

Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

-Micah 6:8

September to me always feels like back-to-school time, which is probably not surprising in any way, to anyone, given the connection I have with teachers in my life! But even as I have moved out of the true academic calendar, September always feels, for me, like a return...a renewal of a certain lifestyle. But what would I be working on, if not going to school and attending classes? The only answer I have for that is the only one that truly matters as a Christian: my life of faith, as defined by the call to discipleship I have accepted. And as I approach ten years of ordained ministry, discipleship has never been more at the front of my mind.

But what defines discipleship? Is it any one thing? Is it a mindset, or an attitude of one's heart, or what one says? After continued thought, I don't think discipleship can easily be broken down to any one simple aspect, but can be defined by three focuses in our life (Presbyterians are good trinitarians, after all – we like things to come in three's!). I would offer the idea that discipleship can be defined by the following: a focus on worship, a focus on service, and a focus on fellowship.

I don't know that these three focuses really come as much of a surprise to anyone, and it's possible that I've reflected on them before, but as we approach a new academic year, as we find our families and community at another 'new beginning,' I think it's an appropriate time to look at them again.

Worship is something we do regularly; every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m., you know where to find us, and how to join us! This is at the core of our faith: our chief end is offer praise and thanksgiving to God, our Creator, and Ruler of all that is, known and unknown. And yet, it is precisely this predictability that can make this one of the more difficult aspects to practice; knowing that it will always be a present option (every Sunday, 11:00 a.m.!), it becomes easier to rationalize other things that come up on our calendars and schedules. This isn't a criticism; we've all been in this position at one point in life or another. But worship – the reorienting of ourselves before God – is

absolutely crucial to the life of faithful and active discipleship.

Similarly, service is a necessary focus. Service to others, in our community and world, is the manifestation of worship outside of the church walls in which we gather. When we offer our own lives in service to others, we take the good news that we have received, the good news which defines our own lives, and offer it to those in need. With or without prayers and hymns, or even Scripture, when we engage in service we show to those in need the love of Christ made manifest and active. Worship and service go hand-in-hand, and one without the other is a diminished life of discipleship.

But to make it all truly whole, we must also offer fellowship. I believe that our Lord loves joy and laughter, and as serious as other aspects of life and discipleship can be, our lives and world are made richer and more meaningful by the renewing of our hearts with laughter and fun! If life, and discipleship with it, is nothing but heavy and serious work, then we will easily become burned out and weighed down to the point that discipleship is no longer possible. We must have fun, as well, and I believe that our Lord delights in our joy.

As we approach the beginning of the 'new year,' we will continue to seek out ways, times, and opportunities to engage our discipleship in all these ways: through worship, in service, and with fellowship. In fact, our Rally Day gathering on Sunday, September 10, will incorporate all of these: we'll gather for a delicious breakfast (fellowship), hear about the experience of some of our youth at Tri-Cities WorkCamp (service), and then move into worship together, offering our praise, prayers, and thanksgiving. We'll see you there, and may your life of discipleship be blessed!

With you on the journey,
Pastor Jason



WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR SEPTEMBER, 2017

Sunday, 3 September 2017 – Begin Season of Peace

13th Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Ezekiel 3:1-15 * 2nd Reading: Matthew 5:1-7:29
 Sermon: "Sermon on the Mount"

Sunday, 10 September 2017

14th Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:4a * 2nd Reading: John 1:1-5
 Sermon: "And God Spoke..."

Sunday, 17 September 2017

15th Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14 * 2nd Reading: John 1:29
 Sermon: "At What Cost?"

Sunday, 24 September 2017

16th Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17 * 2nd Reading: John 1:50-51
 Sermon: "Troubled Dreams"



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.

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 Mary Chadwick, Dink Armstrong's sister Evelyn Lichvar, her son, Rick, and her brother, Martin (health issues) Becky Smith Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix's grandson (health issues) Helen & Grace Cibula Elizabeth Scott Kenneth & Sue Andrews, Childress family's friends Jimmy Clark Elisha Beverly, Valerie Harsh's daughter (health issue recurrence) Peggy Allen Eleanor Jones Vivian Johnes (improved, at-home rehab) Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew's brother Teresa Knott, PG County employee (health issue) Billy Robertson (home, feeling better) Eileen Mozucha (continued recov., home) Michelle Coleman (health issues & recov.) Ralph Summerson George Poulson Courtney Stewart, friend of the Hunters (Duke Hospital)	Adrienne Wallace, member of Hopewell News staff T. J. Webb Jane & Ralph Arehart, Glenda Mayhew's friends (health issues) Gene Vasek (health issue) Ron Woody (health issues) Gladys Wiseman (home) Janet Shockley, Susan Walker's mom (recov. after surgery) Sandy Eickmeyer (recov., home) Roger Overstreet (continued health concerns) Eddie Frankenstein, ret. PGPD Chief (health issues) Steve "Dee" Shortt, Kim Helmer Shortt's husband (health issue) Charles Story Shirley MacNeil (health issues) Marquita Simpson (Vibra Health/Rehab, Richmond) Ed Armstrong (Hopewell Health Center) Reese Etheridge, Wayne Powers' uncle (health concerns) Marguerite Bishop (broken foot) Susan Walker & Kyle Walker (for safe travels) Perry Lewis (pneumonia) Bill Langston, friend of David Johnson (recov., bypass surgery) Family/friends of Bill Elliott (d. 8/17) Family/friends of Peggy Barnes
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ANNOUNCEMENTS



GATEKEEPER:
Charles Smyth

Sep. 4: Labor Day

Sep. 5: Preschool 2017-18 Term begins 9:30 a.m.; Circle group (GMPC), 12:30 p.m.; Congregational Care, 6 p.m.; Worship, 7 p.m.

Sep. 10: “Back to Church Sunday.” Begin the day with breakfast at 9:30 a.m., followed by program by Workcampers, Fellowship Hall.

Sep. 12: Missions-Outreach, 7 p.m.

Sep. 18: PG Churches Outreach/Foodbank meeting (35th Anniv.), Fellowship Hall; 10 a.m.

Sep. 19: Session meeting (Session Meeting Room), 7 p.m. Includes committee reports for July & Aug.

Sep. 23: GMPC Fall Bake/Yard Sale (yard sale in parking lot; bake sale in Fellowship Hall), 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. More details Page 4.

Sep. 30: Bull Hill Rd., Trash Pick-up (Missions-Outreach committees), Boy Scouts to assist. Participants meet in GMPC parking lot at 8:45 a.m. & proceed to pick-up site.



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Missed the sermon? GMPC’s sermons are on *YouTube* each week. Check Gregory’s Facebook page, or the **gregorymemorial.org** website for the links, or search *YouTube.com* for Sunday’s sermon.

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

SEPTEMBER	3	
SEPTEMBER	10	
SEPTEMBER	17	
SEPTEMBER	24	

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

THOSE WHO SERVE – SEPTEMBER, 2017

GATEKEEPER: Charles Smyth	SEP. 3	“Back to Church Sunday” SEP. 10	SEP. 17	SEP. 24
Ushers	Robert Hartsell Dianne Overstreet Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Charles Smyth Austin Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Larry Johnson	Jerry Hasky Brenda Bond Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew
Announcements	Valerie Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter	Larry Johnson	Rose Scott
Junior Sermon	Megan Cashing	Minister	Susan Walker	Valerie Harsh
Junior Church	Patsy Johnson	Tara Foster	Valerie Harsh	Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram
Counting	Donald Hunter Megan Cashing	David Johnson Rose Scott	Sandy Hunter Glenda Mayhew	Morgan Inram Ron Recher

“Three grand essentials to happiness in this life are something to do, something to love, and something to hope for.” Joseph Addison



For School: Various journal articles on resilience and traumatic stress

WHAT'S JASON READING?

For Church: "Acedia & Me" (Kathleen Norris)

For Fun: "The Hobbit" (J.R.R. Tolkien)



- **"Back to Church" Sunday will be on Sep . 10 with breakfast at 9: 30 a.m.,** followed by a program presented by the Workcamp 2017 participants. Food will be provided. ... *All we need is YOU !!!*
- **Missions/Outreach Committee will sponsor a Yard Sale & Bake Sale on Saturday, Sep. 23 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.** Each 10' x 10' space will be \$15 with an additional \$5 for a table, if needed. The Bake Sale will be held in the Fellowship Hall. *EVERYONE* is asked to bake goodies and bring jams, jellies, etc., for sale. Gregory ladies (and gentlemen) are famous for their delicious baked goods. More details will be in the bulletin regarding drop-off and pricing. Please help support this project as the proceeds will defray some additional costs for our beautiful sign. Contact Sandy Hunter if you have any questions at (804) 733-8414.

HOLY HUMOR

HYMNS FOR DIFFERENT PROFESSIONS



The Dentist's Hymn ... Crown Him With Many Crowns

The Weatherman's Hymn ... There Shall Be Showers Of Blessing

The Contractor's Hymn ... The Church's One Foundation

The Golfer's Hymn ... There Is A Green Hill Far Away

The Politician's Hymn ... Standing On The Promises

The Optometrist's Hymn ... Open My Eyes That I May See

The IRS Agent's Hymn ... I Surrender All

The Electrician's Hymn ... Send The Light

The Realtor's Hymn ... I've Got A Mansion Just Over The Hilltop

The Paramedic's Hymn ... Revive Us Again

The Judge's Hymn ... Almost Persuaded

The Psychiatrist's Hymn ... Just A Little Talk With Jesus

The Architect's Hymn ... How Firm A Foundation

The Postal Worker's Hymn ... So Send I You

The Criminal's Hymn ... Search Me, O God

The Umpire's Hymn ... I Need No Other Argument



~ SEPTEMBER 2017 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship Service	4 Labor Day	5 9:30a Preschool 2017-18 Term begins 12:30p Circle 6-8p GS Tr 5000 6p Congre. Care 7p Worship	6 7p Choir Practice	7 2p Church Cleaning 2p Session agenda out	8	9
10 "Back to Church Sunday" 9:30a Breakfast, Fellowship Hall; program by GMPC Workcampers 11a Worship Service	11	12 6-8p GS Tr 553 7p Mission-Outreach combined committees	13 7p Choir Practice	14 2p Church Cleaning 2p News articles due	15	16
17 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship Service	18 10a PG Churches Outreach meeting (35 th Anniv.), Fellowship Hall	19 6-8p GS Tr 5000 7p Session meeting	20 7p Choir Practice	21 2p Church Cleaning 2p Newsletter out	22	23 9a-1p Yard sale/bake sale, GMPC parking lot & Fellowship Hall
24 9:45a Sunday School 11a 5 Cents-a-Meal Offering 11a Worship Service	25	26	27 1-9p BS Tr 900 7p Choir Practice	28 2p Church Cleaning	29	30 8:45a Bull Hill Rd trash pickup 2p Committee reports due

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Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
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Prince George, VA 23875-0182

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SEPTEMBER 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)
[Sermons on Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)
WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG*