



THE

Mustard Seed

April 2025

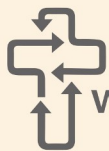


Special Dates for March

- Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 6, 2025
- Palm Sunday
April 13, 2025
- Maundy Thursday
April 17, 2025
- Good Friday
April 18, 2025
- Easter Sunday—Resurrection
of Our Lord
April 20, 2025
- Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025

Current Session Members:

Rev. Mark Howland, Moderator
Karen Wimpee
Patrick Seiler
Suzanne Dunn



walking humbly
with **God**...together

The Cross

Can you turn any direction without seeing one? Perched atop a chapel. Carved into a graveyard headstone. Engraved in a ring or suspended on a chain. The cross is the universal symbol of Christianity. An odd choice, don't you think? Strange that a tool of torture would come to embody a movement of hope. The symbols of other faiths are more upbeat: the six-pointed star of David, the crescent moon of Islam, a lotus blossom for Buddhism. Yet a cross for Christianity? An instrument of execution?

Would you wear a tiny electric chair around your neck? Suspend a gold-plated hangman's noose on the wall? Would you print a picture of a firing squad on a business card? Yet we do so with the cross. Many even make the sign of the cross as they pray. Would we make the sign of, say, a guillotine? Instead of the triangular touch on the forehead and shoulders, how about a karate chop on the palm? Doesn't quite have the same feel, does it?

Why is the cross the symbol of our faith? To find the answer look no farther than the cross itself. Its design couldn't be simpler. One beam horizontal—the other vertical. One reaches out—like God's love. The other reaches up—as does God's holiness. One represents the width of his love; the other reflects the height of his holiness. The cross is the intersection. The cross is where God forgave his children without lowering his standards.

How could he do this? In a sentence: God put our sin on his Son and punished it there.—

Max Lucado

SHARING OUR EASTER INHERITANCE

GIVING THANKS TO THE FATHER,
WHO MADE US FIT TO BE
PARTAKERS OF THE INHERITANCE
OF THE SAINTS IN LIGHT;
COLOSSIANS 1:12

After David Clarke's mother died in a cycling accident, she left him \$125,000. Inspired by how his mom had lived, he decided to share that inheritance with his community. Clarke chose four organizations that assist people in poverty, those with special needs and others. Liverpool (U.K.) Kids Plant to Plate received one-fourth of the money to teach urban kids about food growth and preparation. Team Oasis, which provides free meals and positive opportunities to disadvantaged families, also received 25% of the funds, as did two other nonprofits.

Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we too have an inheritance (see Colossians 1:12).

Because we did nothing to earn this abundant love and life — and because God teaches us to serve and care for others — we look for ways to share it.

Unlike Clarke's monetary windfall, however, our gifts of salvation, grace, joy, love and blessing never run out. In fact, the more we share Jesus' love through word and deed, the more we experience it ourselves. As Clarke keeps his mom's spirit alive by following her example, so we, as Easter people, make the Spirit of God known far and wide.

HOPE FOR HOLY WEEK

—Peter Sulzle

As you travel with Jesus through Holy Week, don't lose heart. He is your Palm Sunday King. He will always come to you and give you the best of what he has to offer because of his humble attitude and his devotion to his mission.

When you see this Savior who personally cares for you, you can't help but join the believers of old to give to the Lord your best and most precious treasures of your heart and life, and then to join with all believers saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"



~ STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of March 28, 2024

YTD Income: \$700
YTD Expenses: \$11,326
YTD Net Income: (\$10,626)

Parenthesis indicate negative number.

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.

Deuteronomy 16:17

~ PRESBYTERY PRAYER CONCERNS



Below are prayer concerns from the Presbytery of the Mid-South for this month. Please add these to your prayers for the weeks of February:

Week of 4/6: Farmington Presbyterian
Matthew 25:Building Vital
Congregations Ministry
Week of 4/13: Germantown Presbyterian
Week of 4/20: Mission Workers
One Great Hour of Sharing
Week of 4/27: First Presbyterian, Huntington
Anderson Presbyterian, Jackson

~ THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

BY ALBINA KUMIROVA



A crown of thorns adorn my head,
I am your King. For you I've bled,
for you I've tasted pain and death,
exhaling 'Abba' in my breath.
Death lost its power. I slipped
miraculously from its grip –
for neither Hades, not the night
are able to retain my Light.
The deepest darkness can't conceal
the one who can give life and heal.
I am your Savior. Behold,
I am the Light of the World,
I'm standing at your closed door
which never opened before.

The hinges rusted, grass untamed
surrounds it. Your soul, maimed,
has lost its simple inner trust,
but, from today on, you must
unbolt and let me in. I knock,
although no latch, no lock
can ever keep me outside;
no gate, no fence, no wall can hide
your shrinking body from my view –
I am your God. I want that you
could make at last your own choice
and upon hearing my voice
without hiding anything
could welcome me. I am your King.

The Light of the World by William Holman

~ THE BLESSING OF FELLOWSHIP



Between the death of Christ and the Last Day it is only by gracious anticipation of the last things that Christians are privileged to live in invisible fellowship with other Christians. It is by the grace of God that a congregation is permitted to gather visibly in this world to share God's Word and sacrament. Not all Christians receive this blessing. The imprisoned, the sick, the scattered lonely, the proclaimers of the Gospel in heathen lands stand alone. They know that visible fellowship is a blessing.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-SOUTH
SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS

2025 ANNUAL SPRING GATHERING SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

WHO		Women in the Presbytery of the Midsouth
WHERE		Farmington Presbyterian Church 8245 Farmington Blvd. Germantown, TN 38139 901-754-2794
TIME	9:30 am	Registration with Fellowship, Coffee, and Pastries
	10:00 am	Program with Keynote Speaker Lucy Cummings – Executive Director of Pinecrest Camp and Retreat Center
	11:30 am	Lunch

Special CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Monday, March 31, Collierville Presbyterian Church held a special congregation meeting called by the Session. There were two purposes to the meeting: (1) to discuss the selling of the property at 202 W. Poplar Avenue, Collierville; (2) dissolving of the congregation. A quorum was established and the following motions were made, seconded and carried unanimously:

Motion one was made by Suzanne Dunn: I move that permission be granted to the Session if Collierville Presbyterian Church to sell the property located at 202 W. Poplar Avenue, Collierville, TN, 38017 to Seed Holdings, LLC. Pending approval by the Presbytery of the Mid-South.

Motion two was made by Karen Wimpee: I move that the members of Collierville Presbyterian Church request the Presbytery of the Mid-South to dissolve this congregation and dismiss it from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) effective May 31, 2025, or within two weeks of the closing date of the property sale, whichever date occurs last.

Maundy Thursday

Pinecrest Chapel

Thursday, April 17

Prayer Stations open

10am

Communion Service

11am

Prayer Stations and Labyrinth

10:40am-2pm

Maundy Thursday practices include contemplative prayer stations, a labyrinth walk, and a communion service. Feel free to use this as a personal retreat for the entire time or choose one or two practices.

Bring your own lunch if desired.

Pinecrest is at 21430 Hwy 57 Moscow, TN



Holy Week at Farmington Presbyterian Church
8245 Farmington Blvd.
Germantown, TN 38139
farmingtonpres.org

Full to the Brim | Holy Week Services

All services are also available on livestream.
Come and worship with us!



April 13	Palm Sunday Worship	11am
April 16	Presbyterian Women's Easter Bake Sale	10am- 6pm
April 17	Maundy Thursday Worship	7pm
April 18	Good Friday Worship	7pm
April 19	Easter Egg Hunt <i>gather in the Sanctuary</i>	10am
April 20	Outdoor Sunrise Service Easter Morning Worship	7am 11am



GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
C·H·U·R·C·H

Holy Week
2363 Germantown Rd. South
Germantown, TN 38138
germantownpres.org

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE AT GPC

EGGSTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

10:30 A.M.-NOON

GPC SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER

PALM SUNDAY & YOUTH SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

8:30 A.M. • 11:00 A.M. • 5:00 P.M. WORSHIP

EVENING WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP DINNER

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 6:00 P.M.

WARREN HALL

HOLY WEEK LUNCHTIME PREACHING SERIES AT GPC

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 12:00-1:00 P.M.

WARREN HALL

MAUNDY THURSDAY SIMPLE SUPPER

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 5:30 P.M.

WARREN HALL

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 6:30 P.M.

SANCTUARY

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 6:00 P.M.

EVANS CHAPEL

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

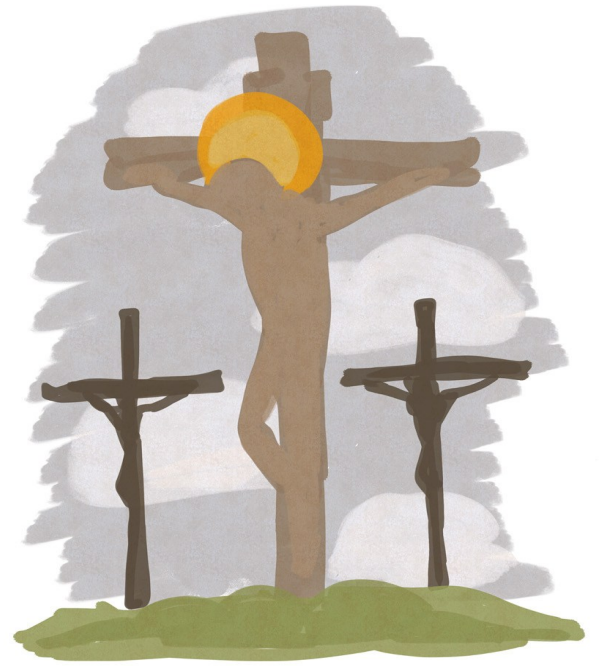
8:30 A.M. • 11:00 A.M. • 5:00 P.M.

(MORNING & EVENING FLOWERING CROSSES)

Bible Quiz

From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms. What were they?

- A. “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
- B. “I thirst!”
- C. “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”
- D. “It is finished!”



Answer: A (See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1.)



Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who founded the Boy Scouts, asked troop members to “leave this world a little better than you found it.” For Christians, that aim is rooted in Scripture.

Using a Bible-like parable, biology professor Michael Duncan writes: “Imagine you owned a property and rented it out to tenants for a period of time. Upon move-in, the tenants found the place clean and in

perfect working order. As the owner of the property, it is your desire to see that the tenants regard the condition of the property and live in such a way that does not destroy the house. This is the mindset that we should adopt as tenants living on the earth.”

Almost five centuries ago, John Calvin encouraged creation care too. “The earth was given to man, with this condition, that he should occupy himself in its cultivation,” he wrote. “Let him who possesses a field, so partake of its yearly fruits, that he may not suffer the ground to be injured by his negligence, but let him endeavor to hand it down to posterity as he received it, or even better cultivated. Moreover, that this economy, and this diligence, with respect to those good things which God has given us to enjoy, may flourish among us; let everyone regard himself as the steward of God in all things which he possesses.”

EASTER WORD SEARCH

S R Y Q I I S Y M J D N Y S U C Q K B N
 B W J H L D Y I H F O U O P N B K P J C
 N L Q N G S J Y H I T B X R U Q F Y O F
 X F A D V U Z E T Z M I B I F A T C J P
 N L A M L V O A L A I C W N K Y A J Z U
 S O A P B N R F D L Y C V G A N K D I K
 A W T M S B M D M A Y P L F D G X Z P N
 T E A D E W T Z I U M B U Y C E H Q C P
 C R G L M E Y R O L B H E E T L B C I C
 Z S E Y Y W O F I L D N H A Y H U X C A
 O C J I A L M R I M Q X R T N N G C R H
 P Z F C H R I V U A G O P X I S P X F T
 I O Z F Z A I L G F C H L T H Q Q P K R
 S O E L S N O Z N E L H W E C I H M C Q
 N K X X N T L O D U H V K A T U D H I I
 A R E T S A E S W J K F S D N F O E H Q
 H O T E G G S K G R I W U T N C H B C R
 Y C U C Y A N O S C U X N T O F T S T U
 F B N N L V P Q B A R X D L I B Y X R Y
 S L B T P M E X F T B U A V W E X M V Y
 O V H W X P B R T L X T Y K A Q U O M C
 H P A R A D E K R D E B L B K X V W R Y
 M X B T I I Z W J Y X Y M I Z G W T X E
 X Q G B L C P J A L B U N N Y S C Q A F
 X M T E N N O B W K Y Y N Z N Y Q S Y B

Easter	Jellybeans	Spring	Bonnet
Basket	Celebration	Candy	Fun
Bunny	Decorate	Hunt	Sunday
Hide	Chocolate	Lily	Parade
Eggs	Flowers	Chick	Lamb





© Birthday ♥ Anniversary



April

Collierville Presbyterian Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 5th Sunday in Lent	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Palm Sunday	14	15 © Ruby Mears	16	17 	18 	19
20 Easter/Resurrection of Our Lord 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 2nd Sunday of Easter	28	29	30			