6368



Germantown United Methodist Church
Care Ministries presents...

Steady Ground

A graphic element consisting of a wavy, orange-brown path that curves from the bottom right towards the center, set against a dark green background.

A Safe Place for those
Navigating Loss and Change

Life brings losses that can leave us feeling unsteady—the death of a loved one, the end of a marriage, changes in work or health, or the loss of a life we once knew.

Steady Ground is a facilitated support group for adults seeking a compassionate, faith-centered space to share, listen, and reflect alongside others who understand. Come as you are and be supported along the way.



WHEN

Starts **Sunday, March 22**,
Third Sunday each month, 11:30 am
(or immediately following worship)
Ends at 1:15 pm

WHERE

GUMC Fellowship Hall

No Steady Ground in June

Questions:

Email ytoney@germantownumc.org

Registration required. Click [here](#) to register or scan QR code.
Pay for an optional lunch with registration or you may bring your own lunch, if preferred.



Membership

Seeley and Mike O'Connell

Germantown UMC welcomed Seeley and Mike O'Connell into membership on Sunday, February 8, at our Prism worship service. They joined by transfer of their membership from another denomination in the Memphis area.



Karen Jenkins and family

Germantown UMC welcomed Karen Jenkins and her sons into membership on Sunday, February 15, at our Prism worship service. Karen joined by transferring her membership from Maples Memorial United Methodist Church, Olive Branch, Mississippi. Karen's sons joined by profession of faith and were baptized.



Emily and Brock Balducci

Germantown UMC welcomed Emily and Brock Balducci into membership on Sunday, February 15, at our Prism worship service. They joined by transfer of their membership from Amory Methodist Church in Amory, Mississippi, and their son was baptized.



Adult Education

Mary Groh, Director | mgroh@germantownumc.org | 901-754-7216

IGNITING THE SPARK II TENDING THE FLAME

**NEW
DATE!**

Wednesday, April 8 | 6:30-8 pm

Please note: This class was originally scheduled for February 25. If you registered for the February session, there is no need to register again. If you previously registered, but cannot make it to the April session, please email Mary Groh (mgroh@germantownumc.org.)

Open to all: Experienced teachers, those who have never led an adult class, or those who want to slightly wade in the water to check it out.

This program will be our second interactive group discussion, focusing on:

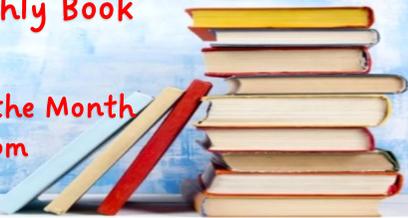
- Why we do what we do and how we keep it going
- Creating memorable lessons – connecting our past to present and future
- Class trends/ new materials / idea share / leading with impact
- Building the pipeline of teachers
- Launch TLC – teacher learning community format
 - ⇒ Where to obtain ideas and material – planning ahead / or last-minute call
 - ⇒ How to choose topics – content, connection, clarity
 - ⇒ Class dynamics – timing, tone, target audience, the two or three concept
 - ⇒ What you do know that will “help you lead” – what you don’t know that will “help you grow.”



If you have not registered previously and would like to attend, please click [here](#) or scan the QR code.

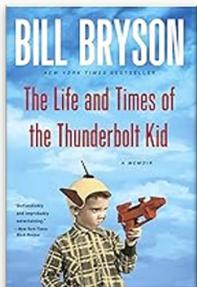
Monday Monthly Book Group 2026

4th Monday of the Month
10:00 am-12:00 pm
Room 338



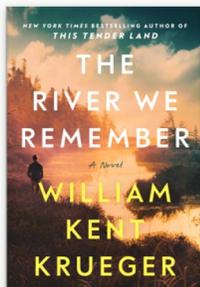
There is no need to register. Just purchase the book (or check out from the library) and join us for a spirited discussion!

For questions, please contact Mary Groh.



March 23
The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid

by Bill Bryson



April 27
The River we Remember

By William Kent Krueger

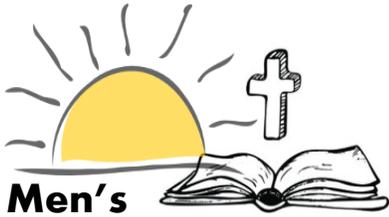


May 18
City of Night Birds

By Juhea Kim

Adult Education

Mary Groh, Director | mgroh@germantownumc.org | 901-754-7216

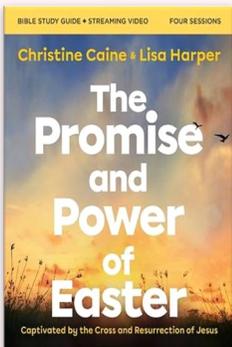


Men's Sonrise Bible Study

Tuesdays | 6:30 am

All men are welcome to join us on Tuesday mornings, at 6:30 am, in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall.

No registration required.



The Promise and Power of Easter

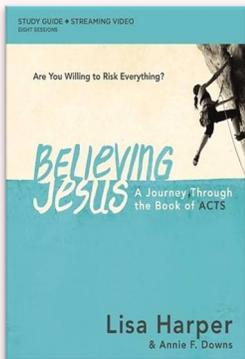
Captivated by the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus

Wednesdays, March 4 – March 25 | 9:45-11:45 am; via Zoom.

Facilitator: Chesley Porteous | Cost: \$19.00



In this four-week women's Bible study, by Christine Caine and Lisa Harper, we will remember together what led up to the cross and join hands in awesome celebration of the restoration we received when Jesus rose again. The only thing that truly changes the trajectory of any of our lives is realizing the magnitude of what happened on the cross. To register, click [here](#), or scan QR code.



Believing Jesus

A Journey Through the Book of ACTS

Wednesdays, April 8 – May 27 | 9:45-11:45 am; via Zoom.

Facilitator: Chesley Porteous | Cost: \$18.00

**STARTING
IN
APRIL**

Throughout the Book of Acts, believing Jesus and what he said is the core value that marked every believer in the first church. In this eight-session women's video Bible study, author Lisa Harper launches into the book of Acts to discover how Jesus' command to spread the gospel changed the lives of those who believed and shaped the culture that surrounded the growing church. Join us for this journey through the Biblical stories of the early Christian movement and see what kind of wild adventurers await those who truly believe Jesus.

To register, click [here](#), or scan QR code.



Older Adults

Luci Cromer, Chair | 901-755-0803 | luci2@comcast.net



Don't Forget the March Brown Bag Lunch Program!

Rebecca Dinstuhl, President, Dinstuhl's Fine Candy Company, will tell us about the "Taste of Tradition: Dinstuhl's Fine Candy Company." This presentation will be on Friday, March 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.****

Andy Pouncey Will Talk about Frances Wright and Her Utopian Dream at the April Brown Bag Lunch!

In 1825, Scottish-born Frances Wright, with advice from General LaFayette, and former Presidents Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe and future president Jackson, purchased 1,940 acres of land in Shelby County to establish a colony called Nashoba, an experiment to end slavery. West Tennessee was regarded as the best place for emancipation, because public feeling was judged more favorable to abolition than other Southern locations. Her plan offered hope for slaves preparing to become free, self-supporting citizens, and it also sought to save the South from the sudden loss of investment dollars. Andy Pouncey will tell us about Ms. Wright's background and ideals, as well as her struggles to create an egalitarian, interracial community at the April Brown Bag Lunch Series, an adventure in learning sponsored by the Older Adult Council.



Andy Pouncey
City of Germantown Historian

TOPIC: "Frances Wright and Nashoba, an Experiment to End Slavery"

SPEAKER: Andy Pouncey, City of Germantown Historian and Former Chair of the Tennessee Historical Commission

WHERE: Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall

WHEN: April 10, 2026. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A CHANGE IN DATE.
Program starts at 11 am; 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, 901-755.0803

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

Older Adults

Luci Cromer, Chair | 901-755-0803 | luci2@comcast.net

XYZs Travel to Mississippi River Museum in April!

Come with us to learn about the history of the Mississippi Delta and get up close and personal with America's Greatest River. We are going to the Mississippi River Museum inside the Tunica RiverPark. This museum showcases the legend and life of the river and its history through its interpretive exhibits, outdoor overlook, four large aquariums that show us what lives in the lowlands of the Mississippi, and an Eco park that includes meander gardens and an outdoor river walk. For lunch we will drive into the heart of Tunica to eat at the Blue and White Restaurant, which has been serving down-home country cooking since 1924. Join us for a leisurely day along the river.



WHERE: Tunica RiverPark Mississippi River Museum and Blue & White Restaurant

WHEN: Thursday, April 23, 2026

COST: \$9 per person plus lunch on your own

DEPARTURE: 8:30 am from OLEC parking lot. (Be there by 8:15 am.)

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: Monday, March 23



XYZs Go to Baseball Game in May!

Join us as we partake in the great American pastime with a fun-filled evening at AutoZone Park. If you have never been there with us, you are in for a treat! Our seats are reserved in the upper dugout box, behind home plate and close to all the concessions and restrooms. Game time is 6:45 pm, so we will have plenty of time to find our seats and pick up dinner at the ballpark. We should have much cooler weather in May, rather than going in the summer—you might even need a jacket! Sign up soon—seating is limited.



WHERE: AutoZone Park, Memphis Redbirds play the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp

WHEN: Wednesday night, May 12, 2026

COST: \$15 per person includes ticket & transportation. Dinner is on your own.

DEPARTURE: 5:30 pm from OLEC parking lot. (Be there by 5:15 pm.) **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: Friday, April 10



Older Adults

Luci Cromer, Chair | 901-755-0803 | luci2@comcast.net

Our Handy Helpers are waiting for your call...

The Handy Helpers Ministry Team, sponsored by the Older Adult Council, lends a “helping hand” to older adults in our church who need assistance with small repair and maintenance jobs around the house.

WHAT TYPE OF JOBS DO HANDY HELPERS DO?

- Light maintenance and repairs, including small carpentry jobs, such as malfunctioning doors, locks, or windows.
- Minor electrical work, such as replacing light switches and light bulbs.
- Replacing smoke alarm batteries.
- Minor plumbing work, such as working on “running” toilets or leaky faucets.
- Other miscellaneous jobs are considered on an individual basis.



If you are planning a larger job for your house (repainting, wood replacement, remodeling) and would like a second opinion of what really needs to be done, call Handy Helpers, and they will send someone out to take a look and talk to you about it.

Handy Helpers do not work on large or small appliances, roofs, home decorating, or on jobs requiring tall ladders.

WHAT DOES THIS SERVICE COST?

The Handy Helpers service charges only for parts and materials used in the repair. There is NO charge for labor.

TO QUALIFY FOR THE HANDY HELPERS SERVICE:

You must be a member of Germantown United Methodist Church, have homeowners liability insurance, and be over 60 years of age.

Missions

Anne Fritz, Chairperson | clarissafritz@att.net

BORCELLE HOLIDAYS

EXPLORING THE WONDERS OF KENYA, STEP BY STEP.

KENYA MISSION TRIP

June 18 - July 1

Join GUMC on a life-changing mission trip to Kenya, serving alongside trusted local partners we have worked with for many years.

To donate, scan below or go to qrco.de/bgcuam

Estimated Cost: ~\$4,000 (travel, lodging, transportation, insurance). Team members cover personal expenses and participate in fundraising for mission projects.

Learn More: Susan Hillebert (Team Leader) – 901-359-6954 | 1kids.doctor@gmail.com
Ed Clark – 901-826-3514 | gec24753@aol.com

Missions

Anne Fritz, Chairperson | clarissafritz@att.net

Alturas Ministries - Costa Rica

Alturas now has a total of 11 high school graduates!

60 Alturas kids were given Christmas presents!



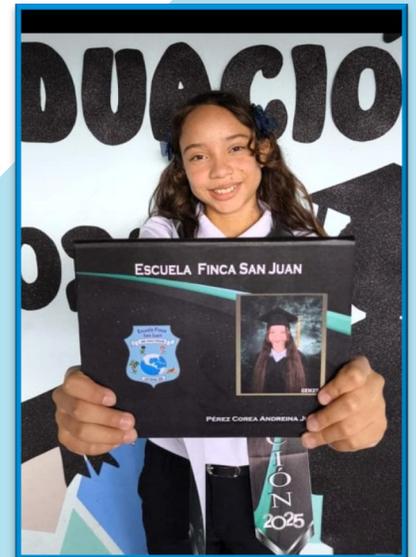
Alturas Ministries is so excited to report that, thanks to God and GUMC, in December, we had **three** more students graduate from high school, for a total of **11 high school graduates!**

One of our graduates was in the **top 10 percent** of his class. All three recent graduates passed the five different national standardized tests for high school, which are incredibly difficult! Failure on one of these tests means not passing the grade and having one chance to take all five tests again in February, or repeat the whole year.

We also had **six kids pass sixth grade**, having also passed the five national standardized tests for sixth grade. One of these sixth graders had the highest grade in her class and the highest grade on the five nationalized standardized tests in her school!

Thanks to GUMC members like you, children have hope, and lives are forever changed!

Share the good news with your friends to help spread the good news of what God is doing! To God be the glory always!



Please like **Alturas Ministries** on Facebook to stay up to date with Alturas!



Missions

Anne Fritz, Chairperson | clarissafritz@att.net

Room in the Inn - When One Night Became Six

When ice and snow rolled in at the end of January, most of us hunkered down at home and waited it out. At The Cottage, at GUMC, the lights stayed on.

What is normally a one-night hosting commitment for Room in the Inn quietly turned into nearly a week of around-the-clock hospitality. From Friday night, January 23, through Thursday morning, January 29, The Cottage became home for 14 guests—nine children, ranging in age from just five days old to 16 years, and five adult women.

Because the roads were unsafe and shelters were limited, moving from place to place simply wasn't an option. So volunteers from Germantown United Methodist, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Covenant Presbyterian, St. George's Episcopal, Emmanuel, and Second Presbyterian stepped in, together, and made it work. The volunteers included families with young children, teens, individuals, couples, and friends of various ages.



Girl Scouts Troop 10785 kicked off the six-day hosting period.



RITI guests enjoying crafts



High school Girl Scouts helped kick things off. Volunteers rotated through shifts, cooked meals, made grocery runs when stores opened, set up beds, folded laundry, and brought extra toys, art supplies, and Play-Doh to keep little hands busy. Meals were shared around tables, and stories were swapped. By day three, strangers had become familiar faces. What could have felt like an emergency, instead, felt like a community. That spirit is the heart of Room in the Inn (RITI).

Throughout the colder months, our church partners with others across the city to offer guests a safe, warm place to sleep for the night. Volunteers prepare beds with clean sheets, serve dinner, sit and eat with guests, provide showers and laundry, and send everyone off in the morning with breakfast and a snack. It's simple hospitality, but it makes a profound difference. This winter storm reminded us that sometimes "one night" turns into something more, and that more hands truly make light work.



Volunteers came after guests left to reset the Cottage.

If you'd like to be part of Room in the Inn, there are many ways to help, from driving the van or hosting a shift to providing meals or supplies. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are welcome! To learn more, reach out to Julia Underwood at juliamunderwood@yahoo.com.

There's always room for one more at the table.

Hospitality

Donna Haley, Hospitality Chair (Traditional) | dmhaley_99@yahoo.com | 901-487-8205
Jennifer Predmore, Hospitality Chair (Prism) | jenn_38138@yahoo.com | 901-230-1116

As we look forward to St. Patrick's Day, we're reminded of how lucky—and how blessed—we truly are. Here are a few thoughts from our Prism church family about what fills their hearts with gratitude.

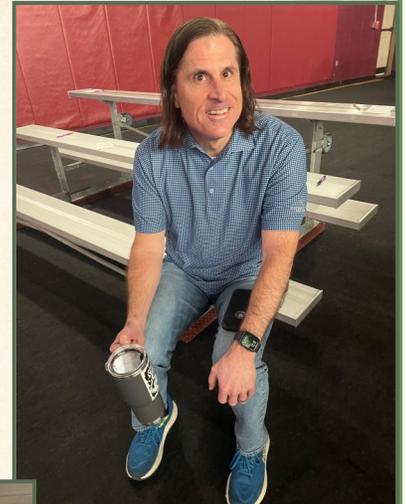


"Having my husband for 50 years."
Kathy Berner



"Good health and so many things we don't think about—a warm place to live."
Sarah Schwab

"My family and friends... and having the ice gone."
Mike Younker



"Lots of things, especially, good health."
Deborah



"My grandson."
Dwayne Walker

"Hunting!"
Dwayne's grandson



"Church!"

"My family and cousins."



"My friends."

"My sister."



Elder Care Ministry

Rev. Linda Gabriel, Elder Care Minister | lgabriel@germantownumc.org | 901-758-6508
Richard Mattox, Elder Care Coordinator | rmattox@germantownumc.org | 901-758-6508



Richard Mattox
Elder Care Coordinator

10 WARNING SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S

If you notice any of these signs, take action.

1. MEMORY LOSS THAT DISRUPTS DAILY LIFE One of the most common signs of Alzheimer's disease, especially in the early stages, is forgetting learned information. Others include forgetting important dates or events, asking the same question over and over again, or increasingly needing to rely on memory aids (e.g. reminder notes or electronic devices) or family members for things the person used to handle on their own.

2. CHALLENGES IN PLANNING OR SOLVING PROBLEMS Some people living with dementia may experience changes in their ability to develop and follow a plan or work with numbers. They may have trouble following a familiar recipe or keeping track of monthly bills (this was the first sign that my late wife was experiencing memory loss.) They may have difficulty concentrating and take much longer to do things than they did before.



3. DIFFICULTY COMPLETING FAMILIAR TASKS People living with Alzheimer's disease often find it hard to complete routine tasks. Sometimes, they may have trouble driving to a familiar location, organizing a grocery list, or remembering the rules of a favorite game.

4. CONFUSION WITH TIME OR PLACE People living with Alzheimer's can lose track of dates, seasons, and the passage of time. They may have trouble understanding something, if it is not happening immediately. Sometimes, they may forget where they are or how they got there.

5. TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING VISUAL IMAGE AND SPATIAL RELATIONSHIPS For some people, vision problems are a sign of Alzheimer's. They may also have problems judging distance and determining color or contrast, causing issues with driving.



6. NEW PROBLEMS WITH WORDS IN SPEAKING OR WRITING People living with Alzheimer's may have trouble following or joining a conversation. They may stop in the middle of a conversation and have no idea how to continue, or repeat themselves. They may struggle with vocabulary, have trouble naming a familiar object, or use the wrong name.

7. MISPLACING THINGS AND LOSING THE ABILITY TO RETRACE STEPS A person living with Alzheimer's may put things in unusual places. They may lose things and be unable to go back over their steps to find them again. He or she may accuse others of stealing, especially as the disease progresses.



8. DECREASED OR POOR JUDGMENT Individuals may experience changes in judgment or decision-making. For example, they may use poor judgement when dealing with money, or pay less attention to grooming or keeping themselves clean.

Continued...

Elder Care Ministry

Rev. Linda Gabriel, Elder Care Minister | lgabriel@germantownumc.org | 901-758-6508
Richard Mattox, Elder Care Coordinator | rmattox@germantownumc.org | 901-758-6508

...Continued

9. WITHDRAWAL FROM WORK OR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES A person living with Alzheimer's often withdraws from hobbies, social media, or other engagements. They may have trouble keeping up with a favorite team.

10. CHANGES IN MOOD AND PERSONALITY Individuals living with Alzheimer's may also experience mood and personality changes. They may be easily upset at home, at work, with friends, or when out of their comfort zone.

If you or a loved one has displayed any of these signs, talk to someone you trust and/or see a doctor (neurologist), who can work up a full medical evaluation to determine if it's Alzheimer's or something else. Early diagnosis gives you a chance to plan for a future, access support services, and explore medication that may address some symptoms for a time.

I have personal experience dealing with a loved one with Alzheimer's, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Richard Mattox, Elder Care Coordinator, at 901-754-7216 or 901-758-6508.



Germantown United Women in Faith (GUWF)

Stephanie Adams, President | women@germantownumc.org



Special Mission Recognition

Elaine Fetzer, Jeanne Gillis, and Lawrence Monahan honored at February Speaker Luncheon.

United Women in Faith (UWF) Special Mission Recognition pins are awarded each year as a long-standing way to recognize individuals who have given greatly to enhance the Germantown unit. A committee appointed by the president selects recipients each year.

In addition to a pin, and certificate from the UWF Tennessee/Western Kentucky Conference, a donation to UWF missions is made in honor of each woman selected.

Congratulations Elaine, Jeanne, and Lawrence!

Germantown United Women in Faith (GUWF)

Stephanie Adams, President | women@germantownumc.org

Spring/Summer GUWF Children's Consignment Sale

Shop Friday and Saturday, March 27-28



[Consign](#) | [Donate](#) | [Volunteer](#) | [Shop](#)

It's that time of year! Clean out the closet, rummage through the attic, and sort through the garage for children's clothing, furniture, toys, baby equipment, and more. GUWF Children's Consignment Sale registration is now open! All proceeds from this sale benefit GUWF missions. It's a 37-year tradition of community outreach!

Click [here](#), scan this QR code, or visit ConsignGermantown.com to review guidelines and details.



Consignment guidelines

Can't consign? We love donations! Coordinate with us in advance of the sale to donate your gently used items up to two weeks before the sale. We will price and tag each item, with 100% of the sale price going to GUWF missions! You will 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 us at info@ConsignGermantown.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. We'll have an especially big need for volunteers on Saturday afternoon. Since Prism worship uses the OLEC on Sundays, we will need lots of hands to help us sort through unsold merchandise and get the gym back in order. This GUMC Day of Service opportunity will have two three-hour shifts, 12:30-3:30 pm, and 3:30-6:30 pm. Those who work both will be eligible for the earliest pre-sale shopping time.

Click [here](#) or scan this QR code to volunteer.



Volunteer signup

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

Be sure to check out the following page for important consignment sale dates.

Continued...

Germantown United Women in Faith (GUWF)

Stephanie Adams, President | women@germantownumc.org

Spring/Summer GUWF Children's Consignment Sale

Important Dates



...Continued

Consignor Registration Deadline/Inventory Entry

Tuesday, March 24, at midnight
Refer to the website for complete information about accepted merchandise and consignor instructions.

Consignor Drop Off

Wednesday, March 25, 2-8 pm, and Thursday, March 26, 8 am-1 pm

Private Pre-Sale

Thursday, March 26, 5:30-8 pm
Volunteers who work eight or more hours, or both Day of Service shifts on Saturday (only 6 hours), may shop at 5:30 pm. Those who volunteer four or more hours may shop at 6 pm. Consignors may shop at 6:30 pm.

Public Sale

Friday, March 27, 8 am-3 pm

Public Half-price Sale

Friday, March 27, 5-8 pm, and Saturday, March 28, 8 am-12 pm

Consignor Pick-up

Saturday, March 28, 6:30-8:30 pm

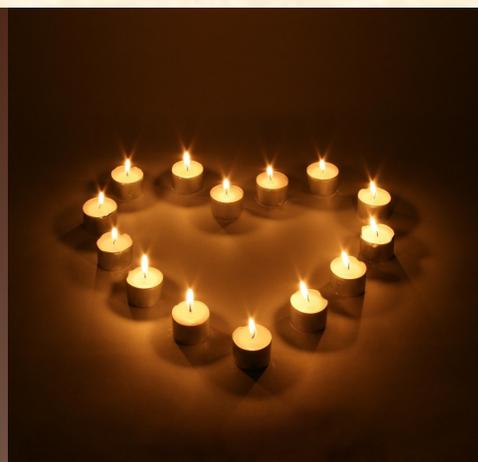
2026 GUWF Candle Burning Honorees Named

Candle Burning is a special way that United Women in Faith (UWF) of the Tennessee/Western Kentucky Conference honors individuals who have contributed to GUWF, our church, and/or our community. The GUWF Executive Committee submitted names for this special recognition, and donated money to UWF missions for each person. A candle was lit for each honoree during GUWF's Lent by Candlelight worship service, on February 17, and they will be honored at the Metro District UWF Candle Burning Ceremony later this year.

The 2026 honorees are:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Stephanie Adams | Betty Allbright | Gina Bartz |
| Amy Bergman | Debby Bland | Lauren Boswell |
| Anne Bush | Nancy Cofield | Elaine Fetzer |
| Tina Gregory | Jack Henton | Laurie Pakis |
| Alma Pitner | Chesley Porteous | Jennifer Predmore |
| Sherry Raggett | Beverly Rhoads | Cheryl Rutherford |
| Yolanda Toney | Leigh Ann Wicinski | Todd Wilson |

We thank these honorees for the gift of their service and the light they shine as an example of Christ's love.



Youth

Chloe Granberry, Director of Youth Ministries | cgranberry@germantownumc.org



Youth

Chloe Granberry, Director of Youth Ministries | cgranberry@germantownumc.org



Children's Ministry

Becca Keel, Director of Children's Ministries | bkeel@germantownumc.org
Janelle Crist, Associate Director - Nursery | jcrist@germantownumc.org
Hayley Heard, Associate Director - Elementary | hheard@germantownumc.org



WOW (Worship on Wednesdays)

*Two more weeks of WOW for the spring semester:
Wednesday, March 4 and Wednesday, March 11*

6– 7:30 pm | Infants – 5th grade

Dinner is served at 6 pm in the fellowship hall, followed by engaging activities to recharge our hearts and spirits. Preschoolers and younger meet in the Hamilton Nursery for dinner, Bible lesson, and fun! Registration is required, so we can plan for food. Register online by each Tuesday at noon!

Click [here](#) to register or scan QR code.

GERMANTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

10–11 am *and* 11 am–12 pm
at McVay Gardens

Join us for this
free family event!

Registration
Required
to select a
1-hour
time slot



- PETTING ZOO • TRAIN
- CRAFTS • GAMES
- VISIT WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

Hop on over to GUMC's annual Easter egg hunt held at our beautiful McVay Gardens (behind the Owings Life Enrichment Center.) This fun and festive event provides photo opportunities galore! In an effort to reduce crowding, we are asking families to sign up for a one-hour time period to attend the festivities (10-11 am and 11am-12 pm.) We will start each hour session with the traditional egg hunt, so bring your baskets and **please arrive promptly!** During the rest of your family's time slot, you will be able to enjoy the petting zoo, ride the train, complete crafts, play games, and more. The Easter Bunny will be there as well! **Registration is required for this FREE family event.** Click [here](#) to register or scan the QR code above.

Children's Ministry

Becca Keel, Director of Children's Ministries | bkeel@germantownumc.org
Janelle Crist, Associate Director - Nursery | jcrist@germantownumc.org
Hayley Heard, Associate Director - Elementary | hheard@germantownumc.org



GUMC's
VBS 2026
June 8-12
9 am-12 pm

**RAINFOREST
FALLS**
Exploring the Nature of God

For Ages 4 (by August 15, 2026)
through rising 6th grade

Rainforest Falls VBS

June 8-12 | 9 am-noon

For children age 4 (by 8/15/26)
through rising 6th graders

An adventure you'll fall for!

Make a splash at Rainforest Falls VBS as we explore the Nature of God—discovering who God is and how much he loves us!

Registration now open! To register, click [here](#) or scan QR code.



Hope to
spot you
there!



Adult and Youth VBS Volunteers Needed

June 2-6 | 9 am-12 pm

Crew leaders and station leaders needed.
Be part of the fun!

Can't help VBS week? That's OK. We have lots of ways for volunteers to help ahead of time with craft prep or decorations. Contact Becca Keel with any questions about volunteering.

To register as a volunteer, click [here](#) or scan the QR code.



Is your child too young for VBS, but you don't want them to miss out on the fun?

We offer a special VBS program (free of charge) for the young children of **volunteers**, featuring age-appropriate games, songs, lessons, and crafts. Your child will have a blast, while you help make VBS an unforgettable experience for everyone!



Children's Ministry

Becca Keel, Director of Children's Ministries | bkeel@germantownumc.org
 Janelle Crist, Associate Director - Nursery | jcrist@germantownumc.org
 Hayley Heard, Associate Director - Elementary | hheard@germantownumc.org

It's not too early to start planning for summer! 😎

Is your child a budding actor/actress? Does he/she love performing in front of others?
 Mark your calendar for Music & Arts Camp!

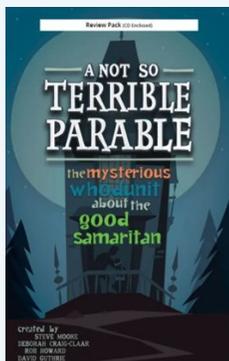


Music & Arts Camp

**"A not so
 Terrible Parable"**

July 27-31 | 9 am-3 pm

**For kids entering
 2nd - 6th grades in
 Fall 2026**



Children will meet each day to prepare for a performance for friends and family at the end of the week. They will perform "A Not so Terrible Parable," a musical in which Jesus' well-known parable comes to life as a fun, over-the-top whodunit. Ms. Cheryl McClurg is back, again, as director for this camp.

Children will be provided with scripts, props, and costumes. They will bring their own lunch each day.

To register, click [here](#) or scan the QR code above.



Elementary Mission Camp

July 13-17 | 9:30 am-3 pm

For kids entering 5th and 6th grade



In this hands-on camp, we will explore three specific types of mission: inner-church mission, urban mission, and rural mission. Each child will have a chance to experience different types of work, hopefully creating an appetite for missional work. Some days, we will make our lunches here at church, and, other days, we will explore some Memphis eateries. We will finish each day with some seriously fun games and fellowship.

To register, click [here](#) or scan the QR code above.



Great things are happening in Children's Ministry!



- | | |
|------------|--|
| March 11 | Last WOW for spring semester |
| March 29 | Palm Sunday (palm frond processional in traditional worship) |
| April 4 | Easter Egg Hunt! |
| April 5 | Easter Sunday |
| June 8-12 | Rainforest Falls VBS 2026 |
| June 15-20 | Lakeshore Elementary Camp #1 |
| July 13-17 | Mission Camp (5th & 6th grade) |
| July 19-25 | Lakeshore Elementary Camp #3 |
| July 27-31 | Music and Arts Camp |

Germantown United Methodist Preschool



Welcome Spring! March is a season of discovery at GUMP, as our students joyfully “March into Spring!” Classrooms are filled with hands-on lessons about plants, insects, caterpillars, butterflies, birds, and all the amazing changes that come with the new season.

We begin the month by honoring our incredible teachers—the heartbeat of GUMP. To show our appreciation, the preschool provides a delicious catered lunch, and families surprise teachers with heartfelt cards, small gifts, and treats. Our teachers pour tremendous time, energy, and love into their classrooms, and we are grateful for them. We love our GUMP teachers!



March ushers in our second round of parent-teacher conferences. Teachers will enjoy meeting with families to share each child’s growth, development, and learning throughout the year. These conversations are a wonderful opportunity for parents to see just how much their children have accomplished during their time at GUMP.

This month is full of excitement and special moments, such as :

- St. Patrick’s Day fun, with some classrooms receiving magical visits from sneaky little leprechauns.
- A spring photo session with Shannon Lenore, who returns to capture beautiful seasonal portraits.
- Spring Break, enjoyed by both our families and our hard-working teachers—a chance to rest, recharge, and enjoy the early signs of spring.



Enrollment Update We are thrilled to share that enrollment continues to grow for the 2026–2027 school year. GUMP is well known for preparing students for kindergarten through a multisensory, play-based approach and nationally recognized curriculums, such as *All About Preschool* and *Handwriting Without Tears*.

We are now in open enrollment and actively accepting applications for the upcoming school year. We look forward to welcoming new families and continuing to support every child’s growth, confidence, and love of learning.

Please call 901-753-3109, if you are interested. We would love to share information about the wonderful things happening at GUMP.



Youth

Chloe Granberry, Director of Youth Ministries | cgranberry@germantownumc.org

Youth Basketball



Basketball season has wrapped up. We had 12 teams, this year, ranging from kindergarten to 8th grade. It proved to be a great season! Here are a few photos of our teams in action!



Calling all 4, 5, and 6-year old boys and girls!

T-Ball registration is OPEN!

Cost is \$100 and includes uniform, league fee, end-of-season party, and medal or trophy.

Registration deadline is March 17!

Click [here](#) to register, or scan QR code.



Owings Life Enrichment Center (OLEC)

Gordon Kelly, Director | gkelly@germantownmc.org
 Kimberly Marsh, Assistant Dir. | kmarsh@germantownmc.org

If you've never visited the OLEC, now is the perfect time! The OLEC is a **full-service exercise facility**. We have a newly-updated **weight room, cardio room, walking track, and open gym time**. All of this is **FREE** to church members! Contact any of our staff if you have questions.



Pickleball

at the OLEC



Daytime Hours

Mondays 12-3 pm
 Tuesdays 9 am-noon
 Wednesdays 9 am-noon
 Thursdays 9 am-noon
 Fridays 9 am-noon

Church Members

\$3
 \$2
 \$3
 \$2
 \$3

Guests

\$5
 \$2
 \$5
 \$2
 \$5



Please note: Available pickleball times are subject to change due to groups renting the gym or lessons. Please check the website each week under "Gym" or call the OLEC (901-753-3100) for updates on available pickleball times.

Owings Life Enrichment Center (OLEC)

Gordon Kelly, Director | gkelly@germantownmc.org
Kimberly Marsh, Assistant Dir. | kmarsh@germantownmc.org

Workouts for New Moms

Exercise with your child!



(Women without babies are **always** welcomed to any of our class offerings!)

Monday 9:30-10:45 am

(alternates between Stroller Barre and Strides 360)

Stroller Barre®

Stroller Barre® is a 60-minute stroller workout that improves your posture, stability, and mobility while strengthening your body from the inside out! Reconnect with your body, increase flexibility, and find the inner strength you need for motherhood.

Strides 360®

Increase your endurance and speed to sprint through mom life with Strides 360®! Come play with your mom friends, with or without the stroller, during this 60-minute, heart-pumping workout that will energize you for the rest of your day!

Wednesday 9:30-10:45 am

Friday 9:30-10:45 am

Stroller Strides®

Stroller Strides® is a 60-minute total-body workout with strength, cardio, and core training, all while engaging with the little ones in a stroller! You'll leave class feeling strong, empowered, connected, and energized—no matter your stage of motherhood.

Monday 6:15-7:15 pm

Body Boost®

Body Boost® is a 60-minute mom-only workout that is challenging, empowering, and energizing. By combining cardio, strength, core training, and meditation, you will leave this workout refreshed and recharged for all that comes with motherhood.

Wednesday 6:15-7:15 pm

Body Ignite®

Body Ignite is a mom-only strength workout that targets every muscle in your body. This easy-to-follow program will increase your metabolism, athleticism, and ability to lift, lunge, and push everything mom-life throws your way!

Discount for church members. Email memphis@fit4mom.com for more info!

Check out these other classes we offer



Gentle Yoga

Mon & Wed 3:30-4:30 pm

Senior fitness

Tues & Thurs 10-11 am

Vinyasa Yoga

Wed 2-3 pm

HATHA YOGA CLASS



Mondays

6:30 - 7:30 pm



\$10 for trial class
\$16 for single class
\$75 for five classes

- Led by Grace Stephenson
- 800 hour certified teacher
- Trained at the "The Indian Way" Yoga school in Germany

Specializing in:

- Traditional postures
- Breathwork
- Meditation

All are welcome!
No experience required

Call or text Grace to sign up: 901-701-0940

Owings Life Enrichment Center (OLEC)

Gordon Kelly, Director | gkelly@germantownmc.org
 Kimberly Marsh, Assistant Dir. | kmarsh@germantownmc.org

Exercise Class Schedule March 2026

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|--|----------|
| | 10-11 am Walk Fit (DR) Judy Pearson | 9:30-10:45 am Stroller Strides (DR) | 10-11 am Chair Class (DR) Judy Pearson | 9:30-10:45 am Stroller Strides (DR) | |
| 9:30-10:45 am Stroller Barre (DR) | | 2-3 pm Vinyasa Yoga (DR)-Al Walton | | | |
| 3:30-4:30 pm Gentle Yoga (DR)- Al Walton | | 3:30-4:30 pm Gentle Yoga (DR)- Al Walton | | | |
| 6:15-7:15 pm Body Boost (DR) | | | | Class Locations: Weight Room—WR Dance Room—DR Upstairs Room—UP | |
| 6:30-7:30 pm Hatha Yoga (DR) | | 6:15-7:15 pm Body Ignite (DR) | | | |

Open Play Gym Time

Mon: 3:30-5:30 pm
 Tues/Wed/Thurs 1-5 pm

**Please call the OLEC office
 to confirm Open Gym times.*

Free play time is for church members only. All guests can purchase a \$10.00 day pass.

Owings Life Enrichment Center
 2323 West St.
 Germantown, TN 38138
 (901)753-3100



Follow our Instagram page, @olecgermantown, to keep up with all the latest happenings at the OLEC.

Group Exercise Classes and Personal Training are available at the OLEC. Contact Gordon Kelly or Kim Marsh for more information.



Germantown United Methodist Church

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901-754-7216
www.germantownumc.org

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

Our Mission

We are a welcoming community of faith,
committed to:

Loving God and loving others
Serving Christ and sharing Him
Transforming lives and making disciples

