

Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



*"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."*

- Luke 24:5b

*"Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened..."*

- Luke 24:13-14

I still remember vividly the day after I had been fired from my camp job in Colorado, back while I was still in seminary. I was set to drive back to Austin, to home and my friends, but my head and heart were still spinning from what the previous 24 hours had held: shock, hurt, lament, and above all, a profound sense of *disconnect*. I felt disconnected to my own sense of self and purpose, my own sense of understanding of the world around me and its relationships, and particularly, a sense of disconnect from God; my own spirit felt adrift and without direction. In that mindset I knew that I was driving to Austin – I knew how to operate my vehicle on the road, and I knew the directions and turns I needed to make, but I remember a great deal of operating almost on autopilot as I made that journey. My mind, my heart, my spirit were elsewhere.

I have to wonder and imagine, even as we are deep into the Easter season now, if this were not the mental and spiritual state of being of the Disciples on that Saturday between the crucifixion and the resurrection, and even on that Sunday morning as the sun rose. I imagine that, in those 36 hours, there was a great deal of spiritual and mental disconnect in their hearts – disconnection from their sense of self and direction, and a pervading, unanswerable question of, "What now?"

These are, to a degree, still the questions we wrestle with, even today, several weeks beyond the resurrection celebration. "What now? What do we do next? Where should we go; where *can* we go? Will I, will we ever feel a sense of security and direction again?"

For the women going to the tomb on that Easter morning, they were met, not with a closed tomb, but by angels asking of them why they looked for the living among the dead. For the two along the road to Emmaus they were met by the risen Lord (whom they did not recognize) and discussed with him all that had happened, and perhaps even their uncertainty as to what they were going to do next (beyond making the journey to their home in Emmaus). And for us, today while living during a pandemic, distanced from one another, from our community, some of us from our work or the things which have given us purpose and direction, these questions have similar answers: the reality of the resurrection continues to break into our everyday life in unexpected and perhaps even unrecognizable ways.

What then to do? For one, we endeavor to continue making our way forward, as best we are able, though perhaps a bit slower and more deliberately for the time being. Secondly, we are both invited and encouraged to look more deliberately for our risen Lord, and to recall all that he has done, all that he has taught, all that he has promised as we live in faith. In this we will continue to find direction and purpose, even in the midst of chaos and disruption. Let us indeed fix our eyes upon the author and perfecter of our faith!

With you on the journey,  
Pastor Jason



## WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR MAY, 2020

### Sunday, 3 May 2020

“4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 17:1-9 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Mark 13:9-11  
 Sermon Title: "New Beginnings I"

### Sunday, 10 May 2020 – "Mother's Day"

“5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 18:1-4 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Mark 9:34-35  
 Sermon Title: "New Beginnings II"

### Sunday, 17 May 2020

“6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Mark 12:28-31  
 Sermon Title: "Fullness of Love:"

### Sunday, 24 May 2020

“7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Mark 12:26-27a  
 Sermon Title: "Fullness of Christ"

### Sunday, 31 May 2020

“Day of Pentecost” - Liturgical Color: Red  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2:1-4 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-13  
 Sermon Title: "A Violent Wind"



**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  
 Mary Chadwick & Adelaide "Shorty" Smith, "Dink" Armstrong's sisters (health issues)  
 Evelyn Lichvar, her brother, Martin, and her son, Rick (health issues)  
 Becky Scott Smith  
 Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix's grandson (health issues)  
 Kenneth Andrews, Childress family's friend  
 Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew's brother  
 Steve "Dee" Shortt, Kim Helmer Shortt's husband (health issue)  
 Verne & Clara Smith  
 Peggy Allen  
 Eddie Frankenstein  
 Grace Cibula  
 Etta Holc  
 Jerry Hasky (health issue)  
 Doris Harmison (The Crossings at Ironbridge, Chester, Va.)  
 Kay Recher, daughter-in-law of Ron and Judy Recher (head-on crash in Oklahoma)  
 Melvin Huff, Marguerite Bishop's friend (health issues)  
 Pam Henry, Mary Holc's family member

Sandra Elder, Kelly Knupp's mother (health issues)  
 Velma Allen (health issues)  
 Adele Linkenhoker, Barbara Taliaferro's friend (health concerns)  
 Jane & Bob Jones (health issues)  
 Junie "Bug" Treaster (recovering from surgery)  
 Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)  
 Rev. Paul Luthman, previously our pastor (recovering from surgery)  
 Sharon Reed and family, Susan Shockley's co-worker (health issue)  
 Jennifer Caldwell, friend of Grace Cibula (health issue)  
 Reese Etheridge, Wayne Powers' uncle (health issue)  
 Randy Warthan (health issue)  
 David Minor (health issue)  
 Chris Harvey (MCV, burns accident)  
 Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (health issue, rehab)  
 Ron Recher (recov. from surgery)  
 Floyd Brown, Sr. (SRMC, health issues)  
 Pam Landrum, Doris Harmison's daughter (orthopedic issue)  
 Trevor Fine, Susan Shockley's neighbor's son (health issue)  
 Traci Wells, Glenda Mayhew's friend (health issue)  
 Family/friends of Tracy Taliaferro, son of Barbara Taliaferro & the Late Tommie Taliaferro (d. 4/18)

**SPECIAL HEARTFELT THANKS TO THE GREGORY CONGREGATION:** The family of the Late Gladys Wiseman thanks its Gregory friends for all of its kind expressions of sympathy during their recent bereavement on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Gladys.

### AS WE CONTINUE OUR SOCIAL DISTANCING

#### Worship Options/Access And Tips

Though it looks vastly different, we will continue to gather our hearts for worship on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. There are now multiple ways to join together in this time (from afar):

- Join us on the GMPC FaceBook page for the live-stream worship;
- Join us on Zoom ([www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)) for the same live-stream worship:  
Meeting ID# 756-330-772
- If you have unreliable internet, you can join us by telephone by dialing 1-253-215-8782 and entering Meeting ID# 756-330-772

#### A Few Tips To Enhance Your Virtual Worship Experience

- Turn off all other electronics and devices;
- Have your Bible ready to read along with the morning's scripture;
- Light a candle to represent Christ's Light during the service.

During this period of social distancing and while large groups are discouraged, Jason's daily schedule will be as follows: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the church, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. home as a parent, and then working from home from 1:30 p.m. on. Should the governor issue a state lockdown, the hours will remain the same but all work will be done from home.

### NEWSLETTER DELIVERY IN THE TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING

While we endure our "social distancing" to, hopefully/prayerfully, keep us safe from Covid, we're relying on email for our newsletter delivery, with almost everyone receiving an electronic version of THE HERALD. Sixteen newsletters are mailed to those without email capability. Here's a comparison of the pros and cons for continuing with email delivery after the "social distancing" requirement is lifted:

#### **Newsletter Delivery By Email (the "Pros")\*:**

- >Reduces amount of paper, toner/ink, staples used
- >Reduces monthly per-copy billing costs on printer
- >Reduces staff time spent collating, stapling, folding
- >Provides push-of-button delivery to readers

\* *except 16 readers without email get paper copy*

#### **Paper Newsletter ("Cons"):**


- > Needs self-pick up or USPS mail delivery
- >Newsletter cost (paper, toner/ink, staples), staff time & labor (collating, stapling, folding)
- > Postage stamps & USPS required sealing stickers on items mailed out

### JUST FOR TODAY .....

Decide to be happy today, to live with what is yours. If you can't have what you'd like, then maybe you can like what you have. It's your choice to make.

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, then forgive and forget. After all, it's just for one day. Who knows--it might turn out to be a nice day! And, if this works for you, let's try it again tomorrow!

**THOSE WHO SERVE – MAY, 2020**

 <b>GATEKEEPER:</b> Charles Smyth	MAY. 3 4 <sup>th</sup> Sun. of Easter	MAY. 10 5 <sup>th</sup> Sun. of Easter "Mother's Day"	MAY. 17 6 <sup>th</sup> Sun. of Easter	MAY. 24 * 7 <sup>th</sup> Sun. of Easter	MAY. 31 ** Day of Pentecost
Ushers	John Carl Allen Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Charles Smyth Austin Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Larry Johnson	Wayne Powers Brenda Bond Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew	Sheila Fields Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh
Announcements	Valerie Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter	Larry Johnson	Rose Scott	Larry Johnson
Nursery	Marguerite Bishop Blake Bishop*	Lisa Brown Tara Foster	Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Megan Cashing Shirley MacNeill	Glenda Mayhew Judy Recher***
Counting	Morgan Ingram Patsy Johnson	Donald Hunter Glenda Mayhew	David Johnson Ron Recher	Sandy Hunter Susan Walker	Morgan Ingram Blake Bishop

\* 5 Cents A Meal Offering

\*\* Local Emerg. Aid Offering

\*\*\* Choir member leaves to serve in Nursery, if needed

**TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY**



**Mothers of the famous**

**Columbus' Mother:** "I don't care what you've discovered, Chris. You still could have written."

**Michelangelo's Mother:** "Mike, can't you just paint on the walls like other children? Do you have any idea how hard it is for me to get that stuff off the ceiling?"

**Albert Einstein's Mother:** "But, Albert, it's your senior picture. Can't you do something about your hair? Styling gel, mousse...something?"

**George Washington's Mother:** "The next time I catch you throwing money across the Potomac, you can kiss your allowance good-bye!"

**Batman's Mother:** "It's a nice car, Bruce, but do you realize how much the insurance is going to be?"

**Thomas Edison's Mother:** "Of course I'm proud that you invented the electric light bulb, Thomas. Now, turn off that light and get to bed!"

**Mary's Mother:** "I'm not upset that your lamb followed you to school, Mary, but I would like to know how he got a better grade than you."

**Goldilocks' Mother:** "I've got a bill here for a broken chair from the Bear family. Do you know anything about this, Goldi?"

**Superman's Mother:** "Clark, your father and I have discussed it, and we've decided you can have your own telephone line. Now, will you quit spending so much time in all those phone booths?"  
- Author Unknown

**Better late than never...**

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt."

Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about.

He said, "*Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming.*"



*"In all things, it is better to hope than to despair." Von Goethe*

## MAY, 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>- Sunday services: Mass gatherings are suspended by Governor's Exec. Order. - Workcamp plan meeting will be rescheduled</p>					1	2
<p><del>3</del> <del>9:45a</del> Sunday School  <del>11a</del> Worship service  <del>6:30p</del> WorkCamp plan meeting</p>	4	5  6p Cong. Care Com.	6  7p Choir practice	7  2p Church Cleaning	8	9
<p>10 <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>  <del>9:45a</del> Sunday School  <del>11a</del> Worship service</p>	11	12  7p Missions Com.	13  7p Choir practice	14  2p Church cleaning	15	16
<p>17 <del>9:45a</del> Sunday School <del>11a</del> Worship service 12:30p Session meeting</p>	18	19	20  7p Choir practice	21  2p News articles due in office  2p Church Cleaning  7p Stewardship & Finance Com.	22	23
<p>24 <del>9:45a</del> Sunday School  <del>11a</del> Worship service  11a 5 Cents a Meal Offering</p>	25 <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	26	27  7p Choir practice	28  2p Newsletter out	29	30
<p>31 <b>DAY OF PENTECOST</b>  <del>9:45a</del> Sunday School  <del>11a</del> Worship service  11a Local Emerg. Aid Offering  11a Pentecost Offering  2p Committee reports due</p>						

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STAMP

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***MAY NEWSLETTER***



**COME AND JOIN US!**  
Sunday School 9:45 A.M.  
[WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG](http://WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG)

We're on: [Facebook.com/gmpcva](https://www.facebook.com/gmpcva)  
Worship 11:00 A.M.