



GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
582 PUTNAM PIKE
GREENVILLE, RI 02828

APRIL 2017

We extend our warmest welcome
and invite you to join us each week
in praise and worship.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 10:00 a.m.
Bible R.E.A.D. 10:00 a.m.
Coffee Hour 11:00 a.m.



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CONTACT US

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From the Pastor:

I recently read a blog by Ron Edmondson concerning his desire to obey and follow the voice of God. He says that he has never audibly heard the voice of God, but he has had God's "voice" impressed upon his heart and mind. His is a pilgrimage still in process – as it should be for all who follow Jesus. In this blog he shared seven things he has learned about following God. They are as follows:

- **I've never been able to see very far down the road.** God seems to keep me from seeing all the details in advance. Sometimes I get a clear vision of a big goal God has for me, but I usually have no clue at the time how to get there.
- **The road for following God has never seemed to be easily paved.** I assumed if I was doing things "His way" things would go my way. But, just being obedient doesn't always remove the obstacles. This has always required faith. Thankfully, without faith it's impossible to please God.
- **There have often been several options available of "how" to proceed towards what God is calling me.** God seems to give freedom in the way I complete His plans. I've even made mistakes and watched Him redeem them.
- **I have been tempted to quit.** How is that for honesty? When life is hard my faith is sometimes weak. I've learned God doesn't give up – people do. I do. But, God is faithful even when I am not.
- **Satan is the great disrupter.** And, he is crafty. The enemy stirs conflict with other people, stretches resources and tempts battles within my own mind.
- **God's voice can be discerned.** It's so wild! The Maker of the universe is willing to let me hear from Him – even on the darker days. The more I know God and the closer our relationship, the clearer I hear His voice.
- **God calls people to impossible tasks.** What's impossible for me is possible for God. Praise His name! God brings eventual completion to His work – in His time.

I can relate with much of what he said. I have experienced the stepping out in faith, hoping that all will go well because I am following the will of God – as far as I can discern. I have also learned that just because something doesn't go smoothly, it doesn't mean it is not of God's will. God asked Abraham to leave his family, his country, and go off into a new land. God asked Moses to leave a life of comfort to lead God's people out of slavery into the desert, only to have the people complain and mutter against Moses. God anointed David to be King, yet David had to live on the run and hide in caves for many years before the crown was put upon his head. God asked John the Baptist to prepare the way of the Lord and well, you know what happened – he was beheaded!

I have been blessed in my journey as a follower of Jesus – but it has not always been easy. Perhaps if it was easy, it wouldn't have the impact upon me that it does, knowing that God is always with me to strengthen and empower me. God has also put many people in my life as mentors, co-workers, family, friends and brothers and sister in Christ working together for the Kingdom of God.

What about you? What learning experiences have you had in your faith walk? I would love to learn from and be encouraged by you as I hope you can learn from and be encouraged by me when I share my experiences.

Peace,

Pastor Wendy

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Samantha Vallone, daughter of Paula Davis, made a presentation at our March 27th meeting regarding Community Supported Agriculture. Her farm has requested permission to use our church parking lot for produce pick up on Wednesday evenings beginning in June and lasting for 22 weeks. The exact dates are still being developed. The board has approved that request.

Shelly and Jan met with the board during our March meeting to discuss the status of a proposed addition to the Thrift Shop. The renewed interest in the need for additional storage space is the result of the recent discussion of expanding services in conjunction with other area churches. Initial discussion of this project began in 2015. The most recent investigation was relative to the possibility of entering into a design/build contract with a contractor. The board is also looking at the feasibility of using some form of temporary storage.

The bylaws as amended on March 12, 2017 are available as a PDF file (8.5"x11" format) in the church office. The only change to the bylaws was the removal of the one year delay between terms of office for some officers and members of some boards and committees. You may contact the office to request an electronic copy of the file. As the full set of bylaws is scheduled to be reviewed in 2018, new booklets containing the amended bylaws will not be published.

FROM THE BOARD OF DIACONATE

HOME HABILITATION PROJECTS are in the works. If you or someone you know can use the help of some young people with yard work or simple repairs, please let Sue or the pastor know. We will be working with our people and some youth to do a few projects in May.

Check out the visitor bags in the back of the sanctuary, with gifts of welcome to any newcomer. Included are an updated church brochure, a Greenville Baptist Church pen and special treats!

Did you know – the **Fellowship Offering** envelope on the first Sunday of the month goes to a “Deacons Fund” for special needs. Recently, money has gone to provide our military with uplifting Guidepost Magazines, to pay for medicine for a church member, and to help send your donations to Honduras. If you know of a need, please let any of the Deacons know.

There are **grocery gift cards available, as well as food pantry items**, if you know someone who is struggling with food. No one should go hungry, and Greenville Baptist wants to help when we hear of a need.

Do you know of anyone in need of a card, call or visit? Let the pastor or a deacon know. Also, the cards in the pews are a way of letting people know someone is in need of a visit.

Join us in praying regularly for those in our congregation who are sick, homebound or just a bit down.

Upcoming Sabbatical Period – June, July and August

As you have seen discussed over the past year, Pastor Wendy will be on a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical this summer, Monday June 5 – Sunday September 3. Pastor Wendy will be taking 2 weeks vacation prior to the sabbatical; Monday May 22 through Sunday, June 4.

During the Sabbatical period, Rev. Dr. Don Rasmussen will be our part-time interim pastor. He has been a pastor in Rhode Island and was Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of RI until his retirement in 2007.

During the Sabbatical the Deacons will be working with Rev. Rasmussen regarding visitation and any pastoral issues that arise. Susan is the chair of Deacons.

The Pastoral Relation Committee will also be working closely with Rev. Rasmussen. Paula DiLuglio is chair of Pastoral Relations.

More information will be in the May Newsletter. If you have any questions, speak with Sue, Paula, or the Pastor.

FROM THE MISSION BOARD

Mission Honduras Presentation Sunday, April 23

During 10:00 am worship and after the service in the Lower Vestry
Come and hear the amazing work that was done thanks to you prayerful support and donations

For several years the Mission Board has been working with the Catholic Churches in the area to serve dinner to the **homeless in Providence** on Friday nights. Greenville Baptist folks under the leadership of Paula Edwards have been cooking 20 pounds of pasta with meatballs and sauce. The containers are then taken to Providence by others to serve the people coming through the breadline. This ministry is called Breadline Ministry.

We are looking for someone who is willing to continue this ministry by cooking the pasta and meatballs and sauce. Paula will help the new people learn the process. If you are interested in learning more about this vital ministry please see Carla. There are three dates available in late Summer into Fall so you have time to pray and think about whether this ministry is for you.

The next Mission Board meeting will be Monday evening, April 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the church office.

INTERESTED IN A SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP IN THE UNITED STATES?

Volunteer Mobilization Ministries facilitates individual volunteer missionary appointments, summer service opportunities, group mission experiences, specialized service projects, and disaster response.

In addition to praying, American Baptists have traditionally been people of action, giving freely of their valuable time and talents to help survivors of tragedy throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Striking recent examples include volunteer efforts in response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the U.S. Gulf Coast area, where American Baptists and their partners logged countless hours of hands-on recovery work.



Volunteer opportunities with ABHMS include:

“[Coming Together for New Jersey...Rebuild, Renew and Restore](#)” (Ann Gardner intends to go on this trip. Speak with Ann if interested.)

“[Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing...Muskogee, Okla.](#)”

“[Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing...Rainelle, W.Va.](#)”

“[Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing...Baton Rouge](#)”

NEW! [Register online](http://abhms.org/ministries/healing-communities/volunteer-ministries/) for any of the volunteer mission opportunities. Go to <http://abhms.org/ministries/healing-communities/volunteer-ministries/>

For more information about volunteer opportunities, contact Victoria Goff, National Coordinator, Volunteer Mobilization Ministries at 800-222-3872, x2449 or, Victoria.GOFF@abhms.org



THE THRIFT SHOP – is accepting donations, Friday and Saturday mornings. Your donations have provided sheets and curtains to a shelter in Woonsocket, small pieces of furniture, dishes and silverware to people getting out of the shelter and into their own apartments, and emergency supplies to people who have lost belongings in a fire. Items sold have raised money for the church as well as special projects. Plus many people have found a bargain in clothing, books, jewelry, toys and household items. Take a look around, if you haven't recently, as things change frequently. Clear out those unused items and bring them in – they may be someone's treasure.

LADIES OF GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 22, 2017
Harmony Lodge
11:00 am for Brunch

A special event to celebrate all women's ministries
of the Greenville Baptist Church

Look for more info to come!

Opportunities for Outreach

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS – Lunch with Friends will be held Tuesday, April 25.
Join us, 11:30 – 1:30 for food and fellowship. Bring a friend!



The American Baptist Churches of RI "Connections Team," is looking for a person from each of its churches to serve as an informational conduit between churches in the region.

The role of this individual would be to connect, communicate and encourage collaboration as a "Regional Liaison."

The objective here is to have the continuity of one Regional Liaison for each church to share:

- What your church is doing in ministry with other regional churches
- What other churches are doing in hopes for collaboration with your church
- An understanding of what the Regional Office can do for your church and its ministries

If you are interested, speak to Pastor Wendy before May 1.

Nursing Home Ministries:

- Every Sunday at 12:45 pm at the **Lodge at the Village at Waterman Lake.**
- First and third Tuesdays at 10:30 am at the **Courtyard at the Village at Waterman Lake.**
- First Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm and every other Thursday at 2:30 pm at **Cortland Place.**
- Every other Friday at 10:30 am at **Brookdale Smithfield.**

Would you be interested in helping with one of the nursing home ministries?

Speak with Janet about the Tuesday Courtyard Services

Wayne about the Sunday Lodge Services

Ginger O'Shan about the Cortland Place and Brookdale Services

Your presence can make a difference to the residents!

Opportunities for Growth

Daily devotional booklets are available:

The Secret Place – March/April/May edition available.

The Upper Room – May/June edition available.

The Adult Sunday Class meets at 9:00 am in the Upper Room (No Class the 9th or 16th).

The Wednesday Bible Study meets at 1:00 pm in the Church House. (No class on the 12th)

The Men's Bible Study meets on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Office.

LOOKING AHEAD:

MAY AND HARVEST BREAKFASTS – Kelly wants to form a committee for the May and Harvest Breakfasts. She will need people to help organize, advertise, and do foot work. The committee will only need to meet a couple of times before each breakfast. Please see Kelly if you are interested.

LENT: A SEASON OF REFLECTION

Once again Greenville Baptist Church has been participating with a cluster of Churches on Wednesday nights beginning Ash Wednesday, March 1 through Wednesday April 5.

It is a wonderful opportunity to worship with sister churches and strengthen our witness of Christ

April 5

Divine Deliverance Baptist

Ginger O'Shan

April 14 – Good Friday

Emmanuel Baptist

Rev. Lynn Baker-Dooley

Pastor Wendy will be preaching at 2 services on Good Friday:

North Scituate Baptist Church at 1:20 pm and First Baptist Church, Pawtucket at 7:00 pm.

Ginger O'Shan will be preaching Good Friday, North Scituate at 12:55 pm

Palm Sunday, April 9 – the ordinance of believer's baptism will be administered upon two of our youth, Faith and Hunter. Please come and support Faith and Hunter as they take this next step in their faith journey.

Maundy Thursday Service, April 13, at Greenville Baptist Church, 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. A moving service reflecting on the last days of Christ and the forgiveness received because of his sacrifice. Come and invite others.

INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW WHAT GBC WAS DOING 50 YEARS AGO

In 1967 the Minister was Rev. Stanley Pratt, who lived in the parsonage at 3 Appleton Road, Greenville. An Associate Minister of Christian Education, Rev. George Daniels was hired. He and his family moved into the newly renovated church house.

The church was very active with a membership of 576. Ed, Janet and Barbara Whalen (now Aspel) were among those joining the church in November 1967.

The Sunday School was thriving and enjoying the use of the new addition. Under the leadership of Superintendent, Barbara Brush and 44 teachers, the enrollment was 310 with an average of 216.

To be continued – next month. Jeanie Buckley, Historian



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop
2 9:00 am Adult Class 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Bible R.E.A.D. 11:am Coffee Hour 11:15 am Christian Ed. 12:45 pm Village 2:30 pm Cortland Place	3 7:00 pm Executive Bd 7:00 pm Quilting	4 10:30 am Village 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	5 7:00am MPB 1:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Lenten Service at Divine Deliverance	6 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Free at Last	7 9:00-2:00 pm Thrift Shop	8 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop Boy Scout Spaghetti Supper
9 PALM SUNDAY 10:00 am Worship Ordinance of Baptism .11:am Coffee Hour 12:45 pm Village	10 6:30 pm Missions 7:00 pm Quilting	11 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	12 7:00am MPB NO Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	13 MAUNDY THURSDAY 2:30 pm Cortland Place 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service	14 GOOD FRIDAY 9:00-2:00 pm Thrift Shop CLOSED 10:30 am Brookdale Services at North Scituate Baptist 12 – 3 pm and FBC Pawtucket at 7 pm	15 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop CLOSED
16 EASTER SUNDAY 10:00 am Worship 11:am Coffee Hour 12:45 pm Village	17 7:00 pm Deacons 7:00 pm Quilting	18 10:30 am Village	19 7:00am MPB 1:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	20 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Free at Last	21 9:00-2:00 pm Thrift Shop	22 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop 11:00 am – Ladies' Brunch at Harmony Lodge
23 9:00 am Adult Class 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Bible R.E.A.D. 11:am Coffee Hour 12:45 pm Village	24 7:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Quilting	25 11:30 – 1:30 Lunch with Friends	26 7:00am MPB 1:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	27 2:30 pm Cortland Place 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Free at Last	28 9:00-2:00 pm Thrift Shop 10:30 am Brookdale	29 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop
30 9:00 am Adult Class 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Bible R.E.A.D. 11:am Coffee Hour 12:45 pm Village	Notes:					

Pastor Wendy's office hours vary Monday through Thursday. Kathy has Pastor Wendy's monthly schedule. If you would like to drop in or make an appointment to meet with her call the church office at 401-949-1134 or the Pastor's cell 508-769-7636.