

# Members Agreement

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Developed by the Membership 1981; revised 1995

The Prayer Book describes the commitment all Christians make. The members of St. Gregory of Nyssa Church support this commitment with an agreement that shapes our life and work:

- I. We share Christ's mission of service to the world, and we ask his Church's support for loving our neighbors and finding ways to serve them. We support members individually serving the community outside the Church, and we support having projects available for members to work on together. At gatherings of members we will share our experience of service.
- II. Sharing is the chief joy of friendship; and God gives generously to us so that we can enjoy giving generously in return. By gifts to relieve the needy, to better our fellow creatures' lives, to establish justice and to spread the Gospel, scripture says we are sharing with God. As we grow in gratitude and generosity we ask the Church's support.
  - a. Following scripture's guidance, we intend to share what God gives us - time and money and skills and other resources - for the charitable purposes God draws us to. We will share with St. Gregory's members our experience in discovering these purposes, and in progressing toward giving a tenth part or more.
  - b. As an important part of our giving we pledge money monthly to St. Gregory's Church, and will inform the Treasurer of the specific amount. We ask the Treasurer to tell us periodically how our pledge stands.
  - c. We pledge time for giving all newcomers the welcome of Christ himself.
- III. We will celebrate our friendship in Christ together at the Eucharist on Sundays, Holy Week and Easter. We take responsibility for bringing friends to share these celebrations.
- IV. Because God is drawing everyone into friendship, we support the education and growth of all who come to St. Gregory's. We will share our experience and our gifts for this work, as may be appropriate in the liturgy and elsewhere; and we ask the Church's support in furthering our own conversation with God.
- V. We will take responsibility for guidance and direction of the church.
  - a. We will participate in the annual selection of our Vestry and will support the Vestry in directing the work of St. Gregory's Church.
  - b. We support members' community life through members' chapter [annual meetings.]
- VI. We welcome all people as members of St. Gregory's Church when they choose to join us in this Agreement. We ask the Church's prayers and support for keeping the agreement; and we will notify the Vestry conveners should we choose to leave the membership.