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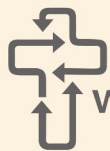
Mustard Seed

January 2025



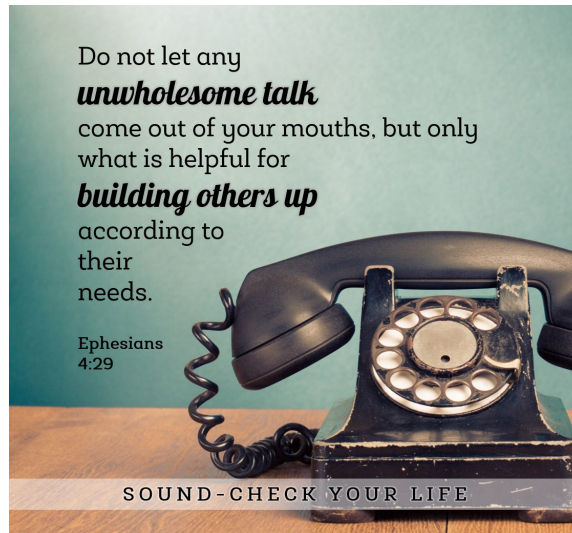
Current Session Members:

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



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

All About Attitude



"The way you say 'representative' to an automated system reflects the real you," a friend told me. After we laughed at that truth, I realized *everything* I say matters. Someone is always listening, whether the words and tone are positive or negative.

Ephesians 4:29 (NLT)

says our language shouldn't be "foul or abusive" but good, helpful and encouraging. Whether I'm peaceful, hurried, joyful, empathetic, frustrated, celebrating or hurting, I can carefully choose my words (and the attitude behind them). When I'm not ready to speak wholesomely, may God shut my mouth. When a friend needs encouragement, may I listen to God's prompting. When I need to confront, may I do so lovingly.

Changing how we think — that is, how we speak to ourselves — can be tough. But God wants to transform our reactions and motives, dispelling pride, a lack of confidence and anxiety. In this new year:

- *I'm alone* can become *God is with me*.
 - *I can't do this* can become *Anything is possible with God*.
 - *I'm failing* can become *Just because I'm struggling, it doesn't mean I'm failing*.
 - *I'm not enough* can become *I'm God's beloved child*.
 - *I'm tired* can become *God will give me rest*.
- Don't stop there. Consider the concerns in your heart and let God give you new words and attitudes.

—Janna Firestone



RESTING IN JESUS

An old hymn declares:

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest.
Lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad.*

I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad. (Horatius Bonar, 1846)

Many people these days feel exhausted by division, the news, hatred that seems louder than love. More than ever, we who are "weary, worn, and sad" need to hear Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest."

Jesus wants to be our resting place — but not so we can hide forever from reality. Instead, he offers a place of refreshment where we can relax long enough to remember that not everything is bad; there is gospel to share. Not everything is hatred; God's love is stronger.

Resting in Jesus, we focus on God's goodness. We are reminded of love shown by kind people to those in trouble, bold voices speaking for justice, warm friendships that brighten our days. Gladdened by rest, we rise again. Jesus walks with us, as always. We can lean on him every step of the way.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

FINDING GOD'S WILL

by Jim Wilcox from Collierville Presbyterian Church Daily Devotions

Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored, says the Lord. Haggai 1:8

What is God's will for my life? It seems that I am always searching for a concrete lightning bolt type answer to that question. You know the type. You are driving down the road contemplating some momentary crisis in your life. We usually look for that huge neon sign and those glaring lights that clearly spell out what we must do. Okay, life doesn't always happen that way, but sometimes we tend to make life more complicated that it really needs to be.

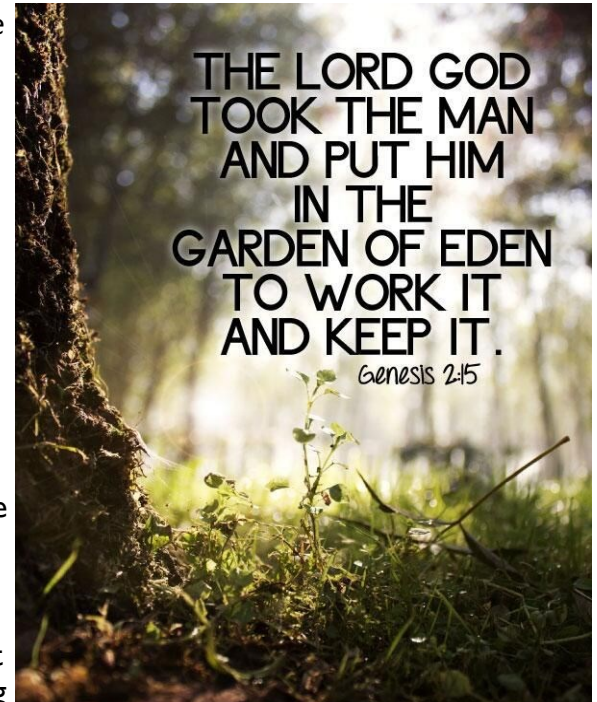
God, through Haggai, speaks to Israel, and it is so simple, so clear. He doesn't waste a lot of words telling them what He requires. Israel is to "go up the mountain," then they are to "bring wood," and lastly they are to "build the temple."

It is those simple things in life that can become so difficult. Too often we run into a minor roadblock and convince ourselves that this may not be God's will after all. The Israelites did this when they stopped building the temple and instead built houses for themselves.

In order to satisfy God's desire for us to go, bring and build, we must all work. Our God believes in hard work and determination. He didn't create Adam and Eve to sit around and admire God's handiwork. In Genesis 2:15, God assigned Adam the tasks of cultivation and keeping the Garden. God's will for Adam was simply stated, and it was definitely hard work!

Prayer:

Lord, we humbly ask for strength and wisdom to see your wonderfully simple plan for us, and to make those difficult choice, seeking only that brings glory to you. Amen.



~ STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of December 28, 2024

YTD Income: \$48,517
YTD Expenses: \$58,792
YTD Net Income: (\$10,275)

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 2/2:	Healing & Wellness Our Chaplains
Week of 2/9:	Bethel Springs Presbyterian Camp & Conference Ministries
Week of 2/16:	Purdy Presbyterian
Week of 2/23:	Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Presbyterian Disaster Asst. Ministry

SOMEONE ALWAYS FORGETS

by Maxxie Dunnam

Halford Luccock once told about a young man who lived and worked in a pretty tough environment. He tried to hold on to his religion when people were cruel to him. He was not always appreciated for his religious views, and people made fun of him. They were always challenging him and his commitment. One day a particularly abusive person said, "You damn fool, can't you see if there is a God who cares a penny for the likes of you, God would tell someone to come along and give you what you need—decent food, a bed for yourself, at least a chance to make good."

The young man replied, "I reckon God does tell someone, But someone always forgets."

So God does tell someone—to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to provide shelter for the homeless, to visit widows, to pay attention to prisoners. God does tell someone. He tells you and me. But we forget, don't we?

*"You didn't choose me,
remember; I chose you, and
put you in the world to bear
fruit, fruit that won't spoil. As
fruit bearers, whatever you
ask the Father in relation to
me, he gives you. But
remember the root
command: Love one
another." —John 15:16-17
(MSG)*

*Collierville Presbyterian Church invites you to join us for
A Service to Celebrate Our Ministry*

Sunday, March 2, 2025 at 3pm.


A catered dinner will follow.

*Please RSVP by Friday, February 21, 2025 with number attending
to Linda Stamps at lindastamps@comcast.net or
Suzanne Dunn at suzanned954@gmail.com.*

Providing worship and service in the Collierville Community since 1844



Deep Faith | Deep Relationship | Meaningful Service

A photograph of a church interior, viewed from the back of the sanctuary looking towards the altar. The ceiling is made of light-colored wood planks. A large wooden cross is mounted on a brick wall at the front. Below the cross is an altar covered with a white cloth. Rows of wooden pews are visible on either side of a central aisle. Two modern, white, cylindrical pendant lights hang from the ceiling. The text is overlaid on this image.

*Join the Choir
for the special*

**SERVICE TO
CELEBRATE
OUR MINISTRY**

ON MARCH 2, 2025

*If you'd like to be part of the choir,
contact Karen Wimpee
at kwimpee1213@gmail.com*



Sunday, February 23, 2025, at 3:00 PM

Parkway Gardens United PC, 1005 Shelby Drive, Memphis, TN 38116



Our Guest Speaker

Will be

Melvin Burgess, Jr.

Shelby County Property Tax Assessor

*This program is sponsored by the Presbytery of The Mid-South and the
Greater Memphis Area Chapter of The National Black Presbyterian Caucus.*

Please share with your family, friends, and your congregations.





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
PROGRAM	Highlights of 2024-2025: Reports, Presentation of Grants, Installation of New Officers, In Memoriam, Special Offering and Worship Service	
QUESTIONS:	Contact Jinney Hart, Chair virginiahart2@comcast.net or 901-262-5392	
REGISTRATION DEADLINE:	March 14, 2025 Please register by the deadline to facilitate site preparations. Send one registration form per person or a list of names with requested information.	
COST:	\$25 for coffee, pastries, and lunch (Vegetarian, gluten free, and dairy-free options available) Make check payable to Presbyterian Women and mail to: Sherila Tuggle 5294 Cherokee Rose Lane Memphis, TN 38125	

Name: _____ Church Affiliation: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____ Name on Nametag: _____







☺ Birthday ♥ Anniversary

February 2025

Collierville Presbyterian Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany ♦ GS Troop 13139 (2pm)	3 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	4 ☺ Glen Watkins	5	6	7	8
9 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany ♦ Daisy Troop 13258 (2pm)	10 ♦ GS Troop 13920 (5:30pm) ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	11	12	13	14	15
16 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany	17 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm) 	18 ♦ SCL Class (12:30pm) ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm)	19	20 ♦ SCL Class (10am) ♦ SCL Class (5:45pm)	21 	22
23 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany	24 ♦ GS Troop 13920 (5:30pm) ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	25 ☺ Carl Epperson	26	27	28	