

THE CORNERSTONE

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

March 2019 Volume 15 Issue 3

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TRANSITION UPDATE REGARDING TIM'S RETIREMENT AND NEW SENIOR PASTOR

Last month, Tim announced that he will be retiring June of 2020. That is well over a year away, but things are moving forward now to ensure a healthy transition. Here is where we are at in the process:

1. **The elders are gathering every other Tuesday for prayer**, seeking God's guidance, wisdom, and blessing in the search for a new pastor. Pray for the elders, and please, spend time in prayer for God to lead us as a church family.
2. In March, a **pastor profile** will be established. While we already have a "job description" for senior pastor, this is more detailed. It not only describes the job, but also the character qualities that will be essential to thrive as senior pastor at CPCC.

Early summer, we will begin the process of getting the word out and taking applications. *Prior to that*, the elders will be putting together a **church profile** that describes our history, vision/mission/core values, things that make us unique as a church, our strengths and weaknesses, staff personnel, etc. We will also put together a **list of questions to ask applicants** – questions about scripture, doctrine, preaching, their style of leadership, background in ministry, etc. This will be quite extensive, and will help us determine who we want to interview.

Transitioning is a process, and we are committed to doing it well and with the Lord's leading and timing. We are also committed to keeping you, the church family, up to date on how things are going!

a message from
OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Tim Maddock

Preparing to Be Part of Something Bigger than Yourself

Would God ever involve you in His work? Is there something God is up to that He would want you to be a part of?

For many who have confessed a faith in Jesus, there is a belief that the next “big deal” when it comes to encountering God will be at death and entering heaven. In other words, the two times where God and faith are relevant is the moment we get saved, and the moment we die.

But what about the in-between time...the years on earth where we live out life... learning, working, perhaps being married, raising kids, establishing a home. How does our faith figure into all of that time...or does it?

In Ephesians 3: 20, it says that God is “able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine” and earlier in that same letter it says “we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (2:10). These two verses seem to encourage us to “fill in the blanks” – the time we have between salvation and heaven – by being inquisitive and eager to do whatever God brings our way to be a part of.

God involves those who show a desire and interest. He “invests” in those who are invested in Him! I don’t know of many folks who pray “use me today Lord...I am open to whatever you would have for me, big or small” that lay their head down at night without saying “Wow, that was really amazing being a part of that situation”...a conversation, a simple kindness extended, a “God moment” that you were privileged to be part of...God involved you because you were ready for it!

Try an experiment for a month. Start each day by recognizing God is able to do more than you could ever imagine possible, and he wants us to be part of it. If you believe it, act on it! Pray this simple prayer: “God, today is yours. Open my eyes to see what you want me to see, open my ears to what you want me to hear, open my soul to what you want me to experience, open my mouth to speak your love. I have things I have to do today, but more importantly, so do you. Please let me be part of your work, and when you do, I will be so grateful! Here I am...use me however you like!”

As your pastor, I would love to hear stories from you!

Heading for Home,
tim

a message from

OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR



Randy Lesseski

"I don't know his name, but this is what he said"

When God does or says something through a man or woman, it is not the name of that person, their status, education or position in society that makes the words true. But it is the WORD of God that will bring it to completion.

1 Kings 13:1-3 (NIV)

The Man of God From Judah

By the word of the LORD a **man of God** came from Judah, (**no name**) to Bethel, as Jeroboam was standing by the altar to make an offering. 2 By the word of the LORD he cried out against the altar: "Altar, altar! This is what the LORD says: 'A son named Josiah will be born to the house of David. On you he will sacrifice the priests of the high places who make offerings here, and human bones will be burned on you.'" (**The fulfillment of this prophecy came 300 years later. 2 Kings 23:15-16**) 3 That same day the man of God gave a sign: "This is the sign the LORD has declared: The altar will be split apart and the ashes on it will be poured out."

Have you ever heard someone say; "I wish that God would just tell me what to do and I would do it". Well, back in the day this is exactly what would happen.

To be very honest with you, I have said the same thing. But after looking at just this one example I am so very thankful that I am living on this side of the cross. And the only message that I need to hear is:

(Hebrews 1:1-3) *In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. 3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.*

So Christ truly is prophet, priest and king. He is the Son of God, not a mere prophet; He is the final sacrifice, the priest and the temple; and He is not just Israel's greatest king, but the king of all creation!

Please read the rest of 1 Kings chapter 13 in order to see why we should be so thankful for the Grace of God and the finished work of Jesus on the cross. He will direct us through HIS WORD.

(John 1:1-5). Please take comfort in these WORDS.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

We DO know his name. And we know by His WORD what He said!

STUDENT MINISTRIES



Jeff Martens



Miranda Bohlender

Sunday Mornings:

Sunday School classes

9:15 to 10:15 for all
students from

Preschool-12th grade.

K-motion - 10:45 a.m.

Kids attend church during
opening worship, offering &
communion and are released
to go across street with Jeff or
Miranda during the sermon.

Preschool Classes and a
Nursery are available during
Sunday School & Worship.

Conquering Gargantor!

The last weekend of February we took 19 kids and 3 adult sponsors to Tulsa, Oklahoma for an amazing weekend of fun and the chance to learn more about each other. The conference we attended was “Superstart” and this year approximately 2,700 fourth and fifth grade students attended. The conference theme was **Conquering Gargantor: Overcoming obstacles to sharing your story!**

The main verse for the weekend was Psalm 105:1 which says, “Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim His greatness. Let the whole world know what He has done.” We heard the testimony of a real American Ninja Warrior who talked to the kids about several obstacles she faced during training. Every session she shared stories of when she had to stand up and face difficult times in her own life and she encouraged the kids to face their own obstacles head on.

We attended three great sessions each focusing on an obstacle that might prevent us from sharing our stories. Each session showcased a different speaker who shared their own personal testimony. The Friday night session focused on overcoming the obstacle, ***“I don’t have a story to tell, so how am I suppose to tell it?!”*** The students filled out “Tell It” cards that walked them through a situation and helped them recognize the amazing ways God works in their lives.

The Saturday morning session was about ***overcoming the fear (obstacle) of sharing your story with others.*** This fear could stem from the feeling that others will judge you or that your story isn’t as good as someone else’s. The truth is that everyone has their own story to tell and each one is different! If God is at the center of everyone’s story, then no story will be better than another! They are all good, because God is GOOD!

The third and final session on Saturday afternoon ***focused on the obstacle that some students don’t understand why they should share their stories.*** Our testimonies are God’s way to help others better understand him. Romans 10:14-15 says, “But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”.

We are sent by God to share our stories, and when we do we create a chain reaction for others to be saved by Jesus. When we tell, someone hears; when they hear, they have the chance to believe; once they believe, they are saved by Grace through Jesus; when they share, the cycle repeats itself. That is why it is so important to share our stories!

STUDENT MINISTRIES

During the Week:

Monday After School Program

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Time of snacks, homework, reading, and games

Kids T.N.T.

Every Thursday Evening
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
In the CPCC Fellowship Hall
Dinner is served to all kids and helpers at 6:00 p.m.
This is an evening of dinner, worship, small groups, games, crafts & more!

Jr. High Youth

Sunday School Classes
9:15 to 10:15 AM
Class meets in the South Balcony Classroom

Wednesday Youth Group
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
In the CPCC Fellowship Hall

Sr. High Youth

Sunday School Classes
9:15 to 10:15 a.m.
Class meets in the Community Center

Sunday Youth Group
Meets every Sunday evening from 6:15 to 8:00 p.m.
In the CPCC Fellowship hall.



SuperStart Snapshots!!

Top Left: Jeff and the kiddos eating lunch.

Middle Left: Prayer time with parents before take-off.

Bottom Left: The gang enjoying worship!

Top Right: Posing with praying hands at Oral Roberts University.

Important Info, Events & Dates

Oasis Update:

The new dates for Oasis are March 29th-30th. If you are not signed up and would like to attend, please let Miranda or Jeff know and turn in your \$20 deposit ASAP. If you are already signed up, you owe nothing; however, if you can no longer attend let Miranda know by March 15th. This is for High School Students (9th-12th grade).

Believe:

Middle School (6th-8th grade) March 22nd-23rd. Kansas City, MO.
\$25 deposit due to Miranda by March 8th. Total Cost: \$120.

OUR WORSHIP LEADER



Dayme Green

My day as a battleground

I had a funny thing happen to me a few days ago. From the moment I woke up throughout the entirety of my day, I watched spiritual warfare happen...and my life was the battleground. Let me give you a little background. I talked in last month's newsletter about how the theme that God has been running through my life lately is "death of self" and turning from my flesh and earthly desires. During this process, I have become aware of parts of my "flesh" that I never realized were as much of an issue as they are. One of these has been my pride. I, like a lot of people, have always had a part of my earthly self that pretty much thinks that everybody who's not me stinks. In the recent refining the Lord has been putting me through recently, I have recognized this aspect of my personality as something I need to move past and put away. I'm trying, but obviously, given the nature of humans as selfish beings, it's been a bit of a fight.

Another aspect of this death of self, is learning to stop actively trying to beat my issues myself and figuring out how to completely turn my trials and struggles over to the Lord and fall on His grace. Once again, for obvious reasons, this one isn't that easy either. The more I strive to give these things to Him and trust Him to take them, the more I notice that He really does just handle them. Although, I also find myself more acutely aware of the enemy's resistance to this process. The more I trust God and turn things over to Him, the more the devil tries to get in the way and tempts me to hang onto this unneeded baggage.

A few days ago, I woke up very aware of my pride and self-righteousness. I woke up asking the Lord to help me get out of my own way, to empty me of myself so I could be filled with Him. In fact, the first thing I did was pull up the song "Empty Me" by Chris Sligh, that has those very words in the lyrics. But almost immediately, I became very aware that the enemy was doing everything he could to mess that up and make sure I was so full of myself that there wasn't room for God. I won't go into details or specifics, but every little thing that could have bothered me, or annoyed me, or make me get protective of my own self-image, seemed to happen in perfect succession, one right after the other. It was a long, crummy day, but by the end of it I found that I had been able to trust the Lord to get me through and I was thankful and actually pretty fascinated that I had been allowed to be so aware of that struggle and watch that battle, right in front of me. Life is an amazing little part of our eternal existence and when God gives us a glimpse into what's really going on in the spiritual realms, we should just be thankful to have the chance to watch.

Women's Ministry



Thank You!

Special thanks to Sue and Stacey Spilker for hosting our Mystery Tea on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. We had a great time solving the mystery, eating (lots) & laughing! Watch for pictures in the April Cornerstone.



Ladies Bible Studies

Wednesdays

6:45 to 8:00 p.m.

"Fatal Distractions"

Led by Barb Gray

Group meets in the CPCC Parlor

Thursdays

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The Book of Luke

*Group meets at the home
of Stacey Kemper*

**contact church for address*

Childcare is provided.



Deaconess Meeting

The next Deaconess meeting is
Saturday, March 2nd

The next Prayer Shawl meeting will be held at the church

Tuesday, March 19th
from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Question? Contact
Judi Cox at 272-9803



Monthly Bible Verses

³ We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance.

⁴ And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation.

(Romans 5:3-5, NLT)

Church News & Notes

MARCH CROSSING GUARD

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

March 3rd
Rick Fischli

March 10th
Lynden Landholm

March 17th
Jeff Teske

March 24th
Brad Broadbent

March 31st
Ray DeMoss

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Noon

March 3rd
Nick Ward
& *Todd Huston*

March 10th
Bob Ward
& *Wesley Lewis*

March 17th
Mike Thomas
& *Tim Barnes*

March 24th
Jared Wilson
& *Josh Ward*

March 31st
Dan Force
& *Roy Hannon*



MISSION SPOTLIGHT - Lifeline Children's Services

Lifeline Children's Services is a Christian nonprofit that exists to equip the body of Christ to manifest the gospel to orphaned and vulnerable children. We have been serving children and families for 37 years in 12 states! The Kansas team serves families across the state of Kansas but does a lot of local work for families right here in Topeka. For a little over a year we have been located at 21st and McAlister. Our service to local families includes free pregnancy testing, free options consultation for their pregnancy to ensure they understand all options available for them and their baby, a resource closet to help supplement diapers or clothing for children, parenting classes, and more. In 2018 we gave out 80 pregnancy tests, served over 750 intakes, and clothed 121 children.

Oftentimes there are families in our community who are struggling in the midst of a crisis with little to no support. Our Harbor Families ministry supports families in crisis by offering temporary, short-term care to children while parents work on goals to become more stable for their family. Families in crisis are matched with a local host family who is part of a local church in our community and this host family provides overnight care for children while encouraging and talking through progress with the legal guardians. Through Harbor Families, we are providing an avenue for the church to reach out and support local families who may be welcomed into a local faith community and find hope in Christ, fellowship, and resiliency. In 2018 we facilitated 9 hostings of children.

We serve in strengthening families in our community but we also serve as a child placing agency helping families adopt both domestically and internationally. Right now we are taking applications for 14 international adoption programs with children eligible for adoption ranging in age of 6 months to 16 years old to adoptive families. We disciple, train, equip, and walk with adoptive families not only through their home study and matching process but even once their child has come home we serve families as long as they may need additional support. Our team served 45 Kansas adoptive families in 2018 and have seen a lot of new adoptive families already apply this year!

Thank you, Central Park Christian Church, for your continued support of Lifeline's mission in sharing the hope of the Gospel with children and families right here in our city and all over the world. We couldn't do this work without your partnership and we know that God is going to continue doing amazing things for children and families!

Community Outreach

MARCH **NURSING HOME** **SCHEDULE**

March 2nd

Team #5

Charles Rightmeier
Rujira Rightmeier
Sherry Reser
Trish Greer

March 9th

Team #1

Randy Lesseski
Lynda Buchanan
Sharon Chandler
Barb Heston
Liz Murray
Ann Uhl

March 16th

Team #2

Stan Seidel
Arlene Elliot
Pat Seidel
Colene Fischli

March 23rd

Team #3

Ray DeMoss
Steve Horton
Helen Horton
Judi Cox

March 30

Team #4

Bill White
Kim White
Veronica Hercules
Barb Gray



at Doorstep

Thank you to everyone who donated soup and crackers during our **Souper Bowl Sunday** collection! A can of soup can be a meal or two, and your generous donations helped to stock our pantry, and provide meals for your neighbors in need! We set a goal of 8,000 pounds for this year. The total brought in was 5,696 pounds! We didn't make our goal, but that is still a lot of soup and crackers, and more than we received last year! Thank you!

We also want to thank everyone who contributed to our **16th Annual Operation Soup Line**! Whether you made desserts, donated or won a theme basket, bought or sold tickets, worked the event or just attended, we appreciate the support! Monies raised from Soup Line will help Doorstep with agency expenses, and help provide rent and utility assistance to our neighbors who are struggling, and need help.

Mark your calendars for Doorstep's **2nd Annual Neighbors Helping Neighbors Walk/5K Run** at Lake Shawnee. The big day is **Saturday, October 5th**! Come out and support Doorstep, and get some exercise at the same time! We made over \$6,000 last year, and have a goal of \$8,500 for our second year!

Devotionals Available



"Our Daily Bread" devotionals HELPING YOU CONNECT WITH GOD EVERY DAY are available in the foyer. Did you know that Our Daily Bread is one of the most widely read devotional booklets printed, with 10 million per issue, in 37 languages? In 1938 it was founded by a Christian organization originally called the "Detroit Bible Class" and later became known as "Radio Bible Class". In 1994 the name was changed to RBC Ministries and in 2015 the name was changed to Our Daily Bread Ministries. Dr. M.R. De Hann was its founder. **Pick one up next Sunday after Church!**

Prayers & Notables



BE ANXIOUS
• FOR •
NOTHING
BUT IN
EVERYTHING
BY PRAYER & SUPPLICATION
WITH
THANKSGIVING
LET YOUR
REQUESTS
BE MADE KNOWN
• TO GOD •

BAPTISM

Congratulations to Kiamoni Lewis, Ian Riddle and Devon Fuller on their decisions to be baptized.

"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." ~ Galatians 3:27 (NIV)



*Our Thoughts & Prayers
are with these
Nursing Home Residents...*

Topeka Presbyterian Manor

Marilyn Barnes

Mother of Vicki Lesser & Terry Barnes

Topeka Presbyterian Manor

Robert & Agnes Cox

McCrite Plaza

Cecil Cook

Mother of Janice Carr

Operation Rolling Thunder

Please take some time on

Saturday, March 2nd

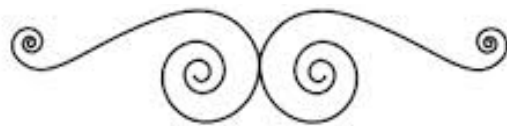
and commit to prayer regarding:

***church, education, military, government,
entertainment, health, family and business.***

Prayer is Powerful

Join others to start off your Sunday morning in a great way! At 8:30, a group meets in the middle classroom off the Fellowship Hall 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.

Come join us!



Monthly Events at CPCC...

MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Operation Rolling Thunder 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:30 AM Deaconess Meeting
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 SIAFU 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Group	4 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM After School Program	5 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	6 6:00 PM Lite Dinner 6:30 PM Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Tim's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	7 1:00 PM Women's Study <i>At the home of Stacey Kemper</i> 6:00 PM Kids T.N.T.	8	9 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 SIAFU 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Group	11 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM After School Program	12 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	13 6:00 PM Lite Dinner 6:30 PM Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Tim's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	14 1:00 PM Women's Study <i>At the home of Stacey Kemper</i> 6:00 PM Kids T.N.T.	15	16 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 SIAFU 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Group	18 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM After School Program	19 11:30 AM Prayer Shawl <i>At the church</i> 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	20 6:00 PM Lite Dinner 6:30 PM Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Tim's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	21 1:00 PM Women's Study <i>At the home of Stacey Kemper</i> 6:00 PM Kids T.N.T.	22	23 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 SIAFU 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Group	25 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM After School Program	26 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	27 6:00 PM Lite Dinner 6:30 PM Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Tim's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	28 1:00 PM Women's Study <i>At the home of Stacey Kemper</i> 6:00 PM Kids T.N.T.	29	30 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Worship Service 12:30 SIAFU 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Group						

CPCC Pastoral & Support Team



Randy Lesseski
Associate Pastor
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Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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Linda Bohlender
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JOIN US DURING THE WEEK

Prayer Time - Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School - Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

Fellowship Time - Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

Worship Service & K-motion - Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

SIAFU - Sundays at 12:30 p.m.

Sr. High Youth Group - Sundays at 6:15 p.m.

T.N.T. - Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Jr. High Youth Group - Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Kids T.N.T. - Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.