

Dear Gregory Memorial, Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

~Philippians 3:13b-14

"Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, 'Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.'"

~Mark 9:35

When I was younger I was extremely competitive. As a swimmer, I wanted nothing more than to excel in my event, the 100 yard butterfly. I was always looking for the edge, practicing the minutiae to get every little dynamic of my technique perfected, for one goal and one goal only: to win at my event. I even voluntarily attended double-practices, using the second one to increase stamina or speed, or to work on shaving time off my start and turns, to streamline my movement through the water. All so that I could win. While swimming is a team sport, it is the collection of individual events, and I wanted my individual event to be unchallenged. It was personal, for me. Sure, I was helping the team win, but if the team won while I didn't win my event, it still felt somewhat like a loss. In order to feel that I was where I needed to be, I needed to win.

Looking back I might wonder why I ever became a Buffalo Bills fan. I guess my 'hometown loyalty' wins out against overall winning. I think perhaps it's something more.

Because somewhere along the line, my understanding of 'winning' began to shift. A concept that used to be defined solely by coming in first, or at the very least by personally improving my time, slowly began to shift to an understanding that to 'win' had nothing at all to do with what place I came in, and had everything to do with what was being accomplished. And the source of this shift was the gospel, as I came to claim it as something that influenced my life, not just as something that we talked about at church.

I began to understand that winning no longer meant coming in first, or being the best, but that 'winning' was the realizing, the working toward, the proclaiming the Kingdom of God. Winning became synonymous with living out God's Vision of the world, instead of beating everyone else out to the finish line. The prize was no longer the blue ribbon or the trophy, but rather the prize was making sure everyone knew God's love in Christ, knew their identity as a beloved child of God. This understanding of 'winning' became far more meaningful than any sporting accomplishment or record.

While working in campus ministry in Texas, our collegiate group often formed intramural teams - softball and volleyball were the two favorites. Our slogan became "Life of a Child!" because we kept referencing the adage that in a hundred years we would not be remembered for our bank accounts, cars or houses, but whether or not we made a positive impact in the life of a child. And we are all, regardless of age, children of God.

While I still support the Bills (much to the amusement of many), and now the Nationals, and I love the Olympics, my understanding of what qualifies as winning in life is still based on this model of the gospel. We are each children of God, and we are each loved beyond measure. The more I proclaim this, the more I win, and the more this world reflects God's vision for the Kingdom. Let us all run this race together.

With you on the journey,
Pastor Jason



WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR OCTOBER 2015

Sunday, 4 October 2015

19th Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Job 1:1; 2:1-10
 2nd Reading: Mark 10:2-16
 Sermon: "Coming to the Table"

Sunday, 11 October 2015

20th Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Job 23:1-9, 16-17
 2nd Reading: Mark 10:17-31
 Sermon: Pulpit Supply

Sunday, 18 October 2015

21st Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Job 38:1-7
 2nd Reading: Mark 10:35-45
 Sermon: "Fear of the Lord"

Sunday, 25 October 2015

22nd Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Job 42:1-6, 10-17
 2nd Reading: Mark 10:46-52
 Sermon: "Turning and Returning"



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.

Lucille Link, Patsy Johnson's mother
 Wayne Hedgepeth, Ruth Figg's nephew (health issue)
 Don Vtipil
 Marion McDonald
 James Hartsell, Robert Hartsell's brother
 Amy Townson, Josh Ingram's sister
 Doris Karnowski, Josh Ingram's grandmother
 Maryland Blanchard, Grace and Helen Cibula's friend
 Ben Nicely
 Mila Campen, Ann Hartsell's mother
 Mary Chadwick, Dink Armstrong's sister
 David Childress, Beverly Childress' brother
 Mark Chariton
 Evelyn Lichvar (health issues)
 Martin Bauer, Evelyn Lichvar's brother (health issue)
 Rick Lichvar, Evelyn Lichvar's son (chronic illness)
 Becky Smith
 Audrey Turner
 Chuck Barnes, the Ingrams' friend
 Dr. Shannon Bowman (health issue)
 Peggy Allen (chronic health issues)
 Bob Hogsett, father-in-law to the Rechers' daughter
 Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix's grandson (health issues)

Aida Faries
 Frances Sebera (recov., health issue)
 Helen Cibula
 Cheryl May, Susan Walker's employee (& coping w/dad's health issues)
 Elizabeth Scott
 Ruth Figg
 Brandon Quinton Lambert, son of Morgan Ingram's coworker,
 Micah Murphy (newborn, MCV) & parents, Jennifer & James Murphy
 Kenneth & Sue Andrews, Childress family's friends
 Jimmy Clark
 Philip Harris, co-worker of Morgan Ingram
 Eleanor Jones (home)
 Joanne Overstreet, (health issue)
 Terry Robertson, Billy Robertson's son
 Jean Waymack
 Robert Hartsell (health issue, recovering)
 Elisha Beverly, Valerie Harsh's daughter (health issue recurrence)
 Frank Solesbee
 T. J. Orr, youth friend of the Bishops (MCV Childrens' Hospital)
 Glenda Bly, Dawn Kriigel's sister-in-law's mom (recov., surgery)
 Valerie Harsh (foot injury)
 Brenda Bond (recov., health issue)

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

OCTOBER, 2015

October 4	The Hunters
October 11	Rose Scott
October 18	
October 25	

**Please write in your name beside the Sunday you wish to provide flowers
on the Flowers Chart in the Sanctuary's rear hallway**

**For assistance,
please call Church office at 732-1081
(9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday).**



ANNOUNCEMENTS



GATEKEEPER: Doug Holc

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS – Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 a.m. *All clocks “fall back” one hour!*

GMPC's FALL FEST – Saturday, October 24 from 10:00 am -2:00 pm. Check out these Fall Fest events:

- **BAKED GOODS SALE** – If bringing baked goods for sale, please contact Evelyn Foster for details.
- **BLOOD DRIVE** – Virginia Bloodmobile will conduct blood drive at GMPC. [Contact: Judy Recher]

“THESE DAYS” (Oct.-Dec. Issue) – Now available in Narthex wall rack. Pick up a copy today!

THE HERALD, Gregory's newsletter, is now available by email for those who sign up for this money-saving convenience. *Sign up on form in the Narthex and get yours emailed to you beginning with the next issue!*

SUNDAY SERVANTS – October, 2015

GATEKEEPER: Doug Holc	OCT. 4	OCT. 11	OCT. 18	OCT. 25
Ushers	Robert Hartsell Dianne Overstreet Melissa Johnes Chris Johnes	Rose Scott Wayne Powers Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Rose Scott	Jerry Hasky Wayne Powers Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew
Acolytes	COMMUNION	Breeana Hunter Owen Hunter	Chayse Hartsell Justin Ellis-Bowman	Kiley Johnes Ella Johnes
Announcements	Rose Scott	Mary Kay Schroeter	Rose Scott	Rose Scott
Junior Sermon	Patsy Johnson	Minister	Pat Hunter	Megan Cashing
Junior Church	Valerie Harsh Breeana Hunter	Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Lisa Brown Austin Smyth	Patsy Johnson Justin Ellis-Bowman
Nursery	Rose Scott	Susan Walker	Glenda Mayhew	Ann Hartsell
Counting	David Johnson Glenda Mayhew	Donald Hunter Rose Scott	Sandy Hunter Ron Recher	Morgan Ingram Rose Scott

Contact: Sharon J.
Ph: 804-796-3715 ext. 2
Email: sharon@cchasm.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keith Henderson Award Winning ELVIS Tribute Artist in Concert for CCHASM



On Sunday October 25, 2015, CCHASM will present Award Winning Elvis Tribute Artist Keith Henderson in concert.

The concert is open seating. A "Love Offering" will be taken to support area residents with emergency needs.

The concert will begin at 3 PM (doors will open at 2 PM). Location for the concert is the Cosby High School Auditorium, 14300 Fox Club Pkwy., Midlothian, VA 23112.

CCHASM is the proud recipient of the Cameron Foundation's 2014 Cleveland A. Wright Award for Outstanding Community Service.

CCHASM is a 501 (c) (3) whose mission is: *To provide food, financial assistance, and career 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 27 years through its 25 Alliance Food Pantries, Career Clothes Closet for Women, 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 8000 adults and children.

###

If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview, please contact Sharon at 804-796-3715 X 2 or email sharon@cchasm.org

OCTOBER, 2015

GATEKEEPER: Doug Holc

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				2-8:00 pm Cleaning		8:45 am Rain date for Bull Hill Rd. Clean-up (Missions)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>World Communion Sunday</i> 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>Peacemaking Offering</i> <i>Holy Communion</i>		12:30 pm Circle 6:00 pm Cong. Care	7:00 pm Choir	2:00 pm Session agenda out 2-8:00 pm Cleaning 6:30 pm Relay for Life meeting		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship			7:00 pm Choir	9:00 am News articles in 2-8:00 pm Cleaning 7:00 pm Stewardship & Finance		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>Third Sunday Lunch</i>		7:00 pm Session meeting	7:00 pm Choir	2:00 pm Newsletter out 2-8:00 pm Cleaning		10:00 am -2:00 pm GMPC's Fall Fest, /Bake Sale & /Blood Drive
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>5 Cents a Meal Offering</i>	1:00 pm PG Triad, PG Library		7:00 pm Choir	2-8:00 pm Cleaning		<i>Hallowe'en</i> 2:00 pm Committee reports in 

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

-

STAMP

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



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

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