

Dear Gregory Memorial, Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



“For gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair...” ~Proverbs 1:2-3

This past October marked my eighth year of ordained, pastoral ministry. Eight years equates to roughly 400 sermons, 100 newsletter articles, 80 session meetings, 35 presbytery meetings, and more visitations and conversations than can be easily counted. In some ways, it’s hard to believe it’s been eight years – most of the time it doesn’t feel like it’s been that long. I still marvel at the fact that you allow me to walk with you in times of joy and sorrow, that you invite me intimately into your lives. I am still dumbfounded that God has called me into this endeavor in the first place, and I’ll admit that there are some days in which I still wonder at what I’ve agreed to when I took up this calling.

But as I do every year around this time, I ponder on what I’ve learned, what I’ve experienced, and the ways in which I’d like to continue to grow and live into being your minister (you deserve all that I can offer). Some of the things I’ve learned seem so basic as to be overlooked or taken for granted, and yet these are the lessons that are the most important to remember and live out day-by-day. I am constantly reminding myself of these, among others:

~There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Christ. Nothing. *(Romans 8:38-39)*

~Everyone is a child of God, and whether they return it or not, should be shown the same kind of love that God shows me. *(1 John 3:1, 4:7)*

~We don’t have to agree on everything in order to be called together and united at Christ’s Table. *(1 Corinthians 10:16-17)*

~We all have rough days, days where we’re tired and frazzled. Grace toward one another makes every difference, especially when we offer it (and especially when we allow our own selves to receive it).

(2 Corinthians 12:9)

~There are many people in this world who have inadvertently, and occasionally on purpose, caused me harm: Forgiveness is a way of life, and takes hard work. Living without forgiveness is worse.

(Matthew 6:14-15; Colossians 3:12-14)

~Our world is in pain, and our calling as we live out the Kingdom of God is to provide comfort. We cannot do that if we are working to tear others down. The world will never heal if our primary concern is to make sure someone else is put down.

(Isaiah 61:1-2)

These are some of the understandings which guide my ministry, which I return to time and time again. What are some of the ones which guide you in your life and efforts as Christ’s disciple? As we begin to approach Advent (just a few short weeks away!!), we will be invited more and more to reflect on the impact the Christ-child has on our lives, and on our ways of living with others. It is indeed one of the most wonderful times of the year...

With you on the journey,
Pastor Jason



WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR NOVEMBER 2015

Sunday, 1 November 2015 (All Saints' Day)

23rd Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: **White**

1st Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

2nd Reading: John 11:32-44

Sermon: "Death's Promise"

Sunday, 8 November 2015

24th Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: **Green**

1st Reading: Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17

2nd Reading: Mark 12:38-44

Sermon: "Whitewashed Tombs"

Sunday, 15 November 2015

25st Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: **Green**

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 1:4-20

2nd Reading: Mark 13:1-8

Sermon: "Faithful Waiting"

Sunday, 22 November 2015

Christ the King/Reign of Christ - Liturgical Color: **White**

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 23:1-7

2nd Reading: John 18:33-37

Sermon: "Last Words"

Sunday, 29 November 2015

1st Sunday of Advent - Liturgical Color: **Blue/Purple**

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

2nd Reading: Luke 21: 25-36

Sermon: "Near to the Kingdom"



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 (recov. from health issue)
Peggy Allen (recurring 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 (Cheryl's dad's health issues)
Elizabeth Scott
Ruth Figg
Brandon Quinton Lambert, son of Morgan Ingram's coworker
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 (recov., health issue)
Elisha Beverly, Valerie Harsh's daughter (health issue recurrence)
Frank Solesbee
T. J. Orr, youth friend of the Bishops (home)
Glenda Bly, Dawn Kriigel's sister-in-law's mom (recov., surgery)
Valerie Harsh (foot injury)
Brenda Bond (recov., health issue)
Billy Robertson (recov., heart attack)
Frank Solesbee (Hopewell Convalescent Center)
Sharon Maderly, Kaitlyn Hartsell's grandmother (health issue)

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

NOVEMBER, 2015

November 1	
November 8	
November 15	
November 22	
November 29	Rose Scott

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



GATEKEEPER:
Bobby Allen

Daylight Saving Time ends

Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 a.m.
All clocks “fall back” one hour!

Election Night Spaghetti Dinner
(Tuesday, Nov. 3, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00

p.m.): Homecoming’s fund-raiser in the Fellowship Hall offers a delicious meal of spaghetti, salad, dessert & beverage for \$7 per person.

Brunswick Stew Pick-up
(Saturday, Nov. 21, 9:00 a.m. at

Hopewell Optimist Club): Stew is being pre-sold by Homecoming Committee for \$7 per quart. Volunteers are needed to cook the stew on Nov. 20! To volunteer, contact Valerie Harsh or Evelyn Foster.

Bookmarks for Sale! Marguerite is selling bookmarks that she made. They are \$3 each, or 2 for \$5.

Advent Retreat “Keeping Advent Wholly” at Camp Hanover – Nov. 6-7:

On-site registration and check-in is on Friday, Nov. 6 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.; dinner is at 6:00 p.m. Retreat concludes Saturday at 4:00 p.m. Lodging and meals included. Visit Camp Hanover website for details at: www.CampHanover.org/retreats

The Gregory Choir will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Sundays & also at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays from Nov 1-Dec. 13 in preparation for its performance for Gregory’s Christmas Cantata, which is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 20 at 4:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service
(Sunday, Nov. 22 at 6:30 p.m.):

Trinity UMC, Disputanta. Light refreshments afterwards.

Holiday Office Hrs. – 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Nov.: Mon., Tues., Wed. (11/23-25)

Dec.: Mon., Tues., Wed. (12/21-23)

& Mon., Tues., Wed. (12/28-30)

THE HERALD 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 – November, 2015

<u>GATEKEEPER:</u> Bobby Allen	NOV. 1	NOV. 8	NOV. 15	NOV. 22	NOV. 29
Ushers	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh	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	Jaime Meurer Kaitlyn Hartsell	Breeana Hunter Owen Hunter	Chayse Hartsell Justin Ellis-Bowman	Kiley Johnes Ella Johnes	Jaime Meurer Kaitlyn Hartsell
Announcements	Dianne Overstreet	Rose Scott	Mary Kay Schroeter	Rose Scott	Rose Scott
Junior Sermon	Susan Walker	Minister	Valerie Harsh	Patsy Johnson	Pat Hunter
Junior Church	Megan Cashing Mattie Lynn Metschke	Melissa Johnes Jared Smyth	Susan Walker Jamie Meurer	Rose Scott Madison Foster	Jennifer Smyth Austin Smuth
Nursery	Ruby Spain	Rose Scott	Susan Walker	Glenda Mayhew	Ann Hartsell
Counting	David Johnson Kevin Foster	Ron Recher Glenda Mayhew	Donald Hunter Pat Hunter	David Johnson Rose Scott	Morgan Ingram Sandy Hunter

We don't change the message; the message changes us.



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Best Vote You Will Ever Make!

✓ A Full Tummy	✓ A Smile on a Child's Face	✓ Happiness
✓ CCHASM's Thanksgiving Meal Gift Package Program		

A Donation of a \$15.00 Food Store Gift Card, A Bag of Thanksgiving Food, or Your Cash Donation toward a gift card or gift package will provide an area family in need with a Thanksgiving Meal (and lot's of leftovers). In 2014 CCHASM was able to provide Thanksgiving Meal Gift Packages and a \$15.00 Gift Card to 2165 families (8080 adults and children). Our goal this year is to reach 3000 families through our program.

This program provides a Thanksgiving Meal Gift Package (see contents list below) and a Food Gift Card to a local Grocery Store (to purchase a turkey or perishable items) to area residents who otherwise would not be able to celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday. **Residents MUST Pre-Register with CCHASM prior to receiving a Thanksgiving Meal Package.**

Your donation will be greatly welcomed to help area residents and may be sent to CCHASM at PO Box 1741, Chesterfield, VA 23832. Or, you can make a secure donation through our website www.cchasm.org, or bring your grocery items to the Chesterfield County Fairground Exhibition Center Monday Nov. 16th from 10 AM – 5 PM, and Tuesday Nov. 17th from Noon - 7 PM.

Each Thanksgiving Meal Gift Package will include the following food items plus a \$15 Gift Card to purchase a turkey:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 – 40 ounce can of yams or sweet potatoes 1 – 13 ounce box of instant mashed potatoes 1 – 14 ounce can of cranberry sauce 2 – 15 ounce cans of corn 2 – 15 ounce cans of green vegetables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 – boxes or packages stuffing mix 2 – cans or packages of gravy 1 – box of hot chocolate 1 – box tea bags 1 – box or bag of cookies
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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.

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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

NOVEMBER, 2015

GATEKEEPER: Bobby Allen

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2:00 am End Daylight Saving Time 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 1:30 pm Choir	6:00 pm Congregational Care	<u>Election Day</u> 12:30 pm Circle 5:30-7:00 pm Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser 7:00 pm Facilities	7:00 pm Choir	2-8:00 pm Cleaning	4:00-5:00 pm On-site registration & check-in at Camp Hanover for "Keeping Advent 'Wholly Retreat'", Nov. 6-7 6:00 pm Retreat Dinner	4:00 pm Advent Retreat ends
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 1:30 pm Choir		6:30 pm Outreach 7:00 pm Worship Com.	<u>Veterans Day</u> 7:00 pm Choir	2-8:00 pm Cleaning 6:30 pm Relay for Life meeting		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>3rd Sunday Lunch</i> 1:30 pm Choir	1:00 pm PG Triad, PG Library	6:30 pm Missions	7:00 pm Choir	9:00 am News articles in 2-8:00 pm Cleaning 7:00 pm Stewardship & Finance		9:00 am Pickup pre-ordered Brunswick Stew at Hopewell Optimist Club 12:00 -9:00 pm Scouts Court of Honor (Pezzuli), Fellowship Hall
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>5 Cents a Meal Offering</i> <u>After worship:</u> - Congreg.mtg - Decorating of Sanctuary 1:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm Thanksg Ser.-Trinity UMC	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN 2:00 pm Newsletter out 2-8:00 pm Cleaning 7:00 pm Choir	OFFICE CLOSED <u>Thanksgiving</u>		
29	30					
<u>Advent begins</u> 9:45 am Sunday School 1:00 am Worship <i>Local Emergency Aid Offering</i> 1:30 pm Choir	2:00 pm Committee reports in					

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
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NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Happy
Thanksgiving 



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)