

*To the Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial:*



## EASTER IS OVER, NOW WHAT?

***Just as the grave couldn't hold the Lord of Life, neither could the calendar confine the events of Easter to just one Sunday.***

***While the lilies have wilted and the last of the chocolate bunnies have long been devoured, celebration of Easter doesn't end with Easter Day.*** The implications of the resurrection of the Son of God are far-reaching, touching every facet of humanity, launching the universe in a stunning new direction ("to boldly go where no man has gone before"<sup>1</sup>) — guided by the new creation in which the God Almighty/Holy Father reigns through his Son in the power of the Holy Spirit. From Easter, our world has received an everlasting King — Jesus Christ. And much like the grave could not hold the Lord of Life, neither could the mere calendar confine the events of Easter to just one Sunday.

In fact, the Church's own calendar refuses to allow us to simply move on by designating that the weeks **of** Easter --- not **after** Easter---continue through 7 more Sundays, all the way to Pentecost. Moreover, with every Sunday thereafter, Good Friday and Easter are represented in a renewal of humanity ("the baptized") through the symbolic feasting on the resurrected body and blood of God's sacrificed Lamb. Thus, in every Holy Communion Sunday, we are confronted by the font and Holy Absolution to bring us back to Holy Baptism, through which we were united in Christ's death and resurrection at the first Easter.

So there's a sense that even though Easter is over in terms of the anniversary of the resurrection of the Son of God, Easter continues still throughout the season, the year, all of life, and throughout all of time. And Christians are called to bask in that glow every day of their lives, as

evidenced in the multiple New Testament descriptions of the resurrection impact on the lives of Christians as they consider *how to live in the present* and on to *what's in store for them in the future*.

***Simply put, the resurrection has upset the proverbial apple cart.*** Death has been defeated, and the Holy Spirit is being poured out onto the baptized, with the result being not only justification for those who rightly-condemned persons but also giving the promise of eternal life in the Spirit — a new way of being human, with the expectation that we will live in the here and now, like the future of a resurrected humanity.

That's what it means for the baptized to believe in "the God who raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory," placing him in authority over all things, for us to have "faith and hope in God," as St. Peter says.

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."*

1 Peter 1:3-5

***Truth be told, Easter ISN'T over: It's just the beginning of what's next. What else could we possibly need?***

***"Live long and prosper."<sup>2</sup>***



THE HERALD newsletter of Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church. Edited by Nancy Adams. Source: Article condensed "Easter Is Over, Now What?" by John Bombaro, <https://www.1517.org/articles/easter-is-over-now-what> © 4/28/2021. 1517 is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Quotes from George Lucas' Star Trek TV series, 1966-1969: <sup>1</sup>Capt. James Kirk; <sup>2</sup>First Officer Spock. Church Trivia: Compiled by Mary Holc.

## WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR MAY, 2025

### Sunday, 4 May, 2025

"3<sup>RD</sup> Sunday of Easter" – Liturgical Color: White  
Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel

### Sunday, 11 May, 2025

#### *"Mother's Day"*

"4<sup>TH</sup> Sunday of Easter" – Liturgical Color: White  
Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel

### Thursday, 18 May, 2025

"5<sup>TH</sup> Sunday of Easter" – Liturgical Color: White  
Service by: Rev. Marvin Daniel

### Sunday, 25 May, 2025

"6<sup>TH</sup> Sunday of Easter" – Liturgical Color: White  
Service by: Rev. Charles Philips



**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.

First-responders, firefighters, search & rescue personnel, world-wide  
All persons and their pets affected by Santa Ana  
wind-driven wildfires in California  
Our deployed U.S. service personnel & their families  
Families, persons, communities affected by weather disasters  
& gun violence  
All families affected by war & civil unrest in Africa & the Middle East  
People & Sovereign Country of Ukraine  
Those suffering from illness/loss/grief/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)  
Larry Brown of Chesterfield, Larry Johnson's friend (health issue)  
Emily Henry, Mary Holc's sister (health issue)  
Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue)

Renee' Renier, Diana Flaherty's long-time friend (health issue)  
Moneka Suprenant, Susan Shockley's & Sandy Eickmeyer's  
friend (health issue)  
Mary Kay & Mike Schroeter (health issues)  
Dr. Joseph Hillier of Matoaca, Lykins family friend (health issue)  
Alex Courtney of Florence, SC, business associate of Dianna L.  
Flaherty, Mary Lykins' daughter  
Dennis Allen (health issue)  
Corey Whelan, Pat Hunter's grandson (health issue)  
Judy Recher (health issue)  
Shirley MacNeill (health issues)  
Sean Godwin, Bill & Cheryl Godwin's grandson (health issue)  
Charlie Perkins (health issue)  
Evelyn Foster  
Marcus O'Neill, husband of Wayne Powers' niece, Ashley  
(health issue)  
Michael Evans, former son-in-law of Nancy & A. W. Adams  
and son of Bobby & Sandra Tipton and Ray Evans  
Family/friends of His Holiness, Pope Francis  
(Jorge Mario Bergoglio), d. 4/21

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### **WE'RE HAVING A BABY SHOWER!**

**PROUD PARENTS-TO-BE:  
LAUREN & DAVID TOGGER**

### **YOU ARE INVITED!**

**WHAT:** A Congratulatory Baby Shower Breakfast to celebrate the pending new arrival to the family of Lauren & David Togger!

**WHEN:** Sunday, May 18; 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (during our Sunday School hour)

**WHERE:** Fellowship Hall

Please plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall on May 18 during the Sunday School hour as we joyfully celebrate the pending arrival of a new member to the Togger family with a Baby Shower Breakfast that Faith Committee is hosting for Lauren and David. All are invited!

**PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES:** We want worship to be a nurturing experience for your whole family. As such, Nursery services are available for your benefit and the enjoyment of your child. Let one of our greeters know and they'll help you get set up!

### **GMPC CHURCH WORK DAY – Sat., May 17,**



**8 a.m. - 1 p.m.,** Calling all volunteers!

We're having a Work Day on Sat., May 17, from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. (or 1 p.m., *depending...*) We had

such great results the last Work Day that we thought we'd try it again. **Thanks to all who gave it a go!** The day will begin with a breakfast for volunteers in the Fellowship Hall at 8 a.m. Let Doug or Dave know so we can plan for food and assignments.

### **COALITION OF TRI-CITIES CHURCHES FAITH-BASED DISASTER RESPONSE -**

**Tues., May 20, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Destination Church (Crossings Shopping Center).** Be a part of Faith-based Disaster Response. For more info, contact: Brion Bear, Deputy PG Emergency Management Coordinator; Tel. 804.919.1740, [bbear@princegeorgecountytva.gov](mailto:bbear@princegeorgecountytva.gov) Food & drinks will be provided. Rsvp deadline: May 12.

### **CHURCH TRIVIA – PURPLE IN LENT**

Purple has been used in church history during Lent since the 12<sup>th</sup> century ([pcusa.org](http://pcusa.org)). Merriam-Webster.com defines purple as any color midway between red and blue. In ancient Mediterranean, it was an expensive dye extracted from the mucus of Murex snails and could only be afforded by royalty and the church. According to Saint Johnpc.org, purple is a visual cue for deep spiritual reflection and symbolizes penance, repentance, and renewal. Purple reminds us of Christ's suffering as recorded in John 19:2 where a purple robe was placed on Him during his trial before his crucifixion. Healthyspirituality.org says "Purple invites us to slow down and reflect on Christ's sacrifice for His church." Purple represents God's power, majesty, and Christ's sacrifice on the cross. It reminds you and me of our need for repentance and humility. I invite you to watch for Purple as we celebrate Lent and Easter. **Next time- Trinity Sunday.**

Contributed by Mary Holc. References: ([pcusa.org](http://pcusa.org)). Merriam-Webster.com; Saint Johnpc.org

### **HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE FOR 2025**

February 2, 2025	<b>June 1, 2025</b>	October 5, 2025
April 6, 2025	August 3, 2025	December 7, 2025

### **MAY ANNOUNCERS/READERS\* (\*if requested by pastor)**

May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25
Larry Johnson	Susan Shockley	Rose Scott	Mary Holc

**FOR MAY: CHIMES – Mary Webber / ACOLYTE – Wayne Powers**

## BE INSPIRED: Is It Mothers Day? Or Mother's Day? Or Mothers' Day?

The story of Mother's Day goes back to 1858 in what is now a West Virginia community (a Virginia Community until 1863 when it joined the Union as a separate state), and it began with a problem: **It had a terrible infant mortality rate**, and a woman named Ann Reeves Jarvis wanted to do something about it.

Ann Jarvis organized "Mother's Day Work Clubs" in West Virginia to help mothers learn about hygiene and sanitation and how to care for their children. She understood a mother's loss, as she had 13 children of her own, but only 4 lived into adulthood. In addition to helping educate mothers in the area, she also worked to bring reconciliation after the Civil War ended. She had lost 5 of her children during the War, and in 1868, coordinated a "Mothers' Friendship Day" in West Virginia to bring former foes together. Veterans from both North and South wept and shook hands for the first time in years. She knew the powerful role mothers played, and wanted to see mothers celebrated for the work they did to improve the lives of others. "I hope and pray that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mothers' day commemorating her for the matchless service she renders to humanity in every field of life. She is entitled to it," Mrs. Jarvis said. When Ann Reeves Jarvis died in 1905, her daughter Anna, was determined to fulfill her mother's dream to celebrate mothers.

**But Anna took a different approach.** She wanted to celebrate *her* mother from her position as a devoted daughter using her motto for Mother's Day: "For the Best Mother Who Ever Lived – Your Mother." ***This was why the apostrophe went after the r in "Mother" – it was meant to be singular, not plural.***

According to historian Katharine Antolini: "Anna envisioned the holiday as a homecoming, a day to honor **your** mother, the one woman who dedicated her life to **you**." The idea of celebrating the sacrifices a mother made was supported by others, and Anna's decision to celebrate on a Sunday made it appeal to churches as well. The first Mother's Day was celebrated in the Andrews Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia in 1908, 3 years after Anna Jarvis's mother died. Anna handed out hundreds of white carnations (her mother's favorite flower) to the mothers who attended. The date was intentional. Anna wanted Mother's Day to be celebrated on the second Sunday in May, making it always close to May 9, the day her mother had died.

**And Anna was determined to see Mother's Day spread.** She began a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians, arguing that

American holidays were biased toward male achievements, and urged them to adopt a special day honoring motherhood. She also created a Mother's Day International Association and copyright-trademarked the phrases "Mother's Day" and "second Sunday in May." Her efforts were working, and in 1910, West Virginia made Mother's Day a state holiday.

**And her idea quickly spread beyond West Virginia.** In 1914, US President Woodrow Wilson designated Mother's Day as a national holiday, and agreed to Anna's preferred placement of the apostrophe in "Mother's Day", making it singular possessive, not plural possessive, so each family would honor its one and only mother. Mother's Day was embraced across the US, and also by Canada where it became a national holiday in 1915. But her joy was short-lived. Her vision for Mother's Day as a private acknowledgement for all the mother does for her family was eclipsed by commercial appeal very early on. When the price of carnations skyrocketed at Mother's Day, she issued a press release condemning florists. By 1920, she was urging people not to buy flowers at all when she saw businesses and charities using Mother's Day for their own purposes and when it was dragged into the debate over women's votes. She even accused First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt of "crafty plotting" for using Mother's Day in fundraising material for charities that addressed high maternal and infant mortality rates.

While many saw Mother's Day as an opportunity to make money, Anna never profited from Mother's Day, even though she could easily have done so. Instead, she used what money she had to fight the commercialization of Mother's Day, often with lawsuits over copyright infringement. In 1944 *Newsweek* claimed she had 33 pending lawsuits. ***Groups and companies purposely used the possessive plural spelling "Mothers' Day" to get around Anna's copyright!***

Anna spent 9 years campaigning to make Mother's Day a national holiday, and then decades of her life trying to have the holiday rescinded. Anna never married or had children. In 1944, at age 80, the reclusive Anna was nearly blind, deaf and destitute, and was placed in a mental asylum in Philadelphia. She died four years later, and her obituary described her as a "lonely spinster."

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*The Story Behind Mother's Day" <https://bethcollier.substack.com/p/the-surprising-story-behind-mothers-day>*

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MAY, 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
No Worship Cmte meeting until June 2				<b>1 Nat'l Day of Prayer</b>  <b>6a</b> Clean church  <b>6-8p</b> SA Cub Pack 910 (Fellowship Hall)	2	<b>3</b>  <b>8p</b> PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
<b>4 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>  <b>9:30a</b> Sunday School  <b>11a</b> Worship service by Rev. Marvin Daniel	5	6	7	<b>8</b>  <b>6a</b> Clean church  <b>7-9p</b> GSA Tr 5000 (Fellowship Hall)	9	<b>10</b>  <b>8p</b> PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
<b>11 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter "Mother's Day"</b>  <b>9:30a</b> Sunday School  <b>11a</b> Worship service by Rev. Marvin Daniel	<b>12</b>  <b>5:30-9p</b> SA Crater OA (Fellowship Hall, kitchen)	<b>13</b>  <b>1p</b> Circle meeting (@ GMPC)	<b>14</b>  <b>7p</b> Faith Cmte	<b>15</b>  <b>6a</b> Clean church  <b>2p</b> Newsletter (Jun) articles due in office  <b>6-8p</b> SA Cub Pack 910 (Fellowship Hall)	<b>16</b>   	<b>17</b>  <b>8a-12p</b> (or 1p) GMPC Work Day (8am b'fast for volunteers in Fellowship Hall)  <b>8p</b> PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
<b>18 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>  <b>9:30a</b> Sunday School & Togger Baby Shower Breakfast (during Sunday School hour)  <b>11a</b> Worship service by Rev. Marvin Daniel  <b>12p</b> Stated Session Meeting  Moderator ( <i>virtual</i> ): Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson	<b>19</b>  <b>7p</b> Finance Cmte	<b>20</b>  <b>9:30-11:30a</b> Faith-based Disaster Response (Coalition of Churches) at Destination Church, Crossings Shopping Ctr., Prince George (RSVP by 5/12))	<b>21</b>   	<b>22</b>  <b>6a</b> Clean church  <b>2p</b> Newsletter out	<b>23</b>   	<b>24</b>  <b>8p</b> PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
<b>25 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>  <b>9:30a</b> Sunday School  <b>11a</b> Worship service by Rev. Charles Philips  ➤ 5¢-a-Meal Offering	<b>26 MEMORIAL DAY</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29 Ascension of The Lord</b>  <b>6a</b> Clean church	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  <b>2p</b> Cmte reports due  <b>8p</b> PG Study Group AA (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)

STAMP

## A close-up photograph of a bouquet of flowers. The bouquet features several pink roses with green leaves, interspersed with numerous small white baby's breath flowers. The flowers are arranged in a dense, rounded shape against a dark background.

We're on: [Facebook.com/gmpcva](https://www.facebook.com/gmpcva)