



THE MISSION BELL

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 2025

Volume LXV Number 9

Vote CPC as Best Church in Carmichael!

The Carmichael Chamber of Commerce's "2025 Best of Carmichael" is back and Carmichael Presbyterian is in the running to be the "Best House of Worship."



Voting opened on September 23 and will close

on October 24, so be sure to get your vote in before it's too late!

Go to <https://www.bestofcarmichael.com/> to cast your vote today!

New Holistic Health Ministry

by Mary Miller

The Fellowship and Nurture Division of CPC is reviving Health Ministry, with a new emphasis on holistic health. Holistic health is an approach to service that seeks to address the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of individuals and our community. My name is **Mary Miller**, and I'm a retired nurse who's passionate about preventive and supportive care

that we can use to improve our quality of life.

All ages can benefit from this! Holistic

care values every person as unique and marvelous, destined by our Creator for eternal life with God.



Our ministry is rooted in the belief that the Gospel of Jesus Christ encompasses all aspects of life.

Our plans include:

- Providing education in

the *Mission Bell* on how to read and understand ingredient labels, and to

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Pastor Ivan Writes: Beguiled by Beauty

“God is beguiled by beauty into the work of creation by the beauty of the world. Imagining this beauty, our divine Beloved sings it into existence. At the same time, the beauty of the Good draws humanity and all creation back to its divine source.” -Wendy Farley, *Beguiled by Beauty*

During my sabbatical time this past summer I went on a hunt to capture beauty through the lens of a camera. On a Wednesday in June, I hiked ten miles around Pinnacles National Park. In the cool of the morning, I was the first hiker to reach Bear Gulch Reservoir. The sun was still low enough in the sky that the light wasn't too harsh. A pair of American coots paddled through the otherwise still water that reflected the deep blue of the sky and the bare rock skyline. I took hundreds of photos, seeking to capture just the right angle to show the beauty of this great landscape.

As I continued the hike across the high peaks searching for California condors, I wove through the shadows of

the high pinnacles for which the park is named, and ducked into the dark and chilly Balconies Cave, snapping beautiful pictures all the while. When I exited the cave, it seemed that



A tree in Pinnacles National Park captured Pastor Ivan's attention during his sabbatical.

beauty started to retreat as poison oak stretched onto the dusty trail, and afternoon sun washed all the colors out of the landscape.

Tired and hot, I turned a corner and came face to face with the ugliest tree I've ever seen, dead bark sloughed onto the ground around it. If trees

had bodies, it was missing its shoulder and chest, as though someone had attempted bonsai with a shotgun. Twisted as it was, it clung to life and produced a small, leafy cano-

py. Grateful for its shade, I wondered about this tree's story of struggle and tenacity. I realized it was one of the most interesting things I had seen all day, and I saw its true beauty.

Too often we confuse beauty with perfection, prizing form over function and aesthetics over struggle. We look upon that which diverges from the ideal as ugly or marred. Yet the Divine Beloved sees us differently.

You are beautiful, even if still imperfect. God imagined your beauty and has sung you into existence.

Beguiled by your beauty, God continues to sing, shaping and calling you back to your divine source and faithful to complete the good work in you that has already begun.

Philippians 1:6 “I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to perfect it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

Ask the Pastor

New to CPC and curious what we're all about?

Ask the pastor!

Been here a while but have some questions?

Ask the pastor!

**Sunday, October 19
at 11:15 a.m.**

in the Parlor

Grab a coffee & a cookie and join us!

Caregiver Support Group



If you are caring for a loved one, you are invited to join CPC's Caregiver Support group, meeting the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom. The next meetings will be October 1 and October 15.

For more information or to receive the Zoom link, please contact **Kathy Lewin** at kslewin@sbcglobal.net.

... Holistic Health ...

(Continued from page 1)

highlight which ones we might want to think twice about consuming.

- Offering recipes that are not just healthy but taste good.
- Showing ways to reduce inflammation, which can help prevent the development of autoim-



Mary Miller is coordinating CPC's holistic health ministry.

mune conditions and/or

help control symptoms.

▪ Exploring topics suggested by all of you! What questions do you have? What health-related areas would you like to explore?

▪ Creating an inventory of donat-

ed items such as crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs. You can email me at [\[try@carmichaelpres.org\]\(mailto:try@carmichaelpres.org\) if you need equipment, so that we can set up a time to meet at the church.](mailto:healthminis-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

A table will be set up in the DeVries Gathering Place where anyone interested in the ministry can come after the Sunday service to ask questions. We'll also have a survey so that we can tailor our ministry to the needs of the church community.

Anyone who has additional skills to support this ministry is welcome to contact me through the church office.

Mission & Ministry Fair (M&M)

Sunday, October 5

following worship in the Sundial Courtyard

Find out more about what happens at CPC on and beyond Sundays Browse tables with representatives from each of our divisions: Administration, Education, Fellowship & Nurture, Membership & Outreach, Mission, and Worship, plus CPC's Deacons to learn about each group's purpose, vision, focus, and opportunities.

Plus, grab some M&M's to munch on while you visit!

CPC's Harvest Festival October 29!

by Julie Ueltzen

Join us for our annual Harvest Festival on Wednesday, October 29 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. with costume parade, cake walk, bounce houses, tricycle rodeo, games & prizes, trunk or treat and fun for everyone!

Admission to the CPC Harvest Festival is FREE!

A hot dog dinner, made by



our very own **Branden Rodgers**, with green salad, fruit salad and chips will also be available for \$8 for adults, \$6 for kids (age 12 and under). Advance dinner reservations help us plan and may be made by contacting the church office at

carmichaelpres@gmail.com
or 916-486-9081

Invite your friends and neighbors! You can even hand them the flyer included with this *Mission Bell*! We look forward to having a fun & fantastic evening!

Want to help? In-person volunteer signups start after worship on October 5 and continue on Sundays during coffee fellowship or sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4BA4AE29A5FE3-58614600-harvest>.

Carmichael Founder's Day Festival

by Julie Ueltzen, Membership & Outreach Division

Carmichael Presbyterian Church will have a booth at the Carmichael Founder's Harvest Festival (formerly called the Carmichael Founder's Day) on Saturday, October 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Membership and Outreach Division is looking for people who enjoy talking with others, have a love of CPC, and enjoy spending time with children.

In addition to sharing what we love about CPC, we will also offer simple craft activities for children and their families. We need volunteers for two-hour shifts, including setup (8:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.), booth staffing (9:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m.-12:45 p.m., and 12:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.), and cleanup (2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.). This event is a great chance to spend time with other CPC members and the community. And the more the merrier!

If you can't volunteer, we'd love to have you come to the festival and stop by the CPC booth to say hello!

Get more information and sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4BA4AE29A5FE3-58385165-carmichael>. Questions? Contact **Julie Ueltzen** at carmichaelpres@gmail.com or 916-486-9081.



Welcome Back, Pastor Ivan!

Upon returning from his summer sabbatical, **Pastor Ivan** found that the church staff had decorated his office to welcome him back. He was missed and we are grateful that he is ministering, preaching, and working in our midst once again!



SAVE THE DATE

CPC
Women's Retreat

September 18-20, 2026

Zephyr Point
Conference Center



Getting to Know CPC Members

by Cathy Wride

As a relatively new member to CPC, I thought it would be fun to get to know some of the members and share information about them with the congregation. (Of course, with their permission.)

Pastor Keith suggested that I interview some long-term members, so I asked **Thelma Wever** if she would be interested in being interviewed for the *Mission Bell*. She giggled and said sure! That's Thelma!

When asked how long she had been at CPC she said she thinks she and her husband, Don, started at CPC around 1983.

I asked her how she found CPC, and she said, "In the phonebook."

She and her husband, Don, knew each other while in high school in Kansas City, where their families lived. They each married other people. Thelma's first husband was a good college friend of Don's, and Thelma also knew

Don's wife, Gloria, who was in the same church as both Don and Thelma when they were in high school (Gloria was about 4 years younger). After their respective spouses passed away, Don looked up Thelma. And the rest is history!

When Don's company



Thelma Wever has been part of CPC for over 40 years—Recently dancing at the Kiwanis Swing Band concert.

moved from San Francisco to Sacramento, Don and Thelma found a place to live in Fair Oaks, and they started looking for a nearby church to attend. Since Don liked to sing in the choir, they visited churches that had a good choir and a traditional-type service. They first attended

Fair Oaks Presbyterian but were not satisfied with their contemporary service. Then they looked in the phone book and found Carmichael Presbyterian Church and since it was close to where they lived, they decided to attend.

Thelma said that both she and Don were very happy

with what they found. They began attending right away and found the people very friendly and welcoming. Don joined the choir and enjoyed the more traditional music and order of worship at CPC. Don later helped in the Food Closet when it was quite a bit smaller than it is today. Thelma helped in the office and with clean-up after Wednesday night dinners. Thelma still helps **Paul Shultz**, CPC's Financial Administrator, with some filing and paperwork that she can do from home. She is fortunate to live in a senior housing community where a van is available to transport her to church every Sunday.

To this day, she is very happy with the pastors and staff and glad for some changes to the music and worship service. She really enjoys seeing the children be part of the service as well. From time to time, when she cannot attend in person, she is grateful to be able to watch the service live from home via livestream.

When I asked her if there was anything she would like to change about CPC – she said, "Not a thing."

She asked me why I chose

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Expressive Painting

Join Artisan Mind for a painting class designed for people at all stages of cognition. Each session celebrates personal choice and creativity, nurturing confidence, joy, and a sense of purpose. Rooted in our mission to honor and uplift individuals with memory loss, these experiences reflect God's love and foster dignity, connection, and meaning.

Tuesday, October 14

1:00-3:00 p.m.

McMillen Hall

RSVP: 916-486-9081



... Getting to Know ...

(Continued from page 6)

to interview her. I told her that Pastor Keith suggested that I interview one a longtime member and she was one that I thought of. She giggled and said, "Well, I guess I consider that an honor."

Well, it was an honor for me too, so thank you, Thelma, for agreeing to let me interview you. I appreciate your perspective and your sense of humor and look forward to seeing your smiling face every Sunday!

Mission Meets Ministries

by Allison Cagley, Administration Division

Do you know our mission statement?

Responding to God's love through Jesus Christ, we:

- Welcome all
- Nurture relationships
- Grow in faith together
- Connect with and serve our community and the world

At the beginning of every Session meeting, the mission statement is read to reaffirm why we are here and what we are called to do in response to God's love. The mission statement is also in our Sunday *Parish Notes* as a reminder and for visitors and guests who want to know more about our church.

On October 5, our Mission & Ministry Fair (formerly Sundae Sunday) invites you after the worship service to learn more about the ministries of the church. Session members and Deacons will be in the courtyard to share and invite you to get involved and help fulfill our mission statement. This event is also our "launch" to the annual stewardship campaign. Each fall, we pray and plan for the next year's budget and how we work together to continue to

welcome, nurture, grow in faith and connect with and serve our community and the world.

Over the next two months, you'll learn more and be invited to pray and consider

what 2026 will look like for our church and how your participation with time, talent and treasures will demonstrate God's love.



Combined Choir Exchange

by Keith Atwater

Two choirs are teaming up for a special worship music experience in October — twice! **Rick Schlosser**, our former organist, pianist, and accompanist, is currently music director, choir conductor, organist, and pianist at Saint Mark's Methodist Church. He'll be bringing his choir to CPC to join our Sanctuary Choir on Sunday October 12. Our two choirs (which will fill our choir loft!) will join their voices in songs of peace and justice as part of our worship experience. Then, one week later, on Sunday October 19, our two choirs will fill Saint Mark's Methodist Church with music — those same passionate songs celebrating God's dream of peace and justice. It's a blessing to have our talented friend Rick Schlosser (whom we miss) back with us in this joint ministry of inspiring music. We hope our neighborhood Methodists at Saint Mark's (and maybe other churches?) will join together as

we launch this musical tradition. We're already looking at a multi-church Messiah Sing in 2026!



The choir from St. Mark's Methodist Church (top) and CPC's Sanctuary Choir (right) will join voices on two Sundays in October.



CPC and Montreat Youth Conferences

by John Wallace

History: The Montreat Conference Center (also known as the Mountain Retreat Association) located in Montreat, North Carolina is a conference center serving the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The word “Montreat” is a portmanteau of the words “mountain” and “retreat.”

- 1897 – A group of ecumenical church leaders, led by United Church of Christ minister John Collins, formed the Mountain Retreat Association (MRA). Its purpose was to establish an interdenominational resort and retreat center.
- 1905 - J.R. Howerton and the Synod of North Carolina purchased 4,000 acres of the valley to be owned by the Mountain Retreat Association.
- 1907 - MRA holds the first Presbyterian conference.
- 1983 - The Mountain Retreat Association becomes Montreat Conference Center when the United Presbyterian Church in the USA reunites with the Presbyterian Church (US) to become the Presbyterian Church, USA.

Montreat Conference Cen-

ter is one of three national conference centers affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA), annually visited by



CPC has a long association with Montreat Conference Center. John Wallace has served as a summer conference small group leader for 28 years.



over 35,000 people seeking physical and spiritual renewal in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina. For over 100 years, it has been a place set apart for those who journey there seeking a closer relationship with their Creator. During the year, Montreat offers numerous educational opportunities that appeal to different ages and interests: 6 youth conferences, 40 conferences and programs for pastors and committed lay people, 10 weeks of Road Scholar programs, and weekly summer Sunday worship services. In line with its mission statement, the Center promises that those who visit there

“encounter God through relationships, renewal, recreation, and rest.”

A Youth Conference

Schedule: Every day of a 6-day, manual-driven high school youth conference includes a keynote address to begin the day, one or two small group gatherings to discuss the day’s theme, recreation, and worship to close the day. This format began in 1974 and was adopted by those who organized the first PC (USA) Triennium event at Indiana University in 1980.

CPC’s Association: Carmichael Presbyterian Church’s association with the Montreat youth conferences has been through **John Wallace** (a small group leader for 28 years) who was introduced to Montreat by CPC’s Rev. **Gary Califf** in 1996, and **Ken DeYoung** (a small group leader for 22 years) who was introduced to Montreat by John Wallace in 1997.

The Mission Division would like CPC to consider supporting high school youth to attend Montreat youth conferences. Contact John Wallace for further information.

Mission Division Update

Family Promise & Alternative Gift Market

by Bob Curtis, Mission Division

Family Promise and Safe Harbor Step up to Provide More Transitional Housing

Carmichael Presbyterian Church (CPC) supports Family Promise, a nonprofit organization committed to helping low-income homeless families achieve lasting independence, and Safe Harbor, another non-profit, that is part of the Family Promise mix. Both provide transitional housing for people on their way to independence and stable housing.

In January 2025, Family Promise expanded this effort by leasing a Victorian house from Loaves and Fishes that provides a transitional home for two families. In June 2025, Safe Harbor expanded their efforts by adding another transitional “tiny home” to the three they already run. This house was built by the construction program at Cosumnes River College and funded by Wedbush Securities.

CPC is among several interdenominational congrega-

tions that support and serve Family Promise and Safe Harbor. We provide \$1,600 in grant funding annually, and four times a year serve Safe Harbor in North Sacramento by providing gardening, yard



Robin and James Moore, who run Safe Harbor and Marsha Spell, Executive Director of Family Promise celebrate the addition of a new tiny home at Safe Harbor.

and kitchen clean up, gift cards, groceries, gift baskets, and household essentials. Our next time to serve will be

December 29, 2025 to January 3, 2026. Interested in helping out? Please contact **Bob Curtis** (information on page 11). In addition, CPC hosted the Family Promise 20th anniversary dinner celebration last April.

CPC's annual grant to Family Promise assists with various support services to several families beyond those families provided transitional housing. These include rental assistance and housing in local hotels. All families assist-

ed by Family Promise, including those in Safe Harbor, are employed, prescreened, and provided with professional case managers offering individualized case management and mentoring to fit the unique needs of every family served so that they are successful in the future.



Alternative Gift Market

Are you tired of sending the same old gifts to your loved ones every year? Do you long to make a difference in the world as you show your love to them? Well, you are in luck! This year's Alternative Gift Market is coming soon!

When: Sunday, November 2
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Where: McMillen Hall

Why: A chance to support local, national and international charities as you do your holiday shopping!

This unique event is an op-

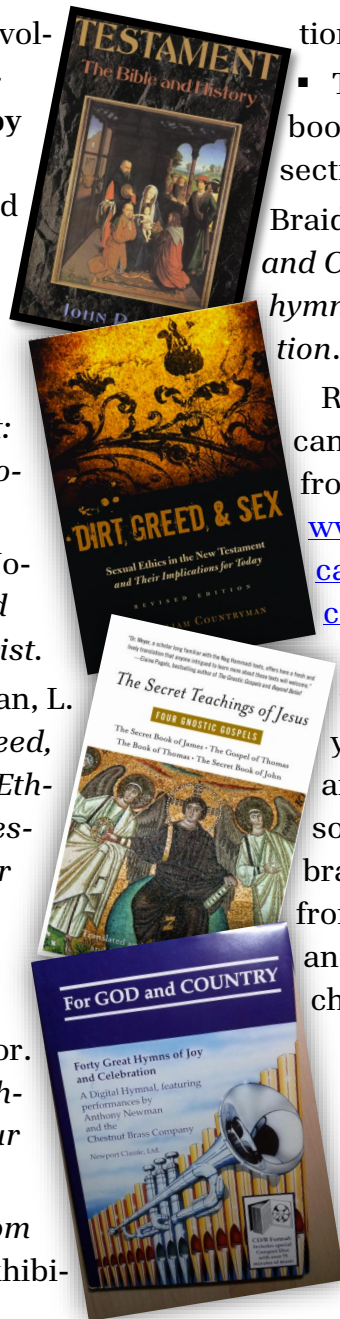
(Continued on page 11)

Library Corner Recent Acquisitions

by Doris Beckert

Five substantial volumes have been donated by **Dave Beeby** and added to your church library (listed in shelf order, all in the 200's Religion section).

- 220.9 Romer, John. *Testament: The Bible & History*.
- 232.9 Rhymer, Joseph. *Illustrated Life of Jesus Christ*.
- 261.8 Countryman, L. William. *Dirt Greed, and Sex: Sexual Ethics in the New Testament and Their Implications for Today*.
- 273 Meyer, Marvin, translator. *The Secret Teachings of Jesus; four gnostic gospels*.
- 246.1 *Scrolls from the Dead Sea*; exhibi-



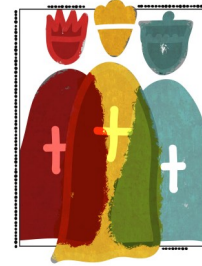
tion catalog of 1994.

- There is an additional book in the 783 (Music) section:

Braider, Jackson. *For God and Country: 40 great hymns of joy and celebration*. CD enclosed.

Remember: Now you can access the library from home at <https://www.librarything.com/catalog/carmichaelpres>. Once you find a book you're interested in, you can check it out and pick it up in person. The church library is open Sundays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and by request during church office hours.

All Saints' Day



Our All Saints' Day observance on Sunday, October 26 is a time to remember those in our

congregation who have died and entered the Church Triumphant during the past year.

We will also remember loved ones who were not members of CPC by listing their names during the time of remembrance. If you wish to have loved ones who were not CPC members included in this remembrance, please submit names to the church office at carmichaelpres@gmail.com or 916-486-9081 by Monday, October 20.

MISSION BELL DEADLINE

10th of each month
for the following
month's issue



Submit articles to
Karen Gray at
karen@carmichaelpres.org
or mail/drop off a hard copy
in the church office.

... Mission Division ...

(Continued from page 10)

portunity to support non-profits by providing space so they can display their products for purchase and their literature. It takes many minds and hands to execute this event, so if you are interested in helping out, contact Bob Curtis (information below).

Bob Curtis rkcurtis6@comcast.net

Presbyterian Women PW is Back in the Saddle Again!

by Lisa Benadom

WE'RE BACK!!! Presbyterian Women (PW) launched our 2025/2026 season at our fall kick-off event. It was a joy to gather in person for a time of study, laughter, reconnecting, smiles and hugs. The highlight

of the event was the presentation of the Life Membership Award, a PW tradition that began in 1912! It was our privilege to present this year's award to **Marti Wallace**.

Marti has a long history of faithful service to the Presbyterian

Church. She has served in a myriad of ways sharing her talents and demonstrating her devotion to Christ's call. Marti was presented with the Life Membership pin. We hope she wears it proudly.

We thank **Pastor Keith** for introducing us to the 2025-2026 PW Bible Study: *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by Rhashell D. Hunter. In lesson 1 we examined how our faith is strengthened by learning more about Mary Magdalene, a towering witness to the resurrection. The lesson gave us

much to ponder, and Pastor Keith led us in a lively discussion. In October we will study lesson 2 - *Mary "of a Certain Village."* The scripture focus is Luke 10:38-42. Mary's story teaches us that spending time



Lesson Two in the 2025-2026 PW Study, *Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* looks at Mary "of a Certain Village."

listening to and learning from Jesus is the better part. This lesson looks at Mary not as a passive woman

but as a disciple of Jesus, who experienced challenges and who modeled resilience for us as she forged her identity as a follower of Christ.

There are several ways you can participate in the PW Bible Study. Starting in October, a pastor-led Zoom meeting will take place on the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to participate. Just contact **Karen Gray** in the church office to be put on the Zoom list. On the third Thursday of the month Mary Martha Circle meets at 1:00 p.m. in the

DeVries Gathering Place. Meetings provide time for fellowship, mission and Bible Study. If you are interested in attending, contact **Lisa Benadom** lbenadom@comcast.net OR **Kathy Daigle** kathy777@gmail.com. It would be a joy to have you join us. Come check us out!

Hope is on the horizon for a new PW Circle that will meet in the evening or perhaps after Sunday Service. **Rae-Nani Stokes** raenani@hotmail.com) would love to hear from you to discuss this opportunity. To purchase a study guide, contact **Terry Sakuda** at terry.sakuda@yahoo.com. The cost is \$16.00.

Dorcas Circle, our World Service Sewing Circle, remains active. Contact **Carolyn MacGregor** sabrina53@earthlink.net) to find out how you can put your nimble fingers and artistic talents to good use. Yes, there have been some changes to PW. We may be riding a different pony, but we're back in the saddle again!

New Art Show

A Bit of Diversity

Terry Sweeney was a budding artist all his life, drawing as a child, then eventually learning oil painting techniques later in life. His formal training came after dental school, marriage, a stint in the army, and three children. Finally, his Dental Practice was established and he and his family lived in Palmyra, N.Y. (a small upstate canal town). That's when Terry had the time to take art courses at Finger Lakes Community College and the Rochester Memorial Art Gallery. Since then, Terry has also dabbled in acrylics, oil pastels and encaustics.

In California now for over 18 years, he is still painting in a home studio created by his wife, **Judy**, who enthusiastically encourages his art endeavors.

Terry says, "I am proud to serve on the CPC Art Committee and love helping to bring art to the members and their friends on a regular basis."

Terry painted in the *plein air* events at the CPC campus in 2021 and 2023. These and other *plein air* paintings of his are displayed in this show.

The show title, "A Bit of Diversity" is apt in that there is a wide variety of sizes, topics, and media in the works. His show includes large and small canvases, oils, acrylics, pastels, mixed media, *plein air* and encaustic (wax). There is even a photo collage!



Terry says his one goal is to create a work that is interesting to look at. We all admire his talents in this art show, which runs through November 4.



Terry Sweeney participates in a *plein air* painting event at CPC. This painting and many of Terry's other diverse creations are on display in the DeVries Gathering Place through November 4.

Wednesday Dinner

Everyone is invited to enjoy a meal and conversation together on Wednesday evenings in McMillen Hall starting at 6:00p.m. Enjoy a delicious dinner for \$7 per person with a \$25 max per family and/or pizza for \$1 per slice. Youth Group for grades 6-12 meets from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and the Sanctuary Choir rehearses starting at 7:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help with set up, clean up, making pizzas, and preparing meals. Cooks can choose the menu and are reimbursed for food expenses. Interested? Contact **Pastor Ivan** at 916-486-9081 or ivan@carmichaelpres.org and he'll be glad to help you get plugged in.



What's Up in Children's & Youth Ministry?

by Michael Lombrano, Children's & Youth Ministry Director

Harvest Festival:

Check out the flyer in this *Mission Bell*. **If you would like to volunteer at a station or participate in Trunk-or-Treat, please let Michael know!**



meet at 6:30pm (except for the Harvest Festival on October 29).

Triennium:

This past summer, youth from Carmichael Presbyterian Church, along with two other churches from our Presbytery, attended Presbyterian Youth Triennium 2025 in Louisville. The week was filled with worship, games, food, dancing, pin trading,



classes, and group sessions.

Our group had the unique opportunity to connect deeply with other Northern California Presbyteries, building new relationships, renewing old ones, and sharing how God is moving in our lives and communities. We greatly appreciated your prayers and support during our journey!

Questions on anything youth or children-related? Contact **Michael Lombrano** at 916-486-9081 or michael@carmichaelpres.org

Children:

Godly Play (2nd grade and younger) and Upper Elementary (3rd -5th grade) Sunday School classes are back in their classrooms! We are incredibly thankful for your partnership as we continue to develop programs for the students of our community! For those who are curious, we are in year "C" for our lectionary curriculum.

Youth:

Youth Bible Study is meeting in Room 204 after service on Sundays, and we are focusing on different lessons and books from the Old Testament! Our Wednesday night Youth Group will continue to

Send in Your Photos!



They say a picture is worth a thousand words. By sharing your photos of ways you are participating in the life and ministry of CPC, you help us all understand more about what's happening in this community of faith and feel more connected.

When you submit a photo, please also include a few details about the photo—who, what, where, when, why as well as the photographer's name. Email digital photos to **Karen Gray** at karen@carmichaelpres.org or submit a print to the church office. All photos will be handled carefully and returned promptly.

Help Us Keep in Touch!



If you've moved or changed your phone number or email (or even changed your preferred contact information), be sure to let the church office know! Help us keep you up to date and connected. Contact **Julie Ueltzen**, Church Secretary at carmichaelpres@gmail.com or 916-486-9081 or send a note to CPC, 5645 Marconi Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608-4498.

Membership Class

Want to find out what it means to be Presbyterian,
how CPC operates, and how you can connect to the life
and ministry of CPC in a way that is meaningful to you?

Join Pastor Keith for new member classes on

Sunday, November 16

1:00-3:00 p.m.

and

Saturday, November 22

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

(includes Welcome Lunch!)

Childcare will be provided upon request.

Questions? Want to sign up? Contact Julie Ueltzen at

916-486-9081 or carmichaelpres@gmail.com

Session Spotlight

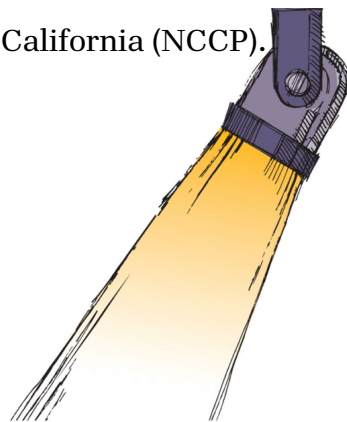
by Mary MacDonald, Clerk of Session

At their August 26 meeting, your Session:

- Approved a revised policy for dedicated account 478: Operating Reserve, to allow use for budget deficit.
- Approved 2025-2026 lease agreement with Presbytery of North Central California (NCCP).
- Received the June and July 2025 financial reports.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>
Income, month	\$53,182.80	\$74,410.20
Income, YTD	\$421,670.09	\$500,866.07
Expense, month	\$75,119.50	\$74,340.93
Expense, YTD	\$452,817.44	\$527,315.87
<u>21st Century Fund</u>		
Income, month	\$104,911.92	\$62,973.76
Income, YTD	\$178,039.97	\$241,013.73
Expense, month	\$1,618.25	\$17,074.14
Expense, YTD	\$179,696.50	\$196,770.64

- Approved vacation for September 19-28 and study leave for October 6-8 (to attend the Pastors' retreat at Zephyr Point) for **Pastor Keith DeVries**.



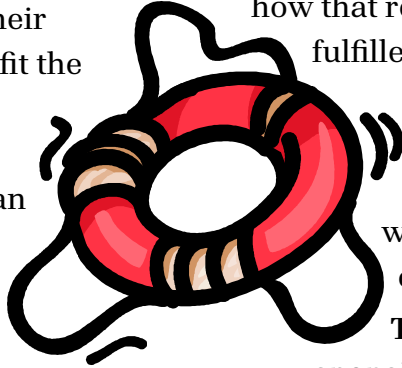
Scuttlebutt

News from CPC's Marinerships

Companionship

Companionship met on September 6 in the DeVries Gathering Place with guests **Debbie and Brian Nordeen** joining us. They gave us a brief outline of their background and fit the Companionship description of offering "Christian fellowship by participating in social gatherings and willingly shouldering the responsibility of various service projects in our church and community!" We hope they will join our marinership!

Skipper **Sharlene St. Clair** called the meeting to order. Chaplain **Nancy Studer** gave the devotional and prayer. Sharlene acknowledged our concern and prayers for the health of **Wayne and Linda Williams** in Bandon, Oregon. We hope the Prayer Shawl ministry will be able to send a shawl to them. We sent our collective well-wishes to **Joan Hurlock, Nina Henley, and Chris and Dave Beeby** who were under the weather, and to **Tim and Barbara Farley** and **Burt and Bonnie Logan** who were traveling.



Sharlene announced that Companionship is responsible for providing six dozen cookies for coffee fellowship after worship on Sunday, February 8, 2026. We'll decide how that responsibility will be fulfilled during the January 2026 meeting.

Purser **Elayne Anderson** reported we have \$1,126 in our bank account.

Terry Barto is responsible in September for delivering soup to **Lisa and David Benadom** (our Planting Seeds of Faith auction donation item). In October, it's the Millerings turn and in November, Sharlene St. Clair is the soup-provider. Our October meeting will be an auction of "white elephant" harvest/ Halloween items, wrapped, to benefit Friends for Survival. It was proposed, seconded and approved to supplement the auction proceeds with \$300 from our treasury.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, we enjoyed refreshments provided by our hosts, Terry Barto and **Priscilla Mauerman**, set out on a table decorated by a colorful cover and a train engine

and coal car provided by "train guy" **Randy Anderson**. We had three tables for this month's activity: playing Mexican Train! There were several Mexican Train neophytes including Debbie and Brian Nordeen, who were ably coached by Randy Anderson and **Dave Studer**. Rules were bent, broken and made up, and we alternated taking turns clock-wise and counter-clock-wise. **Sally Willey** would not have approved. We had a good time!

Mothership

Mothership wrapped up summer with a final splash at a pool party graciously hosted by **Hal and Sharleen Millerling**. Shipmates relaxed in the water, shared laughter poolside, and enjoyed a mouthwatering meal of smoked ribs, hot dogs, creamy potato salad, and fresh fruit all prepared by the Millerings. For many of our kids, it was their very first taste of ribs—and judging by the empty plates (and sticky fingers), they were a big hit! The evening ended on a sweet note with ice cream cones

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that had everyone lining up for seconds. Thank you Hal and Sharleen!



A family pool party and an adults only afternoon of wine tasting kept Mothership members busy in August.

This month's adult-only outing took us to Amador County, where we spent a leisurely day wine tasting at Serra Fina Cellars in Plymouth. The tasting flight featured six wines plus three bonus pours, giving us plenty to savor. Although the winery offers bocce ball and lawn games, we were content to linger over our picnic lunch, soak in the vineyard views, and keep half an eye out for rattlesnakes.

August also marked the close of our Wednesday summer dinners. We ended the season with a fresh and flavorful salad spread, served to

CPC with our usual blend of good food and good fellowship. After serving and cleaning up, we gathered to plan

the year ahead and assign ship roles for all members.

For more information

about Mothership, please reach out to our newly named Skipper, **Rae-Nani Stokes**, at raenani@hotmail.com.

Nautilus

The Nautilus crew met on Saturday, September 6 in the parlor. Since **Anita Lawson** was ill, her planned program was deferred to a later date. Much discussion ensued on a number of topics: **Kathy Davalos** brought us up to date on **Peter Davalos's** upcoming back surgery, **Charlotte Frink** has been checking on details for our Christmas party, and we chatted about inviting former Clippership members to join Nautilus. Then, the crew informed new members **Terry and Judy Sweeney** how the meetings were run.



*Nautilus ship members learned more about **Terry Sweeney's** art that is currently on display in the DeVries Gathering Place.*

We proceeded to the DeVries Gathering Place to view the new art show

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consisting of Terry's paintings. Terry explained how and where some of the paintings were created.

Skipjacks

For our September meeting we had a "Saturday afternoon at the movies." What a throwback to an earlier time in our lives when we'd munch on popcorn and M&M's, and watch the latest Hollywood release! "Bridge of Spies" was not a recent movie, (2015), but was the DVD that got the highest vote among 20 others. So we darkened the Parlor and watched it on the monitor, munching on popcorn and M & Ms.

The movie was a riveting true story featuring Tom Hanks and Alan Alda. However, the Academy Award was given to the supporting actor Mark Rylance who portrayed the spy. The plot revolved around the famous Gary Powers/Rudolf Abel prisoner exchange and all the courtroom

scenes and negotiations that preceded it. We were reminded of the 1957 Cold War tensions in East/West Berlin, the building of the wall, the crash of the U-2 spy plane piloted by Powers, and his capture and imprisonment by the Soviets. At the end, as the camera focused on attorney Tom Do-

novan (played by Tom

Hanks), we applauded this hero. De-

spite pressure from judges and superiors, he had defended his spy client in court and won.

Then when recruited by the CIA to negotiate the exchange of prisoners, he flew to Berlin in 1962 to orchestrate the suc-

cessful release of the two prisoners on a German bridge: the bridge of spies.

In October, we will meet in the De Vries Gathering Place to enjoy **Bep van der Mik's** Dutch Pea Soup.



Skipjacks enjoyed a movie night complete with popcorn and M&M's in September.



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"Friends of Carmichael
Presbyterian Church"



Instagram

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And be sure to
check out our
website

www.carmichaelpres.org

Our CPC Staff

The Rev. Keith L. DeVries

The Rev. Ivan N. Herman

Keith Atwater, Music Director

Michael Lombrano,
Children's & Youth Ministry
Director

Paul & Mary Camozzi,
Childcare Providers

Karen Gray,
Executive Assistant

Julie Ueltzen,
Church Secretary

Paul Shultz,
Financial Administrator

Ron Morris,
Maintenance Manager

Christian Bolen, Custodian

John Busath,
Food Closet Warehouse
Manager

Heidi Van Regenmorter,
Organist

Gabe Bisho, Pianist

Will Condrey, Drummer

Merlyn Van Regenmorter,
Bassist

Noor Bitar, Michael Gray,
Bruce MacLean,

Steve Parker, Kiyo Romais,
and **Avonlee Janik**,
Audio/Video Technicians

Our Mission

Responding to God's love through
Jesus Christ, we:

- Welcome all
- Nurture relationships
- Grow in faith together
- Connect with and serve our community and the world



Contact Us



by phone:

916-486-9081

Extensions:

Keith DeVries	203	Julie Ueltzen	200
Ivan Herman	202	Michael Lombrano	207
Paul Shultz	205	Ron Morris	206
Karen Gray	201	Keith Atwater	208

via e-mail:

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The church office is open Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.





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Sundays @ CPC

In-Person & Live Stream Worship

10:00 a.m.

A blend of traditional and contemporary music styles bring new life to the Word. Worship in the Sanctuary or join online. Go to youtube.com/@carmichaelpres or search for “carmichaelpres” on the YouTube app or your Smart TV.



Children's Sunday School

10:15 a.m.

All children are welcome and encouraged to attend worship. Following the Time for Young People, kids age 4-5th grade are dismissed to their classes.

Preschool through 2nd grade students experience Bible stories through Godly Play. Kids in 3rd-5th grade learn together using lectionary-based Whirl curriculum.

Nursery care for infants through age 3 is available throughout the morning.



Coffee Fellowship

Waterfall Singers & Youth Bible Study

11:00 a.m.

Visit and enjoy a cup of coffee and a cookie while you browse the art exhibit in the DeVries Gathering Place or chat with friends old and new following worship.

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade can join CPC's children's choir, Waterfall Singers.

Youth in 6th through 12th grade are encouraged to come to Room 204 for Bible study.





Free!

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Harvest Festival

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 29
5:00-7:30PM

TRUNK OR TREAT!
BOUNCE HOUSES!
COSTUME PARADE!
CAKE WALK!
TRICYCLE RODEO!
GAMES AND PRIZES!

HOT DOG Dinner

\$8 adults \$6 kids (age 12 and under)

(hot dogs, green salad, fruit salad, and chips)

Advance reservations requested:

carmichaelpres@gmail.com or 916-486-9081

Carmichael Presbyterian Church ■ 5645 Marconi Ave., Carmichael ■ (916) 486-9081 ■ www.carmichaelpres.org