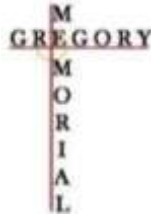


THE HERALD

February - 2014



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February 2014

THE HERALD

Volume 2 Issue 2

Dear Gregory Memorial, Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



“The two disciples [of John the Baptist] heard John say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, ‘What are you looking for?’ They said to him, ‘Rabbi, where are you staying?’ He said to them, ‘Come and see.’”

- John 1:37-39a

Homes have been very much on my mind recently, as you may not be surprised to hear (and once again, a huge thank you to everyone who helped paint, move, and/or feed us during that process!).

And I’ve been especially pondering what makes a house a home in light of this invitation by Jesus to the first disciples, spoken above to Andrew and Simon Peter (later repeated by Philip to Nathaniel when they joined Jesus).

As you may recall from a recent sermon, this is perhaps my favorite invitation to discipleship, “Come, and see.” It is neither a treatise, nor a theological or even evangelism debate...it is simply and straightforward an invitation. No commitment required, just see, and make a decision for yourself. In other words, it’s a hint that your hopes and expectations, even the hopes you’re afraid to hope for, may just be filled-full in amazing and wonderful, perhaps even unexpected ways!

But I believe there’s more here. Immediately following Jesus’ response and invitation to Andrew and Simon Peter, they join him at his home and stay for several hours. I don’t know about you, but when I go to someone’s house and spend several hours, there are two

things present: good food and good conversation. In short, hospitality and relationship.

And this is the two-fold invitation we have to receive and to give: hospitality and relationship. It is, also, I believe, what makes a house a home, a place of warmth and welcome, a place of support and strength, of rest and renewal. It is what our church is to be – a house of Christian welcome and nurture to the hungry, hurting, yearning and poor, in spirit and in body, of this world.

We do this, and I believe we can always do this better, more completely. How might we make our house of worship, our church, our home, more welcoming, more supporting, more warm in hospitality and relationship?

This is the invitation I will be continuing to ponder in weeks to come, with Session and others. I look forward to your presence in this pondering and conversation. After all, it is not our own invitation that we respond to, or carry into the world; it is our Lord’s. Let us warmly invite others into his home!

Peace,
Pastor Jason

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 printed Newsletters and Bulletins distributed to the Church congregation.

WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR FEBRUARY 2014

Sunday, 02, February 2014

4th Sunday after Epiphany/4th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Liturgical Color: **Green**
 PCUSA Emphasis: "Souper Bowl of Caring"
 Old Testament: Micah 6:1-8 & New Testament: Matthew 5:1-12
 Sermon: "What Blessing the Lord Requires"

Sunday, 09 February 2014

5th Sunday after Epiphany/5th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Liturgical Color: **Green**
 "SCOUTS SUNDAY"
 PCUSA Emphasis: "Camp & Conference Ministries"
 Old Testament: Isaiah 58:1-9a & New Testament: Matthew 5:13-20
 Sermon: "Fast & Humble, Salt & Light"

Sunday, 16 February 2014

6th Sunday After Epiphany/6th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Liturgical Color: **Green**
 PCUSA Emphasis: "Health Awareness & Prayer for Healing"
 Old Testament: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 & New Testament: Matthew 5:21-37
 Sermon: "You Have Heard..."

Sunday, 23 February 2014

7th Sunday After Epiphany/7th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Liturgical Color: **Green**
 PCUSA Emphasis: "Three Critical Global Issues of World Mission: Poverty, Evangelism & Reconciliation"
 Old Testament: Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 & New Testament: Matthew 5:38-48
 Sermon: "Holy Perfection"

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

For Cross & Menzies families
 Drew Moncol, recovering from surgery
 Frankie Meade, Glenda Mayhew's mother
 Ellie Wheelan, recovering at home
 Nancy Hetrick, health issues
 Audrey Turner, health issues
 Ed Smiley (Doug Holc's friend)
 "Traveling Mercies"
 Mary Chadwick (Dink Armstrong's sister)
 Jonathan Bottoms, in a motorcycle accident
 Marian McDonald
 Don Vtipil
 Aida Faries
 June Hawks
 Evelyn Lichvar
 Henry Parker
 Kenneth Figg
 Ruth Figg

All affected by acts of violence & natural disasters
 Family & friends of Katherine Tompkins (d. 01/30)
 Lawrence & James Hartsell (Robert Hartsell's brothers)
 Connie Lichvar (Evelyn Lichvar's daughter-in-law), ICU, recovering from emergency surgery
 Pam Harsh, Bradley Cooper, Jacob Spain, first year in college
 Russell Houston (Sheila Fields's brother), surgery
 Valerie Harsh's foster-daughter Andrea, health issues & Valerie as she travels to be with Andrea
 Amy Townson (Josh Ingram's sister), recovering, home
 Mark Chariton, Janet Swinton's son-in-law, health issues
 Nita Spain (Keith Spain's stepmother), in St. Mary's Hospital
 Victor Tomko (Doug Holc's cousin), in-home rehab
 Frankie Lee (Wayne Powers' friend), surgery
 Ed Hornbuckle (Megan Cashing's grandpa), hospitalized w/knee problem
 Grace Cibula, continuing recovery, home after accident
 Helen Cibula, hospitalized, John Randolph Medical Center
 Nancy Huband (Dennis Allen's cousin), in medically-induced coma following heart failure
 Maryland Blanchard (Grace & Helen Cibula's friend)
 Johnnie Smith, health issues, Colonial Heights Convalescent Center
 Donna Allen, home from surgery (wrist fracture)
 Ryan McGill, brother of Dianne Overstreet's co-worker

Thanks:

Frank Solesbee, recovering at home

QUICK CALENDAR EVENTS:

Holy Communion - 02/02, 11 a.m., Sanctuary

"Scouts Sunday, Pancake Breakfast" - 02/09, 8:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall; reception in Temple Bldg. after worship

Committee reports due to Church office - 02/10, 9 a.m.

News Articles due to Church office - 02/13, 9 a.m.

Woman's Club of PG Arts Competition - 02/14, 6-9 p.m., Fellowship Hall (non-public event)

Third Sunday Luncheon - 02/16, after worship, Fellowship Hall

Session meeting - 02/18, 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Eagle Scout Court of Honor (Henry Fisher) - 02/21, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., GMPC Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall

PG TRIAD - 02/24, 1 p.m., PG Library

THE CLERK'S CORNER

There's nothing to report here: Clerk's Corner will (hopefully & weather permitting....) resume for March newsletter.

HOLY HUMOR

By Sandy Hunter

***HERE'S ONE WAY THAT
KNOWING A SCRIPTURE
CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE ...***

A pious woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services, when she was suddenly startled by an intruder.

Realizing that she had caught the man in the act of burglarizing her home of its valuables, she thought fast and loudly yelled out: "Stop! Acts 2:38!"

[Acts 2:38 - "Repent and be baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins may be forgiven."]

The startled burglar froze in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done.

As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he questioned the burglar: "Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture to you."

"Scripture?" replied the burglar. "She said she had an ax and two 38's!"

Knowing scripture can save your life - in more ways than one!





JOIN THE SCOUTS FOR BREAKFAST & WORSHIP! SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

By Kevin Foster

The 12th Point of the Scout Law is *"A Scout is Reverent."*

Gregory Memorial has enjoyed a 30 + year relationship with the Boy Scouts of America by chartering Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting and Venturing. During these years, it is estimated that approximately 1,000 young boys and teenage boys have participated in Scouting due to the generosity of GMPC serving as the chartering organization.

On Sunday, February 9, Boy Scout Troop 900 will be hosting a pancake breakfast for the Gregory congregation beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come have breakfast and enjoy some fellowship before Sunday School starts.

During worship, the Scouts will be leading us in worship and in service as we join Scout troops throughout the World in celebrating Scout Sunday. This is an important time in the life of the Church as we accept

charters from the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venture Crew and renew our commitment to this important mission of our Church.

Immediately after Worship, the Scouts and their families are hosting a reception in the Temple Building to again honor the congregation and thank them for their commitment. This would be a great opportunity for you to see the completed window project that the Scouts and their leaders spearheaded.

I have challenged the Scouts and their families to fill the pews on Sunday February 9. What a joy it would be to have a "packed house" on this day!!!

You may be thinking to yourselves: "We do not get many church members out of the Scouting program." The truth is, many of the active Scouts and their families attend worship at Methodist, Episcopalian, Catholic, Baptist and other denomination

churches within Prince George and the surrounding communities.

However, there are still some boys who probably only hear God's Word when church services are held on camping outings. And as such, be assured that our commitment to Scouting honors and reinforces faith in God.

Additionally, these boys are taught and trained to have good morals and ethics and life skills that allow them to be productive citizens in our communities.

Please take time to attend the pancake breakfast and the reception!!

***It's for YOU!! It's to say
THANK YOU! See you on
February 9!***

Kevin Foster
Chartered Organization
Representative
Cub Pack 910
Boy Scout Troop 900
Venture Crew 900

Camp Hanover
DAY
CAMP
a place apart, at your church

**Camp Hanover Day
 Camp is coming to our church
 June 23 -27, 2014.**

We are offering this exciting program in partnership with Camp Hanover, the Camp and Conference Center of the Presbytery of the James, located near Mechanicsville, outside Richmond.

Day Camp will run from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Campers *do not* need to be a member of the congregation: Day Camp is open to everyone!!!

All children entering grades 1-6 for the school year 2014-15 can enjoy this taste of camp to be held right here at our

church. Bible stories, worship, games, arts and crafts, singing, fellowship, making new friends, nature study, a cookout, and much more will all be included in the Day Camp program!

The theme for the week will be centered on Jesus, his life, his work, and who he is to us.

A director and counselors will come from Camp Hanover to run the program. We need help from the congregation to assist with such things as serving snacks and drinks, maintaining the water cooler, help set up and take down special activities, prepare lunches for the staff, and just be an extra set of hands and eyes.

If you can help in any of these ways, please let Sandy Hunter, coordinator for the congregation, know. (804-733-8414 or 804-731-0082) There is a form for volunteers to sign.

The cost for the week is \$100. This covers all weekly costs; campers bring their own lunches. Snacks and drinks will be provided by the church. Brochures for registration will be available in the near future. You will also be able to register online at www.CampHanover.org

From your Christian Ed.
 Committee


FLOWERS FOR SANCTUARY

FEBRUARY 2014

February 02	-
February 09	The Hunters
February 16	-
February 23	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).

SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR FEBRUARY 2014

GATEKEEPER:  Dennis Allen	February 02	February 09 "SCOUTS SUNDAY"	February 16	February 23
Ushers & Acolytes (A)	Robert Hartsell Dianne Overstreet Wayne Powers Les Mayhew Breeana Hunter(A) Jamie Meurer (A)	Keith Spain Ruby Spain Josh Ingram Morgan Ingram Chayse Hartsell (A) Jamie Meurer (A)	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Jerry Bond Breeana Hunter (A) Jamie Meurer (A)	Jerry Hasky Wayne Powers Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew Chayse Hartsell (A) Kaitlyn Hartsell (A)
Announcements	Pat Hunter	Mary Kay Schroeter	Rose Scott	Jerry Bond
Junior Sermon	Susan Walker	Minister	Valerie Harsh	Patsy Johnson
Junior Church	Jennifer Smyth Jared Smyth	Ann Hartsell Kevin Foster II	Patsy Johnson Breeana Hunter	Susan Walker Jamie Meurer
Nursery	Rose Scott	Susan Walker	Glenda Mayhew	Ann Hartsell
Counting	Donald Hunter Rose Scott	Sandy Hunter Pat Hunter	Morgan Ingram Ron Recher	David Johnson Kevin Foster

FEBRUARY 2014

GATEKEEPER: Dennis Allen

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>Holy Communion</i>	6:30 pm Missions	12:30 pm Circle 6:00 pm Cong. Care 7:00 pm Facilities 7:00 pm Worship	7:00 pm Choir	2-8:00 pm Cleaning		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship "Scouts Sunday"	9:00 am Committee reports due	6:30 pm Outreach	7:00 pm Choir	9:00 am News articles due 2:00 pm Session Agenda out 2-8:00 pm Cleaning 6:30 pm Stewardship & Finance	6-9:00 pm Woman's Club of PG Arts contest (non-public event)  Valentine's Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>3rd Sunday Luncheon</i>		7:00 pm Session meeting	7:00 pm Choir	2:00 pm Newsletter out 2-8:00 pm Cleaning	10:00 am - 7:00 pm Eagle Scout Court of Honor (Henry Fisher) @ GMPC	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>5 Cents A Meal Offering</i>	1:00 pm TRIAD @ PG Library 7:00 pm Christian Ed		7:00 pm Choir	2-8:00 pm Cleaning		

FEBRUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER



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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