

ISSUE # 9

May 12, 2010

www.gspcmobile.org * (251)432-1749 * 300 Government Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602

Thank You, Amanda

What do you say when someone leaves a job — not just someone who showed up once in a while but someone who showed up all of the time? What do you say to someone who worked hard not because she had to but because she loved her job? What do you say to someone who didn't just go through the motions, but worked with "energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?" If that person is Amanda Murray, you say *Thank You*.



Amanda stepped into the role of Director of Children's Ministries four years ago. Her immediate task was overseeing our nursery and educating our toddlers through fifth graders.

Nurseries and children's classrooms are busy places. They must be clean, safe, interesting, stain resistant and reasonably able to absorb the beautiful sounds of children playing, crying and screaming in some combination or all at once. Likewise, people who run nurseries must be able to assure anxious parents that their babies will be perfectly safe and protected while absent from them and returned in a similar if not better condition than when given. To achieve this none-too-small-feat, nurseries supervisors must be unflappable, quick on their feet, innovative, and patient. Amanda possesses all of these traits and more. She truly loves our children.

Loving children and educating them requires not only caring but also creativity, energy, enthusiasm, organization, and sometimes iron will. It helps too to have a sense of humor. Directors of Children's Ministries who can't laugh are in for a short, tough go. They must also see beyond the immediate. It helps to see the immediate; the action right in front of your nose, but the work also takes leaps of imagination.

Children are works in progress. They grow up and, people who educate them must envision their future. "What will this child be like in five years, ten years, twenty years? I knew them when they were just a little boy, just a little girl, a baby." That work is the

work of hope. But that is not all; children's ministry is a work of faith. Faith that what you are doing matters, faith that planted seeds take root, faith that early memories of church become lasting memories, faith that faith given becomes faith received. So, thank you Amanda Neff Murray. Thank you for giving us your best, for working with faith, hope, and love. GSPC is better than when you found it. You have established a wonderful platform for what God is doing among us. We will miss you

and Ian, Ella and August. Take good care of them and come back to see your family. You will always have a home here. God bless and keep you. God make his face to smile upon you.

Briefly . . .

A reception for the Murrays will be held this Sunday immediately following worship. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall. Until June, you may send mail to the Murrays c/o Teresa Neff at 7420 Meadows Dr. S., Mobile, AL, 36619. After mid-June the Murrays can be reached at their new address: 111 Chaps Lane Fredericksburg, Virginia 24405

Amanda's last Sunday with us is May 23. Applications are now being received for her 16 hour per week position. Please help spread the word that we are looking. Resumes may be sent to my attention at 300 Government Street.

God's Peace,
George



Dr. George R. Sinclair, Jr.
Pastor

Worship

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, May 16th
Acts 16:16-34; Ps. 97; Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17,
20021; John 17:20-26

Volunteers Sunday, May 16th

Sunday Assistants: Don Carlisle and
Holly Carrigan
Greeters: Laura and Brad Hassell
Sanctuary Preparers: Bligh Jones and
Trisha Hawkins
Usher Captain: Dusty Neff
Nursery Volunteers: Charles and
Elizabeth Smith
Wee Worship Leader: Holly Carrigan
Prayer Chain Contacts: Charlotte Crockett,
478-1003/591-7902
Dibber Lutz,
473-7582/433-5756

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, May 23rd
Acts 2:1-21; Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; Rom. 8:14-17;
John 14:8-17

Volunteers Sunday, May 23rd

Sunday Assistants: Thad Phillips and
Charlotee Crockett
Greeters: Jessica and John Mostellar,
Margaret Vidmer
Hutchison
Sanctuary Preparer: Julia Wells
Usher Captain: Brent Ericson
Nursery Volunteer: Dorothy Morrison
Wee Worship Leader: Susan Ashbee
Office Volunteer: Dot White
Prayer Chain Contacts: Charlotte Crockett,
478-1003/591-7902
Dibber Lutz,
473-7582/433-5756

The Lord's Supper will be observed on Pentecost, this Sunday, May 23

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is extended to all who have been baptized, remembering that access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance and love. In preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and brokenness, to seek reconciliation with God and neighbor and to trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal.
Book of Order 4-2.4011

Presbyterian Women

Spring Gathering is set for Monday, May 17th
The Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women will take place on Monday, May 17. Gather in the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. for Bible Study with Rev. Ryan Jensen, followed by a salad luncheon in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a salad to share. Friends are invited and welcome!

Music and Fine Arts

Upcoming Choir Practices

- **GMBACS** Tues., May 18 7:00 p.m.
Last reg. practice of the season
- **Sacred Tones** Wed., May 19 6:00 p.m.
Last reg. practice of the season
- **Sanctuary Choir** Wed., May 19 7:30 p.m.
- **GMBACS** Sun., May 23 TBA
Dress Reh., Our Lady of Lourdes
Sun., May 23 4:00 p.m.
Concert, Our Lady of Lourdes
- **Sanctuary Choir** Wed., May 26 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming GMBACS Concert Performance

The Greater Mobile Bay Area Choral Society will present its final concert of the season on Sunday, May 23rd at 4:00 p.m. "*Schubert Mass in G with a little Sondheim and Cole Porter on the side*" is a variety concert that replaces the Society's planned presentation of Dufay's *Requiem*, now scheduled for May of 2011. The concert will also feature selections from the Boys & Girls Honors Choir Program as the conclusion of their fourth season. The Society welcomes Ms. Betsy Ushkrat, soprano, and Mr. Tyler Smith, tenor, to this performance from New Orleans, LA. They, along with Mark Swingle, baritone, will be the featured soloists in the Schubert Mass. Ushkrat and Smith are music professionals who teach at universities in the city of New Orleans and have performed on stage in public concerts and operas. The program will be under the direction of Terry D. Maddox, M.M.

The program will be presented at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, located at 1621 Boykin Boulevard off of Dauphin Island Parkway. The concert is free and open to the public. Donations will be received to benefit the choral program for the Boys & Girls Honors Choir Program. For further information regarding this concert, contact Terry Maddox at 434-9325 or tmaddox@gspcmobile.org.

Urban Ministries

Thank You

The Urban Ministry Committee would like to thank all those who volunteered their time and effort in hosting our Interfaith Hospitality Network family the week of April 18th-25th. Your efforts have helped GSPC become a welcoming home for those needing help and stability in times of trouble. Our next hosting week will be the week of July 25th-August 1st.

25th Anniversary of Urban Missions

The Urban Ministries Committee is beginning to plan a Sunday, July 18th celebration of the 25th Anniversary of GSPC's Urban Missions. Former GSPC pastor and our Urban Missions founder, Joe Donaho, will preach during Worship. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall where Joe will receive a special "thank you" from the Diaconate; other key leaders, providers and volunteers over the years will also be recognized.

The UM Committee is seeking people with Urban Missions testimonials, anecdotes, stories, and pictures, as well as volunteers to help with the reception. Please contact Scott Spence at 434-9328 or scott@gspcmobile.org.



Congregational Life

Seeking Members Interested in Potential GSPC Community Service Initiatives

Ideas have been circulating recently regarding possible formation of small teams of GSPC members to help the greater community with disaster assistance or environmental issues, i.e. hurricanes and the current oil spill impact — which remains as yet unknowable. If

you are interested in being involved in initiatives such as these, or want to help assess viable options, or have any input at all, please contact GSPC Communication Director Debbie Bruker at 434-3927 or debbie@gspcmobile.org.

May 11 Update from 2008-09 Intern Andy King

Hey all!

How are you all doing? I hope things in Mobile are going well!

As our summer begins to unfold, Melissa and I are in the process of accepting our first calls! We will be co-associate pastors at First Presbyterian Church in Bentonville, AR. We will be working with Art Fogartie, who seems to be a gifted pastor who will gladly mentor us. We will be focusing on Christian Education, Mission, and Pastoral Care. We are pretty excited!

At the moment, we are looking forward to a summer of relaxing, planning, and traveling for fun and for business. We have meetings with 3 presbyteries to start coordinating for our ordination processes. It should be fun, and a tad less stressful than searching for a call!

Thanks so much for your prayers and support for us! We hope you're having a great week of spring transitioning into summer!

Peace,
Andy and Melissa
apk886@yahoo.com

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Mrs. Mildred Batton, a GSPC member since 1987. Mildred died on April 24th. A service was held on Sunday, April 25th at Radney Funeral Home with Rev. Ryan Jensen officiating.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Mary Knox Middleton who died on April 29th. A memorial service was held on Mon, May 3rd at GSPC, followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Shirley Lee Roberds who died on April 30th. Mrs. Roberds was the grandmother of Jay Roberds. A service was held on Tuesday, May 4th at Dauphin Way Methodist Church.

GSPC NEWS

300 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602

GSPC NEWS (USPC 736150) is published weekly except Thanksgiving and Christmas by GSPC, 300 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36602. Periodical: postage paid at Mobile, AL. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to GSPC NEWS, 300 Government St., Mobile, AL 36602

Children's Ministries

by Amanda Murray, Director of Children's Ministries

- **Parent's Night Out:** Thank you so much to Kathryn and the youth who volunteered to help out with Parent's Night Out last Friday Night. We had a "fun" evening full of drama, food, games, movies, and fellowship.
- **THANK YOU!!!** We have one last Sunday with our teachers before Summer Sunday School begins. I want to thank each one of our loyal teachers for their love and dedication to the children of GSPC this year. Thank you to Charlotte Crockett, Carolla Hider, Trenée Bain, Lindsay Otts, Julie Otts, Dorothy Morrison, Dora & Robert Rouse, Jennifer Jameson, and Caroline Etherton.
- **Party!** The children will join me on Sunday, May 23rd for a party to celebrate our years together and a chance for us to say Good-Bye to one another. The party will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the tent room and end at 10:30 a.m. Parents are welcome to stop by and have a donut, too!
- **Choir:** The Children's and Cherub Choirs are on summer break. Thank you to Ms. Wanda and Mr. Terry for all of their hard work this year singing with the children.
- **Vacation Bible School:** EGYPT happens on June 7-11. Register Today! Contact Laura Jensen at lauramasseyjensen@gmail.com with any questions.
- **HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Jack Otts, Richard Tippy, Joshua Crumb, Sully Irvine, Anne Roberds, Jeffery Gurley, Elizabeth Gustin, Win Elliott, and Denton Elliott.
- Family Devotional:
 - *Scripture:* Acts 2:38
 - *Prayer:* A Pentecost Prayer
 - *Song:* I am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N