

# THE CORNERSTONE

"Mobilizing Disciples to fulfill God's passion to save and transform lives"

July 2022 Volume 18 Issue 7

[www.centralparkcc.org](http://www.centralparkcc.org)

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Now the Lord is the Spirit,  
and where the Spirit of the  
Lord is, there is  
**freedom**  
**2 Corinthians 3:17**



## VBS Lava Lava Luau

**Keeping cool when things get hot!**

**August 1st - 4th / In the evening**

Emotions are like a force of nature, but with God's help, we can learn to take control of our emotions before a storm hits!

At Lava Lava Luau, kids (K-5th grade) will learn Biblical ways to express and deal with their emotions. We will also explore what God's Word says about anger, sadness, jealousy, and frustration and learn how to respond to others who may be feeling these emotions as well.

**Please join us at the Kick-off Celebration**

**Sunday, July 31st from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

We'll have food & games! Volunteers are needed to make this event a success! Don't miss out on the fun!

Register your child/children now via the insert in the Sunday bulletin or online at [www.centralparkcc.org](http://www.centralparkcc.org). Keep an eye out for a sign-up board in the church foyer to volunteer to help!



**Questions? Please call Jeff @ 845-4131 or Elijah @ 861-5868.**



a message from  
OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Derek Slack

## What's Love got to do with it?

Do me a favor and read the book of **2 John** before you go any further....Don't worry, it's only 13 verses! Love. This is the first thing I want you to notice in John's words today. More than anything else, the Christian life is a life of love. When we abandon the fundamental doctrine of love, we do not "continue in the teaching of Christ," as John says in verse 9.

Love is the fundamental belief of the Christian faith. Jesus himself made this clear. When He was asked "What is the greatest commandment?," Jesus answered with a quote from the book of Deuteronomy. He said...

***"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39)***

Then Jesus summed it up in **John 13:35**, when He said...***"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*** If you have been toying with any equation of spirituality that doesn't begin and end with the doctrine of love, you've missed the mark. Christianity is, first and last, about love. That's why John said...

***(v. 5) And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another.***

Love is fundamental. It is supreme. It is the gospel in a word. That's the first thing we see in John's short letter, but we also see that **LOVING UP CLOSE IS BETTER THAN LOVING FROM A DISTANCE.**

John said...(v. 12) ***I have much to write to you, but I do not want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.***

John is emphasizing the personal nature of the Christian life. It's so much more than pen and ink. It's much better face-to-face. The road to discipleship is not traveled by way of books and tapes and podcasts and TV preachers, even the good ones.

Of course, there is study involved in becoming a disciple and we should listen to as many sermons as we can and read as many books as we can and study as much as we can -- but the most powerful moments in the Christian life happen face-to-face.

I've had many incredible worship experiences in solitude, but the greatest worship experiences I've had have been in the presence of others.

Some of the most significant learning experiences I've had, the kind of learning experiences that are less about increasing knowledge and more about creating life

continued on page 3

### **What's Love got to do with it? ...continued from page 2**

change, have happened in the presence of others, in the context of a Sunday School class or small groups. That's the power of community.

John was saying he wanted to do more than just send words on a page. He said, "I want to see **face-to-face**, so that our joy may be complete." We were made for community. We were made for personal contact with one another.

God isn't looking for a bunch of individuals who will love Him and serve Him merely as individuals. He wants those individuals to love Him and serve Him by loving one another and serving one another. Love is the be-all, end-all of the Christian life. It's our most fundamental belief, and our highest command.

As John said in a previous letter...

**Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:7-8)**

Did you hear that? "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." It's why John's letter is so urgent, because "his command is that you walk in love."

The Gospel, in a word, is love. There are people who will try to make it about politics, or financial prosperity, or the cultural wars, and they will distort the message of Jesus to suit their own agenda.

Instead, we need to proclaim the original, Biblical gospel message - Jesus Christ came into the world to save us from our sins and to give us a new life in Him. He called us to not only live in love, but to take this message of love and new life to a lost world.

Let us love one another. How do we put this into practice? It begins with this prayer: God, help me love others as You have loved me, so each person I meet today has a sense of Your great love for them.

Swimming in the deep end,

Derek

# STUDENT MINISTRY



Jeff Martens

## High School & Middle School Youth Group

Middle School Youth Group meets Wednesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the church. Dinner is served at 6:00.

High School Youth Group meets Sunday afternoons from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Pastor Jeff's house. Lunch is served.

Contact Jeff at 785-845-4131 with questions.

## What Must I Do?

In Matthew 19, a rich man comes to see Jesus and explains how he is following all of the rules but feels something is missing from his pursuit of God.

**“All these rules I have kept,” he says. “What do I still lack?” (v. 20)**

In other words, “I am doing all of the basics of what’s required...so why do I still feel I’m missing something?”

**Jesus responds, “If you want to be perfect (whole), go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” (v. 21)**

The rich man goes away sad because he won’t give up the one thing that consumes him. He is full of riches; he can’t see how undernourished his soul is. Jesus doesn’t mean this as a command for everyone who has money, it’s meant for any who wallow in whatever abundance we might have.

He wants us to give up the one thing we crave more than Him. Then come, and follow Him!!

**“If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me.” (Mark 8:34)**

With Jesus, if we want to gain, we must give up. To be filled, we must deny ourselves. To truly get close to God, we have to distance ourselves from other things. To conquer our cravings, we have to redirect them to God.

**WE MUST GAZE AT GOD, AND GLANCE AT THE WORLD!!**

*Excerpts from I’LL START AGAIN MONDAY by Lysa Terkeurst*

# STUDENT MINISTRY

## Pancakes, Pies & Punches!

### Kid's Evening Program

Pre-K to 5th grade activities are held on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the church. Dinner is served at 6:00.

### Summer Events

#### High School Retreat

CIY - Dallas, TX  
July 11th-16th  
9th-12th grade | \$450

#### Vacation Bible School

August 1st-5th  
Preschool-5th grade | Free!

Contact Jeff at  
785-845-4131  
with questions.



### We raised \$1,900

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Pancakes, Pies & Punches event a success! It was such a fun morning! Proceeds will assist our children and youth attend camps this summer.

*\*\*No pastors were harmed during the event!\*\**

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY



## **Ladies' Bible Studies**

**Wednesdays**

**6:45 to 8:00 p.m.**

**The Book of Acts**

*Led by Barb Gray.*

*Group meets in  
the CPCC Parlor.*



## **Deaconess' Meeting**

*The next Deaconess' meeting is*

**Saturday, July 9th**

*from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the church.*

## **Prayer Shawl Meetings**

Tuesday, July 5th at 11:00 a.m. at the church  
and Thursday, June 21st at 6:30 p.m.  
at the home of Judi Cox.

Contact Judi at  
272-9803  
for more information.



## **Monthly Bible Verse**

*Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.*

*~ Ephesians 3:12 (NLT)*

# IMPORTANT INFO

## Young Adult Sunday School

Young Adults (age 18-29) are invited to join Pastor Derek in his office during the Sunday school hour. Topics vary and discussions are fun!

**For more information, contact Derek.**

## Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

Our card ministry team would like to celebrate your birthday and your wedding anniversary with you! If you are willing to share these special dates, please email Stacy in the church office at [stacy@centralparkcc.org](mailto:stacy@centralparkcc.org). This information will be shared with Alison Crow and her team. Thank you!



## All-Church Potluck

Sunday, July 17th - 12:30 PM ~ CPCC Fellowship Hall

Join us following Worship service for a Mexican-themed potluck! Drinks will be provided, you bring your favorite Mexican dish and desserts to share!

~ Food, Fellowship and Fun ~

as we celebrate friendships and summer at CPCC.

Please sign up via the form in the bulletins or call the office at 785-234-5963. Thank you!



THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE  
CLOSED ON MONDAY, JULY 4TH

HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY



MEETING  JULY 30th  
LEADERSHIP 9:30 a.m.  
MEETING Fellowship Hall

*Sunday Nights!* 6:30 to 7:30 PM  
CPCC Sanctuary

**S**unday **E**vening **T**eaching

An evening of focused teaching on the Word.

The next Cornerstone newsletter will print Wednesday, July 27th. Please have all items to the office by 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 20th.

# NEWS AND NOTES

## JULY CROSS GUARD

**Sunday School**  
**9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

**July 3rd**  
*Lynden Landholm*

**July 10th**  
*Rick Fischli*

**July 17th**  
*Ray DeMoss*

**July 24th**  
*Rick Fischli*

**July 31st**  
*Steve Horton*

**Sunday Worship**  
**10:30 a.m. - Noon**

**July 3rd**  
*Gary Burks*  
*Tim Cunningham*

**July 10th**  
*Dan Johnson*  
*Tyler Crow*

**July 17th**  
*Dan Force*  
*Charles McWilliams*

**July 24th**  
*John Cantrell*  
*Ron Booth*

**July 31st**  
*Tristan Webb*  
*Jason Vinsonhaler*

## JULY DEACONESS

*Melissa Vinsonhaler*  
*Cyndie Rexer*



This July we are taking all of our summer events and rolling them into one month! We have Christmas in July collections for our adopted families this December, and our 3rd Summer Cash Bash to earn matching funds!

Last December Doorstep assisted 259 households involving 822 individuals with Christmas gifts, food, and gift cards. Each year we celebrate “Christmas in July” to get a jump on collecting new items for our annual Christmas adoption! Our goal is to help alleviate some of the strain during the holidays by also collecting items mid-year. Doorstep will adopt 260 households with 800+ individuals this December through the Christmas Bureau. We have created a more specific list of items this year, based on the requested items our families listed last Christmas. Our collection focus for Christmas in July is non-seasonal items that should be easily available this time of year.

Each school-aged child we adopt receives school supplies and a backpack, and each household receives a blanket and a health kit (filled with hygiene products) and wrapped with a new bath towel, hand towel and washcloth! Each child receives one bigger toy as their gift, and other smaller items are available along with games, books, stuffed animals, stocking stuffers, etc.

You can bring your Christmas donations to worship in July (if your congregation is open), or to Doorstep, Monday – Friday, 8am – 3pm.

Our 3rd Summer Cash Bash has our generous, anonymous donor offering up to \$15,000 in money if we receive donations of \$20,000 or more, during the month of July! Please note your congregation and ‘Summer Cash Bash’ on your donations so we apply it to the matching total! Donations typically drop during the summer months, and this will help Doorstep continue to operate, pay our bills, and help our neighbors in need pay theirs.





# CHRISTMAS IN JULY

## ***Doorstep's Christmas in July*** ***Donations Needed for this Christmas!***



For our Christmas distribution in 2022 we are collecting more specific items based on what families requested last year.

### **Craft and Art Sets**

Canvases (3pk/6pk) + Brushes & Paints (Teens/Adults)  
Adult Coloring Books with Markers or Colored Pencils  
Jewelry & Craft Making Kits



### **Toys**

Footballs & Basketballs ~ Lego Sets ~ Pop-Its ~ LOL Dolls ~ Dinosaurs  
Paw Patrol ~ Peppa Pig ~ Star Wars ~ Educational Toys (all ages)  
Toys for Ages 5 - 12 ~ Family Board Games ~ Puzzles  
Teen Girls ~ Make-Up & Nail Kits



### **Other Items**

Towel Sets - (Bath, Hand & Washcloth) ~ Blankets - Full/Queen & King Sizes

Hygiene Items ~ Shampoo + Conditioner ~ Bar Soap ~ Combs ~ Hair Brushes ~  
Toothpaste ~ Toothbrushes. (Full Size Items)

Bathroom Sets ~ (Rugs, Trash Can, Shower Curtain, Toothbrush & Soap Holders)



Notebook Paper ~ Spiral Notebooks ~ Folders ~ Pens ~ Pencils ~ Glue  
Erasers ~ Backpacks ~ Rulers ~ Crayons ~ Markers ~ Scissors

### **Kitchen Items**

Bakeware Sets ~ Skillet Sets  
Dish Sets ~ Utensil Sets ~ Pots & Pans

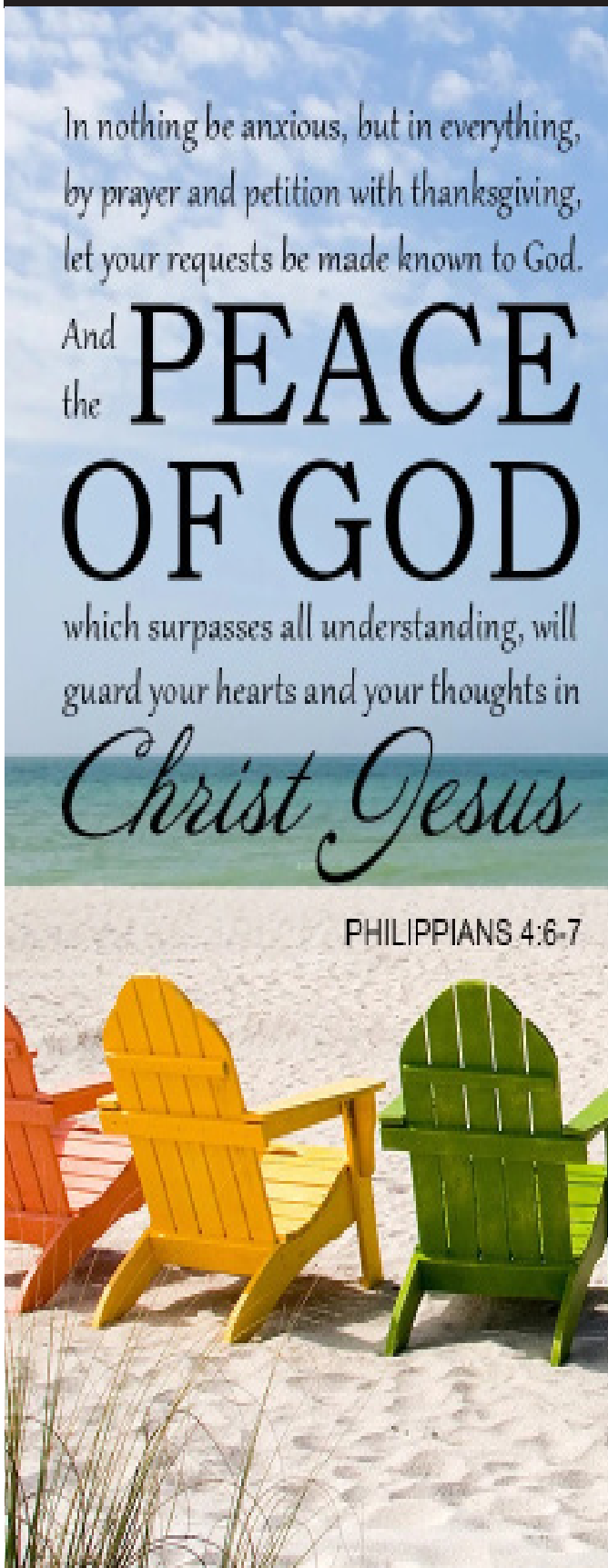


### **Men's & Women's Gifts**

Women's Bath & Lotion Sets  
Men's Body Wash Sets  
Men's & Women's Cologne Sets

**Bring your donations to worship during the month of July, or deliver to Doorstep at 1119 SW 10th (10th & Buchanan). Thank you for making the holiday brighter for your neighbors in need!**

# Prayer & Praise



*Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...*

**Agnes Cox**

*Currently living with her daughter, Juanita.*

**Darlene McCarter**

*McCrite Plaza Nursing Home Resident*

**Shirley Wolf**

*Atria Hearthstone Resident*

**Sandy Darnall**

*Ruble Ranch Assisted Living Resident*

## *Sunday Morning Prayer Meeting*

Join others at 8:30 a.m. Sunday mornings for 30 minutes, to spend time praising the Lord, praying for His leading and blessing, and asking Him to move powerfully in our classes and worship time.

The prayer meetings are held in Derek's office and are also available via Zoom.

[zoom.us/j/2029856144](https://zoom.us/j/2029856144) - passcode cpcc1535

## *Monday Prayer Meeting & Elders Meeting*

All are invited to gather together on Monday evenings, at 6:00 at the church, to pray for our church, our city, our state, and the nation.

The prayer meetings are also available via Zoom.  
[zoom.us/j/2029856144](https://zoom.us/j/2029856144) - passcode cpcc1535

\*An Elder's meeting will take place on the 2nd & 4th Monday immediately following the prayer meeting.

(\*See calendar on page 13 for dates)



# Monthly Events at CPCC...

# JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					1	2  8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i>	
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM SIAFU 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 6:30 PM S.E.T.	<b>3</b>              <b>4</b>  <b>Independence Day</b>   Office Closed	<b>5</b>  11:00 AM Prayer Shawl at the church 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	<b>6</b>  6:00 PM Middle & Elementary Students Evening Activities (Dinner Served) 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study	<b>7</b>  1:00 PM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study at the church	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i> Deaconess Meeting 9:30 AM	
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM SIAFU 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 6:30 PM S.E.T.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting	<b>12</b>  6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	<b>13</b>  6:00 PM Middle & Elementary Students Evening Activities (Dinner Served) 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study	<b>14</b>  1:00 PM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study at the church	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i>
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM SIAFU 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group No S.E.T.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	<b>19</b>  6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	<b>20</b>  6:00 PM Middle & Elementary Students Evening Activities (Dinner Served) 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study	<b>21</b>  1:00 PM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:30 PM Prayer Shawl at Judi Cox's 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study at the church	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i>
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM SIAFU 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 6:30 PM S.E.T.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting	<b>26</b>  6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  1:00 PM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study at the church	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i> Leadership Meeting 9:30 AM
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM SIAFU 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 6:30 PM S.E.T.	<b>31</b>						

# CPCG Pastoral Staff, Support Team & Leadership



Derek Slack  
Senior Pastor  
[derek@centralparkcc.org](mailto:derek@centralparkcc.org)



Jeff Martens  
Connections Pastor  
[jeff@centralparkcc.org](mailto:jeff@centralparkcc.org)

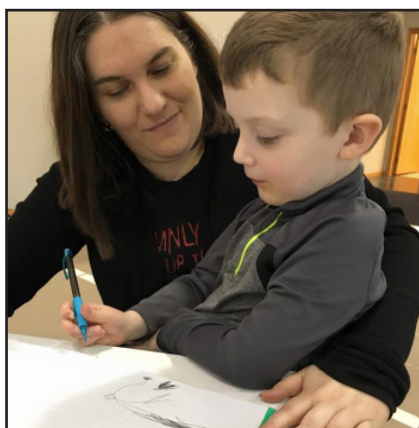
## Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
1535 SW Clay St.  
Topeka, KS 66604  
Phone: (785) 234-5963  
Fax: (785) 234-0538

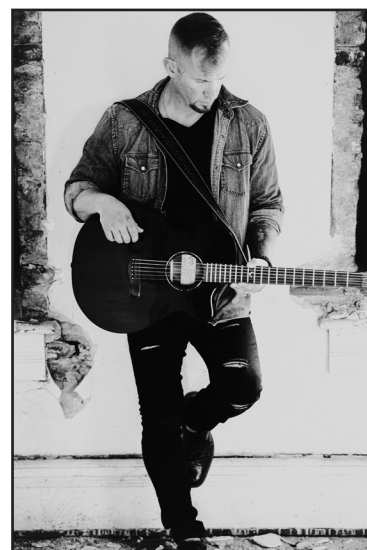
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### Trustees:

Terry Barnes & Stan Seidel

### Elders:

Eric Cook, Geoff Gray,  
Victor Hercules,  
Lynden Landholm,  
Randy Spilker,  
Jason Vinsonhaler, Bill White

## JOIN US DURING THE WEEK

Prayer Time - Sundays at 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School - Sundays at 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service & K-motion - Sundays at 10:45 a.m.  
SIAFU - Sundays at 12:30 p.m.  
High School Youth Group - Sundays 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.  
Prayer Time - Mondays at 6:00 p.m.  
A.R.R.O.W. - Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.  
Middle School Youth Group - Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.  
Grade School Group - Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.