

THE CORNERSTONE

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

September 2024 Volume 20 Issue 9

www.centralparkcc.org

In This Issue

From our Elders
page 2

Worship Ministry
page 3

Student Ministry
page 4

Student Ministry
page 5

Women's Ministry
page 6

Men's Ministry
page 7

VBS
page 8

VBS Continued
page 9

New & Notes
page 10

In the Know
page 11

Prayer & Praise
page 12

September Events
page 13

Serving You
page 14



Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to cover the office when Stacy needs time off. Volunteers would mainly return calls and respond to people at the front door. If interested, please contact Stacy at the church.

Food & Clothing Pantry

Central Park Christian Church is interested in starting up a monthly food/clothing pantry to serve our community. If you would be interested in co-chairing this project or in volunteering for this ministry, please let Barb Gray know. You can reach Barb at 785-608-4108.

An update on Tithes & Offerings

We are no longer passing offering trays on Sunday morning. Please place your tithes/offerings in the new offering boxes. Boxes are located by the Sanctuary exit door left of the stage, on the wall in the main stair entrance to the Sanctuary, and on the West wall in the foyer. In addition, donations may be mailed, dropped off at the church, or made online. Thank you!

Blessings & Beauty

This past month, my wife and I were blessed with a vacation in New Zealand. I say blessed because there is no way we could have afforded such a luxurious expense apart from God's blessings. We went there to celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary, which is actually this month, but our daughter, who is on missions there, happened to have a two-week vacation during the month of August. So, we spent some time with her and were able to see the beauty of God's creation while we were at it. The first morning we were there, Kim and I were both sharing how we wanted to seek a time of Spiritual renewal while we were vacationing. Setting that goal as a priority become the most important, and most memorable part, of our vacation.

We began a new daily devotion together and early each morning we spent time in prayer, sang praises to the Lord, and read God's Word. We were full of gratitude and overwhelmed with the love of God. Through all the distractions of vacationing, and with things put on hold back here at home, and through driving on the wrong side of the road, all while watching our pennies, God spoke so clearly. He was calling us to renew our hunger for Him. Thanks be to God, that His mercies are new every morning. Our success depends on His faithfulness, not ours.

Life can be stressful; Kim's dad fell while we were away requiring a middle of the night trip to the emergency room and the church suffered a setback in hiring a new lead pastor. Our actions, or lack thereof, can be disappointing or even devastating at times. We can fill our days with so many distractions that we simply don't make time to seek ye first the kingdom of God.

Currently God has laid Psalm 19 on my heart. Below is the passage, taken right out of the Bible, with some comments to consider in light of His Word.

Psalm 19 from the NIV Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.

¹The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

²Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

³They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.

⁴Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

⁶It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

These verses all remind us to take time to see Him in His creation. Being in New Zealand made that super easy to do. When I was a boy, I used to study the petals on a single flower and notice how each one was perfectly presented, beautifully colorful, and amazingly unique. God's glory can be seen all around us.

a message from

OUR WORSHIP LEADER



Jayme Green

Power

Happy end of Summer to everyone! I don't have much this month and just want to put out a simple follow up message to the three weeks' worth of sermons I just wrapped up yesterday. As I ended each of the three messages I preached this month, used a simple fact as the exclamation on each one... The almighty, incomparable power and sovereignty of our God.

The first sermon was about our wants, desires, and will and how they relate to God's plan; the second was about God's perfect plans and will and how they relate to our wants and needs; and the final week was about Spiritual Warfare and our part in the struggle between the ultimate good and the ultimate evil. At or near the end of each of the three sermons, I made a point of talking about how we serve an omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent God. That means our Lord is all-knowing, all-powerful, and ever-present.

God created the universe, there was nothing before Him and nothing even came into being until He told it to... NOTHING! Colossians 1:16 says "For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him."

Have you ever been in the mountains or stood over a huge canyon and looked down to see more of the world than you thought possible? Have you ever stood by the ocean and watched the waves come in and felt the immense power of the sea? Have you ever (and being Kansans, I know at least some of you probably have...) stood or been caught outside when a violent thunderstorm or tornado just somehow seems to appear out of nowhere? As amazing and awe-inspiring, and frightening as all those things can be... they are nothing compared to the power of Our Father. In fact, they only exist because he spoke them into existence. The vast landscape of our world, the overwhelming power of the ocean, and the unpredictable force and potential of nature were mere words spoke by the Creator.

My three sermons all had the same conclusion and that was to take peace in the fact that the God you serve is more incredible, more powerful, just more... than anything possible... and He loves you! I don't know about you, but I can rest in that.

a message from

OUR STUDENT MINISTRY PASTOR



Elijah White

Elementary School Youth Group

“Kingdom Kids”

Pre-K to 5th grade

Wednesday evenings from
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
at the church.

Dinner is served at 5:30.

Middle School Youth Group

“Youth Elevated”

6th-8th grades

Wednesday evenings from
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
at the church.

Dinner is served at 5:30.

High School Youth Group

High School Youth Group

Sunday afternoons
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
at the church.

Lunch is served.

Summer Recap

Wow! What an awesome summer! There is so much to praise God for. And before I even begin, none of the credit belongs to me. This summer would not have been the same without all the volunteers who work with the student ministry - from the nursery, to our highschool students, and everything in between. You all are truly amazing and I am so blessed to be able to serve with you amazing individuals. The life-changing experiences that our students were able to experience this summer are countless. Every minute you gave this summer was priceless. May God bless you and your household. May your cup overflow and your silo be overflowing with abundance. I pray God bless you and keep you. May He watch over you and give you peace.

God has blessed us with a plentiful harvest and rich soil. The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. And you all have answered the call and gone into the fields to collect that harvest and for that I am beyond grateful.

Now, this summer was full of God's provision. We were able to completely cover the costs for the majority of our students through fundraising. Even with a late start on my end, the fundraising was blessed. Now I will say, the late start to fundraising will not be repeated. But I am still praising God for His provision.

Middle school camp. What an awesome time we had! We had with us three boys and 5 girls and we brought 4 sponsors. We went to Mission Lake Christian Camp in Brown County, Kansas and we spent three days learning, playing, and praising. Our theme this year was “Peace in the storm”, and students learned that despite our surroundings we can trust God will give us peace. Mission Lake Christian Camp is a relatively small camp surrounded by beautiful Kansas country, located next to the town of Horton. We went swimming, hiking, and exploring. The boys had a few nerf wars that led to a turf war between the girls and boys at camp. Needless to say the boys won! Let's go team! We had wonderful food prepared by my mother and spent time twice a day in the chapel worshipping and receiving God's word. I look forward to next year as the plan is to do a whole week of camp! If you have any students or know any students that are, or will be, in middle school we would love to have them join us next summer.

Christ In Youth [C.I.Y.] is the conference we take our High school students to. This year we brought thirteen students and 4 sponsors. It is a week-long conference that promotes and encourages students to step into a life of working for the Kingdom of God and serving in local churches. This year's theme was “The Rest Of Your Life” with the focus being finding REST by walking with God. C.I.Y. has multiple events all over the country each summer and this year we went to University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Missouri. It was an amazing

Continued on page 5

OUR STUDENT MINISTRY PASTOR

Summer Recap...continued from page 4

week filled with long conversations, life-changing dedications, love, laughter, silliness, joy, sadness, and adversity. All in all, it was a beautiful week and God showered us with His love. We played in tournaments against other churches, went swimming, watched a talent show, danced, drank a lot of coffee, some of us got sick, we ate terrible food, slept on uncomfortable beds, but it was all worth it to get to see these students praise God. There were two sessions daily along with events and other learning opportunities each day in between the morning and evening sessions. I can honestly say, I can't wait for next year! If you know anyone that is, or will be, in high school we would love to have them join us.

Vacation Bible School [V.B.S.] was an amazing experience this year. And like everything else we do, it could not have happened without all of our volunteers. We had an amazing turn out and had an average attendance of 46 kids. Our theme this year was "Sky". The main point was "TRUST GOD!" Our students learned that no matter what our needs are, we should TRUST GOD.

What an amazing week it was! Filled with love, laughter, and learning. We had worship time, Bible drama, snacks, crafts, and games. I know with certainty that the kids in attendance learned that God cares about them and that God loves them and that they can trust God. My middle daughter, Aryn, has not stopped asking me questions about Him since. The impact made in the hearts of these students is immeasurable. I look forward to next year with anticipation. If you have, or know, a student in K-5th grade, invite him/her to join us.

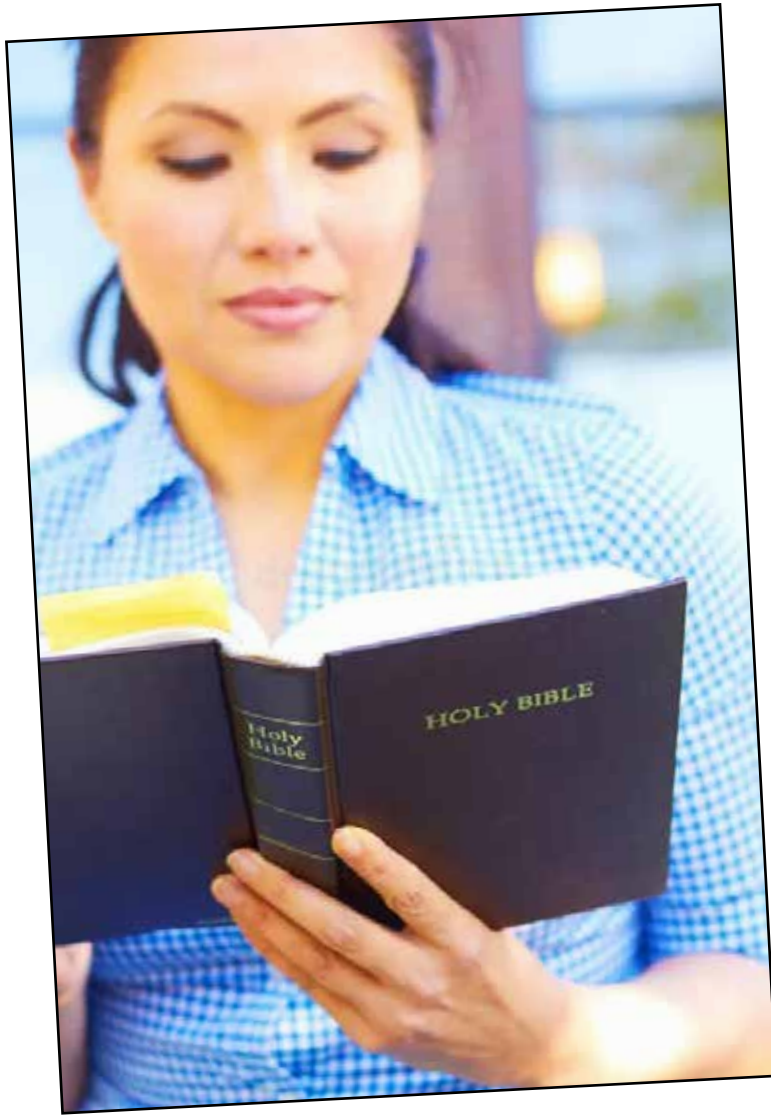
Overall what an amazing summer! While our church is facing adversity and a level of uncertainty I am certain that the Lord is not done with Central Park Christian Church. I look forward to witnessing and being involved in what God has planned next.

On another note, we have been blessed with the birth of our new baby. Eden Kay White. She is a bundle of joy and my heart is beyond full. I know you all are wanting to meet her and you will. We are waiting for her to get a little more settled into her new world. Please be in prayer for myself and my wife, Taylor, as we navigate the newborn stage. Pray for energy as we are getting very little sleep. And please pray that Taylor and Eden will remain healthy as they recover from the birthing process.

I am beyond blessed by all of your prayers, support, and encouragement. God bless you all.

One Truth - Elijah White

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



SEPTEMBER FELLOWSHIP

SEPTEMBER 1ST

SPEED FRIEND-SHIPING

Back by popular demand!!! Join us from 6PM - 8PM at the church for the ever-so-fun (not to mention, popular) Speed Friend-shiping Game! Come as you are and bring a snack to share.

OCTOBER FELLOWSHIP

OCTOBER 6TH ~ FALL CRAFT

6PM - 8PM ~ More details to follow!

NOVEMBER FELLOWSHIP

Possible Thanksgiving Tea
Stay tuned!!!

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays

6:15 to 7:30 p.m.

The Gospel of John

Led by Barb Gray.

Group meets in the 2nd floor Parlor.



Deaconess' Meeting

The next Deaconess' meeting is
Saturday, September 7th
from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the church.

Prayer Shawl Meetings

Tuesday, September 3rd at 10:00 a.m. and
Thursday, September 19th at 6:30 p.m.
Meetings are held at Judi Cox's.

Contact Judi at 785-272-9803
for more information.



Monthly Bible Verse

Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness. ~ 2 Timothy 2:14-16 ESV

BIBLE *studies*

THURSDAYS - 10:00 a.m. at CPCC - Led by Ray DeMoss

THURSDAYS - 6:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at CPCC

SATURDAYS - 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at CPCC

To get involved or to help plan activities, please contact Bill White at (785) 207-8622.

a message from

OUR ELDER CHAIR continued

Blessings & Beauty...continued from page 2

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

⁸The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous.

¹⁰They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;

they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.

¹¹By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

These verses remind us that the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. God's Word is a lamp unto our feet, it is life giving.

¹²But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults.

¹³Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Amen)

Blessings,

Bill

VBS 2024

preschool



K-2nd



3rd-5th



6th-8th



July 29th-August 1st

SKY VBS was a tremendous success and so much fun for all of those involved. From the carnival kick-off, to the family night finale, we were blessed with good food, great friends, amazing volunteers and incredible Bible-learning experiences.



Here are some stats, facts & figures from the week:

- We had 52 children registered, with 46 attending regularly.
- We served approximately 398 meals, plus snacks during the week.
- We served 90 hotdogs, and countless bags of popcorn and chips at the carnival.
- We had 52 volunteers serving through the week and many others who helped behind the scenes gathering donations, preparing crafts, creating decorations and praying!

Special thanks to the entire VBS committee, chaired by Cammie Landholm and Vicki Lesser! Your organizational talents, vivid enthusiasm, and love for the kiddos, helped these children discover the evidence of God in everyday life! Thank you for blessing us, we couldn't have done it without you!



VBS 2024



NEWS & NOTES

SEPTEMBER CROSS GUARD

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

September 1st
Lynden Landholm

September 8th
Rick Fischli

September 15th
Rick Fischli

September 22nd
Ray DeMoss

September 29th
Mike Swickard

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Noon

September 1st
Jim Vega
Lynden Landholm

September 8th
Mike Thomas
Rodney Barrand

September 15th
Chuck Shockey
Andrew Swickard

September 22nd
Dan Force
Tyler Crow

September 29th
Brad Broadbent
Jason Vinsonhaler

DEACONESS

Cyndie Rexer
Vivian Vinsonhaler

Food Donations Requested

We are requesting food donations for our Wednesday night program.
If you can donate any of the following, it would be appreciated!

40 pounds of ground beef
20 pounds of chicken

Meat may be delivered to the church during office hours Monday-Friday.
The meat will feed students, Pre K-8th grade, and sponsors/volunteers
for part of the school year. Questions? Contact Elijah.

Meal Ministry Team

Do you like to cook? Would you like to bless others in the church
body with a home-cooked meal? We are looking for people to
join the meal ministry team. Meals are provided to those
who have been hospitalized, seriously ill or have experienced
the birth of a new baby. Volunteers are called upon during
the year to provide a simple meal for these families.
Please contact Kim White @ 785-338-1378 for more details.

Rent-A-Youth

Need your car washed? Your house cleaned? Or some organization
done? Rent a youth from CPCC to do any odd job and you'll
help send them to camps/retreats. All jobs need to be arranged
through Elijah and all earned money given to Elijah to be applied to
the student's account. For more details, contact Elijah at 785-861-5868.

The next Cornerstone newsletter Friday, September 27th.
Please have all items to the office by 5 p.m. Friday, September 20th.

Be in the Know!

Do we have your correct info?

We are updating our records - do we have your correct address, phone number and email? Please call or email Stacy in the church office at stacy@centralparkcc.org or 785-234-5963 to ensure this info is up-to-date!



New Young Adult Class!!!

Sunday mornings at 9:30, starting September 15th!

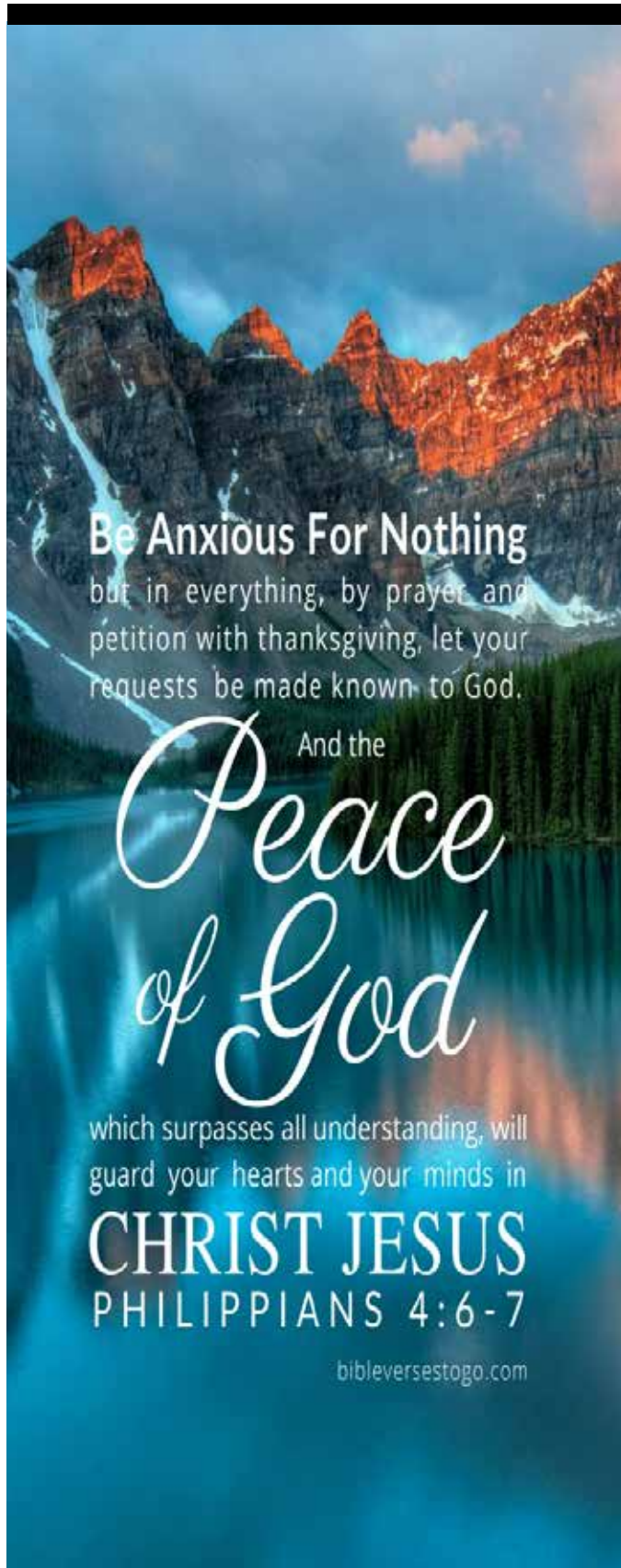
Young adults ages 18-30 are invited to join Andy Stovall for this new class. Group will meet in the upstairs balcony classroom on the North side of the church. They will be discussing the challenges of a young Christian adult in the modern world and how to face those challenges.

Invite your friends!!!

Sound & Slide Volunteers Needed

We are searching for volunteers willing to run either the sound or slides on Sunday mornings during the worship service. If this is something you'd like to help with, please contact our Worship Leader, Jayme Green at jayme@centralparkcc.org

Prayer & Praise



*Our Thoughts &
Prayers are with...*

Agnes Cox

Brookdale Memory Care Resident

Darlene McCarter

McCrite Plaza Nursing Home Resident

Shirley Wolf

Atria Hearthstone 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 the 3rd classroom off of the Fellowship Hall and are also available via Zoom.
zoom.us/j/5147485908 - passcode cpcc1535

Monday Prayer Meetings *& Elders Meetings*

All are invited to gather together on Monday evenings, at 5:30 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/5147485908 - passcode cpcc1535

*Elder business meetings are held on the first and third Monday of the month following the prayer meetings.

The meetings are open to members, so please join us!



Monthly Events at CPCC...

SEPTEMBER

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|---|---|--------|--|
| 1 | 2 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED | 3 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl at the home of Judi Cox 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 4 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 5 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:00 PM College/Young Adults at the church 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study at the church | 6 | 7 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. 9:30 AM Deaconess Meeting |
| 8 8:30 AM Prayer 9:15 AM SS 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 12:30 PM 2nd Helpings 6PM - 8PM Women's Fellowship | 9 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom | 10 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 11 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 12 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:00 PM College/Young Adults at the church 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study at the church | 13 | 14 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. |
| 15 8:30 AM Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 12:30 PM 2nd Helpings | 16 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting | 17 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 18 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 19 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:00 PM College/Young Adults at the church 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:30 PM Prayer Shawl at the home of Judi Cox | 20 | 21 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. |
| 22 8:30 AM Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 12:30 PM 2nd Helpings | 23 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom | 24 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 25 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 26 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:00 PM College/Young Adults at the church 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study at the church | 27 | 28 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. |
| 29 8:30 AM Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 12:30 PM 2nd Helpings | 30 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom | | | | | |

CPCG Pastoral Staff, Support Team & Leadership



Bill White
Elder Chair
William.White3711@gmail.com
785-207-8622



Elijah White
Student Ministry Pastor
elijah@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 Tochtrop
Media Specialist
lbohlender@centralparkcc.org



Stacy Spilker
Accountant/Office Administrator
stacy@centralparkcc.org



Jayme Green
Worship Leader
jayme@centralparkcc.org

JOIN US DURING THE WEEK

Prayer Time - Sundays at 8:30 a.m. - 3rd classroom off the Fellowship Hall
Sunday School - Sundays at 9:15 a.m. - We encourage everyone to join a class!
Worship Service & K-motion - Sundays at 10:45 a.m. - Sanctuary
Second Helpings - Sundays at 12:30 p.m. - Lunch, fellowship & study - Parlor
High School Youth Group - Sundays 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
Prayer Time - Mondays at 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall & Via Zoom
A.R.R.O.W. - Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
Middle School Youth Group - "Youth Elevated" - Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
Grade School Activities - "Kingdom Kids" - Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
College/Young Adults - Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

Trustee: Terry Barnes **Elders:** Geoff Gray, Lynden Landholm,
Randy Spilker, Jason Vinsonhaler & Bill White