# THE HERALD

GREGORY M O R I A

NOVEMBER, 2024

Volume 12 \* Issue 11

*To the Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial:* 

"Thou that hast given so much to me, give me one thing more, a grateful heart: not thankful when it pleaseth me, as if thy blessings had spare days, but such a heart whose pulse may be thy praise." from The Temple (1633), by George Herbert

# **Upcoming Events for the Faith Committee**

The Faith Committee is a merger of three previous committees: Christian Education, Missions-Outreach and Congregation Care. These are three very important areas in the life of our church; thus it comes as no surprise that the Faith Committee has lots of responsibilities. The dedicated members include: Mary Holc, Sandy Hunter, Blake and Marguerite Bishop, Brenda Bond, Pat Hunter, Mary Webber, Maddi Mendoza, Ingrid Phoenix, Janet Shill, Lauren Togger, Baerbel Turcotte and Patsy Johnson.

We have several projects planned for the month of November. These include:

#### **Meals for Members**

The Faith Committee is bringing meals to church members in need every other month. This ministry was started earlier this year and has been greatly appreciated by all who have been a recipient. Meals have gone to those with health issues, as well as, ones just needing a little extra "love" at that moment. Our next meal will be served on November 16, 2024. If you know of a member who would benefit, please let someone on the Committee know.

# Thanksgiving Community Project

For the past several years the Faith Committee has made a donation, for the purchase of turkeys, to CCHASM which is an organization that gives a helping hand to citizens in Prince George and surrounding counties. This year the committee decided that we would give our annual Thanksgiving donation to the James House which is the only accredited nonprofit organization helping people affected by sexual violence, domestic violence and stalking in the Greater Tri-Cities Region. Each year the James House prepares Thanksgiving Baskets for their clients and our donation will help with the cost of this project.

# **Goodie Bags for College Students**

Each year the Faith Committee remembers our college students with a "Goodie Bag." This year we decided to get the bags out to our students a little earlier so that the "extra sugar" might help them get through exams. Many of our students are the recipients of the Christine Belches Memorial Scholarship and include: Breeana Hunter, Sarah Schrum, Summer Rollings, Mattie Lynn Metschke, Grace Edwards, Sydney Turcotte and Kendall Rollings. The bags will be ready for pick-up on Sunday November 24. *If there is anyone we have forgotten please let us know!* 

# "Cookies and Cocoa" Open House

The Annual Prince George Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2024 beginning at 3 p.m. Once again, our church will be inviting the community to join us for our "Cookies and Cocoa" Open House after the parade. The Faith Committee will be collecting monetary donations Sunday, Nov. 10 through Sunday, Nov. 24. All monies collected will be used for store-bought cookies and snacks and, of course, the cocoa. Watch for further announcements about this in our November bulletins.

With these plans, it looks like our Committee will not be taking a break anytime soon. And we have several other things planned for the month of December that will be revealed in the coming weeks. We think you will agree that this is an active committee dedicated to spreading the love of Jesus throughout the community.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Faith Committee!!!



# WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR NOVEMBER, 2024

#### Sunday, 3 November, 2024

"24<sup>™</sup> Sunday after Pentecost" – Liturgical Color: Green Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel

#### Sunday, 10 November, 2024

"25<sup>ST</sup> Sunday after Pentecost" – Liturgical Color: Green Service by: Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson

#### Sunday, 17 November, 2024

"26<sup>™</sup> Sunday after Pentecost" – Liturgical Color: Green Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel

#### Sunday, 24 November, 2024

"Christ the King/Reign of Christ" – Liturgical Color: White Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel



**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.

First-responders, world-wide	Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue)
Our deployed U.S. service personnel & their families	Moneka Suprenant, Susan Shockley's & Sandy Eickmeyer's
Families, persons, communities affected by weather disasters	friend (brain injury)
& gun violence	Mary Kay & Mike Schroeter (health issues)
Those affected by wars in Ukraine, Gaza & Lebanon	Dr. Joseph Hillier of Matoaca, Lykins family friend (health issue)
People & Sovereign Country of Ukraine	Alex Courtney of Florence, SC, business associate of Dianna L.
Those who are suffering from illness/loss/grief/hardship	Flaherty, Mary Lykins' daughter (injured, vehicle accident)
Amy Townson, Josh Ingram's sister	Peggy & Dennis Allen (health issues; Peggy: Petersburg
Becky Scott Smith	Home for Ladies, Rm #18)
Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix's grandson (health issues)	Corey Whelan, Pat Hunter's grandson (on-going health issue)
Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew's brother	Judy Recher (health issue)
Verne & Clara Smith	Shirley MacNeill (health issues; recovering at home)
Eddie Frankenstein	Valerie Harsh, living in Staunton, VA (health issue)
Etta Holc	Sean Godwin, grandson of Bill & Cheryl Godwin
Jerry & Ruby Hasky (health issues)	(health issue: MCV-Massey)
Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)	Charlie Perkins (health issue)
Larry Brown of Chesterfield, Larry Johnson's friend (health issue)	Evelyn Foster (Petersburg Home for Ladies, Rm #22)
Emily Henry, Mary Holc's sister (health issue)	Family/friends of the Late Carlton Cogle, husband of Sharon
Renee' Renier, Diana Flaherty's long-time friend (health issue)	Cogle (d. 10/9)

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# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **CALLED CONGREGATION MEETING** (Elect Class of 2027 Elders & Trustees; Approve Sale: Church's Property Lot #2)

A Called Congregation Meeting is announced for **Sunday, November 3, 2024**. The meeting will begin in the Sanctuary immediately after the worship service. This meeting is being called to consider 2 items: (1) Election of 3 Elders and 1 Trustee for Class of 2027, and also 1 Trustee to serve an unexpired term beginning January 1, 2025 and ending on December 31, 2025; and (2) Proposed sale of church's Property Lot #2.

The Congregation Nominating Committee has prepared a slate of names to be presented at the Called Meeting, and the congregation will be given opportunity to add additional names to be considered for election. Proposed for Elders (Class of 2027) are: Blake Bishop, Jonathan Mendoza, Susan Shockley, and for Trustee, Donald Hunter. Kevin Foster has been proposed for a 1-year term (Jan. 1, 2025-Dec. 31. 2025) as Trustee for unexpired term of Ron Recher, who has resigned due to relocating.

Elders-elect will be examined by Session on **Sunday, November 17**, and the Ordination (for first-time Elders and Installation Ceremony for all will be held during the November 17 worship service; Rev. Marvin Daniel, Officiant.

# CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERING (NOV 3 – DEC 1)

Forms for ordering Christmas Poinsettias will be included in worship service bulletins from Sunday,

Nov. 3 through Sunday, Dec. 1. Choices are red or white flowers. *Cost will be announced in November bulletin.* 

# 2025 POCKET DIRECTORY

Thanks to all who have signed off on their info in the DRAFT Pocket Directory in the Narthex. After Oct. 27, the DRAFT will be in the hands of our Faith Committee/Congregation Care for review. **Congregation copies will be available** <u>Nov. 24</u>, in time for sending Christmas greetings!

# STATED SESSION MEETING

will be held on Sunday, Nov. 17 at 10:30 a.m. after Sunday School; then adjourn for worship service, after which Session will reconvene following worship service to continue the business of its



final Stated Meeting for 2024. (Rev. Marvin Daniel, Moderator). YAY! This is our last Stated Meeting for 2024!

# THANKFUL FOR ....

The "new" Kitchen wall phone (and its installation, which must have been a Herculean feat as the old one was tightly jammed onto the wall!

Again: "Thank you!" to the donor and installer!

# **HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE FOR 2024**

March 4, 2024	June 2, 2024	October 6, 2024
April 7, 2024	August 4, 2024	December 1, 2024

# ANNOUNCERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
Rose Scott	Donald Hunter	Patsy Johnson	Sandy Hunter

"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:12-13

# A TIME TO GIVE THANKS



# PRAYING FOR KINSHIP ON THANKSGIVING

Published: Nov. 15, 2023 |Updated: Nov. 27, 2023 © 2024 Presbyterian Outlook

Daniel Heath pens a prayer honoring Indigenous peoples, the land, and the unifying aspects of Thanksgiving:

Please join in a moment of silence to acknowledge Indigenous peoples whose land we now tread on and the 573 federally recognized nations in the U.S., along with others not recognized.

#### Let us pray.

We offer our gratitude for life, health and strength. We give thanks for the provision of all necessities of life: food, water, shelter, clothing and transportation. We are excited about a day that inspires celebration and cheer, but we acknowledge that for millions this day is a day of sadness.

**Today there are a multitude in our country, in our cities, and right here under the sound of my voice who are crying.** There are those who do not have healthy food or who have no food at all. There are those who thirst and can only drink from the fountains of tainted pipes. There are those who live in structures that do not provide sufficient shelter. Forgive us for celebrating while our neighbors suffer.

*We give thanks for the lands that provide so much.* We ask your guidance to be good stewards and not wasteful or stingy over the fruit of the lands. We honor Mother Earth and ask that you instill in all humans a concern and care for her.

Take away the appetite to conquer, divide, overwork and sell the land, because she is sacred and the sacred is not for sale. We regret the ways in which we have mistreated, abused and forsaken the land, manipulating natural cycles and Earth's ability to make her own decisions.

*Creator God, may we tell our children the full story about our lands* around dinner tables today, in the classrooms next week, and in sacred spaces where people gather to pray for years to come.

#### Teach us, Lord, how to listen and learn from our

*ancestors,* who still speak through imprints on the lands, through their children, their children's children, and through visions and dreams. Let us dismantle the stereotypes of savages, cartoon characters, and sexualized bodies of native peoples. Let us challenge the names and images of mascots and Halloween costumes capitalizing on Indigenous stereotypes.

Help us to reimagine our country, not as a melting pot where identities fade away, but as a botanical garden where each distinct plant compliments the beauty of other buds and blooms. We are silenced, minimized, and erased in so many ways every day.

*Help us to live with all as kin,* committing to the practices of respect, relatedness, thoughtfulness and belonging. Amen.

Daniel Heath is the associate chaplain and director of the Davidson Forum at Davidson College as well as the founder and lead consultant of <u>Church 21</u>. He loves God, his wife Katrina and their two sons.

Mon I P Worship Cmte	Tue 5 Election Day 1p Circle meeting @GMPC	6	Thu 6a Clean church 7 6a Clean church 6p BSA Cub Pack 910 dinner meeting, Fellowship Hall (multi rooms)	Fri 1 8	2 8p PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Mtg/Dining Room) 9 8p PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Mtg/Dining Room)
	<b>1p</b> Circle meeting	6	7 6a Clean church 6p BSA Cub Pack 910 dinner meeting, Fellowship Hall		<ul> <li>8p PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Mtg/Dining Room)</li> <li>9</li> <li>8p PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen,</li> </ul>
	<b>1p</b> Circle meeting	6	<ul> <li>6a Clean church</li> <li>6p BSA Cub</li> <li>Pack 910</li> <li>dinner meeting,</li> <li>Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	8	9 8p PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen,
1 Veterans Day 30p BSA Crater OA Dinner mtg Fellowship Hall (multi rooms)	12 7p Finance Cmte	13	14 6a Clean church 7p GSA 5000 dinner meeting, Fellowship Hall (multi rooms)	15	<ul> <li>16</li> <li>10a Faith Cmte meets at S. Hunter's; meals prep. &amp; delivery</li> <li>8p PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Mtg/Dining Room)</li> </ul>
.8	19	20	21	22	23
			<ul> <li>6a Clean church</li> <li>2p Newsletter (Dec) articles due in office</li> <li>6p BSA Cub Pack 910 dinner meeting, Fellowship Hall (multi rooms)</li> </ul>		<b>8p</b> PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Mtg/Dining Room)
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<b>5</b> Church office open	26 Church office open	27 Church office Open 2p Newsletter (Dec) out	28 Thanksgiving Day 6a Clean church	29	<ul> <li>30</li> <li>8p PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Mtg/Dining Room)</li> <li>2p Cmte reports Due</li> </ul>
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Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church 6300 Courthouse Road ~ PO Box 182 Prince George, VA 23875-0182

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# NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

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"God, make me grateful to you; help me to see your hand at work in my life." Victoria Emily Jones, 2015.



COME AND JOIN US! Sunday School 9:30 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. We're on: Facebook.com/gmpcva