



THE PULSE

A Monthly Look Into Ministry at CPC



Ministry Moments

Despite 100-degree temperatures moving some planned outdoor activities indoors, the Fall Kickoff drew around 400 people to The Commons on Aug. 20, to celebrate the start of a new year of our Children's and Student ministries.

Tim Loyd and his team of "Cinder Block Smokers" built an impressive griller/smoker near The Commons' back entrance and provided hot dogs and hamburgers to feed the crowd. Food also included pizzas, sides and desserts. Several large inflatables fit into the meeting space that formerly housed a swimming pool, and kept younger children entertained. Older kids enjoyed playing basketball in the gym and video and table games in the youth room.

But as always, the highlight was the fellowship among the wider CPC family. "It's so encouraging to see the connection that happens at events like this," said Pastor Tony Howard.



The Commons Opens Doors to Church and Community

by Lynn Norfleet

Another milestone is in the books for The Commons - as of Monday, Aug. 21, it is now "open" for our church and our community as a place to work, study, exercise, and gather. Although this has been happening for the past several months, extra time was needed for Commons Coordinator Katie Tracy to recruit volunteers to serve as hosts at the front desk.

"We are so thankful for those who have signed up so far," Katie said. "It's important to have friendly faces there to welcome new people to this great space." She is still seeking volunteers to sign up for one or two-hour time slots on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Two people typically serve as hosts at a time, so friends are encouraged to sign up together.

The Commons Coffeehouse is now open weekdays from 9:00am-3:00pm.

It is a space designed to welcome individuals or small groups throughout the day, so unlike the other rooms at The Commons, it is not available to be reserved for meetings, events or activities.



CPC Up Close

Kent & Carol Whitaker

A full parking at another church on Easter Sunday is the unlikely circumstance that brought Kent and Carol Whitaker to CPC more than 20 years ago. On the recommendation of their daughter, they visited CPC that day, and have been here ever since.

After retiring from a 33-year career in the design and construction industry, Kent joined the CPC staff as Service Ministry Director, a position he held until 2020. However, he continues to serve the church, not only as an elder but as director of The Commons renovations. Carol has also made an impact on CPC, helping plant and maintain the garden spaces in front of the church and the Lighthouse, and hosting women's mini-retreats.

When not serving at CPC, the Whitakers can be found spending time with their three children and eight grandchildren, or traveling. National parks are a favorite destination, along with international trips that have so far included New Zealand, Israel and Iceland. "From the first day we walked in the door at CPC, we have felt welcomed and connected to a loving church family," Kent said. "We are so thankful that other church parking lot was full!"

The Commons Opens Doors (cont.)

Nearly complete, the former swimming pool area has been converted into a space for large meetings or small receptions, with a capacity of around 130 people at tables. The Commons now boasts eight spaces that can accommodate meetings of many sizes. "We already have about 20 requests a month for the use of our gym and other meeting rooms," Katie related, "with around twenty outside groups reserving space on a monthly basis."

September will bring even more activity to The Commons, with Crash and KREW after school programs starting up again, regular Friendship Ministry meetings resuming, and Women's Bible Study now meeting there on Tuesdays. The gym continues to be a very popular space, with church, school and community groups using it for pickleball, basketball, volleyball, and even some soccer and football teams' practices during the recent extreme heat.

Anyone interested in reserving space at The Commons can submit a request on its new dedicated website, www.cpccommons.org.



**SUNDAYS at 6:00PM
STARTING ON SEP 17**

LIFELINES
KIDSCUB

CROSSFIRE PM
CRASH GROW GROUPS
KREW SMALL GROUPS



MEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY

**Starting September 19th
Tuesdays at 6:30am & 5:30pm**