



AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER

A Message from Pastor Paul Hudson

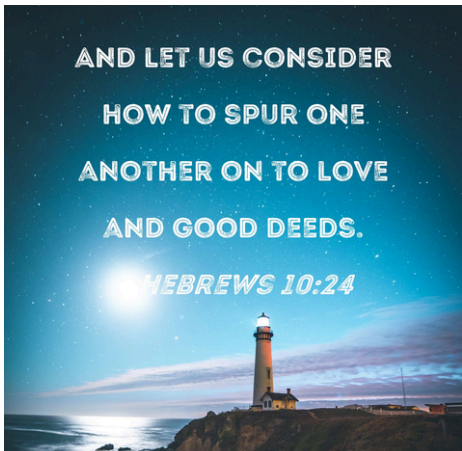
We've come to the last part of the CPC leadership structure, the role of Session. As a reminder, CPC has transitioned to a model of leadership that is expressed through four extensions: Members, Staff (paid and volunteer), Pastor, and Session (board of Elders). The members of the congregation take on the role of ministry, like players on a team. "Ministry" in the sense of reaching out and sharing the love of Jesus with each other and with the community, encouraging each other toward good works (Heb. 10:24), using your gifts for God to bless each other and the church, and so forth. Deacons ministry (though not all will be called to Deacons) is a good microcosm of this, as is any ministry that you might feel called to volunteer for (sound, tech., grounds maintenance, nursery, youth, outreach, worship, choir, etc.). The staff take on the role of management, as a specialist or like a coach; they are responsible for equipping and coordinating. The pastor takes on the role of leadership, like a head coach or captain. The pastor is responsible for championing and fleshing out vision, teaching, and spiritual leadership.

Finally, Session. The Session (the board of six Elders) take on the role of governance. They are like a commissioner or referee; their role is to provide support and accountability (mainly to and through the pastor, but not exclusively). Now, we need to first understand what Session is not meant to do. Session is not meant to lead the staff or volunteers. That is the Pastor's job. Session is not meant to do the work of the ministry (as a function of Session), though Elders are free and even encouraged to participate in and even lead ministry efforts. Session is not meant to coordinate or equip members, that is the role of the staff, though members of Session may be involved. Session should not insert itself (as a function of Session) into any of the three extensions, though, as I noted, you will see individual Session members involved in any one or all three in our church! In those cases, Session members are not acting on behalf of Session but instead as a member of the church. Session, as a board, exists to safeguard the church for Christ, which includes presiding over all legal matters. The church belongs to Christ, but He, by the vote of Covenant Partners, appoints the Session to govern the church like trustees. They represent Christ as the owner of the church. Second, the Session is responsible for

A Message from Pastor Paul Hudson (cont'd)

collaborating with the pastor to write, revise, and update the Guiding Principles of the church. These principles outline the mission, boundaries, accountability standards for both the pastor and the Session's guidance. Third, it is Session's job to monitor and evaluate the pastor's performance and to call out when set boundaries have been violated, or to reward when goals are achieved. Fourth, the Session exists to provide support to the pastor. They are there to back up the pastor as the pastor communicates and implements the mission principles of the Guiding Principles document. As well, they support the pastor when he makes necessary corrections or changes to align the church with the agreed upon mission principles. This last part is where the pastor comes into play as the one who leads the board of elders. As such, as the Session moderator (but not a voting member in our model), the pastor leads Session by initiating, envisioning, and inspiring per the Lord's leading. However, the Session is ultimately responsible for safeguarding the church. Thus, it is Session's responsibility to unanimously step in and change leadership (the pastor) when a change is needed, which I pray will never happen for as long as I am here! Finally, Session consists of six elders.

God bless you!
Pastor Paul



Session Minutes

By Ethel Hoskins, Clerk of Session

Session did not meet in July.
Average CPC attendance in July was 61.



New Focus

A message from the Directors

July was a busy month for New Focus. We packed the donations for our Saver's fundraiser after enjoying a delicious breakfast. We were blessed to have lots of help because many hands make light work.

Fifteen children had the joy of spending a week at Westminster Woods. They spent time in the redwoods, growing friendships and a deeper love of Christ.

"For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness." Psalm 107:9



New Focus family packing items for a Saver's fundraiser.



New Focus kids going to camp.

Camp Photos





Deacons Report

By Kathy Reid, Lead Deacon

On the first Sunday in July, the deacons hosted our first all church potluck in several years. It was an overwhelming success. A fantastic assortment of dishes was shared, fun and festive decor was displayed, wonderful conversations were had, and everyone was so pleased to get back to what we Presbyterians do best...share meals together! I want to send a big thank you to Gayle Crawford for the planning and organization of the potluck. Thank you also to all the deacons for your contributions to set up, clean up, and all the enthusiastic teamwork. And as always, thank you to Ken Schneider, Frank Tekautz, and crew, for setting up and taking down all the tables and chairs. A potluck is a big endeavor and many hands are needed for a successful event.

We had close to 60 folks attend which was more than expected for just two days after a holiday. We were pleased to see so many familiar faces alongside a few newer members. We hope everyone had a great time and welcome you back for the next all church potluck on Sunday, October 5, 2025, following the service. Details will be coming out in September, so be sure to add it to your calendar.

As I mentioned in my last newsletter article, spending time together in fellowship is fundamental to our faith community. It reminds us that each one of us belongs; is a cared and wanted participant; and that we each can make a difference in another's life. These potlucks and the Communion Sunday Fellowship Table are put together and planned by the deacons as a way to foster vital relationships through shared fellowship. We graciously invite each of you to join us in these events because the old saying is most definitely true - "The more the merrier"! On the first Sunday of each month, plan to stick around for a bit and catch up with church friends, meet a newer church member, and find a way to get involved, all while enjoying the treats provided for everyone. We are called to be Jesus' hands and feet - to serve others and to share the Good News. Throughout the Bible, there are mentions of sharing meals. There are three necessary reasons for sharing a meal with others: it is an opportunity to deepen friendships, a time to welcome strangers, and also a time to care for and feed the poor. Mealtimes are crucial for many other reasons, but these three may be the most important. So please join us in these fellowship opportunities, as when we gather, surely God is present, and that is a wonderful thing to rejoice about!

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. - Acts 2: 42-44



Presbyterian Enrichment Preschool (PEP)

A message from Renee Inman, Director

Starting Our 57th Year at PEP School!!

We still have openings in our 2025-2026 program for both classes:

- 3-year-olds – Tu/Th 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 4-year-olds – MWF 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Our lunch bunch program (11:30 – 1:00) still has a few openings as well. Please call the PEP office, 448-1626, for registration information.

For our June and July Summer Fun programs, we had 40+ children here on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for lots of fun in a loving environment. Our program is closed for the month of August.

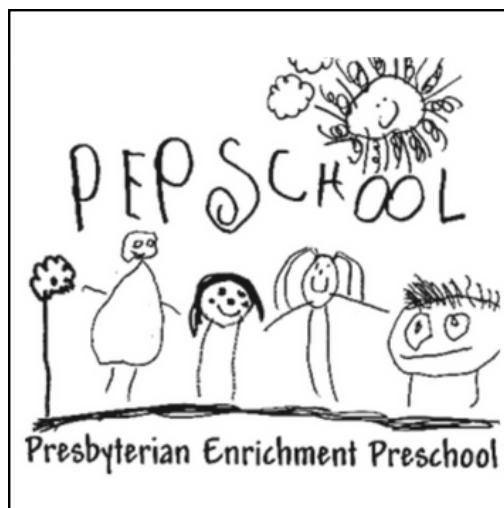
We will be preparing the playground and classroom for the new school year on the following dates:

- Friday, August 22, from 6 – 8 p.m.: We will shovel new wood fiber for the playground.
- Saturday, August 23, from 8 a.m.– Noon: we will work in the classroom and on the playground.

We appreciate any and all help!

The first days of PEP School are September 2 & 3. If you would like more information about PEP School, please call the PEP office at 448-1626.

In His Service,
Renee Inman





Family Ministry for Youth & Children

A Message from Chyna Bradford LaGrande, Director

HAPPY SUMMER!! I cannot believe that we have made it to August. This month, the kids' church theme will be "A REAL SUPERHERO"! When we think of a superhero, we often think of Superman, Batman and Spider-Man. They all look very normal, but each of them can change into a superhero with superpowers. Oh, you know, I just thought of another superhero. Can you guess who it is? It's Jesus! You see, Jesus also looked very normal; in fact, that is why many people didn't believe he was a King. But one day on a mountain top, he changed. He appeared as a real superhero. You know Superman and Batman are make-believe with make-believe powers. But Jesus is real with real powers! And it's nice to know that we have a real superhero watching out for us. We will discuss his superpowers and go over lessons that show all the many miracles he performed!

We are starting each Sunday with "So you think you know the bible" questions. The more you know, gets you closer to a special prize!

Bring your kiddos out to kid's church every Sunday for some faith-based fun!! We learn God's word and have fun doing it

July Youth Fellowship Recap

Our July youth fellowship was an unforgettable experience! We had the incredible opportunity to attend a large youth conference hosted by The Father's House in Vacaville. From start to finish, it was a time filled with fun, encouragement, and spiritual impact.

Throughout the event, our teens were powerfully ministered to through dynamic worship and inspiring messages from guest speakers who truly spoke life into every young person present. The evening closed out with an energetic concert by Christian rap artist Miles Minnick—a moment our students won't soon forget! Miles Minnick became the first solo Christian hip-hop (CHH) artist to perform at Rolling Loud. Founded in 2015, this is one of the world's biggest international hip-hop music festivals and boasts a wide array of mainstream artists. A special highlight for our group was the rare opportunity to go backstage and meet Miles in person. We were the only youth group given this chance, and our teens were completely surprised and deeply grateful.

We're incredibly thankful to our children's ministry volunteer, Troy LaGrande, who made this backstage experience possible for our youth. We are also thankful for 2 members of our congregation whose donations assisted us to purchase tickets for 9 teens while also feeding our youth for this 2-day event. If you have youth in grades 6th to 12th, we would love to see them at our next fellowship.



Family Ministry for Youth & Children

A Message from Chyna Bradford LaGrande, Director



Snack donations would be greatly appreciated.

- Chips
- Drinks
- Sandwich Trays (store bought)

For more information, please contact Chyna@425cpc.com.



Women's Ministry

A message from Traci Becker, Director

Greetings Sisters,

I don't know how you feel, but for me, sometimes life feels busy, stretched, and just a little weary - and in those seasons, it's easy to wonder if I'm doing enough or if what I offer even matters. Can you relate? But let me remind you of this truth: Our light matters. Whether we're quietly serving behind the scenes, offering a kind word, praying for others, or simply showing up - God sees it all. We don't have to be the loudest voice in the room or the most visible presence to make a difference. What we do with love, in faith, counts deeply in the Kingdom of God. Galatians 6:9 says, "Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Let's keep showing up and loving well. Let's keep seeking Jesus, even in the little things.

Above all things, remember you are valued. You are needed. You are chosen by God himself, for such a time as this. While we may occasionally grow weary, let's continue walking this journey together - building one another up, staying rooted in truth, and pointing hearts to the One who holds us all - as we were recently reminded when we sang "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" - that includes us! Thank you, God!

On August 9th, there is a free women's fellowship social called "Sweet Tea & Sunshine". This is an opportunity to gather for encouragement, enjoy light bites, and have some fun. Invite a friend. Don't forget to sign up so we know how many seats to set.





Community Connection

A message from Traci Becker, Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

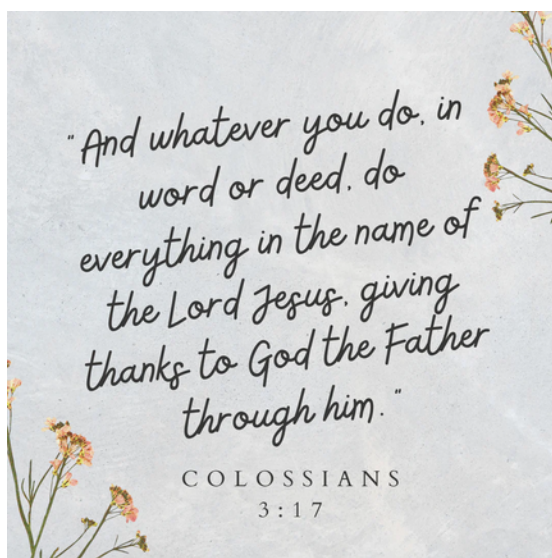
At CPC we believe that our faith is meant to be more than a Sunday routine. It's a living, breathing relationship with our Savior. In a world full of distractions, we are reminded of Revelation 3:16, where God calls us not to be lukewarm, but fully devoted to Him. Lukewarm faith doesn't change lives – but passionate, obedient faith does.

We are not concert-goers or passive observers – we are worshipers, lifting our voices not for performance, but to glorify our Heavenly Father. Our pastor preaches the Word of God, and we live by the truth of God's Word, and we do it together – as a community that believes the Gospel is still the power of salvation.

If you are new here, please know this: you are welcome. You don't have to have it all together. You will be met with real love – the kind Jesus shows – and you'll find a family that wants to walk with you as you discover His grace.

Yes, we see other churches growing – and we celebrate the work of God wherever it happens. But we will not lose heart. We are not measured by size or trends, but by how brightly we shine the truth, the way, and the light and love of Jesus. We shall all press on with faith, reaching out with open arms to our community, knowing that every act of love, every invitation, every word of hope matters.

Let us not be lukewarm. Let us be faithful. Let our lights burn bright. Let us love well. Let us BE THE CHURCH!



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

8/05 - Paula S.

8/06 - Elijah D.

8/08 - Gayle L.

8/09 - Jean R.

- Clara S.

- Trinity D.

8/13 - Thaddeus A.

8/13 - Sara L.

- Sami D.

8/15 - Marty B.

- Rodney F.

8/17 - Sam H.

- Glenn S.

8/18 - John H.

8/21 - David N.

- Nancy S.

8/26 - Bailey-Rae L.

8/27 - Dani R.

8/30 - Tony S.

8/31 - Cassius H.

HAPPY Anniversary!

8/02 - Milt & Janie W.

8/07 - Matthew & Laura B.

8/13 - Tony & Sabrina B.

8/23 - Dave & Becki F.

8/26 - Gary & Patti B.

8/28 - Carroll & Carole K.



Upcoming & Ongoing Events



Saturday, August 2nd @ 10AM

**Women's Ministry Laughter & Latte
Journey Coffee on Alamo in Vacaville**

Saturday, August 2nd @ 10AM

**Women's Ministry Laughter & Latte
Journey Coffee on Alamo in Vacaville**

Sunday, August 3rd @ 10AM

**Praise & Worship Service
Sermon: Stewardship - Time & Finances**

Saturday, August 9th @ 1PM-3:30PM

**Women's Ministry Sweet Tea & Sunshine
Fellowship - In the social hall.**

Friday, August 15th @ 6:30PM

Family Ministry for Youth Fellowship

Saturday Morning Prayer

**1st Saturday of the Month @ 8AM
All are welcome.**

**Laughter & Latte
Women's Ministry**

**1st Saturday of the Month @ 10AM
Journey Coffee on Alamo in Vacaville**

Women's Bible Study

**Wednesdays @ 10AM in the Conf. Room
On break until September 10th.**

Men's Coffee Hour

**Thursdays @ 10:00AM in the Social Hall
Come together for coffee, donuts, and
fellowship.**

Men's Bible Study

**Sundays in the conference room,
immediately following worship service.
On break until September 7th.**