

THE CORNERSTONE

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

January 2019 Volume 15 Issue 1

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Happy NEW YEAR

*You crown the year with Your goodness,
And Your paths drip with abundance.*

PSALM 65:11

Seeking God's Leading for the Future of CPCC

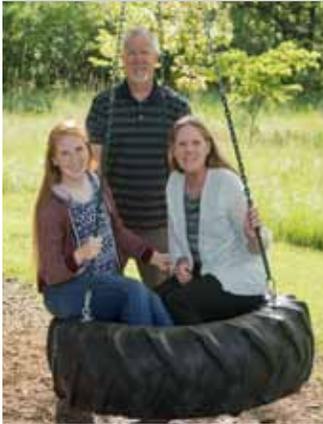
TRUST IN THE LORD
— WITH ALL YOUR HEART —
AND DO NOT LEAN ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING
IN ALL YOUR WAYS
— ACKNOWLEDGE HIM —
AND HE WILL MAKE STRAIGHT YOUR PATHS
PROVERBS 3:4-6 (ESV)

On Saturday, January 12th the Elders and Pastors are coming together for a day of prayer, fellowship, and seeking the Lord's favor and leading. It is their hope that in seeking the Lord together, He will encourage them with vision to accomplish His purposes. Would you please pray for our Elders and Pastors, not only on this day, but make it a habit to pray daily for them throughout 2019?

They appreciate the body lifting them up in prayer!

Thank you CPCC Family!

a message from
OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Tim Maddock

"I Make All Things New"

Every once in a while, (typically on a Saturday afternoon when I am in pre-nap mode) the sporting event I have been watching on TV will be followed by an infomercial...Oxiclean...Ginsu steak knives...power juicers...snuggies...spray on hair...Thighmaster...the list goes on and on! But wait! *If you call in NOW* they will double your order, and who doesn't need a second set of steak knives that can cut through a tin can? And the dominant word in all of these ads is...**NEW!** This is a product that is new to mankind, never been seen...and more than likely, never to be seen again, after the hype wears off.

The Bible also uses the word "NEW"; have you noticed?

- In Ezekiel 36:26 God promises to give us a new heart and spirit, which Jesus fulfilled for us by giving us new life and placing the Spirit in us.
- In Luke 22:20 Jesus spoke of the new covenant (grace) which replaced the old covenant of the law. This was put into effect when Jesus died in our place, while we were yet sinners.
- 2 Corinthians 5: 17 says that if we are in Christ, we are a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.
- Ephesians 4: 22-24 talks about discarding the "old self" and being made new in the attitude of our minds and putting on the "new self" created to be like God!
- 2 Peter 3:13 claims the promise of Jesus himself (I will prepare a place for you) and challenges us to be men and women of character since we are looking forward to a new heaven and earth.
- Revelation 21 is filled with new things...best of all God Himself who triumphantly claims "I am making all things new!"

So, I think I will get off the couch, turn off the infomercials, and enjoy all the **NEW** things the Lord has blessed me with. I have been given a new heart and spirit! I enjoy a relationship with God based on the new covenant of grace established by Jesus. I am not condemned, I am a new creation in Christ. I have a new heaven and earth to look forward to, but in the meantime, I will fight the battle between the "old man" and the "new self" ...until the day I see God face to face. And that, my friend, is something new I can enjoy every day and right into eternity!

Heading for Home,

Tim

a message from

OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR



Randy Leseski

Lost and Afraid on a Cold Winter Night

(Matthew 3:17) NIV

*A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son,
whom I love; with Him I am well pleased."*

We are fast approaching 2019. As a matter of fact, when you read this it will be 2019! Oftentimes a new year brings an array of thoughts and emotions which often lead many to reflect on sadness, failure and loss rather than love, hope and happiness. It's not uncommon and it is not soon to go away. It goes through our society like a giant reaper picking up its old customers and adding new ones at every turn. The reason being...many have lost sight, or worse...they have never received sight. That sight is - being able to recognize the love and grace shown by a loving Father, in order to buy us back from certain destruction by sending His Son Jesus to live among us and die for us.

Paul Harvey tells a modern parable about a religious skeptic who worked as a farmer. One raw winter night the man heard an irregular thumping sound against the kitchen storm door. He went to a window and watched as tiny, shivering sparrows, attracted to the evident warmth inside, beat in vain against the glass.

Touched, the farmer bundled up and trudged through the fresh snow to open the barn door for the struggling birds. He turned on the barn lights to give them direction to a safe haven. But the sparrows, which had scattered in all directions when he had emerged from the house, hid in the darkness filled with fear.

The man tried various tactics to get them into the barn. He laid down a trail of saltine cracker crumbs to direct them. He tried circling behind the birds to drive them towards the barn. Nothing worked. The birds couldn't comprehend that he actually desired to help them.

The farmer went back into his house and watched the doomed sparrows through the window. As he watched in sorrow, a thought came to him; "If only I could become a bird, one of them, just for a moment. Then I wouldn't frighten them. I could show them the way to warmth and safety".

At that same moment, another thought came to him. He had grasped the reason Jesus was born.

So remember, as you go through this hurried life and enter this new year, in our midst, every day, we will encounter hurting, helpless and misdirected people. Don't pass up the chance to "share the hope that is in you through Christ Jesus."

Blessings,

Randy

STUDENT MINISTRIES



Jeff Martens



Miranda Boblender

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.

One Year Down, many more to go!!

Wow! One year ago I was hired as the new Student Ministries Pastor and Jeff and I journeyed into new territory together as we began co-leading all areas of the student ministries here at CPCC. As I think back over the year, I know I have experienced every emotion possible at one point or another. There have been some extremely fun times, some stressful times - lots of happiness and, unfortunately, some sadness. I've been excited, angry, exhausted, and YES - I've been filled with joy. There were times when I had no idea what to do or say, but fortunately the Lord took the lead in those times. This year has been full of forgiveness, flexibility and learning. I love what God is doing in His Ministry here at Central Park and am thankful for the body of believers He has placed here to take part in His ministry. We have seen students grow this year and we have shared moments of joy with them as they decided to be baptized and to declare their belief in who God is and what He has done for them. We have gained new students and we've lost some students. But, the greatest blessing God has given me this year is the opportunity to watch our students begin to understand who **HE** is. Two years ago, if you would have asked me what my plans for 2018 were...I would have said living somewhere over seas serving the Lord. Lucky for me, God closed those doors and opened a new path based on HIS plans! **I love serving God right here in good old Topeka.** Jeff and I are so excited for what year two will bring as we watch more students grow in Christ.

Happy New Year!
Miranda

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who donated blankets and/or money for our children and jr. high youth groups. As always, the blankets were a big hit and brought lots of smiles. Thank you for being a blessing to CPCC and for sharing the warmth this Christmas!!



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 RM 101

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

Important Events & Dates

OASIS:
FEBRUARY 15TH-16TH
for High School Students. We will be traveling to Manhattan Christian College for a weekend trip. Cost & Deadline to come.



SUPERSTART:
FEBRUARY 22ND-24TH
for our 4th & 5th Grade Students. We will be traveling to Tulsa, OK for a fun weekend trip. Cost & Deadline to come.



A special "Thank you" from Robinson Middle School



Thanks for all that you do for the staff & Students at Robinson. We can't thank you enough!
- RMS loves you!

Thank You!

Way to go Jimmy!



Dear CPC, Doorstep is so grateful for all the support we receive from your congregation throughout the year! Specifically, we want to take a minute to thank Jimmy + Jason Vinsonhale of Central Park Christian for their hard work on Sun. Dec 9th helping us load + carry many boxes for our Doorstep Christmas Store! It takes all of us to help those in need. Thank you so much + Merry Christmas
:- Doorstep Staff

a message from
OUR WORSHIP LEADER



Jayme Green

New Year Perspective

It's New Year time. Time to celebrate the passing of another calendar year and look forward to the future. Let's start this new year with a little perspective. Who remembers the old imagery of Baby New Year, how the old man of the previous year is reborn as an infant...usually wearing a top hat for some reason. That infant, as it grows and changes with the seasons represents the days, weeks, and months of the year until it has its turn to, as an old man of the year past, be reborn again.

The calendar year is used to represent a life from beginning to end and really it's a pretty fair representation. We are born violently, forced into this world and forced to learn how to survive and eventually thrive through the painful, formative time that is adolescence. Then, we hit our prime, the spring of our youth with all its new discoveries and firsts. Next we move into adulthood, much like summer our mid 20's to 40's can be both the best time of the year that is our lives and the worst, with the "dog days" of responsibility and the realization of our own mortality. Then into the autumn of our lives, there is sadness as the beauty of summer starts to fade but if we are lucky, we are able to rest in the temperate comfort of fall. Then to the end, as our health starts to fade and die away like the green of the world, giving way to the cold. It's really a pretty vivid and accurate representation, and it really could be sad...if that really was the end.

As Christians, we know that the end of our time here on earth is far from the end of our existence though. We have eternal life with the Father through the sacrifice and offering of His only son, Jesus Christ. As believers and children of God, we have been afforded the chance to not have the end of our time here on earth be the end, but only the beginning.

Our earthly lives are just the infancy of our true existence. In fact this is more like only the first seconds of a child's life, and really that doesn't work either since the life that we are granted is eternal. There is no winter in the year of our eternal existence.

There's a bit of a catch though.

Last week I had a similar conversation to this with my friend, Aaron Jones (many of you know him), and then again later in the week with Tim (yeah, you all know him too.) This time, I used a book as an illustration of our lives. People always say "this chapter in your life." That doesn't work for me, because what we think of as life, the only thing we really know up to this point, isn't even a chapter yet, in fact, it's not really even on the pages yet. Our earthly life is more like the corner of the front cover of the book. We haven't even seen what's inside our book yet.

While discussing that with Tim, he brought up the point that while this may only be the corner of our cover, the decisions we make right now can effect the rest of the story. We decide during this fleeting moment whether or not we choose to receive our Father's gift of eternal life. That got me thinking even more about my book analogy. If we are holding the boom that is our eternal existence, we are just at the corner of the front cover, and we have to choose to open that cover and see what the Lord has written on our pages.

Happy New Year.

Women's Ministry



Women's Winter Tea

The annual Women's Tea will be held in February.

Watch for details coming soon!



Bible Studies

Wednesdays

6:45 - 8:00 p.m.

"Fatal Distractions"

Led by Barb Gray

Group meets in the CPCC Parlor

Thursdays

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

The Book of Luke

Resumes January 10th.

Group meets at the home of Stacey Kemper

**contact church for address*

Childcare is provided.



Deaconess Meeting

The next Deaconess meeting is
Saturday, January 5th

The next Prayer Shawl meeting will be held Tuesday, January 15th from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The group will meet at the church. Questions?
Contact Judi Cox at 272-9803.



Monthly Bible Verses

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ~ James 1:17

Church News & Community Outreach

JANUARY CROSSING GUARD

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

January 6th
Ray DeMoss

January 13th
Lynden Landholm

January 20th
Brian Stovall

January 27th
Brad Broadbent

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Noon

January 6th
Todd Huston
& *Roy Hannon*

January 13th
Wesley Lewis
& *Jeff Teske*

January 20th
Tim Cunningham
& *Kyle Raine*

January 27th
Randy Spilker
& *Chuck Shockey*



The Doorstep staff and volunteers would like to thank everyone who donated to Doorstep during the holiday season, and throughout 2018.

Because of your generosity, and the Topeka community, we were able to provide food and gifts to our neighbors in need.

Along with the start of a new year also comes the cold weather and high utility bills. Please remember your neighbors who are struggling to pay those high bills when looking for a place to donate. Doorstep offers utility assistance to individuals and families throughout the year as funds are available.

Souper Bowl Sunday is February 3rd! Just around the corner! On this weekend we ask our member congregations to collect soup and crackers to help restock our food pantry. A can of soup can be a meal, and in the past with a successful collection, we have had soup and crackers to last us into the summer months! Please remember Doorstep when you go grocery shopping, and pick up a few items for your neighbors in need.

Also, mark your calendars for the 16th Annual Operation Soup Line! This year it will be on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 from 11am – 2pm!

Doorstep is open Monday – Friday, 8am – 3pm for donations. We are located at 1119 SW 10th Street (10th & Buchanan). We ask that you do not leave donations outside our building when we are not here, as they often become a parking lot mess. Thank you!

Saturday, January 26th

fellowship
TABLES

CPCC Fellowship Hall, 5:30 p.m. / Contact Eric Cook at
ecook2@cox.net or (785) 220-2740 to sign up today!

Season of Advent

JANUARY NURSING HOME SCHEDULE

January 5th

Team #2

Stan Seidel
Pat Seidel
Arlene Elliot
Colene Fischli

January 12th

Team #3

Ray DeMoss
Steve Horton
Helen Horton
Judi Cox

January 19th

Team #4

Bill White
Kim White
Veronica Hercules
Barb Gray

January 26th

Team #5

Charles Rightmeier
Rujira Rightmeier
Sherry Reser
Trish Greer

ADVENT

2018



WEEK ONE

Week one of Advent was ushered in by the McKinley Family with the reading of Isaiah 9:2 and John 1:1-5. The McKinley's also lit the first candle.



WEEK TWO

Week two, the Roberts Family read Isaiah 9:6-7 and Philippians 4:4-7 before lighting the second Advent candle.



WEEK THREE

What a blessing it was on week three to have the Kemper family read Luke 1:39-55 and light the third Advent candle.



WEEK FOUR

Mattie and Becky Hoferer lit the fourth Advent candle after reading Matthew 1:18-23 and 1st John 4:10

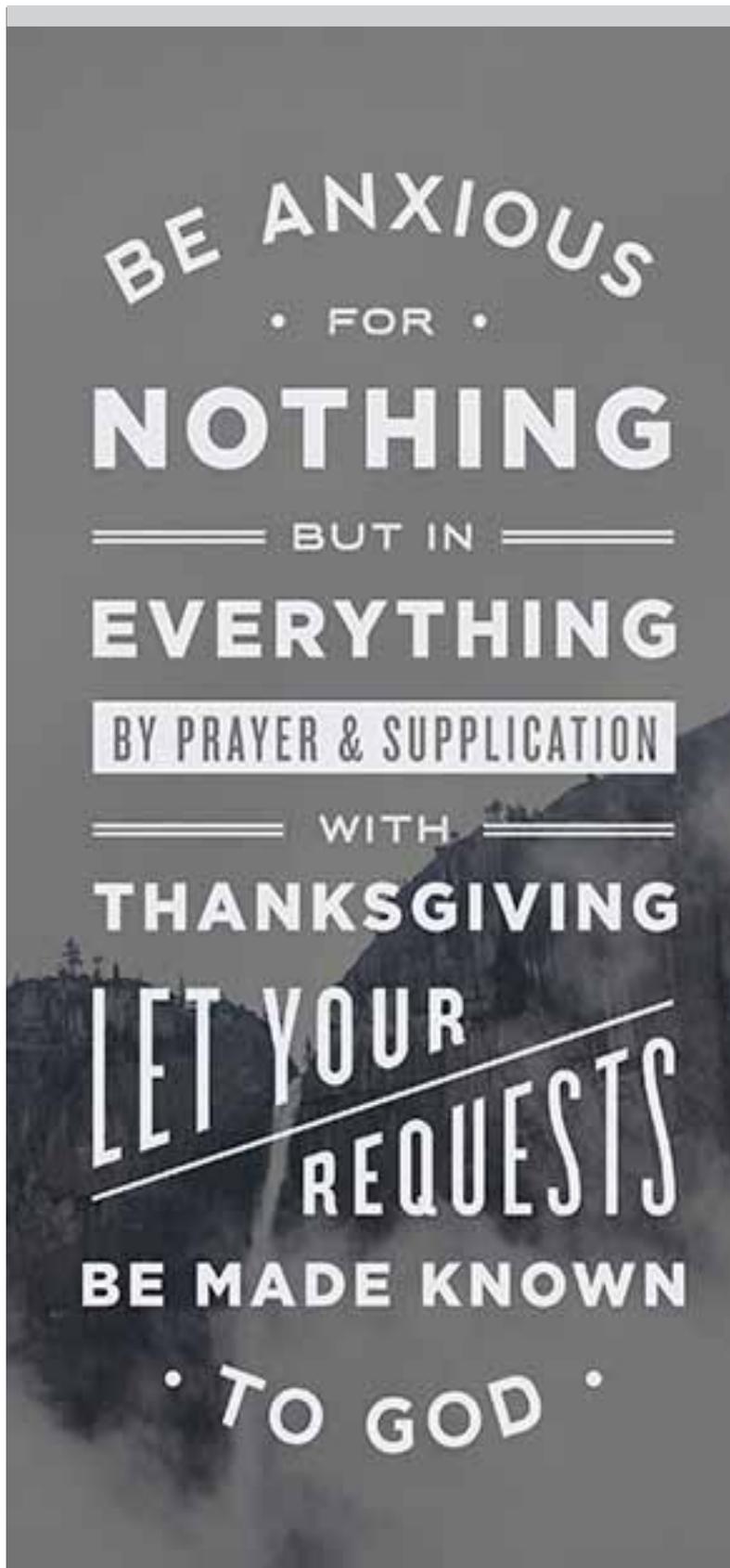


WEEK FIVE

On Christmas Eve, Barbara Heston lit the fifth and final candle in the Advent wreath, the Christ Candle. She read John 1:1-14 and John 8:12.



Prayers & Notables



*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, January 5th

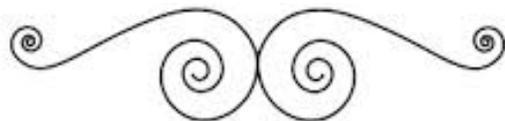
and commit to prayer regarding:

***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 CPGC...

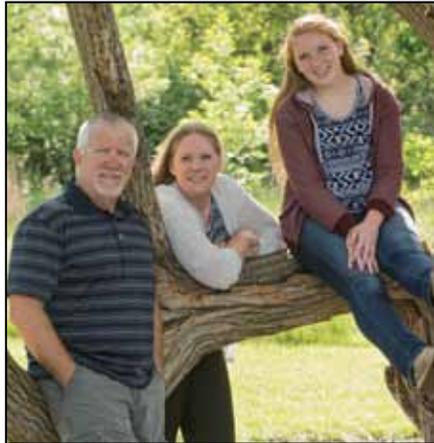
JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 No Lite Dinner No Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study-Tim's Office 6:45 PM Women's Bible Study-Parlor	3 No Women's Bible Study <i>Group is taking a break until Jan. 10th</i> No Kids T.N.T.	4	5 Operation Rolling Thunder 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:30 AM Deaconess Meeting
6 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	7 No After School Program 5:30 PM Spanish Class	8 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	9 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	10 1:00 PM Women's Study <i>At the home of Stacey Kemper</i> 6:00 PM Kids T.N.T.	11	12 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
13 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	14 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM After School Program 5:30 PM Spanish Class	15 11:30 AM Prayer Shawl <i>At the church</i> 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	16 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	17 1:00 PM Women's Study <i>At the home of Stacey Kemper</i> 6:00 PM Kids T.N.T.	18	19 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
20 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	21 M L King Day No After School Program 5:30 PM Spanish Class	22 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	23 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	24 1:00 PM Women's Study <i>At the home of Stacey Kemper</i> 6:00 PM Kids T.N.T.	25	26 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 5:30 AM Fellowship Tables
27 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	28 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM After School Program 5:30 PM Spanish Class	29 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	30 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	31 1:00 PM Women's Study <i>At the home of Stacey Kemper</i> 6:00 PM Kids T.N.T.		

CPCG Pastoral & Support Team



Randy Lesseski
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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.
Kid's T.N.T. - Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.