

#### 6565 E. BROADWAY • TUCSON, ARIZONA 85710 December 2023



# **Sunday Worship**

Sunday Worship

8:30 a.m. in/from the Fellowship Hall 10:45 a.m. in/from the Sanctuary

Join us for worship every chance you get in December. The Advent/Christmas music is always extra special in person. If you can't be in-person, then join us on-line: <u>www.cpctucsonaz.org</u> (scroll to bottom of the homepage) <u>www.Facebook.com/ChristPresbyterianTucson</u> <u>www.YouTube.com/cpctucsonaz</u>

Children are always welcome in worship. Blue activity bags are available. For those who choose, we do have professional childcare available during worship. (Sunday Funday School is between worship services)

December 3: Communion and The First Sunday of Advent 8:30/10:45 a.m. Scripture: Luke 2:1-7 Sermon: The Dash Liturgist: Robin Gilbert and the Sunday Funday School Kids

December 10: The Second Sunday of Advent 8:30/10:45 a.m. Scripture: Luke 2:1-7 Sermon: The Value of Pretending Liturgist: Juanita Garcia

December 17: The Third Sunday of Advent 10:00 a.m. One service Scripture: Luke 2:1-7 Choir Cantata: The Thrill of Hope

December 24: Journey to Bethlehem 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Activities, Music, Food/Fun, Petting Zoo 10:45 a.m. Pageant Worship Experience in the Sanctuary 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship Service in the Sanctuary

December 31: The Last Day of the Year 8:30/10:45 a.m. Scripture: Romans 8:1-4 Sermon: Judas vs. Peter

# Vocal Choir and Full Instrumentation

HE THRILL O

A New Service of Lessons and Carols

By Joseph M. Martin and Heather Sorenson

A Celebration of the Christmas Message in Music

\_\_\_\_

One Service Sunday, December 17th 10:00 a.m.

www.cpctucsonaz.org

Christ Presbyterian Church 6565 E. Broadway Tucson, AZ 85710 www.cpctucsonaz.org



#### Christmas Joy Offering

Each year the Presbyterian Denomination receives a special offering called the Christmas Joy Offering. Half of what is donated goes to help support scholarships for students in Presbyterian-related colleges as well as colleges that are focused on persons of color. The other half of what is donated goes to assist current and retired Presbyterian Church workers and families who are in critical financial need.

If you would like to give a special donation, you may do so online through our giving portal, or send a check to the church office (made to CPC... just let us know that you want it to go to the Joy Offering).

# **Diapers instead of Poinsettias**

This year to honor our loved ones at Christmas, we invite you to donate diapers (for any size or age). Rather than placing poinsettias in the

worship spaces to honor our loved ones (passed and present), we invite you to donate diapers that will be given to the Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona.

Diapers? Sure... Mary would have needed those most of all! We believe this mission



event will be a great way to honor our loved ones and decorate our worship spaces for Christmas.

If you cannot shop for diapers, you may donate an extra \$15 (or any amount greater) and the mission team will collate all the donations and buy diapers on your behalf.

Please be sure to return the form by Sunday, December 17, so that we can get the names of your loved ones printed in the

# **Dedicated Diapers**

In memory of (deceased)

In honor of (living)

Given by

Amt. paid \$\_\_\_\_ check \_\_\_\_ cash \_\_\_\_

5

#### Year End Giving

What a year it has been. Our Stewardship Theme, "Where in the World is CPC?" is coming to closure, and we have been in so many places throughout the world. Thank you for making that happen. Your generosity has helped us fulfill our calling for this year and is setting us into a new campaign for 2024.

The year's end is a great time to make an extra gift. Maybe there's people in your life that are really hard to shop for because they already have what they need. Then a gift to CPC to honor them is a great idea. You can give to the general fund or to a specific ministry of your choice. We can help you with that.

This year, all giving needs to be in by Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, so that we can make a deposit in this year's calendar and it can count for your 2023 giving statement when it's time to put together your taxes.

What a joy it is to be a part of such a generous church family.

Your Stewardship and Finance Team



The program will be livestreamed on CPC Facebook and Youtube.

# ADVENT EVENT

CPC Women's

#### Saturday, December 3, 2022

Event is open 9:00 - 11:30 am. 10:00 am Program in the Sanctuary.

Shop the Craft, Cookie, & Candy Sale on the Patio and enjoy a light Brunch Buffet in Fellowship Hall before and/or after the program.

Sing, laugh, reflect, breathe, connect as we prepare for Christmas!

Tickets \$10 ~ available on the patio Sundays, November 13, 20, 27.

Tickets will also be available at bit.ly/CPCAdventEvent after Nov 6. Call Pam at 520.271.6678 if questions.

Craft, Cookie & Candy Sale will continue before/after Worship on Sunday, Dec 4. Call Lianne at 520.237.6304 if wish to pre-order cookies.



**Diapers! Diapers! Diapers!** What all new babies need. In the spirit of the baby Jesus, instead of Christmas Poinsettias, CPC will ask for you to donate diapers in the name of people you love or in memory of. What more could a new mother need than an abundance of diapers?

**Haven Totes** will be doing its annual Christmas event. CPC will donate books to over 200 children and gift cards to high school students of families involved with Haven Totes. In addition to the books the families will receive a meal and the kids will get sweatshirts and socks. They received their quota for laundry donations! Thank you all!

The **Casa Maria Soup Kitchen** lunch-making in November was another success! Thank you all!! Tuesday, December 26th at 8:00 a.m. is the next date to drop off or help work on sandwiches. We need a total of 400 individual sandwiches a month! *Individually* wrapped sandwiches will be needed and appreciated. If you don't have time to make them, bread, cheese slices, and deli meat is also a great donation. We have volunteers that can put them together.

**Eagle Wings**, an organization that helps empower women by restoring dignity, economic independence, and hope, has moved to a new location at 2925 N. Country Club. *If you can help in any way, please contact Nancy Schneider*, 520-954-5404 or <u>nancyss@cox.net</u>.

**Market on the Move** is gearing up for a new 2024 season. We are looking for volunteers to help hand out pallets of food. This is a labor-intensive job, so we need your muscles. So, all you muscled-up early risers look for a signup sheet outside of the church services! If you are up for the challenge, contact Cheryll Dunafon at <u>cdunafon@gmail.com</u>.

**Sister Jose**, a shelter for homeless women is in desperate need of towels and washcloths. If you have any that you would be able to donate or would like to donate for their purchase, please drop off at the front office or contact <u>schlichtervera@gmail.com</u>.

**I Am You 360** is moving along beautifully. The trusses are up and the home that CPC donated is starting to take shape.

**Montlure Camp–** Great news! The Council and the U.S. Forest Service have reached a commitment by the USFS to reissue its

special permit in order to return to Greer for summer camp in 2024. Watch for camp dates.

#### Where in the World is CPC?

Well, a group of 9 traveled to Costa Rica for the church. Pastor Steve blessed the church tent that was donated by CPC from the proceeds of last year's Flea Market. They carried a beautiful cross that was made and presented it o the "abuela" of the small BriBri church. They visited several other small churches that were started in the area. It is amazing to see the effort they put forth with



such a small amount of funds and material resources to create a place where they can praise God.



This sloth lived outside our hotel.

#### Adult Faith Studies on Sunday Mornings



We've enjoyed some wonderful conversations in Adult Education this year. The Bible Study group continues to dig into Genesis and Journeys in Faith has tackled some provocative and meaningful topics for Christians.

Is there a topic you'd like to see covered? Let me know! Because it's "that time of year" we have a reduced schedule for Journeys in Faith in December. On December 3<sup>rd</sup> we'll discuss how to Unplug from the Christmas Chaos. On December 10<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Sara VerBurg will lead Journeys in Faith.

And on December 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> we'll take a break from exploring how to be Christian in a secular world as we enjoy the Christmas Cantata and the Christmas pageant.

Stay tuned for what's coming up in Winter 2024. May your Christmas be joyful and bright.

Lesley Abrams



We are blessed with a great youth group at CPC. Generally, 2-4 Youth Fellowship meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday evenings (5-6:30 p.m.) Youth in grades 6-12 are always welcome.

Sunday, December 10, 5-6:30 p.m.: "The Great Gingerbread Nativity Challenge." We will be making two nativity scenes to display in our two worship spaces.

Sunday, December 24: No meeting. Come to Worship. It's Christmas.

# Word From Our Pastor...

Immanuel .... God is with us

In this season of Advent and Christmas, we celebrate that God came to us in Jesus, incarnated as a human yet fully divine. It's really an amazing thing to believe... that God, who made all creation and spoke to and through so many generations of people is now with us. He came to guide us to a fully faithful life, to guide us into the fullness of God.

And while we don't have Jesus walking and talking among us, we do have the gift of the Holy Spirit who remains with and within us whispering into our minds, hearts, and lives.

This is a great time of year to celebrate, especially in worship. We invite you to join us as often as you can. The music is extra special. It's best heard in person, but if you cannot be with us in worship in person, then be sure to join us online.

Immanuel ... God is with Us.

Peace in our journeys, Pastor Steve Melde

The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 12, 1 p.m. in the Patio Room.

We have decided to read **Enough** by Cassidy Hutchinson for our December meeting. Laurel Reilly will facilitate.

Cassidy Hutchinson's desk was mere steps from the most controversial president in recent American history. Now, she provides a riveting account of her extraordinary experiences as an idealistic young woman thrust into the middle of a national crisis, where she risked everything to tell the truth about some of the most powerful people in Washington.

Ever since a childhood visit to Washington, DC, Cassidy Hutchinson aspired to serve her country in government. Raised in a working-class family with a military background, she was the first in her immediate family to graduate from college. Despite having no ties to Washington, Hutchinson landed a vital position at the center of the Trump White House.

Her life took a dramatic turn on January 6th, 2021, when, at twenty-four, she found herself in one of the most extraordinary and unprecedented calamities in modern political history.

Hutchinson was faced with a choice between loyalty to the Trump administration or loyalty to the country by revealing what she saw and heard in the attempt to overthrow a democratic election. She bravely came forward to become the pivotal witness in the House January 6 investigations, as her testimony transfixed and stunned the nation. In her memoir, Hutchinson reveals the struggle between the pressures she confronted to toe the party line and the demands of the oath she swore to defend American democracy

**#I NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** 

#### This is a portrait of how the courage of one person can change the course of history.

# FELLOWSHIP

#### Prayer Shawl Ministry December 5, I p.m. in E/F



The Prayer Shawl Ministry knits and crochets prayer shawls for those who are experiencing a life-changing event such as illness, marriage, or the birth or adoption of a child.

If you knit or crochet and would like to join the Prayer Shawl Ministry, new crafters are always welcome. Meeting attendance is not mandatory, but encouraged.

#### Men of Faith Breakfast December 20, 7:30a.m.

All the men of the church are invited to gather for breakfast at Biscuits Café at 7026 E. Broadway Blvd. We meet monthly on the third Wednesday. We pay our own way and have a lively faith discussion.



MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES DECEMBER 6 & 20 IN ROOM A/B 1:00 p.m.

Have fun playing this challenging game of dominoes. Leaders will teach you! First, third, and sometimes fifth Wednesday of the month.

#### **Presbyterian Women of CPC**

#### **Crafts News**

The main activity in the month of December for the PW Crafty Ladies is our annual Christmas Craft, Cookie, and Candy sale, which takes place the first weekend of the month. Proceeds from this fundraiser are used to benefit various local and some national. ministries; mainly those who focus on women and children in need. On Saturday, December 2, we partner with the Women's Advent Event, where our handcrafted and home-baked goodies can be purchased in the hour before and after the Advent program (9 a.m. -10 a.m. & 11 a.m. -12 p.m.). On Sunday, December 3, our items will still be available between both the first and second service (9:30-10:30 a.m.) & after the second service (11:30 a.m.-12 p.m.). We use the Patio and the Patio room for display areas. Pay with cash, check, or credit card, whatever is most convenient for you! Here's a sneak peek at just a few of the newer items to be offered this year: One-cup-sized microwave cozies for small bowls (all sizes still available), 'Friend Frosty' Hershey bars, and Angels made from CPC's former hymnals (they've all been personalized with appropriate names we think will delight).







Due to all of the Christmas festivities and family time for our ladies we will only have one regular meeting in the month of December on Wednesday, December 6, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in room A/B. If you miss the sale or just want to purchase a few more items to round out your Christmas gift shopping, you may stop by during that meeting to do so.

We will resume weekly meetings Wednesday, Jan 3, 2024. You are invited to come and see if you'd like to join this fun-loving group of women by crafting, sewing, yarn-working, coloring, and card-making, which could be the craft project of the day, or just by keeping us company. Snacks typically happen at 10:30, and all are welcome.

For questions, call, or text Pam Cullop: 520-271-6678 or send me an email: pjcullop@gmail.com.

# Our December Birthdays!



Luke Hopkins
Conner Cech
Susan Hein
Janet Rowe
Katelyn Murphy
Blanche Lenhart
Edwin Hopkins
Keith Marshall
Sagan Friskey
Nicole Melde
Clover Compton
Charlotte Burr
Peggy Wetzel
Bob Mielbeck

- 20 Joyce Mooney 20 Sheri Goddard
- 20 Sheri Goddan
- 21 Bill Street
- 22 Chris Crowder
- 22 Laura Manning
- 23 Christine McCleery
- 24 Dave Koch
- 26 Kenna Hopkins
- 27 Donnie Luther
- **30 Emily Beck**
- 30 Steve Melde
- 30 Susan Simpson
- 31 Zach Hodges

## **Merry Christmas**



# And Happy New Year

### Flea Market News



Please note: Secondhand Weekend activity is suspended during the month of December. We feel it's best to reserve that time on our calendar for Everything Christmas and Family.

If you've got donations to deliver before we begin sorting and pricing again after the first of the year, please try to do so when you come to church on Sunday. If you have room at home to store until January, it is even better since we probably won't be able to store two months' worth of donations in our MPR storage closet. But we will do our best to accommodate your needs. Please contact Claudia or Pam Cullop, if you would like to discuss an alternate drop-off time or date.

Secondhand Weekends resume after the first of the year (January 13 and 14, 2024).

Secondhand Weekend hours:

Saturdays 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. (for both sorting and donation drop-off)

Sundays 930 am – 2 pm. (for sorting) 930-12 pm (for donation drop-off) Please!

FYI: Cutoff for All 2023 donations will be on Sunday, February 11, no later than 12 p.m.

We also need to fill key positions for the 2024 sale. If you would like to know more about what positions are available talk to anyone of the Flea Market Team Leads (info listed below). Recruitments for the 2024 Flea Market start in January and continue through February. Many volunteers are needed to make this fundraiser a success.

**Special Note about fundraising proceeds from the upcoming sale:** The Flea Market Team would like the proceeds of the sale to be given to charities in which CPC members are actively participating. Please submit the names of your favorite charities to Pastor Steve for review.

Thank you for your support in this important CPC Mission fundraiser.

Wishing you a Blessed & Happy Christmas season.

Flea Market Lead Team: Pam Raines, Claudia Howell, Pam Cullop and Vera Bare,

General Flea Market Questions: Call or text Pam Cullop: 520-271-6678 Donation Questions or Special Dropoff Appointments: Call or Text: Claudia Howell 520-850-0637 Pam Raines: 520-405-8956



#### MARKET ON THE MOVE

begins on January 27, 2024 and that will be here before we know

it! This year we have some younger volunteers to help with the heavy lifting so we need help with collecting money, organizing produce and light clean up.

Our schedule will be January, February and March - 8:00-10:00 a.m. and April and May - 7:00-9:00 a.m.

Cheryll Dunafon will begin filling volunteer slots January 1, 2024. She will be available at the 8:30 a.m. church service or you can reach her by phone at (520) 390-6427 or email at <u>cdunafon@gmail.com</u>

## **Congregational Care Corner** Compassion Connections Ministry



"He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord." -Luke 1: 14-15.

Advent – a time of preparing our

hearts and homes for Christ's birth, a time to remember, through prayer, reflections, special music, and worship the true meaning of Christmas. During Advent, the Compassion Connection Team will be contacting all of the VIPPs (Visited In Person People who are also VIPs) by sending them cards, calling them on the phone, and visiting them in their homes. It's an opportunity for our team members to share the love of Christ with others during this holiday season.

I know there are other folks, members of our congregation, people you may know outside of the church, who would love to be contacted during this holiday. Here are some suggestions on how we all can make a connection to share the love of Christ during this holiday season.

- Send someone a card who is not on your usual Christmas list.
- Call someone you haven't spoken to in a long time.
- Visit a neighbor or friend who lives alone or invite them out for dinner.
- Say a prayer for someone different every day.

From the Compassion Connection Team – May you have a safe and joyous Holiday Season, a Merry Christmas, and may the New Year bring you many new and joyous blessings!

If you would like to contact me **for any reason**, please call me at the church 520-886-5535 or leave a message with the church office and I will return your call, or you can email,

<u>sbrownson52@gmail.com</u>. Reminder: If you have an emergency or crisis situation, please contact Pastor Melde at the church office.

# **CPC Grief Support News**

Join Pastor Steve on the first Tuesday of the month to help each other through the grief we bear. Pastor Steve hosts an online time, via Zoom, for any who would like to share their grief together to help each other through some difficult times.

> Tuesday, December 5, 7 p.m. (Tucson Time) Zoom Meeting ID: 835 3681 1738

#### **Talk About it Tuesday**

#### Tuesdays at Noon Zoom ID 839 0008 2868

Every Tuesday at Noon (Tucson Time) Pastor Steve hosts a Zoom conversation about the previous Sunday's worship and sermon theme. Join with others as we take our faith deeper. Zoom Meeting ID: 839 0008 2868

There will be no Talk About it Tuesday on December 26.

#### Wednesday Message

Most Wednesdays Pastor Steve sends out a special email just for a little faith thought and inspiration in the middle of the week. This is a special group mailing, so if you would like to be a part of it, send him and email and request to be put on the Wednesday Message list:

PastorSteveMelde@gmail.com

## **Faith Filled Fridays**

Each Friday at Noon (Tucson time), Pastor Steve broadcasts a few moments of faith and inspiration. Join him on any of our three broadcast sites (Just like Sunday mornings)

> www.cpctucsonaz.org (scroll to the bottom of the homepage) www.YouTube.com/cpctucsonaz www.Facebook.com/ChristPresbyterianTucson



6565 E. BROADWAY • TUCSON, ARIZONA 85710 Member of the Presbyterian Church (USA) & Presbytery de Cristo

> The Rev. Steven P. Melde, Pastor (PastorSteveMelde@gmail.com) Debby Anderson, Coordinator of Congregational Care (anderson9575@msn.com) Robin Gilbert, Director of Children's Christian Ed (robbert77@juno.com) Luke Diamond, Director of Music (La24diamondcpc@gmail.com) Susan Simpson, Accompanist (susanannsimpson@hotmail.com) Lon Bothwell, Facility Manager Doug Wingert, Bookkeeper (bookkeeper@cpctucsonaz.org) Stella Lopez, Office Manager (office@cpctucsonaz.org)



Monday—Friday 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

(Closed for lunch 12 — I p.m.)

Phone: 520-886-5535

www.cpctucsonaz.org

#### Deadlines

**<u>KIVA</u>** January 2024 Issue articles due by 12 p.m. on Friday, December 8, 2021 **Weekly Bulletins and Friday News, requests for flyers or inserts** Please submit your articles and requests by **Wednesday at** 

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noon!

Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, Youtube: @CPCTucsonAZ