

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell back to our pulpit today! Dr. Bagwell is Professor of Surgery at VCU and head of the Division of Pediatric Surgery at the Children's Hospital. After completing seminary training, he was commissioned by the Presbytery in March 2022, serving in his home church in Brandermill.

Guest Preachers & Announcers

October 1: Rev. John Scholer; D. Hunter, Announcer

October 8: Rev. Kenneth Stith, Sr.; P. Johnson, Announcer

October 15: Rev. Marvin Daniel; S. Hunter, Announcer

October 22: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell; L. Johnson, Announcer

October 29: Rev. Marvin Daniel; S. Walker, Announcer

Movie Night – Wednesday, Oct. 25. Featuring Sight & Sound productions' "ESTHER", a story of drama, power, romance and intrigue! The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with a delicious Taco Dinner, followed by the movie at around 6:30 p.m. Bring a friend or two!
10/8, 10/15, 10/22

Congregational Pocket Directory Update: Plans are to have copies ready by Sunday, Oct. 29. If you think you haven't updated your contact info, call the church office at 804.732.1081 or text your updated info to Nancy at 804.339.6914 by Wed., Oct. 25, so that your correct info is included!

Resource: Holy Bible, (NRSV) © 1989 by Div. of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Published by Zondervan.

Resource: Hymns and "Apostle's Creed", Glory To God, The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press. p. 35.

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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 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*

OCTOBER 22, 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** Larry Johnson

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell
Guest Preacher

CALL TO WORSHIP [Responsive reading; from Psalm 23]

One: In this sacred hour of worship when we name things for what
They really are,

All: we give to God what is God's.

One: Between the demands of this last week and the demands of the
one ahead,

All: we give to God what is God's.

One: With open hearts and hands and minds, every innate gift from
our loving Creator,

All: we give to God what is God's.

***OPENING HYMN #263 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"**

CALL TO CONFESSION [Pastor]

Sin tricks and traps us a hundred times a day. So we turn to God,
Whose business is freedom. Trusting that God will free us from our sin
And deliver us to safety, let us confess our sins with courage and hope.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession.]

***Please stand, as able.**

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

First-responders, world-wide
Families, persons, communities affected by weather disasters & gun violence
Families impacted by the October 2023 Israeli-Hamas conflict in the Gaza Strip
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
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 L. 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)
Moneka Suprenant, Susan Shockley's & Sandy Eickmeyer's friend (brain injury)
John Carl Allen (recovering, orthopedic surgery)
Mary Kay & Mike Schroeter (health issues)
Dr. Joseph Hillier of Matoaca (dentist, ret.), family friend of Mary Lykins (injured
& hospitalized from a fall & possibly pending surgery)
Alex Courtney of Florence, SC, business associate of Dianna L. Flaherty, Mary
Lykins' daughter (injured in motor vehicle accident)
Peggy & Dennis Allen (health issues); Peggy - Petersburg Home for Ladies, Rm #18
Corey Whelan, Pat Hunter's grandson (continuing health issue)
Judy Recher (health issue)
Shirley MacNeill (health issues; Parham Doctor's Hosp., Rm. 215)
Family/friends of Hannah Vaughn, K. V. Butler's granddaughter (d. 10/4)
Family/friends of Alan Sheffield Foster (d. 10/10)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	OCTOBER 22	OCTOBER 29
S	21st Sunday after Pentecost 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ <i>5 Cents- a-Meal Offering</i> Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell	22nd Sunday after Pentecost "Reformation Sunday" 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ <i>Local Emergency Aid Offering</i> Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel
M	23	30
T	24	Hallowe'en 31
W	MOVIE "Esther" in Fellowship Hall 25 6p Taco Dinner 6:30p Movie "Esther"	NOVEMBER 1 All Saints Day
T	6a Clean Church 26 2p Newsletter out	All Souls Day 2 6a Clean Church
F	27	3
S	28	4

ATTENDANCE	WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V
October 1, 2023	19	5	6	
October 8, 2023	21	5	9	
October 15, 2023	27	5	8	
October 22, 2023				
October 29, 2023				

M=Members V=Visitors

CONFESSION OF SIN [In unison]

Creator God, we are commanded to give to you what is branded as yours. But since we cannot see your face, we confess to a miserable confusion. Where is your image printed? Not on our coinage or our calendars. Not on any of the things we buy in the store or in the ad-laden videos that stream by us. No, the only place we can see your face, is in our neighbor and in the mirror. We're the ones created in your image. Honestly, we'd rather pay you tax, God, than give up our whole selves. But if we are what you want, heart, mind, soul, and strength — we'll do our best, God. We'll give our all to you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive]

One: Hear the good news! Our God, lover of justice, glories not in Punishment but in redemption.
 All: Christ has broken the power of sin and rescued us from our shame.
 One: Be at peace: you are forgiven, and you are free.
 All: **To God be the glory! Alleluia! Amen.**

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

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

Lord, in the stories of your Scripture, give us truth to cling to; help us hear your still, small voice. Amen.

SCRIPTURE (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)

New Testament: Matthew 22:15-22 Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell

SERMON "Heads and Tails" Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #442 "Just as I Am, without One Plea"**

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; 1 Thessalonians 1:3]

Scripture praises the "work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." We give now not for the flash or the fame but in quiet, steadfast hope that every dollar might serve to build up the body of Christ in this congregation, and the beloved community in the world. Your offerings matter. Make them with confidence.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

Lord, we dedicate our all to you; not just the money that we no longer call ours, but our thoughts, our plans, our time, our dreams, our days. It's all yours, God. It always was. Help us to rejoice in that. Amen.

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

One: God, we know that you see everything that happens in this world; nothing we pray about is news to you. Yet still we pray, asking that your peace and wisdom rest on us, and your presence transform our lives.

All: Lord, in your infinite mercy, hear our prayers.

One: We pray for the sick, the hungry, the abused, the grieving, the lonely. For those struggling with pain of body, mind or spirit. We pray for the compassionate, who hurt because the world hurts.

All: Lord, in your infinite mercy, hear our prayers.

One: We pray for those who are full of hope today. We pray for those who are a light in the darkness. Strengthen them, Holy Spirit.

All: Lord, in your infinite mercy, hear our prayers.

One: These prayers we lift to you always, that we might be attuned to the needs of your children. Direct our eyes this week, we pray, that we might come to know your heart more fully. We pray now as you taught your disciples, saying, "**Our Father....**"

***DEPARTING HYMN #269 "Lead on, O King Eternal"**

***BLESSING [Responsive]**

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]**

The glory of the Lord is all around you, here in this sanctuary, but it will glimmer also everywhere the children of God go, so does the image of God. So go, bearing invisible glory to make you brave; the peace of Christ, to make you kind, and the power of the Spirit, to make you alive, today, tomorrow, all the days to come. Amen.

POSTLUDE