

GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
582 PUTNAM PIKE
GREENVILLE, RI 02828

JANUARY 2018

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.



CONTENTS

From the Pastor	2
From Officers, Boards, and Committees	3
Opportunities for Outreach	5
Opportunities for Growth	5
Prayers, Concerns, Celebrations and FYI	7
Calendar	9

CONTACT US

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 401-949-1134
FAX: 401-949-3535
OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Email: greenvillebaptist@verizon.net
Pastor's email: pastor.gbcri@verizon.net
Website: www.greenvillebaptistri.org

New Year's Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

While we are at the beginning of another year, and even though we may not say it out loud, we probably all think of things we would like to do better, and ways we can improve our lives, so that when we get to the end of this year we can look back and give thanks to God for helping us to do better.

As a Christian, we must always have that desire to “do better” and become all that God wants us to be not only for our own sake, but for the sake of our families and a world searching for answers. Of course, God loves us regardless of what we do, but knowing that God loves us and our love for God should motivate us to please God by the way we live our lives.

While we make our list of things to do in 2018, whether it is in our minds, on paper, or on a computer/device, we must also know that we can easily make excuses for putting off making changes in our behaviors or goals. Sometimes those excuses come from other people who unknowingly (or knowingly) sabotage our efforts, or from our own inner voice that tries to convince us that we cannot change. This is true personally as well as for families and even the church.

Just remember – we have the power of the Holy Spirit to help us. Ephesians 6:10-11 says: “Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” What is the armor of God? Faith, Scripture, prayer (for oneself and for others), and proclamation of the gospel.

The New Testament has many passages that can give you courage and strength to make changes for improvement. “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,” Philippians 4:13.

“. . . the Lord is faithful; He will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one,” 2 Thessalonians 3:3.
“. . . I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you – or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine,” Romans 1:11-12.
Reading God's Word and being part of a faith community can have a positive impact on your life.

I would also encourage you to do what you can this year, with the help of the Holy Spirit to make an impact in the world around you by simply being faithful and obedient to God's leading in your life. Be sensitive to His voice, and you will be amazed at what He will do through you! Whether it is showing kindness to someone in the store or on the street, dropping off some cookies to a neighbor, feeding the poor and homeless, praying for someone who is struggling, inviting someone to church, or sharing your faith and how God has worked in your life.

If we will simply do some of the small things – for ourselves and for others – they will add up into something big accomplished for the Kingdom of God over the next year, and you will look back in appreciation to the Lord for the way He has led you.

Thank you for your part in the many ministries of Greenville Baptist Church – especially your prayers.

Peace,

Pastor Wendy

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The 2018 Budget was approved at the Business Meeting on December 10, 2017. The adopted budget shows that our anticipated income will total \$238,665 while our expenses are expected to be \$238,218. The pledges to Missions for 2018 totaled \$18,306. The Trustees thank all church members and friends for their support for our programs and facilities.

Our church bylaws state that the Board of Trustees shall “... *arrange for an independent review of the financial records annually before the Annual Meeting.*” A committee consisting of Ruth D, Ruth L, and Matt L will conduct a review of the church’s financial records for 2017 on January 20th. This will be a review of randomly selected deposits, invoices, payroll records, and other accounting documents. Anyone interested in observing this review should contact the chair of the Board of Trustees for further information. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2018. Save the date.

FROM THE DEACONS

The next Deacons meeting will be **Sunday, January 14th after church.**

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS classes given by lead CERT instructor, Todd Manni Director of the Smithfield EMA, are starting on Monday, January 8th from 7:00. until 8:30 or possibly 9:00 in the Lower Vestry for anyone ages 12 and up who would like to learn and be part of a team to help in emergencies. Classes will run for 10 weeks. What a great way to be a help to others in difficult times.

MOVIE NIGHT – A CASE FOR CHRIST – This great book has been made into a movie and we will host a Friday movie night on **Friday, January 5th**. Come at 6 for supper, and stay for popcorn and a fascinating story. While it may not interest children we hope adults of all ages will join us and bring a friend or two.

BIBLES are available free for anyone who needs one, or who would like an updated version. (King James was wonderful, in its time, but there are so many wonderful versions now!) Just ask a deacon or usher. Optional donations toward the Bible distribution can be placed in the January Fellowship offering. We hope you will read along with the congregation for the New Testament challenge. Have you ever really read through the Bible? How about starting with Matthew, about 3 chapters a day, until Easter?

FROM THE MISSION BOARD

DRESS DAY – January 6th – take a cut out dress to sew at home, or join us for a fun day of working together to make sun dresses for the young girls in Honduras. See Sue C for more details or just show up at 9 that Saturday morning.

MEATBALL SUB LUNCHEON

How do you survive those January sub-zero wind-chill days? Come to a Hot Meatball Sub Luncheon on Sunday, January 21, 2018 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm to warm up with your friends at Greenville Baptist Church and raise funds for the February 2018 Honduras Mission Trip. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children 5-12. Children 4 and under are free. We hope to see you there!



The Mission Board has decided to continue cooking for the **Breadline Ministry** starting in February. If you are interested in helping with cooking at GBC or serving the food on Fridays in Providence please see Carla O or Sandy S.

RETIRED MINISTERS AND MISSIONARY OFFERING

Helping those in need is one of the major themes of the bible and of Jesus' ministry. The prophet Isaiah reminds us, "But generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity." (Isaiah 32:8 NLT) Generosity is central to our faith. As Christians, we are called to serve and care for others, and RMMO aligns with the collective spirit of love that inspires us all to honor the devotion of ministers and their families for their service to the church.

Since RMMO began in 1977, it has helped provide much needed *thank you* checks to retired ministers, missionaries, their widowed spouses and families – those who have dedicated their lives to God's service. In 2016, RMMO raised **\$1,059,444**, and more than **3,443** checks were distributed to recipients and their families.

We will be receiving the RMMO offering throughout the month of January. We thank you in advance for your generous giving to a worthy cause.

Opportunities for Outreach



Lunch with Friends will be at 11:30 am on Tuesday, January 23rd.

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 Whalen about the Tuesday Courtyard Services

Pastor Wendy 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 – December/January/February edition available.

The Upper Room – January/February edition available.

The Adult Sunday Class meets at 9:00 am in the Upper Room.

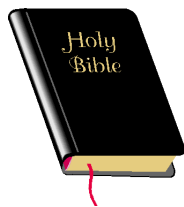
The Wednesday Bible Study meets at 1:00 pm in the Church House.

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

Is there a Book of the Bible or a Topical Study that you would like to engage in?

Speak to Pastor Wendy, suggest a topic and a day of the week and time of day (or evening) that you would like to meet with a small group.

2018 Bible Challenge: Read the New Testament in 90 days!



Beginning January 1, 2018, you are invited to participate in an all church challenge to read the entire New Testament in 90 days. If you begin on January 1, and read about three chapters a day, you will complete the New Testament on March 31, 2018 – the day before Easter Sunday.

A suggested reading plan is printed below with a check off for each day's chapters. Let's do this together and let God's Word fill us and transform us!

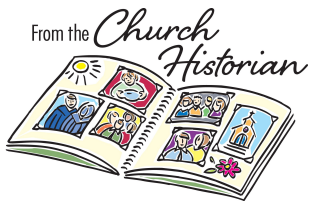
90 Day New Testament Bible Reading Plan – January 2018

Day	Section	Done	Day	Section	Done
1	Matthew 1-3	_____	17	Luke 1-3	_____
2	Matthew 4-7	_____	18	Luke 4-6	_____
3	Matthew 7-9	_____	19	Luke 7-9	_____
4	Matthew 10-12	_____	20	Luke 10-12	_____
5	Matthew 13-15	_____	21	Luke 13-15	_____
6	Matthew 16-18	_____	22	Luke 16-18	_____
7	Matthew 19-21	_____	23	Luke 19-21	_____
8	Matthew 22-24	_____	24	Luke 22-24	_____
9	Matthew 25-27	_____	25	John 1-3	_____
10	Matthew 28	_____	26	John 4-6	_____
11	Mark 1-3	_____	27	John 7-9	_____
12	Mark 4-6	_____	28	John 10-12	_____
13	Mark 7-9	_____	29	John 13-15	_____
14	Mark 10-12	_____	30	John 16-18	_____
15	Mark 13-15	_____	31	John 19-21	_____
16	Mark 16	_____			



Thank you to the Flower committee and to Bill P for the beautiful church decorations this year, both for the Open House and for the Christmas services. We so appreciate all you do behind the scenes!

Thanks go to staff and patrons of Freedom Bank for a generous donation of canned goods for our food pantry, and to the Smithfield Fire Department for a large donation of toys which went to needy families in Northern R.I.

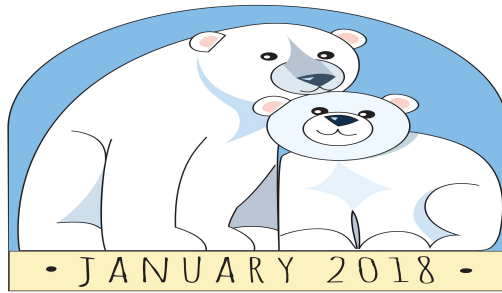


50 Years Ago at GBC

While perusing some of the church's past, I found a Sunday bulletin dated, January 14, 1934, yellowed with age, ripped in a few places and with a few typos. I found it interesting that although simply written it is not too different than today's format. (Instead of 50 years ago, I will write about GBC 84 years ago). The front cover had a hand drawn black and white sketch of the church, with the pastor's name, Rev. Walter White, D.D. The first page listed the date, morning worship, 11:00 A.M. followed by: Organ Prelude, Doxology, Invocation, Gloria, Responsive Reading, Scripture, Children's Story, Prayer, Choral Response, Offertory, Anthem, Sermon, "Christian Acting", Prayer, Hymn, Benediction, Moment of Quiet, Organ Postlude. Page numbers were listed for the Responsive Reading and the hymns, but no titles. Church School 10:00 A.M., Brotherhood 10:00 A.M., Christian Endeavor 6:30. The second page included the church calendar. Items of Interest: Monday, 6:30 P.M. a supper for teachers and officers of the church school in the Vestry, followed by a business session and teaching period. Wednesday, January 17th, SWWG will meet at the home of Dorothy Snell. Prayer Meeting omitted Thursday night because of the Community Institute. Community Institute for all people will be held each night next week at the William Winsor School. No admission charge, it is a privilege not to be overlooked. It was voted at the annual meeting to start a repair fund to renovate the church auditorium. The first gift of \$50.00 was given to Mrs. Chester Winsor, Church Treasurer. The Christian E (? Education) is divided into two teams, Red led by John Waterhouse, Blue led by Charlotte Young. Last page – three words – GOD IS LOVE... If anyone knows, what SWWG or the Community Institute was, please let me know. Also, was Christian Endeavor for adults or younger folks?

50 Years Ago at GBC will return in February's Newsletter.

Jeanie B, Historian



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5	6
				7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	7:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Free at Last	9:00-2:00 pm Thrift Shop 10:30 am Brookdale 6:00-9:00 Movie Night with Supper 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop 9-3:00 pm Dresses for Honduras
7 9:00 am Adult Class 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Bible R.E.A.D. 11:00 am Coffee Hour 12:45 pm Village 2:30 pm Cortland Place	8 7:00 pm Missions 7:00 pm Quilting 7:00-8:30 pm Emergency Preparedness Class	9 7:00 pm Cub Scouts	10 7:00 am MPB 1:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	11 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Free at Last	12 9:00-2:00 pm Thrift Shop	13 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop
14 9:00 am Adult Class 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Bible R.E.A.D. 11:00 am Coffee Hour 11:15 am Deacons 12:45 pm Village	15 Office Closed Martin Luther King Day 7:00 pm Quilting 7:00-8:30 pm Emergency Preparedness Class	16 10:30 am Village	17 7:00 am MPB 1:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	18 2:30 pm Cortland Place 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Free at Last	19 9:00-2:00 pm Thrift Shop 10:30 am Brookdale	20 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop
21 9:00 am Adult Class 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Bible R.E.A.D. 11:00-1:00 pm Meatball Luncheon 12:45 pm Village	22 7:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Quilting 7:00-8:30 pm Emergency Preparedness Class	23 11:30 am Lunch with Friends	24 7:00 am MPB 1:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	25 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Free at Last	26 9:00-2:00 pm Thrift Shop	27 9:00-Noon Thrift Shop
28 9:00 am Adult Class 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Bible R.E.A.D. 11:00 am Coffee Hour 12:45 pm Village	29 7:00 pm Quilting 7:00-8:30 pm Emergency Preparedness Class	30	31 7:00 am MPB 1:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts			