

THE WINDOW

JANUARY 2024



GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
C·H·U·R·C·H





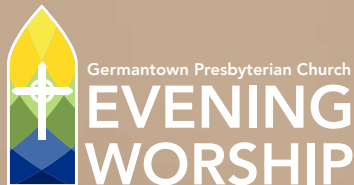
Over 40 gathered on the afternoon of Sunday, December 17 and traveled out for Christmas caroling at GPC members' homes and retirement communities!



New Year, New Me?

Evening Worship Sermon Series
Beginning Sunday, January 7
5:00 p.m., Evans Chapel

A 6-week New Year's series talking about the practice of setting resolutions to be better, to do better, and why they those commitments often fall apart. Our new life in Christ has everything we need to experience a new way of being. Each week we'll explore an essential characteristic of our new life in Christ, and how to graft these life-changing rhythms into our every day lives.



**FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE
ICE CREAM & COCOA SOCIAL**
WED, JANUARY 10, 11:00 A.M., AC

CHOIR REHEARSAL RESUMES
WED, JANUARY 10, 7:00 P.M.

GRIEF MINISTRY
THU, JANUARY 11, 5:00 PM, PARLOR

ROOM IN THE INN AT GPC
THU-FRI, JANUARY 11-12, COMMUNITY ROOM

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
MON, JANUARY 15

PW GATHERING
TUE, JANUARY 16, 10:00 AM, WARREN HALL

WORSHIP WORKS RESUMES
SUN, JANUARY 21, 5:00 P.M.
NOAH'S ARK ROOM

AMPLIFY KICKS OFF
SAT, JANUARY 26, 11:30 A.M., SANCTUARY

CHILI COOK-OFF
SAT, JANUARY 27, 5:00 P.M., AC

YOUTH AUCTION
SUN, FEBRUARY 4, 6:00 P.M., AC

PW CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY
TUE, FEBRUARY 6, 10:00 A.M.
UPSTAIRS CLASSROOMS



WALK TO
EMMAUS
THE UPPER ROOM®

Men

Thu-Sun, February 15-18, 2024

Women

Thu-Sun, February 22-25, 2024

Inspiring, challenging, and equipping
active adult church members for
Christian action in the community.



Our 4th-6th graders kicked off the month of December with games and playacting in the Christmas spirit.

GPC STUDENT MINISTRY RETREATS AND MISSION TRIPS



June 15-21, for students currently in 9th-12th grade



July 7-13, for students currently in 6th-8th grade



SuperStart: FastForward Retreat

SuperStart is a high-energy, intentionally crafted weekend event for preteens to hear the gospel, learn Biblical truths, and be called to a life of Kingdom Work. Learn more about SuperStart at ciy.com/superstart/sup24tn.

\$75 per student

Registration closes January 14

Questions? Contact
Christopher Greco, christopherg@gpctn.org
or Blair Hayes, blairh@gpctn.org



Scan to register
or visit gpctn.org



Feb 23-25, for students currently in 6th-12th grade



Scan here for
links to all the
retreat registrations.

Parents enjoyed a little time to shop for Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 2 as the kids enjoyed Christmas games & activities.



Rev. Mike Lyle led the group in an Advent lesson on what is a king at the Large Sunday School on Sunday, December 3. The group determined how a king dresses, walks, and talks





Imagine That!

KICKS OFF THU, JAN 11

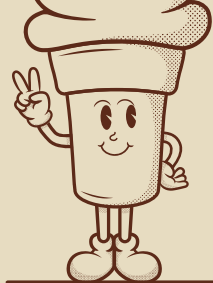
11 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

GPC PARLOR



Imagine That! participants brought the book, *Mr. Willowby's Christmas Tree* to life through a Christmas tree craft.

ICE CREAM & COCOA SOCIAL



Friendship Circle

WED JAN 10 11AM

Join us for this sweet event as we kick off the New Year. In addition to sharing our holiday cheer, we will begin viewing "The Prince of Egypt" – an animated movie about the life of Moses, if time permits.



Amplify Music

KICKS OFF FRI, JAN 26

11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

SANCTUARY

Amplify is back!! We have a new Music Coordinator, Gabriel Pike! He brings a new passion and approach to help restart the AMPlify program in 2024.

Come join the jam sessions and learn how to work together to make a joyful sound unto the Lord!



press

So why would anyone want to play a game with a funny sounding name like Pickleball?

As an aerobic activity, it improves cardiovascular health, improves muscle strength, and burns calories. Because it is a low-impact sport, it focuses on balance and agility while carrying a lower risk of injury compared to other similar games such as tennis. So, many people take it up to get exercise and stay fit.

But exercise may not be the greatest benefit this game has to offer.

The informal atmosphere of play lends to conversation during and between games leading to camaraderie and friendliness, rather than competitiveness. This can result in a pickleball community which can be a welcoming environment for all participants. It's a sport that is accessible to all ages, all fitness levels, and doesn't require a large financial investment to start playing. Just search for "pickleball" on YouTube and you'll find many videos that show just how much fun it is to play.

What does this game look like at GPC?

Here is a picture from our November 15th event called "Dinner and Dinks" when participants told us after this fun evening such as Jimmy Kiser saying "Thanks to everyone as Alice and I had a great time on our FIRST pickleball experience!! !!!" and Bonnie Algee agreeing with "So glad it was well attended. Thanks to all the organizers."



Dinner & Dinks

We are looking forward to the next chance to gather, eat & play pickleball at Dinner & Dinks!. We are working to schedule one in February.

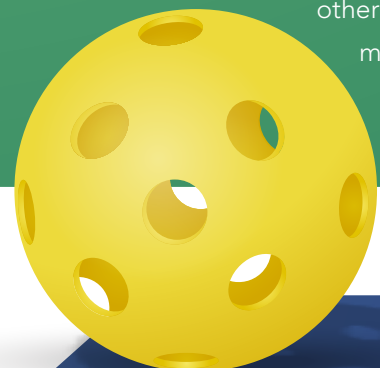
Stay tuned for more information about Dinner & Dinks and League Play. Look for more details in the #GPCannouncements weekly email, the Group Me App, or contact Wendy Holmes, wendy@pikeyoga.com.

What do you need to get started?

Please check with the GPC website and search under "News and Resources" to find the Pickleball Tab for gym hours available for times to play. Also we recommend that you contact one of the GPC Pickleball Committee members (Mike Lyle, Paula Hopkins, Lori Harding, Wendy Holmes, Elizabeth Powell, Jill Crocker, Cathy Borden, and Linda Oakes) to become a member of a simple app (Group Me) to learn about upcoming lessons and communications from your GPC family to find out when

others are meeting to play.

germantownpres.org/pickleball





The *Sounds of the Season* performance on Sunday, December 3, featured soprano, Kallen Esperian with pianist, Gary Beard. Also performing were GPC soloists Michael Anderson, Karen Schowalter Cooper, Naomi Kohl, Haena Jeong, and Marcus King, along with the GPC Chancel Choir, Organist Dr. Alex Benford, the Memphis Brass Quintet, percussion, and Music Director, Dr. Jerold Teachey.



PW GATHERING

Tuesday, January 16
10:00 a.m., Warren Hall

Lunch will follow

Our speaker will be
Jennifer Gentry
Director of Preschool



Questions?

Ellie Goughnour, elliegoughnour@att.net
Ann Harbor, annflukerharbor@aol.com

GERMANTOWN PRESBYTERIAN

preschool

**2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

Ages: 9 months-5 years

School hours are 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Email Jennifer Gentry at preschool@gpptn.org
for more information or to schedule a tour.



On Thursday, November 30, the sanctuary was converted into a movie theatre for the showing of Carolyn Crowder's *The River: Struggle and Grace in the Segregated South*. Thanks to all who attended and joined the discussion.



Our Blue Christmas worship service was performed on Saturday, December 16 in the contemplative setting in Evans Chapel. Linda Oakes, Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins and Stephanie Wall presided over the service. Stephanie is GPC's Certified Bereavement Specialist, and Linda, as well as Beth Brock (not pictured), provide our grief support group for all who are suffering from loss. Also not pictured are pianist, Alex Benford and soloist, Briana Reilly.

GPC will host RITl guests,
Thursday, Jan. 11
overnight at the church.



Grief Ministry Support



2nd Thursday
January 11
5:00 p.m.
GPC Parlor

Germantown Career Support & Networking

Mondays, Jan. 8 & 22
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Chapel Community Room

Doors on west side unlock at 6 pm and relock at 6:50 pm.



The GPC community came together for three Wednesdays during Advent for dinner and a 3 part devotion series on the real life story of St. Nicholas, led by Rev. Mike Lyle. The kids spent each evening practicing for the Christmas Eve performance.





Our Student Ministry worked away upstairs constructing crafts and decorating cookies, while the Special Needs Ministry enjoyed Advent programming in Warren Hall. Thanks to Mike, the Faith Formation Team, and the Compass Committee for organizing this fun series together.





On December 10, GPC Organist, Dr. Alex Benford performed his Holiday Pops Concert with friends: Ethan Baskin, Isabella Wallace, Brianna Reilly, Dennis Ryan, and the GPC Handbell Choir



SAFETY & PROPERTY UPDATE

Germantown is fortunate to have many old trees and we are fortunate to have many on our campus. They do require ongoing maintenance, which was performed in December.



If you have not been around church at night, the addition of the sidewalk lights on Arthur Road look great and help keep us safe and keep us from stumbling. *Thank you to Building and Grounds for this upgrade.*



Heartfelt thanks to Cathy Aslin. All of our AED units have been checked and are in working order. These safety tools are kept up to date regularly and are located in the

- AC lobby – main floor
- Choir Room – on the hall wall - second floor
- Chapel basement by the Community Room
- First Aid Kits are located in the following areas:
 - Narthex – ushers' closet – main floor
 - Office – copy room – main floor
 - Warren Hall kitchen – main floor
 - AC kitchen – main floor
 - Chapel basement by the Community Room
 - Preschool classrooms – lower level

FROM FURNISHING/BUILDING & GROUNDS

When putting away the remnants of the holidays, please check and see if you have any church items which might have found their way into your home. Please return at your earliest convenience.

Also as we begin another year at GPC:

- Please communicate clearly and during regular business hours your needs for any setup
- Please take out all trash from any large event
- Reset the room if you made any physical changes
- You could even ask what setup is needed for that room and help prepare for the next event.

Thank you for caring for our church like you do in your own home.



WELCOME & THANKS

We are fortunate to have a wonderful guardian angel watching over us on Sunday mornings. His name is David and you can catch him around campus monitoring and securing our premises, driving the golf cart, opening doors and welcoming members and guests.

David is a retired deputy sheriff for Shelby County, well not really retired because he went back to being a part time sheriff and working at GPC. He was worked as a sheriff for over 42 years and we are fortunate to have him at GPC. He said he liked getting out and staying busy. He also wanted us to know that he only eats donuts when he is working at our church! David has a wife, two grown children and a handful of grandchildren.

David reminds us to lock our cars. Do not leave items visible in the car. Be aware of your surroundings. If you see something - Say something. Be sure to say good morning and thank you to David when you see him.

WISHING A BIG GPC HAPPY BIRTHDAY

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS BORN IN JANUARY

1	Pat Potter
2	Ernie Goad Bill Ruleman
3	Phil Mosley
4	David Bradford
5	Pat Massengill Debbie Ragain Jim Robinson Wes Robinson
6	Brock Bowden
7	Martha Drexler Paula Hopkins Jay Ragain Billie Work
8	Sondra Biggs Carolyn Porter
9	Win Bray Mary Moll

10	Chris Harding Katherine Harding Luke McClellan
11	Bill Lawhorn
13	Matt Graddy Johnathan Winer
14	Judy Bilbrey
16	Tim Barker Noell Moseley Mary Jane Thompson
17	Christy Campbell Will Chandler Ginny Cifaldi Walter Hill
18	Kathy Kalagias Day Libba Schatz
19	Anthony Duke
20	Sarah Teachey

21	Billy Burnett Doug Geyer Will Jones
22	Jared Smith Abby Wells Jessie Wells Emmett Whitaker
24	Lydia Waldrop
25	Katherine Burnett
28	Eddie Batey Susan S. Jones
29	Shelby Glass Suzanne Ray
30	Sally Fienup Randy Harris Andrew Miller Austin Simmons
31	Ed Dellinger Mary Blanche Scott

Did we miss someone? Call or email and let us know • 901-754-5195 • comm@gpctn.org

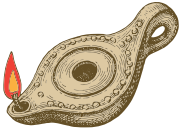


GPC celebrated Christ's birth with four services on Christmas Eve. The children sang at the 3:30 p.m. service and we had communion and sang by candlelight at the 5:30 and 11:00 p.m. services.



MELLOR LIBRARY GOALS FOR 2024

Help the library grow in resources • Increase congregational engagement • Be visible to all



**Ernest Mellor
Library**

The Mellor Library is a special place in the life of our congregation. It offers resources and opportunities for growth and spiritual development. It is the place to meet and grow in your faith, share a book with your child, find a new study or a good fictional read, search for books on personal development and self help.

Please visit the library and grab a treat on the table! See what all of the buzz is about!

BOOK READING BY LAUREN UTTERBACK

On Sunday morning, December 10, Lauren Utterback, GPC member and author of "Blue Bruce the Christmas Spruce," read to both the preschool and elementary children who then visited the library for a candy treat. The author then read to the adults and signed books.





LOCAL MISSION: BINGHAMPTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (BCA)

In December, a group of GPC women visited Binghampton Christian Academy for a Christmas party. The women at the party are committed to praying for a specific child from this Kindergarten class for this school year. Our class has 16 children and we have 16 people who have agreed to pray daily for a child. We have about 5-6 other volunteers who pray for the class as a whole and who come and help with the four parties we host each year. At these parties we match up with our prayer partner and do the activities and games. This enables us to get to know the child for which we are praying. We started with this class last year and will follow them through 8th grade. Sometimes prayer partners have to be replaced but the goal is to have one GPC member praying for and bonding with one student for the students entire career at the school.

We have also developed a relationship with BCA through various other projects, including a book drive (in conjunction with the Library Committee), a coat drive and planned visits, such as this one. It is a joyful opportunity to interact with the children and to demonstrate the Christian values of love and giving. And in turn, there is great reward for the volunteers through the love and appreciation that is given back.

BCA is a important part of our local mission. Memphis, throughout it's history, has had a higher than average rate of poverty. The results of which have led to many that are food and shelter insecure. As this cycle continues, we see many youth that are unable to escape the spiral.

BCA is trying to break that cycle by providing a high-quality education to its young students. But it is a community effort. GPC plays a part in supporting the students, teachers, and administrators in their efforts.

If you would like more information about BCA, visit www.bcamemphis.org

For info about getting involved with GPC mission, email mission@germantownpres.org



GPC Staff enjoyed a fun evening out together in early December with dinner and bus tour of Starry Nights at Shelby Farms!

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

All are welcome to join us to study,
share, and pray on the 2nd & 4th
Thursdays of each month.

January meetings will be on the
11th & 25th, 10:00 a.m. in UL-216.



Questions? Email Jean Carroll, jeancarroll1@comcast.net

CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER PROGRAM

Members of the congregation are randomly selected each week to be lifted up.

JANUARY 7

Christine & Tom Adams
Kirsty Adams
Cathy & Ruffin Borden
Jennie Fulmer
Shannon & Ross Gulla
(Megan, Sarah Grace)
Susan Green Jones
Norma Miles
Leigh Powers
Rodney Strop
Katie Wiener Eleazer
(Katie, Bailey)

JANUARY 14

Bonnie Algee
Johnathan Whited
Jerry Huff
Susan & Chuck Hurt (Charlie)
Jennifer & Bill Prest (Walton)
Elaine & Bill Skoog
Anna & Bubba Ellis
Beth Seaton

JANUARY 21

Anne Allen
Mary K & David Grantham
(James, Wells, Thomas)
Patty & Steve Jackson
Barbara Ragsdale
Rubye Reid
Karen Jetton

JANUARY 28

Janet Anderson
Lea Buring (Dina Ciabattini)
Lindsey & Joseph Butler
(Adelaide, Chandler)
Emily & Larry Hak
Brenda & David Jeter
Jan Petri & Jerold Teachey
(Jenna, Sarah, Quin)
Anne & Wayne Tansil
Ruth Woodworth

NOVEMBER HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS



HONORARIUMS

In honor of McCall Wilson & Christy Campbell Wedding
Steve & Barbara Callaway

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Flora Warren
Michael & Rebecca Cain

LOCAL MISSIONS FUND

In honor of GPC Staff
Mary Rogers

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Bobby Lanier
Michael & Rebecca Cain

In memory of Jackie Ruleman
Bob & Dixie Johnson

MUSIC FUND

In memory of Jackie Ruleman
David & Kay Collins
Sammy Marshall
Rush & JoAnn Stuart

SONRISE MENISTRIES

In honor of John Colmer
Lalla Mellor Colmer

In honor of Ernest H. Mellor, Jr
Lalla Mellor Colmer

In memory of Greg Morgan
Lalla Mellor Colmer

WEDDING FUND

In honor of Karen Fesmire
Philip & Lori Matthews

NOVEMBER FINANCIALS

GPC's General Fund

	<u>November 2023, month</u>		<u>November 2023, year-to-date</u>	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Receipts				
Offerings Received	\$ 256,465	\$ 192,339	\$ 2,102,416	\$ 1,954,023
Other Receipts	<u>11,559</u>	<u>4,370</u>	<u>127,824</u>	<u>46,596</u>
Total Receipts	268,024	196,709	2,230,240	2,000,619
Expenses	<u>(192,513)</u>	<u>(178,900)</u>	<u>(2,078,445)</u>	<u>(2,044,766)</u>
Net	<u>\$ 75,511</u>	<u>\$ 17,809</u>	<u>\$ 151,795</u>	<u>\$ (44,147)</u>
Debt Balance - Education Bldg.	<u>\$ 241,613</u>			
Debt Balance - Poplar Pike	<u>\$ 1,149,770</u>			

Total revenue for November was \$268,024, and expenses were \$192,513, producing a monthly surplus of \$75,511. Our Year-to-Date actuals remain positive at \$151,795. We are 94.5% through the year and were in a deficit until an influx of contributions allowed our surplus at the last minute. Please remember your decision for 2024 is more

significant to the financial well-being of GPC than ever. If you haven't made your financial commitment, please turn your pledge in at your earliest convenience. It cannot be over-emphasized that EVERY pledge and contribution counts. Thank you for your continued prayers and generous Engagement of Our Potential.

We transferred our stockbroker from Edward Jones to Morgan Stanley. For stock gifts, please contact Amber Miller at 901-754-5195 or amberm@gpctn.org for account information.



2363 S Germantown Rd
Germantown TN 38138

(901) 754-5195 • GPCTN.org

Sunday School: 9:40 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 a.m. Worship

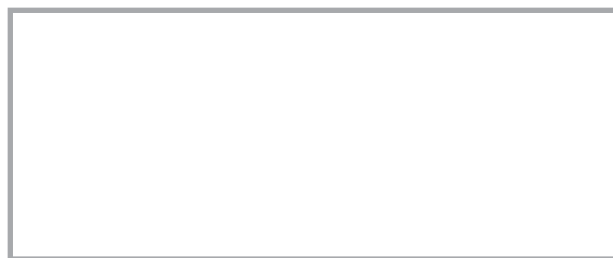
11:00 a.m. Worship (onsite & online)

Sunday Evening Worship

5:00 p.m. (Evans Chapel)

Office hours: Mon-Fri

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Chili Cook-Off

and Kids' Dessert Competition

THAT WILL BE

OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Saturday, Jan. 27
5:30 p.m., AC



Magician Jeff Day
will perform!

**Bring \$1 bills to vote for
your favorite chilis & desserts.
Proceeds go to Binghampton
Christian Academy.**

**Sign up to compete at GPCsignup.com
or scan the QR code above**

Youth Auction!

Sun, Feb 4, 6:00 p.m.

Ticket & donation
links at gpctn.org

Adults (18+): \$25

Students (6th-12th grade): FREE

Children (5 years-5th grade): \$5

Under 5 years old: FREE

