



COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
425 Hemlock St., Vacaville 95688
(707) 448-5055 | office@425cpc.com | www.425cpc.com



A Message from Pastor Paul Hudson

Commissioned Lay Pastors: What Will This Mean for CPC?

Last month, I introduced our 'Commissioned Lay Pastor 1' training from ECO and the four candidates participating: Bill Seiden, Judy Schneider, Chyna LaGrande, and Yam Hudson. This month, I want to explain a little more about what the course equips them to do and what their service as lay pastors will mean for CPC.

The goal is to equip these leaders to shepherd people, help develop other leaders, and provide spiritual and organizational oversight within their assigned ministries. We want their training to bear fruit in the lives of the people they serve and in the ministry we share as a church.

Growing as Spiritual Leaders

Much of the course focuses on the foundations of pastoral leadership: our own relationship with Christ, our understanding of Scripture, and our ability to help others grow in faith. We study spiritual practices, personal calling, biblical interpretation, and ECO's essential beliefs. These subjects help our candidates become more thoughtful readers of the Bible, more grounded teachers, and more attentive spiritual leaders.

My hope is that this growth will be evident in everyday ministry—in how they listen, pray with someone, teach a passage of Scripture, or help a person recognize where God may be calling them to serve. Shepherding people involves knowing them, caring for them, and walking alongside them as they follow Jesus.



A Message from Pastor Paul Hudson (cont'd)

Equipping Others to Lead

Another major emphasis is learning to mentor and develop other leaders. We cover healthy teamwork, leading meetings, developing a common mission, and helping others discover and use their gifts.

A lay pastor will not necessarily take over the ministry they serve. In some cases, they may already be its director. In others, their role will be to support, come alongside, and perhaps further equip the people who lead it, if appropriate. I want us to keep growing as a church where leaders help others become leaders, which will create more opportunities for more people to participate in God's work.

Each lay pastor's responsibilities will be clearly defined under the oversight of the Senior Pastor and Session. Commissioning to a ministry 'field', such as Discipleship, does not automatically place a Lay Pastor over other staff members or other ministry leaders that are working in that same field, though they may take on an advisory or mentoring role. Clear communication and healthy working relationships are essential!

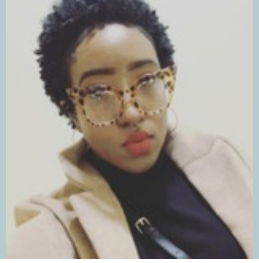
Serving Our Congregation and its Mission

The course also prepares candidates to preach, teach the Bible, and understand and administer baptism and the Lord's Supper. Once commissioned, they will be authorized to administer the sacraments within the scope of their commission, including in smaller expressions of our church community, such as New Focus or small groups.

Their service will also help connect people in these ministries to the larger CPC family. As they care for those already involved, they will help their ministries look outward, share the gospel, and find opportunities for ministry and mission to grow.

These are the outcomes we are working toward: people being shepherded, leaders being equipped, and ministries growing in faithfulness to Christ. Please continue praying for Bill, Judy, Chyna, and Yam as they complete the course and look forward to what lies ahead. I am grateful for their willingness to learn and serve, and I look forward to seeing how God will continue blessing our community through their service!

God bless you!
Pastor Paul



Family Ministry for Youth & Children

Chyna Bradford-LaGrande, Director

Family Ministry Newsletter November Theme: Growing Grateful Hearts Discovering God's Goodness In Every Season

Dear Families,

November is here! The leaves are changing, the days are getting shorter, and the weather is reminding us that summer has officially packed its bags. 🍁 Some trees are showing off their beautiful fall colors, squirrels are stocking up like they're preparing for a 10-year winter, and pumpkins are everywhere—even though some of them look like they've had a very long day! But beneath all the colorful leaves, cozy sweaters, and Thanksgiving treats, November gives us something even more wonderful to celebrate: the opportunity to teach our children what it means to have grateful hearts and to recognize God's goodness in our everyday lives.

🧡 What Is Thanksgiving Really About?

Thanksgiving is more than turkey, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie, and trying to convince children to eat just one more bite of vegetables! While enjoying a delicious meal together is a blessing, the heart of Thanksgiving is about giving thanks to God for His love, His provision, and the people He places in our lives.

As Christians, we believe that every good gift comes from God. We can thank Him for our families, our friends, our church, our food, our homes, the beauty of creation, and even the little things we sometimes take for granted. The Bible reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." This November, let's help our children understand that gratitude isn't just something we practice on Thanksgiving Day. It is a way of living!

We can thank God when we wake up in the morning, when someone shares a toy, when we see a beautiful sunset, and even when our favorite snack is available. (Especially then!)

🍂 Finding God in November's Nature

November is a wonderful time to explore God's creation with our children. Nature gives us so many opportunities to talk about God's creativity, care, and faithfulness. Falling leaves remind us of change. Trees let go of their leaves as the seasons change. We can teach our children that change is a natural part of life and that God remains with us through every season. Squirrels remind us to



prepare. These little furry planners are busy gathering food for colder days. We can talk with children about how God provides for us and how we can prepare by making wise choices and caring for one another. Shorter days remind us to shine our light. As the sun sets earlier, we can remember Jesus' words in Matthew 5:16 about letting our light shine before others. A kind word, a helping hand, or a friendly smile can brighten someone's day—even before bedtime arrives! Bare trees remind us that growth can happen quietly. Even when trees look empty, life continues beneath the surface. We can remind our children that God is at work in us, helping us grow in faith, kindness, patience, and love. And let's not forget the weather! One day we need a jacket, the next day we're wondering where we put it, and sometimes we experience all four seasons before lunchtime. Through it all, God's creation reminds us to slow down, look around, and give thanks.

🙏 Helping Children Connect with God

How do we help our children understand that Thanksgiving is about more than a holiday? We help them build a relationship with God through simple, meaningful moments. Here are a few ideas to try at home this month:

1. Start a family gratitude jar. Place a jar on your kitchen counter and invite everyone to write or draw one thing they are thankful for each day. Read the notes together at Thanksgiving.

2. Take a gratitude walk. Walk around your neighborhood or visit a park. Ask your children to find three things in nature that remind them of God's goodness. Yes, even the funny-looking leaf counts!

3. Pray together. At bedtime or mealtime, invite each child to name one thing they want to thank God for. Their answers may surprise you—and occasionally make you laugh!

4. Practice giving, not just receiving. Encourage children to share a toy, help a neighbor, make a card for someone who feels lonely, or say thank you to someone who helps them. Gratitude grows when we put love into action.

Join Us Every Week in November at Community Presbyterian Church of Vacaville, we believe children grow in faith when they have opportunities to learn, create, worship, ask questions, and build friendships in a loving faith-based community. We invite you to bring your children out every week in November for Kids Church. Throughout the month, we look forward to sharing meaningful experiences that help children discover God's love and learn how to live out their faith.



Family Ministry for Youth & Children

Chyna Bradford-LaGrande, Director

Our Kids Church sessions include Bible lessons that help children understand God's Word and the true meaning of Thanksgiving, creative crafts and hands-on activities that bring lessons about gratitude, kindness, and God's creation to life, worship and prayer that encourages children to connect with God in ways they can understand, fellowship and friendship where children can feel welcomed, included, and part of our church family, and gratitude in action through simple ways children can share God's love with others.

Every week is another opportunity for your child to grow spiritually, make friends, express creativity, and discover that church is a place where they belong. So, bring your little pumpkins, your energetic turkeys, and your curious kiddos! 🦃

🍁 We can't promise that every craft will be glitter-free, but we can promise that learning about Gods love is worth making a little mess.

❤️ **A November Blessing for Our Families**
As we enter this season of gratitude, may we remember that our children are learning from more than what we say. They are watching how we love, how we give, how we pray, and how we respond to the blessings and challenges of everyday life. Let's help them see that Thanksgiving is not simply a day on the calendar. It is a chance to pause and remember that God loves us, provides for us, and calls us to share that love with others.

May your homes be filled with laughter, your hearts with gratitude, and your family with the peace and joy that come from knowing God. We look forward to seeing your family throughout November as we learn, worship, create, and grow together!

With gratitude and Gods blessings,
Chyna B -LaGrande Director of Family Ministry
Community Presbyterian Church of Vacaville

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." — Psalm 107:1



Youth & Young Adults

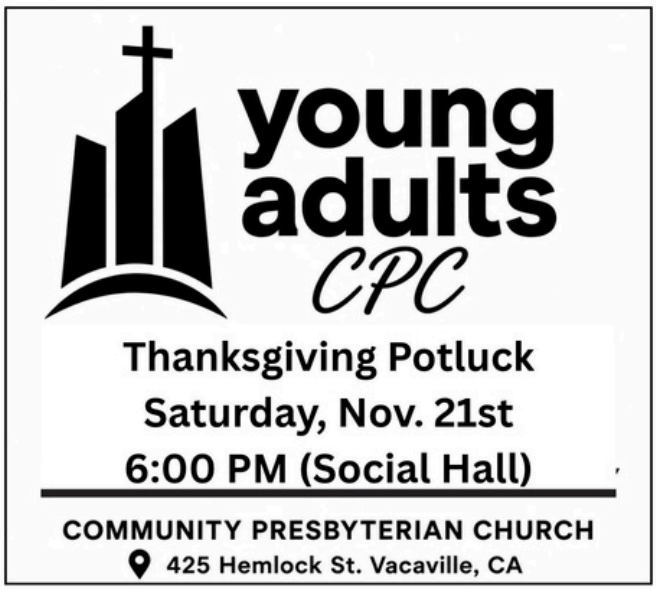
Jordan Adams, Director

Youth

We are continuing our series called “Joshua: The Courageous Warrior”. We are studying the book of Joshua, which we started on June 17. With the weather changing, if students come to youth on Wednesdays and see we aren’t outside, they have been informed to come upstairs. We have begun including a worship set on Wednesday youth nights led by Julia. The goal is to have a consistent worship set in place on Wednesdays.

Young Adults

We will meet Saturday, November 21st at 6 pm in the Social Hall for a Thanksgiving potluck. Feel free to bring food that you would like to share with the group.







Women's Ministry

Amber Sparks, Gayle Loomis, Becki Fulton

Cultivating Contentment: A Heart of Gratitude in a Busy Season

November has arrived, bringing shorter days, cooler crisp air, and the inevitable hustle of the upcoming holiday season. Before our calendars fill up with grocery lists, travel plans, and holiday decorating, our Women's Ministry team wants to invite you to pause. It is easy to let the pressure of creating a "perfect" holiday season steal our peace. This month, our focus is on anchoring our hearts in true biblical thanksgiving. In 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Paul admonishes us: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." Notice he doesn't say give thanks for all circumstances, but in them. True gratitude isn't dependent on a stress-free schedule or perfect conditions. It's having a heart that recognizes God's constant goodness, even in the messy middles of life.

Let's commit to lifting each other up this month. When you feel overwhelmed, reach out to a sister in Christ. When you notice someone missing from the "pews", extend a warm text or phone call. We are stronger when we walk together.

Your Women's Ministry Coordinators,
Amber, Becki & Gayle

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

Nov. 8th

- Last day of "Remade, Book 1-Renewed. We will start the 2nd book of the series in January. Watch upcoming newsletter and Sunday announcements for the start date. If you are interested in joining us, please let Becki know. Becki will order the books at a discounted price for the group.

- Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection day: Please place your filled boxes on the table in the church lobby.

- The Sewing Circle is holding its annual Holiday Quilt Sale in the sanctuary before and after church service.

Nov. 28th

- Church Advent Season Decorating: This is not just for the ladies. All are welcome to join us. Many hands make light work!

Ongoing

- Wednesday Bible Study in the Conference Room will continue to follow Pastor's sermons. Please see the group coordinator, Judy Schneider or, for any information on schedule changes during the upcoming holiday season.



Presbyterian Enrichment Preschool (PEP)

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 offerring an age appropriate Bible to the families who want one. It's our joy to bless the little ones with perhaps their first Bible.

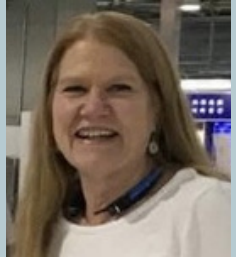
This is the prayer that we sing with our PEP students at snack time. It takes them no time at all to learn it and hopefully you can share it with your families.

Give Thanks
(sung to the tune of "Kum Ba Yah")

For our food, O Lord, we give thanks.
For our homes, O Lord, we give thanks.
For our families, we give thanks.
O, Lord, we give thanks.
For our friends, O Lord, we give thanks.
For our earth, O Lord, we give thaks.
For each night and day, we give thanks.
O, Lord, we give thanks.

-Marie Senften

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



Mother's Day Out (MDO)

Margaret Jacobs, Director

Mothers' Day Out
Community Presbyterian Church
425 Hemlock Street ~ Vacaville, CA 95688
707-448-5159
www.communitypresbyterian.com

MDO is back in session on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For registration information, please call (707) 448-5159.

Employment Opportunity

We are still actively searching for teachers & subs, so please spread the word! Please call us at 707-448-5159 or visit our web page at www.425cpc.com for more information.

Blessings to all,
Margaret at MDO



Sewing Circle

Arlys Rogers, Pauline Sparks, Laura Benham, Norma Buckley, Gayle Loomis

“If you can tie a knot, you can make quilts with us”
🧵❤️ Sewing Circle

GIVING 🍁THANKS
Is the Holy Spirit calling you to volunteer and learn a new skill? Join us on Tuesdays at 9:30 AM in the social hall for quilting and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you! Our Sewing Circle is a fun group of ladies who gather to create beautiful quilts, giving comfort and wrapping others in God’s love. We welcome new members, whatever your skill level.

MISSION ⛪ of GIVING BACK
The Sewing Circle ladies share God's love through loving service. We donate our quilts to families with new babies and congregation members in care homes or in the hospital. In October, the Sewing Circle donated a baby quilt to a family and a lap quilt to a church member in recovery and needing care. If you know someone who would benefit from a handmade quilt, please call the church office or send an to email office@425cpc.com. Thank you.

PEP QUILT SALE
On October 13, we displayed our Fall and Kid quilts for our PEP parents to purchase, and several quilts found a new home.



🙏BLESSING OF THE QUILTS
On October 27th, Pastor Paul blessed the quilts.

🎄MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
On Sunday, November 8th, the Sewing 🧵Circle is holding their yearly Holiday Quilt Sale in the sanctuary before and after the worship service. The price per quilt is $30.00. Proceeds will go toward quilting supplies, sewing machine maintenance, fabric, batting, yarn, and thread.

Happy Holidays!






New Focus

Tony Boltz, Rick Smith, Judy Schneider, Directors

The New Focus Family has a great deal to be grateful for as we approach Thanksgiving. Our community has grown stronger and closer during this last year. We are definitely grateful for the support and stability that CPC has provided us.

Each Thursday night is a chance for personal as well as community growth, Judy, Rick, Aubrey and I are blessed to be able to witness this in real time. We look forward to sharing our adventures with you in the coming year.

Blessings,
Tony Boltz





Session Report

Jim Beckett, Clerk of Session

The all church nominating committee (ACNC) has identified candidates to replace elders and deacons whose terms will expire in December.

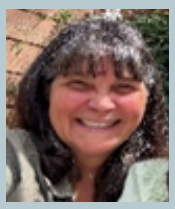
Treasurer Rick Smith reports that all 3 areas of the church (PEP, MDO, and Admin) are in the black year-to-date, and New Focus also has a positive balance.

New security cameras have been installed to help identify vandals who damage church property. The previous cameras didn't do the job properly.

124 people attended worship on New Focus Sunday, September 20th. This shows that the program is alive and well, thanks in part to the efforts of the 3 directors: Tony Boltz, Judy Schneider, and Rick Smith.

Average attendance for September was 88 people per week, helped by the turnout on New Focus Sunday.

Date	Guests	Kid's Church	Attendees	Communion
9/6/2026	2	5	84	81
9/13/2026	0	6	73	
9/20/2026	53	15	124	
9/27/2026	3	4	70	
Totals	**58**	**30**	**351**	**81**
Attendees includes worship team, tech team, infants, children, youth.				



Deacons Report

Kathy Reid, Lead Deacon

For so much of my life I have focused on the Thanksgiving holiday as a day to “give thanks”. And while I still adhere to the importance of that idea, this year I am seeing this holiday differently. It dawned on me that I am also able to be “thankful for giving”. I have been the recipient of so many gifts, both tangible and intangible over the years. Family, friends, neighbors - all of these people give and share with one another. Their time is a gift. A jar of homemade jam is a gift. A bouquet of flowers or a box of tomatoes from their garden is a gift. Their love and their patience are both excellent gifts. Their expertise in explaining electronics is a gift. Watching your pet when you are away is a gift. All of these gifts can be enjoyed and appreciated because of what the Lord has first given to us. We have all been given much by our Heavenly Father: health, relationships, intellect, and life itself. His gifts can be seen as the foundation for the life that we want to create. Do we want to focus on here and now and let tomorrow take care of itself? Or do we want to find ways to take these various gifts of special talents and interests and work to make life just a little bit brighter for others? This holiday season I am challenging myself to find unique ways to give and share my time with others.

In the past few weeks I have learned about some remarkable people doing small things for others with so much love that it is a thing of rare beauty; this selfless outlook focused on the needs of others. Whether it is sewing cloth remnants together to create a usable item that is donated, or offering to watch a small child for a much needed break; we can see the image of God in these actions. From those who volunteer to make dinner for another or driving someone to a necessary appointment, or taking a friend who has lost their spouse out to coffee; these are the acts that can change lives and circumstances. These small acts bless both the givers and the receivers.

You too can experience the feeling that you have made a difference for someone else. Two of the deacon jobs include taking meals to and providing transportation for members of our CPC community. The old adage that many hands make light work is so true. The deacons currently have a list of those who would like to be called to possibly bring a meal. We would love to see that list grow! And the deacons have determined that we now would benefit from having a list of those folks who would like to offer to drive those who cannot drive themselves. This could be for a doctor’s appointment or even the occasional ride to church on Sunday. The more folks we have on our lists the easier it is for everyone. Please contact me or any of the current deacons to have your name added to one or both of these lists. As someone who has given a few rides, it has been just as rewarding for me as it is helpful to them!



“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.” -Ephesians 1:3

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.
- Lynne P.
- Tobias D.
11/19 - David G.
11/21 - Diane F.
11/22 - Matt P.
11/23 - Charlotte S.
11/24 - Arlys R.
11/25 - Ben Sison



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Blessings to you and the love you share.

11/01 - Ken & Judy S.
11/04 - Justin & Jordan C.
11/08 - Chuck & Arlys R.
11/12 - Rick & Lisa C.
11/14 - Tony & Wendy S.
11/18 - Ed & Judy W.

MARK YOU CALENDAR

Mission Forward Pledge Campaign 2027 **October 18th to November 1st**	**We ask that you prayerfully reflect on your 2027 pledge. Your commitment helps our church grow in faith, service, and community. Thank you for your generosity and your commitment to support CPC.**
All-Church Potluck **November 1st** **In the social hall after worship.**	**Hosted by the Deacons. Bring a dish to share. Registration is not required.**
Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd **7:00 AM to 8:00 PM, in the social hall.**	**Vote in person or drop off your completed and signed vote-by-mail ballot.**
Sewing Circle's Annual Holiday Quilt Sale **Sunday, November 8th** **In the sanctuary before & after worship.**	**Price per quilt: $30. Through the sale of quilts, we are able to purchase sewing supplies and continue creating quilts to give to senior care facilities and charities in our community.**
Church Advent Season Decorating **In the sanctuary, 9 AM - 12 PM**	**This is not just for women. All are welcome to help decorate our church.**
Pastor PJ's Weekly Podcasts	**Listen to the Podcast at www.425cpc.com or on facebook.com/cpcvacaville.**
Women's Ministry Laughter & Latte **First Saturday of every month.**	**Join us for a latte and fellowship at Journey Coffee, 896 Alamo Dr., Vacaville. Registration is not required.**
Women's Ministry Wednesday Bible Study **10:00 AM in the community room.**	**Following Pastor Paul's sermons. Registration is not required.**
Women's Ministry Bible Study **Sundays in the community room after worship service.**	**Week 6 of the "Remade" small group. If you are interested in joining, please let Becki know. She will be ordering the books at a discounted price for the group.**
Men's Bible Study **Sundays, in the conference room, after worship.**	**Following Pastor Paul's sermons. Registration is not required.**
Men's Coffee Hour **Thursday, 10:00 AM, in the social hall.**	**Come together for coffee, donuts, and fellowship. Registration is not required.**
Youth (6th-12th Grades) **Wednesdays, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM** **and Sundays, 10:00 AM**	**Hang Out for Bible Study, Fellowship, Worship & Praise Email jordan@425cpc.com for more information.**