



A Message from Pastor Paul Hudson

Thankfulness

November is the month of one of my favorite holidays, Thanksgiving. Pumpkin pie, stuffing, turkey, lots of food, and good family times, I love that part about this time of year. For many, it is a celebration of thanksgiving for the blessings we enjoy now.

Lately, I've been thinking more about thanksgiving (the verb, not the holiday) and especially as it applies to worship. Thanksgiving, like praise, is one of the key expressions of worship found in the Bible. Giving thanks to God places our hearts in a posture of gratefulness to God for what he has done.

Thanks for the good he has done in our lives, yes.... but actually.... the Bible doesn't tell us to only give thanks for God's goodness. No, Ephesians 5:18-20 says, "Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." First, I love how this places thanksgiving in the context of worship, but anyway, notice that it says, "give thanks to God for everything..." Now, there can be no doubt that this is talking about all the good things you have received in life... but could it also be talking about all the bad things that have happened to you?

I think so. The reason I think so is simply because of Rom. 8:28: "in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." We know that this scripture is not talking about all good things... God isn't working all good things for your good right? Good things already work to our benefit. In this scripture, the things that God is working for our good are the bad things that happen to us... the stuff that would normally, without God's intervention, work for our "bad."

Since God is working all things for our good, we can indeed give thanks to God for all things, even the bad. Sounds weird huh? Well, try this out. The next time something bad happens to you... thank God for it. Here's the important part--you're not thanking God strictly for the bad... that would be weird! We don't thank God that sin came into this world and brought pain, sickness, and death... unless you're the morbid type, you wouldn't thank God for that right? No. What you're thanking God for is his intervention in turning what was evil meant to destroy you into good that will benefit you or those around you in some mysterious, divine way. That is why we thank God for all things, even the bad.

A Message from Pastor Paul Hudson (cont'd)

In Genesis 50:20, Joseph spoke to his brothers for the first time since they sold him into slavery as a child, saying, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.” Bad things that happen to God’s people have a higher purpose, so we can give thanks to God for even the bad knowing that he is working it out for our good... for the good of his people, and for the good of the people around us, and maybe even for the saving of many lives!

As we celebrate thanksgiving, I encourage you to give thanks to God for all things, even the bad things, knowing that God can turn those bad things into good for you and others. From there, expect to see the Lord work in you through those bad things, and worship him!

Pastor Paul





Family Ministry for Youth & Children

A Message from Chyna Bradford LaGrande, Director

Hey CPC Family!

October was awesome! Ten of our CPC children were baptized in Jesus' name. God is so good to us 🙌

It's November ... the month when everything smells like cinnamon, pie, and slightly burnt turkey (no judgment, we've all been there). This season reminds us of the harvest not just of food, but of friendship, faith, and family. Proverbs 18:24 tells us, "A man who has friends must show himself friendly," and that's exactly what we'll be focusing on all month long in our lessons on how to be the kind of friend who reflects Jesus, the One who laid down His life for His friends.

Main focus: Give thanks for all he has done for us .

And speaking of friendship... get ready for our CPC Friendsgiving Harvest Celebration!

📅 Friday, November 22

🕒 2:00–4:30 PM

📍 Social Hall

It's going to be a time of fellowship and fun with soul food, crafts, a paint station, a pie contest, and maybe even a few surprises (because it's not church fellowship without someone bringing an extra casserole). This event is for CPC youth, children, our church family, and friends – because what's Friendsgiving without, well, friends?

Don't forget to RSVP by November 15 (or sooner – that will make this event much easier to plan.



Come ready to laugh, paint, praise, and maybe eat more than one slice of pie... all in the name of good fellowship!

With joy and friendship,
Chyna LaGrande
Director of Family Ministry



Family Ministry for Youth & Children (cont'd)

A Message from Chyna Bradford LaGrande, Director

October 5, 2025 - Kingdom Kidz Sunday BAPTISMS



*"for all of you who were baptized
into Christ have clothed yourselves
with Christ" - Galatians 3:27*





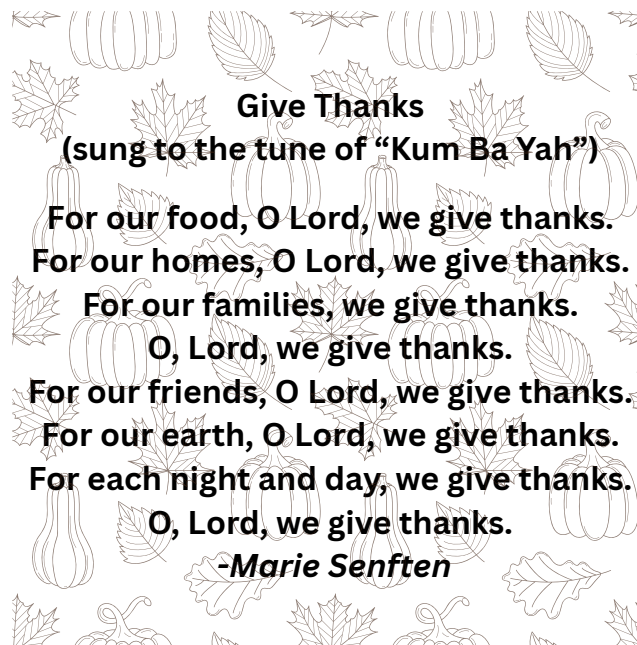
Presbyterian Enrichment Preschool (PEP)

A message from Renee Inman, Director



As we approach Thanksgiving, we are reminded daily of how blessed we are to share in the lives of our PEP Schoolers. In October, we started our letter days and Bible stories. The children have a colorful take-home piece to reinforce the story each week. In addition, we are offering an age appropriate Bible to the families who want one. It's our joy to bless the little ones with perhaps their first Bible.

This is the prayer that we sing with our PEP students at snack time. It takes them no time at all to learn it, and hopefully you can share it with your families.



Blessings to all of you from all of us at PEP School!
Renée Inman, Director



New Focus

A message from the Co-Directors

Our New Focus community continues to grow through stability. On any Thursday night, we have fifteen members and alumni sharing their successes and challenges. The beauty lies in their ability to deal with and work through the challenges in a stable and secure way. This is where we really get to celebrate their growth and confidence.

The successes are always a joy because for many of them, the idea of succeeding is somewhat new. The best part is that this is taking place in an environment that they are continuing to build and shape.

The Holidays are coming, and we look forward to celebrating with them.





Deacons Monthly Report

By Kathy Reid, Lead Deacon

It is hard to believe it is already November, and the holidays will be here soon! This is a wonderful time for us to think about what we are grateful for in our lives. In addition to my relationship with God, my family, and my friends...I would put our church family and the relationships we have created over the years among those things which I am most grateful for. And I especially want to share my gratitude for the deacon board that I have been honored to work alongside throughout 2025. While we will be saying goodbye to those going off the board in December, I plan to make the most of our meetings, fellowship opportunities, and frequent communications that we will share for the next 9 weeks. Each of the deacons has helped tremendously as we plan for the new deacons that will join the board in January 2026. I would like to encourage you all to reach out to your deacons (or me) if you have prayer requests or if you need assistance. The deacon board strives to help wherever we can - with meals, or rides, and always with prayer requests.

I also want to share how excited I am to plan for the coming year. We have been working to define our duties and the care groups. Our commitment to all of you is complete and never-ending. I am so grateful for the individuals who have said "yes" to coming onto the deacon board this next year. It is a big responsibility, but I promise it is worth all the time and effort. Working together to find ways to show care and concern for one another is an absolute joy! We work as a team, and each duty has at least one backup in case more help is needed. Everyone pitches in to help with potlucks and the Communion Sunday Fellowship Table. And we all share ideas, concerns, and our energy as we find ways to meet the many needs of our congregation.

Coming up, the deacons will share our gifts with you by facilitating the last two Communion Sunday Fellowship Tables on Sunday, November 2nd, and Sunday, December 7th. After those events, we will finish out the year with a festive table of treats on Sunday, December 14th, after our church service filled with music and cheer! Be sure to join us after these services as we celebrate the holidays together.

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

Psalm 100:4-5



Session Minutes

By Ethel Hoskins, Clerk of Session

Elders Don Lyon, Pat Morris; Bill Seiden, Richard Becker, Renee Inman, Julie Krebs, Session Clerk Ethel Hoskins, Treasurer Rick Smith, CPA David Cram and his wife Joan Cram were present at our last session meeting held on Tuesday, October 21st.

Rick Smith reported that there are still problems with QuickBooks, but good news is that CPA David Cram will help with this issue. Checking is at just over \$48,000. New Focus balance is \$12,893 and our reserves are at \$155,375.

Average attendance for September was 76 which included our New Focus Sunday. Wasn't it just the best to have the following being baptized on October 5: Aaliyah Bidou, Aurora Galvan, Bailey LaGrande, Benjamin Dirisu, Darlington Sio Railey, Elisha Dirisu, Emily Hudson, Jeremiah Dirisu, Kaninna Padilla, and Trinity Dirisu!

And we now officially welcome Yam and John Hudson as official members of CPC as their membership from their church in Washington was transferred, and are now our covenant partners.

And ...our congratulations and blessings to Pastor Paul and Yam as they celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on the 28th of October!

Communion set up – Our sincere thanks to Renee Inman who faithfully set up our communion for the last ten years. She would like to share the job and eventually turn it over to another who feels the call to serve our Lord in this way.

CPA David Cram and his wife Joan joined us and explained restricted and designated accounts. After doing a review of our records, he met with the finance committee, paid staff, and those session members who could be present.

Bill Seiden has agreed to be our Presbytery Commissioner for 2026, and Don Lyon will be our alternate.

Julie Krebs presented to session the all church nominating committee's recommendations for our new elders and deacons. Recommended elders: Jim Beckett, Paula Sandusky (3 year terms); Don Lyon (1 year term to fill Richard Becker vacancy in 2026). Recommended deacons: Becki Fulton, Gayle Loomis, Azata Nyepan, Sarah Lyon (3 year terms); Alice Miller (1 year term to fill Traci Becker vacancy in 2026). Sandy Crouse to serve on ACNC as covenant partner rep for three years. We will need to have a congregational meeting on November 9th to vote on the candidates.

Coming soon to CPC...a pledge campaign!

Mission Forward 2026 Pledge Campaign

CPC's mission is to invite, inspire, and ignite thousands in our local community to become devoted disciples of Jesus Christ by loving God, loving our neighbor, sharing life, and sharing our faith. This is a lofty but achievable mission, and it is only possible with your partnership, support, and participation.

In the recent past, we have created our annual budget based on actual numbers from the previous year. While this works to a degree, this year, I intend to create our operating budget based on the estimated pledge amount from the congregation through a pledge campaign, culminating on Stewardship Sunday Nov. 16th. The pledge campaign results will give us a better picture of our financial situation going into 2026.

Our church operating expenses are mainly covered by congregational tithing. The Preschool and Mother's Day Out programs have operating budgets offset by tuition. The church maintains our entire facilities and grounds, as well as all our ministry and paid church staff expenses through our tithe income. So, to set budgets for our facilities, grounds, ministry, and church staff, we need a strong estimate of our tithing income for 2026.

Our target operating budget (known as the General Fund) for 2026 is \$350,000. This is roughly \$30,000 more than our projected tithing income for 2025 (as of September), but about the same operating budget as last year (known as a "faith-gap"). Our target amount allows us to adequately fund our ministries, maintain our facilities and grounds, pay our paid staff with a 2.8% COLA increase in 2026, and deposit \$1000 per month into our emergency reserve account, like we have been doing the past year and a half.

As we look toward advancing CPC's mission in 2026, will you prayerfully consider a weekly or monthly pledge amount to help us achieve our funding goals for the ministry of CPC?

Besides the tithe, will you consider volunteering your time and talents to help us build this church per the Lord's will? I believe the Lord will cause his church to grow and thrive through the blessings of his people— through you!

To participate in the CPC Mission Forward Pledge Campaign, you should have received one pledge card with a letter, if we have your mailing address in our directory. If you didn't receive one or you need additional pledge cards, you may pick up them up in the lobby or front office (9am-3pm weekdays).

Please prayerfully fill out the pledge card, snap a photocopy for yourself to remind you of your pledge, and return it to the church office or in the offering plate on Stewardship Sunday, November 16th, or on any Sunday between now and Nov. 16th.

You will receive a thank you and acknowledgment of the pledge from me in the following weeks.

Thank you so much for your participation and service for the Lord at CPC, God bless you!

Pastor Paul Hudson



November Questions About the Sermon

By Pastor Paul

This is a new section for me to humbly address questions that you have about the sermon or about relevant subjects pertaining to the sermon scripture. This question was asked during the Bible study, about Adam, Eve, and God's interactions with each other in Genesis.

The question:

"How did Adam, Eve, and God talk to each other initially since language had not been invented yet as there wouldn't have been a need for language before humans?"

Excellent question! Let's take a look at Scripture.

In Genesis 1, God created all things by his word, then he made male and female and spoke to them. Language existed before God made humans. In chapter 2, Adam named animals as God brought them to him on the sixth day, suggesting Adam had an inherent language from God already. From the beginning, we can see that Father God spoke to Adam and Eve and they in turn began to speak verbally to one another and back to Father God, using words they learned from God mixed with words they made up. This was the beginning of human language. It was a gift from God, and it developed rapidly in partnership with God, but the source of language is God—he had his own "language" before he created us. In fact, he created all things by his word... by his "language."

Later in Genesis 11, the Tower of Babel story, the Bible says that the world had only one language, but the Lord "confused their language..." i.e. caused more languages to form... many more languages. The Bible claims that this was the Lord's doing. All of the world's early languages were in the least initiated by God, the source of language, and were developed further through human creativity and interaction. Incidentally, as languages morphed and developed, lies proliferated, false gods were made up, and God, the source of language, was erased or forgotten.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus is described as the Word. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made." The Greek term for "Word" is "Logos," and this implies that Jesus is the revelation, or message of God to the world—the Word of life! This leads directly back to Genesis, in that God created all things by his Word, which we know now through revelation is Jesus, the "Logos." The "Logos" became the gift from God to us, revealing the Father God to the world. God made us to reveal himself through his Word (Jesus) that we may know the Father and the way to life—that we may speak his "language!"

Let's take this one step further. In Acts 2 on the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit arrived like "tongues of fire," on the worshipers, and they all spoke the praises of God in different languages represented there, though the speakers themselves did not know the language. This was a physical manifestation of a supernatural event. On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit provided instantaneous tongues (real languages) to speak so that the mysteries of God would be revealed. This points to language being a gift from God, and its purpose is for more than communication between people. It is for revealing the mysteries of Father God to the world—particularly the message of Jesus Christ--- to show us the way to eternal life.



November Questions About the Sermon (cont'd)

By Pastor Paul

In sum, God is the source of language. He uses his language to create from nothing but his word. God gifted Adam and Eve with an inherent language from the beginning, which was developed initially through interactions with God, nature, and each other. The world's many languages came from the Lord as a result of the tower of Babel.

On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came down and gave worshipers the miraculous ability to speak numerous languages, each revealing the wonders of God and affirming that God is the source of language. Finally, the purpose of language is for Father God to reveal himself to us and the way to eternal life through his Son, Jesus Christ, the Word.

GENESIS 1-4
THE BEGINNING
SEPT. 7TH - NOV. 23RD
2025

COMMUNITY
Presbyterian
www.425cpc.com

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



11/01 - Cheryl P.

11/02 - Howard S.

- Gayle C.

11/04 - Jackie E.

- Remy S.

11/05 - Pauline S.

11/06 - Margaret J.

11/07 - Sabrina B.

11/09 - Jana M.

11/11 - Alice M.

11/12 - Danny P.

- Tobias D.

- Lynn P.

11/18 - Odessa A.

11/19 - David G.

11/21 - Diane F.

11/22 - Matt P.

11/23 - Charlotte S.

11/24 - Arlys R,

11/25 - Ben S.



11/01 - Ken & Judy S.

11/08 - Chuck & Arlys R.

11/14 - Tony & Wendy S.

11/18 - Ed & Judy W.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Praise & Worship Service
Sundays @ 10:00 AM

Women's Ministry Laughter & Latte
Saturday, November 1st @ 10:00 AM

Votes & Ballots
Tuesday, November 4th @ 7 AM - 8 PM

Congregational Meeting
Sunday, November 16th after service
In the conference room.

Mission Forward 2026 Pledge Campaign
Sunday, November 16th

Friendsgiving Harvest
November 22nd @ 2 PM - 4:30 PM
In the social hall.

Deck the Halls
November 29th @ 8:00 AM
In the sanctuary.

Operation Christmas Child
Return filled boxes to the church narthex
on November 9th.

Sewing Circle
Tuesdays @ 9:30 AM
In the social hall.

Men's Coffee Hour
Thursdays @ 10:00 AM
In the social hall

Men's Bible Study
Sundays @ 11:30 AM
In the conference room.

Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays @ 10:00 AM
In the conference room.

The Book of Genesis Sermon Series starts
September 7th to November 23rd.

Join us for latte and fellowship at
Journey Coffee, 896 Alamo Dr., Vacaville.

Vote in person or drop off your completed
and signed vote-by-mail ballot.

To vote in Elders and Deacons.
All covenant partners are invited.

Please prayerfully fill out the pledge card,
and return it to the church office or in the
offering plate on any Sunday between now
and November 16th.

Register on the Events page of CPC's website
@ www.425cpc.com by November 15th.

All are welcome to join in the fun to
decorate our church for the holidays.

There are still some boxes available to take
and fill with small items for children.

We meet regularly for fun & fellowship as
we create quilts for charity, and community
purposes. Registration not required.

Come together for coffee, donuts, and
fellowship.

Following Pastor Paul's sermon series on
Genesis 1-4 - In The Beginning.

Following Pastor Paul's sermon series on
Genesis 1-4 - In The Beginning.
Facilitators: Sandy Crouse & Judy Schneider