# GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 22, 2026 | NEWSLETTER

www.gspcmobile.org




# Fall Festival

## FUN FOR ALL AGES!

Sunday, October 25

11:30 am to 1:00 pm

- FISH FRY
- MUSIC
- GAMES
- INFLATABLES
- FACE PAINTING

**Bring your folding chairs.**

**Additional parking at the Mobile Mardi Gras Museum**

300 Government Street | Mobile, AL | 36602 | 251.432.1749



## A Message from Reverend Rebekah Abel Lamar:

I'm excited about Sunday. GSPC children will be leading all the liturgy, and there is just something about hearing children's voices that makes familiar words sound like new words. The Fall Festival will be after church with games, a bounce house, music, and freshly fried fish. (Bring a chair if you can!) It is also our annual Stewardship Sunday, the day we submit our financial pledges for the coming year. Some of you remember a story I told at the end of my sermon a few weeks ago. It was told by the legendary preacher, Fred Craddock. It seems his father never attended church because all preachers were really looking for were names for the roll and pledges for the church. The elder Mr. Craddock professed this until his deathbed when, surrounded by flowers and cards and well wishes from a church he had refused to support, he asked his son to share the story of his mistake. When his son Fred asked for clarification about the mistake, his father, no longer able to speak, painstakingly wrote, "I was wrong." Mr. Craddock learned late in his life that the church was more than names and pledges. The church is the body of Christ on earth, joining with the Spirit to continue the ministry of Jesus.

The story reminds me that asking for your pledge for 2027 is not a burden. It is a privilege, because it is a blessing to join in Christ's work. GSPC is not a perfect church, but it is a good church serving a perfect Savior. It is a privilege to ask you to join together to financially support the ministry of connection here at GSPC. Your pledges work to deepen our connection to Christ, to congregation members, to our community, and to our children and youth. We have spent the last several years shoring up our spiritual and financial foundation, and I look forward to seeing what God will build here in the coming year and in the future.

See you Sunday!

Grace and peace,

Rebekah

### HAPPENING THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

## STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

*followed by*

## The FALL FESTIVAL

Remember to bring your pledge card with you to the service on Sunday, or scan the QR code to pledge online via Realm.

The congregation is invited to the annual **Fall Festival** with fellowship and fun for all ages! There will be food (fish fry!) and music for everyone to enjoy along with a bounce house, face painting, and games for children. A few tables will be set up in the parking lot, but members are asked if possible to bring comfortable chairs to the event! Music will be provided by Jarrett Callaway, Ashley Lamar, and James Tamblyn. **A Note About Parking:** Set up for the Fall Festival will begin early on Sunday morning. Parking for Sunday School and worship will be available on the Government Street side of the church lot. Additional free parking is available at the Mardi Gras Museum (across Government Street) or on the street. Please remember that you must pay if you park in the lot beside the GSPC lot. If you double park in the GSPC lot, please move your car promptly after worship to allow folks to leave who need to do so.





## SUNDAY WORSHIP

**Sunday October 25 - Stewardship Sunday**

Followed by the Fall Festival

On Sunday, October 25, 2026, Rev. Lamar will continue her sermon series "Connected" with a sermon on Mark 10:13-16, titled "Connected to Children and Youth." Our children will serve as our worship leaders. Music includes hymns and organ pieces from the Protestant Reformation, including "Ein Feste Burg," "Aurelia," and "Kirken." The Sanctuary Choir will sing "Offertory" by John Ness Beck for our Stewardship Sunday.

***Click this link to watch the livestream service.***

***Click this link to download the bulletin.***



## ALTAR FLOWERS

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.*

## Next Sunday - November 1 - All Saints' Sunday

Join us next Sunday, November 1, 2026 as we celebrate All Saints' Sunday. We will celebrate communion as we remember the GSPC members who have passed from this life to the next and entered the Church Triumphant in the last year. Rev. Lamar begins a new sermon series titled, "Steadfast." She will preach on Hebrews 11:1-3 and the sermon is titled, "Everlasting to Everlasting." Special music begins with the choral introit for All Saint's Sunday, "Grant Them Peace, O Lord" and follows through the anthem "Hark! Ten Thousand Harps and Voices" by Robert Powell. The organ prelude and postlude are from Gilbert Martin's "Life Everlasting" Suite.

## 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:** This group currently meets on the second Monday at the Guesnard House, through May. The gathering begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the Bible study at 6 p.m. All are welcome. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27**

- **Theology on Tap** meets this Tuesday at the Guesnard House, 5:30 p.m. This study group meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

**WEDNESDAYS**

The Wednesday Bible Study Group meets at noon at the home of Beth Rouse.

**STUDIES FOR WOMEN**

- Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams
- Tuesdays at 10 a.m. at the church and via Zoom. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.
- Young Women's Bible Study: Monthly in the Guesnard House.
- PW Circle & Bible Study. Form more information, contact Lucinda Haas.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the church and via Zoom. Contact: Bo Perry.

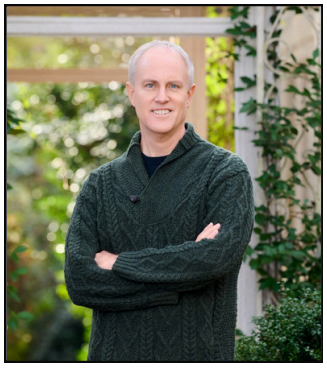
# You are Invited!

## Special Guest ~ Dr. Mark Douglas

On **November 8 at 9:30 a.m**, Dr. Douglass will be speaking during the Sunday School hour in the Sanctuary. The topic is ***"When Red and Blue Don't Make Purple: The Church and Political Dysfunction."*** That we are living in one of the most politically polarized times in memory is no surprise to anyone who turns on a television, fires up a computer, or glances at the feed on their smartphone. And although this is not the first time U.S. society has been so polarized, the forces shaping polarization today look different than they have in the past. What are some of those forces? Where have they come from? What role has the church played in shaping them? And how might the church respond to them? These are big and important questions. Join Dr. Douglas and the GSPC community to think through such questions in hopes that we might shape a faithful and useful public Christian witness during these politically dysfunctional times.

Dr. Douglas will also be preaching on **November 8 during the 10:30 a.m.** worship service. His sermon is titled "The Renewing of Our Minds," from Proverbs 1: 1-7 and Romans 12: 1-13.

**On Tuesday, November 10 at 9 a.m.,** the congregation is invited to join other members of the Presbytery of South Alabama at the meeting at GSPC. Dr. Douglas' presentation "Reformed Responses to Christian Nationalism," will help us understand Christian Nationalism and how it is changing. Using our Reformed tradition, Dr. Douglas will suggest some ways the PC(USA) might engage with and respond to this changing expression in our country.



Mark Douglas is an ordained PCUSA minister and the J. Erskine Love Professor of Christian Ethics at Columbia Theological Seminary, where he directs the Center for Theology and Contested Publics. His most recent books include Christian Pacifism for an Environmental Age (Cambridge UP, 2019) and Modernity, the Environment, and the Christian Just War Tradition (Cambridge UP, 2023) and he is currently working on a new book, *Wars in a Warming World: Religion, Resources, and Refugees.*

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

**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 Jennifer in the church office know.

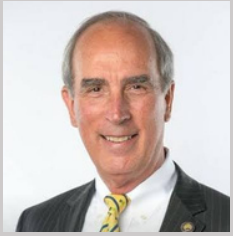
**OTHER URBAN MISSIONS:**
*CLICK THIS LINK FOR URBAN MISSIONS INFORMATION*

## TUESDAY LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

Come to lunch! The congregation and community are invited to the fall "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.

**Oct. 27: Mobile Mayor Spiro Cheriogotis**





**Nov. 3: Sandy Stimpson,** Chairman of the Mobile Airport Authority





## MADE FOR PRAISE!!

**Children 3 year olds - 5th grade**
Please join us Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Children's Choir Room. Ms. Gabi and Ms. Nancy need your voices!

**TEENAGERS** are invited to join the SANCTUARY CHOIR, which rehearses on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and again on Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Even if your schedule does not permit you to join us on Wednesday, please join us on Sunday. We will get you up to speed on music of the day.

## ADULT MUSIC MINISTRIES

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."
– Psalm 150

**A NOTE ON CONGREGATIONAL SINGING!**
Greetings to all who grace our pews with their presence to Worship on Sunday mornings! I have not had the chance to meet and greet everyone, but I'm working on it. I was perusing a tome the other day about music in the Presbyterian Church. One of the things that stood out to me was what John Calvin and John Knox had to say about music in the church. Congregational singing is a vital part of Sunday Worship. Hymns can "move and inflame the hearts" in ways the spoken word does not. Music must be "pure and holy," chosen with care to reflect the message of the day.

Vital! Your voice, every voice, should be lifted in songs of praise and prayer. Every voice is vital to bringing our worship to a complete "body and soul" experience. If you have moments before the service, reading the texts for the day's hymns will enrich your understanding. This coming Sunday, our opening hymn is "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." This beautiful and powerful tune and text from Martin Luther assures us that God is with us and our sure defense against all evil. Please join us for this Stewardship Sunday. Come and rejoice with heart and voice. Most importantly, SING!



**SANCTUARY CHOIR -** Rehearsal Wednesday Evening at 6:30 P.M. and Sunday, at 9:45 A.M. This is a talented and awesome group of singers! All teens and adults of all ages are welcome!

**CHANCEL BELLS** - Rehearsal Wednesday Evening at 5:30 P.M. We can always use a few subs. If you can read music please let Nancy know at nancy@gspcmobile.org

**VESPER ECUMENICAL RINGERS** - Rehearsal Monday Evenings at 5:30 p.m. This group is hard at work on an Epiphany Bell Concert for Sunday, January 10, 2027 at 4 p.m. Please put that on your calendars! We will end the Christmas Season by singing and playing all of your favorite carols that get put away until next year.



## CHILDREN AT THE LORD'S TABLE
### Sunday, October 18

Some of our young children completed their "Children at the Lord's Table" training on Sunday morning. Reminding us that all are welcome at Christ's feast, they were given a front row seat as Pastor Rebekah broke the bread and poured the cup during the celebration of the sacrament in worship.



## SIP and SEE ~ November 15

After church on November 15th, 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

If anyone has a baby that they would like to celebrate and share with their church family, please let Jennifer in the church office know. Call or email her at *jennifer@gspcmobile.org*.

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

## YOUTH

**October 25:** Meet at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church at 6 p.m. for dinner. Events for the remainder of the year are listed here...




## 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.

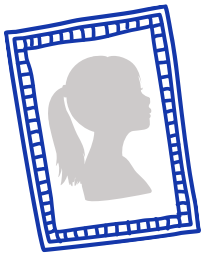
*This is the link to the job posting.*

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

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

## ALL THINGS REALM

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.



Did you know... You can check in from your REALM app to mark your attendance in church?