

THE CORNERSTONE

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

November 2024 Volume 20 Issue 11

www.centralparkcc.org

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International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP)

Christian persecution is on the rise world over. Today, more than 317 million Christians live in places where they face high levels of persecution. In many parts of the world, every day, Christians are harassed, discriminated against, wrongfully imprisoned, and even killed because of their faith. According to the World Watch List for Christian Persecution, over 4,900 people were killed in 2024 because of their faith in Jesus. This is a staggering number!

The Bible tells us that everyone who desires to live a godly life will be persecuted (2 Timothy 3:12). However, this is not the complete story. In the Bible, Jesus says that: "In this world, you will have trouble, but take heart, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Persecution, therefore, is not a defeat for the believer!

IDOP is an annual, global event to pray for the persecuted Church. Let's unite in prayer on November 3rd and ask the Holy Spirit to enable those persecuted to stand firm in their faith and be obedient to Christ, even as they serve Him through many hardships. Pray they Stand Firm!

icommittoprayer.com

 The Voice of the Martyrs

I commit to pray, is a place to gather and pray for the persecuted church. Read prayer requests from around the world and post your own prayers specifically for your brothers and sisters who are being persecuted. Join others committed to praying for our persecuted ones at: www.icommittoprayer.com



Leadership

Psalm 71:1 *In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.*

Psalm 71:2 *Rescue me and deliver me in Your Righteousness; turn Your ear to me and save me.*

Psalm 71:3 *Be my Rock of refuge; to which I can always go; give the command to save me, for You are my Rock and my fortress.*

I often start off prayers by simply reciting a few of God's Words to Him. For me, I find that comforting because His Words are familiar to me. They bring joy to my heart and they bring peace to my thoughts, which often need help when I'm trying to get focused in prayer. The Psalms are a great place to start because so many of them are prayers and they purposefully give glory to God. Of course, there are many other passages that work, just know the Psalms are rich with praise. If you ever want to make sure your prayers are in line with God's will, using His Words are also a great way to do that.

For the month of November, I wanted to concentrate on praise. Not only because it's Thanksgiving season, but because we have a great deal for which to be thankful. We have a brand new year just around the corner. God has been preparing us for an explosive time of growth as we head into this new year. God has kept us together and nourished all of us through this past year. He has encouraged us, protected us, and provided for us. His Words say He will never forsake those who seek Him. (Psalms 9:9-10). Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy, He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never spoil or fade. (I Peter 1:3-4). What we have here at Central Park Christian Church can never spoil or fade. Remember that. Count on that. Rely on those Words. We are thankful for the nominations of our leadership positions within the church and we are looking forward to welcoming our new Lead Pastor, Rick Fleming.

Matthew 7:24-27 Jesus tells us, *"Therefore everyone who hears these Words of Mine, and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the Rock. The rain came down, the streams rose and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall; because it had its foundation on the Rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."*

Leadership...continued from page 2

Romans 8:38-39 goes on to tell us, *“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present or the future nor any powers, neither height nor depth nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Eternal life is guaranteed for those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Troubles may come and troubles may go but the Word of God stands forever.

Put your hope in Him.

Blessings,

Bill

LEAD LIKE **JESUS**

LEAD PASTOR
Announcement



If you missed the announcement, Central Park Christian Church has a new Lead Pastor! We are proud to announce that Rick and Michelle Fleming have accepted the invitation to lead CPCC starting November 10, 2024. If you haven't met Rick and Michelle yet, please take a few minutes to reach out to them and say, "hello."

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.

Be anxious for nothing

Shalom.

As November rolls in, I am reminded of just how beautiful God's plan truly is. His will and His plan is always better than anything my finite mind can conceive of or hope for. That said, there have been times in my life when anxiety creeps in and fear grips my heart. Something I have become aware of is my obligation as a father. It is my duty to provide things like food, heat, shelter, cold and hot water, clothes, and the list goes on and on. At times, it has become a source of anxiety and fear; however, God has blessed myself and my family abundantly.

A recent example of God's blessing happened in October. One morning, I checked our bank account expecting my paycheck would be there, but it wasn't. I quickly learned the bank was having technical difficulties and it was going to take a couple of extra days for my paycheck to be available. However, God blessed us with His perfect timing. Our request for food stamp assistance was approved and we were able to buy groceries while we were waiting for the bank to remedy their technical situation. When I find myself in an overwhelming, anxiety inducing situation, I always remember what God says in His word.

There is something about the act of acknowledging God and His blessings. When giving thanks to Him, any fear or anxiety I feel may disperse from my presence. When I count all God's blessings and provisions, there is an enormous pile stacked so high that my fear and anxiety disappear. God is good all the time. All the time God is good."

God promises He will give us His peace if we present our requests to Him with thanksgiving. God's word says this in Philippians 4:6-7/

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God; and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Continued on page 5

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.

Be anxious for nothing...continued from page 4

This year has moved quicker than anything I have experienced. As we begin to step into a new chapter as a church family, let's reflect on how God has blessed and guided us. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God; and His peace will guard our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Jehovah Shalom, God is peace.

One Truth - Elijah White

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

NOVEMBER

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

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.

BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

6:15PM TO 7:30PM

The Gospel of John

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



Deaconess' Meeting

The next Deaconess' meeting is **Saturday, November 2nd** from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the church.

Prayer Shawl Meetings

Tuesday, November 5th at 10:00 a.m. and
Thursday, November 21st at 6:30 p.m.
Meetings are held at Judi Cox's.

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



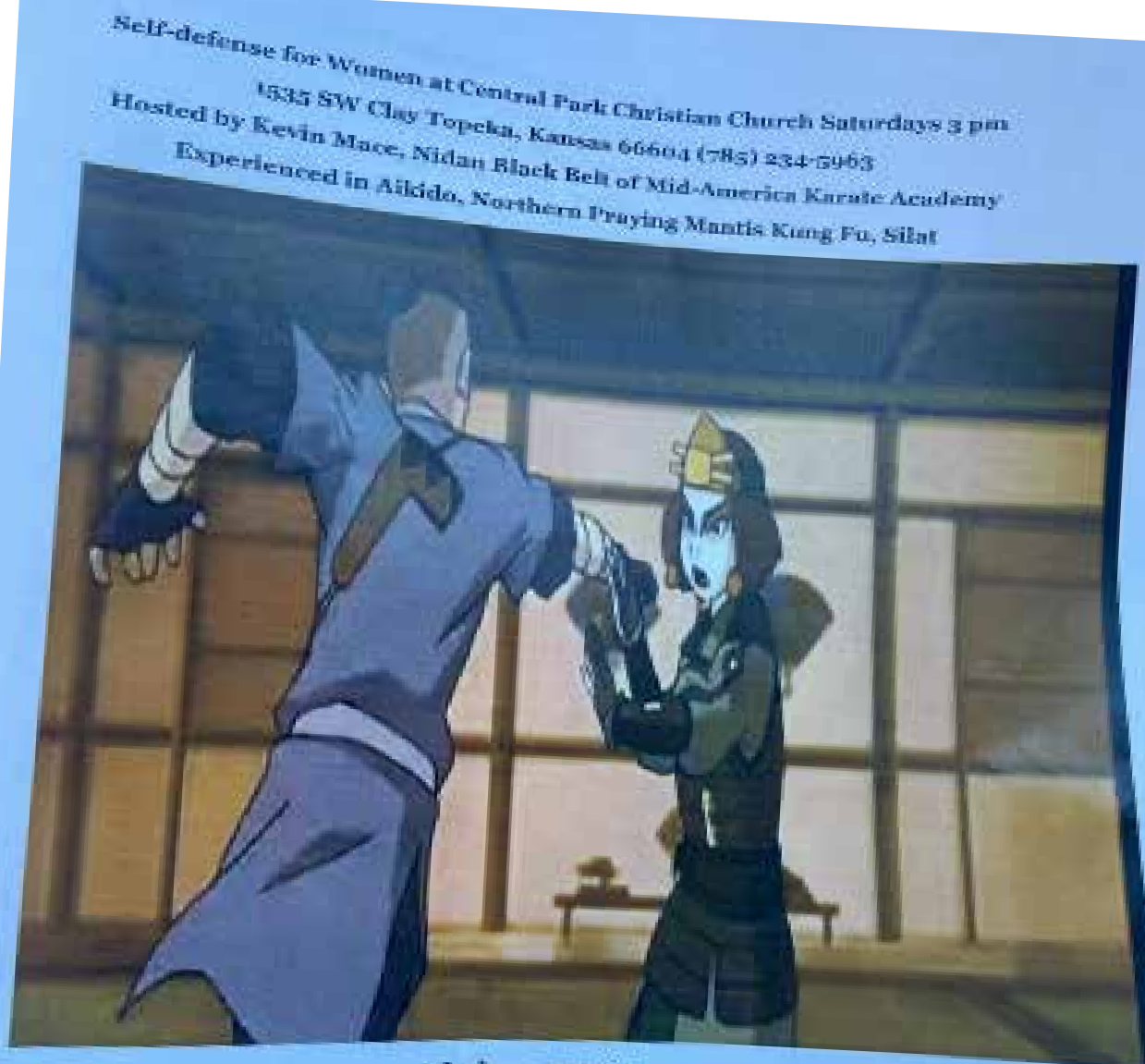
Monthly Bible Verse

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." ~ Colossians 3:15

WOMEN'S MINISTRY continued

SELF-DEFENSE CLASSES FOR WOMEN

Ladies, build your confidence and increase your strength, while helping two important Christian organizations. Join Kevin Mace at the church every Saturday at 3 p.m. for self-defense classes. Questions? Call Kevin at (785) 286-2428



Self-defense for Women at Central Park Christian Church Saturdays 3 pm
1335 SW Clay Topeka, Kansas 66604 (785) 234-5963
Hosted by Kevin Mace, Nidan Black Belt of Mid-America Karate Academy
Experienced in Aikido, Northern Praying Mantis Kung Fu, Silat

Judges 5:24-27

\$15 by session, \$50 monthly

Proceeds benefit Alpha Christian School of Perry, Kansas; Homestead
Ministry of Manhattan, Kansas

OPPORTUNITIES

BE A
blessing
TO
someone
TODAY
PROVERBS 11:25

Neighborhood blessing box

Did you know we have a “Blessing Box” here in the CPCC neighborhood? Located at Mary Flin’s house (also our community Chaplain House), it is the cross-shaped “box” at the edge of the porch/sidewalk at 911 SW 16th.

On your way to or from church, donations of sandwiches, snacks, pantry items... pretty much anything...can be placed in the box. Clothes, blankets, coats, etc. can be put in the black crates on either side of the cross.

Items needing to be refrigerated can be “porch-dropped” and donors can text Mary at 785-431-6000 to let her know.

We have at least two neighbors who regularly help others with access to food, and if Mary gets too much, she passes it on to another. Everything gets used. The box will almost always look empty because folks are welcome to take anytime, and it has proven to be a blessing a number of times. Please contact Mary with questions.

Food & Clothing Bank Reopening

Do you love to shop at yard sales? Have clothes or shoes you no longer wear? Please bring donations of clean adult or children’s clothes to the church so we can bless our neighborhood. **We are particularly in need of winter clothes, hats, gloves, coats, shoes, and NEW underwear and socks in original packaging.** Donations may be dropped off at the collection box in the church foyer. Monetary donations to purchase new underwear and socks are also welcomed. For questions, or if you would like to help with the clothing bank, please contact Michelle Fleming at flemingmom@verizon.net.

Our first food & clothing giveaway will be held on Saturday, November 23rd from 10AM-2PM and will be repeated monthly on the third Saturday beginning in December.

Card ministry

Join the CPCC card ministry team and send hand-written notes to the church family. The team is also in need of cards. They will accept any kind, including blank ones. Christian themed cards are great but not required. Cards can be given to Allison Crow or left with Stacy in the office. Those interested in writing cards can contact Allison at allison.crow@hotmail.com.



Nepal: *Christian Wife Stands Firm*



— Goma Kunwar —

Goma Kunwar has suffered repeated beatings and mistreatment at the hands of her Hindu husband since putting her faith in Christ in 2022. More than once, his attacks have been life-threatening.

On Jan. 2, 2024, Goma's husband beat her badly and attacked her with a sickle, cutting her head so that she required medical treatment.

Despite the abuse, Goma does not want to leave the Lord. Pray that she will receive the physical and emotional care she needs; that her husband, Tek Bahadur, will come to faith in Jesus Christ; and that her faithfulness to the Lord will be a testimony to the friends and neighbors who are urging her to give up her faith.

Reprinted from online VOM article Oct. 24, 2024

<https://www.icommittoprayer.com/request/2738/goma/>

NEWS & NOTES

CROSS GUARD

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

November 3rd
Lynden Landholm

November 10th
Brad Broadbent

November 17th
Mike Swickard

November 24th
Andrew Swickard

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Noon

November 3rd
Rodney Barrand
Mike Thomas

November 10th
Tim Cunningham
Brian Stovall

November 17th
Jim Vega
Michael Kates

November 24th
Chuck Shockey
Dan Force

DEACONESS
Barbara Heston
Liz Murray

TOWN HALL MEETING & FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

Stay in-the-know and get your bellies full!
Join us after service for our monthly town hall meeting
and then grab a bite to eat at our fellowship potluck!
Please bring your favorite dish (main, dessert, or side) to share.
Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall with what
you are bringing. Contact Sherry Webb with questions.

Pictures Requested!

Let's Preserve OUR History!

We are looking for pictures of past CPCC events & activities.
Email photos to Liz Murray at: lizziejomurray@yahoo.com
These pictures will be displayed at our 20th church anniversary
celebration scheduled for Sunday, December 8th.

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



Daylight savings time ends at 2 a.m.
Sunday, November 3rd. Remember to
set your clocks back one hour before
going to bed Saturday night.

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



Young Adult Class!!!

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:30

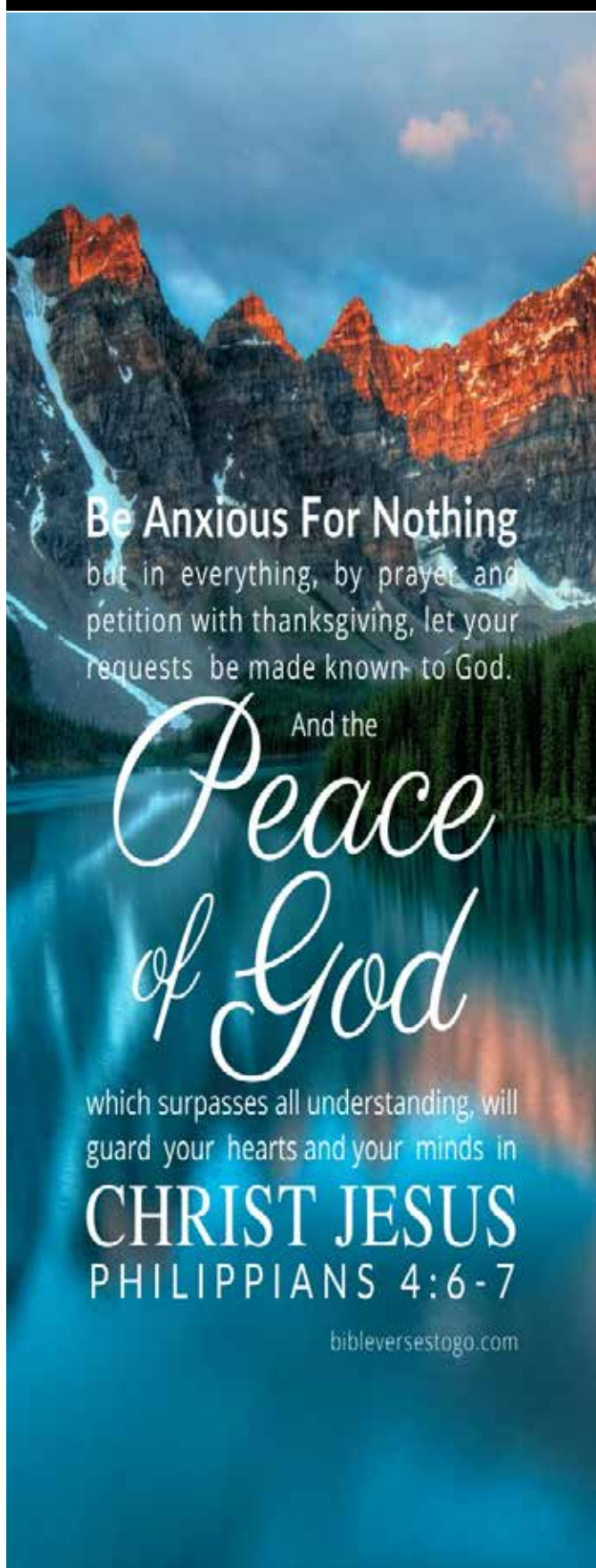
Young adults ages 18-30 are invited to join Andy Stovall during the Sunday School hour. Group meets in the upstairs balcony classroom on the North side of the church. They are discussing the challenges of young Christian adults in the modern world and how to face those challenges.

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 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/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 GPCC...

NOVEMBER

Daylight savings time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday, November 3rd. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
 <p>The office will be closed on Thursday, November 28th and on Friday, November 29th in observance of Thanksgiving. May the blessings of this holiday fill your heart and home with happiness!</p> 					1	2	
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 3PM - 5PM Women's Thanksgiving Tea	3 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting	4 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl at the home of Judi Cox 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	5 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church	6 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study at the church	7 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. 9:30 AM Deaconess Meeting	8 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church.	9
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.	10 Veterans Day 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	11 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	12 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church	13 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study at the church	14 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church.	15 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church.	16
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	17 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:30 PM Elder Meeting	18 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	19 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church	20 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study at the church 6:30 PM Prayer Shawl at the home of Judi Cox	21 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church. 10AM - 2PM Food & Clothing Giveaway <i>Held at the church</i>	22 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church.	23
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	24 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	25 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W.	26 5:30 PM Elementary & M.S. Youth Group (Dinner Served) 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study at the church	27 Thanksgiving Day OFFICE CLOSED	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church.	30

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 - In the park
High School Youth Group - Sundays 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
Prayer Time - Mondays at 6:00 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.

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