

OCTOBER 2026



THE CALLER

CCPC NEWSLETTER



Christian Community Presbyterian
Church 3120 Belair Drive in Bowie,
Maryland 301.262.6008
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SUNDAY WORSHIP

CCPC invites you to worship with us every Sunday at 10AM, both in-person (in the Sanctuary) and online. Find the online service live-streamed on the CCPC Online Platform.

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursdays 10AM-4PM
and Fridays 10AM-Noon

WORSHIP & EVENTS CALENDAR

October 4, World Communion Sunday

October 11, Rev. Rick S. Hays preaching, celebrating 50 years of ministry

October 18, Rev. Dr. McMurtry preaching Re—Member from Judges 19, this service of worship will include the topic of sexual violence

October 25, Reformation Sunday, Bagpiper Jared Denhard, Guest musician

November 1, All Saints Sunday, Communion, Memorial Brick Dedication at Noon



OCTOBER 2026

FROM THE DESK
OF PASTOR KORI

October at CCPC: Many Ways to Gather, Celebrate, and Engage

October is shaping up to be a full and meaningful month here at CCPC. There is a lot happening in the life of our congregation, and I am grateful for the many ways our community continues to show up—with generosity, curiosity, joy, and a willingness to engage the world around us.

First, a huge thank you to everyone who helped make the Mission Team's Yard, Craft and Bake Sale such a success! It takes a tremendous amount of work to organize, sort, price, set up, staff, clean up, and welcome our neighbors to an event like this. So many people gave their time and energy, and it was wonderful to see that effort come together. The *Yard Sale* is not simply about raising money for mission; it is another way CCPC opens our doors, connects with our community, and puts our faith into action. Thank you to everyone who donated items, volunteered their time, shopped, spread the word, and helped make the day happen.

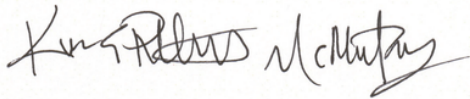
We began the month with World Communion Sunday, gathering around the table with Christians around the world and celebrating the beautiful diversity of Christ's church. Our worship reminded us that God's table is always bigger than we imagine—and that our faith calls us to build bridges of connection, peace, and justice across the boundaries that so often divide us. We were delighted to join in

We have the opportunity to celebrate Rev. Rick S. Hays and the 50th anniversary of his ordination this month. Fifty years of ordained ministry is an extraordinary milestone. I hope you will join us in worship on October 11 as he shares the message *The Foolishness of Preaching* from 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 and help us give thanks for his faithful service to the Church.

On October 18, our worship will include the topic of sexual violence. During worship I will read the scripture passage from Judges 19-20, named a *Text of Terror* by Phyllis Tribble, because of the disturbing nature of the story. While this narrative doesn't often make it into the worship space, the reality is that there are sexually violent narratives that take place in the backdrop of God's story. And moreover, they take place in our own lives. So often these are the stories that are swept under the rug, held in secret, and not believed. So rather than perpetuating the silence that is often found in these topics, we will listen to the unnamed woman's story in the scripture and ask what God wants of us in response. It is my hope and my prayer that bringing the topic into our worship space—this sacred place of healing and wholeness where we know in our hearts that each person is wonderfully made, created in the image of God and worthy of love, will be a meaningful endeavor in response to the realities of sin in a broken world.

Finally, we will close out October with a **bagpiper** on **Reformation Sunday**, helping us mark this particular Sunday in the life of the church with music, celebration, and perhaps a little more volume than usual (reminder that we do have headphones available in the sanctuary to muffle the sound). It promises to be a memorable way to celebrate the PC(USA)'s reformed heritage while remembering that the church is always being called to reform—to listen, to grow, and to become more faithful to God's vision of justice and love. That same afternoon, we will host our annual **Trunk or Treat** inviting your participation in bringing a car, candy, and wear a costume!

Blessings to you in this fall season,



Rev. Dr. Kori Phillips McMurtry



Save the Date for
Memorial Brick
Dedication
November 1 at Noon

Glory to God Hymnals

CCPC to adopt the New Presbyterian Hymn Books

Here’s a Link to the introduction video: about the hymn books: [watch here](#)

CCPC will be adopting the “Glory to God Hymnal.” This newest edition of the Presbyterian Hymnal includes the standard hymns, hymns that have been left out of the blue Presbyterian hymnal, World Music, Taize Selections, songs in the Contemporary Christian Music style/genre, selections from “Sing the Faith”, sung Psalms, and songs that represent the wider Christian community. This edition uses more inclusive language. This edition has the added convenience of having a digital component, which adds to the ease of use for our worship leaders in worship planning and the tech team as they incorporating the music in the slides for our services.

After extensive consideration, our worship council recommended moving to the new hymnal and Session has approved their recommendation in the September meeting. We will introduce the hymnal in our worship on Sunday, and our Music Director, Kevin Allen, has been leading us in some of the new hymns from the Glory to God (GTG) hymnal during services. **We have placed two copies in the Atrium to look through for your reference.**

If you would like to purchase a hymnal for the church pews in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the form to support this effort.

Glory to God Hymnal Order Form: CCPC 2026

1. Donor Information

- Full Name: _____
- Phone Number & email: _____

[] Check here if you prefer your donation to remain anonymous.

2. Order Details

- Cost per Hymnal: \$30.00
- Number of Hymnals: _____
- Total Hymnal Contribution: \$_____

3. Hymnal Dedication (Optional)

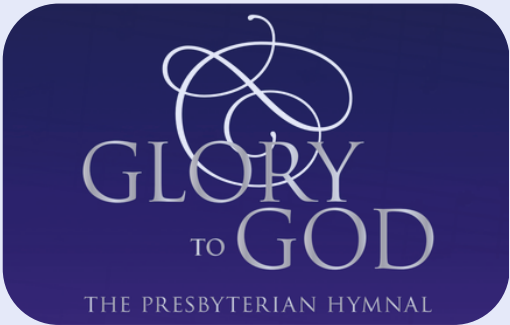
Please print the name(s) exactly as you would like them to appear (maximum 25 characters per line). Use an additional form if you have more than 3.

- Hymnal 1:
 - o [] In Memory of / [] In Honor of / [] Gift of:
 - o Name: _____
- Hymnal 2:
 - o [] In Memory of / [] In Honor of / [] Gift of:
 - o Name: _____
- Hymnal 3:
 - o [] In Memory of / [] In Honor of / [] Gift of:
 - o Name: _____

4. Payment Method

- [] Cash
- [] Check (Made payable to Christian Community Presbyterian Church with "Glory to God Hymnal" in the memo line)
- [] Online portal will be made available through our Website. (Note for online orders please add the credit card surcharge to total payment).

***Please submit directly to the church office, place in the offering plate, or mail it to the church: 3120 Belair Drive, Bowie, MD 20715.



Children & Youth

Our First Hike: Exploring God’s Creation!

The new CCPC Children & Youth Hiking Group got off to a wonderful start on Saturday, September 12th, with our very first adventure at Watkins Regional Park!

We began our day on the Upland Trail, an easy ¼-mile wooded trail, we reached the end of this trail and our hikers were still up for more! So, instead of calling it a day, we headed over to the Wetland Trail, a 0.6-mile loop that gave us even more opportunities to explore and discover.

Along the way, we spotted frogs of all different sizes! Some of our youth even got the chance to carefully hold a few of our little woodland friends for a closer look before returning them to their home.

After completing both trails just shy of 1 mile, we headed to the Watkins Nature Center, where the adventure continued. We saw turtles of different species, snakes, and many other fascinating creatures native to our area.

It was a wonderful first hike filled with fresh air, laughter, discovery, and plenty of opportunities to see the beauty of God’s creation up close.

Join Us for Our Next Adventure! 

Our next hike is Saturday, **October 10th**, when we’ll explore **Patuxent Research Refuge**. By then, the changing of the seasons will be well underway, and we’ll get to experience the forest as the leaves begin to burst into beautiful shades of fall. There’s something special about being outdoors as the seasons change and we notice the colors of the leaves. We hope you’ll join us as we venture out on the trails and see what God has waiting for us!

Come join us on the trail and see what we discover next, visit our website to sign up!

SAVE THE DATE

Trunk or Treat is coming!

Sunday, October 25, 4:00–5:00 PM in the church parking lot! Get ready for fun! All are welcome! Kids of all ages (including the young at heart) dress up in your favorite costume! You can decorate your car trunk! Car too much? Dress up a table or yourself and hand out smiles!

We’d love your help spreading the word—invite your friends, your grandkids, your neighbors, and anyone else who loves a little (friendly) fright and a lot of candy! If you are one of our trunk stops (or tables), please arrive between 3:00-3:15 to make sure we can have time for everyone to park and get set up.

See Edith or Beth or sign up in the Atrium.





The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our Yard Sale on October 3!

We greatly appreciate everyone who donated items to be sold, the crafters who shared their crafts, and the many volunteers who helped collect, sort, and price items. We also want to thank those who worked the day of the sale and then stayed to help with cleanup.

Lastly, and certainly not least, a special thank-you to our Youth for running the bake sale and securing our wonderful bakers. And a special shout-out to Mark and Skip for going on a treasure hunt throughout our church and finding some interesting items to add to the sale!

It was a lot of work, but it was well worth the effort—not only for the families we were able to impact, but also for the community members who may have come into our church for the first time. The funds raised will also allow Missions to continue making an impact both near and far.

Thank you again to everyone who helped make the Yard Sale a success!



CCPC's Mission

To worship God, to grow in faith and community, and to place our gifts in the service of Jesus Christ.

Deacons Doings

- The Welcome Back Potluck sponsored by the Deacons with support from Parish Life was a success. Fellowship and good food were enjoyed by all!
- Home Communion was served, October 4th.
- The Deacon Retreat Meeting will be held Sunday, October 25th, 11am to 1pm in the Conference Room.

What is coming up at
CCPC

2027 Women's Retreat – March 12th to March 14th

We are excited to announce that we have secured Rev. Amy Carlson to be our retreat leader. She is the Pastor at Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church in Ellicott City, MD. Our theme will be centered on the theme of Wonder—wonder in the world around us, wonder in our faith, and wonder unfolding within ourselves.

More information to follow!



mission updates

Christmas Angels 2025/Warm Nights Families

Beginning on Sunday, **October 11**, you will be able to adopt a Christmas Angel as part of the Salvation Army Christmas Angel Tree project. Look for the sign up table in the atrium. This year, we are also adopting Warm Nights Families and we will be providing gift cards for the adults and gifts of toys and clothes for the children.

Christmas is coming early for the Angel Tree project this year in that the Salvation Army is requiring all gifts be delivered to the warehouse by November 20. For us, that means that the deadline to drop off your angel gifts at church is no later than November 15. You will be able to drop off the items for your angel on November 1, 8, and 15. Once again this year, we are combining efforts with the Belair Cooperative Nursery School so that we can support a total of 30 angels!

Please help make a child's Christmas magical!

For any questions, please contact Julia Monroe.



Monthly Mission Meetings

We hold our mission committee meetings virtually on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Julia or Linda.

Mission October Gift Cards

Throughout the month of October, beginning on October 4, mission committee will be selling gift cards for grocery stores, department stores, online shopping, coffee shops etc. CCPC gets a small percentage of each gift card's purchase cost to support mission projects. In addition to personal use, you can purchase these cards to give to Warm Nights for their clients or to support the Christmas Angel Tree project. We are also adopting Warm Nights families for Christmas and will need gift cards for the adults in the family. You can purchase grocery cards, fast food, and department store cards for Warm Nights, and department store or online gift cards for Christmas Angels. The last day to order cards will be November 1st. All cards will be delivered in time to use them for Christmas gifts. Mission committee members will be selling the cards in the atrium after church.

For any questions, please see Donna Hopkins.

2026 NOVEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Mark Your Calendars -- Alternative Christmas Gift Market 2026 will be on Sunday, November 8

Warm Nights Back-to-School Supplies Drive

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated school supplies for children in the Warm Nights program. We were able to fill backpacks for 8 children: 1 kindergartner, 6 elementary school students, and 1 middle school student. Thanks also to those who helped sort and fill the backpacks on Sunday, August 16th!



October Birthdays

Alexandra Evankovich 10/1
Cyd Radden-Lesage 10/1
Bruce Jonas 10/2
Garaxavier Ebot 10/3
Patty Adams 10/6
Conrad Luma Jr. 10/7
Margaret Wolfe 10/8
Sharon Mabe (Calhoun) 10/10
James Ruhl Jr. 10/12
Peyton Atianjoh 10/15
Diane Kemberling (Kraft) 10/19
Christine Campbell 10/21
Heidi McGinnis 10/22
Kevin Todd 10/24
Charles Tanner 10/30
Scott Brock 10/31

LET'S CELEBRATE

October Anniversaries

Bill & Cyd Radden-Lesage 10/4
Kevin & Karin Rice 10/22



Music Notes

Spotlight on Artist: Jared Denhard, Coming to CCPC for Reformation Sunday, October 25

We are thrilled to highlight extraordinary talent in our music community this month **October 25** by featuring Jared Denhard, a versatile and accomplished performer whose musical range bridges classical prestige and lively traditional folk.

Quick Bio at a Glance

Education: Peabody Conservatory (Baltimore, MD)

Highlights: Highland pipe soloist with the Annapolis Symphony, Delaware Symphony, and Baltimore Municipal Band

Ensemble: Long-time member of Celtic rock band O'Malley's March

Discography: Featured soloist on numerous studio recordings

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY: A CALL TO PRAYER

JCI will be hosting 30 min prayer vigils from Nov 5-8. Sign up to join them in prayer for one of the 30-minute time slots and join into the pray vigil with JCI #12. Use the link <https://prayervigils.net/vigils/564> or scan the QR code in the Atrium.



Kairos has been partnering with Jessup Correctional Institution in Jessup, Maryland, for about ten years. Each year, clergy and lay volunteers are trained in prison ministry through four to eight hours of preparation before beginning their work inside the prison. This year, our volunteers will be at Jessup November 5–8, spending three eight-hour days in ministry with 36 residents. These residents are selected by the Chaplain from those who have applied and want to participate. The intensive program centers around 16 prescribed talks addressing Christianity and prison life, with a focus on surviving prison and thriving after release. Following the talks, residents and volunteers sit together at tables of eight to discuss what they have heard and understood. Residents are also invited to express their thoughts and experiences through posters. The Kairos experience also includes special Open Mike opportunities and, of course, plenty of Kairos cookies!

The JCI #12 Graduation will take place on Sunday, November 8, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at Jessup Correctional Institution (JCI). The Graduation and Closing celebration is open to all adults who would like to experience highlights of this shared journey and join in the hope for a better future.

Interested? Talk with Rev. Dr. Merritt Edner about this ministry.