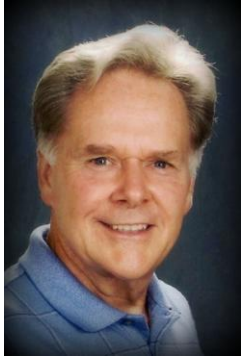


## SEPTEMBER ISSUE

2011



### SAINT TO SAINT... *Thankful for Those Who "Abide"*

In the first church where I was truly a pastor (vs. associate pastor), I had the privilege to honor the charter members of the church in a special worship service. That congregation had come into being only a few years after Gregory (in 1954), and we still had a number of charter members in our ranks.

It was delightful talking to them at a reception after the service. They reminisced about earlier years and offered some frank remarks about their feelings about some of the former pastors. "Joe was great, a good preacher and liked to make visits... but, Hank, well, we're glad he didn't stay very long." And so it went! At that particular congregation, in some 40 years there had been six different pastors, the longest having stayed 10 years. (Of course, in a few years I wondered what they'd be saying about me!)

As these old-timers reflected about the past, I was amazed, that despite varying feelings about the different ministers who'd been called to become their pastor, they had stuck it out and hadn't gone "church shopping." When asked why, they'd talk about the fellowship at the church and their connections with other members. One attributed his staying put to "mere cussedness."

But beyond that, I sensed a spiritual and personal glue that others might call "commitment" or "loyalty" that points to a tradition that when Christians are faced with uncomfortable circumstances they seek to hang together to make things work (vs. "my way or the highway.") I believe this is a trait of Tom Brokaw's "Greatest Generation," and would perhaps serve as a model for congregations of our national Presbyterian Church well as it comes to a juncture of change.

Well, the *good news* is that we too at Gregory have charter members who this September will have been formal members for 60 years! They may have been involved with Gregory before that, but it was on September 16, 1951 that Gregory Memorial Presbyterian became its own congregation, separate from Second Presbyterian Church, Petersburg. Of the original 53 charter members, those remaining and active are Christine Belsches, Kenneth and Ruth Figg, H.F. and Elizabeth Scott, and Gladys Wiseman. They and the others who joined in those early years are now Gregory's "Greatest Generation," and today truly we stand with deep gratitude upon their commitment and accomplishments.

This group will be recognized in worship on Sunday, September 11 in *A Day of Remembering*. Of course, that Sunday will also be the tenth anniversary of 9/11, an event in the life of this nation which will also give us cause to pause and remember. In addition, this is also "Back to Church" Sunday which we'll be celebrating with breakfast at 9:00 am and special "intergenerational" songs and contests to follow for our Sunday School classes.

So, we invite you to join us for this special day as we celebrate both faithful members and the faithful God they serve! (Remember, worship goes back to 11:00 am on September 11!)

Together with you in ministry,

MARK S.

## CLERK'S CORNER SEPTEMBER 2011

The Session did not have a regularly scheduled monthly meeting in August. However, most committees had their regular monthly meetings. The Congregational Nominating committee (CNC) met several times to develop a slate of nominees for the position of elder and trustee.

A congregation meeting will be held in September to elect three elders for the Class of 2014 (3 year terms), one elder for the Class of 2013 (2 year term – vacant from last year), an eligible youth elder (1 year term), and a trustee for the Class of 2014 (3 year term). The meeting date will be publicized in the bulletin 2 weeks in advance of the meeting.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted provided the person is an active member and agrees to have their name placed in nomination.

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### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a "Brunch Breakfast" on "Back to Church Sunday" on September 11 at 9:00 am. Please call the church if you plan to attend. We must have a head count by Wednesday, September 7, 2011.

The Christian Education Committee is looking for a Sunday School Superintendent to replace Tara Foster effective January 1, 2012. We are also in need of a coordinator for Junior Church activities to replace Patsy Johnson, who has held the position for the past three years. If you would like to help with teaching Sunday School (any age group) please let Evelyn Foster know at 733-6499.

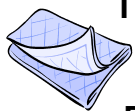
For the upcoming fall, we will continue with the "One Room Sunday School" and plan lessons that will engage and inspire the students.

We would like to have a Christmas Program using Sunday School time to practice in late November and December. If you would like to help and have your child participate, please call Tara Foster at 732-1096.

### FACILITIES

The Facilities Committee has been busy all year working on different projects. It seems they never end. It's just like your home, there's always something to do. We are always looking for help if anyone is interested in volunteering! A word of note; if you see Sandy Eichmeyer, say a BIG THANK YOU to her for the beautiful work she did on the windows of our Fellowship Hall.

### MISSIONS



**THE BLANKET PROJECT** is on-going, but checks will be mailed periodically. If you would like to make a donation, please do so any time.

**PRAYER GROUP** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month at GMPC at 3:30 pm. Prayer is a vital part of each of our lives and God expects us to pray for each other. If you have prayer concerns, please see Dianne, Marquita, or call the church office. You are welcome to join us any time.

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**RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to form a Disaster Shelter Team from Gregory. Training is free and would be beneficial to all. As soon as we get a team formed we will schedule the training dates. Be sure to sign up on one of the sheets located in the fellowship hall and the narthex so that we may contact you once the training is scheduled.



**CCHASM THANKSGIVING PROGRAM 2011 – Volunteers needed to package dinners.**

- All volunteers must be at least 12 years of age.
- Each child under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian who will stay with the child throughout the Volunteer process (1 adult per child).
- Individuals wishing to Volunteer should come to the Hopewell VFW on:
  - Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 4 pm (sorting and packing food items).
  - Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 4 pm (sorting and packing food items).
  - Monday November 14<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 7 pm (package distribution and distribution to Homebound).
- Volunteers need to go to the CCHASM volunteer Desk when they arrive and will be asked to sign a Hold Harmless and Indemnity Agreement prior to Volunteering (agreement will be available at the desk during the event).
- Please keep your belongings with you at all times. CCHASM is not responsible for any lost or stolen property.
- Any questions, please call Sharon or Helen at CCHASM 804-796-3715 or e-mail at: Sharon@cchasm.org or Helen@cchasm.org.

**FIVE CENTS A MEAL IS SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>.** Every time you have a meal put five cents aside and this money collected will help feed the hungry.



**CYCLING EVENT TO BENEFIT AREA RESIDENTS**

On Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 CCHASM will host their annual **Spirit 76 Ride**. No need to travel a long distance to participate in a great cycling event! The **Spirit 76 Ride** spans scenic Chesterfield County from the east to almost the western border and back again. Enjoy a 76 mile (or shorter 40 mile ride) ride through rolling wooded hills, past horse farms, through gentle countryside and the southern tip of Pocahontas State Forest.

**Proceeds go to CCHASM, a 501 (c) (3) assisting area residents with emergency needs for over 22 years.**

This is a fully supported ride with SAG Wagons, Rest Stops and Food. The Ride begins at 7:30 AM at the Chester Baptist Church, 4317 School St., Chester, VA 23831.

The ride ends with a Pizza Party Sponsored by Papa John's®. Drawings for prizes including one of two DIAMONDBACK bicycles provided by sponsor Agee's Bicycles® and Awards presentation sponsored by Anytime Fitness®.

**CCHASM would like to thank this year's Spirit 76 Ride Sponsor's: Agee's Bicycles®, Anytime Fitness®, Martin's®, Papa John's®, and Prudential Slater James River Realtors® - George F. Smith, Realtor.**

For more information about the **Spirit 76 Ride** or to register go to **www.cchasm.org**.

CCHASM is a 501 (c) (3) whose mission is: *To provide food, financial assistance, and career*

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clothing to area residents who have experienced or are experiencing an emergency situation which threatens their survival needs. CCHASM has been serving area residents for over 22 years through its 17 Alliance Food Pantries, Career Clothes Closet for Women and Clothes Cottage for Men, and with utility, rent, and other financial assistance as funds are available. Its largest program of the year is the Thanksgiving Meal Gift Package Program. Last year the Thanksgiving Program provided a food gift package and financial help with perishable items for over 6000 adults and children.

If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview, please contact Sharon at 804-796-3715 or email [sharon@cchasm.org](mailto:sharon@cchasm.org).



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ADOPT-A-PLATOON PROJECT AND BROUGHT IN ITEMS TO SHIP TO OUR MILITARY TROOPS!**

## **OUTREACH**

Outreach is busy completing plans for Nifty Fifties Community Day on October 1 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. It promises to be a fun day with many activities planned. Not only will there be community agencies represented but also crafters and vendors. SRMC will have a mini health fair. If we get 20 signed up blood donors, the Bloodmobile will be there. There will be a white elephant sale, bake sale, and food sales. Keith Spain will set up a petting zoo. The PG Animal Shelter will have animals for adoption. We are hoping to have a classic car show. The PG Fire Department will be there with their safety house. The PG Police Department will be fingerprinting children. The Gregory Steppin' Out line dancers will perform. We are still hoping for an Elvis impersonator. Wear your 50's look and win the best 50's dress-up contest! We may be hosting a group of GI's from Ft. Lee for the day.

If you are able to assist in any way, please let Brenda, Donna, Marquita, Lisa, Joan, or Judy know. Call 458-3580 or e-mail [rjrkr@comcast.net](mailto:rjrkr@comcast.net).

## **AN INVITATION**

What do you know about TRIAD? You are invited to attend an interest meeting in the meeting room of the new Prince George Library on Wednesday, September 7 at 10:30 am to find out. TRIAD provides a free service to the community focused on improving the overall quality of life for seniors. It is a partnership of the local Sheriff, Police Chief, seniors and senior service providers in the community who agree to work together to reduce criminal victimization of the elderly as well as other benefits. This is implemented in many ways through monthly meetings with qualified speakers, workshops, Project Lifesaver, Yellow Dot Program, health & safety fairs, etc.

Attending this meeting will be Sheriff Crawford from Petersburg, Juanita Ballenger from the Attorney General's office in Richmond, and representatives from PG Sheriff and Police Departments, Commonwealth Attorney's office, as well as the Recreation Department. Everyone is welcome to learn about all that TRIAD has to offer you with absolutely NO expense to you. You will be amazed at the benefits available to you through membership in TRIAD.

Outreach thought this to be a wonderful program for members of our congregation. We encourage you to attend the meeting on September 7th.

## PROJECT & CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TASKFORCE

Our Committee would like to update you on what we've been doing. We have been given a generous donation to go towards a new sound system for our church. The Committee has met with prospective individuals in regard to installing the new system for us. Any donations you'd like to make toward this project or any other project the Committee is working are greatly appreciated!

## WIDOWS GROUP

Widows Group will meet Monday, September 12, at Noon.

## WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4** – In preparation for celebrating the Lord's Supper, Rev. Sprowl suggests how holy fellowship connects both church potlucks and communion in his message, *Potlucks and Soul Food*. Read John 17:1-22 to prepare.



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11** – On “Back to Church Sunday,” we celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the chartering of Gregory Memorial and recognize our active charter members while we recall on a more somber note the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the national tragedy of “9/11.” Come at 9:00 am for brunch and 9:45 for intergenerational games and singing.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18** – Before we pray, sometimes it helps to recall the incredible attributes of the One to whom we pray. Reading Psalm 103 is a great exercise for this, and Rev. Sprowl helps us to read between the lines in his message, *Singing God's Song of Love*.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24** – We typically pay our taxes 4/15 or give a reason why, and slow down when we see a patrol car... because we pay attention to authority... or suffer the consequences. Do we give Jesus the same authority in our lives? What are the consequences when we don't? Rev. Sprowl explores a path to a healthier faith-style in his message, A Question of Authority. Read Mark 1:21-28 and Acts 5:27-42 to prepare.

## LEARN ABOUT THINGS PRESBYTERIAN... STARTING SEPTEMBER 18

Ever wonder why when it comes to baptism, Presbyterians “sprinkle” and Baptists go for “dunking” or why bumper stickers proclaim that Presbyterians do it “decently and in order”? These and many more mysteries of the faith will be explained in Rev. Sprowl's new class, *Presbyterian 101*, to begin at 9:45 am on Sunday, September 18.



The five-session class will cover basic beliefs, worship and church organization and will include ample time for your questions. A special guide from *Presbyterians Today* magazine will be distributed to participants. This is a great opportunity for individuals who are considering joining the church and didn't come from a Presbyterian background to become acquainted with the Presbyterian Way\*. While participants are encouraged to attend all five sessions, each class session will stand alone. The class location will be announced.

\*e.g. “How many Presbyterians does it take to change a light bulb?” “Change? We can't change that light bulb. My grandmother gave that light bulb to the church!”



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RECYCLING PAYS OFF FOR BOY SCOUTS

Extra! Extra! Read all about it! The below photo and article was printed in a local newspaper!



Bryan Hudgins, first class Scout with Troop 900 in Prince George, poses in front of 113 bags of crushed aluminum cans. Collected over a two-year period as a recycling project, the cans weighed 1,058 pounds and brought \$687.90. The money will be put into a new trailer and equipment fund. Troop 900 is sponsored by Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church in Prince George.

### PRAYER CONCERNS

Dick Mann	Katherine Tompkins
Christine Belsches	Marie Allen ( <i>Dennis Allen's mother</i> )
Aida Faries	Tammy Pelter ( <i>Gladys Vtipil's niece</i> )
Alan Foster	Mary Chadwick ( <i>Dink Armstrong's sister</i> )
June Hawks	Virginia Mika ( <i>Sister of Grace &amp; Helen Cibula</i> )
Marian McDonald	Mila Campen ( <i>Ronnie Hartsell's grandmother</i> )
Peggy Surfield	Mathew Mauger
Helen Cibula	Donald Cousins ( <i>friend of Glenda Mayhew's father</i> )



# THOSE WHO SERVE IN SEPTEMBER



## CHILDRENS MINISTRIES "Teaching Christian Values for Life"

Date	Nursery	Junior Sermon	Junior Church
Sept 4	Ruby Spain	Susan Walker	Patsy Johnson
Sept 11	Robbi Foster	Pat Hunter	Susan Walker Kevin Foster
Sept 18	Glenda Mayhew	Mary Kay Schroeter	Valerie Harsh Pam Harsh
Sept 25	Debra Bailey	Rev. Sprowl	Jessica Mauger Madison Foster

## OTHER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

SEPTEMBER	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
<b>USHERS</b>	Wayne Powers Glenda Mayhew Marguerite Bishop Dianne Overstreet	Keith Spain Ruby Spain Jacob Spain Herb Schroeter	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Brenda Bond	Gladys Wiseman Verne Smith Rose Scott
<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Rose Scott	Jerry Bond	Dianne Overstreet	Pat Hunter
<b>COUNTING</b>	Morgan Ingram Verne Smith	Donald Hunter Rose Scott	Sandy Hunter Ron Recher	Evelyn Lichvar Verne Smith



## FLOWERS

4-Volunteer Needed  
11-Volunteer Needed  
18-Volunteer Needed  
25-Volunteer Needed

## SEPTEMBER GATEKEEPER

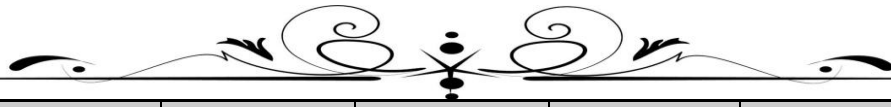
Doug Holc  
541-2565



*The world is hugged  
by the faithful arms  
of volunteers.*

*~ Terri Guillemets*

# SEPTEMBER ~ 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 2-8:00pm Volunteer Cleaning 6:30pm Pre-School Parent Night Orientation	2	3
4 9:15am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Communion	5 2:00pm Line Dancing	6 6:30pm Outreach 7:00pm Worship & Facilities	7 7:00pm Choir	8 6:00pm Line Dancing	9	10
11 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Back to Church Sunday	12 Noon Widows 2:00pm Line Dancing 3:30pm Prayer Group 6:30pm Worship & Missions	13 6:30pm P&O	14 Committee Reports Due 7:00pm Choir	15 2-8:00pm Volunteer Cleaning	16	17
18 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Minute for Missions	19 10:00am PG Churches Outreach 2:00pm Line Dancing	20 7:00pm Session Meeting	21 Newsletter Articles Due 7:00pm Choir	22 6:00pm Line Dancing	23	24
25 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 5 Cents-a- Meal	26 2:00pm Line Dancing 3:30pm Prayer Group	27	28 1:00pm Boy Scouts Court of Honor 7:00pm Choir	29 2-8:00pm Volunteer Cleaning	30 2-7:00 pm Set-Up for Community Day	





# New Testament Books

## Word Search

M P H I L I P P I A N S S I R  
C A C T S N A I S E H P E O P  
O N T E D U J B Y H T O M I T  
L O T T M E A W S E M A J A H  
O M W J H W C V O P N H X P E  
S E S E G E K U L S E L A H S  
S L W S O K W J S C O T T E S  
I I E U D M D N O O P M E W A  
A H R S X G A B Q H W N M R L  
N P B O M I O K U T N O H C O  
S E E W T P R A C W T P O D N  
Z H H A U A Q M O Q S I E M I  
B W L Q M R U Z X U R W T B A  
A A L N O I T A L E V E R U N  
G I Y C O R I N T H I A N S S

Matthew - Mark - Luke - John - Acts - Romans - Corinthians - Galatians  
Ephesians - Philippians - Colossians - Thessalonians - Timothy - Titus  
Philemon - Hebrews - James - Peter - Jude - Revelation

September 11<sup>th</sup> 2011 is:



BACK TO  
**CHURCH**  
SUNDAY<sup>®</sup>



Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church  
returns to it's original schedule this day!

Sunday School begins at 9:45 am  
Worship begins at 11:00 am

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church  
6300 Courthouse Road ~ PO Box 182  
Prince George, VA 23875-0182



COME JOIN US!!