

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell back to our pulpit today!

Guest Preachers & Announcers

May 7: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell; P. Johnson, Announcer

May 14 "Mother's Day": Rev. Marvin Daniel; L. Johnson, Announcer

May 21: Rev. Charles Philips; also Session Moderator; S. Shockley, Announcer

May 28 "Day of Pentecost": TBA; R. Scott, Announcer

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIRTHDAY OFFERING will be received next Sunday, May 14 "Mother's Day."

Deadline for submitting applications for the Christine Belsches Memorial Scholarship Fund is May 31. Applications may be submitted to Susan Shockley or Sandy Hunter, or mailed (Gregory Memorial PC, P. O. Box 182, Prince George, VA 23875) or brought to the Church Office.

"SING-SPIRATION!" Come and enjoy an evening of traditional Christian music.

The Faith Committee and Congregational Care Committee invite you to the musical program, "*Feel the Spirit Through Music.*" The program will be held on Wednesday, May 17 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Special music has been planned and one of our featured guests will be Mr. Tim Britt, who comes highly recommended by all that have heard him play the piano. We hope to provide many good memories by playing the "old favorites" that we have all grown up with. We will be playing and singing as many of your favorites as possible.

Refreshments will follow in the Fellowship Hall and a LOVE Offering will be collected with all monies being donated to the Prince George Baccalaureate Program.

5/7, 5/14

"MAMA MIA!" AT FORT LEE PLAYHOUSE – Sunday, May 21, starts at 3 p.m.

(Those interested in carpooling meet at GMPC at 2 p.m.) Pre-registration submitted to Patsy Johnson is required to obtain clearance for access to Base!

See enclosed registration form for details and to register. Give payment with completed forms to Patsy Johnson **by May 10th.**

4/30, 5/7

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6300 Courthouse Rd. / P. O. Box 182, Prince George, VA 23875

www.gregorymemorial.org www.facebook.com/gmpcva

Telephone: 804.732.1081 - Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

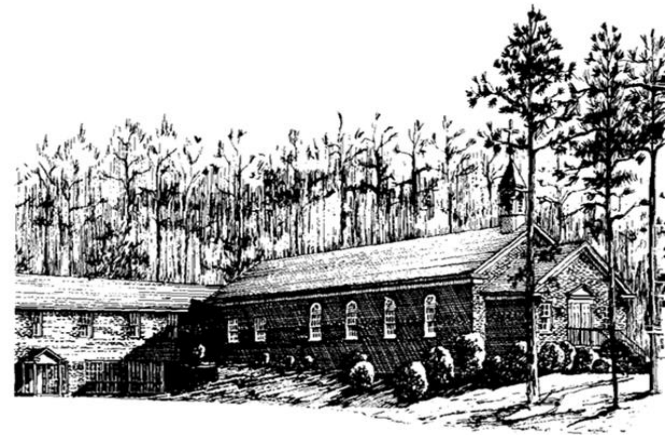
Pastor: As announced

Secretary: Nancy Adams (office@gregorymemorial.org)

Organist: Sandra Perkins Pianist: Gail Rollings

Treasurer: Susan Shockley Financial Sec.: Sandy Hunter

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



Christians Who Love and Care.

"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." *Revelations 22:12-13*

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 7, 2023

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We welcome you to worship with us this morning, as we gather in community to draw closer to God. We pray that you will know the presence of the Lord, through our worship, and through the work of the Spirit. We invite you to take these moments before worship to calm your hearts and minds and open yourself to quiet stillness of God's presence!

PRELUDE Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Rollings, Pianist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/
SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** Patsy Johnson

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Dr. Charles Bagwell

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Responsive reading; based on John 14:1-7*]

One: Gather us, O God.

All: There is room for us all.

One: Dwell with us, O God.

All: Show us the way.

One: Guide us, O God.

All: We give thanks and praise for Christ as our way, truth and life.

***OPENING HYMN #837 "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine" ("Leaning On the Everlasting Arms")**

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor*]

No one is lost to God. All our welcome to witness and receive God's saving grace. Let us confess our sins before our Savior.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession.]

***Please stand, as able.**

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Those affected by earthquakes and cholera in Turkey and Syria

First-responders, world-wide

Families, persons, entities impacted by weather-related disasters

Families, persons, communities impacted by gun violence

People & Sovereign Country of Ukraine; Russian citizens conscripted into war

Those in our community suffering from illness, loss, grief or hardship

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 & Dennis Allen (health issues)

Eddie Frankenstein

Grace Cibula

Etta Holc

Jerry & Ruby Hasky (health issues)

Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)

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)

Larry Brown of Chesterfield, Larry Johnson's friend (health issue)

Billy Hudson, friend of Dianna Lykins Flaherty, Mary Lykins' daughter

Renee' Renier, Diana Flaherty's long-time friend (health issue)

Emily Henry, Mary Holc's sister (health issue)

Charlie Perkins (health issue)

Ruth Figg (Petersburg Home for Ladies)

Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue)

John Kephart, Grace Cibula's nephew (heart surgery on 1/12)

Tara Foster (recovering at home from surgery: kidney stones)

Billy Robertson (recovering from eye surgery)

Shirley MacNeill (recovering at home; health issues)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

		MAY 7		MAY 14
S	5th Sunday of Easter 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell		6th Sunday of Easter; "Mother's Day" 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ Presbyterian Women's "Birthday" Offering Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel	
M	6p BSA Tr 900 Cyber/I'net Security class (Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall)	8	7p Finance Cmte	15
T	1p Circle (Location: J. Recher)	9	6p GSA Tr 5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area; Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)	16
W		10	7p <u>Special Music Program</u> "Sing-spiration: Feel the Spirit Through Music" Open to public.	17
T	6a Clean Church	11	6a Clean Church 2p News articles due	18
F		12		19
S		13		20

	ATTENDANCE		WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V	M	V
April 2, 2023	21	8	13			
April 9, 2023	30	20	11			
April 16 2023	20	7	9			
April 23, 2023	22	9	9			
April 30, 2023	20	7	9			

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]

You send us, God of the Great Commission, but we hedge and hesitate. Forgive our fear and our excuses. We are witnesses of your grace and glory but allow others to silence our praise. We imprison ourselves with doubt and shame and fail to shine your light for all to see. Forgive our fears. Free our testimony. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Pastor]

Christ has transformed us. Christ has renewed us. Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #581 "Glory Be to the Father"**

***PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [Pastor]**

Savior God, your Word is a lamp to our feet on this discipleship road. Walk with us. Guide us with your wisdom and grace. Open us to discerning your will and your way. Amen.

SCRIPTURE (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16 p. 439-440
New Testament Lesson: 1st Peter 2: 4-10 p. 984

SERMON "Belief Is the Cornerstone" Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #824 "There Is A Place of Quiet Rest" ("Near to the Heart of God")**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [In unison; Apostles' Creed]

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL FOR OFFERING [Pastor]

Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and God's ministries through Christ's church.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY HYMN #606 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION [In unison]**

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to witness to Christ's ministry in your world. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

Grace Cibula

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER [Responsive reading; based on Psalm 31 and a prayer by Howard Thurman]

One: In you, O Lord, we seek refuge and strength. In your righteousness, deliver us. Incline your ear to us and hear us as we pray these prayers of your people.

All: Open unto us — courage for our fear. Open unto us — wisdom for our confusion. Open unto us — peace for our turmoil.

One: We are fraught and fearful, Holy God, devastated by gun violence, war and evil powers that seek to dominate and destroy. Guide our steps in your holy path so we can find our way to your peaceable kin-dom.

All: Open unto us — strength for our weakness. Open unto us — love for our hates. Open unto us — forgiveness for our sins.

One: Remind us, Gracious God, that Easter is not a thing of the past, but a continuous miracle; a death-defying promise worth our constant proclamation. Be with those who are ill and grieving loss. Hear the cries of those who are in pain. Comfort those searching for answers to horrors that can't be explained.

All: Open unto us — joy for our sorrow. Open unto us — hope for our despair. Open unto us — light for our darkness.

One: Ground us in your good news, O God. Help us hold on to your promises of hope. Keep our feet steady on Christ's path as we seek to be his faithful followers, praying the prayer Jesus taught us, saying, "**Our Father....**"

***DEPARTING HYMN #317 "In Christ, There Is No East or West"**

***BLESSING**

One: We have been blessed!

All: We have met for divine worship, as God's people.

One: We have been blessed!

All: Our sins have truly been forgiven.

One: We have been blessed!

All: We go out into the world as the body of Christ, bearing the good news of the gospel. We are blessed, indeed. Amen!

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor; based on John 14:27]**

Christ does not give to us as the world gives. We leave church today with Christ's peace to have, to hold, to share with others. Do not let your hearts be troubled, do not be afraid. Christ is with us in all things. May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us all, now and forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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