

Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



*“Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?” -1 Corinthians 3:16*

*“Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above!” (John Fawcett, 1782, “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”)*

The weekend this newsletter is going out is the weekend of the Third Sunday of Easter. Liturgically (and it’s only off by a couple weeks on the calendar this year), this weekend marks my four year anniversary of stepping into the pulpit of Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church, the anniversary of stepping into community and this journey of faith with each of you.

Thank you for inviting me, for offering me (and Megan) a place at Christ’s Table with you. Thank you for letting me share in your lives, your ups and downs, your joys and concerns. It remains one of our deepest joys to be in this place with you, spiritually and physically.

The community of faith is one of the greatest gifts we can give one another, and which we can receive. It is the regular reminder that whatever is going on in our individual lives, in our joys and sorrows, we are not alone – we have received Christ, and we have received each other.

In many ways, I feel as if I’ve learned more about ministry and discipleship since I’ve left seminary, than when I was in seminary. One aspect I was recently reminded of was the shortcomings of the English language when it comes to translating Hebrew and Greek – specifically that English does not have a good word for the ‘plural you.’ Thankfully, Southerners do: “y’all.” And that’s precisely how the “you” in Paul’s letter to the Corinthians quoted above should be read: not as “you the individual area God’s temple,” but that “y’all together, in community, are God’s temple.” Allow me to update it for us.

“Do you not know that y’all, together, are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in y’all?”

Doesn’t that sound better? Well, even if it doesn’t necessarily roll off the tongue, its meaning is much better, I would argue, because I’ve witnessed the truth of

it. So often, this verse is misinterpreted to be that an individual person’s body, solely, is a temple for God, so that everywhere you look, you might see ten, twenty, fifty or a hundred little ‘temples of God’ going about their daily business! But this couldn’t be further from the intended meaning; when we come together, in fellowship and worship, in praise and conversation, then together we make up God’s temple.

As Christians, present-day disciples of our resurrected Lord, we are better when we’re together. I can move a few rocks on my own, but together we can move mountains. I can do a few good deeds on my own, but together we can transform a community for the better. I can feel at peace sitting in the sanctuary on my own, but I am energized and grounded in my faith when we gather together to worship. If you think about it, haven’t you felt the same way?

When I say that it’s one of my deepest joys, and that I have nothing but gratitude and thanksgiving because you – all of you – have welcomed Megan and me into your community of faith, it’s an understatement; words can never fully express my gratitude and joy. Without this community of faith, we would be severely lacking. As we celebrate our Homecoming, as we reflect on 130 years of ministry in Prince George and look ahead to where God is leading us, as we bear witness again to the resurrection of our Lord Jesus and the fullness of Life he offers, may we continue to seek one another out in community, and to be God’s temple, together, in this time and place.

With you on the journey,  
Pastor Jason



## WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR MAY, 2017

### Sunday, 7 May 2017

“4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Luke 24:44-47 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Acts 8:26-39  
 Sermon: “Cold-Calling”

### Sunday, 14 May 2017 (“Mother’s Day”)

“5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Luke 2:29-32 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Acts 15:1-18  
 Sermon: “Inviting”

### Sunday, 21 May 2017

“6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Luke 18:9-14 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21  
 Sermon: “Authenticated by the Spirit”

### Sunday, 28 May 2017

“7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Luke 1:68-79 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29  
 Sermon: “The Core of Faith”



**OUR PRAYER IN TIMES OF JOY AND CONCERN...** One of our great joys and responsibilities to each other and to God here at Gregory Memorial is the regular practice of praying for each other and our community.

James Hartsell, Robert Hartsell’s brother  
 Amy Townson, Josh Ingram’s sister  
 Doris Karnowski, Josh Ingram’s grandmother  
 Maryland Blanchard, Grace and Helen Cibula’s friend  
 Mary Chadwick, Dink Armstrong’s sister  
 Evelyn Lichvar, her son, Rick, and her brother, Martin  
 (health issues)  
 Becky Smith  
 Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix’s grandson (health issues)  
 Helen & Grace Cibula  
 Elizabeth Scott  
 Kenneth & Sue Andrews, Childress family’s friends  
 Jimmy Clark  
 Terry Robertson, Billy Robertson’s son  
 Elisha Beverly, Valerie Harsh’s daughter (health issue  
 recurrence)  
 Peggy Allen  
 Eleanor Jones  
 Vivian Johnes (improved, at-home rehab)  
 Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew’s brother  
 Teresa Knott, PG County employee (health issue)  
 Billy Robertson (home, feeling better)  
 Eileen Mozucha (continued recov., home)  
 Michelle Coleman (health issues & recov.)  
 Ralph Summerson

George Poulson  
 Aida Faries  
 Courtney Stewart, friend of the Hunters (Duke Hospital)  
 Adrienne Wallace, member of Hopewell News staff  
 Irma Honeycutt, Dave & Patsy Johnson’s friend (health issue)  
 Harvey Spain, (recov., heart surgery)  
 Ed Armstrong (home, going through dialysis)  
 T. J. Webb  
 Jane & Ralph Arehart, Glenda Mayhew’s friends (health  
 issues)  
 Gene Vasek (health issue)  
 Barbara Taliaferro (recov., knee surgery)  
 Kay Slade, Rose Scott’s friend (health issue)  
 Ron Woody (health issues)  
 Carrie King (health issues)  
 Tull Family (Joe’s deployment next year)  
 Mila Campen (hospice care)  
 Gladys Wiseman (home)  
 Janet Shockley, Susan Walker’s mom (recov. after surgery)  
 Mike & Brenda Franklin (Mike is home; out-patient  
 Treatment - leukemia)  
 Sandy Eickmeyer (upcoming procedure)  
 Matt Metschke, Mattie-Lynn’s dad (lap-band surgery, recov., home)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



**GATEKEEPER:**

Doug Holc

**May 2: Circle Meeting** will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30 p.m.

**May 4: “Telling Your Story” Workshop – Embracing Evangelism.** We’ll gather at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to talk about how we proclaim the good news we have received!

**May 14: Mother’s Day.** Also, Begin collection of items needed for Missions’ **“Project Baby Bottle.”**

**May 20: Bull Hill Road Trash Pick-up** (Missions Committee). Volunteers are asked to assemble at 8:30 a.m. in the Gregory Parking lot before proceeding to pick-up site. *All*

*are welcomed; many hands make light work!*

**June 20: Session meeting moved to July 10.**

**June 24: Flying Squirrels Game!** The date has been set of our now-annual trip to see the Richmond Flying Squirrels, so mark your calendar for June 24! We’ll be sitting in a party deck again, so space will be limited to the first 24 people to sign up. Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex later this month!

**Update from the Sign Committee:** We have accepted a bid for a new, bi-directional digital sign, and have already begun the process of having it installed! Our new sign will shine like a beacon, informing passers-by of events and worship, and helping us extend the invitation to worship with

us. While we are able to cover a majority of the cost from bequests and memorial gifts, there is still a balance that will have to be paid. While we are looking into possible grants, we are asking you, the members of the congregation, to prayerfully consider making a pledge to help cover the outstanding costs. More information will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead, and please feel free to ask us questions!

Many thanks for all who helped make the **Workcamp fundraiser** so successful!

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**Missed the sermon?** GMPC’s sermons are on YouTube each week. Check Gregory’s Facebook page for the links, or search YouTube.com for Sunday’s sermon.

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

MAY 7	
MAY 14	
MAY 21	
MAY 28	Rose Scott

For assistance with this list, please call Church office at 732-1081 (9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday)

THOSE WHO SERVE – MAY, 2017

<b>GATEKEEPER:</b> Doug Holc	MAY 7	MAY 14 “Mother’s Day”	MAY 21	MAY 28
<b>Ushers</b>	Jerry Hasky Brenda Bond Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh	Robert Hartsell Dianne Overstreet Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Charles Smyth Jared Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram
<b>Announcements</b>	Rose Scott	Dianne Overstreet	Valerie Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter
<b>Junior Sermon</b>	Valerie Harsh	Minister	Patsy Johnson	Pat Hunter
<b>Junior Church</b>	Rose Scott	Mary Holc	Marguerite Bishop	Lisa Brown
<b>Counting</b>	Morgan Ingram Rose Scott	Donald Hunter Glenda Mayhew	David Johnson Ron Recher	Sandy Hunter Mary Kay Schroeter

*“Every sunrise is a new message from God, and every sunset His signature.” William A. Ward*

## WHAT'S JASON READING



[Still reading.....]

**For school:** Reclaiming What Was Lost  
(Carlyle, Stewart, & Fielding).

**For Fun:** Everything's Eventual (Stephen King).

**For Church:** Miracles (C.S. Lewis – with coursework I couldn't get to this one).

## SUMMER OF FUN FOR THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY PRESENTED BY THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Christian Ed is celebrating the Christian family with several special events during the upcoming months. Since we are all children of God, the events are being designed so "children of all ages" will be able to participate and enjoy. It is also our hope that everyone will take this opportunity to invite friends and family to join us. A personal invitation from you may be all that is needed to get a new family into our church.

Our first big event will be held on June 24<sup>th</sup>. A Party Deck has already been reserved at the

Diamond so that we can enjoy a Squirrel's game in style.

The Party Deck will accommodate 24 fans, so this event will be on a first come first serve basis. More information on tickets will be forth coming but you will want to mark your calendar for this fun event.

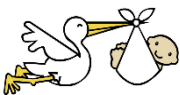
In July we will be treated to a juggling performance by Jonathan Austin. He is well known in the Richmond area and promises to give a performance that everyone will enjoy and be talking about for days. The date for this is July 13<sup>th</sup>.

After the show we will enjoy ice cream sundaes.

On August 15<sup>th</sup> a cook out is in the planning stages with entertainment to follow. A Christian clown is joining us and plans to give us a lot of after dinner laughs. What a wonderful way to spend a summer evening together.

As you can see this summer at Gregory will offer good wholesome family fun. These are events that everyone can enjoy and will provide YOU with the opportunity to ask a friend to church. Mark your calendars!

## HOLY HUMOR



### MOTHERS OF THE FAMOUS

**Columbus' Mother:** "I don't care what you've discovered, Chris. You still could have written."

**Michelangelo's Mother:** "Mike, can't you paint on walls like other children? Do you have any idea how hard it is to get that stuff off the ceiling?"

**Mary's Mother:** "I'm not upset that your lamb followed you to school, Mary, but I would like to know how he got a better grade than you."

**Batman's Mother:** "It's a nice car, Bruce, but do you realize how much the insurance is going to be?"

**Goldilocks' Mother:** "I've got a bill here for a broken chair from the Bear family. Do you know anything about this, Goldie?"

**Albert Einstein's Mother:** "But, Albert, it's your senior picture. Can't you do something about your hair? Styling gel, mousse...something?"

**George Washington's Mother:**  
"The next time I catch you throwing money across the Potomac, you can

kiss your allowance good-bye!"

**Superman's Mother:** "Clark, your father and I have discussed it, and we've decided you can have your own telephone line. Now, will you quit spending so much time in all those phone booths?"

**Thomas Edison's Mother:** "Of course I'm proud that you invented the electric light bulb, Thomas. Now, turn off that light and get to bed!"

Author Unknown

**GATEKEEPER: Doug Holc**

~ May 2017 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 2p Committee reports in	2 12:30p Circle 5:30p GS.5000 6p Cong. Care 7p Facilities 7p Worship	3 7p Choir Practice	4 2 p Church Cleaning  7p "Telling Your Story" Workshop	5 9a Special event set up (wedding)	6 4:30p Swinton-Shill Wedding
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:45a Sunday School	6p BS Cyber class	6:00p GS 553	7p Choir Practice	2p Church Cleaning		
11a Worship Service		7 p Missions /Outreach combined committees				
11a Minute for Missions						
1p Fellowship Hall res.-spec. event						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mother's Day		5:30p GS 5000	7p Choir Practice	2p Church Cleaning		8:30a Bull Hill Rd. trash pick-up
9:45a Sunday School				2p News articles due		
11a Worship Service				7p Stewardship & Finance		
11a "Project Baby Bottle" collection						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:45a Sunday School	12 p Setup BS 6p BS dinner	6:00p GS 553	7p Choir Practice	2p Church Cleaning		
11a Worship Service				2p Newsletter out		
28	29	30	31			
9:45a Sunday School		5:30p GS 5000	2p Committee			
11a 5 Cents-a-Meal			2p Committee Reports due			
11a Worship Service			7p Choir Practice			

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***MAY NEWSLETTER***



**COME AND JOIN US!**  
Sunday School 9:45 A.M.  
Worship 11:00 A.M.

We're on: [Facebook.com/gmpcva](https://www.facebook.com/gmpcva)  
[Sermons on Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)  
[WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG](http://WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG)