

THE CORNERSTONE

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

August 2020 Volume 16 Issue 8

www.centralparkcc.org

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Robinson Middle School Appreciation Breakfast. See page 9 for details!

VBS "FREEDOM"

August 17th - 21st / 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Let's wrap up the Summer with an epic adventure at VBS "FREEDOM"! Freedom VBS will focus on building Faith, being Fearless in that Faith and celebrating the Freedom we have in Jesus! VBS will look a little different this year with our Pre-K to 3rd graders joining us on Monday and Tuesday nights and our 4th to 8th graders attending on Thursday and Friday nights.

There will be no VBS carnival kick off or cook out this year.

****Plans are subject to change due to COVID-19****

Register your child/children now via the insert in the Sunday bulletin or online at www.centralparkcc.org Check out the sign up board in the church foyer to volunteer to help!

Questions?

Please call Miranda @ 250-2707.



a message from
OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Derek Slack

Be Alert

I look back at what we have seen the first half of this year and while realizing a lot has taken place, one thing sticks out more than any other - God has been very present in this place. *"This place"* is the term that I am using for this church body and all of its happenings.

Now, don't get me wrong, God had been active in this place since it opened its doors, but I want to key you all into something. God is in the midst of doing something grand right here at CPCC. Something that has never happened here before.

I could spend sentence after sentence talking about what is going on here. I could boast about God's leading. I could share the praises of our worship team and their incredible talents. I could talk about our awesome kid and youth programs.

I could go on about seeing one of our home-grown students coming back from overseas to know that she is being called into the full-time mission field. I could share about how many incredible conversations have been taking place and how they all point to the glory of God.

I could share with you about the people who are receiving Christ for their first time and asking to be baptized. I could share of the times of fellowship that we have had even in the midst of a pandemic. I could go on and on but to be honest, I want to warn you first. I want you to be on alert. The enemy prowls.

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ~ 1 Peter 5:8

It is when the church is active and aware that God is moving and are actively pursuing Him, that the enemy is scared and going to attack. I have already been having these conversations with people. They sense God doing something special and feel the attack of the enemy all at the same time. Look out and be alert CPCC! We will never be the same and that should excite us all!

So here is what I want to ask of all of you. Pray. That's it. Pray. God will reveal what He wants when we ask Him and talk with Him daily. When He feels silent, listen for His ever-present voice in that silence. Thank you for continuing in this journey. I can't wait to see what happens next!

My soul, waits in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken. ~ Psalm 62:5-6

a message from

OUR WORSHIP LEADER



Jayme Green

What's your day look like?

I got convicted about something the other day. It was the end of the day and I was praying as I fell asleep and God brought up the topic of time management. I felt like I had had a pretty good day as far as the portion of the day I dedicated to the Lord but He asked me to look a little closer at it. Is “pretty good” anywhere close enough to where I should be?

Let me break it down like this...

There are 24 hours in a day. Let's give me all the credit I can possibly get and say I had a very good day dedicated to serving or even just communicating with the Father. We'll call it a Sunday even and give me that leg up. Of those 24 hours I usually sleep 6 to 8 (we'll split the difference at 7), so I have 17 hours left. I spend about 5 hours on Church prep, service and prayer/mental preparation time on a normal Sunday morning. Then let's say we eat dinner with Christian friends, probably a two hour commitment but when you split the difference between true fellowship and just normal idle chatter and actually eating, I'll be generous and call that an hour. Then the day goes by largely uneventful. If I do a devotion with the kids and then have some prayer time for myself before I go back to bed, I'm looking at another hour. I do spend quite a bit of my “me” time in conversational prayer with God so I'll add an hour for my own sake. We're talking about 8 of 24 hours. I give God a full day's work. Is that enough??? What about a weekday, when I have an actual 8-hour work day to get through, and I don't have the fact that I work for the church to help me out, will I even be anywhere close to that?

What would my life look like if instead of 8 hours (or less) given to God and 16 given to the world, I switched those two things around? Isn't that more how our days should look? By the time I fell asleep that evening, my conviction had turned into more of a gentle reminder from my Heavenly Father to not be so wrapped up in the business of the day to day and to work more on budgeting my time toward the eternal. I may not realistically be able to give 16+ hours of practical time to the Lord every day but I can sure try.

STUDENT MINISTRIES



Jeff Martens

Middle School Youth Group

Middle School Youth Group meets every Wednesday evening at the church.

High School Youth Group

High School Youth meets every Sunday afternoon from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the church

Don't Just Stand There...Just One More!!

Over the past several weeks the Lord has led me to focus more and more on the Gospel. He has been teaching me to share the good news of who God is, His love for us and our need for a savior. He has reminded me to get up and to love. To love like Jesus: to be mindful, approachable, grace-full, bold and self-giving ("Love like That", Les Parrot). To show Christ's love with everyone and anyone, no matter who they are and to be a Kingdom worker, spreading the Gospel. To not just show love, but to tell others why I love and that's because Christ first loved me.

So, what are we waiting for to love like Christ did? Don't just stand there. We are called to finish the quest God has commanded us to do: To love on one more person, to make disciples, to spread the good news, to gospelize while keeping the mind-set of **Just One More!!**

Acts 1:8-11

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he [Jesus] said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Imagine that moment when Jesus gave His disciples the final charge to go into the world and spread the good news to everyone everywhere. They had just spent the last 40 days reveling in the shocking joy of Jesus' resurrection from a horrific death and now His pierced, beautiful feet are leaving the ground. Jesus starts floating upward, upward, upward. He goes higher and higher, finally disappearing into the gentle clouds that waft across the deep blue Judean sky. Then a voice beside them awakens them from what must have felt like a dream. They turn to see two men dressed in white who have appeared out of nowhere. "Why do you stand here looking into the sky?" they ask. Their pointed question reminds them that Jesus has already given them the mission, the plan and the deadline. The men are telling them, in essence, "Don't just stand there...gospelize!" It started in Jerusalem, and then stretched across Judea. It eventually spread to Samaria and Antioch, then on to Greece and Italy. Over the centuries, Jesus' message and mission have crisscrossed the globe as more and more Jesus followers have embraced the call to do more than just stand there. As followers of Christ, we have inherited that two millennia old message and mission.

continued on page 5

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Just One More...continued from page 4

**Until our Savior returns to planet earth on a cloud, we must be busy with the quest He has called us to accomplish.

The quest to make disciples.

The quest to spread the good news.

The quest to gospelize**

***Excerpts from "Gospelize Your Youth Ministry" by Greg Stier*

Youth Sunday

On Sunday, July 19th we recognized one recent graduate and heard from several youth on how the Lord is working in their lives during our annual Youth Sunday Celebration. The congregation was led in praise and worship by Pastor Derek, Ciarra McWilliams and Jessica Fischli and then enjoyed a sermon on "Love" by Pastor Jeff.



Top Left: Pastor Jeff prays over Emili Folster after celebrating her graduation from Washburn University.

Top Right: Abigail White shares stories from her missionary training with YWAM.

Bottom Left: Ciarra McWilliams talks about "Busyness, and the lack thereof during COVID"

Bottom Right: Jenna Fischli shares selected bible stories & their meaning.

1 Timothy 4:12

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

STUDENT MINISTRIES



Miranda Bohlander

Kid's T.N.T.

Kids Pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join us on Thursday nights for Kid's Thursday Night Teaching (T.N.T.) Doors open at 6:15 p.m., with activities taking place from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. We will not be serving dinner during the Summer.

VBS

Don't forget to sign up to volunteer and to register your child/children for VBS! Details can be found on the front page.

Getting Out of My Head!

One blessing that has come out of this pandemic for me is a little extra time. Due to cancelled activities, I have been able to participate in a Bible study with two other women. The Bible study, "Get Out of Your Head" by Jennie Allen, goes through the book of Philippians and focuses on a big topic that can be extremely sensitive to discuss - **mental health** and the thoughts we think about daily.

The study begins with a "thought assessment". Jennie asked us to write down a thought that causes us to feel anxious, depressed, overwhelmed or afraid. Afterwards, she had us answer the question, "Is this thought true?" Next, Jennie had us take it one step further by asking, "What does God say about this thought?" She encouraged us to write down scripture related to the topic of our thought. Once we had finished looking up and writing down scripture, she told us we have a choice... "*We can choose between believing God or believing our thought/lie. **Now...saying you choose to believe God is way easier said than done - isn't it?! And...I can't be the only one who has decided to believe God one minute only to find myself believing the lie the next - can I?! It is a choice we have to make every single time the thought crosses our minds. Thankfully, God has given us the power to choose what to believe.***"

One lie/thought that tends to cross my own mind is that I'm not worthy or good enough. I am learning through this Bible study that these types of thoughts tend to create a downward spiral. Meaning, I may start with that one, single thought only to spiral out of control as I start to compare myself to others. Those comparisons lead to negative thought, to negative thought, to negative thought. If I allow myself to believe these thoughts I could end up believing I have no worth or value whatsoever!

Two truths God is teaching me through this Bible study are:

1. I **CAN** stop the spiral.
 2. I need to stop putting my worth in other things besides God.
- To stop the spiral I must grab the thought, **as soon as it arises**, and assess it using God's word. Then, I must make the decision to believe God rather than the lie!

My value and worth (and your's also) come from God. Just read Psalm 139:13-16 and Ephesians 2:8-10. I have to confess, even though I have been taught this since I was little, I haven't always chosen to believe it.

Will you to choose to believe God's words or the lies you tell yourself?

Next time you get "stuck in your head", I encourage you to assess your thoughts by what God says about them. Get out of your head and into your Bible and then choose to believe God rather than the lie!

Women's Ministry



Ladies Bible Studies

Wednesdays

6:45 to 8:00 p.m.

The Book of James

by Kay Arthur

Led by Barb Gray

Group meets in the CPCC Parlor

Thursdays

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Selected Psalms

Group meets at the home of Allison Crow. To ensure proper social distancing, please notify Allison if you are new to the group and would like to join!



Deaconess Meeting

The next Deaconess meeting is
Saturday, September 12th
from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the church.

Prayer Shawl Meeting

Our next Prayer Shawl meeting will be held Thursday, August 20th at the home of Judi Cox.

Please contact Judi with questions or for more information.



Monthly Bible Verses

⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ. ~ Philippians 1:9-10

For Your Info



PERSPECTIVES CLASS OFFERED AT CPCC

SUNDAY AUGUST 16 - DECEMBER 6, 2020

Cost \$250. First two nights are free.

*****MULTIPLE FAMILY MEMBER DISCOUNTS OFFERED*****

Perspectives is a fifteen week course designed around four vantage points or “perspectives” — Biblical, Historical, Cultural and Strategic. Each one highlights different aspects of God’s global purpose. Join us and experience God’s heart for all people and encounter the momentum of the WORLD CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, GO TO:
WWW.PERSPECTIVES.ORG/TOPEKAKS

FROM OUR CPCC LEADERSHIP:

MASK AREA

Beginning Sunday, August 2nd, we will have a designated “mask area” in the Sanctuary. The area will be clearly marked with signs. This section will be for those attendees wearing masks. Please be respectful of this area and let’s continue to worship our Savior together in harmony.

NEW ROOF

We will be replacing the roof on our church building in the near future. An actual date has not been set. We are currently getting bids for this necessary project.

LIGHTS & FANS

The lights and fans in our Sanctuary are being evaluated. Several of the fan bearings are going out and most likely can’t be repaired. We are looking at replacing the lights and fans within the year.

YEAR TO DATE GIVING - IS COVID HAVING AN IMPACT?

Thank you to everyone who has used the different pay venues available for tithes and offerings during the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has not only affected how we live day to day, and the way we Worship on Sunday, but also the way we do daily business transactions.

Below is a breakdown of our contributions beginning April 2020 and ending July 2020. CPCC is currently under budget year-to-date by \$33,186.

We thank you for your faithful giving through the years and while this is a difficult time for all of us, we are stronger when we work together to accomplish our goal of advancing the Kingdom of God.

April 2020 through July 2020:

Total April Contributions:	\$31,349
Total May Contributions:	\$33,380
Total June Contributions:	\$27,308
Total July Contributions:	\$28,991

Year to date contributions ending 7/31/20:	\$221,237
Year to date budget ending 7/31/20:	\$254,423
CPCC is under budget to date by:	<\$33,186>

(Last year’s 2019 budget same time frame was over budget by \$2,748.)

News and Notes

AUGUST CROSS GUARD

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

August 2nd
Cody Kelly

August 9th
Lynden Landolm

August 16th
Mike Swickard

August 23rd
Rick Fischli

August 30th
Lynden Landholm

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Noon

August 2nd
Randy Spilker
& *Dan Johnson*

August 9th
Richard Murray
& *Chuck Shockey*

August 16th
Mike Thomas
& *Jason Vinsonhaler*

August 23rd
Randy Smith
& *Rodney Barrand*

August 30th
Gary Burks
& *Tim Cunningham*

FARMERS TO FAMILIES FOOD BOX PROGRAM

Boxes of farm fresh dairy, fruit and produce will be available weekly (while supplies last) as part of a nationwide program called FARMERS TO FAMILIES. If you or anyone you know is in need of food, please call the church office by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday with addresses and our leadership team will deliver the boxes to you!

NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE/SIDEWALK PANTRY

We continue to collect non-perishable food items, hygiene items, masks and cleaning supplies for our weekly food drives.
(NO CLOTHES PLEASE!)

Donated items will be given away Friday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the church. (weather permitting)

Donations may be dropped off at either:

The White House - 1515 SW Fillmore - (785) 338-1378

The Sherrer/Holmes House - 4710 NW Redwood Dr. - (785) 845-9995

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO VOLUNTEERED TO WORK WHILE THE WHITE FAMILY IS ON VACATION!

THANK YOU FOR SERVING OUR CPCC NEIGHBORS IN NEED!

Robinson Middle School Breakfast



At the beginning of each school year, CPCC provides a breakfast to the staff of Robinson Middle School. Table decorations for the breakfast consist of school supplies, spiral notebooks, pencils, disinfectant wipes, Kleenex and composition books. The teachers take these items with them after the breakfast. Due to COVID, the date for this breakfast has not been set; however, **start checking out the “back-to-school” sales now as most of these table decorations are donated!**

Donations can be brought to the church and placed in the kitchen.

Missions & Outreach

Praying for the Persecuted

KENYA: **Ten Killed in Bus Attack**

Gunmen killed 10 people, mostly workers from Nairobi aboard a bus in northern Kenya late last year. The Islamic group al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack on the passengers, many of whom were traveling to job sites in Madera, a city on the Somalia-Ethiopia-Kenya border. The attackers allowed ethnic Somalis, whom they assumed were Muslim, to stay on the bus, but ordered all non-Muslims, assumed to be Christians, to exit the bus before shooting them.

Police arrested suspects, including the bus driver, but a VOM worker said there is no certainty that anyone will be prosecuted. "Please remember all the Christians living in northern Kenya," the VOM Worker said. "Pastors in the area are concerned."

~ Reprinted from Voice of the Martyrs magazine



MISSIONARY SPOTLIGHT **Aaron & Andrea Medlen**

Thank you for partnering with us! Without your partnership we would not be encountering and impacting Muslim lives in Senegal.

Specifically we are reaching out to a particular Unreached People Group called the Mandinka. This group does not know the love, joy and hope found in Jesus Christ. They do not understand that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God and that knowing Christ is knowing God. Rather, many are seeking Him through the perilous and hopeless road of Islam which is the backbone of Senegal at this time.

Our main goal is working toward having everything we do (daily life, language learning, relationship building, special occasions, the mundane etc.) contribute toward planting healthy, reproducing churches of obedient disciples who proceed to make other disciples, starting in Senegal and reaching beyond.

Living among the people which we are reaching is a key strategy to forming a platform suitable for sharing our Greatest Treasure. Seeking out and walking alongside those who He is calling to follow Him is a vital part toward the progress of seeing multiplying movements of disciple makers. Your gifts and prayers allow us to live life in community with the Senegalese to accomplish these God-sized goals. To find out how you can be more involved simply email us at: aaronandreamedlen@gmail.com or text 636-331-8039.

~ Aaron



August at Doorstep

We would like to thank everyone who donated items for Christmas in July, money for our Summer Cash Bash or as part of the Envista Cares Challenge in July!

We continue to help people where we can with emergency services during this time of pandemic and the clothing room is now open. Donations for the clothing room may be brought to the south door on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The clothing room will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays for clients.

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

Sunday, October 4th is the date for this year's fundraiser! We are still planning to move forward with the fundraiser this year and make changes, if needed, as time progresses.

You can sign up to participate yourself for \$30 which includes a T-shirt (deadline September 16th to order a shirt) or sponsor a walker/runner! Those getting sponsors will get a free T-shirt with pledges of \$100 or more. All proceeds will benefit Doorstep, Inc.

Get your family, friends, youth, community groups together and join us this October!

We are excited about this event! It will start/end from shelter houses 1 & 2 at Lake Shawnee. The Walk/Run will start at 2:00 p.m. with celebrity starter Chris Fisher from WIBW-TV 13 joining us again this year! We will have some entertainment prior to the start and after the walk/run we will return to the shelter houses for snacks & drinks!

You can sign up on our website: www.DoorstepTopeka.org after August 1st.

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

Prayers & Notables



Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...

Topeka Presbyterian Manor Residents
Robert & Agnes Cox

McCrite Plaza Nursing Home Resident
Darlene McCarter

Operation Rolling Thunder

Please take some time on
Saturday, August 1st
and commit to prayer regarding:
church, education, military, government, entertainment, health, family and business.

Sunday Morning Prayer Meeting

Join others at 8:30 a.m. Sunday mornings, 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.

Monday Prayer Meeting

All are invited to join the Elders on Monday evenings at 5:30, as they continue praying for our church, our city, our state and the nation. This prayer meeting will also be available via Zoom.
<https://zoom.us/j/2029856144>



Monthly Events at CPCC...

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AUGUST 2020						1 Operation Rolling Thunder 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church</i>
2 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	3 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	4 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	5 6:30 PM Middle School Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Derek's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	6 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study at the home of Allison Crow 6:30 - 8:00 PM Kid's T.N.T. (No Dinner)	7	8 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church</i>
9 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	10 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	11 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	12 6:30 PM Middle School Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Derek's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	13 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study at the home of Allison Crow 6:30 - 8:00 PM Kid's T.N.T. (No Dinner)	14	15 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church</i>
16 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	17 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom 6:00 PM VBS	18 6:00 PM VBS 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T. <i>Held at Topeka Baptist Church this week due to VBS.</i>	19 6:30 PM Middle School Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Derek's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	20 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study at the home of Allison Crow 6:00 PM VBS 6:30 PM Prayer Shawl <i>At Judi Cox's home.</i>	21 6:00 PM VBS	22 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church</i>
23 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	24 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	25 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	26 6:30 PM Middle School Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Derek's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	27 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study at the home of Allison Crow 6:30 - 8:00 PM Kid's T.N.T. (No Dinner)	28	29 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>Group meets at the church</i>
30 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM SS 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	31 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom					

The next Cornerstone newsletter will print Thursday, August 27th.
Please have all items to the office by 5 p.m. Thursday, August 20th.

CPCG Pastoral & Support Team



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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.

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

SIAFU - No SIAFU in August

High School Youth Group - Sundays 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Prayer Time - Mondays at 5:30 p.m.

A.R.R.O.W. - Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Middle School Youth Group - Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Kid's T.N.T. - Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.