



June 7, 2026

**Welcome to
Community.**

We are glad you are here. While here we hope you will feel welcome and find the service meaningful.

Childcare (infants through 4 year olds) is available. Worship boxes for younger children to borrow during worship are located at the entrance.

Large Print bulletins are available. Please see an usher for assistance.

Pillows are available in the narthex for those who need extra comfort and support while sitting in the pew.

Hearing Assistance is available through a T loop system that has been installed.

If you have a hearing aid device that is T-coil compatible, please turn your hearing piece to the t-position.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

– We Gather For Worship –

PRAYER OF PREPARATION – *(To pray silently)*

O Lord, we pray for your blessing on our church as we gather in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find strength, and the sorrowful find comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Enfold us all in your loving care, that we may worship you with sincere hearts. Amen.

– We Are Called into God's Presence –

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus ascended the mountain, where he sat to teach the ones who gathered.

People: Today, we gather in the company of Christ as those ancient ones did, for His words to wash over us, shape us, and inform our living.

Leader: We gather seeking the wisdom of God, so that, as salt of the earth, we might flavor God's world with the virtues of God's loving kingdom.

People: We gather as disciples growing in faith, for God's light to shine more brightly through our lives.

Leader: Let us tune our hearts to worship God together, rediscovering the blessings of the wondrous life that God brings.

*OPENING HYMN – #267

All Things Bright and Beautiful

– We Confess Our Sins –

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Gracious God, you have chosen us for a purpose - that we might bear lasting fruit for your kingdom. You call us to walk humbly before you and to share in the struggle with the least of these, yet we acknowledge that we often fail to live up to this call.

*In the presence of a forgiving God,
We become aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, and ways we have hurt others.
As you pray the prayer of confession; think how the words express specific sins in your life and the life of the church. We turn to God asking forgiveness.*

Claim the truth that through God's grace and Christ giving of himself on the cross, we are forgiven. Let this truth set you free from your sins so you may be restored to God and one another.

All children are invited to come forward for the Children's Moment.

[Silence for Self-Examination]

Leader: When life is centered on ourselves and our own worlds, and we fail to see beyond ourselves:

People: **Forgive us.**

Leader: When our eyes become so fixed on priorities of our own making, that we fail to look for Jesus in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and the imprisoned:

People: **Forgive us.**

Leader: When we praise you with our lips, Lord, yet fail to reach out to others with acts of love, justice, and mercy:

People: **Forgive us.**

All: **Teach us how to extend grace to others. Create in us a clean heart, and make us gentle and humble in spirit. Amen.**

RESPONSE TO CONFESSION

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

(Verse 3)

**Christ breaks the power of reigning sin, and sets the prisoner free;
Christ's blood can make the sinful clean, Christ's blood availed for me.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE TO THE PARDON

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

(Verse 1)

**O for a thousand tongues to sing, my dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!**

– We Hear God's Word –

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM

This is My Word

Chopin

As the snow falls from heaven,
As it comes in swirling showers from the sky, So is my Word.
As the rains bring the water to the earth that is thirsty and dry,
So is my Word.

(Chorus) And the Word of my mouth, it shall not return empty:
It will bless the earth wherever it is heard.
This is my Word.

As the rain brings renewal
And the tender buds begin to come alive, So is my Word.
Giving seed to the sower,
And the bread to the hungry 'til they thrive,
So is my Word. (Chorus)

O Lord, when I am weary,
 When I feel the days I'm living are in vain,
 My God, help me be faithful to the Word You have given to proclaim.
 Proclaim the Word, and you will go out in joy,
 And be led forth in peace,
 And the hills will break before you into song.
 So be faithful, brave and true,
 For I will go before you,
 And when your earthly journey here is done,
 I'll say well done, well done!

As the snow falls from heaven,
 And the rain comes in showers from the sky,
 This is my Word.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READING FROM THE WORD OF GOD – Matthew 5:5

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God,
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Dr. Alexander “Sandy” Stewart

The Bliss of Being Meek

– We Believe –

*COMMUNION HYMN

Come to the Table of Grace

Capo 3: (D) (A) (Bm) (D7/A) (G)
 F C Dm F7/C B^b

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the
 ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's
 not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

(A) (D) (A) (D) (Em)
 C F C F Gm

(D/A) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D) (G) (D)
 F/A B^b F/C C7 F B^b F

Come to the table of love...
 Come to the table of hope...
 Come to the table of joy...

The Scripture bears witness to the word of God. Listen beyond the human word for the Word of God. Pray that the Spirit will speak to you through the text.

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

– Celebrating Christ’s Life and Love –

The small communion wafers are free of gluten, wheat, dairy, yeast, egg, soy, nuts and corn.



QR Code (for quick mobile giving)

The giving of an offering not only supports the ministry of Christ but it is the symbolic dedication of our life and all that we have to give to God in response to his love. Remember that all things belong to God, and that we are entrusted to use all that we have to bring glory to God.

Our worship does not end at the conclusion of this service. We go forth to love and serve the LORD in daily living. In so doing, we seek to fulfill our mission to “love God and make God’s love known”.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE
WORDS OF INSTITUTION
SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

– We Share Our Gifts –

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

FRIENDSHIP RECORD – *(Please sign and pass)*

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Christ, Be Our Light

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

– We Go Out to be God’s Presence in the World –

*CLOSING HYMN

We Are the Family of God

Chorus: We are the family of God. Yes, we are the family of God.

And He’s brought us together to be one in Him,

That we might bring light to the world.

Go make disciples of all lives, go show that My way is true.

Tell them the wonderful story, that they might be one in Me too. (Chorus)

Let them know life in the making, let them know peace from above.

Show them by your own example of love in the family of God. (Chorus)

POSTLUDE

The Postlude is considered the final Alleluia of Worship

*Please stand if you are able.

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Eleanor Morgan in loving memory of Robert S. Morgan, husband and Helen & Eugene Hodenpyl, parents.

Accompanist: Cindy Hughes

Ushers: Pam Jankowski, David and Josh Butler, Jacob Graham, Gary Carroll

Greeters: Harlan McCaskill

Audio: Steve Lapping

Holy Grounds: Teresa and Jim Stanley

We welcome to our pulpit today – Alexander “Sandy” Stewart, PhD.



In 2023, Dr. Stewart was named the third president in the 60-year history of Sandhills Community College. Sandy is a Moore County native graduating from Union Pines High School. Prior to his role at SCC Sandy served as assistant commissioner of agricultural services at the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services since 2018. He holds masters and doctoral degrees in crop science from N.C. State University. Stewart previously directed the state agriculture department's research stations division, which is responsible for managing 18 agriculture research facilities in partnership with N.C. State and N.C. A&T

State Universities. He has also been a faculty member as an extension tobacco specialist at N.C. State and as an extension cotton specialist at Louisiana State University and has managed crop research in the private sector.

Sandy is an elder at Union Presbyterian Church in Carthage where he frequently preaches. Sandy's father, Rear Admiral Bill Stewart, Jr. served this church after retiring from the Navy as a chaplain.

Sandy lives near Carthage on his family's working farm of nearly 250 years.

Children's Church:

If you are a visitor here and have a child that would like to attend children's church they are more than welcome to join us! After the children's sermon, all children ages kindergarten through fifth grade are dismissed to go downstairs with the teachers. We have a snack, game, Bible lesson and a craft. If your child has any food allergies or other health/behavior concerns please come downstairs with your child and let the teachers know. We have visitor forms as well that are located by the worship boxes and bulletins. When church is finished please come downstairs to pick your child up. We also have a nursery that is available from birth-preschool age. Thank you!

Prayer from Our Care Team:

Each month, Pastor Meg and your congregational care elders, Patty Franklin, John Liles, and Cindy Ward, meet to pray through the requests that have been offered on our congregational prayer list. If you have new requests to bring to our team for prayer and care, please contact Patty Franklin via phone or email: (703) 717-3456; pd.franklin.lc@gmail.com

The Mission of Community Presbyterian Church:

“We exist not for ourselves, but to love God and make God's love known.”

– Community Happenings –

Weekly Calendar

Sunday (June 7)

- 10:30 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary
11:45 a.m. VBS Volunteer Lunch Meeting – Conference Room
5:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship – Youth Loft

Monday

- 6:30 p.m. Barbershop – Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Troop 7B Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Troop 7G – Great Room

Tuesday

Wednesday

- 2:00 p.m. Memorial Service for Norm Hylton – Sanctuary/Fannie B. Gray Parlor
3:30 p.m. Membership Committee Meeting – Conference Room

Thursday

- 9:00 a.m. Property & Grounds Meeting – Conference Room
10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Purls – Library
1:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study – Library

Friday

- 8:30 a.m. Prayer Garden

Sunday (June 14)

- 10:30 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship – Loft

Preaching Schedule for June

(Meeting in the Sanctuary)

- June 14th Major General Steven Schaick**
Chief of Chaplains of the U. S. Air Force (retired)
- June 21st The Reverend Dr. Dave Kivett**
Interim Head of Staff for Community Presbyterian Church
- June 28th The Reverend Dr. Dave Kivett**

On-line Giving is now available. And it's easy!

Anyone can now donate to CPC via the QR code or the link below.

You can donate via your Smartphone, laptop, Mac or tablet. You can also donate via the "Give" button on the homepage of the CPC website. The donation landing page gives you a drop down menu with options of which fund you would like your donation to go to. FYI - any donation going to the General Fund will be applied against your pledge total.

If you have any questions please contact Sam Crouter/ Finance Manager in the church office at (910) 295-6848 or at scrouter@communitypres.com

<https://onrealm.org/CommunityPresby67558/give/now>

QR Code (for quick mobile giving):



2nd Annual Mission Trip to Western North Carolina

CPC will be returning to Western North Carolina in September to continue relief efforts following Hurricane Helene. We will be working with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance through partnerships with local organizations in Asheville. The dates of the trip are Sunday, September 13th through Friday, September 18th (leaving after worship Sunday and returning Friday afternoon). We have room for twelve individuals in our delegation, and several spots have been claimed! Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to provide practical hope, love, and Christian care to our neighbors. Delegation spots are available to CPC members and friends through July 31st, after which the wider community will be invited to fill any remaining spots. Registration forms will be available in June. The cost to participate is \$15/delegate payable to Community Presbyterian Church (memo: Mission Trip Delegate). To indicate your interest, please contact Pastor Meg (mvail@communitypres.com).

Stephen Ministry Info Breakfast on June 28th

Stephen Ministry is a caring ministry that trains and equips church members to provide one-on-one Christ-centered care to people in our congregation who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. Stephen Ministers listen, care, pray, support, and encourage men and women who receive their care. This is a confidential pairing that provides a vital ministry and the presence of Christ during times of need. Those times of need include but are not limited to: divorce, death of a loved one, job crisis, chronic illness.

Pastor Meg and member Jon Minoff are Stephen Leaders who will be training a new Stephen Ministry class in September 2026. If you are interested in considering this ministry and feel a calling to compassionate care, we invite you to gather for an informal Q&A session over a light breakfast in the Conference Room at **9:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 28th**. Stephen Ministers will be on hand to answer your questions and speak more about this vital ministry.



Men's Bible Study Appreciation Breakfast for Pastor Stone

May 26, 2026

"The CPC's Men's Bible Study Group recently held an appreciation breakfast for Pastor Stone at the Pinecrest Inn. The group thanked Rod for his leadership, support, and guidance regarding God's Mission at our Church. Also, they recognized his wife, Marsae, for her contributions and involvement in various Church Mission programs and other activities.

We wish them well in Rod's retirement and may God Bless their entire family."

Reach for Success Mentoring Program Wish List!

The Reach for Success mentoring program has successfully moved into their new space downstairs! The team has worked hard to clean up, organize and prepare a "homebase" room for effective and efficient tutoring opportunities for students, in addition to the "screen room," which is a shared space with other church groups. The space is organized with instructional materials to support this trauma-informed ministry.

In an effort to support their initiatives, we'd like to invite the CPC community to consider a 'housewarming' gift. They have requested the following items, which are hyperlinked to Amazon ordering link:

- **Bostitch Electric Pencil Sharpener-battery powered** – 2
- **Hand Sanitizer-Purell-8 oz pack of 4** – 2
- **Hand Sanitizer-Purell-1 liter for refill** – 2
- **Stapler w/staples** – 2
- **Pack of 6 clipboards** – 2
- **Pencils-pack of 320** – 2
- **Erasers-pack of 200** – 2
- **Sidewalk Chalk-pack of 24** – 4
- **25 piece toolkit** – 1
- **Broom w/dustpan** – 2
- **16 x 12 desk dry erase boards w/markers** – 2
- **15 x 18 sticky chart paper** – 2
- **Pocket chart to hold cell phones** (collecting phones during tutoring, so they are not a distraction) – 1

All donations will be gratefully accepted in the church office by Sunday, June 21st as their summer program begins Tuesday, June 23rd. Feel free to contact Michelle Gray at (910) 639-9480 with questions.



Save the Date: Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible school is just around the corner, June 15th through June 17th! We are still in need of a handful of volunteers to help our “crews” of kids move throughout the building during their VBS experience. Please contact MaryBeth Liles if you are interested.

The VBS volunteer lunch meeting is today in the conference room following the worship service.

New Member Opportunity on June 28th

If you have been a visitor at CPC and would like to make this congregation your church home, there will be an opportunity to be formally received as a member after worship on **Sunday, June 28th**. The church session will briefly meet with all who wish to join to welcome you and to support you in your journey as Christ's disciple. For more information, please contact Joe Franklin, membership elder, at Franklin.joe.t@gmail.com

Pastor Transition Committee

With any transition or change, we may experience a variety of feelings, questions and concerns. Saying so long to Rod and welcoming a new, interim pastor is a big transition. You as an individual and as a member of this community deserve time to discuss the impact of this change. The CPC Session organized a Pastor Transition

Committee. One of its main goals is to support you.

There will be regular communications as well as time to gather and discuss various aspects of this transition. We also appreciate some might feel more comfortable with a private conversation. The Pastor Transition Committee

members or any of our Elders (pictured below) welcome your questions and will be happy to talk with you. Let any of us know you'd like to talk:

Pastor Transition Committee Members: Scott Brewton, Patty Franklin, Dave Gibbons, Sue Ann Summers



Scott Brewton
Admin./Personnel



Joe Franklin
Membership



Patty Franklin
Care



Bruce Geddes
Property & Grounds



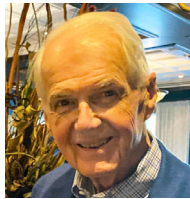
Dave Gibbons
Finance



Amanda Jacoby
Worship



John Liles
Care



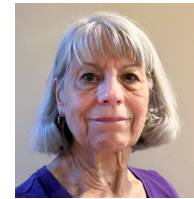
Harlan McCaskill
Admin./Personnel



Mac McLaurin
Property & Grounds



Lynne Phifer
Mission



Char Popson
Mission



Clare Ruggles
Finance



Sue Ann Summers
Discipleship



Cindy Ward
Care

