

A Message from Tim

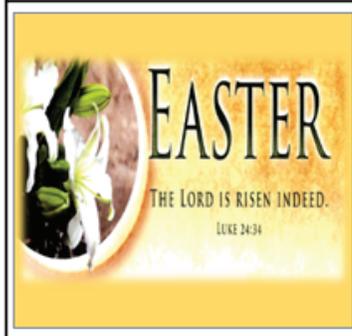
Approaching Holy Week



*“Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.”*

--John 14:21-23

Holy Week is approaching. It is a time for the church to remember Christ’s passion, death, and resurrection which accomplished salvation for the world. It is an opportunity for recommitment to Christ and to love him in spirit and in deed. It is an occasion to remember the love of the Father which makes its home in the hearts of all who would love Christ and keep his word. I invite the church and community to share the many opportunities we have in the coming weeks to strengthen our faith in the life-giving love of Christ.

	<p><b>Holy Week Schedule 2019</b></p>
	<p><b>Palm Sunday, April 14</b> Join us on Palm Sunday as we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. In our <b>9:40 and 11:00 a.m. services</b>, the children will process with palms and the Hosanna and Alleluia choirs will also sing.</p>
	<p><b>Holy Week Services</b> <b>Monday-Friday, April 15-19; 12:00-12:30 p.m.</b> <i>Lunches follow Monday through Thursday as Good Friday is a day of fasting for many.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday at Germantown Presbyterian</li> <li>• Tuesday at Germantown United Methodist</li> <li>• Wednesday at Kingsway Christian</li> <li>• Thursday at New Bethel Missionary Baptist</li> <li>• Friday at St. George's Episcopal, 12:00-1:00 p.m.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Service of Tenebrae</b> <b>Holy Thursday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.</b> Through scripture and song, we will walk through the final hours of Jesus' life. We will remember His Last Supper as we share in Holy Communion and will journey with Him to the Garden, through trial, and to the foot of the cross. Led by the Testimony Youth Choir.</p>
	<p><b>Children's Egg Hunt</b> <b>Saturday, April 20, 9:30 a.m.</b> Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at our beautiful McVay Gardens Park the day before Easter. In addition there will be a petting zoo, fun crafts, face painting, and an appearance from the Easter bunny.</p>
	<p><b>Day of Resurrection</b> <b>Easter Sunday, April 21</b> Join us we experience once again the proclamation of the Risen Lord in scripture, message, and songs of faith.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our <b>Sunrise Service</b> will be at <b>7:00 a.m.</b> at the Trinity Center in McVay Park, let by our Youth.</li> <li>• Our <b>Traditional services</b> at <b>8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.</b> will feature the music of our Chancel Choir, Organ, Brass Quintet and Matins Handbells.</li> <li>• Our <b>Ancient Modern service</b> at <b>9:40 a.m.</b> will feature special Easter music led by our Praise Band.</li> </ul>

# Membership

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Julie and Trevor Cropp joined Germantown United Methodist Church on Sunday, February 24 at the 11:00 worship service by transfer of their membership from Brentwood United Methodist Church in Brentwood, Tennessee. Their Sponsor is Kimberly Jessop.

When asked what about Germantown United Methodist Church made them wish to become a part of our church community, they responded: *"We moved here almost three years ago and hoped to find a new church family close to our home in Collierville. We LOVED our church in Brentwood, but just didn't find the right fit in Collierville. A friend suggested we try her church (GUMC) about six months ago. Not only did GUMC offer the programming we really*



*wanted, including a traditional worship service, the feel of GUMC reminded us of our church in Brentwood. We think we knew on our first visit that GUMC was the right fit for us – we can't really describe it, we just knew.*

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## Membership Class: WELCOME TO GUMC!

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**Sunday, April 14th, 9:40 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (with a break for 11:00 worship)**

What's distinctive about the United Methodist Church? Even if you're in church every Sunday, it can be difficult to feel like you really know the UMC's history, beliefs, mission, and culture. Join our ministers to learn about the roots of the United Methodist Church going back to John Wesley and his devotion to inviting people to experience God's grace. Hear about the United Methodist Church structure, sacraments, and get an overview of the mission and ministries of Germantown UMC.



If you have been worshipping with us and would like to learn more about our church, or if you think you might be interested in becoming a member, we invite you to attend our two-hour class. Participation in the workshop does not commit you to church membership, but it is an opportunity for you to find out more about the life and ministry of our church and for us to become better acquainted with you.

This workshop is open to members, prospective members, or anyone wanting to know more about The United Methodist Church and GUMC. Childcare is available by reservation and a box lunch will be provided.

Register at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org) or call Mary Groh at 754-5093.

## A Pledge for Lent Rev. Dr. Brad Gabriel - bgabriel@germantownumc.org

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When I was a child, my home church (Aldersgate UMC in Memphis, TN) often had a “Give thirty pieces of silver” campaign during Lent. We were given folding pieces of card board one year. The cardboard had places to put dimes and quarters. Yes, Virginia, in those days dimes and quarters were coined from silver. Other years we were given flat cardboard sheets that we folded (along the dotted line, if you please) into small boxes that looked like stylized churches. I vividly remember one year when our father came home on Good Friday with a small bag. It was his “Give thirty pieces of silver.” While life as an independent engineer was often hit or miss, dad knew that you “give of your best to the master” as the hymn said. That spring business had been good. Over and above his tithe, that bag held not thirty, but one hundred silver dollars. He wasn’t going to say anything, but we pestered him so much about this odd bag, that he let us see. My siblings and I laughed at the sound they made as the poured out of the bag and onto the table. We stacked the shiny, round coins, pretended that we were bankers and gamblers like we saw on TV westerns. “Can we keep some of them?” we asked. Dad’s smile was a little amused, a little sad, a little something that I didn’t understand until I became a father. “No,” he answered. “We keep our promises to God.” He had taken that \$100, at a time when our monthly mortgage was a bit less than \$90 (and not always easy to meet) and he had put it aside for God to use, through the church.

Regarding extra giving during Lent, Carolyn Moomaw Chilton, Assistant for Evangelism and Stewardship at Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Richmond, Virginia writes, “I’d never pledged to the church, so one year I said, “Shoot, I’ll make a 6 week Lenten pledge to the church and we’ll see how THAT works!” It worked. I can’t not pledge anymore. Giving draws me closer to God because I have to do without some of the material things of this life that I love. And when I move them out of the way, God moves in.” Keeping our pledge matters.

If you made a pledge to the mission and ministry budget of Germantown UMC for 2019, Lent is a great time to make sure that it is up to date. If not, then try a three-week pledge. In both cases, allow me to suggest an additional spiritual disciple in Lent. Put aside a tithe of our pledge. If you pledged \$1,000, put aside an extra \$100 by not indulging in something, coffee, chocolate, books, movies, something that takes time and resources. Dedicate that time to God, pray that much more, read your Bible that much more, volunteer with our children, youth, RITI, tutoring or another service, that much more. Then on Easter Sunday, make your contribution, your gift, to Germantown UMC’s Easter offering for missions and ministry. Together we will do great things for the kingdom of God.

Brad

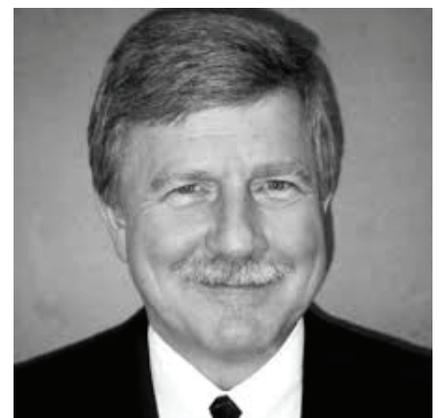
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## United Methodist Men

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### April UMM Breakfast

The April UMM Breakfast will be on Saturday, April 13 at 8:00 a.m. in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker is D. Scott Bjork, President and CEO of Memphis Union Mission, which helps the homeless, hungry and impoverished in the Mid-South. The Mission Union Mission has embarked on their Legacy of Hope Campaign to build a new facility called the Opportunity Center that will give them room to meet the needs of each person the Lord sends them. All men are invited and encouraged to attend and learn more about this extraordinary ministry. \$5 payable at the door. Members need only call with regret.



# Missions

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**MOUNTAIN T.O.P.** is a Christ centered ministry that has served for over forty years as a strategic community partner in Grundy County TN. Through Christian community and faith-based relationships, Mountain T.O.P. helps meet the physical, spiritual, social and emotional needs of the Cumberland Mountain region. Throughout the spring and summer there are numerous camps for youth where students complete home repair projects or serve as mentors in Day Camp. I would however, like to draw your attention to what is available for Adults in 2019 for it is time to make plans.



- **Friends Weekend** was just completed the first weekend in March where volunteers gathered to work at the main camp, Cumberland Pines, making repairs in readiness for the summer campers
- **Baker Work Week**-Wednesday May 1 @ 5 PM-Sunday May 5 @ 8:30 AM  
Year-round operations occur at Cumberland Pines (Altamont TN) where the full-time office is based but Camp Baker (about 1 hr north near Spencer TN) needs a considerable amount of help in the area of general clean-up and minor repair after a winter of non-use. This is a wonderful time to get your hands dirty and watch God's wonder of spring unfold in the beautiful Cumberland Plateau. For this work weekend there is no cost.

**Adults in Ministry (AIM):** This program allows Mountain T.O.P. to take on and complete major and vital structural home repairs and renovations. You do not need a background in construction or construction knowledge, just a willingness to serve.

**AIM weeks and weekends are a wonderful time of Worship and Work.**

For the summer program Mountain T.O. P. welcomes reservations for groups of five or more who want to participate in major home repair projects or day camp programs. You will serve with your group of five or more, an excellent opportunity for your Sunday School Class. The summer dates are as follows:

- Summer AIM Sunday June 9 @ 12:00 PM-Saturday June 15 @ 8:30 AM
- Summer AIM Sunday June 23 @ 12:00 PM-Saturday June 29 @ 8:30 AM
- Summer AIM Sunday July 14 @ 12:00 PM-Saturday July 20 @ 8:30 AM

If you can't do a full week in the summer a weekend is available and individual reservations will be accepted.

- Summer AIM Weekend July 25 @ 5 PM-July 28 @ 8:30 AM

Fall Aim is scheduled every weekend in the month of October and the first weekend in Nov:

- Fall AIM Thursday Oct 3 @ 5 PM-Sunday Oct 6 @ 8:30 AM
- Fall AIM Thursday Oct 10 @ 5 PM-Sunday Oct 13 @ 8:30 AM
- Fall AIM Thursday Oct 17 @ 5 PM-Sunday Oct 20 @ 8:30 AM
- Fall AIM Thursday Oct 24 @ 5 PM-Sunday Oct 27 @ 8:30 AM
- Fall AIM Thursday Oct 31 @ 5PM-Sunday Nov 3 @ 8:30 AM

For reservations, more information and various costs please call Mountain T.O.P. 931-692-3999 or refer to their website.

## Horizon Sunday School Class

Are you familiar with the old tune, “You Gotta Have Heart?” Horizon Class is a class with heart. We love God.

We love helping others. We love and support each other in this class and in our church family.

Horizon Class is an active, vital group of age 60-70+ couples and singles, who are “young at heart.”

We complement each other with our various backgrounds and opinions. We share strong Christian principles with many diverse, talented and fun personalities. Our class can be described with many words, some being: faithful, devoted, prayerful, hopeful, supportive, involved, and forgiving, but not leaving out: fun-loving, active, creative and joyous.

Our weekly Sunday school worship is exceptional! Programs are educational and innovative. Classes

offer and address a variety of topics that include Bible studies, our faith, spiritual and personal issues, and controversial, but relevant Christian issues of today’s time. Speakers are invited from our own GUMC family, from the community and many times from within the Horizon class. We enjoy listening, sharing ideas, and sometimes, questioning and debating issues. How interesting!! Prayer and a devotional time are part of each Horizon class meeting.

As a group, or as individuals, our members delight in serving and supporting many missions and ministries from within GUMC and throughout our community. Some of these include: Urban Ministry Initiative, Caldwell Guthrie Weekend Food Program, Mountain Top, Room in the Inn, UMCOR, and Habitat for Humanity. Many members also serve on church committees and leadership roles in the church.

Oh yes!!! And the fun part!! The Horizon Class enjoys the fellowship shared at many social events. We always look forward to the two annual events, the Christmas Party and the Super Bowl Chili/Soup Cook Off, with the winner taking home the coveted “Silver Ladle.” Over the years we’ve had fun enjoying activities such as: the “BBQ, Beverage and Book Swap”, Halloween parties, ice cream socials with pontoon rides, bingo, outdoor old movie nights, and brunches. One year our Kentucky Derby Party was such fun, with the ladies creating and “fashioning” their own hats. Many times we collect donations or gift cards at our social events to show support for one of the church’s missions/ministries.

We thank God for the blessing of this Horizon Class. It is a joy and a comfort to experience ‘life’, including both the sad times and the joyous times, with such a caring group of people that “have heart.” We strive to know God better and to worship and serve Him, even more, as we grow stronger together.



# Adult Education continued

## Spotlight On Women's Bible Class

Women's Bible Class, known for its warmth and friendship, is for women of any age or marital status who desire to attend a Sunday school class just for women. We enjoy fellowship and Bible study every Sunday morning at 9:40 A.M. in the Bride's Room (2nd floor, across from the Sanctuary).



Women's Bible Class started in the summer of 2013 under the able leadership of Alma Pitner. We have four wonderful teachers who bring great lessons on an alternating basis: Joyce Sealand, Liz Miller, Shirley Edwards, and Carla McCrary. Curriculum is discussion based, from a woman's perspective, with everyone encouraged to participate. We delve into scripture, looking at the background of the Biblical story, discovering the exciting work of God throughout history, and understanding how powerfully he relates to each of us today. Open ideas are welcome!



Our members take part in other church activities: singing in the choir, UMW, delivering flowers and taking communion to the home bound. The class is always willing to find ways to help when opportunities arise. Outreach projects include Reelfoot Rural Ministries, Thanksgiving baskets, Room in the Inn, Weekend Food Program, UMCOR Relief, and Alturas Children's Program in Costa Rica.

Alma Pitner serves as our President. She is hard working and dedicated to keeping our class going. Melba White serves as Treasurer and Liz Miller as Secretary.

We have lost some dedicated Sunday school members to death who served our church and we would like to recognize them. We miss them dearly:

- Gail Smith volunteered with Team Read at Caldwell Guthrie, helped with the GUMC Children's Ministry, and served as Sunshine Chairperson for our class.
- Martha Massey served as Secretary of our class, sending out emails to keep everyone informed and was a driver for those who needed it. She never said "no" to helping others.
- Jeanne Dycus was a long-time member of GUMC and active in the Disciple Bible Study program.

We would like to invite any woman who is looking for a class full of loving ladies to visit and get to know us. Join us as we study God's word, share encouragement, and fellowship together in a loving family environment. We're sure you will want to come back!

## Choral Singing Benefits!

Choir Lite, Short Term Soprano, Temporary Tenor.

You get the idea. Preparation for Easter is beginning for our Chancel Choir. If you would like to receive the benefits of choral singing, come join us. We take short timers and we celebrate long term commitments, we take couples, we take singles, we offer child care!

Did I say benefits? Check this out from Artistworks.

Studies show that choral singing improves our mood, with a decrease in stress, depression and anxiety. These effects are often attributed to the deeper breathing associated with singing, that is also used in meditation. These benefits are enhanced in a group setting, compared to singing alone. Singing in a group offers us a sense of belonging to something bigger than ourselves. It helps us feel that we are needed by the larger community.

Decrease stress, depression and anxiety?? I believe it! Feel like it is time? Need to lower your stress? Let the Chancel Choir help! Questions on a short- or long-term commitment? Contact Todd Wilson. [twilson@germantownumc.org](mailto:twilson@germantownumc.org)

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## Testimony Will Present Tenebrae Service for Holy Thursday April 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

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.

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. Child care will be provided.

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## Bucket Stuffing / Food Truck Night

**Wednesday, April 3rd, 5-7 p.m. | Owings Life Enrichment Center**

The GUMC Missions Committee is pleased to present a different kind of "Bucket Challenge!" Come out and join us for a fun night of fellowship and service as we assemble 100 flood buckets for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Food trucks for "Say Cheese" and "Stanley's Sweet Street Treats" will be on-site for dinner.

Monetary donations of \$50 per bucket would also be appreciated. Checks should be made payable to "GUMC Missions Committee."

Please contact Laura Meanwell([meanwellmail@att.net](mailto:meanwellmail@att.net)) for more information. Thank you!





## **Don't Forget the April Brown Bag Lunch Program!**

Emily Ballew Neff, Executive Director of the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, will talk about "Art Matters: Update from the Brooks Museum of Art." This presentation will be on Friday, April 5, 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.**

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## **XYZ's See *Cabaret* in May!**

Winner of 8 Tony awards, *Cabaret*, with a score featuring songs that have become classics of the American Musical Theater, is a fierce, meaty musical that pushes the boundaries of the form and literally holds "the mirror up to nature." It's the early 1930s in Berlin, and life is changing. On the horizon is an ugly and dangerous threat, but that's no concern for sensational Kit Kat Klub cabaret singer Sally Bowles, whose only goal in life is to have a good time. She soon finds herself living with a young writer, Cliff Bradshaw, visiting from America to work on a new novel. As the Nazis begin taking control of the German government, the atmosphere of the Kit Kat Klub and the lives of Cliff and Sally begin to change dramatically. (Adult language and situations)



**WHERE: Playhouse on the Square**

**WHEN: Friday, May 3, 2019**

**COST: \$20 per person cost includes reserved seat and opening night reception**

**DEPARTURE: 6:45 p.m. from OLEC parking lot. (Be there by 6:30 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: Wednesday, April 3**

**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!**

## Older Adults continued

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### Local Columnist Dan Conaway Will Share Memphis Stories at the May Brown Bag Lunch!

A lifelong Memphian, Dan Conaway is a communication strategist, freelance writer, and author. He has owned everything from ad agencies to creative boutiques and promoted everything from ducks in The Peabody to Grizzlies in the MBA and pandas at the zoo. Along the way, he has never lost his fascination or his frustration for his storied hometown, and he shares his passion for both equally in his columns and posts. His column, *Memphasia*, is published weekly in *The Daily Memphian*. Come hear some of his stories at the May Brown Bag Lunch Series, an adventure in learning sponsored by the Older Adult Council.



**TOPIC: “I’m a Memphian: Character References for a City”**

**SPEAKER: Dan Conaway, Author, Columnist, Consultant**

**WHERE: Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall**

**WHEN: May 3, 2019. 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, 755-0803, or Beverly Rhoads, 754-7216, ext. 107**

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

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## Elder Care Health Ministry

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**FREE  
HEARING  
SCREENING**

### Hearing Screenings

GUMC is offering free hearing screenings for church members on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 in Room 339 from 9:00 AM -12:00 noon. Sarah Dawkins, Doctor of Audiology with Memphis Hearing Aid, will be conducting the screenings.

Symptoms of hearing loss can occur at all ages, but about one-third of people in the United States between the ages of 65 and 75 have some degree of hearing loss. Symptoms may include muffling of speech and other sounds, difficulty understanding words especially against background noise in a crowd or needing to turn up the volume of the television to name a few. Please contact Laura Hairston at 754-5100 to register by Monday 4/8/19.

## Spring/Summer GUMW Children's Consignment Sale

That's a wrap! A very heartfelt thank you to our hundreds of consignors, shoppers, volunteers who helped to make the spring/summer GUMW Children's Consignment Sale another success. Your prayers, support, and hard work are much appreciated and truly help make a difference to our community. Be sure to save the date for our Fall 2019 sale, which is set for August 23-24! Thank you again.



*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.*



## GUMP Weekday Preschool

 Sarah Sutton - ssutton@germantownumc.org - 901-753-3109

Spring is here! Here at GUMP, spring means happy voices on the playground, planting seeds in the classroom, conversations about bugs, and enjoying more sunshine! Last month we celebrated our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. We, the teachers and staff would like to give our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all the parents, families and church community for your continued support. What a gift it is to serve these precious children and their families!

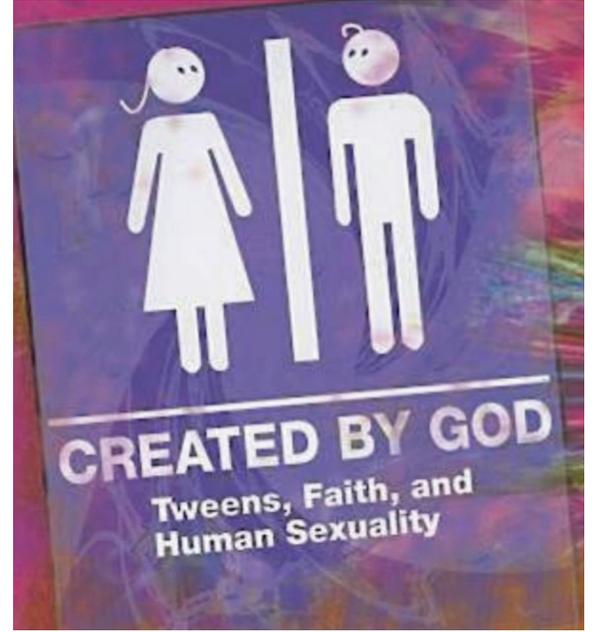
Our classes have completed their unit on "Matters of the Heart." It was so fun to see our dramatic play areas transform to hospitals, dentist offices, veterinarian clinics and more. We discussed community helpers and all the ways that they help us. Our older friends talked about what careers they might want to have. Another topic was our own heart and ways to take care of our self to promote healthy habits. Most importantly our friends learned about kindness and love. In chapel they discussed God's love for us and how we share that with us others. We love because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

GUMP's enrollment for the 2019/2020 school year continues to increase. We have enjoyed meeting new families during school tours and we look forward to welcoming many of them in the fall. If you or someone you know is looking for a wonderful play based preschool, please call contact us to schedule a tour at 901-753-3109 or visit our website [www.mygump.org](http://www.mygump.org).



## Created by God

We had a great turnout of students for Created by God in February, despite having to postpone by one week. Using this curriculum, fifth and sixth grade students learned that human sexuality is one of God's greatest gifts to people. They learned we are a fantastic creation made by God. The topics of human sexuality, values, and relationships were approached in a frank, honest, and Bible-based manner. The students left the course with knowledge and understanding that will empower them as they grow in a world that is bombarding them with misinformation. We extend a huge "thank you!" to families who trusted us and students who came with open minds. This weekend would have been impossible without our phenomenal small-group leaders – Ben Tempel, James Underwood, Anna Underwood, and Casey Condra. We thank these leaders with all our hearts! If you would like to know more about this course, feel free to talk to Lisa Pierce or any of our adult volunteers.



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## Easter Egg Hunt: McVay Gardens, April 20, 9:30 AM

We hope you will join us for our annual Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 20, at 9:30 AM. We have a beautiful morning planned beginning with the hunt and followed by petting zoo, train rides, face painting, and more! This multi-generational event is a wonderful time for the entire family to enjoy fellowship and fun. (Please park in the OLEC parking lot. We gather on the north side of the OLEC to walk over together to McVay Gardens at 9:30.) Make plans to join us and bring your friends!



# Children's Ministry continued

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## Vacation Bible School: ROAR!

Weeknight VBS: June 5-7; 5:30-8:00 PM

Weekday VBS: June 10-14; 9:00 AM - noon

(12:15 for rising grades 4-6)

We are excited to announce we will be going on a jungle safari this summer as we explore God's goodness and celebrate our ferocious faith that powers us through this wild life! This epic adventure will engage the whole herd – preschool through rising sixth grade.

Online registration opens April 1 and closes May 28. The \$25 registration fee covers all expenses including materials, food, T-shirt, and music CD. Scholarships are available; please contact Lisa Pierce to make arrangements.

Children who are four years old by August 15, 2019 are eligible to participate in preschool VBS. If your child is younger than that age, we have a special VBS just for them which is available (free of charge) to children of volunteers.

This is a great production which requires many hands. We need help with decorations, curriculum preparation, and administrative tasks. Of course, we need many hands on deck during the week to lead stations and small groups. We have a place for you if you are interested in participating. Please contact Lisa Pierce to find where you are best suited to serve.

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## 5th and 6th Grade Mission Camp: July 8-12, 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

In this hands-on camp, we will explore three specific types of mission; inner-church mission, urban mission, and rural mission. The idea is that each child will have a chance to experience different types of work, hopefully creating an appetite for missional work. Some days will make our lunches and other days we will explore some Memphis eateries. We will finish each day with some seriously serious “capture the flag” or other games at McVay Gardens. This camp is only for rising fifth and sixth grade students. Space is limited; registration opens online May 1. Cost is \$100 which includes all activities, transportation, food, and a T-shirt.



## Lakeshore Camp: July 15-20

We are taking a crew from GUMC to Lakeshore for this week of fun and fellowship. If you are interested in attending this week, please register through Lakeshore's Website (<https://lakeshorecamp.org/>) and then drop an email to Lisa Pierce ([Lpierce@germantownumc.org](mailto:Lpierce@germantownumc.org)) so we can coordinate this trip together. Lisa will be staying the week as an instructor and will be driving the church van up and back.

## Dare to Lead: Discovery Weekend 2019

The last week of February, GUMC hosted Discovery Weekend for the youth of this church. It was a fantastic weekend full of worship, talks given by high school students, small groups lead by high school students, lots of food provided by Sunday school class, and even more dance parties. We are so grateful for the love that GUMC surrounded the youth with during the weekend and are still in awe of how God moved in every student, small group leader, and volunteer.

During the weekend two senior students gave sermons on Sunday morning that I wanted to highlight for you. As Grace McKinney concluded her talk she said, *“As my time at GUMC comes to a close, I am confident that the lessons I have learned here will follow me on my next journey. I am always encouraged by 1st Timothy chapter 4 verse 12; “don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.” God’s call for me to be a servant leader in the church was definitely never what I imagined it to be, but, like the song Oceans says, God calls us out beyond the waters. Even with doubts and fears we can take comfort in the fact that He is always there with us. Servant leadership is following God first, and in turn, he will help you lead others. Even if there are set backs, even if it’s not convenient, God still wants each and every one of us to become a vessel for Him, starting right here in the church. So, I encourage you all to find one way to take action this week. Whether it’s volunteering as an usher or signing up to go on a summer mission trip, God has a plan for YOU to be a servant leader. So, go out & serve.”* As you read her words, we hope that your hearts were stirred to see how you might serve God and the church. We are continually amazed by the wisdom of the youth of GUMC.

Josh Jacobs also gave a Sunday sermon. He said, *“Every person in this congregation is a Brother or a Sister in Christ. Our job is to uplift each other in God’s name, so that we as a Church can uplift the world in God’s name. That takes some effort, and it takes all of us to do it. So, before you leave this service, and forget all about God’s call for you to lead his people, think about what you can do in your life to further the Kingdom of God.”*

We are continually inspired by the youth that contribute in numerous ways to this church body. Thank you for covering them in prayer, loving them, caring for them, and providing for them in so many ways. We are so thankful to be part of such a loving community.

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## Youth Ministry continued

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### Confirmation Sunday & Reception: May 5th, 11:00 AM

You are invited to join us for worship on Sunday morning, May 5th as we confirm the 2019 confirmation class. We have had thirty sixth grade students journeying since August to figure out what they believe, why they believe it, and now why they want to join the church. We are so excited to celebrate them on a very special Sunday with a worship service and then a reception immediately following. We are encouraging the whole church body to gather around these students with their prayers and their presence now and on Sunday, May 5th.



If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help with the reception please contact Sue Hyland for more information.

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### Daddy Crow's Jubilee Crawfish Boil and Silent Auction

**April 27, 5-7 @ The OLEC**

Tickets are on sale now for our 16th Daddy Crow's Jubilee Fundraiser! This fundraiser benefits the youth of GUMC by keeping summer mission trip costs low and by providing scholarship opportunities for those that otherwise might not be able to join the trip. This summer we are so excited to be headed to Big Stuf, Mountain T.O.P. and S.O.S.



During this event we will have all you can eat crawfish, burgers, and all the fixings. Ted Horrell and the Monday Night Card will be providing live music that is sure to please all ages. We will have a silent auction, a dunking booth, and fun for the kids. Join us for a night with friends and family of all ages. We

will continue special pricing and seating for our Older Adults this year so make sure you take advantage of that.

If you would like to be an event sponsor or volunteer please contact Sue Hyland for more details.

Y'all grab your tickets and join us for a great time!

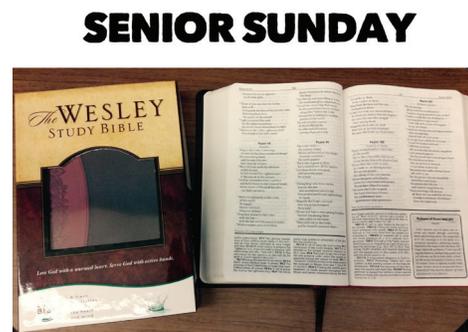
# Youth Ministry continued

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## Senior Sunday May 19th

Join the many GUMC families who are celebrating their High School Seniors with a special service during the 9:40 worship hour on Sunday, May 19th. Every year we as the church have a unique opportunity to be led in worship by a wonderful team of youth who strive to use their talents to serve, and hear some reflections from graduating seniors who have been greatly impacted during their time here at GUMC. This is a service you will not want to miss regardless of your connection to a senior family. Many of the GUMC members we will be celebrating May 19th have been life-long participants in the many ministries here and are recognizable by their time serving in worship by singing in youth, or children's choir, or as an acolyte. Many of them serve behind the scenes weekly and participate in local mission opportunities faithfully. They would greatly appreciate your presence that morning.

This year as well, we will once again gift our seniors with a Wesley Study Bible to take with them wherever they may go. These Bibles will be presented to each senior during the service, and will be out and available for anyone in the congregation to write a note of encouragement on the inside a few weeks prior to the 19th. These will be on a table in the Narthex starting April 28th, so please encourage our seniors with a note as they pursue their next steps in life.



**SENIOR SUNDAY**

**MAY 19TH**

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## You Give, Church Happens: Notes On Stewardship Rev. Dr. Brad Gabriel - bgabriel@germantownumc.org

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“You mean people just give you money?” asked our non-church going nephew.

“Yes, I replied, “about \$3,000,000.00 a year.”

“And they give without tickets or membership fees or monthly dues or anything like that?”

“That’s right.” “What if they don’t?”

“Then Germantown United Methodist Church as we know it ceases to exist.”

The two of us were sitting in a lobby at the hotel where his cousin, my niece, was to be married. He had always been intrigued by what I do with my life, but this was the first time he took the opportunity to ask serious questions.

“Well,” he went on, “I read about the mega churches, mansions and planes and expensive clothes and tv programs. That’s about all I know about churches and money. What do you do with it?”

“Fair question,” I answered.

That exchange led me to offer you, monthly, some of the things that happen because of your financial stewardship here in Germantown United Methodist Church.

Let’s start with children.

The budget for children’s ministries is \$24,170.00 for 2019. That reflects the restoration this year of cuts made in previous years. That is for supplies and curriculum, food, material of all sorts. This facilitates Vacation Bible School, two weekend retreats, Sunday morning and Wednesday nights. And more, and more, and more.

Many of our children’s ministry activities, other than Sunday morning, require some financial buy in from parents. Without your stewardship, though, the costs would simply exclude too many people. Because you gave in January, 20 children attended the Created by God Retreat. Because you gave in January, 66 Children attended the Ignite Retreat in February. Because you gave, some children’s ministry budget funds can be held to facilitate Mission Camp for 21 children, weekly weekday programming for 30+ children, and Vacation Bible School for over 300 children.

Stewardship simply is not something that we talk about once a year. Stewardship is not simply a discussion of money, either. Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Take a moment or two in this season of Lent to reflect on where your heart is. If your treasure; your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness are here, helping shape the souls and form the characters of children and grandchildren, then we will see your heart here as well.



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*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.*

## Emmaus BBQ for Missions

The Emmaus Class is once again cooking pork loins, ribs and butts to support selected missions.

The monies raised from the BBQ on April 13 will be divided equally to support the Alturas and ZOE ministries.

Amy Speake has been our GUMC missionary in San Jose, Costa Rica for 26 years, directing the Alturas Children's Program. The Alturas ministry helps marginalized children grow spiritually, intellectually, socially and nutritionally. Amy is also the co-director of 300 Women, a program to evangelize and disciple women.

The ZOE ministry helps transform the lives of African children orphaned by HIV/AIDS, war, disease, and famine. The ministry equips the children to overcome poverty by teaching farming and animal husbandry so they can grow food to sustain themselves, share with other children, and sell their surpluses to the community.

Presale for the BBQ will be Sunday April 7 at a table just outside Fellowship Hall. Each unit of meat purchased is \$30.00 and may be picked up at the OLEC on Saturday, April 13 from 1:30-2:30.

