



## A Message from Tim

### Thankful

*"I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."  
- Psalm 9:1*

During November, we give special attention to being thankful. The first Sunday of November is All Saints Sunday, and we give thanks for the lives of those of our church who have died in the last year. We also celebrate the communion of saints as we remember the dead, both of the Church universal and of our local congregations. For this reason, the names of persons in the congregation who have died during the past year will be read aloud during the Sacrament of Communion, as we give glory to God for life everlasting. A prayer from our United Methodist Liturgy for the day is as follows (some may wish to use it in personal prayer time):

We bless your holy name, O God,  
for all your servants who, having finished their course,  
now rest from their labors.  
Give us grace to follow the example  
of their steadfastness and faithfulness,  
to your honor and glory;  
through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

On the 18th, we will celebrate Thanksgiving in our worship. Thanksgiving as a national civil recognition has a precedent set in an 1863 proclamation by Abraham Lincoln that read in part:

"(These blessings) are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People."

It is fitting that we give thanks as a church and as a nation, remembering "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." Psalm 33:12a

November 25th is Christ the King Sunday, in which we stress the continuity between the celebration of kingship, or sovereignty, of Christ and the expectation of Christ's coming again in sovereign glory which opens the Advent Season. We give thanks for more than a baby at Christmas; we have a sovereign Christ who is Lord.

During this month, count your blessings. Spend time as individuals and as families to simply be thankful, remembering the blessings of God Almighty.

# Presentation of General Conference Proposals in January

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The Council of Bishops has called a Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to receive and act on a report from the Commission on a Way Forward based on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops. The 32-member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 and appointed by the Council of Bishops to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church.



**On two consecutive Sundays, January 13, and January 20, during the Sunday School hours of 9:40 and 11:00 a.m.,** Germantown UMC will present an outline of the proposals coming before this special session of General Conference. The presentation will be led by Rev. Jack Henton in the Fellowship Hall to all Sunday School classes who are interested. The same presentation will be given twice on each Sunday so that all classes can be included. Please mark this date on your calendar. More information will follow.

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## Budgeting for 2019

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We now begin to build Germantown UMC's ministry and mission budget for 2019. If we were to borrow a plan from Dave Ramsey then we would:

- Have the budget reflect the church mission statement.
- Base the plan on projected income, not just the past.
- Include a spending plan for each area.
- Have the Lay Leadership create and approve the budget.
- Communicate the plan to the GUMC members.

Germantown UMC's Mission Statement is: We are a faith community committed to: Loving God and loving others, Serving Christ and sharing Him, Transforming lives and making disciples.

- We live out this statement in various ways; education and worship, meeting facilities and medical missions, pastoral care and ministry for different age groups. Almost all of these foci require money in today's world, even with the wonderful pool of volunteers we have.
- The Stewardship campaign ("Enough: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity") is over. We now know what our members intend to contribute financially in addition to their prayers, presence, service, and witness. Your giving directs spending which influences what can and cannot be planned for.
- Twelve month spending patterns will be distributed to ministry areas for their use in building budget requests.
- The Germantown UMC Finance Committee will build a budget reflecting resources the congregation plans to make available, the pattern of support the church has charted over the years, and the Mission statement of GUMC. That plan will be reviewed to ensure balance by the Pastor's Council and sent to the Church Board for acceptance or modification.
- An approved budget will be available for church members to review.



Ministry will continue locally, regionally, and globally, at the pace allowed by resources available.

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE GOD'S INCARNATION

# CHRISTMAS PRESENCE

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERIES  
FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

November 25: "The Pedigree"

Matthew 1:1-17

December 2: "The Prophet"

Luke 3:1-6

December 9: "The Prayer"

Luke 1:5-25

December 16: "The Promise"

Luke 1:26-38

December 23: "The Preparation"

Luke 1:39-56; 2:1-7

December 30: "The Praise"

Luke 2:8-20

January 6: "The Presents"

Matthew 2:1-12



# GUMC Census

## Why Should I Complete This Form?

To improve the way we communicate with you, the way we process attendance, the way we take care of the financial business of our church, the way we review ministries, and much, much more, we will upgrade to a new online processing system soon.

So that we have accurate information when we convert to the new system, please complete the form you received in your stewardship packet, if you have not already done so. It should take between 5-15 minutes to complete. Forms are available at the Welcome Center if you did not receive one.

All the information requested is useful as we plan ministry events, mail out letters and other correspondence, prepare financial records, etc. However, if there is information that you prefer not to share, that's okay. Phone numbers change, email addresses change, children grow up and leave the household. Accurate information is vital when we prepare our accountability reports.

In addition to helping our staff in our daily work, you will have wonderful benefits with this system as well. With an internet connection -

- you will have a mobile app,
- you can update your contact information,
- you will have access to your giving record,
- you will have online access to forms, such as: baptism requests, building requests, youth & children permission slips, medical release forms, etc.
- you will have an improved calendar and registration system, and more.

Do your part to ensure our office runs as smoothly and efficiently as possible. Complete this form and drop it in the box at the Welcome Center today!



The image shows a GUMC Census form. At the top left is the Germantown United Methodist Church logo. At the top right is the address: 2331 South Germantown Road, Germantown, TN 38138, Office Phone: 901-754-7216, Email to: abush@germantownumc.org. The form has several sections: 1. Membership: 'Are you Members of GUMC? Yes No' and 'I have moved my membership Transfer Date'. 2. Contact: 'Name of Church & Address:', 'Home Phone:', 'Does this affect the whole household? Yes No', 'Head of House Email & cell #:', 'If No, please explain:', 'Spouse Email & cell #:'. 3. Other Members: 'Related to other GUMC Member? If yes, who and relationship:'. 4. Household Table: A table with columns: Full Name, Gender, Birthdate, Baptism Date, Location of Baptism, Married Yes/No, Occupation, Employer, Work #. Rows include Head of House, Spouse, Other, and four Child rows. 5. School/Grade Table: A table with columns: Full Name, Gender, Birthdate, Baptism Date, Location of Baptism, School, Grade (2018-2019), Allergies, Special Needs. Rows include four Child rows. 6. Social Media: 'Permission to post pictures to social media? YES NO'. 7. Photo: 'If you did not have your picture made for the 2018 Pictorial Directory, you may submit a 4 X 6 Family photo with this form to be added to the online directory and our database. Please provide the family names from left to right.' 8. Emergency Contact: 'EMERGENCY CONTACT outside of the household: Name: Phone:'.

*The GUMC Census form was included in your stewardship packet. If you did not receive one, forms are available at the Welcome Center.*

## Missions

### Changes at United Methodist Neighborhood Centers of Memphis

For the past 112 years, The United Methodist Neighborhood Centers of Memphis has been on a mission... to serve those who are under-served! One of their missions is The Miriam Child Development Center, a 3-star preschool providing inner city children a loving, safe Christian place to learn. Well-balanced meals are provided and life skills are taught to children who might not have these opportunities at home.

Recently, their "home" at 3000 Walnut Grove was sold and the offices and Day Care re-located to Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 6050 Summer Avenue. This was a positive move in that they left an aging building, and The Binghampton area they left is now well served and the area around Good Shepherd is under-served.

Funds can now be channeled to their many missions, especially the children and not used to pay for the up-keep of a large building in constant need of repairs.

Some of their other missions involve "Serving-In-Christ", teaching life skill classes to women; "The Mason Initiative", an out-reach program at the Methodist Church in Mason, TN, providing summer camps and Saturday

*Continued on next page*

tutoring classes for children; supporting **food distribution centers** at Asbury UMC and other sites throughout Shelby County; “**The Highland Area Renewal Program**”, providing help to the homeless; and **Holy Community** programs, including Jacob’s Well.

Your contributions are much needed and so very much appreciated, as UMNC continues to meet the call “to be the hands and feet of Jesus.”

Donations can be sent to UMNC, PO Box 111348, Memphis, TN. 38111

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## **GUMC’s Cottage Gets a New Roof, Thanks to Local Contractor and Church Volunteers**

More than 40 volunteers recently banded together to repair The Cottage at Germantown United Methodist Church, which serves as part of Room in the Inn’s non-profit network of churches providing free overnight shelter and meals. John Bennett of Excellent Roofing and Doug Warner of GUMC’s Missions Committee led the effort.

The massive project took place on Saturday, Sept. 29 and involved removing the old roofing system, replacing rotten wood, repairing and replacing the flashing, and installing new shingles. The volunteers also replaced several vent pipes, covers, and boots along with new gutters.

Excellent Roofing donated labor and helped to secure new shingles at cost. In addition, 22 members from Germantown United Methodist Church assisted throughout the day.

John Bennett, owner of Excellent Roofing, said, “Our company takes pride in giving back to our community, whether we’re building Habitat for Humanity houses or leading apprenticeship programs for non-violent offenders released from prison. We have the attitude of serving others and doing our best, and it’s especially meaningful to help those who don’t have a place to live. That’s what Jesus did—servant leadership—and we’re proud to do our part.”

Doug Warner added, “It was simply a great day of Christian service. Excellent Roofing was beyond excellent, providing workmanship the building needed to be restored so that it will last. The roof looks great and will last for decades.”

Room in the Inn - Memphis will kick off a new season on Nov. 1. The program has grown from one church to nearly 50 throughout Shelby County, including several Germantown churches. Nine congregations take turns hosting at the Cottage at Germantown United Methodist Church.

For more information or to donate to Room in the Inn, visit online at [www.roomintheinn-memphis.org](http://www.roomintheinn-memphis.org). There’s also a new option to become a monthly Room in the Inn donor by texting INNKEEPER to 44321.



*Ben Nichol (left) of GUMC joined other volunteers to help remove the old roof at The Cottage.*



*John Bennett of Excellent Roofing and his team led the restoration effort along with Doug Warner of GUMC.*



## November UMM Breakfast

The United Methodist Men's Breakfast will be held this month on November 13 at 8:00 a.m. in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker is Dr. Terry Geiger, senior vice president and the Deputy Director for Academic and Biomedical Operations at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Dr. Geiger joined St. Jude in 1999, and currently holds the St. Jude endowed Chair in Pediatrics. In his role, Dr. Geiger is responsible for overseeing academic and biomedical functions within the institution, including academic and faculty affairs, biomedical manufacturing operations, and several core institutional resources. With his administrative, scientific, and clinical expertise, Dr. Geiger fosters the integration and efficient operation of diverse institutional structures. When Dr. Geiger first joined St. Jude in 1999 as a clinician and scientist in the Department

of Pathology, he served in several leadership roles, including as Medical Director of Clinical Pathology, Interim Co-Director of International Outreach, and Interim Co-Scientific Director. Throughout his career, Dr. Geiger has made significant scientific and clinical contributions. His research program focuses on immunologic diseases and cancer immunotherapy. He earned an MD and PhD from Yale University, and completed post-doctoral clinical and scientific training at Yale-New Haven Hospital and Yale University. We encourage all men of the church to attend and welcome Dr. Geiger. It will be \$5.00 at the door. Members only need call with regret.

## Adult Education Mary Groh - [mgroh@germantownumc.org](mailto:mgroh@germantownumc.org) - 901-754-5093

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### Sunday School Spotlight: Asbury

Looking for a Sunday School class focused on learning from each other through open discussion, joining together in Christian service and greatly enjoying one another's company? Consider visiting Asbury! We are a relaxed group of married and single friends and all ages are welcome. Our diverse theological opinions lead to many insightful class discussions where everyone's input is heard and valued.

Lessons are led by class members or invited speakers and include a variety of topics and formats. For example, in the past year, we have completed the Disciple Fast Track Bible Study, examined some stories appearing in both the Bible and the Koran, and discussed principles and examples for healthy Christian disagreements in contemporary society.

Among ongoing mission/service activities of the Asbury Class are Room in the Inn, Alternative Christmas, Team Read, and support of the GUMC Youth and Children's ministries while our monthly socials have included game nights, Pops in the Park and an Escape Room (we escaped!!)

We meet at 9:40 in the Cottage, which provides us with very close parking, ground floor access, a kitchen (snacks every Sunday!) and a quiet meeting room area.

For more information, please contact class president Bill McLaughlin at 901-737-6133 or [mclaughlinwilliam@comcast.net](mailto:mclaughlinwilliam@comcast.net).



## Adult Education continued

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### Sunday School Spotlight: Foundations

The Foundations Sunday School Class at GUMC is a group of 30 and 40-something couples who meet each week at 11 a.m. in Room 233 of the Chapel Building. Topics in the class range from multi-week, member-led studies of God's word and biblical figures to spirited discussions about the challenges we face in our modern society as individuals, as parents and as followers of Christ.

As much as we enjoy our time in class, perhaps our most meaningful fellowship takes place during our many missions and social events. Mission activities include hosting homeless guests at GUMC for Room in the Inn-Memphis; serving meals to those in need at the St. John's UMC Soup Kitchen; and providing muscle for Habitat for Humanity or other ad hoc construction/repair needs. Annual social events include our Christmas Party, Foundations Fiesta, Spring Picnic and the Quackeries fundraiser at the Germantown Festival to support our mission work.

For more information about Foundations, email class president Chris Williams at [chriswilliams1975@gmail.com](mailto:chriswilliams1975@gmail.com), or simply join us this Sunday at 11 a.m. in Room 233 of the Chapel Building.



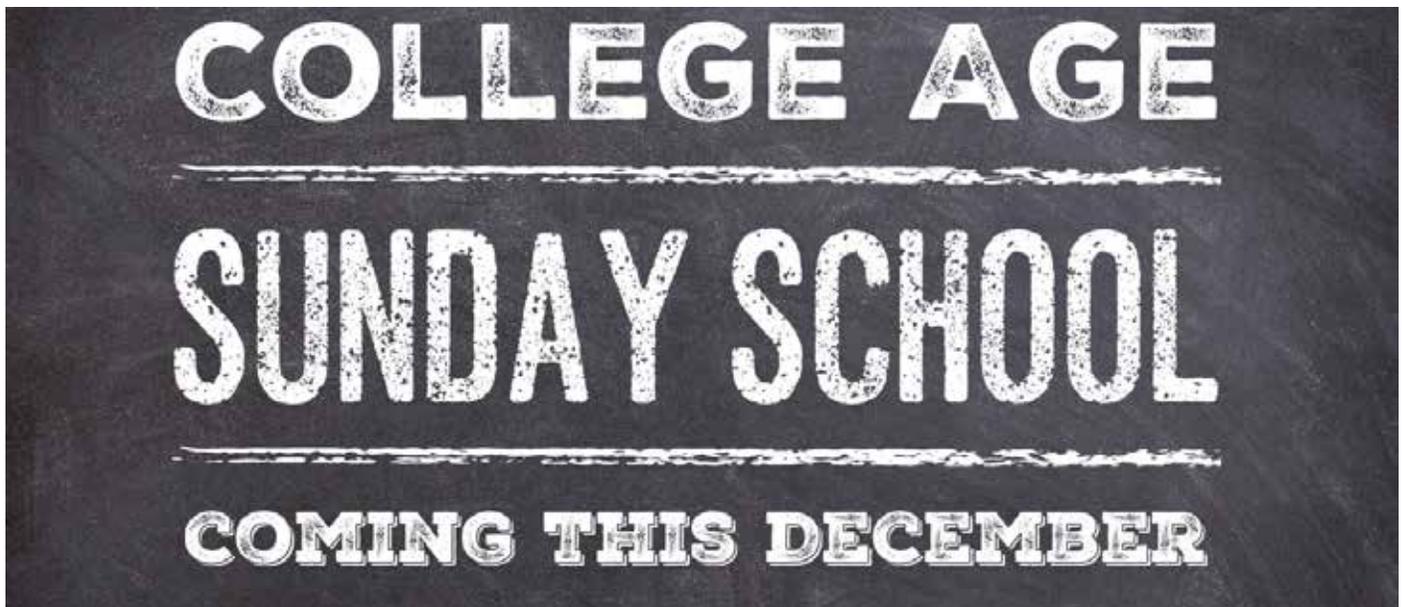
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### College *Brian Richards - [brichards@germantownumc.org](mailto:brichards@germantownumc.org) - 901-828-2375*

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With Christmas break coming up we know that many of our college students will be in town for a few weeks. We will be offering a Sunday morning gathering starting in December during the 11:00 hour for anyone who is college age. Featuring discussion about real world topics, and some familiar faces as guest teachers, this will be a gathering where you will feel at home! If you know a college student pass this info along. More information will be mailed out to college students addresses and will be published in Ministry Events in the bulletin.

If you would like more information or if you would like to put someone on our radar feel free to reach out to Brian Richards at [brichards@germantownumc.org](mailto:brichards@germantownumc.org)



## Cinnamon Roll Bake Sale Success

The Germantown United Methodist Women would like to praise God for another successful Cinnamon Roll Bake Sale. We baked over 360 dozen Cinnamon Rolls in **THREE DAYS!** We are so blessed and thankful that God allowed us to provide funds for the missions that our GUMW circles support. None of this would have been possible without the many volunteers who worked hard during the event. It is such a joy working alongside a community of women who provide a loving, supportive fellowship. Thank you for your support, Germantown United Methodist Church.



## November GUMW Luncheon



GUMW welcomes Karen Eskin to our luncheon on November 13 at 11:30 a.m. in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall. Join us to hear her story of love and gratitude for our amazing local children's hospital, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. She is a former Le Bonheur Club president whose son was also treated at Le Bonheur.

Cost is \$10. Register at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org). Deadline to register: November 8, noon. Free childcare available.

Karen Eskin was born in Syracuse, New York, but grew up near Miami in Homestead, Florida. She is from a large family where she is the oldest of five children. She attended the University of Florida where she received a B.S. in Chemistry as well as her MBA. Karen worked for Baxter Diagnostics as a chemist in Quality Control and Immunochemistry. She was also a business manager for a large medical practice and is currently a Professional Organizer specializing in relocation, time management, and business productivity.

Karen joined Le Bonheur Club in 2004 and has served in various roles including Entertainment Chair, Newsletter Chair, Yearbook Chair, Finance Chair, Treasurer, and most recently President. Her love of Le Bonheur Children's Hospital runs very deep. When her oldest child Brendan was seven, he was involved in a horrific accident in car line at school and was air lifted from the school to Le Bonheur. At first, doctors were not sure he would make it through the night due to his severe injuries. However, through faith, prayer, love, and the quality of care he received at Le Bonheur, he is now a senior at UT Knoxville studying chemistry and pursuing a field in medicine.

When she is not volunteering for Le Bonheur Club, Karen enjoys spending time with her husband Marc and their three children, Brendan, Logan, and Madeline. Both Brendan and Logan are students at UT Knoxville, while Madeline attends Houston High School. When she isn't visiting her sons in Knoxville and watching her daughter play competitive soccer, Karen enjoys cooking, reading, gardening, and entertaining.

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



## GUMW Christmas Brunch

All women are invited to attend our GUMW Christmas Brunch December 11th at 10:30 a.m. in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall. Come join us for a delicious catered brunch, festive fellowship, and sounds of the season! We will also be installing our new 2019 officers.

Cost is \$10.00

Deadline to register: December 6th at noon

### Two Methods to Register:

- Credit Card online at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org)
- Check to GUMW, "GUMW Dec Brunch" in memo line, placed in GUMW drop box outside Fellowship Hall.

Childcare is free. Indicate a need for childcare when registering online or by writing "Need Childcare" on your check.

For additional info: email [chesleyporteous@gmail.com](mailto:chesleyporteous@gmail.com)



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## GUMW Christmas Cookie Shoppe

Saturday, December 8, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall

Put it on your calendar! A great way to kick off the holiday season is with the GUMW Christmas Cookie Shoppe. Purchased homemade cookies and candies can be enjoyed and shared with loved ones. All funds raised will be given to the missions supported by the circles of Germantown United Methodist Women.

This festive shoppe will be set up in the Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall. All who attend will receive a bakery box to fill with selections from over 100 different cookies and candies. After choices are made and weighed, shoppers will pay \$8 per pound. We accept cash, check and credit card.



**Note: there will be one pre-order day on Sunday, December 2nd if you cannot attend the day of the sale. Payment is required at the time of your order.**

In order to make this a successful and fun event, we need everyone's help! Between now and December 8th, volunteers are needed to bake 12 dozen of a single treat (approximately 3-4 batches). Cookies can be frozen if wrapped properly. We are grateful for your hard work in making these beautiful treats, so make sure you pack them carefully! If you cannot bake but still want to help, donations are appreciated.

Get creative! We want cookies that are unique and made from scratch, so that our patrons will have a variety to choose from. Please NO chocolate chip cookies!

For more information or to sign up to make some delicious treats, contact event co-chairs: Sue Land ([landrs2590@gmail.com](mailto:landrs2590@gmail.com)) or Barbara Schanson ([barcons@comcast.net](mailto:barcons@comcast.net)), or sign up online at [germantownumc.org/umw](http://germantownumc.org/umw).

Let's start baking!



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

Andy Cates, CEO, RVC Outdoor Destinations, will talk about Memphis' newest newspaper, *The Daily Memphian*. This presentation will be Friday, November 2, in the Fellowship Hall. The program starts at 11:00 a.m. with lunch at noon. Bring your own sack lunch; the church will supply 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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## Hear Stories from a Fighter Pilot at the December Brown Bag Lunch!

Col. Elmer Follis, Jr. has lived a life stocked with purpose, valor, and honor. As a pilot for the U.S. Air Force, he flew 400 combat missions in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. In 1967 he was assigned to a F-100 squadron as operations officer, where he flew close air support, interdiction, and landing zone preparation for friendly helicopters. He is going to talk about those missions and how his squadron saved thousands of U.S. lives at the December Brown Bag Lunch Series, an adventure in learning sponsored by the Older Adult Council. Join us for some military reminiscence on Pearl Harbor Day.



**TOPIC: "Greater Love Hath No Man"**

**SPEAKER: Col. Elmer Follis, Jr.**

**WHERE: Mike Wilson Fellowship Hall**

**WHEN: December 7, 2018. Program starts at 11 a.m.; lunch is at noon.**

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

**RESERVATIONS: Not 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. \*\***

**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!**

## **XYZ's Celebrate Christmas at the Peabody in December!**

Come with us for a Memphis tradition – Christmas at the Peabody. We will see this grand hotel, winner of *USA Today's* Best Historic Hotel Award for 2018, decorated for Christmas. We'll listen to a presentation by the Duck Master and watch the ducks march. A local choir will sing live Christmas music, and you may listen to that or do a little Christmas shopping in the shops in the hotel – don't forget to stop at Lansky's! We then will enjoy lunch at the Capriccio Grill Restaurant before we head for home, in a holiday mood and ready for Christmas. [Waiting list availability only.](#)



**WHERE: Peabody Hotel and Capriccio Grill Restaurant**

**WHEN: Thursday, December 6, 2018**

**COST: \$25 per person includes lunch. This trip is being subsidized by a generous donation to the XYZ's.**

**DEPARTURE: 9:15 a.m. from OLEC parking lot. (Be there by 9:00 a.m.)**

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

**DEADLINE FOR MONEY and RESERVATIONS: Tuesday, November 6. [Waiting List Availability Only.](#)**

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## **XYZ's Tour the Newly-Renovated Pink Palace Mansion in January!**

After almost two years of renovation, the Pink Palace Mansion is going to re-open in December, and people will see the second floor of the home for the very first time. We are going to be one of the first groups to tour the building, and we will experience the home as it tells the story of Memphis in the early 1920's, when the mansion was built. There will be a streetscape—Main Street and Beale, an enlarged Piggly Wiggly, a General Store, the Cossitt Library/Museum room, a rebuilt, operational Clyde Parke Miniature Circus, and more. After our tour, we will have lunch at Patrick's restaurant on Park Avenue.



**WHERE: Pink Palace Mansion and Patrick's on Park**

**WHEN: Thursday, January 24, 2019**

**COST: \$11.50 per person plus lunch on your own.**

**DEPARTURE: 9:30 a.m. from OLEC parking lot. (Be there by 9:15)**

**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, December 12**

## Third Graders Receive Bibles

Sharing the Word of God takes on a whole new joy when sharing it with a child. In September, we were able to present twenty-three third graders their very own Bibles. This Bible not only has the child's name printed on the front, but it is very "usable" with resources inside to help a child grow in their love for God. The Friday before receiving their Bibles, the third graders participated in a one-night retreat where they learned some new skills and shared some great fellowship.



We have had a handful of children continue their growth in our Wednesday evening "Learning to use MY Bible" class. This class will continue through the spring semester. If you see one of our children carrying around their new blue Bible, stop them and ask them to share it with you!



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## Putt-Putt Games and Picnic

Many families enjoyed a day of fun and fellowship at Putt-Putt Golf and Games on Summer Avenue on October 7. Aubrey and Brenda Smith have opened their business to us for many years, and each year it seems to be more fun than the one before! The Seekers adult Sunday school class provided a hot dog lunch for everyone. Kids and adults raced on go-karts, splashed in bumper boats, challenged each other in laser tag, and shared in all kinds of mindless fun.

This day is a gift and a blessing to this congregation. Thank you Smith Family and the Seekers Sunday school class for these beautiful memories!

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## Parent Night Out

We would love to share some time with your children while you take a night out to catch your breath or enjoy a date. Our next two PNOs are November 2 and December 14. ALL children are invited, including those who have special needs. Details and registration are available online.

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## United Methodist Neighborhood Center

Last Christmas, our children were able to sponsor 40 preschool children at UMNC for Christmas. We provided each child with a coat and accessories, clothes, toys, and books. We will be supporting the UMNC preschool children again this year. This drive will begin at the Advent Workshop and continue through early December. Please check out our Angel Tree which becomes available at the Advent Workshop.

## Special Needs Ministry

Our Grace Ministry is under new direction. Natalie Adkinson and her family come to us from Birmingham, AL. Natalie has many years of experience in education and counseling. A life-long Methodist, she has a passion for serving ALL children as well as teaching about the love of God. One of the first things we did upon her arrival was refresh our Karleen Nation sensory room, designed to best meet the needs of those with exceptional needs. If you are interested in participating in this ministry in any way, please contact Natalie at Nadkinson@germantownumc.org

We are assembling a committee to support our Grace Ministry. If you are interested in serving with this group, please contact Natalie Adkinson or Lisa Pierce.



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## Support Children's Missions

This past summer, our children gathered on Wednesdays to learn about local and international missions. They then created crafts that are now for sale in an effort to raise money for missions. Please stop by the fence outside the Huddle, pick your favorites, and leave a donation in the box. All money will support the LaLimye Ministries Children's Home in Haiti as well as the Zoe Mission in Kenya. Both of these missions support children who have been orphaned, while helping them get skills to maintain independence as adults.



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## Upcoming Events

**Advent Workshop:** (Wednesday, November 14; 6:30-7:30 p.m.) It may seem early, but it is already time to plan for Advent! Grab the kids and the grandparents and join us for this great memory-maker in the children's wing hallway. This event follows our church-wide Thanksgiving Dinner (OLEC), but attendance at dinner is not required to participate. Create or refresh your family's Advent wreath, finish your wooden nativity set, or create a variety of other crafts in preparation for Advent. Registration is not required for the Advent Workshop but is required for the Thanksgiving Dinner.

**Alternative Christmas:** (December 2 during regular KidsQuest Sunday school time) Our elves have been busy all year acquiring and wrapping beautiful gifts for our Alternate Christmas. This day is dedicated to *purposeful* gift giving. Children have the opportunity to purchase gifts for \$5 and learn about free-trade merchandise.

**Journey to Jerusalem/Milk and Muffins:** (December 8; 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Hamilton Nursery) This event is designed to lead children from the angels through the birth of Jesus, to the shepherds and ultimately to the wisemen. The Jolly Ol' Guy himself is at the end to greet children and listen to their greatest wishes. This is a beautiful family event; no registration is required and is free to all.

## Element House Parties

A few weeks ago we switched our regular Sunday night routine from having Element in the OLEC to having it in different host homes. We had a great turn out and it is something that we are super excited to have again next year.

During their time together, the middle school students got to have dinner, a swim party, pot some plants, and they even had small group time. It was such a fun night! Having house parties was a low pressure way for your GUMC Youth to bring friends to a low pressure and fun environment where they learned about Christ and about having fun.

The high school students really enjoyed their time together as well. Instead of having a super scheduled night they were able to hang out with one another and fellowship. They got to sing a few worship songs, play some board games, and have a senior girls' jam session on the guitar.

We are so grateful to The Lindow's and the McKinney's for hosting this years' house parties. It was a joy to be in your homes and we cannot wait to do it again soon!

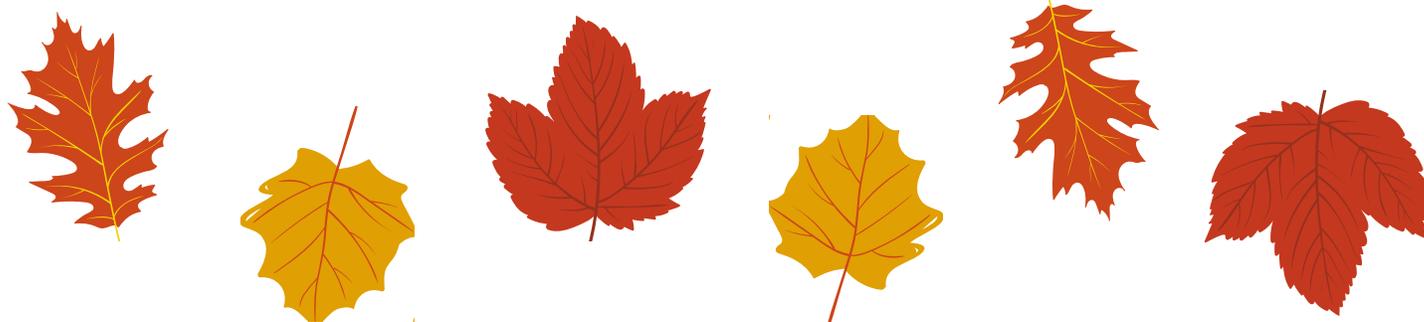


## Fall is in the Air at GUMP!

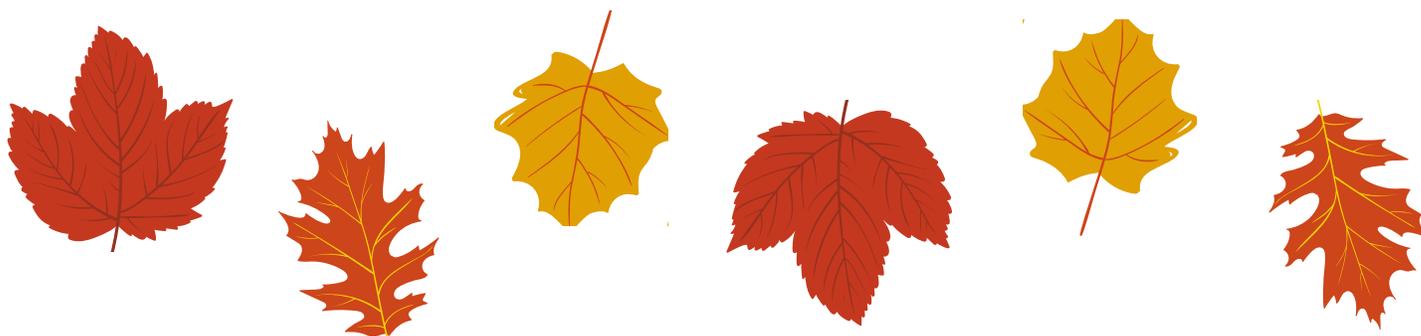
As our friends have learned about the wonders of fall—cool breezes, leaves falling, pumpkins, and the taste of delicious apples—we have relished in the beauty of God’s design with the vibrant colors and the cool weather He brings this time of year! Our friends have enjoyed exploring the science around them, using their imaginations as they dressed for fall harvest parties, raked leaves on our playground, played games with friends, heard special stories of the season, and shared special snacks with one another. We even had some special visitors from Brookdale Senior Living to view our Halloween Parade! What a wonderful opportunity for both our friends and their residents to celebrate together. GUMP is grateful for this time of year, especially as we prepare to be with family and friends; celebrating traditions and counting our blessings. God is so good!



GUMP would also like to express our thankfulness for each individual who had contributed to our weekday preschool by sending in items from our “Giving Tree.” Each purchase, big or small, helps GUMP serve our little friends and their families, as well as support our teachers and staff. We are grateful each time you think of us!



**GermanTown**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH





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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.*

## Church-Wide Thanksgiving Dinner

**Wednesday, November 14, 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
at the OLEC followed by Advent Workshop  
(Children's Ministry Area)**

Join your church family for a *Feast of the Season* with turkey, gravy, dressing, and all the trimmings! Enjoy a fabulous meal with wonderful desserts while sitting at tables decorated by our very own United Methodist Women's Circles!

After enjoying a wonderful meal with your family and friends, plan to prepare for the holiday season at our annual *ADVENT WORKSHOP* at 6:30 p.m. in our Children's Education Wing. Children and parents will have a chance to make Advent wreaths, Advent decorations, and nibble on cookies and punch.

This cherished GUMC tradition is a wonderful way to prepare for the season. A "not to be missed" evening of Food, Fun, and Fellowship!

### **How to Register**

Cost of the dinner is \$11/adult, \$5/child (ages 4-10), and free for children 3 and under. Pay online at [germantownumc.org](http://germantownumc.org) or come by the Welcome Center during office hours. Dinner tickets will be sold in the Fellowship Hall on November 11 between worship services. **Reservation with payment is due by Noon on Monday, November 12.**

The Advent Workshop is free and no registration is required to participate.

