



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, Joppa

"Changing Lives and Growing in God's Love"

- Wednesday, 1 Lion Cub & Leo's Meeting @ 6:30 pm - Upper Room
- Thursday, 2 Choir Practice 7:00 pm
- Sunday, 5 **Communion Worship 11:00 am**
Coffee Hour After Worship
- Monday, 6 Deacon's Meeting 6:00 pm
- Thursday, 9 Men's & Women's Bible Study 10:00 am
Session Meeting 6:00 pm
Choir Practice 7:00 pm
- Saturday, 11 Upper Room in use - Mother's Day Set-up
- Sunday, 12 *Mother's Day*
Worship Service 11:00 am
Mother's Day Luncheon
- Tuesday, 14 **HCPS - CLOSED**
- Thursday, 16 Choir Practice 7:00 pm
- Sunday, 19 **Special Pentecost Service 11:00 am**
Wear RED!
Coffee Hour After Worship
Rev. Mark Phillips - Installation Service 3:00 pm
First & Franklin Presbyterian Church
- Thursday, 23 Choir Practice 7:00 pm
- Friday, 24 **HCPS - 1/2 Day**
- Sunday, 26 Guest Speaker - Worship Service 11:00 am
Coffee Hour After Worship
- Monday, 27 Memorial Day
GSPC & GSCC CLOSED
- Thursday, 30 Choir Practice 7:00 pm



We usually speak of the “Jewish diaspora” in terms of the scattering of the Jews from Jerusalem when the Temple was destroyed by the Romans around 70 C.E., but that community had been scattered many times before. We need to begin with the Exodus from Egypt in the 13th Century B.C.E.

After wandering in the desert, the Israelites took over the “Promised Land” of Canaan from the Canaanites. This established the homeland for Yahweh’s people, from which they would be dispersed.

The first official scattering occurred when Assyria conquered the northern kingdom of divided Israel in the 8th Century. Many were taken captive and many more were forced out of Israel by the conquerors, to be gradually assimilated into Assyrian and other societies. This part of Israel was home to ten of the twelve tribes, and this is the origin of the lore of the “Lost Tribes” of Israel. The second dispersion was in the 6th Century when the southern kingdom (Judah) was conquered by Babylon. The best and brightest of Jerusalem’s people were forced to live in Babylon for roughly three generations before they were allowed to return.

The 4th Century conquest of the entire region by Alexander the Great produced another dispersion. We don’t have much record of this time (except in the apocryphal books of I and II Maccabees). One of the results of this conquest was the establishment of a thriving Jewish community in Alexandria, Egypt. Around 250 B.C.E. these Jews would produce a translation of the Jewish scriptures from Hebrew to Greek, known as the “Septuagint” which would provide invaluable information for future religious scholarship.

Also, not all of the Jews left prosperous Babylon to return to the impoverished ruins of Jerusalem. The Jews of Babylon became a powerful community that maintained what became the mainstream of Jewish tradition. The modern Hebrew scriptures are based most deeply on the Babylonian stream of Judaism.

Among all of these scattered communities, the traditions of worshiping Yahweh remained strong. While there was some communication among the diaspora, those traditions developed independently and began to diverge in various aspects. When the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1948, for the first time, we were able to follow the Palestinian Jewish tradition to see what their scriptural paths were like.

Enjoy reading the scriptures. They have survived a long journey to get to you!

PEACE,

Pastor Kerry

THE GOOD SHEPHERD FACEBOOK PAGE:

<https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdPC/>

ONLINE WORSHIP @ THE SHEPHERD OF JOPPA YOUTUBE PAGE:

<https://www.youtube.com/@shepherdofjoppa5250/streams>

Share the links to our services with family and friends. When viewed, please click the [You Tube "Like" icon](#). This gives us an idea of our viewership.

MAY 2024

GSPC WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for our final lesson of **Sacred Encounters** on **Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 10:00-11:30 am.**

Marilyn Rudolph and Delores Barr will lead the discussion on "People Encounter Jesus Through the Work of the Disciples." Even if you don't have the book you are still invited to participate as we study Acts 9:36-43. We plan to explore how "the community of faith relies on the power of Jesus Christ in times of crisis."



GSPC MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The men of Good Shepherd will be meeting to hold their bible study on **Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 10:00-11:30 am** in the sanctuary.

Following both groups study and prayer session we will have a time for fellowship and refreshments in the Upper Room.

Each one is requested to bring a lunch.

GSCC CHILDREN'S CENTER

Check out the Princess Rapunzel hair decoration our **extremely** talented infant room teacher, Dawn Dowell made! Their summer decorations are going to be so neat! Stop by and see!



We have a brand new play area! This playground is for our infant and toddler rooms. The children now have a mini playground of their own to safely roam and enjoy. The tree provides great shade and sun safety as well! What a wonderful addition to our center!

MAY 2024

DATES FROM THE DEACONS

Dream big, work hard, and never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit and the commitment of the Good Shepherd congregation! The Deacons look forward to creating opportunities for our congregation to enjoy fellowship, work on service projects, and reach out to our neighborhood in the coming months. Newly joined members are especially invited so we may get to know you better. We trust you will take note of these special activities and join us as we share the Spirit in the months ahead. We pray for safety to all who travel and reconnect with family and friends this summer.



Sundays, May 12 and
June 16

Mother's and Father's Day Food Events in the Upper Room.

The men and women of Good Shepherd will prepare lunch on these days to honor those moms and dads among us. Come upstairs right after worship and plan to be a part of these fellowship events that bring us together. Sign-Up Sheets will be available.

Sunday, May 19

Special Pentecost Celebration at 11:00 a.m. Worship

Wear Red Today – this is a day the PCUSA celebrates the giving of the Holy Spirit to the Church and the beginning of the spread of the Gospel. We have a Spirit-filled service planned with drama and special music.

Sunday, May 26

Gabe Williams will bring the message today on this Trinity Sunday and Memorial Day Weekend. Pastor Kerry will be out of town today.

Sunday, June 9

Bagels and Blooms at 9:00 a.m. in the Upper Room

Want to donate those vases collecting dust at home? Like to arrange flowers? We're making flower arrangements to be taken to people who need some cheer, meeting at 9:00 a.m. on June 9 in the Upper Room. We'll have flowers, food, vases, and cards on hand for all to use to work their magic. By 11:00 a.m., we'll have enough flower arrangements for everyone who attends church that day to take with them. It's a fun event that produces great results. If you have flowers to contribute, please bring them.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES...

Month of July

Share the blessings and support one or both of these activities: Pillows for Harford House (a Shelter located in Aberdeen) and/or Backpacks for pre-school or elementary students at Riverside Elementary. If you see great bargains on pillows or backpacks, pick them up now and save them for our special collections later in the summer.

Saturday, August 10

Sharing Table Casserole Day and On-Site Serving

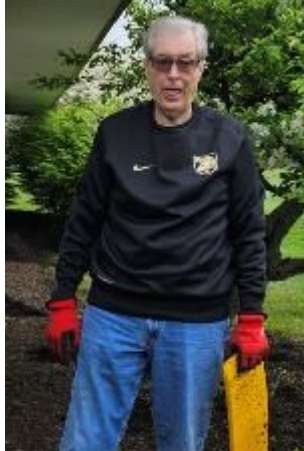
A Sign-Up Sheet will be available on the office bulletin board in July.

Saturday, September 14

Shepherd's Mart Outdoor Event

Our Neighborhood Outreach Event Vendors, *Ain't Misbehavin' Big Band*, Bake Table, Food, Children's Activities are on tap from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We plan to offer an Indoor Church Treasures Table, too (save your donations from home – to be brought in during the month of August).

MAY 2024



EARTH DAY



SAVE THE DATE

Rev. Mark Phillips' Installation Service

Sunday, May 19 at 3:00 pm at First & Franklin Presbyterian Church



As the founding church of the Presbytery of Baltimore, First & Franklin requests the honor of your presence for the installation of the Reverend Mark Phillips as our 17th pastor on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th, at 3:00 pm

On Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's resurrection and to empower its mission and ministry to the world.

We will gather together for worship in the stunning Flamboyant Gothic Revival sanctuary of First & Franklin Presbyterian Church to honor the work of the Holy Spirit as it has called Rev. Phillips to service in our community. It will be a wonderful celebration not only for our congregation but the Presbytery of Baltimore as whole. Please prayerfully consider joining us.

We'd love to have members from every church in the Presbytery join us for this special occasion. We request (but don't require!) an RSVP by May 15th to allow us to plan adequately. We look forward to welcoming you on **Sunday, April 19 at 3:00 pm!**

~ The Session & Congregation of First & Franklin



Congratulations to **Maleah Korin Webster**, the granddaughter of Norma & William Webster.

Maleah is currently a senior at Stanford University, CA, scheduled to graduate in June 2024.

Maleah has been awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship Award to South Korea for the year 2024-2025.

BLESSINGS ABOUND!



A substitute of ours, **Ms. Taylor Wink**, was accepted to CCU!

Sue Thompson has received some amazing news. Her cancer treatments are going very well, so well that her cancer is regressing at a promising rate! Great job Sue, keep hanging in there and our prayers will blanket you while you continue to win this fight!



Chris Bohns had cataract surgery on both eyes recently. The surgery went smoothly and she is currently resting and healing. We pray that there is a quick recovery!

CPR & AED CLASS

On June 14th @ 1:00 pm all GSPC members are welcome to join us in learning life saving techniques. Please RSVP by May 31st to CCDirector@holy411.org

REDNERS TAPES

Just a reminder to use your free Redner's shopping card & to bring in your receipts. Thanks again!

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REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS

Jason Moeller & his Late mother, Patty Moeller, their family & her journey home; Susan Luu's sister-in-law, Ping; Those lost & involved in the Baltimore Key Bridge catastrophe, their families, medical teams, the rescue workers, and the communities affected; Cindy PreVatte's son-in-law, Don Squires, his family & medical team; Winnefred Miller & her family during their travels for her 100th birthday; Marcie Jackson's friend's, Darrell Burns, his family & medical team & Pat in his job search; and little Charlie M., his family and medical team.



If you or someone you know has a need and you would like to submit a prayer request, please reach out to our prayer team at: gsprayers@juno.com



LION CUB & LEOS MEETING

The next meeting of the Lion Cubs & Leos club **May 1, 2024 @ 6:30 pm in the Upper Room**

Planting flower seeds to help support our community pollinators!

Lion Cubs are ages 5-12 y/o and the Leo's are 13-17 y/o.

All are welcome to attend, and it is free to join!

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

KIND
CREATIVE
PATIENT



SUPPORTIVE
GROWING



MS. ALYSSA
(featured with her pup Lily!)

May Birthday's to Celebrate

2 Vickie Maas

3

Nancy McCaslin

Kathy Young



7 Winnifred Miller's
100th!



The Deacons would like the church family to know your important day! If we do not have yours in our file, please notify Kelly Donelson @ 410-961-9275

24 Jon Andrews

29 Ruth Wagener



All About Mom Sign



Materials:

- Jumbo Colorful Craft Sticks
- Cording
- Glue
- Marker



Instructions:



Step 1. Gather your materials!



Step 2. Write the reasons your love mom.



Step 3. Connect all craft sticks together by gluing cording or friendship thread to the back.



Step 4. Give it to your mom to hang up and display!

MAY 2024

