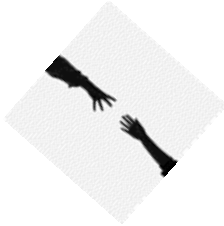


Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



"If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's." *Romans 14:8*

"Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so too we might walk in newness of life." *Romans 6:4*

"The Thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly." *John 10:10*

I was probably ten or eleven years old that summer at camp, when my cabin-counselor brought with him his dog. I couldn't tell the dog's breed, or name even, but what I do remember is that he was good-natured and loved to play and was excellent around all us kids. I also remember that this dog was about half my height (though memory has a way of exaggerating the truth).

What I remember more clearly is the afternoon my counselor agreed to let me have the leash while we were walking from one activity to another. Most of us had been given turns walking this dog, and as I mentioned, he was good with us. But on this occasion he happened to see a squirrel "over there" which he decided he needed to be introduced to, and so he took off at full speed and strength. You may recall that I mentioned this dog was about half my height, and seeing as how I'm not that big to begin with, you might imagine what happened! Dog takes off at a full sprint, and here I am holding on to the leash flying out behind him like a streamer!

OK, that isn't really what happened. It's more likely that I was pulled off my balance and fell forward a few inches, and dropped the leash when I hit the ground, but again, memory exaggerates the truth. What I do remember is that I wasn't all that interested in walking the dog again the rest of that week. And I have since learned (and relearned, over and over) that there are many things in this life which, if I were to try and control them, would instead knock me off balance and onto the ground (metaphorically speaking).

My "star word" of a couple weeks ago was "Acceptance." That will likely have any number of meanings for me in the coming year, but one aspect which already comes to the front is accepting this lesson again:

there are situations and occasions in life in which I have no control. I can't control when any of us may die...I can't control what the weather will do...I can't control when Carrie will need to eat or be changed...and I can't control the future of the church.

But accepting that there are things I can't control does not mean that I (or we, for that matter) are called to do nothing. In fact, quite the opposite is true: even though there are things we can't control, we are equipped and called upon to respond in faith, and to offer what we can. I can't control when someone may die, but I can enable and affirm someone's living in the abundance which Christ offers. I can't control Carrie's timing of when she needs to eat, but I can have a bottle ready for her. I can't control the future of our church, but I can point our vision back to the one who is loving and faithful, the One in whom we place our trust, in whose hands we rest.

There is much we can do – in this world, in our lives, in our community and for our church – and we are called and equipped to do no less than what we are capable. We are anointed in the Holy Spirit to offer all gifts for the realization of God's Kingdom, the spreading of Christ's good news, and the glory of the One who is our Alpha and Omega. We should do no less than this. And when we have done all that we are capable of doing, we are invited to rest in the presence of our Lord, taking comfort in the reality that God is the one in control, and not us.

With you on the journey,  
Pastor Jason





**WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR FEBRUARY, 2019**



**Sunday, 3 February 2019**

“4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany” - Liturgical Color: Green  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Psalm 20:7 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Matthew 6:7-21  
 Sermon: "Humble Pride"

**Sunday, 10 February 2019 - "Scouts Sunday"**

“5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany” - Liturgical Color: Green  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Psalm 37:16-18 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29  
 Sermon: "Full Abundance"

**Sunday, 17 February 2019**

“6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany” - Liturgical Color: Green  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Psalm 84:1-7 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Matthew 13:24-43  
 Sermon: "Faith Renewed"

**Sunday, 24 February 2019**

“7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany” - Liturgical Color: Green  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Psalm 95:1-5 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Matthew 14:13-33  
 Sermon: "Room at the Table"



**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.

Amy Townson, Josh Ingram’s sister  
 Doris Karnowski, Josh Ingram’s grandmother  
 Mary Chadwick, Dink Armstrong’s sister  
 Evelyn Lichvar, brother, Martin, & her son, Rick  
 (health issues)  
 Becky Smith  
 Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix’s grandson (health  
 issues)  
 Kenneth Andrews, Childress family’s friend  
 Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew’s brother  
 Courtney Stewart, friend of the Hunters (Duke  
 Hospital)  
 Jane Arehart, Glenda Mayhew’s friend (health  
 issues)  
 Gladys Wiseman  
 Steve “Dee” Shortt, Kim Helmer Shortt’s husband  
 (health issue)  
 Verne & Clara Smith  
 Scott Guelcher, friend of Larry Johnson (health  
 issues)

Sharon Entwistle (friend of Barb Taliaferro)  
 Elizabeth Scott  
 Peggy Allen  
 Dink Armstrong’s sister, “Shorty” (health issue)  
 Eddie Frankenstein  
 Erle Potter, good family friend of Haskys (in treatment for  
 health issue)  
 Grace Cibula  
 Richard Harsh  
 Nancy Willis, grandmother of Corey Whelan, who’s also  
 Pat Hunter’s grandson (terminal diagnosis)  
 Carol Bowman, Sharon Entwistle’s mother (health issue)  
 Michelle Daschner, PG Fire & EMS office intern (health  
 issue)  
 Pam Henry, Mary Holc’s family member (health issue)  
 Dennis Allen (recovering from hip replacement surgery)  
 Larry Hicks, husband of Doreen Hicks (health concerns)  
 Donna Wilson (daughter of Doreen Hicks)  
 Doris Harmison (Colonial Heights Health Care)

*"Christ is the unseen head of every house, the unseen guest at every meal, and the silent listener to every conversation." Unknown*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



**GATEKEEPER**  
Doug Holc

**FEB. 3:** Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.;  
Worship service and Holy Communion,  
11 a.m.

**FEB. 4:** Worship Com., 1 p.m.

**FEB. 5:** Circle, 1 p.m.; Congregational  
Care Com., 6 p.m.; **GS Tr5000**,  
Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m.

**FEB. 6:** Choir practice, 7 p.m.

**FEB. 9:** Cub Scout Crossover event,  
Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall, 2-6 p.m.;  
Choir practice, 7 p.m.

**FEB. 10: "Scouts Sunday"; Sunday  
school, 9:45 a.m.; Worship service,**  
11 a.m.; last day to purchase TWC  
"Coffee/Tea"fund-raiser items;  
**Tri-Cities 2019 Workcamp Planning  
Meeting,** Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m.

**FEB. 11: Crater Dist. Order of Arrow  
Cyber Awareness Class,** Sanctuary/  
Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m. (*open to public*)

**FEB. 12: Missions-Outreach Com.,** 7 p.m.

**FEB. 13: Choir practice,** 7 p.m.

**FEB. 14: Valentine's Day; News articles  
due,** 2 p.m.

**FEB. 17: Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.;**  
**Worship,** 11 a.m.

**FEB. 19: PG Fire & EMS meeting,**

8 a.m., Fellowship Hall; **GS Tr5000**,  
Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m.

**FEB. 20: Choir practice,** 7 p.m.

**FEB. 21: Newsletter out, 2 p.m.;**  
**Stewardship & Finance Com.,** 7 p.m.

**FEB. 24: Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.;**  
**Worship,** 11 a.m.; **5 Cents A Meal  
Offering,** 11 a.m.

**FEB. 27: Mail annual POJ reports,**  
2 p.m.; **Choir practice,** 7 p.m.


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

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

FEBRUARY 3	
FEBRUARY 10	
FEBRUARY 17	
FEBRUARY 24	

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

THOSE WHO SERVE – FEBRUARY, 2019

 <b>GATEKEEPER:</b> Doug Holc	FEB. 3	FEB. 10 "Scouts Sunday"	FEB. 17	FEB. 24
<b>Ushers</b>	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Larry Johnson	SCOUTS	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Shill Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh	John Carl Allen Dianne Overstreet Rose Scott Wayne Powers
<b>Announcements</b>	Larry Johnson	SCOUTS	Dianne Overstreet	Valerie Harsh
<b>Junior Sermon</b>	Valerie Harsh	SCOUTS	Patsy Johnson	Susan Walker*
<b>Nursery</b>	Marguerite Bishop Blake Bishop	Lisa Brown Evelyn Foster	Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Megan Cashing Shirley MacNeill
<b>Counting</b>	Sandy Hunter Susan Shockley	Morgan Ingram Blake Bishop	Donald Hunter Megan Cashing	David Johnson Rose Scott


\*5 Cents a Meal Offering



**TRICITIES WORKCAMP FUND-RAISER: COFFEE or TEA?** TWC Youth are doing a "Coffee or Tea" fundraiser. Purchase of coffee or tea through them gets you a quality product and helps raise funds toward the cost of Workcamp 2019! If you're interested, *get in touch with a camper by February 10!*

**OUR CHRISTMAS MISSION: THE PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN’S HOME OF THE HIGHLANDS**

Here's what we collected:

10 Standard Pillows	Numerous Personal Items	
13 sets of Twin Sheets	Lots of Laundry Products	
4 Blankets /Throws	10 Bath Towels	
3 Comforters	2 Large packages of Wash Cloths	
2 Pillow Protectors	4 sets of Towels	
1 Flat Twin Sheet	5 Clock Radios	
10 sets of Kitchen Towels/Mitts	\$250 in various Gift Cards	
Paper Towels/Toilet Tissue	\$100 in cash	

The items were picked up here at the church by Zac Carter, Development Officer at the Home. The morning that I called to ask about delivering the items, I was told that they had a person in the area that possibly could pick up the items.

Zac was in Northern VA visiting some churches and was headed back to Wytheville that day. He phoned me and we were able to meet at the church that afternoon for pick up. It just amazes me sometimes that when you serve the Lord, how he lays out the path for you to follow. This was truly a "God Wink"! - *Sandy Hunter*

**TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY**

**Marquee Sayings for Lent:**

- Don't wait for the hearse to take you to church.
- It's hard to stumble when you're down on your knees.
- What part of "Thou Shalt Not" don't you understand?
- A clear conscience makes a soft pillow.
- The wages of sin is death. Repent before payday.
- Never give the devil a ride. He will always want to drive.
- Forbidden fruit creates many jams.
- Christians, keep the faith...but not from others!
- Satan subtracts and divides. God adds and multiplies.
- To belittle is to be little.
- Don't let the littleness in others bring out the littleness in you.
- Try Jesus. *If you don't like Him, the devil will always take you back.*

**"Belly-up to the bar, boys..."**

A bartender noticed that every evening, without fail, one of his patrons ordered 3 beers. After several weeks of noticing this pattern, the bartender asked the man why he always ordered 3 beers. The man said, "I have 2 brothers who have moved away to different countries. We promised each other that we will always order an extra 2 beers whenever we drink as a way of keeping up the family bond."

Several weeks later, noticing that the man only ordered 2 beers, the bartender said, "Please accept my condolences on the death of one of your brothers. You know, the two beers and all..."

The man replied, "You'll be happy to hear that my 2 brothers are alive and well. *It's just that I, myself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent.*"

**Getting Ready for Lent**

- If you can start the day without caffeine or pills,
- If you can understand when loved ones are too busy to give you time,
- If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
- If you can face the world without lies and deceit,
- If you can relax without having a drink of liquor,
- If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,
- If you can do all these things, *then you are probably the family dog.*



FEBRUARY, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service 11a Holy Communion	<b>4</b> 1p Worship Com.	5 1p Circle 6p Cong. Care Com. 6p GS Tr5000	6 7p Choir practice	7 2p Church Cleaning	8	9 2p Cub Scout Pack 910 Crossover event, Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall, (2-6p)
<b>10 "Scouts Sunday"</b> 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service 11a TWC "Coffee/Tea fund-raiser deadline" 6p Tri-Cities Workcamp planning meeting	<b>11</b> 6p Crater Distr. OA Cyber Awareness Class, Sanctuary/ Fellowship Hall	<b>12</b> 7p Missions Com.	<b>13</b> 7p Choir practice	<b>14 "St. Valentine's Day"</b> 2p Church Cleaning 2p News articles due in office	15	16
<b>17</b> 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service	<b>18 "Presidents' Day"</b>	<b>19</b> 8a PG Fire & EMS meeting 6p GS Tr5000	<b>20</b> 7p Choir practice	<b>21</b> 2p Church Cleaning 2p Newsletter out 7p Stewardship & Finance Com.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service 11a 5 Cents-a-Meal Offering	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 2p Mail POJ annual reports 7p Choir practice	<b>28</b> 2p Church Cleaning 2p Committee reports due in office		

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

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***FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER***



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

*We're on: Facebook.com/gmpcva*  
*Sermons on Youtube.com*  
**WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG**