



A Message from Tim

Amazing Survival

Some years ago, I heard a radio advertisement of a cemetery in Memphis that caught my attention. In their advertisement they spoke of the cemetery “surviving” six wars, pestilence, and change. It seemed ironic that a cemetery would speak of “surviving”.

It reminded me of a visit I once had to the Great Pyramid in Egypt, a tomb that was built in 2500 B.C. To get a sense of how old that is, the Great Pyramid had already been standing for 500 years when Abraham visited Egypt, and for 1300 years when Moses led Israel from Egypt. The building of the Great Pyramid was farther removed from the time of Jesus than Jesus’ life is removed from our own time. It is a tomb that has “survived” for 4,500 years of human history.

Nonetheless, it is crumbling. The original outer layer of smooth stone has almost completely disappeared. As massive as it still is, it will only continue to deteriorate.

I am particularly fond of the hymn “Amazing Grace,” particularly the last verse which reads,

“When we’ve been there *ten thousand years* bright shining as the sun,
we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’ve first begun!”

It is comforting to know that in God’s presence, ten thousand years will seem no more than just a beginning, and that the great number of years will seem to us as if we have just only begun to praise God! The number of years that the Great Pyramid will exist on earth will seem as but a speck of time compared to our praise of God in heaven.

God’s grace is amazing. Through faith in Christ we who are sinners will be counted as righteous, we who are mortal will live eternally, and we who cannot even fathom God’s greatness will be singing praises in His presence.

We will be more than survivors. We will be truly living.

Amazing. Simply amazing.

GUMC'S Fall Kickoff

Rachel Moore - rmoore@germantownumc.org - 901-754-7216

Fun, Food, Fellowship & Mission

Wednesday, August 28th, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Owings Life Enrichment Center

Come out and join us for a Fun night of Food, Fellowship and Service as we gather food for the Mid-South Food Bank.

On site will be food trucks: **Eat at Eric's** and **Parker's Water Ice**.

The mission of the Mid-South Food Bank is to change lives by eliminating hunger in the Mid-South. By providing food for families, children and seniors, the food bank impacts their lives by solving one of the biggest struggles they face: getting enough nutritious food to eat to live a healthy life.

The Mid-South Food Bank has recently moved into a new building and we are asking you to bring a bag of groceries to help fill the shelves of that new facility. In their new building there is an area set up like a grocery store. This area supplies food to shelters, soup kitchens, food pantries, and other organizations that feed the hungry.

What foods to bring? High protein foods are preferred (canned tuna, chicken, beef stew, chili, peanut butter), but any food that you enjoy is also welcomed (canned fruit, pancake mix, syrup, juices, snack items).

Come early or come late and enjoy a delicious meal from one of the food trucks on site while visiting with your GUMC family. Whether you are brand new to GUMC or have been part of our church for a while, Fall Kickoff is our invitation to you to connect with a loving and supportive community, as together we learn what it means to follow Jesus.

Don't miss this special event!
Spend time with friends and new acquaintances.
Inflatables for the kids!
We look forward to seeing you there!



Missions

Erin Beasley - ebeasley@germantownumc.org - 901-754-7216

Labor of Love 2019

On September 2, 2019 (Labor Day), MIFA, Memphis Feeds, St. George's Episcopal, Germantown United Methodist, Germantown Presbyterian, and New Bethel Baptist Churches are joining together to serve the community in a Labor of Love!

Missional opportunities include: (1) filling bags for MIFA's Emergency Services, (2) cleaning yards for MIFA clients, (3) delivering meals in selected areas, and (4) packaging ready-to-prepare meals which will be given to MidSouth Food Bank for distribution to those in our community who are in need. There's something for everyone – from 3 to 103!

We will gather on Labor Day morning at 8:00 a.m. at St. George's for a time of reflection and prayer together. From that time of shared community, we will head out to share our love with our sisters and brothers.

Germantown United Methodist will be providing diapers and wipes for emergency services. Donations may be left at the welcome center. Please make donations by Wednesday, August 28th.

Contact ebeasley@germantownumc.org for more information.

Missions continued: Edwin's Way 5K

Laura Meanwell - meanwellmail@att.net - 901-246-1230

Edwin's Way 5K Commemorates 10th and Final Event on September 29th



Edwin's Way 5K began in September, 2010, when Edwin Smith passed away unexpectedly in January of that same year. Edwin -- husband, father, avid runner and passionate supporter of Youth Ministries – suffered from an acute form of cardiomyopathy, a virus that suddenly attacked his heart. The Trinity Sunday School class created Edwin's Way 5K to honor Edwin's memory and promote heart health.

Now in its 10th and final year, Edwin's Way has established quite a legacy. While the initial proceeds funded modest needs such as youth choir robes and worship band equipment, in subsequent years EW5K financed more substantial projects, including upgrades to the lighting and sound equipment at the Owings Life Enrichment Center and a paid internship for the youth drama program. Ultimately, EW5K provided foundation funds for GUMC's beautiful outdoor worship space – The Trinity Centre at McVay Gardens.

None of this would have been possible without the support and love of our church members and generous sponsors! We want to thank all the Sunday School classes, local businesses, running clubs and every race participant and spirit runner who has been with us for one, two or all the events since 2010!

Please join us for the final event and celebration to be held Sunday, September 29. Funds from this final race will be added to accumulated proceeds and will be used for enhancements to the Trinity Centre at McVay Gardens. Help us make this the biggest and best Edwin's Way 5K!



- **Sign-up for the Race** – Whether as an on-site participant or spirit runner, those who register by the deadline will receive a custom designed t-shirt. On race day we will have great food and music for all who attend. Register online at <https://raceroster.com/events/2019/23860/edwins-way-5k>
Race Day is September 29 2019.
- **Form a Team** – Sunday school classes and other small groups are encouraged to sign up as a team. The class with the greatest percentage of participants will be treated to a wonderful breakfast provided by the Trinity Sunday School Class.
- **Make a Donation** – If you are so led, support the final event with a donation to GUMC. Please write "Edwin's Way 5K Donation" on the memo line.

For more information about sponsorship and registration, please email us at edwinsway5k@gmail.com or visit the Edwin's Way webpage on the GUMC website – www.germantownumc.org/edwinsway

Missions continued: Team Read

Jackie Flaum - jrflaum@gmail.com - 901-652-2713

Help a Student, Help a Teacher, Help a Community

How valuable is a Team Read coach? Do the people who give an hour a week of their time really make a difference for a second grader?

Team Read coaches who teach the one thousand most frequently used words in reading, see average student gains of 200 words per year—twice as many as a child without a coach. Students should recognize the first two hundred words on the list when they enter second grade.

For example, the 34 Caldwell-Guthrie Elementary students started at word 72 and ended at word 277 in spring. Half the 26 students at Fox Meadows Elementary began reading BELOW grade level on the list, but half finished the year ABOVE grade level.

The program began eight years ago from a partnership between Germantown United Methodist Church and Caldwell-Guthrie Elementary. Today more than 1,200 volunteer coaches in 53 Shelby County Schools. These programs are run by volunteer Head Coaches—last year five of them came from GUMC. Team Read programs are also in Jackson, Selmer, and Huntsville, AL.

The simple six-step Team Read is offered at different days and times throughout the county—there is one to fit everyone's schedule. Students see the words in sentences, paragraphs and stories. They play word games with their coaches and write them several times.

Every year teachers stop volunteers to compliment students. Sometimes teachers ask to reproduce Team Read materials for their classroom.

One Belle Forest Elementary teacher grinned when asked about a student. "Has Team Read helped? Your student is now eager to participate, raises her hand, reads in class when she never would before. Oh yes, Team Read has helped."

One hour of time can help a student and a teacher. Join Team Read. Contact Jackie Flaum, jrflaum@gmail.com

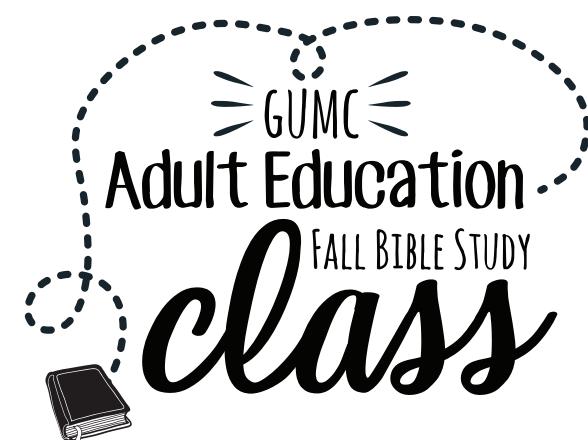


Adult Education

Mary Groh - mgroh@germantownumc.org - 901-754-5093

Fall Bible Study Classes Starting Soon!

The Adult Education Ministry is excited to announce our Fall course line-up! Below you will find a list of classes starting soon. A complete list of all fall classes, descriptions, cost, and information is available online at germantownumc.org and in our Adult Studies brochures available at the Welcome Center kiosks.



Simon Peter – Flawed but Faithful Disciple

An in-depth study of the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter.

Tuesdays, Aug. 13 – Sept. 24, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Terry Aust

God of Creation – A Women's Study of Genesis 1-11

We will revisit familiar stories and biblical characters as we discover what the Bible says about God's character and attributes of God.

Wednesdays, Aug. 28 – Nov. 6, 9:45-11:45 a.m.

Facilitator: Chesley Porteous

Set Apart – Holy Habits of Prophets and Kings

This DVD study examines the spiritual practices of six kings and prophets who were set apart by their close walk with God.

Wednesdays, Aug. 28 – Oct. 30, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thursdays, Aug. 29 – Oct. 31, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Brad Gabriel

Blessed Are the Misfits

Great News for Believers Who are Introverts, Spiritual Strugglers, or Just Feel Like They're Missing Something.

Tuesdays, Sept. 10 - Oct. 15, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Rev. Erin Beasley

Genesis: A Book of Beginnings (Part 1)

The book of Genesis lays the foundation for the faith of Judaism and Christianity. This study will focus on all of the beginnings seen in Genesis 1-17.

Wednesdays, Sept. 4 – Oct. 23, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Rev. Tim Carpenter

Romans – Good News that Changes Everything

A women's Bible study of Paul's Letter to the Romans and how the truths Paul shared with the early church in Rome echo into our lives today.

Wednesdays, Sept. 4 – Oct. 16, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Kristin Miller

DISCIPLE Bible Study – Into the Word, Into the World

This 32-session study offers a close look at Genesis, Exodus, Luke, and Acts.

Sundays, Sept. 8 – May 17, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Dr. John Adams

DISCIPLE Fast Track – Remember Who You Are

This 24-session condensed study explores the Old Testament Prophets and the Letters of Paul and is ideal for busy people who want to fit an in-depth Bible study into their schedule.

Sundays, Sept. 8 – March 29, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Facilitators: Yolanda and Gerald Toney

Conversations with Scripture: The Gospel of Mark

Using historical and critical background, this study examines who Mark really was, why this gospel was written, and why it is charged with such a sense of immediacy.

Tuesdays, Sept. 17 – Oct. 29, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Facilitator: Mary Groh

Fall Brings New Beginnings

Psalm 127:2 speaks of rest "for he gives sleep to his beloved." Beloved, the time of resting is nearly complete. The music ministry program year is upon us. We are blessed to offer multiple ensembles for your participation. I highlight children's music opportunities here.

Five great reasons to enroll your children in the GUMC graded Children's Choir program:

1. To encourage them to move and respond to rhythm and sound.
2. To develop music learning skills that offer a lifetime of joy and fulfillment.
3. To open doors of expression and increase self-confidence and understanding of a spiritual life that words alone cannot.
4. To teach Bible stories, the great hymns of faith and new anthems and songs.
5. To provide the skills used in corporate worship in all faith communities.



Even if your child has not participated in a choir, it's never too late for him or her to develop a joy of music! For more information on the various choirs I have included a description of each one. If you have any questions, feel free to call me or the director for your child's age level.

First rehearsals are Sunday, September 8.

CHERUB CHOIR

3, 4, AND 5 YEAR OLDS IN JR. KINDERGARTEN & TRANSITION CLASSES

The Cherub Choir explores simple rhythms, matching pitches, and fun songs. A parent is encouraged to participate with their child each week. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to get a great start in music and to have fun with Mom or Dad! (Babysitting is available for younger siblings in the nursery on the second floor near the Sanctuary entrance.) The Cherub Choir sings in the Sanctuary for the Christmas and Spring concerts. The Cherub Choir rehearses on Sundays from 5:00-5:45 in Room 260-262.

Director: Mary Groh 754-3075 or mgroh@bellsouth.net

ALLELUIA CHOIR

KINDERGARTEN, FIRST, AND SECOND GRADERS

The Alleluia Choir members participate without their parent (unless the child needs the security for the first few rehearsals). Much of the rehearsal time is spent either on the floor singing simple songs and rounds, or marching around the room doing musical activities. They also learn more complicated anthems for worship services and programs. The children sing by themselves or with the Hosanna Choir approximately six Sundays during the year. They also sing for the Christmas and Spring programs. The Alleluia Choir rehearses on Sundays from 5:00-6:00 in Room 257.

Director: Peggy Warner 755-9729; 573-3150; peggywarner51@gmail.com Alleluia Choir (K, 1 and 2)

Music continued

HOSANNA CHOIR

THIRD, FOURTH, AND FIFTH GRADERS

The Hosanna Choir prepares music for worship and special programs. Reading music is utilized as most anthems incorporate harmony. Vocal blending is emphasized as new musical styles are introduced. Besides singing several times during the year for the worship services, they also sing for the Christmas and Spring programs. The Hosanna and Alleluia Choirs present a musical in the Spring (rehearsals begin in January). Choreography and props round out the exciting production, sure to be a highlight for your child! The Hosanna Choir rehearses on Sundays from 5:00-6:00 in Room 261.



Director: Libby Schielke 634-5944; libby5959@att.net

WESLEY RINGERS

THIRD, FOURTH, AND FIFTH GRADERS

Last year we made a wonderful addition to our Children's Music Program, Wesley Chimes. Associate Music Director, Natalie Duncan leads this group of devoted ringers. Fundamentals of music are taught, as is the lesson of leading the church through service to God. This group meets in the Handbell Studio, near the Welcome Center entrance and will begin Wednesday, September 4. Rehearsals are from 5:00-5:30.

Contact director, Natalie Duncan for further information, nduncan@germantownumc.org



Todd Wilson, Director of Music Ministries

O (901) 754-7216 · M (901) 378-0886 · germantownumc.org/ministries/music/

Germantown United Methodist Church · 2331 South Germantown Rd. · Germantown, TN 38138



Fall/Winter GUMW Children's Consignment Sale Shop Friday and Saturday, August 23-24!

It's that time of year! Clean out the closet clutter, rummage through the attic, and sort through the garage for children's clothing, furniture, toys, baby equipment, and more. GUMW Children's Consignment Sale registration is now open! Visit gumwclothingsale.com to review guidelines and details. All proceeds from this sale benefit GUMW missions. It's a 30-year tradition of community outreach!

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

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

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

Important Dates:

Consignor registration deadline/inventory entry is Tuesday, August 20th, at midnight. Refer to the website for complete information about accepted merchandise and consignor instructions.

Drop off: Wednesday, August 21st, 5-8 p.m. and Thursday, August 22nd, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

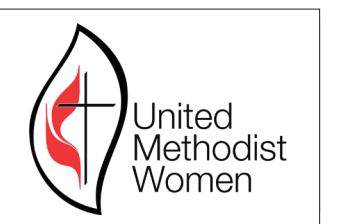
Pre-sale: Thursday, August 22nd, 5:30-8 p.m. Volunteers who work 8 or more hours may shop at 5:30 p.m. Those who volunteer 4 or more hours may shop at 6 p.m. Consignors may shop at 6:30 p.m.

Public Sale: Friday, August 23rd, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Public Half-price Sale: Friday, August 23rd, 5-8 p.m. and Saturday, August 24th, 8 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Pick-up: Sunday, August 25th, 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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.



United Methodist Women continued

GUMW Meet and Greet | August 25, 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall

You are invited to drop by and visit with us in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall on Sunday, August 25th, between 9:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Come enjoy some delicious treats and meet ladies from our Circles (small groups). You may ask questions about what we do or simply visit.

Germantown United Methodist Women is a unit of the national United Methodist Women organization in the United Methodist Church. We encourage one another to grow spiritually, to engage in service, to develop our gifts and talents, and to use them for the support of others in need. We also enjoy an incredible community of fellowship. Our Circles allow everyone to find a group where they can feel at home.



We host five luncheons each year. They give us an opportunity to hear local speakers who inform and inspire us while also allowing us the opportunity to share our faith community. We also host five major fundraisers: two Children's Consignment Sales, the Cinnamon Roll Bake, the Christmas Cookie Shoppe, and the Bridge Benefit and Unique Boutique. We also sponsor the annual women's event Lent by Candlelight, and we do so much more. Come, fellowship and see that Germantown United Methodist Women is an organization where you can cultivate and grow your faith. We would love to have you! For more information, email Chesley Porteous at chesleyporteous@gmail.com or Yolanda Toney at ytoney@germantownumc.org.

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

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

September GUMW Luncheon

GUMW welcomes GUMC member Cathy Whitaker to our luncheon on September 10th, at 11:30 in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall. Join us to hear her story and about her work with ZOE.

Cost is \$10. Register at germantownumc.org.

Deadline to register: September 5, noon.

Free childcare available.

In addition, our annual Blessing of the Babies will take place at this luncheon; babies born since last September will be blessed. If you wish to have your baby, grandbaby or great grandbaby blessed, then be sure and contact Debbie Wiles at dwiles0522@gmail.com.



Cathy and her husband, Bill, have been active members of GUMC for about 18 years. She has served in many areas at GUMC: Mission Committee, Staff-Parish committee, a Lay Leader, a choir member, member of the Emmaus Sunday School class, UMW Executive Committee and current chair of the JOY Circle, a VBS volunteer and a volunteer reading coach with Team Read at Caldwell-Guthrie Elementary and with Project Transformation. Cathy is a retired elementary school teacher having taught school for 30+ years in six states. Cathy and Bill led our church's first mission trip to Kenya in 2007, and they became involved with ZOE in 2008. They chose to be involved with ZOE because of the organization's model of empowerment. Cathy and Bill have observed first-hand the amazing results of the efforts of this program as orphans graduate from ZOE after three years and become self-sufficient!

Please join GUMW for our beloved and cherished Blessing of the Babies as well as an inspiring message from Cathy about her work with ZOE and being Blessed to Be a Blessing.

Lyman Aldrich Will Give History of MIM at the September Brown Bag Lunch!

After the assassination of Dr. King, downtown was almost deserted. Beale Street was closed, the Peabody closed and was sold on the courthouse steps, and the Orpheum was running X-rated movies. It was said that in 1977, when Memphis in May started, there were more people living in the jail than the rest of downtown. Learn the story behind Memphis in May, how Memphis was brought back, and who did it at the September Brown Bag Lunch Series, an adventure in learning sponsored by the Older Adult Council. Join us as we kick off our 15th season.

TOPIC: "How Memphis in May was Founded and the Economic and Social Effects It has had on the City"

SPEAKER: Lyman Aldrich, Founder, Memphis in May International Festival

WHERE: Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall

WHEN: September 6, 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 Pat Smith, 758-6513.

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



Lyman Aldrich

XYZs Hear Judy Garland in October!

A star is born as award-winning dynamo Angela Ingersoll, as seen on her Emmy-nominated PBS television special *Get Happy*, celebrates American icon Judy Garland. Ingersoll won acclaim for her stunning portrayal of Garland in the play *End of the Rainbow* in Chicago and Los Angeles. Live, in concert, she shines as a force all her own as she superbly captures Garland's emotional and vocal power and crafts passionate stories with a naturally winning humor. "Come Rain or Come Shine" we guarantee that you will "Get Happy," be "Over the Rainbow," and leave the theater with a "Smile." Make your reservation now!



WHERE: Bartlett Performing Arts and Conference Center

WHEN: Friday, October 18, 2019

COST: \$26 per person includes transportation and reserved seat.

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

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

DEADLINE FOR MONEY and RESERVATIONS: Wednesday, September 18.

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!

Rutherford Prayer Group

Each Wednesday morning from 6:30-7:00 a.m., men gather for devotion and prayer in the Fellowship Hall. This past Wednesday the group met at the Trinity Center because of VBS decorations. All men are invited to come any Wednesday morning and join the prayer effort.



GUMP Weekday Preschool

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



Grow. Learn. Build.

GUMP has been busy preparing for another exciting year! We are so excited to see all of our students on August 16 for a Parent/Child Classroom Visit and classes will begin on August 18.

This summer GUMP held 4 summer camps for our students ages 2-6. We are also preparing to open an additional 2 year old classroom this year! Before school begins, our teachers and staff will come together for In-service. This year's In-service includes presentations by many wonderful professionals to help us grow in our abilities to serve and prepare our students.

Enrollment continues to increase for the 2019-2020 school year with a few limited openings. We are currently providing tours to share all the wonderful aspects of our preschool with incoming families. We are proud to be able to serve children with special needs through our GRACE program. "G.R.A.C.E." (GUMP Recognizes All Can Excel) identified as have a disability, including developmental delay.

An Enrollment Application, with options and fees, can be found on GUMP's website at www.mygump.org. Families may choose a 2, 3 or 5 day option. Should you have any questions or wish to come visit GUMP, please call the preschool office at 901.753.3109.



Promotion Sunday

All children and youth will promote to the next grade on Sunday, August 11. At this time, those children entering kindergarten will begin meeting in the Huddle on Sunday mornings. The rising sixth graders will move to Trek/Confirmation class. Other students will remain in their current area but move to the next grade level. Please be sure to fill out a new registration form for the 2019-2020 school year on August 11. There will be registration forms available at the desk of the Hamilton Nursery and outside of the Huddle (Room 240).



Third Grade Bibles

Our Third Graders will be presented with bibles during worship on September 22, 2019. If you have a third grader, please contact Callie Beaver to provide information needed for your child's bible to be imprinted. We will also have a Third Grade Bible Retreat on September 20. Please see details and register online for this fun event.



Children's Ministry continued



Mission Camp Recap

During Mission Camp in July, our kids read books and played with preschoolers at Porter Leath, toured the newly built Mid-South Food Bank, visited SOS sites, learned about the international mission Alturas, and had an ice cream party for the residents at Wesley Highland Meadows Retirement Community. The kids also built several projects, including new picnic tables, rocking chairs, and light poles. We hope you will enjoy these around our church campus. It was a very fulfilling week for all involved.

Poolpalooza

The transition from elementary school to middle school can be unnerving for kids (and their parents). To ease that transition, we are getting our rising sixth graders together for some pool time, so they can get to know each other better as well as get to know some other middle schoolers. We have one more Poolpalooza this summer – August 8 (6-8 PM). Registration is open online. Please bring \$5 to cover the cost of the lifeguard and wear modest swimsuits. Girls bring a snack to share and guys bring a drink to share. We will send you the location after you register.



Youth Ministry

Lisa Pierce - Lpierce@germantownumc.org - 901-413-1377

Confirmation 2019

Bridging from elementary school to middle school can be tricky for kids and can be terrifying for their parents. The unknown is exciting and un-nerving all at the same time. To help ease nerves and make a more smooth transition, parents are invited to "Parent Orientation for Confirmation" on Wednesday, August 14, at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. During this time, we will discuss the general mission for our overall youth program and focus on the specifics associated with the confirmation process. All parents of rising sixth graders are encouraged to attend.

We are kicking off our sixth grade year with a one-day retreat on August 17. Mark the date on your calendar and watch your mailbox for details.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Pierce (Lpierce@germantownumc.org).

Parent Orientation for
Confirmation
GUMC YOUTH MINISTRY

Fifth in a Series of Notes on Stewardship

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."

That is a true statement. The reason is not so much about money, though. That is a statement about values. "It's not about money, it's about values," is an observation made recently by another preacher type, David Lose, senior pastor of Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. To what degree do we value the work of Germantown UMC? To what degree do we believe that what we do here, what we attempt here, what we make possible elsewhere because of what happens here, matters? To that degree and no farther, we will give our presence, our labor, our prayers, our expressions of faith and support, and our resources, including money.

Winifred Collin is an Episcopal priest. "She tells a story that begins with how in Seminaries and in different church settings we typically start a first day in class with a go-round of introductions. Your name, your denomination, if you're in an ordination process, how far along in your studies one might be, etc. It happens so frequently that you firmly expect this to happen and start thinking through your introduction prior to the class.

Winifred describes a first day in class with a new teacher, a Roman Catholic priest who brought about the introductions by saying, "Let's go around the table, please tell me your name and what you did for the Kingdom today." This had such an effect on Winifred that she and her husband would greet each other at home at the end of the work day with the same question. Not, "How was your day?" but "What did you do for the Kingdom today?"

What we do for the Kingdom of God always begins in prayer. From that point on, what we offer up determines how far we will go in securing and promoting the Kingdom of God.

How far will we go with our money is a touchy and, some think, impertinent, question. I am reminded, though of a brass plaque outside Christ Episcopal Church in Georgia where John Wesley was once a rector.

"Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can."

That's what I can do for the Kingdom today. If I leave my money out of the equation, then I'm not doing what I can.

You Give,
Church Happens

Written by: Rev. Dr. Brad Gabriel, Executive Minister





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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.

GUMC Kindermusik Open House!



Germantown United Methodist hosts Kindermusik classes in the Adult Education Building across the street from the main church campus. Kindermusik is a fun way to teach early literacy, math, and social skills while making musical memories with your child. This studio has five instructors, including GUMC member, Peggy Warner. It is the largest in the state of Tennessee and is in the top 3% worldwide! Classes are offered Monday through Friday mornings.

There will be a free Open House on Thursday evening, August 22nd, from 5:00-7:00 in the Adult Education building, for families with children from birth to 7 years old. Come see our studio, meet the teachers, have snacks, experience music demos, win door prizes, and have faces painted! We hope to see you there!

If you're unable to attend the Open House, you may sign up on our website (musikadventures.com) for a free demo class on Friday morning, August 23, at 10:00 or 11:00 a.m. **For more information, contact Peggy Warner at peggywarner51@gmail.com.**