



RECENT SCENES OF GPC



WORSHIP IN PERSON

9:30 & 11:00 AM
EVERY SUNDAY



LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

11:00 AM
EVERY SUNDAY



From the Heart of Pastor Mary Austin

HOLY SLEUTHING

Dear GPC Members and Friends –

What do you know about GPC that is true right now?

At the start of this year, I invited the GPC Session to spend this year as **church detectives**, looking for clues to who GPC is now, after two years of the pandemic. We are a different shape and size than we were in the spring of 2020, and the Session – plus Mary Beth and I – are working hard to discover what GPC needs now. GPP&K is traveling down a similar road, as they make plans for the fall.

We know a few things:

- Some of you have moved further away from the church, geographically, and online worship is now your default. You come to GPC for special occasions.
- Almost no committee wants to go back to meeting in person. Zoom lets people eat dinner before a meeting and allows those who don't drive at night to attend, and everyone can wear their slippers if they want to.
- Our young friends will work on projects but don't want to join committees.
- Online giving is strong. Giving for special appeals is robust.
- Our church building is essentially empty most days of the week.
- Our programs for children and youth are creative, meaningful, and community building. Fewer kids and youth attend than before the pandemic.
- Some of you won't come if we *are* wearing masks; some of you won't come if we *don't* wear masks.
- In our congregation, people who get drawn into VIPs are more likely to stay involved. No other group is as good at weaving people into the church.

What do you notice?

Declining numbers are not unique to GPC. The PC(USA) nationwide is down to 1.19 million members, and one third of church members nationally are over 70 years old. There's also a deep leadership crisis in minority churches in the PC(USA); currently 80 percent of the PC(USA)'s predominantly Black congregations and at least 40 percent of Hispanic/Latino congregations do not have installed pastors.

However, we are so special that I believe **we should be an exception** to the trend!

What clues are you seeing to who GPC is in 2022? I would love to hear!

With curiosity,
Rev. Mary Austin
Pastor



www.gpchurch.org



Find Us on Facebook:
Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church



(301) 948-9418



(301) 869-3043



MANY BLESSINGS *From the Heart of Pastor Mary Beth*

My heart is too full! Thank you all for the lovely celebration of my 20th anniversary at GPC. I will cherish your very kind words, your beautiful cards, and generous gifts for a long, long time. Special thanks to Rev. Mary Austin for organizing the day, to the Congregational Life Ministry and the Human Resources Committee for a lovely reception, and to Christian Women Fellowship for a special song.

Ministers have a unique honor to be with people when they encounter God—whether they are in the depths of despair, in the most beautiful moments of joy, asking hard questions, or experiencing the wonder of divine grace. Thank you for the privilege of walking with you for 20 years.

As if the May 1 celebration were not enough, you also have graciously granted me sabbatical leave. I'm taking part of this leave in the month of May to rest and read, to pray and play, and then will take the rest of the time next year when, hopefully, it will be a better time to travel overseas.

Paul's letter to the Philippians is all about joy and one of my favorite verses is this, slightly paraphrased: "Live out your Easter joy with awe and reverence, for God is at work in you" (Philippians 2:12). God is at work in you.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence
Associate Pastor



MUSIC NOTES

After nearly two years at GPC, I was delighted to celebrate my first in-person Holy Week and Easter with you all. Thank you to everyone who helped to make the music for Holy Week and Easter happen.

On Palm Sunday, we had the pleasure of a handbell processional with children and adults ringing and the joyful music of the Christian Women Fellowship. For Maundy Thursday, the Chancel Choir and Mary Maldarelli sang, and Fred Mosher tolled our largest bell. On Good Friday at Epworth UMC, several churches participated in the service. There was a great showing of support from GPC while we combined to worship there.

Easter Sunday was quite the adventure! I had written brass, handbell, and organ parts for the day, and we were joined by the Canterbury Ringers, the Chancel Choir, Mary Maldarelli on organ, Steve Ward on trombone, and Norm Cary on tuba. The following Sunday, on Older Adults Sunday, I had the pleasure of collaborating with several senior ensembles (handbell ensemble, men's quartet, and Adult Praise Band) coordinated by Barbara Oldroyd, which brought a fresh and joyful element to worship that day. My sincerest thanks to you all for making such a profound week and festive transition to glorifying God throughout the Easter season a reality.

As we shift into summer and look ahead to the day and season of Pentecost, we can expect a change of rhythm as many people will be enjoying vacation and traveling this summer. When we kick off this fall, I have high hopes of children's music making a triumphant return. The details, of course, will come as we try to navigate the public health situation. There are other plans in the works, some big and some small, that I hope to announce either this summer or at the beginning of fall, as hopes and ideas are made into plans and actions.

My sincerest thanks go to all the people of GPC who have welcomed me, helped me, prayed for me, and who have participated in our music ministries. It has been an interesting couple of years, to be sure, but I cannot wait to see where we can go from here.

May God bless you and be with you.

Wade Meyers
Director of Music and Worship Arts



YOUTH MINISTRY



Celebrate our Graduates!

Graduation season is upon us and we are so excited for our High School and College Grads! I love how Romans 8:14–15 in **The Message** speaks to the excitement of this season in students' lives: "God's Spirit beckons. There are things to do and places to go! This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike 'What's next, Papa?'" With a big shout out to all of our grads we say, "Congratulations! Today is your day. You're off to Great Places! You're off and away!" You are always welcome as part of the GPC family! We are celebrating with you and praying for the journey ahead.

Note: High School Graduates will be recognized on **June 5** at the **11:00 a.m.** worship service.

High School Graduates

- **Nadia Agyekum** – Frederick HS
- **Ivan Attiogbe** – Gaithersburg HS
- **Mary Caruso** – Magruder HS
- **Addison Moncak** – Quince Orchard HS
- **Alex Mosher** – Winston Churchill HS
- **Holy Angel Pousseu** – Seneca Valley HS
- **Elfreda Raven** – Richard Montgomery HS, IB Magnet Program
- **Lauren Scott** – Quince Orchard HS

College Graduates and Post-Graduate Degrees & Certificates

- **Rev. Mary Austin** – Certificate in Congregational Approaches to Technology in Ministry – Lexington Seminary
- **Dr. Kris Obom Maldarelli** – Master of Arts in Mission & Discipleship – University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
The Session has endorsed Kris in the process to become a Commissioned Ruling Elder—an elder who has additional seminary training and is commissioned to do particular work beyond the usual responsibilities.
- **Andrew Obeng** – Masters in Communications – Clemson University
- **Elizabeth Allsopp** – B.S. in History and Biology – University of Maryland at College Park
- **David Barney** – B.S. in Civil Engineering – Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
- **Ben Frick** – B.A. in Intelligence and Security, B.A. in History – Ohio State University
- **Adam Walker Howlett** – B.A. in Government and Politics – University of Maryland at College Park
- **Melanie Adefunke Komolafe** – B.S. in International Affairs and Spanish – Howard University
- **Kendall Zammit** – B.S. in Chemistry and Secondary Education – Appalachian State University

Did we miss a graduate celebrating a big milestone? Contact Carrie Larsen and information will be shared in future all-church emails.



Summer Plans

Summer plans for Youth & College Students are in the works!! Please mark your calendars for our summer program, which will run July 17 – August 21. Youth will meet on Sundays following the 11:00 a.m. service. A full youth calendar will be sent out to parents. If you would like to be on the email distribution list, contact Carrie Larsen at clarsen@gpchurch.org.

Frederick Youth & College Students, mark your calendars for gatherings happening in your area. Once a month this summer we will have game nights, paint nights, and a baseball night! Oh, what fun is coming to you! We look forward to fellowshiping with our Frederick Friends. Details about the various events will be sent out in emails.

Carrie Larsen

Director of Youth and Young Adults



QUIPS FROM EQUIPPING DISCIPLES

Worship & Educational Opportunities for Children

On Sunday mornings, at the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services, children of all ages begin in the Sanctuary. On the first Sunday of the month, as well as any weekend that includes a school holiday, children stay for the entire service. On the other weekends, they are escorted from the service prior to the sermon to attend Sunday School. For your child's safety, we request that the parent or guardian come to the classroom to pick up their child.

For older children who choose to remain in worship, we have an extensive Children's Bulletin. Children 4 years old and younger are welcome to enjoy the "Prayground," a small space near the front of the Sanctuary with quiet toys where their parents can sit nearby.

Our staffed Nursery is available from 9:20 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. for our youngest children.

Educational Opportunities for Adults

Sunday Mornings:

- The Present Word, current Follow Me curriculum, Zoom, 9:30
- The Bible as a Whole, Hebrews, Zoom, 9:15
- Christian Classics, the Apocrypha, hybrid, Room 202, 9:30
- Sunday Small Group, current Follow Me curriculum, hybrid, Room 32/33, 8:20

Other Small Groups:

- **Monday evening** – Summer hiatus
- **Wednesday evening** – (bi-weekly), Frederick Group, current Follow Me curriculum, Zoom, 7:30 p.m. (*contact: Yaw Obeng*)

Equipping Disciples



Is there a finer way to begin the summer than with a study of **Practicing Joy**? Each of the classes/Small Groups that meet will be Practicing Joy in ways that work for their particular group: some will carry on throughout most of the summer, some will take a summer hiatus, and some may disband altogether.

Please keep an eye out for pop-up classes (probably hybrid in nature, so don't be concerned about missing a session if you're on vacation) during the summer, which will be "advertised" in the church's weekly emails. They may not be quite what you would expect, but prepare to be intrigued and know that you are always welcome.

Carolyn Hayes

Director of Children and Young Families



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RETURNS THIS SUMMER!



July 11–15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

- Detectives dig into Jesus' parables to solve the mysteries of the kingdom of God.
- Children aged 4 years to entering 5th grade.
- Donation of \$30/child or \$40/family (appreciated, but not required)
- To register, visit www.gpchurch.org/vbs.

GPP&K FALL REGISTRATION IS CURRENTLY OPEN



We are currently registering for Fall 2022-23 classes for 3's, 4's, and our state-approved half-day kindergarten. If you or someone you know is looking for a nurturing, fun, and educational program for their child, please visit (our newly redesigned website) gppk.com for more information or call our office to schedule a tour.

WELCOME REV. WHITNEY K. FAUNTLEROY



OUR NEW MINISTER TO YOUNG ADULTS!!

In the fall of 2019, the Session identified ministry to young adults as a priority for GPC. Then COVID interfered. This past fall, the Session made the same commitment. We've had funding in the budget for the past few years for a part-time person and have been praying for the right person. By grace, the Rev. Whitney Fauntleroy, who has experience with young adults, is available to work with us part time. She's been on disability from her full-time ministry job following a spinal cord injury in the fall of 2020 and is ready to stretch her wings a little. Much of her ministry will be online, with some occasional preaching. She is excited to begin sharing in ministry with our congregation and has started reaching out to young adults to make connections.

The HR Committee has agreed that she'll work with GPC for five hours/week through the end of 2022 and then evaluate the situation. Her title will be Minister to Young Adults (not a called and installed position).

Rev. Whitney Fauntleroy, or "Rev. Whit" (as she is happy to be known), is a native of the Triangle area of North Carolina, and holds Bachelors of Arts in Philosophy and Religion from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. She received her Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Youth and Young Adult Ministry degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2012.

Rev. Whit came to the Presbytery in April 2017 to serve as Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adults Formation at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, Virginia. Previously she served churches in Wilmington and Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She spent the most meaningful year of her life as a member of AmeriCorps serving in New Orleans with a Catholic Charities rebuilding program.

As the daughter of a Unitarian mathematician father and a third-generation Presbyterian mother and the younger sister of two significantly older, hip-hop loving brothers, a variety of influences have helped her to find wisdom in both the secular and the sacred, and to hear God's voice in a wonderful myriad of ways. Her perfect day includes a good podcast; a mediocre reality TV show; a brunch with salad, and sweet and savory options; a pair of dope (cool) sneakers; and regaling whoever will listen with stories about her niece.

(A similar version of Rev. Fauntleroy's bio originally appeared in the March 4 eblast.)



MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

The group met in April (Kris Maldarelli re microbiomes) and in May (Whitney Myers re "Stories Behind Famous Hymns"). Their next meeting will be on **Saturday, June 4, at 8:00 a.m.** in Lindsay Hall (Pastor Mary Austin, topic TBD). On the summer Saturdays of **July 2** and **August 6**, the group will meet at 8:00 for breakfast at Café Sophie (formerly Airport Café). No program, just fellowship, and each person pays for his or her own breakfast. As always, women are welcome to join the group for these outings. Questions? Contact Ted Farrand (*call the church office*).



VERY IMPORTANT PRESBYTERIAN SENIORS {VIPS}

At the VIPS' **March** program, we learned about many available classes at Montgomery College's Lifelong Learning Institute. In **April**, Kris Maldarelli's presentation on labyrinths provided good background information for walking the labyrinth that GPC set up in Fellowship Hall during Lent. Also during April, many VIPS and friends participated in leading worship at both services on Older Adults Sunday (April 24) and baking muffins for the youth fundraiser held that same Sunday. In **May**, David Mecklenburg gave a presentation entitled *Spring is in the Air and the Bees are Everywhere*. On the last Sunday of May, VIPS hosted the 11:00 church coffee hour. The presentation by Bill Duvall on **Thursday, June 2** (11:30 in Lindsay Hall), is entitled *The History of Dairy Farming in Montgomery County*. Our annual Independence Day celebration will be **from Noon to 4:00 p.m.** on **Saturday, July 2**, at the Clubhouse in the Villas of Asbury. Other future activities will be announced through VIPS direct communications and GPC's weekly emails. Questions? Contact Nancy Sanders (*call the church office*).



CRAFT GROUP

The group is not meeting in person or via Zoom at this time, but its members continue to make prayer shawls and prayer squares for Holy Cross Germantown Hospital. If you would like make either shawls or squares and need yarn, let Barbara Clark know. Volunteers are still needed to help sew dignity bibs from donated men's and women's shirts. Questions? Contact Barbara Clark (*call the church office*).



2ND FRIDAY BOOK CLUB

The group is still meeting via Zoom. They are currently reading Chapter 11 of *How to Be an Anti-Racist* by Ibrahm Z. Kendi. Their next meeting will be on **Friday, June 10, at 7:30 p.m.** You are welcome to participate anytime, even if you have not read the book. For more information, contact Cindy Cenname (*call the church office*).



CUB SCOUTS

Cub Scout Pack 64 has been very busy! Their Blue and Gold celebration at GPC on **March 19** included "scout birthday" cookies instead of a banquet, and games and crafts. A highlight was Squeals on Wheels, at which scouts were able to observe and pet a variety of animals. Scouts' achievements were celebrated, including bridging three Arrow of Light Scouts to Scouts BSA. In addition, the Pinewood Derby—a fun annual event for all scouts—was held at GPC.

On **April 9**, Pack members helped plant flowers and pull weeds on **GPC's Grounds Beautification Day**. In **May**, they participated in a Spring Campout at The Adventure Park in Sandy Spring and also went hiking. On **June 7**, a Raingutter Regatta and Bridging Ceremony will be held at the Isaac Walton League – Lois Green. **Summer** activities include a sleep-away camp in Pennsylvania for some Webelos, summer day camp, hikes, and their annual kickball game.

Boys and girls in Grades K–5 are welcome to join in the fun! Den meetings are from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. the first and second Tuesdays of the month, usually at GPC. Questions? Contact Barbara Clark (*call the church office*).



KIND WORKS

GPC, in partnership with KindWorks, is continuing to help provide KindCasseroles for the Hillside Senior Apartments in Gaithersburg and KindSoups for various community agencies. In addition, the KindKitchens and KindWelcomeDinners projects provide groceries and welcome dinners for newly arrived immigrant families. Volunteers can be reimbursed for food purchases upon request. Questions? Visit www.DoKindWorks.org or contact Denise Schleckser (*call the church office*).



GRADUATION CELEBRATION FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER OF MY LIFE

I have a Master of Science in Biotechnology from Johns Hopkins University, and knew that after graduation I wanted to use my degree in a meaningful way, not working in fast food or turkey processing plants, which were the two career possibilities offered locally. I came to Maryland and was hired by Bioqual, Inc. For the last 35 years I've been a biomedical researcher for male and female contraceptives, served as quality auditor at multiple organizations for preclinical and clinical research, and worked as a reviewer of vaccines that contained B. Pertussis (Whooping Cough) and allergenic products for the Food and Drug Administration. I've also helped organizations improve their business processes to be more strategic and streamlined. I took every opportunity provided and tried to grow in knowledge and skills without wondering what I wanted to be doing. Although these careers were interesting and rewarding, I always felt that I wasn't doing what I was supposed to be doing.

In December 2021, however, I graduated from a 300-hour yoga teacher training program, giving me 500 hours of formal yoga teacher training. This was the last of the foundational "additional" education I needed to help me launch the next chapter of my life. Now is my opportunity to think about what God is calling me to do! I don't want another career; I want to live a life of purpose and servanthood. I want to guide people as they explore loving their bodies, embracing their gifts, and growing spiritually so that they can take action to make themselves and this world better. My heart is very full as I take these next steps.

For the next chapter of my life, I plan to use my skills as a leadership and retirement coach, yoga instructor, and massage therapist to help individuals discern what they want to do, embody that discernment, and know what relaxation feels like. Through this awareness, people can practice loving themselves so that they have the courage to embrace and live this life and find honor in taking time to have fun and play.

Those who have taken my yoga classes know that I like to have themes that encourage connection to God, so that you can gain awareness of how your body moves and open yourself up to greater insights.

You may be wondering why this would qualify as a graduation celebration. Well, it's because I'm retiring from one chapter of my life and stepping into the next chapter. You're never too young or too old to acquire new knowledge and take steps to improve your physical, mental, or spiritual health. God guides our journeys and helps us see the gifts around us so that we can continue to live this life that we have been blessed with. What is God calling you to do in this world, country, or community? What steps do you need to take to make them happen?

—Sandy Menzies

WE ARE READY TO PRAY FOR YOU!

At GPC we believe in the power of intercessory prayer and the interconnectedness of the body of the church. If you have blessings or concerns that you would like to share, staff and members of GPC are ready to help lift up your prayers. GPC offers the following prayer options:

- 1. Requests Submitted to the Church Office by Phone:** The office staff treat requests to 301-948-9418 as confidential and submit them directly to the pastors. Alternatively, you may ask to speak directly with Pastor Mary Austin or Pastor Mary Beth Lawrence.
- 2. Prayer Chain Calls:** Elder Doreen Turczyn-Toles has begun making the phone calls that our dear late friend Betty Pearce made – to the numbers listed in the church directory. If you find a message on your phone from Doreen, you will know that she is calling on behalf of GPC. Only with your permission, will she post your blessings or concerns to GPC's electronic Prayer Network (see below). Otherwise, your conversations will remain confidential.
- 3. Digital Prayer Requests:**
 - a) Submit your request to the church office by email:** The office staff treat prayer requests sent to info@gpchurch.org as confidential and submit them directly to the pastors.
 - b) Submit your request to the GPC Prayer Network:** In order to post blessings and concerns *yourself*, you must be a member of the Prayer Network. To join this Google group, go to www.gpchurch.org/prayernetwork and complete the registration form. Only those enrolled in GPC's Prayer Network have access to these prayer requests. Network members are to treat these requests as confidential.

GPC COMMITTEES SERVE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OUR WALLS

In this issue, we continue putting the spotlight on the work of three more Session committees and ministries. During this challenging year of COVID-19 restrictions, GPC's committees have given considerable thought to ways of adapting to the necessary changes to church life as we knew it before the pandemic. Our pastors and church staff, elders, deacons, board of trustees, and committee members continue to be creative in making necessary adaptations. In our February 2022 issue of the Mainstream, we shared information about the Communications and Nominating Committees. Read on to learn about the Buildings and Grounds, Community Engagement, and Vital Worship Committees.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee

The Buildings and Grounds (B&G) Committee maintains our church property so that it is safe, attractive, and functional. This includes buildings (church and manses), parking lots, green space, and vehicles. The committee oversees insurance, utilities, fire alarm systems, and snow removal.



In addition, the committee coordinates planned maintenance (such as sealing the asphalt in the parking lot) and also responds to emergencies (such as repairing the HVAC system when it fails).

The committee seeks to complete its activities in the most cost-effective way it can. For example, Andy Gosnell (our facilities manager) is working with Art Eisenhour to renovate the two bathrooms in the basement of Building 1. Funds to complete this renovation were donated. The next time you are in church, check out the bathrooms and then let Andy and Art know how much you appreciate their work.

The B&G Committee is chaired by David Allsopp. Its members include Karma Beal, Art Eisenhour, Ted Farrand, Andy Gosnell, Stuart Hayes, David Mecklenburg, Phil Melberg, Mike Pratt, Eddie Schantz, John Travis, Fletcher Tukes, Ward Whitlock, and Don Woodward. The committee currently meets by Zoom the first Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. Anyone is welcome to attend, and we would love to have additional committed members.

—David Allsopp

The Community Engagement Committee

GPC's Community Engagement Committee seeks to glorify God by loving our neighbors at home and in the larger community. We create opportunities for members to serve, and to financially support other groups that serve, in our neighborhood, region, and world.

Some of our better-known projects are our **Neighborhood Ministries**, because these provide many opportunities for GPC members to personally serve through local organizations. We recently completed this year's Rebuilding Together project, doing home repairs for a neighbor needing help in Damascus, Maryland. This year's Lenten Mission Project received a very generous response from the membership, which will allow us to provide books for children locally (Summit Hall Elementary School and Gaithersburg Presbyterian Preschool & Kindergarten) and a financial gift for Living Water International. We support various other local groups as well, including the IWWC shelter, SOME (So Others May Eat), Bridges, Gaithersburg HELP, The Lord's Table, KindWorks, Prison Ministry, Dwelling Place, and others.

Community Engagement also supports **Regional Ministries** such as PDA Disaster Relief through our twice-a-year rebuilding trips, as well as donations to the National Capital Presbytery for their mission work. In addition, we support a robust list of **Global Ministries**, such as the Medical Benevolence Foundation of the Presbyterian Church USA, and other ministries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ecuador, Egypt, and Pakistan, to name just a few. We encourage you to check out the GPC website for more information on all of the projects that your stewardship dollars support.

We are always looking for ways to provide assistance when we see needs in our community, so if you would like to help us respond to those needs, we would love to have you join us. Committee members meet monthly via Zoom on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Current members include Pastor Mary Beth Lawrence (staff liaison), Vivian Chefor, Donna Dannels, Marilyn Morrison, Denise Schleckser (chair), and Annette Ward.

—Denise Schleckser



COMMITTEES CONT'D

The Vital Worship Committee

"Christian worship gives all glory and honor, praise, and thanksgiving to the holy, triune God. We are gathered in worship to glorify the God who is present and active among us – particularly through the gifts of Word and Sacrament. We are sent out in service to glorify the same God who is present and active in the world."

(Book of Order, 2019–2022 Directory for Worship, W-1.1001)

The Vision for Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church states that worship is one of our three top priorities: "To worship the Lord with heart, soul, mind, and strength."

Covid has not stopped worship! Through the miracle of technology, worship services began as a recorded service on YouTube led by Rev. Mary Austin. James Menzies guided us through the process that eventually led to livestreaming our services. In 2021, we were able to hire a Technical Director, Andrew Bahls, and then purchase additional and upgraded audio/visual equipment. One of our goals is to continue to enhance our online ministry.

GPC has two Sunday morning worship services: 9:30 in person and 11:00 both in person and via livestream. The online streaming provides an opportunity to worship wherever you are and anytime during the week, since the service is always available. Worshipers have joined us from Los Angeles, Arizona, Georgia, New Jersey, France, Scotland, Cape Town, and other locations! The availability of the chat feature, under the guidance of Kris Maldarelli, has offered connection opportunities to others. Prayer requests may be submitted to prayer@gpchurch.org and additional information may be requested through info@gpchurch.org.

The Vital Worship Committee oversees the operation of all regularly scheduled and special worship services, including Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Ash

Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Sunday. GPC has participated in community worship services on Good Friday, at Thanksgiving, and at sunrise on Easter at Bohrer Park. The Committee also plans the Lenten and Advent mid-week early morning prayers. During Holy Week this year, we offered the opportunity for prayer by walking the labyrinth, which was set up in Fellowship Hall.



There are many opportunities to serve GPC: Chancel Choir, Christian Women Fellowship, Adult Praise Band, handbell choir, audio/visual technician, ushers, and lay worship leaders, as well as assisting with Sanctuary flowers, communion preparation, and rotating the banners. Ordained elders and deacons (both currently serving and not actively serving on Session) serve communion.

The Vital Worship Committee meets monthly and comprises the following members: Rev. Mary Austin (Senior Pastor), Wade Meyers (Director of Music and Worship Arts), Elder Grace Atanga Fuh (Chair), Andrew Bahls (Technical Director), Pam Carlson (Communion Preparation Coordinator), Kris Maldarelli (Seasonal Morning Prayer and Events), Ed Markley (Ushers), Evi Melberg (Communion Serving Coordinator), James Menzies (Technical Assistant), Scholastica Muluh (Lay Worship Leaders), and Barbara Oldroyd (Communications Liaison).

"The Church in its worship and service is a living sign of the reign of God which is both a present reality and a future promise. . . We seek to worship and serve God faithfully . . ."

(Book of Order, 2019–2022 Directory for Worship, W-5.04)

—Grace Atanga Fuh



We hope that you will join us via Zoom on **Wednesday, June 15, at 7:00 p.m.** to hear **Rev. Norm Gordon** update us on his work with the Bridges ministry. Watch your GPC emails for Zoom information.



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the members of our congregation who have lost loved ones.

Sara Munzer

(her father, George James Bergdolt, Jr.,
in Gaithersburg, MD)
February 17, 2022

Linda Carricaburu

(her brother-in-law, Art Neuendorffer,
in Alexandria, VA)
March 4, 2022

John Hastings

(his brother, Jim Hastings,
in Rapid City, SD)
April 5, 2022

Grace Atanga Fuh

(her uncle, Dr. Martin Suh Banduh,
in Bamenda, Cameroon)
April 17, 2022

Jim Musick

(his father, John Musick,
in Abingdon, VA)
April 18, 2022



WELCOME TO THE WORLD!

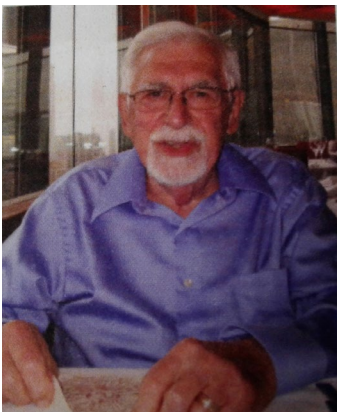
Congratulations to:

Lloyd Currie,
the proud great-grandfather,
Dan & Susan James,
the proud grandparents,
and
Rick & Abby Philbin,
the proud parents of
ANNA MARIELLE PHILBIN
born on April 11, 2022



Congratulations to:

Sonja Simko,
the proud grandmother,
and
James & Rachel Simko Breheny,
the proud parents of
FINN AMBROSE BREHENY
born on May 5, 2022



BRUNCH HONORS HENRY MASTRONI

A celebration brunch was held in Lindsay Hall on May 4 to honor the memory of long-time member and former GPC property manager **Henry Mastroni**, who had died in September 2020. The event was well attended, as friends and family gathered to remember him and share stories. Many then accompanied the family to Arlington National Cemetery for his honors ceremony and inurnment in the columbarium.





SAVE THE DATE!

Orchestra concerts in our Sanctuary are back! The **Montgomery Philharmonic** will hold the third and final concert of its 15th season on **June 26 at 6:30 p.m.**, featuring works by Brahms, Walker, and Ponce. Admission is free but donations are always gratefully accepted.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

*Addresses and phone numbers
are available through the church office.*

Stephen Aller
Juliet & Kenneth Anadu
Ida Bass
Rachel & James Breheny
Manuel & Kalani Brown
Ray & Linda Carricaburu
Patricia Cummings
Ron & Nancy Foulds
Amy Jackson
Edge Kaund & Omega Namwali
Roisin O'Hare
Mary Spencer
Fafa Tamakloe & Kodjovi Attiogbe
John & Kay Travis

DOWNLOAD OUR APP!

GPC's mobile app features:

- Online Giving
- Weekly Bulletins
- Devotions
- Serving Opportunities
- Ways to Connect
- Worship & Sunday School Videos
- The Mainstream
- Events



Text "gpchurch app" to 77977 or visit the homepage of the website and click the "Download Our App" button.

Questions? Contact GPC's Communications Manager at jobermiller@gpchurch.org.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

April 2022

	2021 YTD	% OF BUDGET
INCOME		
Envelope Pledged	\$245,415	32%
Envelope Unpledged	\$82,944	39%
Loose Offering	\$2,721	18%
GPP&K Rent	\$0	0%
Other Income	\$1,093	44%
Room Rent	\$0	0%
Interest & Dividends	\$7	3%
FourthNight	\$0	0%
Manse Rental	\$0	0%
Carryover	\$0	0%

Total \$332,18031%

EXPENSE

NCP Membership	\$6,283	25%
Human Resources	\$195,308	33%
Buildings & Grounds	\$82,459	39%
Office Operations	\$9,400	28%
Communications	\$14,377	33%
Stewardship	\$0	0%
Comm Engagement	\$31,382	31%
Eq Disciples	\$3,045	11%
Vital Worship	\$7,501	24%
Congregational Life	\$369	13%
Session	\$0	0%

Total \$350,12333%

NET \$17,943

To request a complete financial summary,
email accountingmanager@gpchurch.org.



GPC MEDIA POLICY

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church (GPC) uses print and digital media of church life in communications materials to share the ministry of GPC with our congregation and community at large. GPC reserves the right to use any media taken at any activity sponsored by GPC, without the express written consent of those individuals included within the media. GPC may use any such media in publications, social media, and any website.



THE MAINSTREAM

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church
610 South Frederick Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-1297

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PENTECOST SUNDAY IS JUNE 5!



OUR VISION AND MISSION

GPC is called by God to be: A global, caring community of faith, centered in Jesus Christ, training people to share His life everywhere we go.

Our top three priorities are:

- To worship the Lord with heart, soul, mind and strength
- To engage our neighbors in central Montgomery County
- To equip each generation for Christian discipleship