

Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:19-21

I remember an occasion when I was younger of how there was some toy I wanted, but didn't have enough money to purchase it. My parents, being the rotten, evil parents that they are, flat out refused to buy it for me, and instead forced upon me the chores of manual labor to earn my allowance and save up for said toy (I can't even remember what it was, now). But what I do remember is spending weeks obsessing about this toy: I would think of the grand ways it would enhance my overall entertainment...I would do almost continuous mental calculations comparing cost, how much I had saved, and how much more was needed...I eventually convinced myself that I couldn't live without it, and my life was incomplete until whatever this magical item was had been purchased. It was almost like it was life itself that I was saving up to buy.

There's a Latin term in the legal world that I think of when I remember this story, *sine qua non* – meaning, “the thing that, without which, life is not possible.” If such a thing is *sine qua non*, it is essential, absolutely necessary, has no substitute and is indispensable. We might be able to say, as an example, that breathable air and drinkable water are both *sine qua non*, because without either of these things we literally, biologically cannot live.

While there are certainly things in this world that we cannot biologically live without, there are also things in our lives that, without which, life does not seem to have the same meaning. We may exist without them, but we might not feel as if we are living. I would say that some examples of these would be our families, our friends, and time to enjoy our hobbies and interests...the things that make living worthwhile. These, too, are *sine qua non*.

It would be our natural human tendency to try to store up these things, so that we are assured that there is always a ready supply. We want to secure for ourselves the

treasures that make life worth living. Interestingly, this tendency is precisely what Jesus warns against. “Anything earthly that you try to store up for yourselves will eventually be lost – whether it fall apart and fade away or whether it be taken from you, you will not be able to keep it.” Jesus knows all too well, and would have us remember that life on this earth is finite, and until God's Kingdom is fully realized (at the time and place of God's own choosing), then we are doomed to lose the things of this earth. Furthermore, our focus on such material things can distract us from the true gifts, the true treasure we have been offered. Whatever the toy was that I wanted would fall into the category of “something I shouldn't focus on”, while the examples of family, friends, joy-filled experiences would fall into Jesus' example. These things are meaningful treasures.

But there is one more thing that I would remind you of, which is *sine qua non*: specifically, it is the grace and love of God, manifest in Jesus and enabled by the Holy Spirit. Without this grace and love – completely unearned by our own efforts but fully given by God – without this we have no life. Jesus came into the world to offer not just life, but Life Abundant, rich and meaningful life, life found in the fullness of God's presence and calling. This is *sine qua non*, and this treasure is given to us to store up. Let us seek it out; let us help others find it, as well – the more we share it, the greater it grows.

With you on the journey,
Pastor Jason



WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR NOVEMBER, 2017

Sunday, 5 November 2017

22nd Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green

1st Reading: 1 Kings 19:1-18 * 2nd Reading: John 12:27-28

Sermon: "Busy Day at the Office"

Sunday, 12 November 2017

23rd Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green

1st Reading: Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24 * 2nd Reading: John 7:37-38

Sermon: "Conditions for Life"

Sunday, 19 November 2017

24th Sunday after Pentecost - Liturgical Color: Green

1st Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7 * 2nd Reading: John 8:12

Sermon by The Reverend Dr. Carson Rhyne, Guest Preacher

Sunday, 26 November 2017

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

1st Reading: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14 * 2nd Reading: John 14:27

Sermon: "Grow Where You're Planted"



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.

Those affected by the recent Las Vegas tragedy & the emergency responders
 Those affected by recent hurricanes & the emergency responders
 Members of Franklinville Presbyterian Church, Franklinville, NY
 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 & H. F. Scott, Jr.
 Kenneth & Sue Andrews, Childress family's friends
 Jimmy Clark
 Elisha Beverly, Valerie Harsh's daughter (health issue recurrence)
 Peggy Allen
 Eleanor Jones
 Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew's brother
 Teresa Knott, PG County employee (health issue)
 Michelle Coleman (health issues & recov.)
 Ralph Summerson
 Courtney Stewart, friend of the Hunters (Duke Hospital)
 Adrienne Wallace, member of Hopewell News staff

Jane & Ralph Arehart, Glenda Mayhew's friends (health issues)
 Gene Vasek (health issue)
 Gladys Wiseman
 Eddie Frankenstein, former PGPD Chief (health issues)
 Steve "Dee" Shortt, Kim Helmer Shortt's husband (health issue)
 Charles Story
 Shirley MacNeil (health issues)
 Perry Lewis (health issue)
 Bill Langston, David Johnson's friend (recov., bypass surgery)
 Debbie Hudson, Susan Walker's friend (recov. surgery)
 Brendan Scott, Rose Scott's grandson (eye issues)
 Janet Shockley, Susan Walker's mom (surgery on 10/8)
 Sandy Eickmeyer (cardiac issues)
 Dink Armstrong (recov. surgery)
 Verne & Clara Smith
 Kenny Overstreet (health issue)
 Brenda Wahl, Keith Spain's mother (health issues)
 Richard Harsh (recov. from surgery)
 Carol & Ed Hornbuckle (Megan Cashing's grandparents)
 Family/friends of Ron Woody (d. 10/20)

Our Joy: Birth of Ariella Moon Ellis-Bowman, Dianne Overstreet's first great-grandchild

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin" Mother Teresa

ANNOUNCEMENTS



GATEKEEPER:
Bobby Allen

Nov. 1: Committee reports for Nov. 21 Session Agenda **are due in Church office today since Session now meets in odd-numbered months.**

Nov. 2: Christian Ed, 7 p.m.

Nov. 5: End Daylight Saving Time: Don't forget to set your clocks back on the night between Saturday, November 4 and Sunday, November 5! Great time to check batteries in your smoke detectors and change air filters!

Nov. 7: Election Day; Preschool closed; GS Troop 5000, 6-8 p.m.; Congregational Care, 6 p.m.; Facilities, 7 p.m.; Worship, 7 p.m.

Nov. 11: Veterans Day

Nov. 14: GS Tr. 553, 6-8 p.m.; Missions-Outreach, 7 p.m.

Nov. 16: Stewardship & Finance, 7 p.m.; **news articles are due today.**

Nov. 19: Sunday's sermon by guest preacher, Rev. Dr. Carson Rhyne.

Nov. 20: Church office open.

Nov. 21: Church office open; GS Tr. 5000, 7 p.m.; Session meeting, 7 p.m.

Nov. 22: Church office open; Preschool closed for Thanksgiving Break; Newsletter out.

Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Day; Church office closed; Preschool closed for Thanksgiving Break.

Nov. 26: "Christ the King/Reign of Christ" Sunday; 5 Cents A Meal Offering; Start reserving (pre-paid) Christmas poinsettias (more on this later).




.....
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

NOVEMBER	5	
NOVEMBER	12	
NOVEMBER	19	
NOVEMBER	26	Hunters

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 – NOVEMBER, 2017

<u>GATEKEEPER:</u>  Bobby Allen	NOV. 5	NOV. 12	NOV. 19	"Christ the King/ Reign of Christ" NOV. 26
Ushers	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh	Robert Hartsell Dianne Overstreet Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Charles Smyth Austin Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Larry Johnson
Announcements	Dianne Overstreet	Valerie Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter	Larry Johnson
Junior Sermon	Valerie Harsh	Minister	Patsy Johnson	Pat Hunter
Junior Church	Rose Scott	Mary Holc	Marguerite Bishop	Lisa Brown
Counting	David Johnson Ron Recher	Sandy Hunter Mary Kay Schroeter	Morgan Ingram Blake Bishop	Donald Hunter Megan Cashing

WHAT'S JASON READING?



Bessel van der Kolk

For School: "The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma" by

For Church: "The Work of the Chaplain (Work of the Church)" by Naomi K. Paget

For Fun: "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" by J.K. Rowling



Scholarship Committee is accepting applications through November 1 for eligible applicants for the spring semester. Remember that awards are a once/year award, so the applicant cannot have received a scholarship award from us in the past year.

*"We thank Thee, Lord, for our daily bread,
As by thy hands our souls are fed,
Grant us to grow more like Thee,
Today and through Eternity.
Amen."*

HOLY HUMOR

NEVER ENDING BATTLE....

And God populated the earth with broccoli and cauliflower and spinach and green and yellow vegetables of all kinds, so man and woman would live long and healthy lives.

And Satan developed the fast foods industry. And fast foods brought forth the 99 cent double cheeseburger. And Satan said to man, "You want fries with that?" And man said, "Supersize them." And man gained pounds.

And God created the healthful yogurt, that woman might keep her figure that man found so fair.

And Satan froze the yogurt, and he brought forth chocolate, nuts and brightly colored sprinkle candy to put on the yogurt. And woman gained pounds.

And God said, "Try my crispy fresh salad."

And Satan brought forth creamy dressings, bacon bits, and shredded cheese. And there was ice cream for dessert. And woman gained pounds.

And God said, "I have sent your heart healthy vegetables and olive oil with which to cook them."

And Satan brought forth chicken -- fried steak so big a needed its own platter. And man gained pounds, and his bad cholesterol went through the roof.

And God brought forth running shoes, and man resolved to lose those extra pounds.

And Satan brought forth cable TV with remote control so man would not have to toil to change channels between ESPN and ESPN2. And man gained pounds.

And God brought forth the potato, a vegetable naturally low in fat and brimming with nutrition.

And Satan peeled off the healthful skin and sliced the starchy center into chips and deep-fried of them. And he created sour cream dip also. And man clutched his remote control and ate the potato chips swaddled in cholesterol.

And Satan saw and said, "It is good." And man went into cardiac arrest.

And God sighed, and created a quadruple bypass surgery, angioplasties, and stents...

And Satan created HMOs...

And thus goes the battle between the God and Satan. God gives us things that are good, and Satan comes along and changes them or adds to them. We all must choose what we will do with the things that God has given to us. What will you do with your life and the things that God has given you? You must choose every day whether you will use these things for God and his glory or for yourself and the world. The choices that you make today will determine what kind of life you will have tomorrow.



CHRISTINE M. BELCHES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Christine M. Belches Memorial Scholarship fund was established in 2015 as a memorial to Christine M. Belches to provide financial assistance for ongoing educational opportunities. Christine was a long time member of Gregory Memorial and very much valued furthering the education of her own children. Her son Alan stated “she skimped and saved so that we would be able to continue our education.” The scholarship is a way to honor her memory, a tribute to his mother who struggled and worked hard to make sure he and his brother were able to go to college.

Eligible applicants include members of Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church, children and grandchildren of members of Gregory, and friends of Gregory who are actively involved and engaged in the church within the Tri-cities area.

Awards are determined by the applicant’s needs, the number of applicants and the amount available for distribution.

Applications will be accepted from Feb 1 to May 31 for Fall Semester and awarded prior to start of Fall Semester; and August 1 to November 30th for Spring Semester and awarded prior to Spring Semester.

Recipients are not obligated to repay these scholarships. They are awarded in love as part of our Christian ministry. However, we encourage former recipients, as well as others to contribute to this fund. All gifts (memorials, etc.) would be invested as part of the principal; thus, the initial gift is perpetuated and interest only will be awarded.

If a person chooses to contribute to this fund or memorials are given to this fund, a notation on the check or in writing must accompany the check. All gifts and memorials will be acknowledged and parties involved will be notified.

All applications will be handled on an individual basis and can be sent to the church office:

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

PO BOX 182

Prince George, VA 23875

Attention Christine Belches’ Scholarship Committee

Or by email: office@gregorymemorial.org

Please include in subject line Christine Belches Scholarship Application

APPLICATION FOR CHRISTINE BELSCHES SCHOLARSHIP

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: HOME _____ CELL _____

AGE: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

MEMBER OF GREGORY? YES _____ NO _____

IF NO YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO CHURCH: _____

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

AREA OF INTEREST: _____

- In 1 or 2 paragraphs tell us how Gregory or another church has impacted your life and will support you in your future endeavors. (Please attach to application)

ANTICIPATED DATE of ADMISSION, CONFERENCE, or EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM: _____

Signature: _____

After review of your application the committee will provide 2 or 3 available dates and times to meet with the scholarship committee. We would encourage you to make that a priority in your schedule.

~ NOVEMBER 2017 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 2p Reports are due for Nov. 21 Session meeting 7p Choir Practice	2 2p Church Cleaning 7p Christian Ed	3	4
5 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship Service	6	7 ELECTION DAY Preschool closed 12:30p Circle 6p Cong. Care 6p GS Tr5000 7p Facilities 7p Worship	8 7p Choir Practice	9 2p Church Cleaning	10	11 
12 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship Service	13	14 6p GS Tr553 7p Missions-Outreach	15 7p Choir Practice	16 2p Church Cleaning 2p News articles due 7p Stewardship & Financ	17	18
19 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Carson Rhyne	20 Office open	21 Office open 6p GS Tr5000 7p Session meeting	22 Office open Preschool closed (Thanksgiving) 7p Choir Practice 2p Newsletter out	23 Office closed Thanksgiving 2p Church Cleaning Preschool closed (Thanksgiving)  <i>Happy Thanksgiving! To You And Your Family</i>	24	25
26 Reign of Christ 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship Service 11a 5 Cents-a-Meal Offering 11a Reserve Poinsettias Flowers: Hunters	27	28	29 7p Choir Practice	30 2p Church Cleaning		

--

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

STAMP

NOVEMBER 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/gmpcva)
WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG