

THE CORNERSTONE

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

August 2022 Volume 18 Issue 8

www.centralparkcc.org

In This Issue

What's Love got
to do with it?
page 2

Love continued
page 3

Student Ministry
page 4

Worship Ministry
page 5

Women's Ministry
page 6

From our Elders
page 7

News & Notes
page 8

Important Info
page 9

Outreach
page 10

Missions
page 11

Prayer & Praise
page 12

August Events
page 13

Serving You
page 14



Please pray for our teachers, students and all staff returning to school this month.



VBS Lava Lava Luau

Keeping cool when things get hot!

August 1st - 4th / 6:00 PM to 8:15 PM

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-8th 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
Check out the sign-up board in the church foyer to help with donations and volunteer opportunities.!



Questions? Please call Jeff @ 785-845-4131 or Elijah @ 785-861-5868.

a message from OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Derek Slack

What's Love got to do with it?

Each Sunday millions of people gather for the purpose of worshipping God. They attend all kinds of churches—big churches, small churches, city churches, country churches. Some meet in multimillion-dollar sanctuaries; some meet in rented facilities. Some have loud worship services; some prefer a contemplative atmosphere. Some churches sing only traditional hymns; others sing contemporary worship choruses. Some preachers wear robes; some don't.

I could go on and on listing the different types of worship services that are taking place right now throughout the country. Despite the many differences, there is one common denominator: millions of Christians have gathered to worship Christ.

All these millions of worshippers fall into two categories: Those who connect with God, and those who simply go through the motions. With very few exceptions, all those in category two really want to be in category one—why else would they be in church? But, for reasons that are beyond them, there are obstacles in their way.

Maybe it's doubt, or confusion, or fear, or unconfessed sin. Whatever the reason, there are many people who go to church hoping to get something out of it, but don't. Instead, week after week they go home feeling empty and bored.

Amazingly, in the very same service there are many who go home exhilarated, knowing that they have been in the presence of the living God. I have heard said, "This is one of the greatest worship experiences I've ever had!" Moments later to hear, "This was not for me this morning!" It was hard to believe both people were in the same worship service.

The most important element in any worship service is the heart of the person attending the service. If your heart is bent toward God when you walk in the door—it will be full of God when you walk out.

Jesus said, "those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth." Worship can be defined as "getting drenched with God." It can happen anytime you want; it's simply a matter of preparing yourself. Take a moment to read this passage: Isaiah 6:1-8

Worship begins with an attitude of reverence—or respect—for God. We cannot refer to Him flippantly as "the big guy" or "the man upstairs." He's not an impersonal "higher power." He is God—great, powerful, good, and worthy of our praise.

There are two sides to God's nature. On one side is the transcendence of God, the fact that God is beyond anything earthly or finite. On the other side is the immanence of God, the fact God is everywhere all the time. These are two extremes, and both are true.

Psalms 138:6 says, "For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly."

There's an old hymn that says, "He walks with me and talks with me and tells me I am His own." This is the immanence of God. It is true, but we sometimes make the mistake of ignoring the other side of God's nature. We fail to acknowledge His holiness, His majesty, His power.

continued on page 3

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

Some theologians have described God with the phrase “wholly other”, meaning that God is not one of us, nor is He like us. He is beyond anything we could imagine, greater than we comprehend, more magnificent than we could ever describe.

He is good beyond description, powerful beyond description, holy beyond description. He is completely independent of this world, and His involvement with humanity is purely by choice—not the result of any need or limitation on His part. He is Wholly Other.

Isaiah recognized this side of God when he saw the Lord. He was overcome with an awareness of God's...

Majesty - “I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty...”
Greatness - “...and the hem of his robe filled the temple...”
Supremacy - “...Angels were in attendance above him...”
Holiness - “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts...”
Glory - “...the whole earth is full of His glory.”

Worship begins with the right attitude about God. As far as is humanly possible, we must see Him as He really is—powerful, holy, pure, and good. This leads us to the next part of worship. Worship is more than just singing a few songs and listening to a sermon. It is more than just following a ritual. Worship is an attitude that says, “Here am I, Lord, send me!”

When two people get married, they publicly vow to love, honor, and cherish one another until they are parted by death. The success of the marriage is dependent upon the couple's commitment to this vow.

It doesn't matter how much money was spent on the ceremony; it doesn't matter what was the color of the bridesmaid's dress; it makes no difference how many people were in attendance. These are all irrelevant: the wedding ceremony is not the marriage.

If the bride and groom aren't serious about the wedding vow, then the whole event is a charade and a waste of everybody's time, because a good marriage is not determined by a fancy wedding ceremony, it is determined by the level of commitment the bride and groom have for one another.

In the same way, the music, the prayers, the scripture reading, and the message you have heard today are all only “pomp and circumstance” if you leave without a stronger commitment to serve God. Paul said, “I appeal to you therefore, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.” (Romans 12:1)

Considering our conversation today, please keep this in mind as you go to worship God this week, ask yourself this... am I bringing Him my real and am I bringing him my all?

Swimming in the deep end –

Derek

STUDENT MINISTRY



Jeff Martens

Welcome to the team!

Elijah White will be joining CPCC as our Interim Student Minister until the end of the school year. Elijah is the son of Bill and Kim White and he attended the first Sunday service held when CPCC reopened its doors 17 years ago. He was three years old, and to this day, he calls CPCC his church home. It has always been Elijah's passion to work with youth and to share the word and hope of God with them. Elijah served as our summer intern and was instrumental in helping Pastor Jeff with camps and activities for the children and youth. Next up, he'll get to experience VBS!! Please continue praying for Elijah, Jeff and the children and youth as they pursue closer relationships with the Holy Trinity. Take a moment to congratulate Elijah on this new position.



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.

High School Youth Group

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.

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.

Vacation Bible School

Lava Lava Luau
*Keeping cool when
things get hot!*
August 1st - 4th
6:00 PM to 8:15 PM
August 1st-5th
Preschool-8th grade

.....Contact Jeff at 785-845-4131 or Elijah at 785-861-5868 with questions.

a message from
OUR WORSHIP LEADER



Dayme Green

Crosswalk

So I was working my day job earlier this week and I noticed something odd. I watched a couple exit a business on 6th St and approach the curb line at mid-block where they stood and waited for several minutes for traffic to pass before stepping out into the street to try to cross all four lanes before traffic picked back up again. Neither of them could move very quickly for what I assumed were health reasons and I watched them try to hurry across the street, forcing approaching cars to wait for them to get across. Now the funny thing about this is that not thirty yards from where they crossed is a pedestrian crosswalk, complete with a push-button traffic signal that when activated, requires traffic to stop and let them cross at their own pace. The presence of this crosswalk, technically makes what they did jaywalking and illegal, fortunately for them, I was too busy coming up with this devotion and watching to make sure they got across safely to stop them for said violation. So rather than put in a little extra effort to do things the way things should be done, they took the “easy” route and ended up costing themselves a lot of time and risk. Thankfully they were able to get safely across, but was it worth it?

This got me thinking, how often in our lives do we try to do things our own way? How often do we try to take the “easy” route instead of listening to God’s word and direction and face life’s problems and our day to day situation the way we should? We try to lean on our own understanding and face issues with our own stiff necked plans when, if we’d just take a minute and look around, so to speak, if we would just take a minute to take our circumstances before the Lord and seek His path and His council, how much heartache and effort could we save ourselves?

So I encourage you all as I encourage myself, when you’re up against something; whether it’s a major life decision or crisis, or you just need a little direction, take the time to go to the Lord. Walk that half a block to the “cross”walk and just push the button.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Ladies' Bible Study

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, September 10th
from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the church.*

Prayer Shawl Meetings

Tuesday, August 2nd at 11:00 a.m. at the Library and Thursday, June 18th at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Judi Cox.

****Please note, the Tuesday morning Prayer Shawl group will meet at the Library this month due to VBS.****

Contact Judi at
272-9803
for more information.



Monthly Bible Verse

¹⁸Open my eyes so that I may see great things from Your Law. ¹⁹I am a stranger on the earth. Do not hide Your Word from me. ²⁰My soul is crushed with a desire for Your Law at all times. ~ Psalm 119:18-20 (NLV)

a message from OUR ELDERS

Greetings from the elders!

"Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." ~1 Timothy 4:12

Paul's encouragement to Timothy should be a challenge to all of us who... let's say... are less youthful than we used to be. Do we see our youth as examples? From the perspective of this elder, we can absolutely learn from our youth and the way God shows up in their lives. I had the privilege of accompanying the Central Park Christian Church high school youth to the CIY Move conference in Arlington, Texas during the week of July 11th. These high school kids' depth of knowledge, their wisdom, and their willingness to have hard conversations was inspiring and humbling. We can certainly learn from their example of faith and conduct in love. I hope you all took the opportunity to hear our youth speak on July 24th for Youth Sunday. This is being written before Youth Sunday, but I am sure there will have been wisdom and encouragement shared by our youth that should spur our congregation to greater faith in Christ. There is a reputation within the church that we do not show up for Youth Sunday. That reputation needs to be overcome. I would encourage you to get to know the kids in our church. Volunteer to help out with youth and children's events. Be an example to them and, maybe more importantly, let them be an example to you. God is using them to spread His glory in Topeka and beyond.

In other elder news, the elders are working to revamp the oversight of the various ministries at Central Park Christian Church. This does not affect any staff positions or supervisory structure, but the elders believe we can be more effective overseers with some changes. While this is still in the discussion stage, the plan is to have each elder oversee a specific set of ministries. This will allow the elders to be more informed and provide a direct line of communication between the ministries and church leadership. This will also help Jeff in his transition to the Connections Pastor role. Be open to how God wants to use you in His work through CPCC. We are continuing to monitor the financial health of the church as well. Giving has been below projections and, as we've all noticed, prices for nearly everything have gone up significantly. Stewardship of the resources God has provided continue to be top of mind and we trust His provision.

God is doing big things at CPCC and we are excited that He allows us to be a part of His story.

LEAD LIKE **JESUS**

NEWS AND NOTES

AUGUST CROSS GUARD

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

August 7th
Brad Broadbent

August 14th
Andrew Swickard

August 21st
Lynden Landholm

August 28th
Mike Swickard

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Noon

August 7th
Lee Holmes
Chuck Shockey

August 14th
Rodney Barrand
Mike Thomas

August 21st
Todd Huston
Eric Cook

August 28th
Randy Smith
Brian Stovall

AUGUST
DEACONESS
Cyndie Rexer
Vivian Vinsonhaler

August at Doorstep

We would like to thank everyone who donated items for Christmas in July, and money for our 3rd Summer Cash Bash this past July! With the cost of everything going up, our services are busy, and we continue to help our neighbors in need the best ways we can!

Sign Up for Doorstep's 5th Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run!

Sunday, October 2nd is the date for this year's fundraiser! We are planning to have an in-person event this year! And, we hope the beautiful fall weather we've had the past two COVID years, continues in 2022!!

You can sign up to participate yourself for \$30 which includes a T-shirt (deadline is September 14th to guarantee a shirt) or sponsor a walker/runner! Those getting sponsors will get a free T-shirt with pledges of \$100 or more. All proceeds will benefit Doorstep, Inc.

This is our only fundraiser this year!!! So, get your family, friends, youth & community groups together, and join us this October!

We are excited about this event! It will start/end from shelter houses 1 & 2 at Lake Shawnee. The Walk/Run will start at 2:00pm with our friend & celebrity starter, Chris Fisher from WIBW-TV 13 joining us again this year! We will have some entertainment prior to the start, and afterwards return to shelter house#1 for snacks & drinks!

You can sign up on our website:
www.DoorstepTopeka.org after August 8th.

Sign-up and sponsor forms are also available from the website or congregations.



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 wedding anniversary with you! If you are willing to share these special dates, please email Stacy in the church office at stacy@centralparkcc.org. This information will be shared with Alison Crow and her team. Thank you!

Reach the World Without Leaving Home



Topeka Friendship Network (TFN) is an organization of local Christian families from area churches that spend time with international students attending Washburn University. Their goal is to share American customs, culture, and hospitality with these students. This Fall, Washburn is expecting 45-60 international students and TFN is looking for volunteers to match with them. Volunteers simply do normal family activities and include their students in them. Ideas include dinner at your home; teaching the student to prepare an American meal; trips to the park, zoo, farmer's market or a sporting event; outside activities (kayaking, hiking, etc.). To build a quality relationship, TFN asks that you see your student at least two times per month. The length of time you spend together will vary based on the activity and your schedule. Find out more at <http://www.tfn-ks.org/> or contact Eric Cook, 785-220-2740.

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

Sunday **E**vening **T**eaching

An evening of focused teaching on the Word.

VOLUNTEER

We are currently seeking volunteers to work with our children and youth.

We need willing hearts to volunteer with our young ones from nursery to high school. Volunteers that support our children and youth are vital to their growth in their relationship with Christ. Pray about it today. If you feel like God is calling you to serve in this area, please contact Jeff or Elijah.



The next Cornerstone newsletter will print Friday, August 26th. Please have all items to the office by 5 p.m. Saturday, August 20th.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

Have you been short on hope lately? Times have been hard recently and it can be easy to feel down. We want to help you find a hope that is not dependent on circumstances but lasts no matter what. Through powerful messages, engaging worship and friendly people you will feel welcomed at CPCC. Whether you are familiar with church or this whole thing is new, please join us for an outdoor Worship service on National Back to Church Sunday and stay for lunch.

We'll be grilling and we'll have all the fix-in's!

hope

Sunday, September 18th

HAPPENS HERE!

Outdoor Worship 10:45 AM
held in the park.

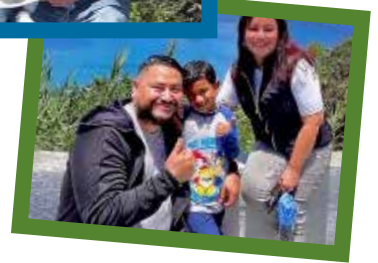
CENTRAL PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1535 SW CLAY | 785.234.5963



The Eagle's Nest

ADOPTION ROCKS!

We had two adoptions in the month of June! We are so thankful that God provided forever families to both of our sweet boys, Pedrito and Sammy! They are missed so much and the Nest will not be the same without them. But, it is always our goal that the kids brought into our care, will be able to be with family, whether that is through adoption or with their biological families.



“Anyone whose welcomes a little child like this on my behalf is welcoming me.” ~Matthew 18:5

HIGHLIGHTED CHILDREN - SHENSY AND LAYSA!



We had the opportunity to go visit Shensy and Laysa in May! They were transferred to another home in the city so that they would be closer to their biological mother and she could visit them. The plan was to place them back with her but that has yet to happen. This visit we were able to meet their mom as well and it warmed our hearts to see how excited they were to see us but even more so when they saw their mom. Having them moved was not what we felt was the best decision for them but God has a plan and we were happy to see that they were happy, healthy and adjusted. Please continue to pray for them!

New Kids on the Block - Sponsor Today - www.eaglesnestint.org



WILLY

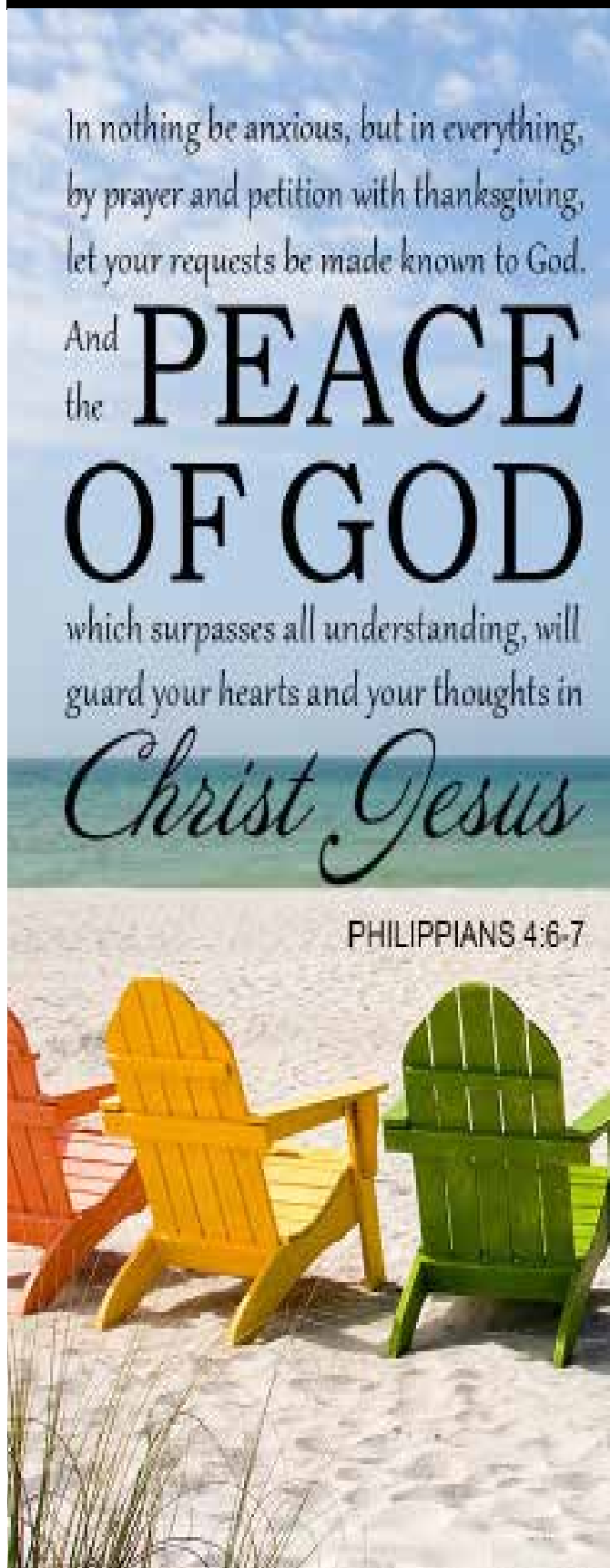


SIBLINGS - GRISELDA,
MAURA, ADELIA & ALBERTO



THIAGO

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 - 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 - 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...

AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 No Prayer Meeting due to VBS	2 No A.R.R.O.W. due to VBS 11:00 AM Prayer Shawl ***Group will meet at the Library***	3 No evening activities due to VBS	4 No afternoon or evening activities due to VBS	5	6 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i>
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - MONDAY-FRIDAY - 6:00 - 8:15 PM						
7 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.	8 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting	9 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	10 6:00 PM Middle & Elementary Students Evening Activities (Dinner Served) 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study	11 1:00 PM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study at the church	12	13 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i>
14 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.	15 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	16 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	17 6:00 PM Middle & Elementary Students Evening Activities (Dinner Served) 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study	18 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	19	20 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i>
21 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.	22 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting	23 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	24 6:00 PM Middle & Elementary Students Evening Activities (Dinner Served) 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study	25 1:00 PM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study at the church	26	27 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church.</i>
28 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.	29 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	30 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	31 6:00 PM Middle & Elementary Students Evening Activities (Dinner Served) 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study			

CPCC Pastoral Staff, Support Team & Leadership



Derek Slack
Senior Pastor
derek@centralparkcc.org



Jeff Martens
Connections Pastor
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

www.centralparkcc.org



Linda Bohlender
Media Specialist
lbohlender@centralparkcc.org



Stacy Spilker
Accountant/Office Administrator
stacy@centralparkcc.org



Jayme Green
Worship Leader
jayme@centralparkcc.org

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.