

Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



"So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal."

~ 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

It's 2022 ...New Year's.... A new beginning, a fresh start, high hopes, promises to make positive changes---all of these things are associated with the New Year. Do the images and thoughts of friends and loved ones stir feelings of hope and possibly optimism in you? Or, has the seemingly never-ending state of pandemic got you leading more toward pessimism. *If so, then.....*

DON'T QUIT

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about
When we might have won had we stuck it out.

Don't give up though the pace seems slow,
You may succeed with another blow.
Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a faltering man.
Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the winner's cup.
And he learned too late when the night slipped down
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out,
The silver lining of the clouds of doubt
And you can never tell how close you are –
It may be near when it seems afar.
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit.
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

For we know the Father above looks down,
He sees our struggles and holds the crown.
He knows the way though it's rough and drear,
He will give strength so we need not fear.
He offers to you the refreshing cup
Of the water of life; then in faith look up.
Continue on 'til the crown is won
Which he will give when our work is done!

Resource: "To Whom Does This Poem Belong?".
Rose DesRochers <http://www.todays-woman.net>
<http://users.chariot.net.au/~kday/thoughtsandpoems.html>

This poem is available on poster:
art.com http://www.art.com/asp/sp-asp/_pd-10058424/sp--A/Dont_Quit.htm#

Also on pocket card at
<http://shop.store.yahoo.com/thebcmall/11-30638.html>

Special thanks to Mary Lykins, for contributing this poem to THE HERALD!

WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR JANUARY, 2022

Sunday, 2 January 2022

Holy Communion

“2nd Sunday of Christmas” - Liturgical Color: White
 1st Reading: TBA * 2nd Reading: TBA
 Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Erroll G. Rohr

Sunday, 9 January 2022

“Baptism of the Lord” - Liturgical Color: White
 1st Reading: TBA * 2nd Reading: TBA
 Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Clay Macaulay

Sunday, 16 January 2022

“2nd Sunday after Epiphany” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: TBA * 2nd Reading: TBA
 Guest Preacher: Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock

Sunday, 23 January 2022

“3rd Sunday after Epiphany” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: TBA * 2nd Reading: TBA
 Guest Preacher: Rev. Sylvester Bullock

Sunday, 30 January 2022

“4th Sunday after Epiphany” - Liturgical Color: Green
 1st Reading: TBA * 2nd Reading: TBA
 Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Shelly Barrick Parsons



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 Becky Scott Smith Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix’s grandson (health issues) Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew’s brother Verne & Clara Smith Peggy Allen Eddie Frankenstein Grace Cibula Etta Holc Jerry Hasky (health issue) Pam Henry, Mary Holc’s family member</p>	<p>Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue) Sandra Elder, Kelly Knupp's mother (health issues) Jennifer Caldwell, friend of Grace Cibula (health issue) Reese Etheridge, Wayne Powers' uncle (health issue) Dana Etheridge, Wayne Powers' cousin (health issue) Randy Warthan (health issue) Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (health issue, rehab) Floyd M. Brown, Sr. (health issues) Traci Wells, Glenda Mayhew's friend (health issue) Larry Brown of Chesterfield, Larry Johnson's friend (health issue)</p>
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"Cheers to a New Year and another chance for us to get it right!" ~ Oprah Winfrey

UPDATED WORSHIP GUIDELINES

GREETINGS SAINTS AND FRIENDS OF GREGORY MEMORIAL!

Your Session has been diligent in faithfully assessing how we continue to worship and move forward, and now especially, in light of the updated guidelines and proclamations from both CDC and local and federal leaders. Please note the following:

IF YOU ARE FULLY VACCINATED,

- **We encourage those singing to wear masks when singing hymns;** however, you no longer need to wear a mask when entering/exiting, or moving about the Sanctuary. Of course, if it is your personal comfort level to do so, then please be happy in doing so.
- **We no longer physically block off every other pew.** We encourage you to sit where you are comfortable sitting, and with whom, but please be respectful of others as we make this transition --- there may be some who are still more comfortable sitting with a bit of distance, and that's ok.

IF YOU ARE NOT FULLY VACCINATED,

- **Please be responsible and continue to wear a mask when entering/exiting, singing or moving about the Sanctuary.** And if there are any questions you still have about the vaccines, please contact a Church Elder. Your confidentiality is assured, and we are happy to be of assistance in your decision-making.

IF YOU ARE FEELING "UNDER THE WEATHER",

- **Please know that we join with you in spirit, and wish you well, but you are encouraged to stay home and take care of your own health.** Or, if you feel that you can still be out and about, and attending worship, please continue to wear a mask and maintain social distancing.

Love and Peace to You All!

ONLINE WORSHIP

We will continue offering on-line worship each Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m., via FaceBook Live (from the church's Facebook page).

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

This month we'll be celebrating Communion on Sunday, January 2, and the elements will be served to you in the pews, with the bread in individual cups to minimize handling.

And if you'll be joining us at home, please remember to have some bread and juice at hand so that you can celebrate Christ's Table with us, wherever you may be!

Session Meeting Schedule for 2022: Session will meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month in 2022 as follows, unless otherwise announced:

January 16, 2022	April 17, 2022	July 17, 2022	October 16, 2022
February 20, 2022	May 15, 2022	August 21, 2022	November 20, 2022
March 20, 2022	June 19, 2022	September 18, 2022	December 18, 2022

Holy Communion Schedule for 2022: (1st Sunday of even-numbered months) as follows:

January 2, 2022	May 1, 2022	September 4, 2022
March 6, 2022	July 3, 2022	November 6, 2022

"We will open the book called Opportunity, and its first chapter is New Year's Day." ~ Edith Lovejoy Pierce



LITTLE JANUARY

By Winifred C. Marshall

Little January
Tapped at my door today.
And said, "Put on your winter wraps,
And come outdoors to play."

Little January
Is always full of fun;
Until the set of sun.

Little January
Will stay a month with me
And we will have such jolly times –
Just come along and see.

REFLECTIONS

... AND THEN IT'S WINTER ...

You know what I mean. . . . Time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems like just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my soul mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. I feel it. I still have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams.

But, here it is... The winter of my life and it catches me by surprise...How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go?

But, here it is now...my friends are retired and getting gray...they move slower and looking in the mirror now I see an older person staring back at me. Some are in better shape than me---some in worse...but, I see the great change...They're not like the ones I remember who were young and vibrant...but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be. Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking

a nap is not a treat anymore ...it's mandatory! 'Cause if I don't on my own free will... I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so...now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!! But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last...this I know, that when it's over on this earth....it's over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done...things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet...let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!! Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not! You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your

life...so, live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember ...and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!!

LIFE is a gift to you. **THE WAY YOU LIVE YOUR LIFE** is your gift to those who come after. **Make it a fantastic one!**

"The object of a new year is not that we should have a new year, but rather that we should have a new soul."

~ G.K. Chesterton

**LIVE IT WELL! ENJOY TODAY!
DO SOMETHING FUN! BE HAPPY!
HAVE A GREAT DAY!**

Resource: Louisem.com

HAPPY
New Year

JANUARY, 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 New Year's Day
2 2nd SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 9:30a Sunday Sch. 11a Worship serv. 11a Holy Communion <i>Guest preacher:</i> <i>Dr. Erroll G. Rohr</i>	3 1p Worship Com. & removal of Xmas decorations	4 1p Circle 6p GSA Tr.5000 (Fellowship Hall reception area, kitchen & dining room) 7p Cong. Care Com. 7p Christian Ed.Com. 7p Facilities Com	5	6 EPIPHANY	7 10a Church cleaning	8
9 BAPTISM OF THE LORD 9:30a Sunday Sch. 11a Worship serv. <i>Guest preacher:</i> <i>Dr. Clay Macaulay</i>	10 6p BSA Order of Arrow Karakona dinner meeting (Fellowship Hall reception area, kitchen & dining room)	11 7p Missions Com. 7p Outreach Com.	12	13	14 10a Church cleaning	15
16 9:30a Sunday Sch. 11a Worship serv. 12p Session meeting <i>Guest preacher:</i> <i>Rev. Beverly Bullock</i>	17 ML King's Birthday	18 6p GSA Tr.5000	19	20 2p News articles due 7p Stewardship & Finance Com.	21 10a Church cleaning	22
23 9:30a Sunday Sch. 11a Worship serv. *5 Cents-a-Meal Offering <i>Guest preacher:</i> <i>Rev. Sylvester H. Bulock</i>	24	25	26	27 2p Newsletter out	28 10a Church cleaning	29
30 9:30a Sunday Sch. 10:15a 5 th Sunday Fellowship (Coffee, Donuts in Fellowship Hall) 11a Worship serv. * Local Emerg. Aid Offering <i>Guest preacher:</i> <i>Dr. Shelly B. Parsons</i> 12p Ann. Cong. Meeting for 2021 <u>2021 Statistical Report due to PoJ</u>	31 2p Committee reports due					

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Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
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STAMP

JANUARY NEWSLETTER



COME AND JOIN US!
Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG

We're on: Facebook.com/gmpcva
Worship 11:00 A.M.