

Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my Prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now."

-Philippians 1:3-5

The congregations of the early Christian church looked very different than they do today. Today, in any given community, there might be anywhere from five to fifty congregations and worshipping communities, of varying denominations and perspectives. But in the early Christian church, it is likely that any given community would have one congregation, and one congregation alone.

That congregation would be a "house-church," and while the name is drawn from the fact that such congregations met out of the house of a patron or sponsor, it implies much, much more. As a house-church, the congregation was not just a group of friends who got together when time allowed, nor was it excluded to the biological members of the family that lived in the house. Rather, the house-church was made up of the believers in that town or community, and they all came together, all the time, for everything. Biological relations or not, they were family; they were of one house: Christ's house.

And, as mentioned, they did everything as a family. I remember when I was younger I didn't always want to do the family events that my parents scheduled; I wanted to go off and do my own thing with my friends; going to see extended family almost always conflicted with that desire. Looking back, my parents (thankfully, now) overruled my petty desires and took me to see my family; we did things together. We showed up to support one another, to see one another, to celebrate and to mourn with one another, to share and experience life with one another.

And while this was true for my biological family which was spread over a few different states, it was also

true of my church family where I grew up. We, too, were much like a house-church, and we were family. Everyone in that church was either an aunt/uncle or a grandma/grandpa. The people my age and younger were brothers and sisters. We treated each other like family, and we did everything together. It was a wonderful blessing which I took too much for granted at the time.

This is not to say that it was always rosy and perfect. There were disagreements, there was confusion and occasionally hurt feelings. There was anxiety and uncertainty about the current or future state of things. There were the crazy "black sheep" members. And this is true not only of when I was growing up but of the early Christian church, as well – the reason we have all these letters from Paul and other apostles is because these house-churches had serious questions and made serious mistakes in how to best live out the gospel.

And we are still a house-church, today. We gather together not out of habit (hopefully), but because we want to see one another, to do the meaningful things of our lives together, and to work together to see the gospel proclaimed, together. Schedules and life may get in the way a bit more so now, but we are joined together to support one another, to live out the good news of Christ, and in this, we give thanks and celebrate. We are a house-church, you are family, and I can't wait to see you again!

With you on the journey,
Pastor Jason



WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR MAY, 2018

Sunday, 6 May 2018

“Firefighters’ Appreciation Sunday”
 “6th Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White
 1st Reading: Luke 9:46-48
 2nd Reading: Philippians 1:1-18a
 Sermon: “The Source of Greatness”

Sunday, 13 May 2018

“7th Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White
 1st Reading: Luke 6:43-45 * 2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-18
 Sermon: “The Fruit of Our Hearts”

Sunday, 20 May 2018

“Day of Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Red
 1st Reading: John 14:16-17 * 2nd Reading: Acts 2:1-21
 Sermon: “New Beginnings”

Sunday, 27 May 2018

“Trinity Sunday” - Liturgical Color: White
 1st Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 * 2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7
 Sermon: “The Lord is Near”



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, & her brother, Martin (health issues)
 Becky Smith
 Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix’s grandson (health issues)
 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
 Michelle Coleman (health issues & recovery)
 Courtney Stewart, friend of the Hunters (Duke Hospital)
 Jane Arehart, Glenda Mayhew’s friend (health issues)
 Gene Vasek (health issue)
 Gladys Wiseman
 Steve “Dee” Shortt, Kim Helmer Shortt’s husband (health issue)
 Verne & Clara Smith

Brenda Wahl, Keith Spain’s mother (health issues)
 Leigh Primmer, PG County Finance Dept. (health issue)
 Scott Guelcher, friend of Larry Johnson (health issues)
 Carol Knight, friend of Rose Scott (health issues)
 Karen Titmus & family, friends of the Wiseman/Scott families
 (health concerns)
 Donna Fields-Duvall, Sheila Fields’ daughter (recovering
 from surgery)
 Rev. Pat Elder
 Charlie Perkins
 Sharon Noblin, Susan Shockley’s neighbor (caregiver concerns)
 Elizabeth & H. F. Scott, Jr. (H. F. is recovering from surgery)
 Grace Cibula
 Travis Walker & family (preparing for transition to Ft. Drum, NY)
 Family/friends of Helen Cibula (d. 4/9)
 Family/friends of Paul Cerny, Jr. (d. 4/13)
 Family/friends of Nace Metzner (Susan Shockley’s neighbor’s mom)
 The Bennett family (home destroyed by fire)
 Friends/family of Michael Bogese, Jr. (d. 4/25)
 Friends/family of Karen Lewis Havard, wife of William
 "Bill" Havard (d. 4/ 22)

“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” Psalm 46:10

ANNOUNCEMENTS



GATEKEEPER:

Gregg Webber

Remember to join us for worship on **Sunday, May 6, "Firefighters' Appreciation Sunday"**, as we celebrate the service of some of our local firefighters and show appreciation by feeding them a good meal following service! More information later, including a sign-up sheet for anyone who can help out!

MAY 1: Circle, 1 p.m.; **Congregational Care Com.** 6 p.m.; **GS Tr. 5000**, 6.p.m.; **Facilities Com.**, 7 p.m.

MAY 2: Choir practice, 7 p.m.

MAY 6: "Firefighters' Appreciation Sunday"; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; **Worship**, 11 a.m.; **Firefighters' Appreciation Luncheon**, Fellowship Hall, 12:30 p.m.

MAY 7: Worship Com., 7 p.m.

MAY 8: GS Tr. 553, Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m.

MAY 9: Choir practice, 7 p.m.

MAY 10: Missions-Outreach Com., 7 p.m.

MAY 12: Bull Hill Road Trash Pick-up (Missions-Outr. Com. & Boy Scouts), volunteers meet in GMPC parking lot before proceeding to pick-up site, 8:30 a.m.

MAY 13: "Mothers' Day"; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; **Worship, Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering**, 11 a.m.

MAY 15: GS Tr. 5000, 6 p.m.; **Session meeting**, 7 p.m.

MAY 16: Choir practice, 7 p.m.

MAY 17: Newsletter articles due in church office, 2 p.m.; **Stewardship & Finance Com.**, 7 p.m.

MAY 19: The James House Vendor Fair in GMPC parking lots & Fellowship Hall, 8 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

MAY 20: "Pentecost Sunday"; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; **Worship, Pentecost Offering**, 11 a.m.

MAY 21: Boy Scouts Crater District Adult Leaders awards dinner, 6 p.m.

MAY 23: Choir practice, 7 p.m.

MAY 24: Newsletter out, 2 p.m.; **Preschool Graduation**, 6:30 p.m.

MAY 27: "Trinity Sunday"; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; **Worship, 5 Cents A Meal Offering**, 11 a.m.

MAY 29: GS Tr. 5000, 6.p.m.

MAY 30: Choir practice, 7 p.m.

MAY 31: All applications for Christine Belsches Memorial Scholarship for Fall 2018 Semester must be received at church by May 31. **Committee reports due** in office, 2 p.m.

EVENTS COMING UP

- 5/6: Firefighters' Appreciation Lunch
- 5/13: Mothers' Day
- 6/17: Fathers' Day
- 6/24: Sunday in the Park
- 6/26: Puppet Show
- 7/20: Family Night
- 7/22: GMPC Workcamp Week begins
- 8/7: National Night Out
- 8/9: "Faith Night" at Flying Squirrels Ballgame, The Diamond


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

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

MAY 6	
MAY 13	
MAY 20	
MAY 27	Rose Scott

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 – MAY, 2018

 GATEKEEPER: Gregg Webber	MAY. 6 6 th Sunday of Easter "Firefighters' Appreciation Sunday"	MAY. 13 7 th Sunday of Easter "Mother's Day"	MAY. 20 Day of Pentecost	MAY. 27 Trinity Sunday
Ushers	Wayne Powers Brenda Bond Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew	Sheila Fields Janet Shill Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh	John Carl Allen Dianne Overstreet Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Charles Smyth Jared Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram
Announcements	Rose Scott	Dianne Overstreet	Valerie Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter
Junior Sermon	Valerie Harsh	Minister	Patsy Johnson	Pat Hunter*
Junior Church	Marguerite Bishop	Mary Holc	Lisa Brown	Tara Foster
Counting	Morgan Ingram Rose Scott	Donald Hunter Glenda Mayhew	David Johnson Ron Recher	Sandy Hunter Susan Shockley

*Also 5 Cents A Meal Offering

**WHAT'S JASON READING?**

For church: "Brushed by the Sacred" (Lee Beckes)

For fun: "The New Dad's Survival Guide: Man-to-Man Advice for First-Time Fathers" (Scott Mactavish)

For school: Nothing new; reviewing previous books while continuing to work on project.

**SUMMER FUN!!!**

By Patsy Johnson

The Christian Education Committee has been hard at work planning some summer activities that will not only be fun for our congregation, but will also offer you the opportunity to invite families to join us in fellowship, thus ultimately leading them to join us for worship. Here is the schedule of events:

June 26--- Christian Puppet Show followed by Ice Cream Sundaes!

A group from Suffolk will be coming to our church to present this show that will be geared to all ages. A good Christian message and tunes that lots of us will remember will be featured.

July 20---Entertainer Chris Campbell and a Cook-Out!!!

Chris is very active in his church in Glen Allen and is a performer that offers good family entertainment. He has written many children's songs and offers comedy and ventriloquism as part of his show. A cook-out dinner featuring hamburgers and hotdogs will precede Chris' show.

August 9---Faith Night at The Diamond!!

We have already reserved 20 field level seats at The Diamond for this special night. Christian music and testimonies by some of the Flying Squirrels' players will be featured. The night will be topped off with

fireworks. We will sign-up for tickets for this event beginning in May. Also, if we have more than 20 people that would like to attend, the management has assured me that we can get more field level seats.

Plans for Back to Church Sunday are in the works but we are not ready to reveal our surprises yet. We will only say that we are trying to make this a very special occasion with some different types of activities.

Be sure to mark your calendars!!! You won't want to miss any of these activities and also be sure to bring some friends!!

"BRIGHTENING YOUR DAY"**Take Time**

Take time to laugh
It is the music of the soul.



Take time to think
It is the source of power.

Take time to play
It is the source of perpetual youth.

Take time to read
It is the fountain of wisdom.
Take time to pray
It is the greatest power on earth.

Take time to love and be loved
It is a God-given privilege.

Take time to be friendly
It is the road to happiness.

Take time to give
It is too short a day to be selfish.

Take time to work
It is the price of success.
- Anonymous

Just For Today

Decide to be happy today, to live with what is yours - your family, your business, your job, your luck. If you can't have what you like, maybe you can like what you have.

Just for today, be kind, cheerful, agreeable, responsive, caring, and understanding. Be your best, dress your best, talk softly, and look for the bright side of things. Praise people for what they do and do not criticize them for what they cannot do. If someone does something stupid, forgive and forget. After all, it's just for one day.

Who knows... it might turn out to be a nice day!

- Anonymous

AN OPEN LETTER FROM GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESCHOOL
Janet W. Lammey, Preschool Director



May 1, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians of Preschoolers,

Registration has begun for the 2018-2019 Academic School year! As you already know, Gregory Memorial Preschool is a balanced program where your child will grow and learn in a cheerful, nurturing, and stimulating environment that emphasizes a love for learning.

Our curriculum focuses on the whole child by providing opportunities for social, emotional, and cognitive development. We incorporate English, math, science, Bible lessons, arts, music, and physical development in preparation for your child's kindergarten experience. Our classrooms and creative materials encourage interaction to promote your child's means of expression, creativity, problem-solving, and thinking. Playing with others, participating in small and large group activities, and following directions all help to enhance your child's emotional development.

The goal of our Preschool is to create a warm and caring environment to assist children in reaching their fullest learning potential. We believe that our Preschool objectives can be met in a 3-day learning program. While we will continue to operate on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, we will be shifting our timeframe to **9 a.m. – 12 p.m. (Noon)** and will ask each parent to send a snack for their child, rather than a full lunch. This will provide us a greater amount of time to focus on academics.

Throughout the past 30 years, our child-centered curriculum, as well as our Gregory Memorial Preschool families, have made our program one of the most desired in Prince George County. Once again, our Preschool will offer a \$50 referral bonus, which can be used toward your child(ren)'s fees or tuition for the 2018-2019 academic year, if you refer a family who enrolls and begins our program in September of 2018. Upon the referred family starting our program, we will contact you in order to see how you would like your credit applied.

Thank you for making the 2017-2018 school year wonderful. We look forward to working with you and your child(ren) in 2018-2019!

With warmest regards,
Janet W. Lammey, Director

P.S.:

Our Preschool is looking for volunteers to assist with project paperwork (scissors-work such as making cut-outs for the Preschool students to use in their daily activities and related tasks that are too complex for tiny hands to accomplish). If you are interested in assisting the Preschool in this capacity, *OR* to place your name on the Substitute Teacher List that we are building, ***please contact Janet Lammey, Preschool Director by calling 804.203.3061.***



Gregory Memorial Preschool 2018-2019 Registration Form



Registration for the 2018-2019 School Year will begin March 1, 2018. Please contact Janet Lammey, Preschool Director, via phone 804-203-3061 or email gregorymemorialps@hotmail.com to check availability of openings for enrollment.

Eligibility: Children must be 3 years of age by September 30 of the current school year. A copy of each child's birth certificate from their state of birth, as well as a copy of the child's immunization record is requested at registration and will be kept on file by the preschool.

Registration & Fees: Return completed registration form with \$50.00 *non-refundable registration fee* within two weeks to ensure a position in our program. *Tuition, in the amount of \$145*, will be due the 1st of each month. A *one-time supply fee of \$75* will be due by orientation, which will be held the last week of August. **All checks payable to "Gregory Memorial Preschool"**. Completed registration forms should be mailed to:

Gregory Memorial Preschool
P.O. Box 182
Prince George, VA 23875

Parents will be notified in August with additional information regarding orientation.

Child's Full Name: _____ **Nickname:** _____
Address: _____ **Birthdate:** _____
City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Mother's Full Name: _____ **Primary Phone:** _____
Home Address: _____ **Secondary Phone:** _____
 (City, State, Zip): _____ **Work Hours:** _____
Business Address: _____ **Work Phone:** _____
Email Address: _____

Father's Full Name: _____ **Primary Phone:** _____
Home Address: _____ **Secondary Phone:** _____
 (City, State, Zip): _____ **Work Hours:** _____
Business Address: _____ **Work Phone:** _____
Email Address: _____

Guardian's Full Name: _____ **Primary Phone:** _____
Home Address: _____ **Secondary Phone:** _____
 (City, State, Zip): _____ **Work Hours:** _____
Business Address: _____ **Work Phone:** _____
Email Address: _____

Emergency Contacts (other than Parent/Guardian)

Primary Emergency Contact Name: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Secondary Emergency Contact Name: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Person(s) authorized to pick up child (other than those listed above):

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Person(s) NOT authorized to pick up child:

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Photo Release

I, (parent/guardian name) _____,
DO/DO NOT (circle one) authorize Gregory Memorial Preschool to publish photos of
my child(ren): (name(s)) _____ on Gregory Memorial
Preschool's website and Facebook account.

Signature _____ **Date:** _____

Volunteer Opportunities

We love our volunteers, and our preschool thrives because of all of you! Please indicate the name and phone number of you and/or your family member(s) in the spaces below regarding how you would like to volunteer with our preschool:

_____ Available to assist in the classroom (select day(s) below)

() Tuesday () Wednesday () Thursday

_____ Available to assist in preparing materials for lessons.

_____ Assist with Career Day (please indicate the name and phone number of your child's family member's names in the space provided below if available for our Career Day Visits):

_____ Police Officer	_____ Farmer
_____ Soldier	_____ Nurse
_____ Mail Carrier	_____ Bus Driver
_____ Veterinarian	_____ Dentist/ Hygienist

() Assist in another capacity indicated in the space below:

Office Use Only

Registration Fee (\$50): _____ Supply Fee (\$75): _____ September Tuition (\$145): _____
Birth Certificate: _____ Immunization Records: _____

GATEKEEPER: Gregg Webber

MAY, 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 1:00p Circle 6p Cong. Care 6p GS Tr5000 7p Facilities	2 7p Choir Practice	3 2p Church Cleaning	4	5
6 "FIREFIGHTERS' APPRECIATION SUNDAY" 9:45a Sunday Sch. 11a Worship serv. 12:30p Firefighters' Appreciation Luncheon, Fellowship Hall	7 7p Worship Com.	8 6p GS Tr553	9 7p Choir Practice	10 2p Church Cleaning 2p Session agenda out 7p Missions-Outreach Com.	11	12 8:30a Bull Hill Rd Trash Pick-up. (Missions-Outreach Com. & Boy Scouts), meet at GMPC parking lot first, then proceed to Pick-up site
13 'MOTHER'S DAY' 9:45a Sunday Sch. 11a Worship serv. 11a Presby. Women's Birthday Offering	14	15 6p GS Tr5000 7p Session meeting	16 7p Choir Practice	17 2p Church Cleaning 2p News articles due 7p Stewardship & Finance	18	19 8a-2p The James House Vendors Fair, Fellowship Hall & parking lots
20 "PENTECOST SUNDAY" 9:45a Sunday Sch. 11a Worship serv. 11a Pentecost Offering	21 1-9p BS Crater Dist. Meeting (6p dinner) Fellowship Hall	22	23 7p Choir Practice	24 LAST DAY OF PRESCHOOL 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR. 2p Church Cleaning 2p Newsletter out 6:30p Presch. Graduation	25	26
27 "TRINITY SUNDAY" 9:45a Sunday Sch. 11a Worship serv. 11a 5 Cents-a-Meal Offering	28	29 6p GS Tr5000	30 7p Choir practice	31 Last day to submit applications for Christine Belsches Mem. Scholarship (Fall 2018 Semester) 2p Church Cleaning 2p Committee reports due		

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

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STAMP

MAY 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*