



Good News!

A Newsletter for Catoctin Presbyterian Church

Waterford, Virginia • www.catoctin.org • cpc@catoctin.org

Summer 2023

Beloved in Christ,

Here it is - the summer 2023 newsletter of Catoctin Presbyterian Church! There is timely information about upcoming events, so please take a look!

Summer is upon us! It is the glorious season of warmth, sunshine, gardens, growth, vacations, and relaxation. Except when it's cloudy, oppressively humid, too dry, or time to work. As with any season, it depends on who you ask as to whether it's a time of bane or blessing, and it's usually some of each.

On the blessing side around our church, the session has recently received several **new members** who will be received publicly soon, and we have a number of **new friends and visitors** who have been joining us in worship, all enriching our church family. We have regular **fellowship** after the worship services, as well as our delightful 2nd Sunday Soup & Salad Sundays and Brew & Bible fellowship, too (see articles below for details), all of which give us time to celebrate each other's company, rejoicing in our church family and new friends. This summer we are taking a Road Trip Through the Bible in a three-month **sermon series**, looking at collections of Bible books each week. So far it's been getting pretty good reviews and raising lots of interesting questions and insights from worshipers. (A preacher can't ask for much more than that.) We are extending God's kingdom as we reach beyond our church walls with **mission and outreach projects** like helping at the JK Community Farm on the third Saturday of the month, our food and book blessings boxes, and hosting our own Farmers Market on Fridays from July 14 through the end of September (again, see below for more). And lest we overlook it, we are blessed to have **all the air conditioning units working** for now. There are many, many more blessings than we can name here. What comes to your mind?

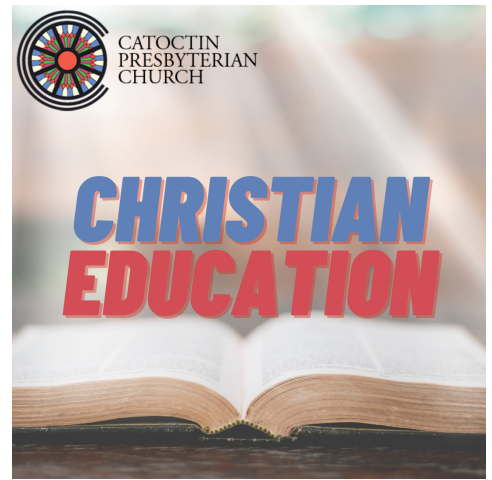
Of course, both goodness and hardship are part of the life we've been given. Scripture and our confessions remind us that in life and in death we belong to the Lord. Even with all the blessings we can count, we still live in a world that sees too much pain, injustice, violence, and wickedness. As followers of Christ Jesus, we take our blessings and use them to grow in faith, hope, love, and witness to Christ, so we can extend God's kingdom by serving those in need. So let's rejoice and celebrate our blessings this summer and with prayer and humility fulfill the law of Christ by worshiping and serving the Lord God and caring for God's children as we are called and able to do.

Grace and peace!

Pastor David

Christian Education

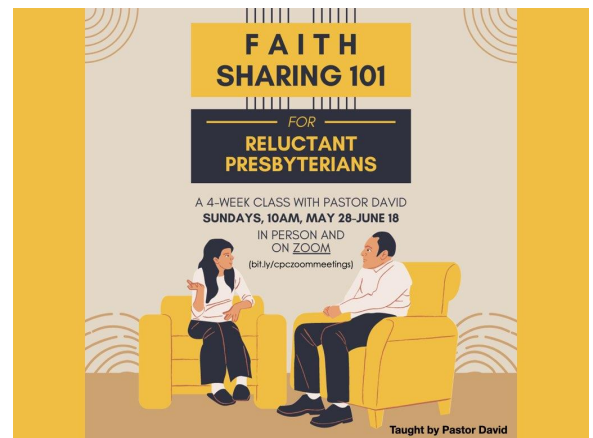
We would like to thank all those who contributed their time and talent toward our Christian Education efforts this spring season! Specifically, to **Lindsey McIntosh, Kristin Mazlum, and Marianne Bardwell** for teaching children's Sunday School, to **Pastor David** for leading our mid-week Bible study and our Sunday morning faith sharing course, and to **Leif Larsen** who has played a pivotal role in the growth and success of the adult Sunday School class throughout his many years of teaching and leading this group. He will be stepping down after 20 years of service! Thank you!



Leif Larsen, retiring from teaching the adult Sunday School class after 20 years of service. Leif led the class through several books of the Bible using William Barclay's commentaries as well as several books on the social implications of the Gospel by authors like James W. Moore and Richard Stearns. Thanks, Leif, and well done!

If you missed some of our latest Bible study and faith sharing opportunities, please take a moment to read about what we have covered as of late. In May, Pastor David led a study titled, **"Honor God's Diversity"**. Dr. Justin Reed, assistant professor of Old Testament/Hebrew Bible at Louisville Theological Seminary, put together a four-session course to look at some of the basic biblical issues around diversity. This guided important conversation around what the Bible says about diversity and what diversity might mean for Jesus' followers today. You can tune in to recordings of the entirety of this study by visiting our [Catoctin Presbyterian Church YouTube channel](#).

Additionally, Pastor David led a four-week course in June titled, **"Faith Sharing 101 for Reluctant Presbyterians"**. The class was designed to introduce some basic ideas about how and why you — yes, YOU! — can share your faith in Jesus Christ with others around you. Check out our [CPC YouTube channel](#) to learn more! Let us know what you think by leaving a comment on our page with your thoughts and insight!



Outreach

Our spring yard sale was a huge success! Big thanks to everyone who volunteered! There is a lot of work that goes into hosting this event, but it was certainly worth the effort! Numerous visitors stopped by our church, and many went inside to check out the sanctuary and the video highlighting the history of our church. And we passed out flyers detailing our spring and summer happenings at CPC!

Have you attended a **Second Sunday, Soup Sunday luncheon** yet? Or invited a friend? Each month is a free meal for the greater Waterford community as well as the CPC family. We're trying to build some consistency around it with the hope that folks will eventually get the idea that, yes, here is a free lunch! Since we started in February, we have had a few non-CPC folks who have come, and we have had lots of lovely, fun times around the lunch table, and some delicious meals. Here is the link for our Signup Genius page where you can, well, sign up to bring soup, bread, or dessert. If you can help, that would be fantastic. <https://bit.ly/cpcsoupsundays>



And, lastly, our **summer Farmer's Market & Food Truck Friday** events kick off on **Friday, July 14** from 4:00-6:00 pm. Each Friday evening, our church will host numerous vendors offering a diverse array of goods, produce, and treats. There will also be 1-2 food trucks on site from week to week. Weekly updates and food truck details will be posted to our [Catoclin Church Family Facebook page](#). We need volunteers to make this event possible! So sign up today and email Logan McIntosh with any questions at logan.mcintosh@catoclin.org. We also appreciate your support in attending our weekly market! Share this with your friends and family, too!



Visit bit.ly/cpcmarketvolunteer to volunteer at any of our market dates through Friday, September 29. If you know of anyone who may be interested in being a vendor, you may direct them to bit.ly/cpcfarmersmarket.

Our CPC Graduates!



Congratulations to our recent graduates! We took [time in worship to recognize our graduates](#) on July 2nd.

Graduating from Woodgrove High School is **Vince Danzig**, son of Liz Torrez and grandson of Reg Jones!

Our college graduates are **Luke Cronin** (Bridgewater College), **Grace Kostal** (UC Berkeley), **Shelby Kostal** (Brown University), **Theodore Kostal** (University of Puget Sound), and **Chandler Siek** (George Mason University)!

Lindsey McIntosh received her Master of Education in School Librarianship from Longwood University!

We wish you all the very best in your futures. *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5*

PWOC Fundraiser and Bible Study

Presbyterian Women of Catoclin (PWOC) continues to host a fundraiser with Rada Cutlery for their charity work. Rada offers high quality knives and kitchen wares of all sorts, good for you or as gifts! If you wish to purchase an item online, here's the link: bit.ly/pwocfundraiser.

Shop our Catalog



Our monthly Bible study will resume in September. We will continue our study on sabbath keeping called "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight." We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Fellowship Hour!

We are continuing to enjoy weekly Fellowship Hour together immediately following the worship service. If you wish to sign up for a week to bring refreshments, we are keeping it simple and asking that you provide just TWO snacks—a sweet, salty, or healthy, and a beverage, plus coffee.

Elder Pam Siek, Care of Congregation chair, sends out a quarterly SignUp Genius, which you can find here: <https://bit.ly/cpcsundayfellowship>. So pick a week that works for you, and sign up if you wish to provide refreshments! Either store-bought or homemade items are appreciated! Keep it simple, as it's the fellowship that counts.



Brew & Bible

Join us for faith, froth, fun, & fellowship!

Enjoy a cold beverage and discussion of religious and spiritual questions with old and new friends

Fourth Sundays, 1:00 p.m.
Barnhouse Brewery in Lucketts

Questions? Contact Logan.McIntosh@catocin.org

**NEXT:
July 23!**

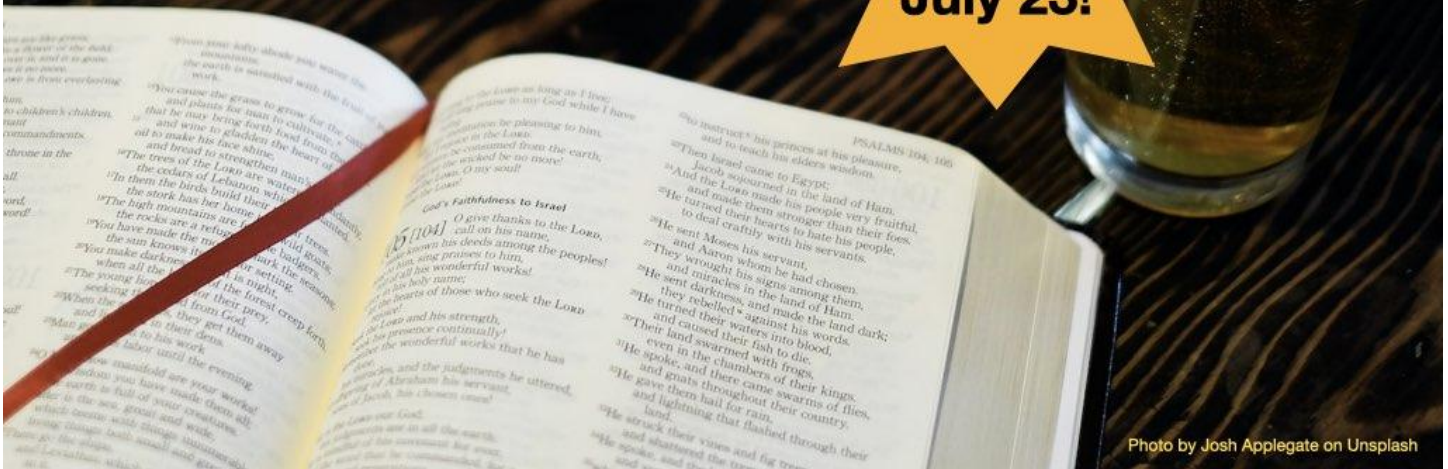


Photo by Josh Applegate on Unsplash

Brew & Bible is both a fellowship activity and an outreach opportunity as we get out into the world and talk about our faith! You can put all those things you learned in Faith Sharing 101 to work!

Book Club

All are welcome to join our CPC Book Club, an informal group which meets the first Thursday of each month from September through June. It is a great way to have good reading experiences, fellowship and fun. If you want to read ahead, we'll be meeting on **September 7th** to discuss the book, *Homecoming*, by Kate Morton.



Morton is a master wordsmith. *Homecoming* utterly transports readers into an incredible setting, layering story and characters in a tangled but mesmerizing web of intrigue and history.

- The 52 Book Club

Mission

CPC is called to feed the hungry. Feeding the hungry is close to our hearts and was singled out by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 25).

We do this year-round by supporting **Loudoun Hunger Relief, Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, Mobile Hope,** and the **Community Coalition for Haiti.** We also provide food and build food awareness through apple butter and blueberry jam sales, home-cooked meals for our congregation and community, Soup Sundays, Thanksgiving Bags, our Food Blessings Box, “blue box” food donations to Loudoun Hunger Relief, food drives at grocery stores, emergency funding for people in need, emergency gift cards for grocery store purchases, the CPC Farmer’s Market, and many other ways.



September is **Hunger Action Month.** To increase awareness of how our church helps alleviate hunger, we are hosting a Haitian Experience lunch. Everyone in the community is invited to participate. See below for more details . . .

On September 17th, the [Community Coalition for Haiti](#) (CCH) will bring a **Haitian Experience** to CPC, surrounding churches, and friends and neighbors. *Everyone* is invited, including friends and neighbors. The mission committee will host a lunch following the worship service, during which we can learn more about making an impact in Haiti. Haiti is one of the poorest countries in the world and has been racked by multiple earthquakes, hurricanes, and political turmoil. The CCH provides health care, food and nutrition training, and literacy programs to Haitian schoolchildren and their families. By bringing the Haiti Experience to CPC, we can hear about individuals who have struggled and been helped by the Coalition. This program will be a powerful, insightful, hands-on look at how we help the CCH change lives and extend the kingdom of God to the poorest of the poor. CCH is a strategic mission partner that we support financially throughout the year. Please save the date!



We are also making plans to host a program in September to prepare thousands of emergency meals for people in need around the world. We will be working with an international agency and will invite people in the community to join us in the work. It sounds like a colossal undertaking, but it should only take a couple hours on one morning! Arrangements aren’t finalized, so keep watching for more information on this exciting and important mission outreach project.



Monthly Prayer List

*Please keep the following CPC family and friends in your prayers.
If you have an update on any of these folks, let us know at prayers@catoctin.org.*

- All in our church family grieving for lost loved ones
- All our senior saints
- Peggy M
- Connie M
- Nancy G
- Robert C
- Julie W
- Virginia P
- Cathy D
- Patricia S
- Leif L
- Sue D
- Angélica H
- Jerry D
- Drew B
- Phil C
- Nick
- Harry D
- Cheri G
- Pr. Scott B
- Melissa Q
- Andrew B
- Claire C
- Sean W
- Mary H
- Alberto
- Elliott
- Jimmy
- Edward
- Beni
- Ron L
- Christine K
- Anne W
- Nicole
- Marty M
- Twins Levi & Noah
- Hans' parents
- Matthew & Lauren (married!)
- Bill W
- Larry
- Chris H
- Rex
- Teresa
- Nina
- John
- Family & friends of Derek L
- Those who mourn for Matt A
- Family and friends of Ruth L

Stay Tuned...

Our next quarterly newsletter will be published in September. Look forward to receiving weekly church emails with announcements and committee updates to keep everyone informed about the life of the church! Grace and Peace!