

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We welcome the Rev. Marvin Daniel back to our pulpit today!**

### Guest Preachers & Announcers

July 2: Ms. Cathy Culp; S. Hunter, Announcer

July 9: Rev. Charles Phillips; S. Shockley, Announcer

July 16: Rev. Marvin Daniel; R. Scott, Announcer

**July 23: Rev. Marvin Daniel; S. Shockley, Announcer**

July 30: Rev. John Scholer; L. Johnson, Announcer

**Thanks to everyone that supported the "Back-to-School "Fair!** Items will be taken to the School Board Office where they will be used to fill 5 Secondary School backpacks. The children are our future, and we want them all to be the best that they can be!

**Called Congregational Meeting - Sunday, July 30 immediately after worship service.** Purpose: Election of Congregational Nominating Committee that will develop a slate of officers (Elders & Trustee) for our November 11 election.

**Coffee Hour** - The Faith Committee will host a "Coffee Hour" on **Sunday, July 30**, immediately after the Called Congregational Meeting to recognize our 4 new members, our 2 newlywed couples and the retirement of our faithful servant, Kevin Foster from the office of treasurer of Gregory Memorial. We will also have a chance to congratulate our scholarship recipients. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!  
*7/16, 7/23*

**Note to Congregation:** Due to the scheduled "swap-out" of the office copier on **Thursday, July 27**, all work for the week, including newsletter, will be completed on Tuesday. Wednesday is set-aside for readying/packing the outgoing copier.

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### GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

[www.gregorymemorial.org](http://www.gregorymemorial.org)    [www.facebook.com/gmpcva](http://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](mailto:office@gregorymemorial.org))

Organist: Sandra Perkins    Pianist: Gail Hare

Treasurer: Susan Shockley    Financial Sec.: Sandy Hunter

### Session Members

(Term = 3 yrs.; \* indicates a partial term)

Lisa Brown (2023); Donald Hunter (2023); William Shill\* (2023)

Rose Scott (2024); \_\_\_\_\_\* (2024); Susan Shockley (2024)

Doug Holc (2025); David Johnson (2025); Patsy Johnson (2025)

Donald Hunter - Clerk of Session (2023)

### Trustees

Gail Hare (2023); Donald Hunter (2024); Ron Recher (2025)

## 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*

**JULY 23, 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 Hare, Pianist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/  
SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** Susan Shockley

**PASSING OF THE PEACE** Rev. Marvin Daniel

### **CALL TO WORSHIP** *[Responsive reading]*

One: God's Spirit gathers us.

**All: We are not alone!**

One: God's Spirit calls us.

**All: We are to discern together God's will!**

One: God's Spirit sends us.

**All: We are to shine like the sun, bearing witness to Christ our Savior!**

### **\*OPENING HYMN #275 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"**

### **CALL TO CONFESSION** *[Responsive reading 1st John 1:8]*

One: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

**All: Sin is our stumbling block before God. Repentance clears our path to hear and receive God's truth. Let us confess our sins together.**

[Pause for a moment of silent confession.]

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**\*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  
Etta Holc  
Jerry & Ruby Hasky (health issues)  
Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)  
Reese Etheridge, Wayne Powers' uncle (health issue)  
Dana Etheridge, Wayne Powers' cousin (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)  
Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue)  
Tara Foster (recovering at home from surgery: kidney stones)  
Grace Cibula (recovering at home; health issues)  
Shirley MacNeill (home, health issues)  
Moneka Suprenant, Susan Shockley's & Sandy Eickmeyer's friend (brain injury)  
John Carl Allen (recovering, orthopedic surgery)  
Mary Kay & Mike Schroeter (health issues)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.**

**THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY**

	<b>JULY 23</b>	<b>JULY 30</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>  <b>11a</b> Worship Service ➤ 5 Cents a Meal Offering  Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>  <b>11a</b> Worship Service ➤ Local Emergency Aid Offering  Guest Preacher: Rev. John Scholer  <b>12p</b> Called Congregational Meeting (Elect members to Congregational Nominating Cmte)  <b>12:15p</b> Special "Coffee Hour"; Fellowship Hall
<b>M</b>	24	31
<b>T</b>	25	<b>AUGUST 1</b>
	<b>2p</b> Newsletter out	<b>6-7:30p</b> "Nat'l Night Out" for PG Community at new PG Ruritan Bldg. @ 5450 Ruffin Road; Open to the public with hotdogs, snacks, games, etc.; combined effort of volunteers (PG Ruritans, GMPC & BSA Tr. 900) with support from PGPD to promote/ foster community awareness for crime prevention & safety
<b>W</b>	26	2
<b>T</b>	27	3
	<b>6a</b> Clean Church  <b>9a-2p</b> Office copier swap-out	<b>6a</b> Clean Church
<b>F</b>	28	4
<b>S</b>	29	5

ATTENDANCE	WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V
July 2, 2023	27	7	9	
July 9, 2023	25	5	6	
July 16, 2023	21	7	6	
July 23, 2023				
July 30, 2023				

M=Members V=Visitors

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]**

Master Gardener, weeds and wheat fill the fields of our lives, grow entangled, and are difficult to distinguish. We have not spent the time we should in prayer and study of your Word to help us discern what is evil and against your will. We excuse our complacency and justify our passive faith. Yet we need your truth. We hunger for your harvest. Jesus, forgive us. Deliver us from evil. Clear our path to you. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Pastor]**

Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation, ready to shine like the sun to the glory of God. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

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

**\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [In unison]**

Illumine us, O God. Bless us with ears to hear your truth, vision to discern your path, and feet ready to move into action, responding to your call. Guide us and inspire us in this moment of proclamation. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)**

Old Testament: Psalm 139 P. 503-504  
 New Testament: Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43 P. 794-795

**SERMON** "How Does Your Garden Grow?" Rev. Marvin Daniel

**\*REFLECTIVE HYMN #792 "There Is a Balm in Gilead"**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [In unison; Apostle's 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]**

God dwells among us making all things new. Let us participate in this new creation by offering our gifts to God.

### **OFFERING, OFFERTORY**

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

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

Grateful for your radical hospitality and steadfast love we present these gifts to you, God. Use them to further your will and transform our world into your new, redeemed creation. Amen.

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER [Responsive reading]**

One: Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul (Psalm 86:4).

**All: Our souls, Savior God, open and flower before you. Our spirits soar in your presence. Our hearts warm in the presence of your divine love. We come to you in prayer, bow before you in humility, and offer you both petitions and praise.**

One: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication (Psalm 86:5-6).

**All: Holy Spirit, Breath of God, be with those who are suffering and struggling. Free the captives. Heal the sick. Care for those cast aside. Energize the exhausted. Lighten the load of those overwhelmed. Calm this world's warring madness. Shelter the innocent.**

One: "Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name" (Psalm 86:11).

**All: Master Gardener, we walk among weeds and wheat, oftentimes unaware of the difference between good and evil. Help us discern your will and your way. Guide our feet as we walk and work in the garden of your world. Nurture us in your good soil. May our lives contribute to your kingdom to come. May our toil support the growth of your harvest.**

One: "You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (Psalm 86:15). Now, as the Body of Christ and your covenant community, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us, saying, "**Our Father...**"

### **\*DEPARTING HYMN #440 "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"**

### **\*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 & BLESSING [Pastor]**

God's Spirit sends us. We are to shine like the sun, bearing witness to Christ our Savior. May the nourishment of God's Word, the bond of Christian community, and the guidance of God's Holy Spirit fortify us for faithful lives of discipleship. Amen.

### **POSTLUDE**

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