

THE CORNERSTONE

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

October 2024 Volume 20 Issue 10

www.centralparkcc.org

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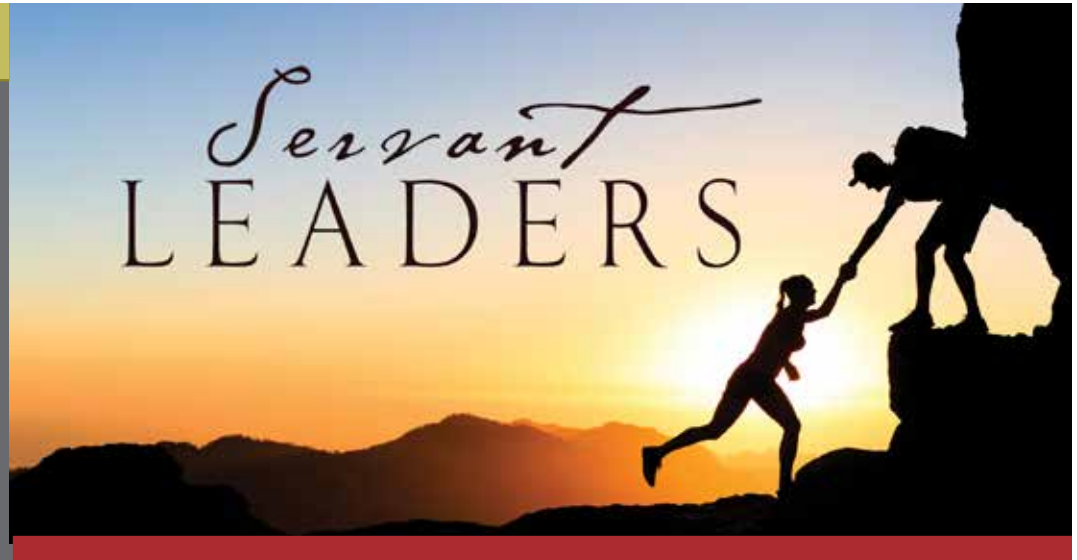
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HONORING ELIJAH AND OUR CHURCH LEADERS

Each October churches across the nation celebrate pastors and church leaders during Pastor Appreciation Month. This observance began as a way to show gratitude to those who have given their time and talents to selflessly serve in the ministry.

While we should never underestimate the impact, lesson the sacrifices, or take away from the work our pastors, both past and present, have done; and, as Elijah continues to serve as our lone pastor, we certainly do not want to discount his dedication to CPCC. But the work of keeping our church running is bigger than just one person, or even a few people, so we thought this month would be a great time to expand that appreciation to our church leaders and to the church body as a whole!

In this season of change and waiting, many within the church have stepped up to fill in the gaps; think staff, elders and other servant leaders...from those who participate in the cleaning ministry to those that lead bible studies, help with Sunday school classes, or patiently serve on the personnel committee...it takes a village to accomplish the work God has given us to do!

So this October, why not take some time to look around and identify someone within the church body who has stepped up through this transition and has served as a source of strength, guidance, and support. Let's be a source of encouragement and say thank you, whether it's face-to-face, through text or email, or a card. Maybe we could be intentional and thank at least one person each week this month!

As October gives way to November, what better way to enter the calendar season of Thanksgiving than encouraging, loving, and building one another up!

We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ~ 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

OUR ELDER CHAIR

Leadership

It's that time in the year for Central Park Christian Church to begin making our plans for next year's leadership. The current board of elders would like to thank each one of you for your support, encouragement, and steadfastness throughout this last year. CPCC members are encouraged to make nominations for the board of elders, the deacons, and the deaconesses. Biblical qualifications for each position will be made available for everyone on the table in the foyer and nominations will be accepted through Sunday, October 27th. At that time, nominations will be affirmed and a formal list of each nomination will be made available November 10th so everyone can view the list, pray, and prepare for the official vote during our annual congregational meeting on Sunday, December 8th. All terms will begin January 1st, 2025, and will be held for one year. In order to serve as an elder, deacon, or deaconess, CPCC requires that person to have placed their membership at CPCC.

We ask you to prayerfully consider not only who to nominate for what position, we also ask that you seek the Lord in prayer and see where He wants you to serve next year in support of CPCC. For me, it is more than an honor. I truly feel called to serve as an elder. In 1 Peter 5:2-3 elders are called to be an example to the flock they are serving. I hope I have been able to do that well over this last year. We started off with a great deal of challenges and ran into several more along the way. We still face challenges we are not even remotely aware of, but we can take courage for sure. In Matthew 16:18, Jesus declares that the gates of hell will not prevail over His church. I would encourage you to ask yourself, if not you, then who, and if not now, then when.

My biggest motivation to serve as an elder has been to guard the gospel of Jesus Christ. Titus 1:9 says, "He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it". 2 Timothy 1:14 tells us to, "Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you-guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us". I believe the good deposit is the gospel of Jesus Christ. As a man of God, it is my solemn duty to protect God's Word, to ensure the accuracy of what is being taught, preached, and lived out here at Central Park Christian Church. I do not take this responsibility lightly, and I know for certain that none of the other elders do either. It is with earnest longing that we do what we do as elders.

Please continue to pray for our leadership here at CPCC, for this year and next, and for the several generations to come if the Lord does not return before then. We are certain God has a plan for all of us here. Jeremiah 29:11, " 'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.' " We have been witnesses of what God has done through CPCC. I have served alongside many Godly men here. Men that have been servant leaders doing great things behind the scenes

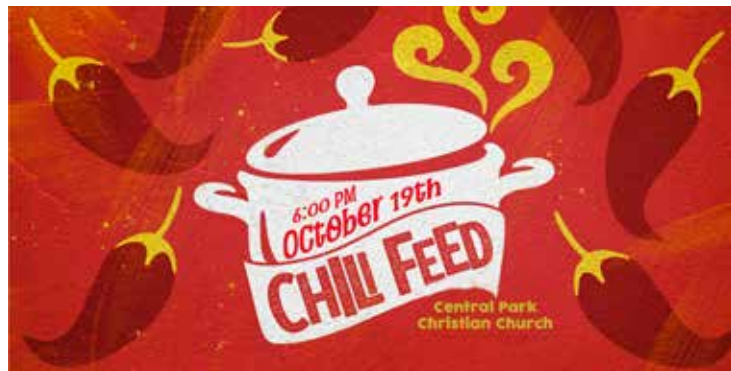
Leadership...continued from page 2

that seldom get recognized for their work. I am honored to lead with a humble heart because my wife, and our children attend here. Also because of the people we get to serve alongside, because of the ministries we participate in, because of the people in our neighborhood, and because of the children and adults right outside the doors of CPCC. God has set a great joy before us. That joy for me is seeing the gospel of Jesus Christ transform lives for today and for eternity.

I am excited to see how God will continue to use all of us here at CPCC and more specifically, to see how he will use you this coming year.

Thank you again for your dedication and commitment.

Blessings,
Bill



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH AT 6:00 PM

The chili feed will be held outside, weather permitting. Please bring a lawn chair. Chili will be provided, please bring a side dish or a dessert to share. We'll be inviting our neighbors to join us!

We will be passing out flyers in the neighborhood on **Friday, October 18th at 5:30 PM.**

Volunteers are needed to help pass out flyers and assist with the event. Please reach out to Elijah (785-861-5868) to help!



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.

Open My Eyes, Lord

"Open the eyes of my heart Lord, open the eyes of my heart, I want to see you, I want to see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory, pour out your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy I want to see you, open the eyes of my heart Lord, open the eyes of my heart, I want to see you, I want to see you." - Open The Eyes Of My Heart, Michael W. Smith

"Hosanna in the highest, heal my heart and make it clean, open my eyes to things unseen, show me how to love like you have loved me, break my heart for what breaks yours, everything I am for the kingdom's cause, as I walk from earth to eternity." - Hosanna In The Highest, Hillsong worship

I love these songs. And in this season they have been my prayer.

I offer this prayer.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. reveal to me the kingdom unseen. Show me your glory, Father. I want to see your glory, show me your power, open the eyes of my heart. Break my heart for what breaks yours. Pull me in, Abba, embrace me. Lord, I want to feel your warmth. I want to feel your strength. Father, remind us of your greatness. You are the great I AM, You are the Lord of Bethel, You are the friend of sinners. God, I want to see the Kingdom of light. Open my eyes today, make me aware of your presence on this earth, Father. Show me the hurt. Show me the grace. Remind me what we fight for. I want to see your glory. Show me your armies of angels. Reveal to me your beauty.

Lord, it's easy to lose sight of what our mission is when everything around us is changing and fading. Show me what is unchanging. Lord, show me to love as You love me. Restore my joy. Restore my strength. Fill me with your spirit. God, I invite you into this mess. I invite you into my every day, my every hour, every minute, every moment. Walk with me, speak to me as you spoke with Moses, as a friend speaks to a friend. Lord, I surrender this battle to you. You are a man of war, a warrior.

Father, remind me who I am. Remind me of your glory, of your victory, of your presence. I am a flower quickly fading yet you hear me when I call, you remind me who I am. I am Yours. Father, I pray for this congregation, I pray as we wait on you that you would renew our strength.

Lord, at times my hope, my joy, my patience have been faint. Lord, show me Your glory. Open the eyes of my heart.

I pray all of this is Jesus' mighty name, so be it.

- Elijah White

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

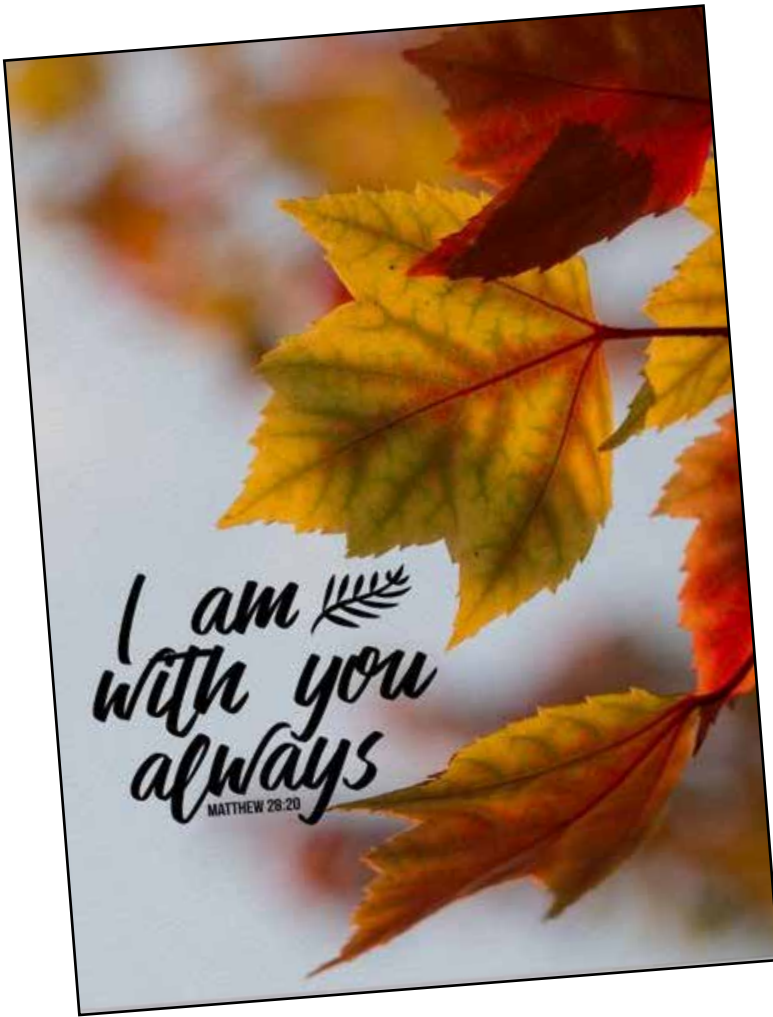
To get involved or to help plan activities, please contact Bill White at (785) 207-8622.



Ladies, we are having a men's appreciation breakfast on Sunday, October 20th to show the men in our church how much we appreciate them! Breakfast will be served from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM. Volunteers are needed to provide breakfast casseroles, juice, and muffins. A sign-up sheet has been placed in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up via the sheets or by contacting Cyndie Rexer at sncrexer1@aol.com.

~thank you!~

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



OCTOBER FELLOWSHIP OCT 6TH ~ 6PM TO 8PM AUTUMN CRAFT NIGHT

Join us for our monthly fellowship night, and create a wire pumpkin wreath to take home!

We will have the pumpkin wreath forms and decorating supplies available. If you have a specific vision and want to bring your own crafting supplies, please do so!

Prefer not to craft? Come anyway and spend time getting to know other women!

Please bring a snack to share. **Free will donations accepted to help offset costs!**

Let us know you are coming by emailing Melissa at j_vinsonhaler@yahoo.com.

NOVEMBER FELLOWSHIP NOV 3RD ~ 3PM TO 5PM THANKSGIVING TEA

Join us, and bring a friend, as we hear from Tayler Cantrell and prepare our hearts for the season of thankfulness!

DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP DEC 1ST - 5PM TO 7 PM HANGING OF THE GREENS

Join us as we decorate and prepare the church for the Advent Season!

More details to follow.

Deaconess' Meeting

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

Monthly Bible Verse

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.

~ Hebrews 11:6

Prayer Shawl Meetings

Tuesday, October 1st at 10:00 a.m. and
Thursday, October 17th at 6:30 p.m.
Meetings are held at Judi Cox's.
Contact Judi at 785-272-9803
for more information.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY 6:15PM TO 7:30PM

The Gospel of John

Led by Barb Gray. Group meets in the 2nd floor Parlor.



Speedfriendshipping, Fellowship, & Sunflowers



Thank you to everyone who was able to join our Speedfriendshipping night! We had a wonderful time getting to know each other a little better, shared many laughs, and were too busy to take any pictures!

To kick off the night we were reminded of lessons we can learn from sunflowers:

Sunflowers seek and follow the sun

It's known that young sunflowers follow the sun. Even on overcast days, the sunflower will seek out the light shining through the clouds. They reset each night and prepare to face the sun again each new day. Similarly, we should be seeking out and focusing on the Son. As young sunflowers easily face the sun, typically so do new Christians. With the excitement of finding Jesus it's easier to look to Him!

Sunflowers have to be well grounded

Sunflowers grow tall and bear much weight, so it's important that they are well supported. Their roots must be strong and deep. Like them, we must be deeply rooted in God's truth through His word. Our roots flourish when we are planted in rich soil, allowing us to stand in the truth of His Word.

Sunflowers get weighted down as they mature

As a sunflower grows, the head gets burdened with seeds and it faces the ground. Likewise, when we get burdened, it's easy to take our focus off of God and simply lower our heads. Though we all go through different seasons and cycles, they are temporary, and God will faithfully see us through. Sometimes, through hardships, we can produce the most productive fruit for His kingdom.

Sunflowers reflect the sun

Sunflowers are known for being bright and cheerful and reminders of the sun. Likewise, we should also be reflections of the Son, and the better we know Him and are grounded in Him, the more we will resemble Him.

Friends, may we continually allow God to nourish our roots while we seek to focus on, and reflect Him.

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." ~ John 8:12

WORTHY OF PRAISE



Our beautiful Rose Munson officially joined CPCC on Sunday, September 8th. Rose has been attending CPCC for awhile now and was baptized some time ago, but she wanted to make it completely official. Rose, you are a blessing to us!

Down with the old, and up with the new. Congratulations Chase Stephans on your baptism Sunday, September 8th! We are looking forward to seeing God's plan for you and we are SO PROUD of your decision to walk with Him.



Brother Fred Morrisette, from Working Men of Christ (and also a CPCC member) brought a wonderful message on Sunday, September 8th.

If you missed it, you can watch it on the Central Park Christian Church YouTube channel. You will be blessed by the message the Lord gave him.



Another brother joining the Kingdom! Congratulations to Rick Sack on his decision to be baptized. Rick committed his life to Christ, on Sunday, September 22nd.





IRAN: *Christians Arrested as Muslims turn to Christ*

In September, a young woman died while in custody of the Iranian religious police, leading to a spontaneous uprising. Since the woman's death, front-line workers have reported an increase in Iranian Muslims turning to Christ, even as their government has increased its persecution of Christians.

In a series of arrests in May, agents of the Islamic Revolutionary Court searched the homes of three Christian women for several hours before confiscating their personal belongings and taking the women to an unknown location. The three Christian women were held for 40 days in Evin Prison before being allowed to contact their families. Two months later, nearly 60 Iranian Christians were arrested across the county.

A front-line worker who ministers in Iran through Christian satellite television said the young woman's death has caused many Iranians to become even more disillusioned with their repressive Islamic government, leading them to search for truth elsewhere. Though the internet is highly restricted and monitored, satellite television broadcasts are not, and many are learning about Christ through these broadcasts.

"We have registered more salvations in the last three years than in the last 20," the front-line worker said.

NEWS & NOTES

OCTOBER CROSS GUARD

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

October 6th
Rick Fischli

October 13th
Ray DeMoss

October 20th
Brad Broadbent

October 27th
Lynden Landholm

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Noon

October 6th
Rodney Barrand
Mike Thomas

October 13th
Tim Cunningham
Brian Stovall

October 20th
Dan Force
Michael Kates

October 27th
Chuck Shockey
Tom Blair

OCTOBER DEACONESS

Liz Murray
Barbara Heston

Fellowship Lunch

October 13th following Worship Service

Bring your favorite dish (main, dessert or side) to share.
Lunch will be served following the Town Hall Meeting.
Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall so we have idea of what will be available. Questions? Please contact Sherry Webb.



Elder/Deacon/Deaconess Nominations

Every year at this time we ask for nominations for church members to serve for the following calendar year in these servant/leader roles. We have placed “job descriptions” in the foyer for you to read over. We would encourage you to look over these descriptions and pray about who you know that could serve; it could be you! Before you recommend someone, please check with them first to let them know why you desire to recommend them, and to determine their willingness to serve.

A recommendation form has been placed in the Sunday bulletins and will run until October 20th. Nominations must be submitted before Sunday, October 27th. Just because someone is recommended does not mean that they will assume that position automatically.

A committee composed of pastoral staff, elders, deacons and deaconesses will review those recommended and, if approved, will contact these individuals to determine their desire to serve. Nominees will be voted on at the congregational meeting on Sunday, December 8th, immediately following the worship service.

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

The next Cornerstone newsletter Sunday, October 27th.
Please have all items to the office by 5 p.m. Sunday, October 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

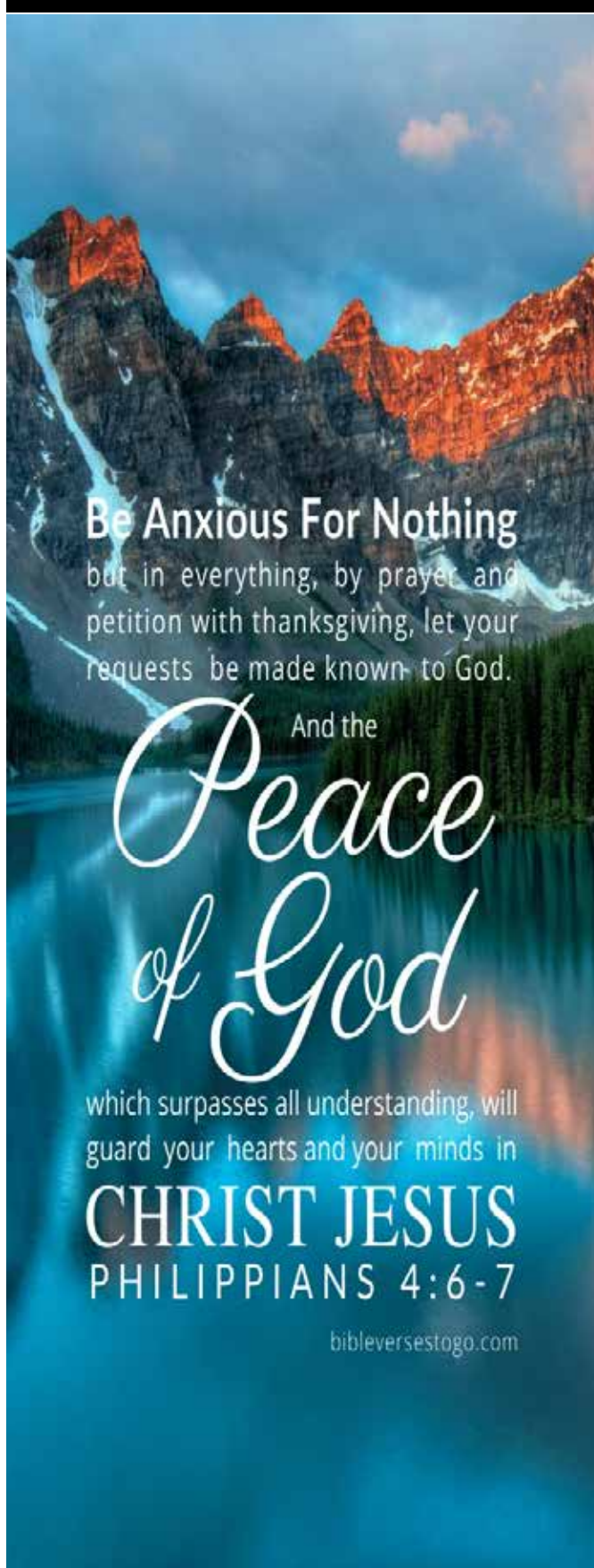
Young adults ages 18-30 are invited to join Andy Stovall for this new class. Group meets in the upstairs balcony classroom on the North side of the church. They will be discussing the challenges of a young Christian adult in the modern world and how to face those challenges.

Invite your friends!!!

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.

Prayer



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 GPCG...

OCTOBER

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|---|---|--------|--|
| | | 1 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl at the home of Judi Cox 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 2 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 3 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 | 4 | 5 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. 9:30 AM Deaconess Meeting |
| 6 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 | 7 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting | 8 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 9 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 10 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 | 11 | 12 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. |
| 13 8:30 AM Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:00 Town Hall Mtg. 12:30 PM Fellowship Lunch **No 2nd Helpings **Youth will eat at Fellowship lunch & gather after for group. | 14 Columbus Day 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom | 15 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 16 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 17 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 | 18 | 19 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. 6:00 PM Chili Feed & Bonfire |
| 20 8:30 AM Prayer 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM Men's Appreciation Breakfast 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM H.S. Youth Group 12:30 PM 2nd Helpings | 21 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting | 22 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 23 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 24 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 | 25 | 26 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. |
| 27 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 | 28 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom | 29 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W. | 30 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church | 31 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 | | |

CPCG Pastoral Staff, Support Team & Leadership



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785-207-8622



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Worship Leader
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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