

CMPC

AUGUST NEWSLETTER



CMPC Festival

FUN. FOOD. FOR EVERYONE



SUNDAY
AUGUST 30
4:00–6:00 PM

Join us for an afternoon of games, activities, great food, and discover the many ways children, youth, and adults can connect and grow at CMPC.

Everyone is welcome!

Bring your family, invite your friends and neighbors!



FUN &
GAMES



FREE FOOD
& TREATS



EXPLORE
MINISTRIES
for all ages!



CONNECT
& GROW



SURPRISE
ACTIVITIES

LOGOS • PRESCHOOL • SCOUTS • SUNDAY EXPERIENCE
BIBLE STUDIES • MUSIC MINISTRY • AND MORE!



Want to Help?

We're looking for volunteers to welcome guests, host activities, serve food, and help with setup and cleanup.

Scan the QR code or visit the link to let us know you're interested!



Stoked to Come?

No registration required, but letting us know you're coming helps us plan plenty of food and fun!



FREE ADMISSION. FREE FOOD. FUN FOR ALL AGES



Bible Basics Begins Again ...

We will continue with Bible Basics (adult Bible study) this fall starting September 15. The group meets in person every Tuesday at 11 am for 1 hour downstairs in the committee room across from the Pastor's office. The study is very relaxed; an exploratory approach is used where we read the verses and discuss what they personally mean to us as individuals (and often use our Study Bibles to help!). There is no preparation required and no need to attend every class; be there when you can. All are welcome, regardless of your Biblical knowledge.

For this fall we will begin ... at the beginning! We will read the book of Genesis starting with the creation story and progress our way towards the exciting adventure of Joseph. There is no schedule, we will finish when we finish.

If you have any further questions, please contact Steve Pettit, at stevenleepettit@gmail.com.



Who's Who in the Pews?



Jeff and Alexis Bloom met in 2007 on the very weekend Alexis moved back to the area from Arizona. Jeff was working part-time at a local bar when Alexis happened to show up with friends to watch the Arizona State University football game on tv. They began dating and were married in May 2010.

Jeff moved to Columbia from Buffalo, N.Y. ("go Bills!") when he was in elementary school, and joined CMPC with the confirmation class in 1993. Alexis grew up in the Annapolis area and later moved to Crofton. She joined the church a year after they were married. They currently reside with their family in Dayton.

Jeff is an owner of Keystone Innovative Solutions, which is a government contracting company. He has served as an Elder and Deacon and was chairperson of the Pastor Nominating Committee that recommended Pastor Scott Hoffman.

Alexis owns A Better Bloomscape, a company that specializes in garden coaching and design. She designed CMPC's new Memorial Garden, a contemplative outdoor space with engravable bricks that was created to honor the loved ones of church members.

The couple has three sons: Scott, 15, a talented singer and actor who joined the church in March with the confirmation class; PJ, who is 13 and likes to play baseball and video games; and Ty, who is 9 and enjoys football and wrestling.

While keeping up with their kids' schedules keeps them super busy, Jeff and Alexis find time to enjoy golfing, summers at the pool, gardening and spending time with friends. They also love to travel whenever possible, with the Caribbean and Williamsburg, Va., ranking high among the destinations they've enjoyed visiting the most.

Their family's special CMPC memories include the children's baptisms, participating in the Christmas pageants when the boys were younger, and Jeff singing with the Trinity Choir in the annual Christmas cantatas. Through Pastor Hoffman the family discovered Pine Springs Camp, a Christian summer camp in the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania. The boys attend the camp each year and love it, and Jeff and Alexis love it, too. (wink, wink)

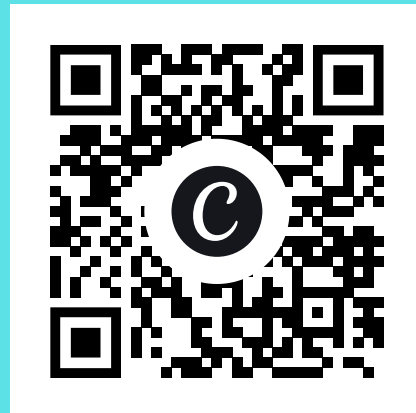
Blessing of the Backpacks

It's time for the Blessing of the Backpacks.

Please mark your calendar for **Sunday, August 23!** During the 10:30 am worship service all students and teachers, preschool to post graduate, will be invited to bring their backpacks forward and join in a special blessing for students, teachers, aides, and administrators preparing for the new school year.



Come Join Us" for the last lunch of the summer season! On Wednesday, August 26, 2026 @ 12:30pm we'll be dining at Lib's Grill, a contemporary chef driven gastropub and raw bar, 8191 Maple Lawn Blvd in Fulton, MD. Please RSVP by Monday, August 24, 2026. See you soon!



Meals with Jesus



On August 2, 9 and 16 there are 2 worship opportunities each Sunday:

10:30 AM in the Sanctuary: "Songs and Prayers"

This is a brief service of prayers and songs selected by YOU. Over these 3 weeks we will be singing your favorite songs from the hymnal

"Mealtime with Jesus" in Fellowship Hall; Different Times each Sunday

Our focus is on meals with Jesus, and "Enough". Each of these Worship times is designed to be family-friendly and to incite our passion for being together to worship God.

- **August 2 at 11:30 AM "Picnic Lunch with Jesus".** There is enough.

Pack a picnic lunch and maybe a bit that could be shared. Bring chairs and picnic blankets or towels to sit on. Some tables and chairs will be provided.

- **August 9 at 6:00 PM "Dinner with Jesus" and Communion.** Jesus is Enough.

We'll gather around tables and serve each other communion. We'll need a team of volunteers to focus on this one event and help with service participation, food prep, set-up and cleanup.

- **August 16 at 9:00 AM "Breakfast with Jesus".** You are Enough.

Breakfast will be provided. A small team of volunteers is needed to focus on this one event and help with worship service participation, food prep, set-up and cleanup.

A link for volunteers and needed roles will be set up shortly. Stay tuned if you have a willingness to be part of this venture into worshipping God together in ways that are new to us!

Trinity Choir

All who are interested, are welcomed to join the Trinity Choir at Christ Memorial! No audition is necessary, and no ability to read music is required, just a passion to spread Christ's love through music in a community choir setting.

Questions can be emailed to W. Nicholas Zurowski: musicdirector@cmpecusa.org.

We rehearse Thursdays through mid-June, with Sunday, June 14 being the last Sunday service for the summer.

Over the summer, we will have a couple rehearsals and services that are open to the community, as noted below. All are welcomed.

August 13: 7 PM – 8:30 PM

August 20: 7 PM – 8:30 PM

August 23: 9:30 AM Warm-up; 10:30 AM Service



Mission Trip needs YOU!

In 2024 Hurricane Helene devastated Asheville, NC. In response CMPC will be heading down to help the rebuild process. We will be working with Fuller Center Disaster ReBuilders, FCDR, a Christian organization that will provide construction leadership. Tasks will be assigned based on skill levels.

At any one time FCDR has around 5 homes underway, some new and some existing rebuilds. Work could include painting or flooring or hanging drywall or framing but for those less inclined any help such as running for materials is appreciated.

We will be staying at Balsam Lodge on the Montreat Campus although local hotel accommodations are readily available.

We will be departing for Asheville on Sunday, August 23 for the 7+ hour drive to Asheville and returning August 29th. Asheville has a pretty good size airport for anyone wanting to fly.

Tools will be provided but you're welcome to bring your own. Cost will be \$200/person for food and lodging.

Registration can be done at <https://fullercenter.org/disaster-rebuilders/> but please let Pete know if you are going as well.

For questions – Pete Berlowitz

pberlowitz@verizon.net 410-440-6715.





BELLS OF JOY

To Ring or Not To Ring?

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CMPC's handbell choir, the "Bells of Joy", have enhanced our worship services for 30+ years with their rich and unique musical offerings. We are looking for new members, middle school, high school and adults. If you are able to read music (bass and treble clef), you can easily learn how to ring a handbell. We would love to show you how! We hope you will prayerfully consider joining the choir.

We meet on Wednesday evenings after LOGOS at 8pm for 1 hour. We will start rehearsals on October 7th, 2026.

Questions can be emailed to the Handbell Director, Sally Berlowitz: sberlowitz@verizon.net.