

THE CORNERSTONE

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

September 2020 Volume 16 Issue 9

www.centralparkcc.org

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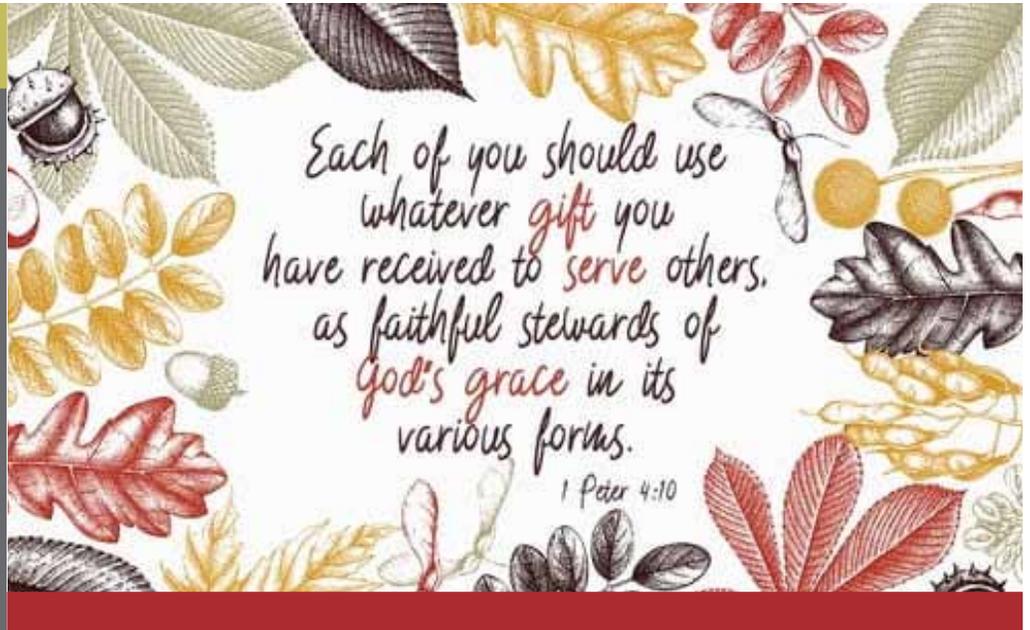
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ROBINSON MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST

We will not host a breakfast this year for staff at Robinson Middle School; however, they still need our help with supplies and greatly appreciate our donations.

We have extended the time to collect supplies until Sunday, September 12th.

Please bring your donations to the church and place them in the kitchen. Don't forget to mark your items for Robinson Middle School.

They have requested the following:
pens, pencils, markers,
Kleenex, notebook paper,
composition notebooks,
pocket folders & hand sanitizer

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE STAFF & STUDENTS AT ROBINSON!

a message from OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Derek Slack

Only Jesus

When walking into any conversation that I have not been privy to prior context, I have always cautioned myself before making any sort of judgement or statement. I mean context is key, right? This particular conversation was no different. It began with the latter part of a statement that ended this way, “...in the end I decided it was not worth an argument, I mean, they’re Democrat anyway. It’s not like we are going to the same place.” This was followed with a little bit of laughter and moved right on into the next topic of conversation.

Most recently, I overheard a conversation centered around Donald Trump and his Presidency. While I heard most of the conversation, I was taken aback by the comments that followed. They were centered around the faith of Mr. Trump. It was not wholesome or uplifting, quite the opposite. It was degrading and ended with the tag line of, “*If he remains President, we are all going to Hell.*” This all from a believer.

On a fairly regular basis I will use my Twitter feed to reach out to the political leaders and ask them how I can be praying for them. You would not believe the criticism I have received from many who have seen me ask the POTUS how I could be praying for him. Really, criticism? The leader of this nation is not in need of an outpouring of prayer? I have done this for every president since Bush.

So, here we are, in the midst of political ‘bleh’ once again. I don’t like discussing politics with anyone, for the very things I just mentioned earlier. I don’t really care about the opinion of others. I really only care about the opinion of God.

If you want to get a good debate going, here is a great starter question. “*So, how should a Christian view politics?*” If, in the end, you have avoided ending your friendship or hitting one another, then you should really be asking one another what your involvement should be. Before you form your opinion, take a look at what God has to say about the subject at hand.

Let’s begin with this. Matthew 6:33 is clear about all matters in life. **33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.** There is no single thing that can thwart His perfect plan, so why would we not seek Him in this arena of life?

The most common argument I get about politics is that no politician can be trusted and that they are all evil. My response to that argument is, “*Yes, that statement can be right from time to time, not all the time, but from time to time. But does that mean that God cannot work His plan out through those men and women?*”

Evil people have and will continue to abuse political power for years, but God can and will work out, all things, for His glory and for our good according to His will (**Romans 8:28**). Additionally, let’s be honest, who can say they are without sin?

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Only Jesus...continued from page 2

Next, I want to challenge us all to think through this thought. The government cannot save us. I say that again. The government cannot save us. That may be a “duh” statement for most of you, but I think it should be stated. Why? Because Satan uses it as a tool to distract us. He thrives on using anything he can to distract us from focusing on God and His power.

We, the church, cannot rest our hope or our demise on political figures. No godly looking, sounding or even living politician should be held in such regards as the defender of our biblical value system. For that matter, no non-believer should be held as a person that will drive a nation to Hell.

The hearts of mankind will not change because we are political activists. The hearts of mankind will not change because we give to a certain campaign. The hearts of mankind will not change because we spend time arguing the strength of any political standing. The hearts of mankind will not change because of any Republican, Democrat, Independent, Green Party or whatever else lies out there. We, the church, can only rest in this. The hearts of mankind will only change because of Jesus.

Jesus is the savior of the world. No one else. Nothing else. If you want to change the heart of this nation, the heart of politics, the heart of brokenness, then change it with the word of God actively living and breathing through you. The influence of Christ in this nation will never be aligned with government policy. The influence of Christ in this nation will always be aligned with God’s word. Living His truth and speaking His truth, in love, is what will influence a nation. God, in His providence, knew that the world needed saved and provided that through Jesus, not through any governmental entity or person.

Our Christ-given mandate is to go and make disciples. ***Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).*** Therein lies our calling. The church has survived and flourished unmerciful persecution under governmental corruptness for ages. Did you catch that. The church has flourished.

Please understand, that my purpose in writing this article, is in no way to be antagonistic, or to start arguments of any sort. I simply wanted to issue a reminder that our salvation is manifested in Jesus Christ alone. Let Him be the forefront of our thoughts. Let Him lead our cause. Don’t get me wrong. Please do vote, but let the Lord our God give us the rest and assurance that “... ***we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.***” (Romans 8:28)

a message from

OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR



Randy Lesseski

A.R.R.O.W. Recovery Group Update

It's probably more surprising to me than you, but I am happy to say that "ARROW" has entered into its 13th year. What God has ordained He will also sustain! A.R.R.O.W. is not a ministry in and of itself, but is an extension of the evangelic outreach of CPCC. It's an arm of the Body of Christ reaching out to the broken, lost and hurting. In the midst of a pandemic A.R.R.O.W. is thriving.

Over the years it has had many different formats. But at the core, the objective has always been the same. Present the Gospel in its purest and simplest form. Demonstrate Grace through the person of Christ and Disciple those who have been set free.

Many souls have been saved. Peace and health have been restored to many through the power of the finished work of Christ. Many who attend A.R.R.O.W. later transition into the body of CPCC. They in turn, demonstrate to us the Grace of God and the healing power of Christ in its purest form.

A.R.R.O.W. could be compared to an ant colony. A person may not see a lot of activity, but there is certainly a lot going on just under the surface. God Himself is building a family of warriors who will someday be a foundation for others to find hope and rest in Christ.

We celebrated a new milestone in A.R.R.O.W. recently. It was our privilege to share in a very special moment in two people's lives. One of the men in our group chose that time and place to propose to his lady. Yes, she accepted! "The two shall become one".

CPCC is a called out group of believers both member driven and mission minded creating an environment in which people can grow and mature in Christ if they so choose. Thank you all for your love.

Grace,

Randy

a message from

OUR WORSHIP LEADER



Jayme Green

Worship Update

My entry this month will be a little different. I'm just going to take a little time to update everybody on what's going on in worship ministry at CPCC. I want to start by thanking our band and sound/tech engineers. God has blessed this church with an amazing group of extremely talented musicians and support volunteers. He has also blessed me, as the worship leader, with a team that is dependable, enthusiastic, and a blast to play music and worship the Lord with.

First off, let me share a little on the advancements we have seen to our system and equipment over the last couple years. Two years ago, we completely upgraded our mixer from an old-style sound board (that was actually supposed to be temporary when we came here in '04). We were able to replace it with a new, high end Wi-Fi based system. We have also gradually replaced or upgraded items like cables, microphones, video monitors, and other components. Most recently we have been able to add an in-ear monitor system, which allows our musicians to better hear themselves and the rest of the band while leading you in worship during services. Some of the funds that helped provide these upgrades were provided through special gifts from the congregation and we want to make sure that you know how appreciative we are.

In the past we have had as many as three full bands that could rotate week to week giving some of our musicians a week to sit and enjoy church from time to time. As it stands right now, we have two guitar players (who have to help out playing drums from time to time-more on that later), one bass player, and six backup singers. It does look like we may have a former bassist returning on a more regular basis so that's a plus. Our big need is behind the drum kit. Right now we don't have a drummer in our church body that is willing to play on Sunday mornings. Like I mentioned earlier, both of our guitar players are willing to sit in on drums but to be honest, neither of them really likes to. Their willingness to do this though reflects the enthusiasm of our worship team volunteers. I mentioned before that we really don't have the ability to have the band on a rotation and they seldom get a Sunday off, you'd never know it though. Our CPCC worship band loves serving their church and in fact, the only members of the band that are actually able to rotate, the singers, get a little antsy when they haven't gotten to sing for a couple weeks in a row.

We are amazingly blessed at CPCC and I am honored to be a part of this ministry. If you have any desire to get involved with the worship team, I encourage you to reach out to me. As you can see above there are some areas where we need more help than others but if you feel led to help in any way don't be afraid to let me know. Most importantly though, if you play drums or know a drummer looking for a church home, please let me know or encourage that person to reach out. If you don't meet one of those two categories, at least pray for God to meet that need.

Thank you for the opportunity to sing praise with you each week!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Miranda Bohlender

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.

FREEDOM!

During the third week of August we held VBS. Our Pre-K to 3rd graders joined us on that Monday and Tuesday and our 4th to 8th graders attended on Thursday and Friday. It was such a great week getting to celebrate the freedom that Jesus gives us.

Our main verse for the students was Galatians 5:1, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." We took the first day to look at Jesus' death and resurrection on the cross. The kids learned that Jesus can give them freedom from their sins. All that is required of us is to confess with our mouth and to believe in our hearts that Jesus Christ is Lord. He wants and desires to give us freedom from sin.

The second day the kids learned that Jesus gives us freedom from our fears. There is no reason for us to fear because we have this amazing and powerful God on our side who is completely in control. The kids looked at the story of Daniel and the Lion's den and how even though it was against the law for Daniel to pray or praise anyone but the king, he was not afraid. Daniel prayed anyway and because he did, he was thrown into a den of lions, but God protected Daniel from the lions. If God can protect Daniel from lions then we should choose to trust Him instead of worrying or being fearful.

Even though VBS was much smaller this year, we were still able to love on and teach the 45 kids who attended. We were also still able to honor and serve Him and to celebrate the amazing news that Jesus gives us freedom.



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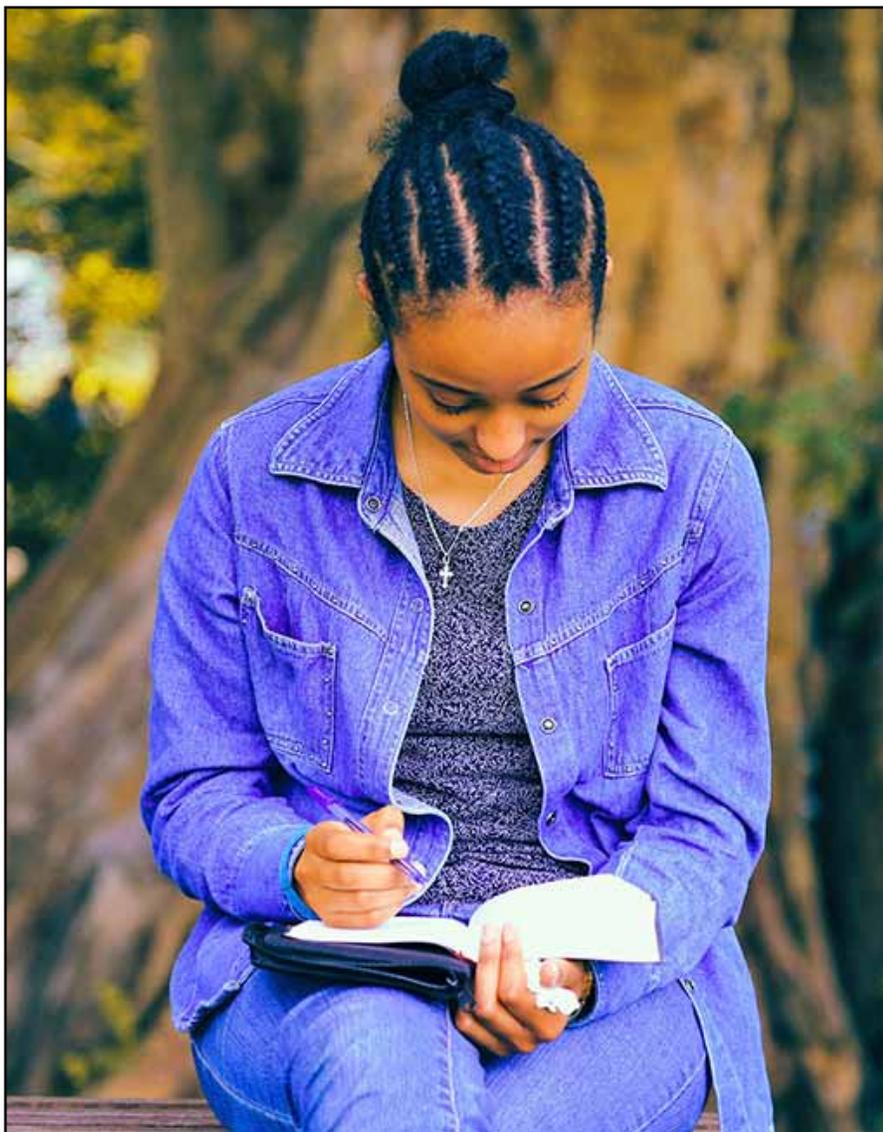
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

VBS FREEDOM - Galatians 5:1 "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free"

August 17th ~ 21st, 2020



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

The next Prayer Shawl meeting is TBA.

Please contact Judi Cox for more information.



Monthly Bible Verses

³Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. ⁴Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. ~ 1 Peter 3:3-4 NIV

News and Notes

SEPTEMBER CROSS GUARD

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

September 6th
Ray DeMoss

September 13th
Dan Force

September 20th
Charles McWilliams

September 27th
Andrew Swickard

Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. - Noon

September 6th
Lynden Landolm
& *Todd Huston*

September 13th
Steve Horton
& *Jimmie King*

September 20th
Chuck Shockey
& *Brian Stovall*

September 27th
Nick Ward
& *Wesley Lewis*

The next Cornerstone
newsletter will print on
Friday, September 25th.
Please have all items to
the office by 5 p.m.
Sunday, September 20th.

FARMERS TO FAMILIES FOOD BOX PROGRAM

Boxes of farm fresh dairy, fruit and produce continue to 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!

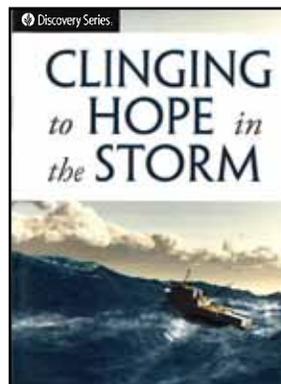
NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE/SIDEWALK PANTRY

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

THANK YOU FOR SERVING OUR CPCC NEIGHBORS IN NEED!



CLINGING TO HOPE

We have received 50 copies of Clinging to Hope in the Storm, as a part of the Our Daily Bread Ministries. Anyone desiring a copy may email Lynda Buchanan at lbuchanan@centralparkcc.org or call the office and a copy can be mailed to you.

September at Doorstep

There will be no cinnamon roll or tamales sale this Fall due to COVID-19.

We are still planning our **3rd Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run** set for **Sunday, October 4th at Lake Shawnee**. Get your family and friends together and join us for some exercise and breakfast while raising funds for Doorstep at the same time!

We have everything available online on our website under the Events Tab: www.DoorstepTopeka.org. You can download the flyer and registration form to mail in, drop off at our office or register online. To guarantee an event T-shirt you need to register by September 18th. However, we will continue to take late and event day registrations. One child, age 10 & under, can walk for free (T-shirt extra) with one paid adult. Registration is \$30 per person or get sponsors to cover your fee and donate to Doorstep (sponsor form is also on our website).



If the event becomes impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, we will make the event virtual.

COVID has certainly affected everything this year. Please help Doorstep and your neighbors by participating where you can - walk/run/sponsor!

National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children

On Saturday, October 3rd, pro-life Americans across the country will honor the memory of the more than 50 million unborn victims of abortion during the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children.



In Topeka, the service will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Heart of America Memorial Wall located at 1216 SE Republican.

For more information, please go to: AbortionMemorials.com
Or contact Barb Saldivar at 267-5777 or bakerbarb54130@gmail.com





Walkers and runners are invited to participate in our 3rd Annual

Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run

A Fundraiser for Doorstep, Inc.

Location: Lake Shawnee Shelter Houses 1 & 2, West Edge Road

Date: Sunday, October 4, 2020

Check-In & Late Registration: 1:00PM to 1:45PM

Time: One Mile Walk & 5K Fun Run to begin at 2:00PM

Celebrity Starter for the Walk/Run is:

Chris Fisher ~ WIBW-TV

If the event becomes impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, we will make the event virtual.

Snacks & drinks will be provided at the finish of the Walk/5K Fun Run in the shelter house.

Enjoy ~ Cookies, granola bars, fresh fruit, juice, and water

One Mile Walk/5K Fun Run Registration is Due by September 18, 2020

to Guarantee an event t-shirt!

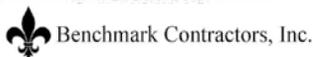
Late & Event Day Registrations Accepted. (T-shirt not guaranteed)

The registration cost is \$30 for individuals or pledges (\$30 minimum).

One registered child age 10 & under can walk for FREE with a paid adult. (T-shirt extra)

T-shirt included with \$30 registration fee or on total pledges of \$100+. Registrations received after September 18th will not be guaranteed a t-shirt.

Go to www.DoorstepTopeka.org (under the Events Tab) to register online or for registration/sponsor forms.



Thank you to our sponsors:

Prayers & Notables



Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...

Robert & Agnes Cox

Currently living with their daughter, Juanita.

Darlene McCarter

McCrite Plaza Nursing Home Resident

Jim & Shirley Wolf

Atria Hearthstone Resident

Sandy Darnell

Ruble Ranch Assisted Living Resident

Operation Rolling Thunder

Please take some time on

Saturday, September 5th

and commit to prayer regarding:

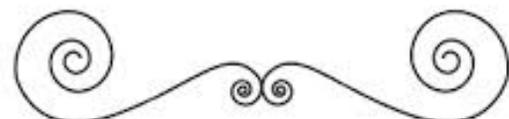
church, education, military, government, entertainment, health, family and business.

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 at the church, as they pray for our church, our city, our state and the nation. This prayer meetings are also available via Zoom. <https://zoom.us/j/2029856144>



Monthly Events at CPGC...

SEPTEMBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	2 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	3 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)	4	5 Operation Rolling Thunder 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church
6 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	7 Church Office Closed Labor Day	8 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	9 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	10 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)	11	12 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church 9:30 AM Deaconess Meeting
13 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	14 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	15 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	16 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	17 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)	18	19 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church
20 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	21 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	22 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	23 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	24 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)	25	26 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study Group meets at the church
27 8:30 AM Group Prayer 9:15 AM SS 10:45 AM Worship Service No SIAFU 12:30 PM High School Youth Group	28 5:30 PM Prayer Meeting at the church & via Zoom	29 6:30 PM A.R.R.O.W./T.N.T.	30 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			

CPCG Pastoral & Support Team



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Senior Pastor
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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 September

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.