



Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who made the first annual CMPC Festival such a success! Special thanks to Ryan Thomas for the great idea and hard work!



CMPC

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Growing Together in Faith, Service, and Love

PICNIC

September 13th
following worship.
Please bring chairs! A
few chairs and tables
will be set up. Please
RSVP and sign up for a
side, salad or dessert
here:





Bible Studies

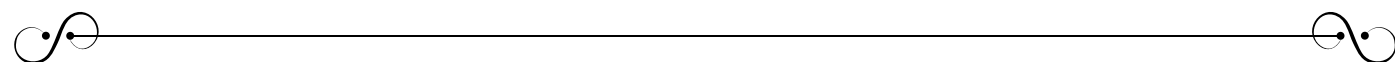
Bible Basics Begins Again ...

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.



Monday night Zoom Bible Study

Last 2 Mondays of the month at 7 pm, Sept 21st and 28th

We are currently studying Heaven.

Contact Kathy Koch at kathrynkoch79@gmail.com or text 301-643-6861.



Bible Studies

Women's Monday Morning Bible Study Group

Monday, September 14th at 10:30 AM

Come join CMPC women and guests for a kickoff potluck lunch on September 14th at 10:30 AM at the church in the Trinity room. At this time, we will share our summer God moments and discuss our choice of the Book of Ezekiel for our first Bible study for the fall

The group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month during September through May.

New members are warmly welcomed and greatly encouraged to come join a Christ-centered, fun, loving group of ladies.

Please contact Miriam Miller at 410-531-6528 or JT Millerj@verizon.net or Barbara Petro at 410-300-6279 or bapetro@aol.com.

Who's Who in the Pews



Allison Miller

Not many people can say they married their high school sweetheart and are living happily ever after. And even fewer folks can say they wed that person about a dozen years after their first date. But that's precisely what happened to Allison Miller.

Allison and Tim Miller, who have been married since 1999, had their first date during their senior year of high school in Johnstown, Pa., which they attended together nearly 40 years ago. She recalls they later "had some off and on moments after college" before reconnecting when he invited her to attend a wedding with him.

After graduating from Westminster College in 1991, Allison relocated to this area three years later because Tim was living here. She joined CMPC in 1997. The couple has lived in the same house in Ellicott City since 1999 and are the parents of two daughters, Hannah, 26, and Emma, 24. Both girls were baptized at CMPC and participated in LOGOS and Vacation Bible School.

Allison has served the church as an Elder for two terms and currently is an at-large member of the Worship and Music Committee. In past years she has served on the Communications and Christian Education committees. She has sung soprano in the Trinity Choir off and on since she started attending CMPC.

She has been involved with LOGOS for about 20 years and currently serves as Worship Arts Coordinator. She previously coordinated the LOGOS music programs for preschool and elementary school kids in BUGS and FROG, spent a year working with high school students in FISH, and has directed several LOGOS musicals.

Allison has been an educator with HCPSS for 28 years and her husband works in sales. She is currently the Advanced Research Teacher at Guilford Park High School, which opened in 2023 as the county's newest school. She also serves as a Teacher Development Liaison who provides support for non-tenured teachers and also offers professional development experiences for teachers.

She previously taught at Thomas Viaduct Middle School in Hanover, Md., and earlier spent six years as a leadership development facilitator and then four years as a high school assistant principal, both tenures at Oakland Mills High School in Columbia where she started her education career as an English teacher.

Allison took a break from singing in the choir to serve for seven years as a nursery attendant during church services. But when CMPC returned to holding in-person worship after the covid-19 pandemic, she returned to singing again. She has taken other small breaks occasionally. She says the decision to rejoin the choir has turned out to be more monumental than she anticipated, noting that singing "has fulfilled me in a way that I didn't know was missing."

Allison can also lay claim to a second unusual fact: She currently serves as the girls' varsity lacrosse coach at Guilford Park ... and shares the work with her daughter, Emma. Allison was honored by a local newspaper in June, along with a lacrosse coach from another high school, as Co-Coach of the Year. But she singled out her daughter's contributions to the team's successes in a published interview.

"This year was so exciting for us!" Allison said in her newspaper comments about the Guilford Park Panthers after the awards. "I have to give so much credit to Emma Miller, my daughter and assistant coach. Her knowledge and experience were essential to our growth and success as a program ... and (she) helped some girls fall in love with a sport they never played before."

The two sisters currently live together in Westminster where Emma is the Assistant Director of Recreation at a nursing home and assisted living center in Carroll County. Aside from coaching with her mother, she also does photography and graphic design on the side and is a lacrosse referee in the summer.

Hannah is a fourth-grade teacher in Carroll County and also teaches at a dance studio part-time. She has sung duets with her mother during CMPC worship services and also sings at Crossroads Church in Westminster, which she now attends.

Allison says her newest hobby is knitting. Noting that her mother was a very talented knitter, she said she now has all of her mom’s needles and has been teaching herself to knit with the help of YouTube and books. She hasn’t yet ventured any further than knitting scarves, blankets and a purse, but hopes to tackle a sweater.

She says she is excited that she will be eligible to retire from teaching in two years, adding that she hopes to find a job supporting new teachers at a college.

Most of Allison’s favorite CMPC memories and experiences revolve around music, not surprisingly. Ranking high on her list are singing with the Trinity Choir, the LOGOS musicals, and all the wonderful performances at the annual Musical Treats and Bountiful Sweets events to raise funds for our youth to attend the Gen-On Summer Youth Conference.



So Much to Celebrate on Sunday, September 13!

Communion. “Christian Formation Sunday” The Church Picnic!

Come for ALL THE THINGS. Celebrating the Lord’s Supper—eating and drinking, Officially, it’s “Christian Formation Sunday” in the PC-USA. So we’ll recognize and celebrate all those who teach, serve and lead in the many Christian Education programs and activities CMPC offers to form us and others as disciples of Jesus Christ.

We look forward to growing our church and growing its programs, allowing us all to be learners and to follow Jesus more closely. We’ll start by saying “Thank you!” and celebrating together. And then we’ll eat some more!



WHAT IS CHURCH FOR?

Beginning October 11, Pastor Janna will preach a 6-week Sermon series on “What Church is For.”

It’s based on “The Six Great Ends of the Church” as they’re outlined in the PC-USA.

Over 7 weeks—with the joyful interruption of LOGOS Sunday---we’ll look at our purposes:

Salvation, Fellowship, Worship, Truth, Justice and Witness

As we conclude this season of Pentecost and look forward to the Advent of a new church year, these “Ends” help us consider and define personal, ministry and financial goals.

ELLICOTT CITY
TROMBONE CHOIR

Powerful. Expressive. Unforgettable.

BRASS TOGETHER. COMMUNITY FOREVER.

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 18, 2026

7:00 PM

CHRIST MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

10600 SHAKER DRIVE
COLUMBIA, MD 21046

ADMISSION
IS FREE



World Communion Sunday is Sunday, October 4!

*God so loved the Whole World, and Jesus invites everyone to
his table.*

The Session invites church members to participate again, as we have in recent years, by providing or baking a variety of ethnic breads to be enjoyed. Recipes are available from numerous traditions or you can contribute a loaf of something you've especially enjoyed! Tasting different breads reminds us that God's love for the world is abundant, going beyond our own experience and imagination .

Electronic sign-up for breadmaking as well as for helping the day of the event will be posted through the church office beginning September 14. Pulpit guest Rev. Amy Schacht will preside at the table.



BELLS OF JOY

To Ring or Not To Ring?

.....

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.