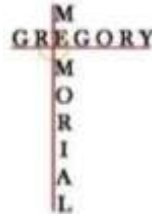


THE HERALD

March - 2014



Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
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March 2014

THE HERALD

Volume 2 Issue 3

Dear Gregory Memorial, Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



*“By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you will return.”*

~Genesis 3:19

It's a familiar enough scene, from life and movies alike: the priest or minister stands at a graveside, with family and friends gathered off to the side, and says the words: “Ashes, to ashes, dust to dust, earth to earth. We commend to the ground our beloved...” Or something quite similar. It is a stark reminder that, in death, we return to the elements from which humanity was created; and it is a reminder that, in consequence of breaking from God's commands, death has entered into the world, and will be a present reality until God's Kingdom comes again.

But these words – “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return” – are also heard on Ash Wednesday, that day each year when Christians walk around with a smudge on their foreheads in the shape of a cross. It is a reminder that we are mortal, and without the gift of grace through Christ, we would have no hope beyond this life. It is also the beginning of the season of Lent, traditionally forty days of repentance and self-denial in preparation to join Christ at the cross, because the only path to Easter leads through the hill of Golgotha.

I have attempted many tactics during Lent, in my short life to date. I have increased my prayer life; I have given up some regular practice; I have attempted to better my life with healthier practices. All of these are acceptable; there is no one way for an individual to journey through the season of Lent. What matters is WHY. To what purpose do we do any of this? Why does it matter if I do something new/give up a favorite food/etc.? What is the purpose?

Lent is a time of preparation, reminding us of the time Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism, preparing for ministry, preparing ultimately for where

his ministry would lead him. We, too, prepare ourselves to recommit our lives to the ministry of Christ's Church. Whatever practice we may take up during Lent, or whatever we may give up, it is to prepare us again for two things: **To recommit to serving Christ through the church, and To face our own mortality as people who would use what life we have to honor the One who makes life worthwhile.**

For instance, this year I will be undertaking training for a 5K race (more information on that within these pages). It isn't simply me wanting to run a race; it is my desire to better myself physically so that I might have more energy to serve God, to give thanks for the life I have received. This is my personal choice for Lent, but it ties into the spirit of the season; we prepare ourselves to serve God with every aspect of our lives, every gift we have received.

How will you prepare yourself in this season of Lent? What practice will you undertake to draw closer to Christ, to open yourself to the Holy Spirit? Will it be something new? Will you give something up? Whatever you may decide, please join us for our Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, March 5, at 7:00 p.m. to mark your transition from the old life to the new, beginning with the sign of the cross in ash, a sign that you belong to God, and have committed your life to Christ's life. It may not be an easy road, but trust me, you won't be disappointed with where it leads.

With you on the journey,
Pastor Jason

WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR MARCH 2014

Sunday, 02 March 2014

Transfiguration of the LORD: Liturgical Color: **White**
 Old Testament: Exodus 24:12-18 & New Testament: Matthew 17:1-9
 Sermon: "Ascending the Cloud"

Wednesday, 05 March 2014

Ash Wednesday: Liturgical Color: **Purple**
 Old Testament: : Isaiah 58:1-12 & New Testament: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sunday, 09 March 2014

1st Sunday in Lent: Liturgical Color: **Purple**
 PCUSA Emphasis: "Celebrate the Gifts of Women"
 Old Testament: Genesis 2:15-17 & New Testament: Matthew 4:1-11
 Sermon: "Truth & Consequences"

Sunday, 16 March 2014

2nd Sunday in Lent: Liturgical Color: **Purple**
 Old Testament: Genesis 12:1-4a & New Testament: John 3:1-17
 "Preschool Sunday"
 Sermon: "Blindly Following"

Sunday, 23 March 2014

3rd Sunday in Lent: Liturgical Color: **Purple**
 Old Testament: Exodus 17:1-7 & New Testament: John 4:5-42
 Sermon: "Living Waters"

Sunday, 30 March 2014

4th Sunday in Lent: Liturgical Color: **Purple**
 Old Testament: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 & New Testament: John 9:1-41
 Sermon: "Muddy Eyes"

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

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Drew Moncol, recovering from surgery. Vonnie Edwards (David Johnson's aunt) health issues Rosa P. Bristow (Gail Rollings' mother) Jonathan Bottoms, in a motorcycle accident Frank Solesbee, MCV, skin graft Ryan McGill, brother of Dianne Overstreet's co-worker Maryland Blanchard (Grace & Helen Cibula's friend) Nancy Hettrick, health issues Johnnie Smith, health issues, Colonial Heights Convalescent Ctr. Audrey Turner, health issues Ed Smiley (Doug Holc's friend), severe gout (foot) Russell Houston (Sheila Fields's brother), hospitalized w/cancer "Traveling Mercies"</p> <p>And: Henry Parker Evelyn Lichvar Marian McDonald Don Vtipil Aida Faries June Hawks</p> | <p>All affected by acts of violence & natural disasters Robert Hartsell's brothers: Lawrence (status unchanged) & James (now in critical condition) Connie Lichvar (Evelyn Lichvar's daughter-in-law), ICU, recovering from emergency surgery Pam Harsh, Bradley Cooper, Jacob Spain, in college Jamie Meurer, ankle injury Valerie Harsh's foster-daughter Andrea, recovering from surgery & Valerie as she continues to visit 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 Frankie Meade, Glenda Mayhew's mother, in primary comfort care & Glenda as she visits her mother Victor Tomko (Doug Holc's cousin), in-home rehab Frankie Lee (Wayne Powers' friend), surgery Grace Cibula, continuing recovery, home after accident Helen Cibula, recovering in Hopewell Convalescent Ctr Mary Chadwick (Dink Armstrong's sister)</p> |
|---|--|



THE CLERK'S CORNER

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

HOLY HUMOR

By Sandy Hunter

IF ONLY WE HAD KNOWN!!!

1. HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY? (Written by kids-unedited)

-You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming. -- Alan, age 10

-No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with. -- Kristen, age 10

2. WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE TO GET MARRIED?

Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then. -- Camille, age 10

3. HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids. -- Derrick, age 8

4. WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR

MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

-Both don't want any more kids. -- Lori, age 8

5. WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

-Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough. -- Lynnette, age 8 (now *isn't she a treasure*)

-On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date. -- Martin, age 10

6. WHEN IS IT OKAY TO KISS SOMEONE?

-When they're rich. - Pam, age 7

-The law says you have to be eighteen, so I wouldn't want to mess with that. - - Curt, age 7

-The rule goes like this: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do. - - Howard, age 8

7. IS IT BETTER TO BE SINGLE

OR MARRIED?

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. -- Anita, age 9 (*bless you, child*)

8. HOW WOULD THE WORLD BE DIFFERENT IF PEOPLE DIDN'T GET MARRIED?

-There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there? -- Kelvin, age 8 (hmmm...)

AND THE HANDS-DOWN #1 FAVORITE....



9. HOW WOULD YOU MAKE A MARRIAGE WORK?

--Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a dump truck. (*anonymous*)

WRITE IT DOWN!

LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE: Service begins @ 12:00 p.m.; simple lunch after service.

March 13 - Church of the Sacred Heart, 9302 Community Lane, So. Prince George, VA

March 20 - Gregory Mem. Presby. Church, 6300 Courthouse Rd., Prince George, VA

March 27 - Newville UMC, 9014 Hines Rd., Disputanta, VA

April 3 - Bethlehem Congregational Church, 10501 Pole Run Rd., Disputanta, VA

April 10 - Trinity UMC, 10021 County Dr., Disputanta, VA.



FROM THE TREASURER’S REPORT:

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
 Summary of Operating Accounts
 As of January 31, 2014

| | | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|------------|
| Beginning of the Month | 1/1/2014 | \$ 1,520.09 | \$2,707.75 |
| Cash receipts | | 13,026.21 | 0.00 |
| Cash disbursements | | (13,133.13) | 0.00 |
| Interest/Dividends Earned | | 0.50 | 0.12 |
| Transfer (to) from General Fund | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Transfer (to) from Investment Cash Account | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Transfers (to) from DGA | | (135.67) | 0.00 |
| | | <hr/> | |
| End of the Month | 1/31/2014 | 1,278.00 | 2,707.87 |

Investment Accounts

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Mairs & Power Growth Fund | 101,824.58 |
| Wells Fargo Advisors (Various) | 36,989.46 |

AND FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK.....

This year, during the season of Lent, I have decided to do something I have never before done: Prepare to run a 5k race. To complete this, I am looking to you for support. There are two possible ways to support me in this: Join in me in the race (running and walking are both acceptable), and/or donate to the charity this race supports: the CASA organization for abused/neglected children.

To “run” with me, register the race by doing the following: Go to www.casarun.com and click on “Register”. Fill in your information, and under the “Join

Team” section, choose Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church (password: GMPC125). If you so desire, you can also join our fundraising team, again, by choosing Gregory Memorial at the appropriate step. All funds raised will go to support the work of CASA, not to any individual.

To support our team financially, please do the following: Go to www.casarun.com and click on “Donate”. Scroll down to the bottom of the page, and click on the Gregory Memorial Team. From there, follow the directions to make your donation, and thank

you!

I’m excited for this undertaking; I’m honored that you would join me and/or support me in this! This is just one more way in which we can show God’s love in this world, by doing something fun that cares for some of the most vulnerable in our society!

Pastor Jason



FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY


MARCH, 2014

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| March 02 | - |
| March 09 | - |
| March 16 | - |
| March 23 | Rose Scott |
| March 30 | Sandra Perkins |

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 MARCH 2014

| GATEKEEPER:  Doug Holc | March 02 | March 09 | March 16 "Preschool Sunday" | March 23 | March 30 |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| Ushers & Acolytes (A) | Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh Breeana Hunter (A) Jamie Meurer (A) | Robert Hartsell Dianne Overstreet Wayne Powers Les Mayhew Chayse Hartsell (A) Justin Ellis-Bowman (A) | Keith Spain Ruby Spain Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram Breeana Hunter (A) Jamie Meurer (A) | Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Jerry Bond Chayse Hartsell (A) Justin Ellis-Bowman (A) | Jerry Hasky Wayne Powers Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew Breeana Hunter (A) Kaitlyn Hartsell (A) |
| Announcements | Dianne Overstreet | Jerry Bond | Mary Kay Schroeter | Rose Scott | Jerry Bond |
| Junior Sermon | Pat Hunter | Minister | Megan Cashing | Susan Walker | Valerie Harsh |
| Junior Church | Rose Scott Breeana Hunter | Pat Hunter Jared Smyth | Mary Holc Mattie-Lynn Metschke | Marguerite Bishop Kevin Foster | Tara Foster Madison Foster |
| Nursery | Ruby Spain | Rose Scott | Susan Walker | Glenda Mayhew | Ann Hartsell |
| Counting | Donald Hunter Glenda Mayhew | Sandy Hunter Pat Hunter | Ron Recher Rose Scott | Morgan Ingram David Johnson | Sandy Hunter Kevin Foster |



Gregory Memorial
Presbyterian Church

CONFIRM!

March 23 - April 13

Four Sundays,

Three 90 minute sessions,

1 Lifetime

For Grades 5-8 (or equivalent age)

- Do you have questions about the Bible?
- Do you wonder why it's important to go to church?
- Are you curious how this might guide your life in the future?
- Do you wonder whether or not you should be baptized, or if you were, what it even means?

Then you won't want to miss this! Come, and See!

YOUNG DISCIPLES

COMING SOON TO A
CHURCH NEAR YOU!!

Young Disciples – an all new youth group for you & your friends, doing the things you like and growing in Christ and life at the same time!

- * Games!
- * Food!
- * Fun & Fellowship!
- * Trips!
- * Events!

- * All created by YOU!!

MARCH 2014

GATEKEEPER: Doug Holc

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|--|-----------|--------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| | | | | | | 9:15 am POJ |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship | 6:30 pm Missions | 12:30 pm Circle 6:00 pm Cong. Care 7:00 pm Facilities 7:00 pm Worship | 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service, followed by Choir practice | 2-8:00 pm Cleaning | | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 2:00 am DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship | 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 | | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>Preschool Sunday</i> <i>3rd Sunday Luncheon</i> | | 7:00 pm Session meeting | 7:00 pm Choir | 12:00 pm Lenten Service & Lunch @ GMPC 2:00 pm Newsletter out 2-8:00 pm Cleaning | | |
| 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 | | |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |
| 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>Local Emergency Aid Offering</i> | | | | | | |

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

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MARCH 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)