



Upcoming at CPC!

Check out our upcoming events and other ways to get involved at CPC! You can always check our website for a full list of events at cpcfremont.org/events

- March 7, 11 AM - 12 PM | Centerville in the Park
- March 7, 10 AM - 2 PM | Membership Matters
- March 15, 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM | Scout Sunday
- March 17, 7 PM - 8 PM | Prayer & Worship Night
- March 22, 12 PM - 1 PM | Baptism Matters
- March 26, 6:30 PM - 8 PM | Seder Supper
- April 3, 12 PM - 8 PM | Good Friday Experience
- April 4, 11 AM - 12 PM | Centerville in the Park
- April 19, after service | Coffee & Conversations
- April 24-26 | Women's Retreat

CENTERVILLE FAMILY CARNIVAL

Scout Sunday Celebration

March 15 | 10 AM - 1:30 PM

Seder Supper

Thursday, Mar 26 | 6:30 - 8 PM

Join us for a sensory exploration of the beautiful Jewish ceremony called a seder.

Good Friday Experience

Friday, Apr 3 | 12 - 8 PM

Walk through the stations of the cross with Jesus and reflect on the sacrifice He made for us. A kid-friendly experience for families will be available, too.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, Apr 5 | 10:30 AM

Celebrate our victory in Christ together as a church family!



Registration is open now!

The Women's Spring Retreat will be at Redwood Christian Park. April 24 -26, 2026.



Care Package Service Project

Sunday, April 19
Before and After Service
Prayer and Packing

The annual Spring Deacon Project supports the residents and staff at the WeCare facility in Fremont. The Deacons will be providing each resident with a thoughtful Spring-themed care package. Come help us decorate and assemble these care packages. All are welcome!

Prayer & Worship Night

Tuesday
March 17
7 PM

Download the Church Center app for more details or to sign up for upcoming events!



40 Days of Becoming People of Generosity

We are now in the midst of the forty days of Lent—a sacred season that prepares our hearts for Easter and the resurrection of Jesus. These weeks invite us to slow down, simplify, and re-center our lives around Christ. Lent is not about religious obligation; it is about transformation—learning to live the way of Jesus so His life takes deeper root in ours.

This year we are focusing on becoming people of generosity, a journey closely connected to our Capital Campaign, “Building for Tomorrow, Investing in the Next Generation,” which we hope to culminate in 2028.

This campaign is not ultimately about concrete, classrooms, or curb appeal. It is about transformed lives. It is about a child learning that God knows their name. A middle-schooler discovering they belong. A young adult finding hope instead of loneliness. Marriages being renewed. Senior saints understanding their vital place in the mission. Friends and neighbors encountering the welcome of Christ for the first time. The facilities God has entrusted to us are instruments—but the true work is hearts made new by Jesus.

We are especially excited this year about a new perspective on Holy Week as we gather for a Passover Seder on the Thursday before Palm Sunday. For millennia the Jewish people have told the story of God’s rescue through this sacred meal—remembering the lamb, the unleavened bread, and the cup of redemption. Jesus shared this celebration with His disciples on the night He was betrayed, revealing that He is the true Passover Lamb whose blood brings freedom. Experiencing the Seder together will help us see how deeply our story is woven into God’s ancient promises and how the cross fulfills what Passover has proclaimed across the generations.

Generosity is more than giving—it is becoming people whose schedules, homes, and resources reflect the open-handed love of God. Forty days have always been God’s workshop for change: Moses on Sinai, Nineveh turning toward the Lord, and Jesus learning dependence in the wilderness. After the resurrection, Jesus spent forty days forming disciples who would carry His mission forward. We are part of that same story today.

Many of you are already using the Lenten devotional—meditating on Scripture, practicing weekly acts of generosity, and making space to listen for God’s voice. Let’s continue to walk this road together.

As Proverbs 11:25 promises, “A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.” But the gospel tells us why this can be true. We do not become generous to earn God’s favor—we become generous because, in the cross, we have already received more than we could ever repay. Jesus gave Himself without holding back, trading His riches for our poverty so that we might be made rich in grace. When that love sinks in, generosity stops feeling like a demand and becomes freedom—the joyful echo of a Savior who first opened His hands for us. May these remaining days of Lent shape us into that kind of people as we move toward Easter and toward the vision God has placed before us in 2028.

Because Jesus made us family,

PASTOR Sam

Lent Devotional

Lent is a gift.

It is a season from February 18 marked by Ash Wednesday until Easter that the Church has set aside to slow down, clear space, and let Jesus gently form us again from the inside out. In a busy world that trains us to rush, achieve, and accumulate, Lent invites us to practice a different way – the way of Jesus, who lived with open hands and a generous heart.

That is the heart behind this little booklet. Each week you will read one of Jesus' parables, reflect on God's generous character, pray together, practice a simple way of living like Jesus, and then write down one small commitment that helps you live what you've just encountered. This gentle rhythm – read, reflect, pray, practice, write, and live – is designed to help faith move from the page into everyday life.

These devotions are not meant to be heavy or complicated. They are designed to fit naturally into the flow of family life – around a table, on a couch, before bed, or in a quiet moment of prayer. Some weeks will feel deep. Some will feel simple. All of them are invitations to walk with Jesus together.

This Lent we are practicing what John Mark Comer calls the way of Jesus – not just believing in Him, but learning to live like Him. Jesus lived simply. He noticed people. He gave freely. He loved sacrificially. He trusted His Father completely. As we practice these same rhythms, the Holy Spirit gently shapes us into disciples who look more and more like Christ.

You will notice that each week includes simple prompts for **children and/or grandchildren**. These are meant to help younger hearts engage with the stories of Jesus – but even if you do not have children at home, don't skip them. Jesus told us that the Kingdom belongs to those who receive it like a child. These gentle, curious questions can open fresh doors of wonder, honesty, and faith for all of us as we seek the Kingdom together.

Generosity is not just about money. It is about our time, our attention, our forgiveness, our hospitality, and our willingness to share the life Jesus has given us. The cross stands at the center of this journey because it is God's ultimate act of generosity – the Father giving His Son so that we could have life.

As you walk through these pages, don't worry about doing it perfectly. The goal is not to check a box, but to make space. My prayer for you this Lent is that you would discover again the joy of **open hands** – hands that receive God's grace and hands that pass it on to others.

Because Jesus made us family,
Pastor Sam

"So we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."
– 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NIV)

Click or scan the QR code
for the Lenten Devotional



Session Update (February 2026)

Submitted by Al Trimble, Elder

Prior to the beginning of the February 2, 2026, meeting, the Elders spent 20 minutes in prayer – both individually and in small groups - lifting up CPC and its ongoing mission. The prayers were joined by those Elders who were unable to attend the meeting but were “brought in” via the internet.

During the first hour of the meeting, Pastor Ryan presented a program on the subject of leadership development. Ryan highlighted the Session’s leadership and explained how critical goals are structured and managed. Solution is a three-part process:

1. What God is calling us to do
2. Measurable outcomes
3. What is necessary to achieve the goals

The consent agenda was approved, which included the agenda of this meeting, minutes of the January 5 Stated Session Meeting, Clerk’s report, November treasurer’s report, ministry minutes, and staff/team reports, which were discussed. Al Trimble presented a brief financial update concerning reports that had previously been submitted to the Session members.

Under the new business category, the new Pastor Supervisory Team was approved. Members are Laura Mares – Chair and Elder, Leonard Babyak (Elder), and Marta Elliott (Personnel). Leading back to Ryan’s presentation, there was a discussion of the roles of the Session, the Senior Pastor, and the church staff on how we will accomplish our goals.

Decisions:

A motion was made and approved to proceed with the necessary termite repair work and treatment for the church office and sanctuary. There are three quotes for this work, with the estimated costs to be approximately \$20,000. A motion was made and approved to clean the active members roles and to move to inactive those members who are no longer active.

The meeting was closed in prayer.



March 15
10 AM - 1:30 PM

Join us for our 3rd Annual Centerville Family Scout Sunday event! During our worship service we will be honoring the Scouts, followed by an afternoon of family fun and good food. Fun for all ages!

There will be catered taco truck – vegan options available and fun activities for all ages, including an inflatable bounce house and obstacle course, Bingo, a Dunk Tank, cotton candy, games, and more!

As a member of this church family, we are not primarily putting on this event for our own benefit. We invite each of you to come to this event with the goal of spending time getting to know at least one Scout family, building a relational bridge. We hope and pray that building these relational bridges in a welcoming, hospitable, and fun environment will help the Scout families know that Jesus loves them and they are welcome in our church family.

Please register to
attend by March 8



Life Groups: Stories of God at Work

Submitted by Ryan Bogert

Hi church family,

Often when I communicate about life groups, I share about why life groups are important or how what happens in a life group embodies how we are called to live as Christians. Rather than writing a few paragraphs making a persuasive argument about why joining a life group is important, today I am going to let a life group testimony speak for itself. This testimony was shared during the Sunday service on November 2nd and it comes from a normal life group in our church led by Laura Mares and Tammy Sawyer. Laura shared this testimony from a member of her group during our Testimony Sunday in the prayer series. Here's the written testimony Laura read that came from a member of her group:

"I've often felt like I didn't really know the right way to pray, even though I pray every day. During the first meeting of our life group, I told everyone: I don't think I know how to pray correctly, listening to others pray, knowing exactly what to say and using such beautiful words, sometimes made my own prayers feel a little inadequate. However, as we've gone through the prayer practice sessions, I've realized that there are many different ways to pray, and there really isn't a right or wrong way to do it. God knows what we are trying to say and He already knows what's in our hearts. This truth has given me such peace. Now I can talk to God freely, knowing He hears me and isn't judging how I say it. Thank you CPC for my amazing life group and for the chance to be part of (the) Practicing the Way Prayer Practice. It has been such a meaningful experience for me."

As a pastor, I so appreciate the vulnerability and honesty shared in this testimony. I think if many of us were honest, we might admit similar doubts or struggles in our walks with the Lord. These doubts are okay. These struggles are okay. Life groups are a safe place to share these kinds of doubts and struggles, and a place where radical transformation and growth can happen in community as we follow Jesus together as disciples.

If you are not in a life group, you are missing a chance to experience and share in God working in people's lives like the story described above. As we prepare to begin our next spiritual practice of solitude in mid-April after Easter, I encourage you to join a life group today. When we are connected in community, we get to see and experience how God is working in the lives of our brothers and sisters in our church family. You never know how God might work in your life when you SEE Jesus and respond by taking a step of faith.

To join a life group, scan the QR code below and fill out the form. We will reach out to you regarding next steps, or you can email me at ryan@cpcfremont.org.

God bless,
Pastor Ryan Bogert

To learn more, visit cpcfremont.org/life-groups, scan or click the QR code, or email Pastor Ryan.



Spiritual Pathway at CPC

Our heart for our church family is to help everyone in our community take the next step forward towards a life fully centered around following Jesus. In light of this, we have developed a series of classes as seen below as part of a spiritual pathway to help engage someone no matter where they are in their faith:



Questions Matter - Next class April 26

Do you have questions about what Christians believe or what it means to follow Jesus? Have you wrestled with doubts in your faith journey, and sometimes you aren't sure what you believe? We all have these types of questions and doubts at various points in our lives, and our church is a safe place to process these doubts together. This class is specifically designed to give you a space to voice these doubts, ask questions, and have hard conversations together in community.

Belief Matters - Next class August 23

"I want to follow Jesus, but I don't know how to take the next step in my relationship with God."



"I've been a Christian going to church for a while, but I have felt stuck in my faith journey. I want to learn what it means to fully center my life around following Jesus."

If either of the above statements resonate with you, then Belief Matters is for you. Some of the topics we will be discussing are the Lordship of Jesus, what is God's story, an overview of the Bible, your new identity in Christ and why relationships matter on your gospel journey. If you are new in your faith and want to know where to start, or maybe you just feel stuck in your faith walk, please join us.



Baptism Matters - Next class March 22

Baptism is a sacrament given to us by Jesus celebrating that we have new life in Him. Jesus calls all of His followers to be baptized, and getting baptized is an important act of obedience to publicly declare you have made the decision to trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord. If you are interested in baptism or have questions about baptism, please join us.



Membership Matters - Next class March 7

Join us for our membership class called Membership Matters. In just one day you will learn about who we are as a church and how each of us can partner with God's mission to be disciples who make disciples who make disciples, helping the whole world to SEE Jesus one person at a time. You will also learn about the best ways to take the next step in getting deeply connected into our church family. If you haven't made the commitment to CPC as a church, there is no better time than now. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

If you are interested and would like to know more about any of these classes, please scan the QR code below or contact the church office



Missions Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by Ruling Elder Stuart Howard
and Larry Hsu, Co-Chairs

Mission and Vision

CPC's commitment to missions is to allow all peoples to see Jesus, to equip disciples for the Great Commission (Matt 28:19) and the Great Commandment (Matt 22:39), and to care for our sent mission partner community. This commitment is carried out through prayer, leadership, and faithful financial support of local and global outreach partners.

Highlights

- Ongoing support for 18 mission partners/couples.
- Supporting 30 indigenous pastors in least-reached people groups, in partnership with 360Serve. Invited the Mark Teyler, the director of 360Serve, as the keynote speaker at CPC Missions Weekend on May 31, 2026.
- \$5K for Tejon church plant, the first church plan for our Presbytery in decades; continuing the legacy of California church planting of our church founder, Pastor WW Brier.
- Created a \$30K matching grant challenge to our Presbytery to raise support for Reflejo, a strategic mission partner who sends mission partners to central Asia from their base in Latin America.
- \$5K Kunar, Afghanistan Earthquake Relief, in partnership with ServeAfghanistan. The ten displaced families whom we aided received hand-written messages of love and hope from our church.
- Underwrote facilities use expenses for the on-campus Afghan American Church as they provide Christ-centered outreach to Afghans in our Tri-City community.
- Incubating the Indian Fremont Grace Church on the CPC campus by subsidizing their facilities expenses for a year.
- CPC continues to have a strong missions presence at our Presbytery, and Pastor Sam Knottnerus chairs the Missions 'Home Team', with a focus on reaching Afghans.
- Raising the next generation of Missionaries: walked alongside three CPC young adults as they explore calls to missions in Japan.
- Acted as the 2025 Bay Area host for Perspectives, a missions discipleship course.
- Registered five CPCers to Urbana 2025, a conference to mobilize the next generation of global mission leaders.
- Provided funding to the local branch of Young Life, a ministry that introduces teens to Jesus Christ and helps them to grow in their faith through personal relationships, clubs, camps, and activities.
- Missions Showcase 2025 allowed mission partners to share their work with the congregation.

Gratitude

The Missions Ministry gives thanks to God for His faithfulness and to the CPC congregation for their prayers, generosity, and willingness to walk alongside those called to serve. Together, we celebrate what God has done in 2025 and look forward with hope and obedience to what He will do next.



1 Corinthians
Jim Schoon Bible Class

Semester 2 | Feb 25, 2026
7-8 PM | Zoom Only

Pastor Jim's Bible Study class on I Corinthians will have its last semester on February 25-March 25. After a brief hiatus for our Ash Wednesday service, the class will resume meeting on Wednesday, February 25, at 7 PM, on Zoom.

The final five weeks will include studies on spiritual gifts, the love chapter, speaking in tongues, the resurrection chapter, and concluding thoughts in chapter 16. If you would like to enroll in the class for this final semester, please call or email the office.

Ministry Partner - Greg and Marsha Roth

Submitted by Larry Hsu

It often starts like this!

I met her in a zoom coffee hour, where newly arriving research professors gather each month to chat about practical issues regarding housing and fun activities upon their arrival in the US.

I texted her in the "chat room" and said since she was an agricultural specialist from Kenya, she might enjoy joining us for one our now famous "Fabulous Free Five Farm Tour" which we run three times each weekend. Her name was Emily, and I quickly learned she was only here for six months. She was working remotely in Kenya as a senior staff member in the Agricultural ministry while she was here doing research on rice production.

She joined us that weekend for the two-hour tour, and we had lots of laughter around our table full of tea and treats. Marsha bonded with her immediately, and they agreed to begin meeting each week for Bible study at a cafe on campus. Emily became a regular guest in our home, and at our church.



In December her husband Mike and her five-year-old son Joseph came for a three-week visit. I said to her, "God willing, Marsha and I will give you a few days as a gift to take your family a few places." And so it was, the day after Christmas we went to the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the beach, and the Redwoods near Mt. Hermon. Then the weather cooperated with a nice break in our storm system, and we were able to blast up to Lake Tahoe for some hours of sledding and snowman play.

Mike runs his own wild safari tour company in Kenya, and they joked with me that I was interviewing for a new job as a Safari driver. I guess I passed the test!

Emily's research project is strategic for the future of farmers in Kenya and East Africa. She comes for a four-month segment to UC Davis greenhouse

laboratory and gets the test seeds growing, then returns to Kenya to keep her research division staff moving ahead there as well, before she returns to Davis to analyze results. When she is in town, we continue to study the scriptures together and have discovered how Emily and Mike are vibrant Christian leaders in Kenya.

I would call her a world changer. It is leaders like Emily that we are thrilled to welcome, and help them to grow in their faith. It is amazing to see them become true world changers with the gospel of Jesus in their hearts.

PS- Thanks to CPC's prayers and support, in 2025 we hosted 61 farm tours and an additional 320 guests at welcome events at our home. God bless you in 2026!





CenterKids



At CenterKids we believe children are the church! We exist to partner with parents to form kids in the way of Jesus. For us, Kids Church is more than childcare! Through thoughtful curriculum and community we are inviting kids to become more like Jesus.

Contact Next-Gen Director Josh Morgan with any questions or call the church office.

The CenterKids team is excited for all of the events happening in the next few months! In March, the Scouts will be joining us for a fun morning of games and learning about Jesus. Moving into April, families will have the opportunity to have a family-focused Good Friday experience that prepares them to celebrate even more on Easter morning.

Join us on April 5, for our Easter Sunday Kid's Church! We will have all different types of activities for kids to celebrate that Jesus is risen!



Upcoming CenterKids Events

Centerville in the Park

11:00 to 12:00 pm - Saturday, March 7

Dusterberry Way & Peralta Blvd.

Scout Sunday - March 15

Good Friday Experience - April 3, 12 - 8 PM

Easter Sunday - April 5



**Are you interested in volunteering in Kids' Ministry?
Please contact Josh Morgan.**

At CenterStudents we believe in partnering with parents to form students in the way of Jesus. We focus on **Relational Connection, Gospel Centered Curriculum, and Fun**



Our Middle Schoolers meet the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays in the Young Life Club Room on the West side of campus. Check-in begins at 10:25. 1st Sundays are Family Sundays, where our families attend church together.

On Sunday mornings, our middle schoolers go through the Bible together, asking questions, digging deep, and learning together. This space provides an awesome opportunity for our Middle Schoolers to interact with scripture.



Young Life

Young Life Club meets every Monday Night from 7 to 9pm at CPC in the Club Room. For more information email josh@cpcfremont.org and be sure to follow Tri-City Young Life on Instagram @tricityyounglife

Student Life Group

On Sundays from 4-6pm our students meet in our Young Life Club Room and go through Practicing the Way together. This is a place for our students to experience community and dig into the claims of Jesus and what it means to follow him. We eat together, laugh together, and learn together. **Middle School and High School are welcome.**

Wyld Life Winter Camp

In February our Middle Schoolers went to Wyld Life Winter Camp, up in the Sierra Nevada foothills! It was an awesome time of adventure, friendship, and hearing the gospel! Please pray for them as they process what it looks like to come back from camp and follow Jesus in everyday life.



Care Package Service Project

Sunday, April 19 - Before and After Service Prayer and Packing



The annual Spring Deacon Project supports the residents and staff at the WeCare facility in Fremont. The Deacons will be providing each resident with a thoughtful Spring-themed care package.

Come help us decorate and assemble these care packages. All are welcome! Refreshments to be provided!

There will be two "Sessions" available - before service from 10-10:30am after service until 1:00pm in Westminster.

Riley Quinn Gonzalez

Daughter of Paul & Danielle,
Granddaughter of Glenn & Cheryl Anderson
Born February 12, 2026



Front and Center

Front and Center is an outreach ministry of the CPC Music Department, whose mission is to bring the gospel to nursing facilities and retirement communities through song and testimony.

Upcoming visit

Saturday, March 14 - Cogir facility at 1:15 PM & Lincoln Villa at 3:15 PM

The Cogir facility has ample seating in its event room, so come join us for some great Christmas music that afternoon. We'll have some sing-alongs too!!



Regular CPC Events

Weekly Life Groups, Groups meet weekly, cpcfremont.org/life-groups

Centerville in the Park, 1st Saturday, Dusterberry Neighborhood Park

Games in the Afternoon, 3rd Tuesday from 1-3pm

Tai Chi, Mondays 9:30-10:30 am. Dining Room

Free Dining, Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00-5:45 pm

Men's Life Group, Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 pm, Rm 18

Creative Hands Craft & Fellowship, Thursdays, 7:00-8:45pm, E202

Call the church office at 510-793-3575 for more information.



Share Life Together

Join a Life Group!



Life Groups are smaller groups that gather together weekly in homes for a time of food, sharing, community, and prayer.

To learn more, visit cpcfremont.org/life-groups, scan the QR code, or email Pastor Ryan.

Download the ChurchCenter App to stay up-to-date on everything going on at CPC.

If you have questions about how to use the app, check out the tutorial video at planningcenter.com/university.



Ways to Give

- Mobile Scan QR code
- Online cpcfremont.org/give
- In Person Use envelopes in pews
- Mail 4360 Central Ave
Fremont, CA 94536



Centerville Presbyterian Church

Share Life - Equip Disciples - Engage Community

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