GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 19, 2026 | NEWSLETTER

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www.gspcmobile.org



A Message from Reverend Rebekah Abel Lamar:



Those of you who have visited my office know that I like to keep the shutters open so the full light can come through the windows. I close them at night and open them again the next morning. As I write, the shutters are wide open, but the light is long gone. It is not especially late, but the early sunset since the time change means that the daylight is often gone before I am, so I sit here by lamplight that I rarely use in summer months. We still have several weeks left of 2026, but we are approaching the last Sunday of the liturgical year. For the church, a new year begins with the season of Advent as we start our preparation for Christ's birth.

The Gregorian calendar that we use to mark time begins a new year soon after the longest night of the year. But our church calendar begins while the darkness continues to gather. The faithfulness of God is steadfast even as the light continues to dwindle. It is a reminder that Christ's power does not have to be obvious to be real. Faith allows us to believe even when the light fades and to trust even when Christ's promised reign seems far off.

See you Sunday.

Grace and peace,

Rebekah Abel Lamar

THIS SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 22

On Sunday, November 22, 2026, Rev. Lamar continues her sermon series "Steadfast." She will preach on Matthew 5:33-48 with a sermon on worship titled, "The Second Mile." Music includes our Chancel Bell Choir playing two pieces for the Prelude: "Father, We Praise Thee," and "Now Thank We All Our God." The Introit is based on the tune Finlay with text from Psalm 100, "O Be Joyful in the Lord." The anthem is in honor of Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year: "At The Name of Jesus" by Richard Waters sung by our Sanctuary Choir. The Postlude for the day will be "Now Thank We All Our God" by Sigfried Karg-Elert.

Click this link to download the bulletin.

Click this link to watch the livestream service.

Happy Thanksgiving!



The Church office will close at noon on Wednesday, November 25 and remain closed until Monday, November 30 at 8 am. We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday with family, friends, and loved ones.



December 6

9:45 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Sip and See

Following Lessons & Carols

December 20

If you have a baby that you would like to celebrate and share with your church family, please let the church office know, or email *jennifer@gspcmobile.org.*

Do you have news or photos to share? Email the church office:

jennifer@gspcmobile.org

Cancellations Next Week:



Theology on Tap - Cancelled for Tuesday, November 24

Men's Bible Study-Cancelled for Wednesday, November 25

Chancel Bells and Sanctuary Choir Cancelled for Wednesday, November 25

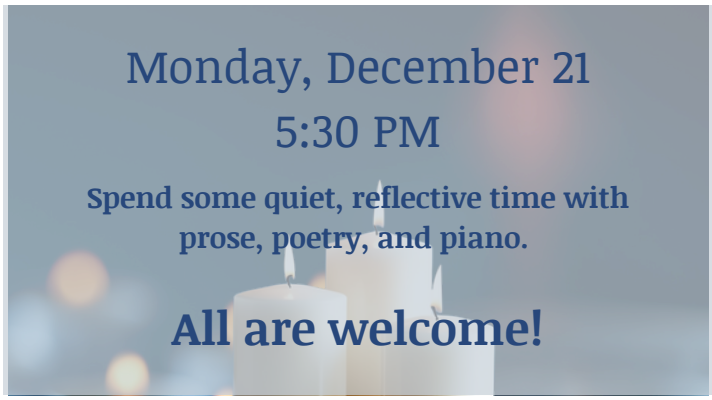




Exciting news for our GSPC family! Former member Daniel Killilea is being ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA) this Saturday, November 21, at South Highland Presbyterian Church in Birmingham. Daniel is currently serving as pastor at St. Luke's United Church of Christ in Jeffersonville, IN. Be sure to tune into the livestream to cheer him on as he takes this next step in ministry!



The Longest Night Service



This service is for those who are mourning, grieving, lonely, sad, or just need a quiet reflective time in the hustle and bustle of the coming Season. Come listen, light candles and let your prayers rise as incense.





Epiphany Bell & Carol Concert

Sunday, January 10 at 4:00 pm

The Vesper Ecumenical Bells and Sanctuary Choir members will cap off the Christmas Season by ringing and singing everyones's favorite carols. Reception to follow in the foyer and library.



Thank you to all who came to the Sip and See last week to celebrate these precious babies!





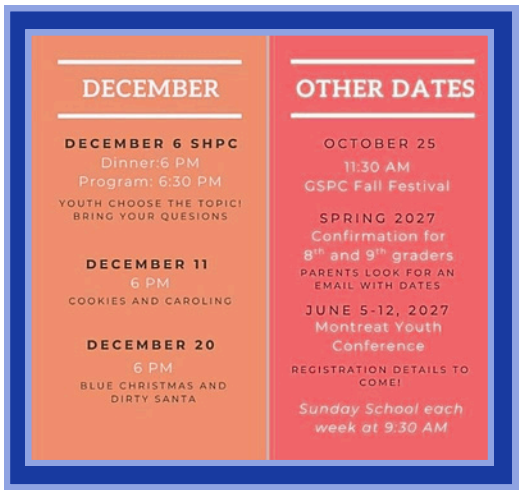





YOUTH

NEXT MEETING is Sunday, November 29

6 PM Progressive Dinner



STILL SEARCHING

for the next Director of Christian Formation / Associate Pastor for Christian Formation

The church staff is seeking applicants for the following position: **Director of Christian Formation / Associate Pastor for Christian Formation.** GSPC has partnered with Ministry Architects to conduct a search for a Director of Christian Formation / Associate Pastor for Christian Formation.

This is the link to the job posting.

The job link is also available on the *GSPC website.*

Cick here to view more details about this job opportunity and to apply.





MADE FOR PRAISE!!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Our wonderful Made for Praise Children's Choir sang so beautifully on Sunday! Thanks to all of our parents for bringing their children. and allowing us to make music with them.

We rehearse Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. We are working on music for Sunday, December 13, so we need all of the children each week. Thank you, again, parents!

With love,

Ms. Nancy and Ms. Gabbi

ADULT MUSIC MINISTRIES

CHANCEL BELLS will be ringing the Prelude for us this coming Sunday! They have been hard at work on "Father, We Praise Thee" and "Now Thank We All Our God." Chancel Bells will meet on Sunday morning, Nov. 22 at 9 a.m. to rehearse. We will not have rehearsal on Wednesday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR continues rehearsals for Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve and Epiphany. We meet Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. All youth-adults of all ages are welcome to join us. Come and get the best view of Worship from the Choir Loft! We will not have rehearsal on Wednesday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

VESPER ECUMENICAL RINGERS will meet on Monday, November 23 at 5:30 p.m. This fantastic group is working on the Epiphany Bells and Carols Concert for Sunday, January 10, 4 p.m. Please plan to come and bring friends and family as we end the Christmas Season with this concert!

HELP NEEDED

Making Scented Sachets



Members of the **Missions Committee** are seeking volunteers to help make holiday sachets for the women of McKemie Place. These are small, hand-stitched or embroidered scented sachets. If you would like to participate in this project, please contact Meredith Johnston at 251-323-5954 or mwjohnston@crimson.ua.edu. Thanks to those who have already committed to participate in this project.

Love to cook or bake?



Put your kitchen talents to work blessing our church family! From comforting a neighbor through Take Them A Meal to hosting grieving families at Memorial Receptions, food is one of the best ways we care for one another at GSPC. Join the Congregational Care Committee's hospitality team —reach out to Jennifer in the church office at jennifer@gspcmobile.org to get on our volunteer list.



MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Memorial Service for **Nancy Graham** is scheduled for Saturday, **January 16** at 10 a.m.

Read Nancy Graham's obituary here.



FLOWER DEDICATIONS

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact Ann Adams at 251-591-8586, or *email her by clicking this link.*

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

SUNDAYS

- Sunday Book Study for Adults: 9:30 a.m. in the Church Library.
- Gospel 101 Sunday School for Adults: 9:30 a.m. upstairs in the Multi-purpose room.
- Children and Youth Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. (Children begin with singing in the corner Children's classroom on the 1st floor before dividing by age.) Youth meet in the youth room upstairs.

MONDAYS

- Circles of Hope and Joy: Next meeting is Monday the 9th at the Guesnard House, The gathering begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the Bible study at 6 p.m. All are welcome. Contact: Sallye Irvine or Shelley Hood.

TUESDAYS

- Bible Study for Women, 9 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams
- Bible Study for Women, 10 a.m. at the church and via Zoom. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.

WEDNESDAYS

- The Wednesday Bible Study Group meets at noon at the home of Beth Rouse.
- Men's Bible Study meets at 6 p.m. at the church and via Zoom. Contact: Bo Perry.

STUDY FOR WOMEN

- Young Women's Bible Study: Monthly in the Guesnard House.

Christmas Poinsettia Flower Dedication

Poinsettias will be displayed on Sunday, December 20 for the Lessons and Carols Service and may be collected after the Christmas Eve Service on December 24. Dedications will be printed in the Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve bulletins. For publication, please turn in your dedications by Friday, December 11 at noon. Make checks payable to GSPC or pay on Realm by choosing the "Holiday Flowers" fund. ***SCAN THE QR CODE TO USE THE ONLINE FORM.***

Given by: _____

In Honor of (still living) _____

In Memory of (passed away) _____

Number of Poinsettias ($15 each) _____ $_____ ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Realm