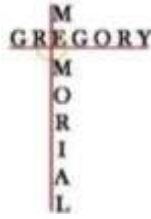


# THE HERALD

August - 2013



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August 2013

THE HERALD

Volume I Issue 8

Dear Gregory Memorial, Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



*"Thus says the Lord:...I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle." 2 Samuel 7:5b-6*

**S**ummer time has always meant camp to me. Sleeping in bunks in cabins, eating in the dining hall, swimming in the pond, playing outdoors daily, studying the Word of God around campfire... When summertime hits, my mind and heart return to camp. July was a momentous month for senior high youth. We sent nine senior high youth (and seven adults) to Workcamp. In the larger church, over 5,000 youth from North America and around the globe descended upon Purdue University for Presbyterian Youth Triennium. Amazing experiences that touched youth (and anyone else involved) to the depths of their hearts; worship that often moved them to tears of joy and desire to live into all that God has created them to be, all that Christ calls them to be.

**Many could look at the church on Sunday mornings and lament that the youth are not there, and so worry about the future of the church.** I look at para-church ministries such as summer camp, Triennium, Workcamp, the YAV program, and I see nothing but a bright and shining future for Christ's church and God's Kingdom. So why do these youth so readily commit to attending camp, where much is expected of them, where they spend their summer days waking up around sunrise?

**The answer, I believe, is quite simple: Camp, and similar ministries, provide these youth with a place where they are valued and honored, where their opinion and insight is sought, where ideals and understandings of Christian community are put into practice and lived out, each and every day.** Sure, it's not always perfect – there are altercations, misunderstandings, hurt feelings. But camp-like places are also where the forgiveness and common benefit of all are truly manifest. Camp is where I, personally, have had the most growth in my life of discipleship.

I remember clearly the day when, while on staff as a counselor, my home pastor was the Director. He pulled me aside and commented that I was not living into the expectations he held for me as a leader there--I was the

most veteran counselor. His words stung, at the time. But he continued, in love, to encourage me in growth, to encourage me to live into who I could be as a leader, as a disciple, as a role model and guide. I saw this man every week of my life in and out of church. I never had a more profound or meaningful lesson than that one at camp.

This is what camp can offer. This is what youth and young adults desire: A place, a ministry that truly lives out the understanding of Christian community, supporting, nurturing and challenging. Worship that moves people to tears of joy.

**When was the last time we came to Sunday morning worship and were moved to tears? When was the last time we expected that, yearned for that, looked for that?** There are any number of books on youth ministry; I would argue that when we move beyond an idea of church as simply something we do on Sundays, and into an understanding that it is uncommon, that it is the place where we are most ourselves, the time that most shapes us, then we will see the youth more often.

**Gregory Memorial is in a good place: We have youth who are committed to living into the disciples they are called to be.** We have youth who are rising and growing into young adults, who want to be in church. We have the opportunity to show them the joy and depth of meaning that life in the church can offer – both at camp, and in the 'everyday-ness' of Sunday mornings. I know it's there; I know we are and can be the community we are called to be.

**We need to visibly show and tell our youth and young adults that this is the joy of following God in the world.** When we do so, we will see the great things that God is doing in and through not just the "future of the church," but in its present as well.

Peace,  
Pastor Jason

## Worship Information for August 2013

### Sunday, 04 August 2013

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Color: **Green**

PCUSA Emphasis: Homelessness/Affordable Housing

Old Testament: Hosea 11:1-11 & /New Testament: Luke 12:13-21

Sermon: "An Abundant Love"

### Sunday, 11 August 2013

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Color: **Green**

PCUSA Emphasis: Higher Education/Collegiate Ministries

Old Testament: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 & New Testament: Luke 12: 32-40

Sermon: "Heart of Worship"

### Sunday, 18 August 2013

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Color: **Green**

PCUSA Emphasis: Youth Discipleship

[Guest Minister]

### Sunday, 25 August 2013

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Color: **Green**

PCUSA Emphasis: Public Education

Old Testament: Jeremiah 1:4-10 & New Testament: Luke 13:10-17

Sermon: "Set Free"

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## OUR PRAYER IN TIMES OF JOY AND CONCERN.....

Rachel Manning & Family	All who have lost loved ones to senseless & random violence
Teresa Faries & Family	Persons/families recovering from recent storms & tornados
Katherine Tompkins	Solomon Baskfield (Workcamper), called to active duty (Marines)
Marian McDonald	Robert Crowder (friend of Josh Ingram), recent loss of parents
Gladys Wiseman	Serena Triscari (friend of Bradley Cooper) shoulder surgery
Frank Solesbee	Aubrey Kerley (brother-in-law of Grace & Helen Cibula)
Audrey Turner	Maryland Blanchard (friend of Grace & Helen Cibula)
Kenneth Figg	Mary Childress (loss of cousin in Pennsylvania, d. July 15)
Ruth Figg	Family & friends of Tommie Taliaferro (d. July 17)
Helen Cibula	Family & friends of Mary Capps (d. July 24)
Grace Cibula	Virginia Mika (sister of Grace & Helen Cibula)
Henry Parker	Frankie Meade (mother of Glenda Mayhew)
Pete Lucy, Sr.	Mary Chadwick (sister of Dink Armstrong)
June Hawks	Russell Houston (brother of Sheila Fields)
Aida Faries	Debra Gilliam (friend of Ruby Spain)
Clara Smith	Harvey Spain (father of Keith Spain)
Tara Foster	Alicia Scudder (friend of the Spains)
Pat Hunter	Ed Smiley (friend of Doug Holc)
Don Vtipil	<b>Our Joy:</b> Tommy Forehand (friend of the Bishops) - improving <b>Our Joy:</b> Safe return of all participating in 2013 Workcamp

**QUICK CALENDAR EVENTS:**

**Bulletin announcements are due in GMPC Office 9 am on Tuesdays.**

**No August meeting for PG TRIAD.**

*Session Reports due* - Aug. 12, 9 am

*News Article Deadline* - Aug. 15, 9 am

***“Back to School” supplies deadline-***  
Aug. 19 @ PG Dept. Social Services

*Session Meeting-* Aug. 20, 7 pm

***Preschool Parents’ Orientation -***  
Aug.29, 7 pm @ GMPC Fellowship Hall

**THE CLERK’S CORNER**

By David E. Johnson

The Session of Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, July 14, 2013 in a Called meeting and took the following actions:

- Request from Megan Cashing for her church membership to be transferred to Gregory Memorial was approved.
- A recommendation from the Christian Education committee to have a luncheon and educational series on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month after worship service (starting 09/15/13) was approved.
- Approved to have a “Special Offering” on “Family Fun Night” (7/28/13) for “Smile Train.”
- A recommendation from the Stewardship and Finance committee to have H. F. Scott, Jr., meet with the Church’s financial advisor, John Upton, to determine the best investment strategy for the recent bequest to the church was approved.

**HOLY HUMOR*****AND THEN, THERE’S THE ONE ABOUT THE PASTOR’S CAT .....***

Someone recently told a true story about the pastor of his church. He had a kitten that climbed up a tree in his backyard, but was afraid to come down. The pastor coaxed, offered warm milk, etc., all to no avail.... That kitty just would not come down!

The tree wasn’t sturdy enough to climb, so the pastor decided that if he tied a rope to his car and pulled it until the tree bent down, he could then reach up and get the kitten. That’s what he did, all the while checking his progress in the car. He figured if he went just a little bit further, the tree would be bent enough for him to reach the kitten, but as he moved the car a little further forward, the rope broke. The tree went ***“BOING!”*** instantly sending kitty sailing through the air---out of sight!

The pastor felt just terrible. He walked all over the neighborhood asking people if they’d seen a little kitten. But, no, nobody had seen a stray kitten. So he prayed, “Lord, I just commit this kitten to your keeping,” and then he went on about his business.

A few days later while at the grocery store, he ran into one of his church members. He happened to glance at her shopping cart and was amazed to see cat food. Knowing the woman to be a cat-hater (everyone knew it), he asked, “Why are you buying cat food when you hate cats so much?”

She replied, “You won’t believe this,” and told him how after her little girl had been begging her for a cat, she kept refusing her. Then a few days later, she had told her daughter, “Well, if God gives you a cat, I’ll let you keep it.”

She looked him in the eyes and said, “I watched my child go out

into the yard, get on her knees, and ask God for a cat. And Pastor, you won’t believe this, but I saw it with my own eyes---a kitten suddenly came flying out of the blue sky, with its paws outspread, and landed right in front of her!”

***Never underestimate the Power of God and His unique sense of humor!***



***Email your short funnies to Sandy Hunter: [baskethunters@comcast.net](mailto:baskethunters@comcast.net)***

**FLOWERS FOR SANCTUARY**

*August 2013*

August 04	The Hunters
August 11	-
August 18	-
August 25	Rose Scott

**It's not too late to sign up to provide flowers for the Sanctuary. You may write in your name on the Flowers signup sheet beside the Sunday you wish to provide flowers, or call Church office at 732-1081 (9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday).**

***HELP!!!***

**Cleaning volunteers are urgently needed. Please use the "Cleaning Signup" form in Narthex to indicate a convenient date when you can serve. If you need access to the Church to clean, call H. F. Scott, Jr.**

*Privacy Disclaimer: Gregory Church safeguards its members' personal information and does not include it in Newsletters and Bulletins (unless requested) that are published on the Church website. However, this information may appear within the text of the printed copies of Newsletters and Bulletins distributed to the Church congregation.*



**Bring donated "Back To School" supplies to PG Dept. of Social Services by Aug. 19.**

*Those Who Serve – August, 2013*

<b>GATEKEEPER:</b> Bobby Allen	August 04	August 11	August 18	August 25
<b>Ushers &amp; Acolytes (A)</b>	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Rose Scott Valerie Harsh Breeana Hunter (A) Jamie Meurer (A)	Robert Hartsell Dianne Overstreet Wayne Powers Les Mayhew Justin Ellis-Bowman (A) Michalis Maloney (A)	Keith Spain Ruby Spain Jacob Spain Herb Schroeter Chayse Hartsell (A) Kaitlyn Hartsell (A)	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Jerry Bond Jared Smyth (A) Austin Smyth (A)
<b>Announcements</b>	Dianne Overstreet	Pat Hunter	Mary Kay Schroeter	Rose Scott
<b>Junior Sermon</b>	Susan Walker	Rev. Cashing	Valerie Harsh	Patsy Johnson
<b>Junior Church</b>	Virginia Maloney Jared Smyth	Valerie Harsh Pamela Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter Kevin Foster	Mary Beth Coleman Madison Foster
<b>Nursery</b>	Susan Walker	Glenda Mayhew	Ann Hartsell	Jennifer Smyth

**Counting**

Sandy Hunter  
Sheila Fields

Morgan Ingram  
Rose Scott

Donald Hunter  
Glenda Mayhew

David Johnson  
Ron Recher

**August, 2013**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				2-8:00 pm Cleaning		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:45 am Sunday School  11:00 am Worship  <i>Holy Communion</i>	9:30 am Line Dancing  6:30 pm Outreach	12:30 pm Day Circle  6-10:00 pm "Nat'l Night Out" @ GMPC parkg. lot  7:00 pm Facilities  7:00 pm Worship	6:00 pm Missions	2-8:00 pm Cleaning  6:30 pm Stewardship & Finance		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:45 am Sunday School  11:00 am Worship	9:00 am Committee reports due  9:30 am Line Dancing	6:30 pm GMPC Preschool Qtr. Board Mtg.  7:30 pm Evening Circle	7:00 pm Choir	9:00 am News articles due  2:00 pm Session Agenda out  2-8:00 pm Cleaning		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:45 am Sunday School  11:00 am Worship  <i>Minute for Missions</i>  <i>[Guest Minister]</i>	9:30 am Line Dancing	7:00 pm Session Meeting	7:00 pm Choir	2:00 pm Newsletter out  2-8:00 pm Cleaning		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:45 am Sunday School  11:00 am Worship  <i>5 Cents A Meal Offering</i>	9:30 am Line Dancing  7:00 pm Christian Ed		7:00 pm Choir	2-8:00 pm Cleaning  7:00 pm GMPC Preschool Parents' Orientation Mtg.		



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

*We're on: [Facebook.com/gmpcva](https://www.facebook.com/gmpcva)*

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