GOVERNMENT STREET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 12, 2026 | NEWSLETTER

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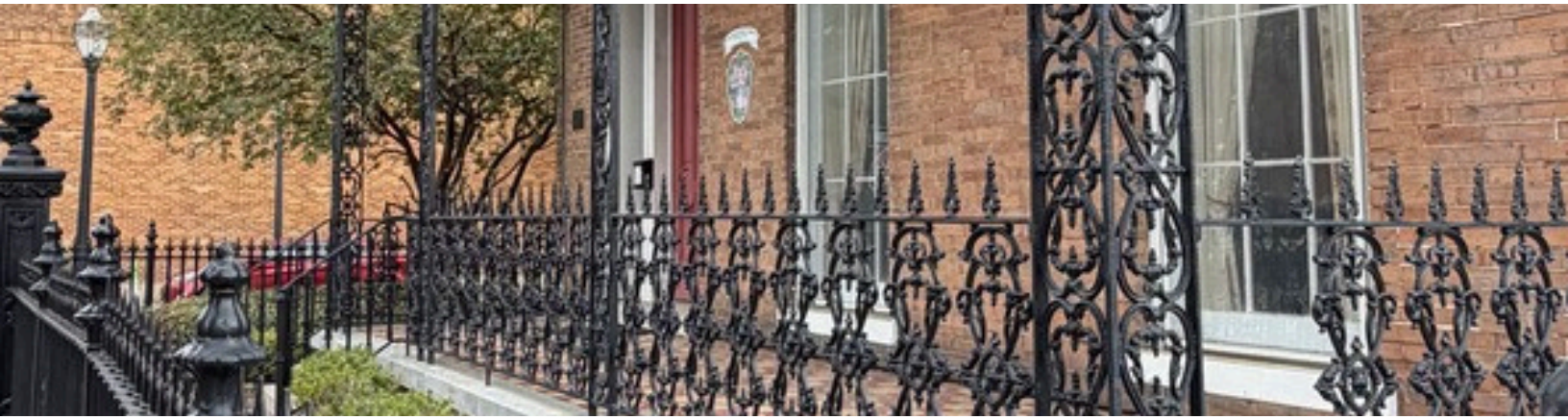



A Message from Reverend Rebekah Abel Lamar:

Life these days takes me through a good bit of road construction. It has delayed my arrival more than once in the last week, and the frustration I have felt as a result has not been insignificant. As I sat through more traffic delays today, I realized that perhaps the road construction is not just literal but metaphorical as well.

Life is full of uncertainty for most of us. The path ahead is not always clear. While the uncertainty of the moment may vary, the anxiety and frustration it can cause are consistent. One habit I've found that grounds me in both actual and figurative road construction is gratitude—literally naming the things for which I am grateful.

So, let me share with you four things at GSPC that I thought about as I sat in traffic today.

Our children and youth. The children's sermon is one of my favorite parts of the worship service each week. I enjoy being face-to-face with the children. I have loved having some of our young people lead worship this fall, and I am looking forward to the children singing in worship on Sunday!

Our interfaith collaboration. We are resuming our partnership with Spring Hill Avenue Temple and First Baptist this month. The Interfaith Thanksgiving Service is always a hopeful and grounding experience. This year, the service is next Thursday (11/19) at the Temple, and I am always grateful for the privilege of worshiping there.

Working HVAC. This may seem silly, but as many of you know, the church is steadily replacing our HVAC system. More work will happen next week, making the church more reliable and efficient in cooling and heating our spaces so they are ready for ministry.

Our Session. I hope the larger church realizes that you have a hard-working and dedicated Session filled with spiritual leaders. I probably do not say publicly often enough how pleased I am to be in ministry with these faithful disciples. They are a blessing to our church.

I hope your day has been filled with less road construction than mine, but I also hope you will add to this list or start your own. God is good.

See you Sunday.

Rebekah Abel Lamar

THIS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15

Join us on Sunday, November 15, 2026, as Reverend Lamar continues her sermon series “Steadfast.” She will preach on Matthew 14:22-33 with a sermon on worship titled, “Do Not Fear.” Music includes our Made for Praise Children’s Choir singing two of their favorites. The Sanctuary Choir begins with an Introit from the Psalms, “Enter His Presence.” The choral anthem is from the Russian Sacred School by Mikhail Ippolitiv-Ivanov, “O Bless the Lord My Soul.” The organ prelude and postlude are by Douglas E. Wagner: “Soliloquy from Psalm 139” and “Variations in G Minor on Psalm 52.”

Click this link to watch the livestream service.

Click this link to download the bulletin.

SIP and SEE ~ November 15

After church this Sunday, there will be a Sip & See at the Guesnard House. We will celebrate:

- Watterson McNeil Majure, son of Will and Hannah Majure
- Mary Louise Majure, son of Christopher and Paden Majure
- Travis Bedsole Goodloe IV, son of Travis and Sally Goodloe
- Robert Milton Hope IV, son of Robert and Emma Goodloe Hope
- Grant Carlisle Riis, son of Burruss and Carly Riis

To everyone who helped make the Presbytery of South Alabama Meeting on November 10 a success: *Thankyou*



SPECIAL SERVICES







Lessons and Carols includes:

the Sanctuary Choir, Celtic Anthems & Carols with Violins, Viola, Timpani, and Bagpipes!

All are welcome for this festive service to celebrate the coming of Emmanuel, God with us. The congregation will lift their voices on many favorite carols and anthems. For more information, email Director of Music/Organist Nancy Smith at *nancy@gspcmobile.org.*

Do you have news or photos to share? Email the church office *jennifer@gspcmobile.org*

The Longest Night Service

Monday, December 21, 5:30 PM

Spend some quiet, reflective time with prose, poetry, and piano.

All are welcome!

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.

YOUTH

NEXT MEETING SUNDAY, November 15: BOWLING!



NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	OTHER DATES
NOVEMBER 4 SHPC Dinner: 6 PM Program: 6:30 PM TOPIC: HOW TO BE A SAINT	DECEMBER 6 SHPC Dinner:6 PM Program: 6:30 PM YOUTH CHOOSE THE TOPIC! BRING YOUR QUESIONS	OCTOBER 25 11:30 AM GSPC Fall Festival
NOVEMBER 11 SHPC Dinner: 6 PM Program: 6:30 PM YOU CHOOSE THE TOPIC NIGHT!	DECEMBER 11 6 PM COOKIES AND CAROLING	SPRING 2027 Confirmation for 8th and 9th graders PARENTS LOOK FOR AN EMAIL WITH DATES
NOVEMBER 15 6 PM: Bowling	DECEMBER 20 6 PM BLUE CHRISTMAS AND DIRTY SANTA	JUNE 5-12, 2027 Montreat Youth Conference REGISTRATION DETAILS TO COME!
NOVEMBER 22 NO YOUTH EVENTS		*Sunday School each week at 9:30 AM*
NOVEMBER 29 6 PM Progressive Dinner		

WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS FOR...



GSPC members are encouraged to upload a photo to their Realm profile. Having a photo in the directory helps the people who are new to our community! If you need help, call Jennifer at 251- 432-1749, or email her your photo to *jennifer@gspcmobile.org* and she will upload it for you. Need help logging in for the first time? Call Jennifer. She is happy to help.

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.

Thank you to everyone who came to Prayers in the Park last Sunday. The parents enjoyed themselves as much as the children!











MADE FOR PRAISE!!
CHILDREN'S CHOIR

PARENTS, MADE FOR PRAISE CHILDREN'S CHOIR will be singing **this Sunday, November 15** during the service. Please have your children at rehearsal by 9:30 a.m. so we can sound amazing in Worship! Thank you for the opportunity to make music with your children. We love them!

Ms. Nancy and Ms. Gabbi

ADULT MUSIC MINISTRIES

CHANCEL BELLS will be ringing for us on Sunday, November 22! This hard working and joyful group will ring "Father We Praise Thee" and "Now Thank We All Our God" for the Prelude. Don't be late! You don't want to miss this wonderful bell choir!



THE SANCTUARY CHOIR is hard at work on music for Sundays, Lessons and Carols and Christmas. Please be sure to have Sunday, December 20, 10:30 a.m. for our very festive Lessons and Carols! There is still time to join the choir if you would like to sing for this beautiful musical offering. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

VESPER ECUMENICAL RINGERS meet every Monday evening from 5:30-7:30. We are working on our EPIPHANY BELLS AND CAROLS CONCERT, Sunday, January 10, 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome! Parents, this is a very child-friendly program! Please come and bring your children. They can watch the bell ringers up close and help us sing familiar carols. It will be a great ending to the Christmas Season!



A NOTE ABOUT OUR FABULOUS ORGAN -
I am in love with this magnificent instrument! May you love hearing it as much as I love playing it. It seems that it has a mind of its own. Sometimes when pistons are pulled, it decides not to play. Sometimes it plays a note or two by itself when I am nowhere near the pedals or keys. It is always an adventure.

We have tuners coming to get us in shape before Christmas, and then in January we will have a full tuning of the instrument. That doesn't mean it will change any of the oddities that happen! But at least the oddities will be in tune. Thanks to Pastor Rebekah, our Session and all members who care about keeping the organ in the best shape possible. May the glorious sound of our pipes rise to the heavenly spheres today and for all the days to come.

Peace, love and joy,
Nancy



LUNCH & LEARN WILL CONTINUE IN JANUARY

and we need your help!

If you have a suggestion for a guest speaker or a topic that you would be interested in learning more about, please contact the church office.

TUESDAY LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

Come to lunch! The congregation and community are invited to the "Tuesday Lunch and Learn at GSPC" series. Each week through November 17, we'll have a lunch with a guest speaker from the community. The lunches are held from noon to 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The cost is $10, which includes drinks and dessert.

Nov. 17: Jack Brunet, author of ***My Story: Medic,*** a memoir of his year in Vietnam.



CALLING ALL CHEFS!

The Congregational Care Committee is asking for volunteers to help prepare food for Memorial Receptions,Take Them A Meal, and other GSPC events. If you are interested in preparing food for our congregation, please let the church office know. Email jennifer@gspcmobile.org.

ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree will be set up in the lobby area on **November 15.** Please stop by, pick an angel from the tree, and buy Christmas presents for someone in need. More information concerning deadlines, etc., will be coming soon, so stay tuned.

HELP NEEDED

Making Scented Sachets for McKemie Place

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.

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 bulletin. 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

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.

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.*



MEMORIAL SERVICES

The Memorial Service for **Gary Curran** has been rescheduled for Thursday, **November 19** at 11 a.m. with a reception following in the Library.

Read Gary Curran's obituary here.

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

Read Nancy Graham's obituary here.

