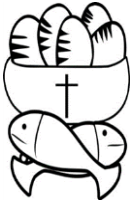


Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers. -Acts 2:42

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And in the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Corinthians 11:23-26

Every Sunday evening there was one place you would find me, without fail: the fellowship hall of University Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX. During my seminary years (2002-2007), my schedule changed a lot from day to day, except for this anchor: I was always at UPC on Sunday evening.

I would arrive before most everyone else except the minister. I would spend that first hour setting up tables and chairs into configurations for dinner in one half of the room and worship in the other half. Once those were set, I would go bother the minister in his office and take the plate, pitcher, and chalice off his shelf, placing them on the communion table for the upcoming worship service. And then people would arrive, and the life of this segment of the congregation would spring into being.

Each week we would gather for dinner & fellowship, followed by worship & communion. Celebrating the Lord's Table as a community was a weekly act, and an integral part of our identity. Some of these people, who would gather first around one table and then Christ's Table, walked with me in this community from the first day I was there to the last; others joined along the way and then remained after I left. Regardless of our lives or studies or work or anything else, every Sunday evening we found ourselves in a semi-circle around our Lord's Table, breaking the bread and pouring the cup, and remembering.

I recently had a chance to gather with this group in almost its entirety, a reunion of sorts. Some of them I had seen just a couple months prior; others I hadn't seen since I left Austin. And it didn't matter: we fell into rhythms and conversations as if it had been a few days since we had seen each other, and not months or years. At one point I had the thought, "We should celebrate communion. I could swing by the store and get some bread; we already

have the wine. It would be just like old times...it would be just like our group has always done."

I didn't follow through with that thought; for as much as it might have felt right to me, I didn't want to dictate the course of events on this occasion...I wanted to let our gathering be simply what it was. But on a deeper level I realized that, even without the words and the elements, we were celebrating an aspect of communion simply by being together. The PC (USA) *Book of Order* says that "the New Testament describes the meal as a participation in Christ and with one another in the expectation of the Kingdom and as a foretaste of the messianic banquet" (W-2.4002). The depth of relationship and connection we share with one another goes beyond mere friendship; it is already something more, something which reflects the kind of relationship that is possible in the Kingdom of God, through the presence of Christ. Even without the words and elements, we were in engaged in communion.

This state of being, defined by gathering at and around Christ's Table, along with the words that shape it is what ultimately defines our identity as Christ's disciples. These words, and the meal they reflect, unite us not only with each other but with each Christian, in every time and place. When we partake, we join with brothers and sisters across the USA, in Europe, South America, Africa, Asia, and even the moon (did you know that communion was celebrated on the moon?). Time and space have no power to create distance between us when we gather at our Lord's Table, whether that distance be physical, chronological, emotional, spiritual, etc. We are united with every believer of every time and place and race and nationality when the Table is set by Christ. In this we glimpse the Kingdom. In this we rejoice. It truly is a celebration.

With you on the journey,
Pastor Jason



WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR AUGUST, 2019

Sunday, 4 August 2019

“8th Sunday after Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4 * 2nd Reading: John 1:1-5
 Sermon Title: “One Voice, Calling”

Sunday, 11 August 2019

“9th Sunday after Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18 * 2nd Reading: Matthew 12:46-50
 Sermon Title: “Family without Fear”

Sunday, 18 August 2019

“10th Sunday after Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Hebrews 4:14-5:10 * 2nd Reading: Matthew 26:36-40
 Sermon Title: "Known on High"

Sunday, 25 August 2019

“11th Sunday after Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: Hebrews 9:1-14 * 2nd Reading: Matthew 12:1-6
 Sermon Title: “The Holy Place”



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, her brother, Martin, & her son, Rick (health issues)
 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)
 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, premie born of friends of Susan Shockley
 Randy & Kay Recher, son & daughter-in-law of Ron & Judy Reche (injured, head-on crash in Oklahoma)
 Corey Whelan, Pat Hunter's grandson (health issues)
 Shirley MacNeil (chicken pox)
 T.R. Brockwell, Marguerite Bishop's son (health issues)

"Take time to laugh, it is the music of the soul." Anonymous

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items needed for "Back to School Fair" backpacks by Aug. 11. – Missions & Outreach Committee



GATEKEEPER: Charles Smyth

Aug 4: Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.;
Worship service, Holy Communion,
11 a.m.

Aug. 5: Worship Com., 1 p.m.

Aug. 6: Circle meeting, 1 p.m.;
"National Night Out-Rolling Meadows
Community, in GMPC parking lot (open
to public), 5:30 p.m.; **Facilities Com.**,
7 p.m.

Aug. 9: Crater Order of Arrow planning
meeting; Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 10: Flying Squirrels Baseball
Game field trip, The Diamond/RVA,

6:05 p.m. (carpoolers meet in church
parking lot, 4:45 p.m.)

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

Aug. 13: Missions-Outreach Com.,
7 p.m.

Aug. 14: Choir practice, 7 p.m.

Aug. 18: Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.;
Worship service, 11 a.m.

Aug. 21: Choir practice, 7 p.m.

Aug. 22: "Back to School Fair",
Scott Park, 4-7 p.m.; **Newsletter articles**
due in church office, 2 p.m.;
Stewardship & Finance Com., 7 p.m.

Aug. 24: BS Troop 900 Eagle Honor
Court (Victor Polemeni); Sanctuary &
Fellowship Hall, ceremony starts 11 a.m.

(set-up 9 a.m.)

Aug. 25: Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.;
Worship service, 11 a.m.; **5-Cents-A-
Meal Offering**, 11 a.m.

Aug. 28: Choir practice, 7 p.m.

Aug. 29: Newsletter out, 2 p.m.;
Preschool Orientation for Parents,
Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m. (tentative)

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

.....
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

AUGUST 4	
AUGUST 11	
AUGUST 18	
AUGUST 25	

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 – AUGUST, 2019

GATEKEEPER: 🔑 Charlie Smyth	AUG. 4 8 th Sun. after Pente.	AUG. 11 9 th Sun. after Pente.	AUG. 18 10 th Sun. after Pente.	AUG. 25 11 th Sun. after Pente.
Ushers	Wayne Powers Brenda Bond Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Shill Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh	John Carl Allen Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Charles Smyth Austin Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram
Announcements	Rose Scott		Valerie Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter
Nursery	Rose Scott Susan Shockley	Marguerite Bishop Blake Bishop	Lisa Brown Evelyn Foster	Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram
Counting	Donald Hunter Glenda Mayhew	David Johnson Ron Recher	Sandy Hunter Susan Shockley	Morgan Ingram Blake Bishop

*5 Cents a Meal Offering

* **FLYING SQUIRRELS GAME!** *

Once again we have 20 tickets reserved for the Flying Squirrels Game on Saturday, August 10. Game begins at 6:05 p.m. and fireworks will follow the game. We have great field level seats that are just above the Squirrels Dugout for the unbelievable price of \$11 per ticket. All monies should be paid to Patsy Johnson by June 21. If paying by check please make check payable to Patsy Johnson. We will meet at the church at 4:45 p.m. so that carpooling can be arranged. This is a great evening for all ages. Come and enjoy the fun!!

* **BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR** *

Items for "Back To School Fair" backpacks need to be turned in by Sunday, Aug. 11. Also, we will have a table display for the church on Thursday, Aug. 22 at the "Back To School Fair: at Scott Park from 4 p.m – 7 p.m..

If any group has something interesting or photos to contribute, please contact Sandy Hunter or Pat Hunter.

TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY

Hello...Can You Hear Me Now?

A senior gentleman went to his doctor complaining that his wife could barely hear and asked for advice. The doctor suggested a test to find out the extent of the problem. "Stand far behind her and ask her a question, and then slowly move up and see how far away you are when she first responds." The senior was excited to finally be working on a solution for the problem and ran home. As his wife was preparing supper, he asked from 20 feet away, "Honey, what's for supper?" After receiving no response he tried it again from 15 feet away, and again no response. Then again at 10 feet away and again got no response. Finally he was 5 feet away and asked, "Honey, what's for supper?" She replied rather annoyed, "*For the fourth time it's lasagna!*"

Here's A Real Head-Scratcher...

"Sugar, why don't you sit down at the table and we'll start supper," said Dorothy to her husband of 50 years. "Sure thing," said her husband as he and their guest, Bob, settling down for the meal.

"Now Darling, would you like the soup first or the salad?" she asked.

"Umm... I guess I'll take the soup," he responded. After a whole meal of one endearing term after another, Bob couldn't contain his curiosity any longer. When Dorothy cleared the table, Bob snuck into the kitchen and asked, "Dorothy do you always talk to your husband like that?"

"Bob, I'll be honest with you," Dorothy replied. "It's been five years now, *I just can't remember his name, and I am just too embarrassed to ask him!*"

Wait...WHAT?!! An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen. The two gentlemen were talking, and one said, "Last night we went out to a new restaurant, and it was really great. I would recommend it very highly."

The other man said, "What is the name of the restaurant?"

The first man thought and thought and finally said, "What is the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know... the one that is red and has thorns."

"Do you mean a rose?"

"Yes," the man said. He turned toward the kitchen and yelled, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"

Healthy Food...Really? An 85-year-old couple, having been married almost 60 years, died together in a car crash. For the past 10 years, they had enjoyed good health mainly due to the wife's neurotically obsessive interest in health food. When they reached the pearly gates, St. Peter took them to their mansion, which was decked out with a beautiful kitchen and master bath suite

and a fully-jetted Jacuzzi tub. As they oohed and aahed, the man asked St. Peter how much this was going to cost.

"It's free," St. Peter replied, "Remember, this is Heaven." Next, they went out back to see the championship golf course the home backed up to. Peter explained they would have golfing privileges everyday, and each week the course changed to a new one representing the finest golf courses on Earth.

The man asked, "What are the green fees?"

"This is Heaven," St. Peter replied. "You play for free."

Next they went to the clubhouse and saw the lavish buffet lunch with the cuisines of the world laid out for them.

"How much to eat?" asked the man.

"Don't you understand yet?" St. Peter asked. "This is Heaven. It's free!"

"Well, where are the low fat and low cholesterol foods?" the man asked timidly.

"That's the best part...you can eat as much as you like of whatever you like and you never get fat and you never get sick. This is Heaven."

The man looked at his wife and said, "*You and your darned bran muffins. I could have had all this 10 years ago!*"

AUGUST, 2019

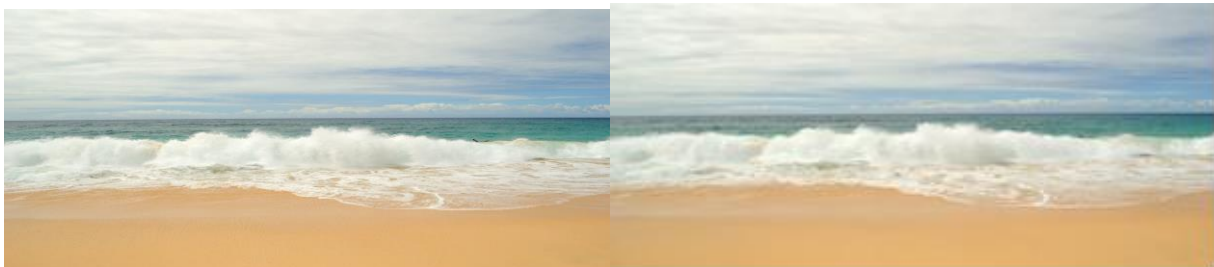
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 2p Church Cleaning	2	3
4 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service Holy Communion	5 1p Worship Com.	6 1p Circle meeting 5:30p "Nat'l Night Out" - Rolling Meadows Community, Open to public, GMPC parking lot 7p Facilities Com.	7	8 2p Church Cleaning	9 6:30p BS Crater Order of Arrow Planning meeting, Fellowship Halal	10 6:05p Flying Squirrels Game, The Diamond, RVA (4:45p carpoolers meet in church parking lot)
11 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service	12	13 7p Missions-Outreach Com.	14 7p Choir practice	15 2p Church cleaning	16	17
18 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service	19	20	21 7p Choir practice	22 4p-7p "Back to School Fair", Scott Park 2p News articles due in office 2p Church Cleaning 7p Stewardship & Finance Com.	23	24 11a-4p BS Tr 900 Eagle Honor Court (Victor Polemeni); Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall
25 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship service 11a 5 Cents-a- Meal Offering	26	27	28 7p Choir practice	29 2p Newsletter out 2p Church Cleaning 6p Preschool Orientation for Parents, Fellowship Hall (tentative.)	30	31 2p Committee Reports due

DATES TBD: Nominating Committee meeting
Christian Ed Committee meeting

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

STAMP

----- -- -- -----
AUGUST 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