

Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

-Galatians 6:9-10

Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

-John 12:26

“And if this man should fall, who will take up the standard in his stead?”

One of the movies I resonated with the most during my formative years of middle and high school was *Glory*, the dramatization of the story of the first African-American regiment during the Civil War, the 54th Massachusetts Infantry. Led by Col. Robert Gould Shaw (depicted by a much younger Matthew Broderick), the movie follows the regiment from its formation to its culminating role in the assault on Fort Wagner, South Carolina. Prior to this assault, as the soldiers stood at the ready, these above words were asked, so that if one should fall, the standard and the cause would continue. It's a somewhat minor moment, but has deep ramifications.

In our lives of faith, we are committed to service: serving our Lord, who makes life and faith possible in the first place; serving God, who has created us in relationship with God and all aspects of creation; serving each other and our communities, that the Light of Christ might show through us and all would be strengthened. Service in the name of Christ is a foundational aspect of our lives of faith, so much so that it is incorporated into the vows of ordination within our Church – whether ruling elder or teaching elder, one of the questions asked encourages the active participation in the councils of the Church, sharing in the work of government and discipline. [PC(U.S.A.) *Book of Order*, W-4.4003i].

Despite this, it seems that the idea of service becomes a threat more than an invitation. I have actively heard the comment that someone would rather avoid becoming a church member than feel the call of serving the church; that an elder would rather avoid participating

in presbytery or synod because it would just lead to more commitments. Time is a scarce resource, energy is a fading commodity, and the fear of not knowing what to do undergirds it all.

This misconception about service – to the church and to each other, to our God and in the name of our Lord – is slowly choking the church and hindering its growth. And while I am certainly not going to sit here and attempt to guilt anyone into service (reluctant servers can just as easily do more harm than good), I would like to offer a counter-point: *In all my years of service, in all the capacities I have engaged, I have never had an occasion where my awareness of spirituality and depth of communion with Christ and his body have not been deepened in a life-affirming way.* I have never walked away from an occasion of service and thought, ‘I can’t believe I did all that and got nothing out of it.’ In truth, I have always received a deeper sense of connection to my brothers and sisters in faith along with a renewed appreciation for the Church. Why, then, wouldn’t I want to serve?

“If this man should fall, who will then take up the standard?” While service in the church may not be as risky as charging a fort, the question convicts me all the same: In what ways am I able to serve, and allow Christ to use me and the gifts I have been given? In what ways are you? And remember, Christ himself proclaims that his burden is light and his yoke is easy; when we serve in His name, the rewards are joyfully unimaginable.

With you on the journey,
Pastor Jason



WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR JULY, 2019

Sunday, 7 July 2019

“4th Sunday after Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Psalm 30:1-12 * 2nd Reading: Matthew 5:1-7:29
 Sermon Title: “The Sermon on the Mount”

Sunday, 14 July 2019

“5th Sunday after Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Psalm 82:1-8 * 2nd Reading: Luke 10:25-37
 Sermon Title: “Go and Do Likewise”

Sunday, 21 July 2019

“6th Sunday after Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Green
 "Tri-Cities Workcamp Week"
 1st Reading: Psalm 52:1-9 * 2nd Reading: Luke 10:38-42
 Sermon Title: “Be Welcomed”

Sunday, 28 July 2019

“7th Sunday after Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Psalm 85:1-13 * 2nd Reading: Luke 11:1-13
 Sermon Title: “Persevering Prayer”



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.

<p>Amy Townson, Josh Ingram’s sister Doris Karnowski, Josh Ingram’s grandmother Mary Chadwick, Dink Armstrong’s sister Evelyn Lichvar (moved to North Carolina) Becky Smith & her mother, Elizabeth Scott Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix’s grandson (health issues) Kenneth Andrews, Childress family’s friend Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew’s brother Gladys Wiseman Steve “Dee” Shortt, Kim Helmer Shortt’s husband (health issue) Verne & Clara Smith Sharon Entwistle, Barbara Taliaferro's friend Peggy Allen Dink Armstrong’s sister, “Shorty” (health issue) Eddie Frankenstein Grace Cibula Nancy Willis, Corey Whelan's grandmother (terminal diagnosis) Carol Bowman, Sharon Entwistle’s mother (health issue) Pam Henry, Mary Holc’s family member (health issue)</p>	<p>Larry Hicks, Doreen Hicks's husband (health concerns) Donna Wilson, Doreen Hicks's daughter Billy Robertson (health issue) Jo Hatfield, Larry & Linda Johnson's friend (injuries from a fall) Jerry Hasky (health issue) Moneka Surprenant, Sandy Eickmeyer's friend Gwen Spicer Shea, Dianne Overstreet's friend Joseph & Lindsay Paul (newborn twins born prematurely) Cathy Rackley, friend of Doreen Hicks (heart catheterization) Ed Seldon, future son-in-law of Doreen Hicks (upcoming heart catheterization) Judy Helm, Doug Holc's friend (health issues) Doris Harmison (The Crossings at Ironbridge, Chester, Va.) Tom Merritt (health issues) Melvin Huff, Marguirite Bishop's friend (health issues) Duane Callis, grandson of Larry Hicks (diabetes complications) Mark Cheriton, Janet Swinton’s son-in-law (returned health issues) Montag Saldana, preemie born of friends of Susan Shockley</p>
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"Faith enables persons to be persons because it lets God be God." Carter Lindberg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jason will be on vacation the Sundays of July 7 and July 14; worship, planned by him, will be led by elders of our congregation on these days.



GATEKEEPER: Bobby Allen

Choir is on hiatus Jul. 1-Aug. 13.

July 1: Congregational Care Com., 6 p.m.; Facilities Com., 7 p.m.

July 4: Independence Day Holiday. (Church office open 9 a.m.-2 p.m.)

July 7: Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Worship service, 11 a.m.; Tri-Cities Workcamp plan meeting, 6 p.m.

July 8: Worship Com., 1 p.m.

July 9: Missions-Outreach Com., 7 p.m.

July 14: Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Worship service, 11 a.m.

July 18: Newsletter articles due in church office, 2 p.m.; **Stewardship & Finance Com., 7 p.m.**

July 21: "GMPC's Tri-Cities Workcamp Week"; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Worship service, GMPC Workcamp Team commissioning, 11 a.m.; Session meeting, 12:30 p.m.

July 22: Tri-Cities Workcamp -Workcamp team lunch host: Christian Ed.Com.

July 23: Tri-Cities Workcamp -Workcamp team lunch host: Missions-Outreach Com.

July 24: Tri-Cities Workcamp -Workcamp team lunch host: Congregational Care Com.

July 25: Tri-Cities Workcamp -Workcamp team lunch host: Worship Com.; Newsletter out, 2 p.m.

July 26: Tri-Cities Workcamp -Workcamp team lunch host: Facilities Com.

July 27: Last day at Tri-Cities Workcamp; pick-up Workcampers from Col. Hgts. Middle School, 500 Conduit Rd., 8:30 a.m.

July 28: Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Worship service, 11 a.m.; 5-Cents-A-Meal Offering, 11 a.m.

July 31: Committee reports due, 2 p.m.

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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

JULY 7	
JULY 14	
JULY 21	
JULY 28	

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 – JULY, 2019

GATEKEEPER: 🔑 Bobby Allen	JUL. 7 4 th Sun. after Pente.	JUL. 14 5 th Sun. after Pente.	JUL. 21 6 th Sun. after Pente.	JUL. 28 7 th Sun. after Pente.
Ushers	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Shill Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh	John Carl Allen 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
Nursery	Valerie Harsh Sandy Hunter	Mary Webber Donald Hunter	Linda Johnson Mary Lykins	Donna Allen Mary Holc
Counting	Donald Hunter Susan Shockley	David Johnson Blake Bishop	Sandy Hunter Megan Cashing	Morgan Ingram (Sub.)

*Also 5 Cents a Meal Offering

GMPC'S WEEK AT TRI-CITIES WORKCAMP IS JULY 21-27! We will commission our 2019 Gregory Workcampers during morning worship on **Sunday, July 21**. They will appreciate your prayers and support as we send them off for the week. A list of campers will be available in the Church office. This year's Workcamp base is: Colonial Heights Middle School, 500 Conduit Road, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

<p><u>Lunch providers for Workcamp Week:</u> Mon., July 22: Christian Ed Tues., July 23: Missions-Outreach Wed., July 24: Congregational Care Thurs., July 25: Worship Com. Fri., July 26: Facilities Com.</p>	<p><u>Mailing address for Workcampers is:</u> [Camper's name], c/o Tri-Cities Workcamp 2019, P. O. Box 1761, Petersburg, VA 23805</p>
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Visitors to Workcamp site must first check in at the Workcamp base at the school and be over the age of 18 and with a government-issued picture I.D. If you would like to attend the closing ceremonies for Workcamp 2019, come to Colonial Heights Middle School at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 27. **Thanks for giving us another year of your terrific support, Gregory congregation!**

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY

Forrest Gump and St. Peter.....

When Forrest Gump died, he stood in front of St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter said, "Welcome, Forrest. We've heard a lot about you." He continued, "Unfortunately, it's getting pretty crowded up here, and we find that we now have to give people an entrance examination before we let them in."

"Okay," said Forrest. "I hope it's not too hard. I've already been through a test. My Momma used to say, 'Life is like a final exam. It's hard.'"

"Yes, Forrest, I know. But this test is only three questions. Here they are."

#1) Which two days of the week begin with the letter "T"?"

#2) How many seconds are in a year?

#3) What is God's first name?

"Well, sir," said Forrest, "The first one is easy. Which two days of the week begin with the letter 'T'? *Today and Tomorrow.*"

St. Peter looked surprised and said, "Well, that wasn't the answer I was looking for, but you have a point. I give you credit for that answer."

"The next question," said Forest, "How many seconds are in a year? Answer's 12."

"Twelve?" asked St. Peter in surprise.

Excitedly, Forrest answered, *"Yes, sir! January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd ..."*

St. Peter interrupted him. "I see what you mean, Forrest. I'll have to give you credit for that one, too."

"And that last question," said Forrest, "What is God's first name? Well, it's Andy."

"Andy?" asked St. Peter, in shock. "How ever did you come up with 'Andy'?"

"Oh, I learned it in church. We used to sing about it all the time there." Then Forrest broke into song, *"Andy walks with me, Andy talks with me, Andy tells me I am His own."*

St. Peter opened the gate to heaven and loudly proclaimed, ***"Run, Forrest, Run!"***

How to Get Into Heaven.....

When a man died and met St. Peter at the Pearly Gates, St. Peter explained, "Here's how it works. You need to have 100 points to get into heaven. Points are assigned for each of the good things you've done."

"Well," said the man. "I was happily married to the same woman for 52 years. I never looked at another woman. I was attentive and loved her dearly."

"That's great," said St. Peter. "That'll be two points."

"Hmmm," said the man. "This is going to be harder than I thought. Well, I attended church regularly, volunteered my time and tithed faithfully."

"Wonderful," said St. Peter, "That's worth another point."

"One point!" said the man. "Okay, okay. I was involved with a prison ministry for 25 years. I went into the prison, at least monthly, and shared Jesus with them."

"Wow!" said St. Peter. "That's another two points!"

"Only two points?" asked the man. "At this rate, it'll be only by the grace of God that'll I'll ever get into this place."

"Bingo!" exclaimed St. Peter. "That's one hundred points! ***Come on in!!***"



JULY, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6p Cong. Care Com. 7p Facilities Com.	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY 9a-2p Church office open	5	6
7 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service 6p Tri-Cities Workcamp planning meeting	8 1p Worship Com.	9 7p Missions & Outreach Com.	10	11 2p Church Cleaning	12	13
14 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service	15	16	17	18 2p News articles due in office 2p Church cleaning 7p Stewardship & Finance Com.	19	20
21 TRI-CITIES WORKCAMP WEEK 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service 11a Commissioning of GMPC Workcampers 12:30p Session meeting	22 Tri-Cities Workcamp Workcamp Lunch by: Christian Ed Com.	23 Tri-Cities Workcamp Workcamp Lunch by: Missions-Outreach Com.	24 Tri-Cities Workcamp Workcamp Lunch by: Congregational Care Com.	25 Tri-Cities Workcamp Workcamp Lunch by: Worship Com. 2p Newsletter out 2p Church Cleaning	26 Tri-Cities Workcamp Workcamp Lunch by: Facilities Com.	27 Tri-Cities Workcamp Last day (Col. Hgts. Middle School, 500 Conduit Rd.)
28 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service 11a 5 Cents-a- Meal Offering	29	30	31 2p Committee Reports due			

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

STAMP

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JULY 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