

*Teach children in the way they should go,  
and when they are old, they will not depart from it.  
~ Proverbs 22:6 ~*

**ST. GREGORY'S SPIRITUAL FORMATION  
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

**WHAT WILL OUR CHILDREN LEARN AND DO? (PLENTY!)  
SUNDAY SCHOOL 2018-2019  
CURRICULUM INFORMATION**

**PRE –K3, PRE-K 4, KINDERGARTEN**

This year we are very excited to introduce Godly Play into our spiritual formation program for children.

The Godly Play curriculum is based on the principle that children have an innate sense of the presence of God. The Godly Play approach helps them to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles and developed using a spiral curriculum, the Godly Play method serves children through early, middle and late childhood and beyond.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to any of the following people:

Godly Play Missioner — Anna Thomas ([annawilliamsthomas@gmail.com](mailto:annawilliamsthomas@gmail.com))

Sunday School Coordinator — Kristen Chaney ([kristenchaney@att.net](mailto:kristenchaney@att.net))

Sunday School Coordinator — Anita Sherman ([anitasherman561@gmail.com](mailto:anitasherman561@gmail.com))

Clergy Liaison for Sunday School — The Rev. Ben Thomas ([bthomas@st-gregorys.com](mailto:bthomas@st-gregorys.com))

2018 - 2019 Teachers: Silvia Hall, Joyce Pribell, Anna Thomas

You can also visit the Godly Play website for more information:

<https://www.godlyplayfoundation.org/>

## **GRADES 1, 2, 3**

These grades will continue with our very successful Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program.

The mission and vision of the Catechesis program is to assist the involvement of children and adults in a common religious experience in which the religious values of childhood, primarily those values of contemplation and enjoyment of God are predominant. The program seeks to support catechists, parents and others in the Church and beyond, as they grow in their understanding of the religious potential of children.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to any of the following people:

Catechesis Coordinator — Teri Heemstra-Hernandez ([thhabc@aol.com](mailto:thhabc@aol.com))

Sunday School Coordinator — Kristen Chaney ([kristenchaney@att.net](mailto:kristenchaney@att.net))

Sunday School Coordinator — Anita Sherman ([anitasherman561@gmail.com](mailto:anitasherman561@gmail.com))

Clergy Liaison for Sunday School — The Rev. Ben Thomas ([bthomas@st-gregorys.com](mailto:bthomas@st-gregorys.com))

2018 - 2019 Catechists: Teri Heemstra-Hernandez, Karen Cottrell

You can also visit the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd website for more information:

<http://www.cgsusa.org>

## **GRADES 4, 5**

These grades incorporate the Episcopal Church's *Weaving God's Promises* curriculum along with teacher created and directed activities.

The mission of *Weaving God's Promises* is: to teach children and youth how God's promises of salvation are woven into our lives; to teach children and youth the way of Christ, not only in the church but also in the world as Christ's ambassadors; to give children and youth a solid grounding for future youth and high-school formation programs, which prepares them for Christian adulthood; and, to foster the spiritual

formation and growth of our children and youth in Christ's love and mercy and to teach the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to any of the following people:

Sunday School Coordinator — Kristen Chaney ([kristenchaney@att.net](mailto:kristenchaney@att.net))

Sunday School Coordinator — Anita Sherman ([anitasherman561@gmail.com](mailto:anitasherman561@gmail.com))

Clergy Liaison for Sunday School — The Rev. Ben Thomas ([bthomas@st-gregorys.com](mailto:bthomas@st-gregorys.com))

2018 - 2019 Teachers: Kristen Chaney, Linda MacLaren, Diane Prator

You can also visit the *Weaving God's Promises* website for more information:

<https://www.weavinggodspromises.org>

### **CONFIRMATION PROGRAM (Grades 6, 7, 8)**

Our journey to Confirmation for young people is a three-year program. This year we plan to incorporate Godly Play for Confirmation into our existing method, the *I Believe* curriculum. Our program seeks to nurture the faith of our young people as they prepare for their high school years and beyond, giving them a solid foundation of a Christ-centered life. All young people in grades 6, 7 and 8 can participate in and benefit from this class, regardless of whether or not they choose to be confirmed.

This class will incorporate the themes of sacred time and space, identity and belonging, which are a critical part of formation. As we learn the stories of the people of God, we will build the foundational language of our faith and establish the rhythmic patterns of gathering, listening, reflecting, responding, feasting, and being sent out to do the work God has given us to do.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to any of the following people:

Confirmation Coordinator/Clergy Liaison for Sunday School — The Rev. Ben Thomas  
([bthomas@st-gregorys.com](mailto:bthomas@st-gregorys.com))

Sunday School Coordinator — Kristen Chaney ([kristenchaney@att.net](mailto:kristenchaney@att.net))

Sunday School Coordinator — Anita Sherman ([anitasherman561@gmail.com](mailto:anitasherman561@gmail.com))

2018 - 2019 Teachers/Presenters: The Rev. Ben Thomas, The Rev. Andrew Sherman, Anna Thomas, Wendy Mahle, Gena Vallee, Anita Sherman

### **HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)**

Our program for high schoolers is designed to continue walking with them on their faith journeys as they prepare for young adulthood. We seek to give them a strong Christ-centered foundation from which they can continue their own spiritual discovery and discernment as well as helping them to meet the challenges of living in today's world.

The class does not use a specific curriculum, but rather is presentation and discussion based using Scripturally focused lessons and activities developed by the teacher(s); particular attention is given to incorporating topics of relevance for this age group. This year the class will also join the Confirmation class for Godly Play presentations, but discussions and activities will only consist of the high school class members.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to any of the following people:

Sunday School Coordinator — Kristen Chaney ([kristenchaney@att.net](mailto:kristenchaney@att.net))

Sunday School Coordinator — Anita Sherman ([anitasherman561@gmail.com](mailto:anitasherman561@gmail.com))

Clergy Liaison for Sunday School — The Rev. Ben Thomas ([bthomas@st-gregorys.com](mailto:bthomas@st-gregorys.com))

2018 - 2019 Teachers: Anita Sherman, Priscilla Miller, Kevin Prator (classroom assistant)