

# The Lord's Service

## Second Sunday of Advent

### December 8, 2024

*\*Standing together is our ordinary practice,  
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Welcome and Announcements

Silence in Preparation for Worship

Lighting of the Advent Candle - The Jason Collins Family

## God Calls Us

### Call to Worship

Only God Himself can call  
us into worship. He sets  
the terms for worship  
because, through His Son,  
He makes worship possible.

### \*Call to Worship

Psalm 98.1-6

**LEADER:** Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has  
done marvelous things! His right hand and his  
holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**PEOPLE:** **The Lord has made known his salvation; he  
has revealed his righteousness in the sight  
of the nations.**

**LEADER:** He has remembered his steadfast love and  
faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends  
of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**PEOPLE:** **Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the  
earth; break forth into joyous song and sing  
praises!**

**LEADER:** Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the  
lyre and the sound of melody!

**PEOPLE:** **With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the  
Lord!**

\*Hymn of Adoration

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*Text: Latin antiphons (12<sup>th</sup> century), Latin hymn (1710);  
translated by John Mason Neale (1851)*

*Music: VENI EMMANUEL, arranged by Thomas Helmore (1856)*

*Hymnal No. 194*

\*Invocation

by Elder Jim Hildebrand

## God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession

1 John 1.8-10

LEADER: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us. If we confess our  
sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our  
sins and to cleanse us from all  
unrighteousness.

PEOPLE: **If we say we have not sinned, we make him  
a liar, and his Word is not in us.**

Private Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

from *The Book of Common Prayer*, London (1789)

**Most merciful God, we confess  
that we have sinned against you in thought, word,  
and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left  
undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your  
ways,  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

### Invocation

This prayer addresses God  
in three persons, asking  
Him to be present with  
us in worship to help  
us worship Him according  
to His will.

### Call to Confession

As we see God in His  
invitation and our praise,  
we cannot help but see  
how we have fallen short.  
God's Holy Scripture has  
the authority to reveal us  
to ourselves and transition  
our hearts to confession.

### Corporate Confession of Sin

We sin in thought, word,  
and deed every week. This  
prayer begins with silent  
confession, followed by  
corporate confession as  
people equally in need of  
God's grace.

## Assurance of Pardon

Holy Scripture assures Christians, sinners saved by grace, that they are united to Jesus in His death and resurrection.

## Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service. Listen to this reading (lesson) to prepare for the sermon.

## Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

We set aside a tithe and additional offering of our resources for the purposes of God, for His glory. Both are a display of our joyful dependence upon God rather than ourselves.

## Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 33.20-22

**LEADER:** Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:  
“Our soul waits for the Lord, he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.”  
The peace of the Lord be with you!

**PEOPLE:** And also with you!

\*Hymn of Assurance

*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

*Text: Johann Olearius (1671);*

*translated by Catherine Winkworth (1862)*

*Music: GENEVAN 42, Louis Bourgeois (1551)*

*and Claude Goudimel (1505-1572)*

*see Page 8*

## God Consecrates Us

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 40.1-11 (p. 599)

read by Elder Ken Henry

**LEADER:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

Introduction of New Members

*John Bishop, Derek & Erika Dykstra, Timothy & Brooke Lieving,  
Andrew & Meredith Olinger*

Tithes and Offerings

## Offertory

*The Truth From Above*  
arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams  
Chancel Choir

This is the truth sent from above,  
The truth of God, the God of love,  
Therefore don't turn me from your door,  
But hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate  
Is that God did man create;  
The next thing which to you I'll tell  
Woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,  
Till God the Lord did interpose;  
And so a promise soon did run  
That he would redeem us by his Son.

And at that season of the year  
Our blest Redeemer did appear;  
He here did live, and here did preach,  
And many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved.  
To show us how we must be saved;  
And if you want to know the way,  
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

## \*Doxology

## OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

by Pastor Travis Hutchinson

## Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1.18-21 (p. 807)

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to

## Doxology

A doxology is a hymn or word of praise to God for His goodness and glory. The *Gloria Patri* is another example of a doxology.

## Prayer of the Church

We share in our health and sickness, happiness and sorrow, assurance and doubt, as we bring our prayers to God, together. Holy Scripture commands elders to pray with and for God's people, not just publicly, but privately.

## Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service. Follow along with this text (lesson) that directs the sermon.

him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

### Sermon

A preacher is commanded to faithfully steward God’s Word by submitting to it, studying it, and expositing it (holding it forth), bearing witness to Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### Sermon

by Pastor Bill Massey

### IMMANUEL

\*Hymn of Response *Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor*

*Text: Frank Houghton (1894-1972)*

*Music: QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE, Charles Herbert Kitson (1930)*

*Hymnal No. 230*

**\*Confession of Faith    Westminster Confession of Faith, 8.3  
(1647)**

**LEADER:** Christian, what do you believe?

**PEOPLE:** The Lord Jesus, in His human nature thus  
united to the divine,  
was sanctified and anointed with the Holy  
Spirit, above measure,  
having in Him all the treasures of wisdom  
and knowledge;  
in whom it pleased the Father that all  
fullness should dwell,  
to the end that, being holy, harmless,  
undefiled, and full of grace and truth,  
He might be thoroughly furnished  
to execute the office of a Mediator and  
Surety.  
This office He took not unto Himself,  
but was called by His Father,  
who put all power and judgment into His  
hand  
and gave Him commandment to execute the  
same.

**\*Gloria Patri**

*MEINEKE*

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.

## **God Commissions Us**

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

**Confession of Faith**

By confessing our faith  
together using statements  
believed by Christians  
over the ages, we join  
in the sweep of Christian  
history even as we await  
the return of Jesus.

**Benediction**

Just as God calls us to  
worship at the beginning of  
the service, He graciously  
sends us into our week  
with a blessing (good  
word) founded on the  
redeeming work of Jesus.

# SERMON NOTES

**Title:** Immanuel

**Text:** Matthew 1.18-25

**Intro:** “God with us” was one of the most familiar and comforting convictions of the Old Testament. In his dream at Bethel, Jacob was given that assurance by God. When the Lord confronted Moses from a burning bush and introduced Himself as Yahweh— that name implied God would be with him. In some of the most famous words in the Bible, we are instructed to affirm, “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me.” So why was Isaiah’s prophecy so remarkable? Because he said it would be fulfilled in a child!

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## **Mission Statement of CPC**

Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to love God and our neighbors by making Christ known in all of life.

### **CPC Pastors**

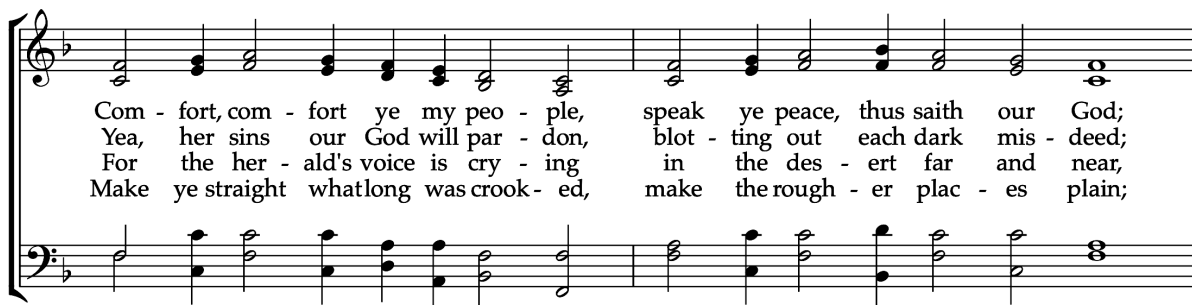
Bill Massey (*Interim Senior Pastor*), Travis Hutchinson (*Interim Pastor of Youth & Families*),  
Eric Mullinax (*Elder Emeritus-Volunteer for Congregational Care*)

### **CPC Officers**

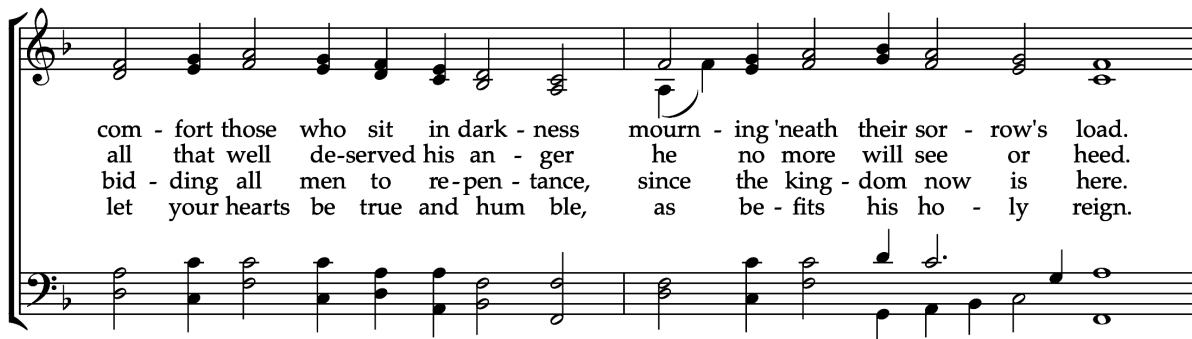
ELDERS: Woody Brauer, Ernie Brown, Jason Brown, Adam Cathey, Jason Coffey, Todd Gaither,  
Danny Grant, Jon Harris, Ken Henry, Jim Hildebrand, Dee Hobbs, Ken Hostetler, Bill Massey (Moderator),  
Will McDaniel, Chris Rimondi, Adam Sanders (Clerk of Session), Todd Smith, Rex Wagner,  
Mike Walker, Tim Warren, Tracy Wright

DEACONS: Geff Adams, Mike Bacon, Paul Baierl, Thomas Blackburn, Jonathan Calloway, David Close,  
Jason Collins, Rich Denkinger, Mike Evatt, David Gernhard, Jon Griffin, James Hall, Steven James,  
Steve Leach, Eric Mantel, Mike Mason (Chairman of Diaconate), Richard Mauroner, Jared McCurry,  
John Morrison, Vince Pereski, Caleb Ray, Phil Wade (Clerk of Diaconate), Matt Wright

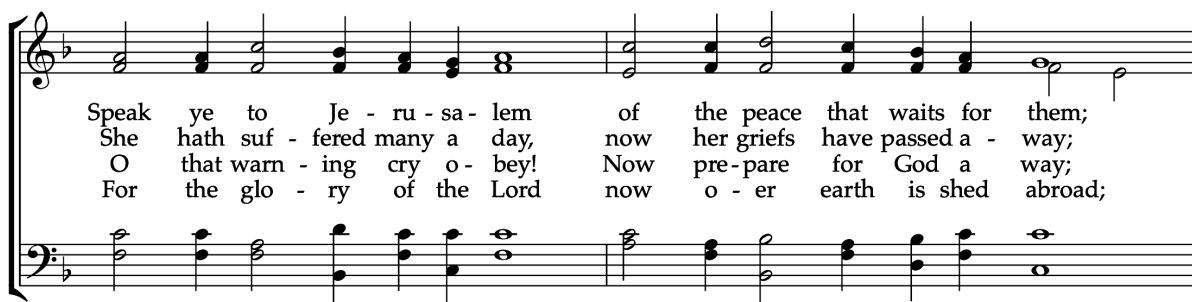
## Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



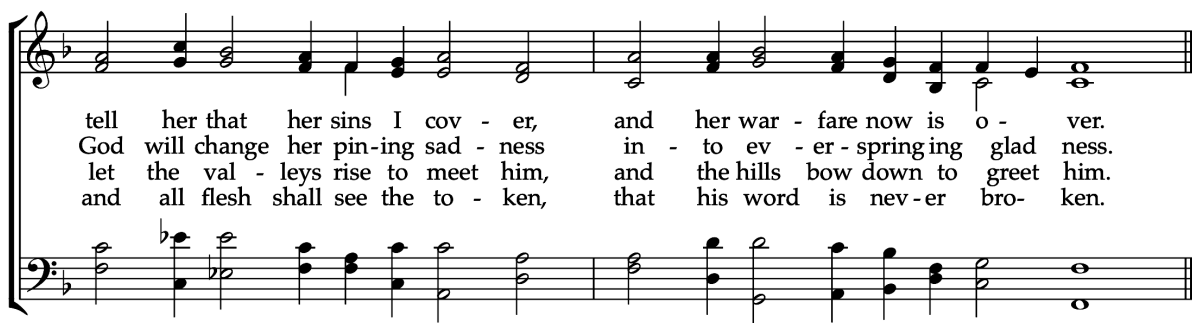
Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
Yea, her sins our God will par - don, blot - ting out each dark mis - deed;  
For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er plac - es plain;



com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing 'neath their sor - row's load.  
all that well de - served his an - ger he no more will see or heed.  
bid - ding all men to re - pen - tance, since the king - dom now is here.  
let your hearts be true and hum ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign.



Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
She hath suf - fered many a day, now her griefs have passed a - way;  
O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now o - er earth is shed abroad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
God will change her pin - ing sad - ness in - to ev - er - springing glad ness.  
let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken, that his word is nev - er bro - ken.



## WELCOME

We are glad you joined us this morning! If this is your first visit with us, please fill out a Connection Card (located in each pew).

Join us in the Lobby for coffee and fellowship before Sunday School. If you are visiting or are wanting to become a member of Covenant, consider attending the *What Is Presbyterian?* Class that meets in Room 120.

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We invite you to join us next week as our pastoral candidate David Stephenson preaches from Matthew 2.1-12.

### Finding your way:

Scan the QR code to view a map of our campus. Printed maps can be found on the bulletin board just off the Lobby and outside the Nursery.



### For those with children:

Your children are welcome and wanted in worship! Little ones sometimes have a hard time sitting quietly through a service. Please take advantage of these helpful tools:

- **Special Bulletin** - designed for our Little Theologians (available in Narthex)
- **Family Worship Room** - where children can be a little louder and more active (windowed room in Sanctuary)
- **Family Restroom and Nursing Mother's Room** (in Family Worship Room)
- **Nursery** - available to children born after September 1, 2021 (deacons can direct you)
- **Calm Kit Bags** - borrow fidgets and tools to help soothe the wiggles

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, December 8

Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am

Sunday School

Youth Parent Mtg - Room 100 - 12:05 pm

### Tuesday, December 10

Moms of Teens Study - offsite - 10:30 am

Men's Ministry Team Mtg - Room 105 - 7 pm

### Wednesday, December 11

Midweek Meal - Room 100 - 5:30 pm

Children, Youth, & Adult Midweek Classes -  
see website for class list

### Friday, December 13

Men's Treasury of David Study - Room 105 -  
8:30 am

Ladies' Christmas Dinner - Room 100 - 6 pm

### Saturday, December 14

HS Progressive Dinner - meet at CPC - 5:30 pm

### Sunday, December 15

Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am

Congregational Mtg - Sanctuary - immediately after  
worship

Sunday School (*final class of December*)

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## MORE INFORMATION

All music is printed under CCLI No. 447727.

**Website:** [cpcchatt.org](http://cpcchatt.org)

**Online Directory:** Contact the church  
office to request access

**Prayer Requests:** Email your request or  
update to [prayer@cpcchatt.org](mailto:prayer@cpcchatt.org)

**Pastoral Care Line:** Call/text your request or  
need to 423-521-2142

# COVENANT LIFE

## ORPHANAGE IN UGANDA UPDATE

Please stop by the table in the Narthex today to speak to Christine and see how our donations of clothing and funds blessed the girls from the refugee camp who are now thriving at the orphanage in Uganda.

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## LADIES' CHRISTMAS DINNER

**Fri, Dec 13 • 6 pm • Room 100**

You are warmly invited to our annual Christmas dinner. This year's theme, *The Grace of God Has Appeared*, focuses on God's grace to us, along with the grace we can extend to others, particularly through the ministry of foster care. Ryan Hostetler will be sharing with us about local foster care ministries.



Scan the QR Code  
to register by TODAY.

**Cost:** \$10/ adult  
\$8 children up to 12 years old  
\$30 cap per household,  
(*extended family members  
not included in that price*)



## PASTOR CANDIDATE PREACHING & CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Sun, Dec 15 • 9:30 am • Sanctuary**

David Stephenson will be returning to CPC to preach next Sunday. Please make plans to join us. Immediately following the service, a Congregational Meeting will be held. During this time we will vote on extending a call to David Stephenson as the next Senior Pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

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## 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The results from our Congregational Meeting ballot are as follows:

Scott Barber, Doug McEachern, Mark Lander, and Rex Wagner were elected to serve as trustees for 2025 on CPC's Board of Directors.

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## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Sun, Dec 22 • 7 pm • Sanctuary**

Make plans to join us in worship of our Savior through music and song at our annual Christmas Concert. This evening will feature the music of Holst, portions of Handel's *Messiah*, and well loved favorites of the season. Be sure to invite your family, neighbors, and friends.

# COVENANT LIFE

## LAST 2024 SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Sun, Dec 15**

No Sunday School classes are scheduled after December 15 until the new year.

Sunday School classes will resume on January 12, 2025. Be watching for new classes and opportunities in the new year.

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## CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

Want to save money on stamps and time addressing envelopes? Now through Christmas Eve, drop your Christmas cards for fellow church members in the labeled basket in the Lobby, and we will distribute them for you.

Just write the first and last name of the recipient on the envelope. Cards will be sorted during Sunday School and Midweek classes.

Be sure to check the slot with the first letter of your last name and take home your cards.

Contact Tammy Bacon at 423-432-5177 with any questions.

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## LADIES' WINTER BIBLE STUDY

**Thursdays, beginning Jan 9 • 10 am • Room 105**

Bev Mealor is leading an inductive study in 1, 2, & 3 John. Book cost is \$20.

Contact Bev at mealor555@gmail.com to sign-up and order a book.

## LESSONS & CAROLS

**Tues, Dec 24 • 5:30 pm • Sanctuary**

Join us on Christmas Eve for a special service of Scripture and songs that ends in candlelight. Come and celebrate the birth of our Savior!

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## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Through December 1:

2024 Budget:	\$1,780,340.00
Giving To Date:	\$1,441,961.10
Diaconate Fund Balance:	\$49,780.32

Diaconate account funds are managed by the Mercy Committee and are used to care for individuals within our church and community.

If you have questions, please contact these individuals:

- Chairman of the Diaconate: Mike Mason  
*mmason89@comcast.net*
  - Mercy Committee Chair: Geff Adams  
*mercy@cpcchatt.org*
  - Bookkeeper: Lauren Frye  
*lfrye@cpcchatt.org*
- 

## CELEBRATIONS CALENDAR

The December birthday/anniversary calendar is now available outside the Church Office.

# CHILDREN & YOUTH

## DEC 8 NURSERY SCHEDULE

### Front Desk

Tammy Bacon

### Worship - 9:15 am

Dianne Cosby & Sophia Cross (Little Lambs)  
Sherlyn Hobbs & Shirley Jones (Busy Bees)

### Sunday School - 11 am

Maria Lopez Tello & Raul Romero Núñez  
(Little Lambs)

Sarah McCurry & Abby Knecht (Busy Bees)

## HS PROGRESSIVE DINNER

**Sat, Dec 14 • 5:30 pm • Lobby**

We are so excited for the Progressive Dinner this year! We will stop by different church members' homes for the various courses of the meal and end with a white elephant gift exchange.

Scan the QR Code to register by Thursday, December 12.



## SS & MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

- Last 2024 Sunday School Class - **Dec 15**
- Last 2024 Midweek Class - **Dec 18**
- 2025 Sunday School Classes begin - **Jan 12**
- 2025 Midweek activities resume - **Jan 15**

## DEC 15 NURSERY SCHEDULE

### Front Desk

Laura Spotts

### Worship - 9:15 am

Leanna Cathey & *Volunteer Needed*  
(Little Lambs)

Adam & Evie Cathey & Debby Gardner  
(Busy Bees)

### Sunday School - 11 am

Maria England & Ryan Hostetler (Little Lambs)

Mollie & Aubrie McClelland (Busy Bees)

## ADVENT BOOKS

If your family has a child between 3 years old-5<sup>th</sup> grade, please stop by the Lobby to pick an Advent book to use with your family as we look forward to Christmas and celebrating the coming of Jesus, our Savior.

## 2025 SUMMER CAMP DATES

- Music Camp - **Jun 2-6**
- The Edge Conference - **Jun 16-20**
- HS Beach Retreat - **July 5-9**
- Forge Camp - **July 17-19**
- SHINE Camp - **July 21-25**

# MIDWEEK

## UPCOMING MIDWEEK MENU



**December 11:** Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Caesar Salad, Focaccia Bread, Cheesecake

**December 18 Christmas Feast:** Cherry Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Chocolate Peppermint Cake

- Adult: \$6 / Child (5-11): \$4
- Family Max: \$20
- Cash or Check (Put in Cash Box)
- Pay Online ([cpcchatt.org/give](http://cpcchatt.org/give) or scan QR code)



The cost per meal is suggested only. If you don't have the full amount, don't worry. Pay what you can. Visitors enjoy a free meal.

## LAST 2024 MIDWEEK

**Wed, Dec 18**

No Midweek meal or classes are scheduled after December 18. Midweek will resume on January 15, 2025. Be watching for new classes and opportunities in the new year.

## FOOD ALLERGY INFO

If you want to know Midweek meal ingredients beforehand, please email our Hospitality Coordinator, Nicky Lewin, at [NLewin@cpcchatt.org](mailto:NLewin@cpcchatt.org).

## MIDWEEK KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS & CLEAN UP HELP

Midweek suppers are delicious, but they don't just appear on their own. If you would like to volunteer to help in the kitchen before supper, email our Hospitality Coordinator, Nicky Lewin, at [NLewin@cpcchatt.org](mailto:NLewin@cpcchatt.org).

We always are looking for helpers to pitch in and clean up after supper.

# OUTREACH

## CPC MISSIONARY TO LOCAL ATHLETES



**Jay Fowler**

Jay serves with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes as Director of the Greater Chattanooga and Southeast Tennessee region. FCA's mission is to lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. In a recent update, Jay writes: *"The vision we had for staff expansion and increased ministry impact is being fulfilled, and we praise God for that... We sent a record number of local athletes to camps across the state this summer... Over 100 local athletes have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior at these camp and other FCA events."*

Please pray for him and this ministry in these particular ways:

- For staff and volunteers to faithfully make disciples of coaches and athletes who will make disciples of others
  - For ministry funding and faithful stewardship of resources
  - For God to raise up workers (staff and volunteers) to serve on the mission field of area schools
  - For team huddles and sports outreach events to be filled with the gospel and biblical discipleship
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## CPC MISSIONARIES TO UTK RUF INTERNATIONAL



**Lee & Jennifer Leadbetter**

Lee and Jennifer serve with Reformed University Fellowship-International (RUF-I) at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and seek to serve international students and scholars at UT with the love and hospitality of Christ. From recent updates, Lee reports: *"This semester, RUF-I at UT has been able to welcome 140 different students from 25 countries... We have more Chinese in our orbit since Covid, have seen lots of Indians and Bangladeshis, plus have met others from countries we rarely meet students from like Romania, Turkey, Macedonia, and Saudi Arabia... We've had many important conversations both on and off campus about Christianity and about how Jesus answers our deepest questions and needs... The Lord has been at work through his Gospel and Holy Spirit, cultivating life-changing relationships and also creating a community where students feel like they belong. We are humbled, thankful, and hopeful!"*

Please pray for them and their ministry in these particular ways:

- For students from many diverse cultural and religious backgrounds to be drawn to Jesus as Lord and Savior, especially through the season of Christmas
- For unpledged, year-end giving to finish covering 2024 expenses (needing \$16,000)
- For an Intern, Campus Staff, and/or part-time admin assistant in 2025