

Loving God  
Loving One Another  
Living the Mission



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***December 29, 2024***



CPF's Giving-to-date  
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

**\$20,860<sup>00</sup>**

Every dollar you give goes to the mission field to support gospel transformation among the lost.

*Thank you for your generosity!*

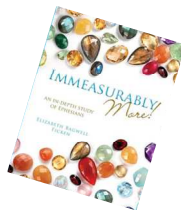


Give to this fund by marking your envelope or check with “LMCO” or “Missions”. You can also use our giving app (see back page).  
*Thank you for supporting missionaries serving around the world!* You may give to this offering year-round by marking an amount for “Lottie Moon” or “Christmas Offering.”

## A *New Ladies'* Bible Study begins January 8, 2025

Do you want your walk with Christ to be more intimate, more faithful, and more obedient? God is able to do *immeasurably more* than you can imagine through His power in your life!

**Immeasurable More!** by *Elizabeth Bagwell Ficken* is a 12-week study which will begin **Wednesday, January 8**. You're welcome to join us at 9:00 for Fellowship before the 9:30-11:00 study. Please order your book online (it's readily available on Amazon, where you can find more information on this study). Contact Sue DeForest or the office if you have questions.



LOOKING  
AHEAD



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BLAST**  
Resumes January 8  
*with a fun-filled Family Night*

## Our Next Lunch Fellowship is on January 19



We are having our first Lunch Fellowship of 2025 on the third Sunday in order to be able to hear from some of the men from *Loving Hand Ministry*. Please plan to join us!

## Pray with the CPF Persecuted Church Team

Praying for our Brothers and Sisters in Christ



Christians around the world are being persecuted simply for believing that Jesus came to save. They are losing their jobs, their homes, and even their lives for His sake. Join us on the first and third Mondays of each month to pray for them. We meet at 6:00 p.m. at the home of one of our members. If you're new to this group, please call the office for more information. The first meeting for 2025 will be Jan. 6 at the Rector home.

## CPF Calendar

### Sunday, December 29

- 9:00 am Worship  
Children's Church (4 years—5th grade)  
10:30 am Life Groups)

### Wednesday, January 1, 2025

#### *New Year's Day*

*Office Closed*



### Thursday, January 2

- 9:30 am Prayer Circle (see back)  
7:00 pm Payne Life Group (see back)

### Sunday, January 5

- 9:00 am Worship  
Children's Church (4 years—5th grade)  
10:30 am Life Groups)

### Monday, January 6

- 9:30 am BSF Ladies  
6:00 pm Persecuted Church (see left)

### Wednesday, January 8

- 7:00 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  
9:00 am Women's Study (see back)  
6:00 pm WNB Supper (all welcome, donation appreciated)  
6:45 pm Wednesday Night BLAST  
*FAMILY NIGHT!*

### Thursday, January 9

- 9:30 am Prayer Circle (see back)  
7:00 pm Payne Life Group (see back)

### Sunday, January 12

- 9:00 am Worship  
Children's Church (4 years—5th grade)  
10:30 am Life Groups)



## How to Reach Us

**CPF Office** 941-778-0719  
office@mycpf.org text: 888-858-0716  
Office hours are M-F, 8:30-4:30

## Elders

Ed Moss 941-219-9211  
Ed@mycpf.org  
Steve DeWitt (Youth) 920-285-7499  
Steve@mycpf.org  
James Arcuri (Music) 864-529-8127  
jamesarcuri@mycpf.org  
Matt Darak 704-430-1670  
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Ken Long 859-640-9777  
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davidhromberger@gmail.com

### **Christmas Card Note:**

**PLEASE CHECK THE CHRISTMAS CARD "MAILBOX" in the lobby TODAY for cards for you. After Jan. 1, cards will be in the office for a couple of weeks.**

**Children's Church** (4 years through 5th grade) dismisses from the sanctuary following the music portion of the worship service.



Age-appropriate Life Groups for Babies through 12th grade meet at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. Most meet on the 2nd floor of the Education Building.

**CPF Adult Groups meeting weekly**

Day	Time	Topic/Group	Leader/Contact	Location
Sun	10:30 am	Adult Coed— <i>Romans</i>	Stoney Stone	Sanctuary
	10:30 am	Younger Adult Coed— <i>Hebrews</i>	David Moss	Basement
	10:30 am	Women— <i>James</i>	Jill Hutsko	Room 1
	10:30 am	<i>How Then Shall We Live?</i>	Steve Pettit	Room 7
Wed	7:00 am	Men — <i>Hebrews</i>	Ed Moss	Fellowship Hall
	9:00 am	Women— <i>Immeasurably More!</i> <i>BEGINS JANUARY 8</i>	Sue DeForest	Room 1
Thurs	9:30 am	Prayer Circle ( <i>Hope Seeds</i> follows)	Eloise Bobbitt	Bobbitt home
	7:00 pm	Adult Coed— <i>Hebrews</i>	Howard Payne	Payne home

*Room numbers are upstairs in the Education Bldg. Fellowship Hall is the downstairs area of the Education Bldg. "Basement" is behind the choir loft—through either wood door to the sides of the stage..*

Several other groups, including our Persecuted Church Team, Mission Team, Compassion Center workers, and more, meet **monthly** or **bi-weekly**. Please check our calendar on the website for information about those groups.

**GIVING INFORMATION:**

*Our Donation Buckets* are by the doors leading to the lobby

You may give online at our website or use our giving app: **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement**, available from your mobile app store. You can also give by creating payments through your bank, or simply drop a check (or cash) in an offering bucket as you leave today.

**Giving Note:** The Church Council has authorized "designated giving" for several ministries. Your gift designation is the highest priority. However, in accordance with IRS/ governmental regulations, CPF retains discretion over the use of all gifts..

# The Love and Gospel of God

12/29/24

**Luke 2:25** And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

<sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

<sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,

<sup>28</sup> then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

<sup>29</sup> "Now Lord, Thou dost let Thy bond-servant depart In peace, according to Thy word;

<sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen Thy salvation,

<sup>31</sup> Which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> A light of revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Thy people Israel."

<sup>33</sup> And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him.

<sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this *Child* is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed-

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<sup>35</sup> and a sword will pierce even your own soul-- to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

**1 John 4:9** By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.

<sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God, but that **He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

<sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

<sup>12</sup> No one has beheld God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.

**Titus 2:11** For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,  
<sup>12</sup> instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly,  
righteously and godly in the present age,  
<sup>13</sup> looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God  
and Savior, Christ Jesus;  
<sup>14</sup> who **gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless  
deed** and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good  
deeds.

**Titus 3:3** For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived,  
enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy,  
hateful, hating one another.  
<sup>4</sup> But when the kindness of God our Savior and *His* love for mankind appeared,  
<sup>5</sup> He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness,  
but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the  
Holy Spirit,  
<sup>6</sup> whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,  
<sup>7</sup> that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to *the*  
hope of eternal life.  
<sup>8</sup> This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to  
speak confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to  
engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.

**2 Corinthians 5:14** For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this,  
that one died for all, therefore all died;  
<sup>15</sup> and He died for all, that they who live should no longer live for themselves,  
but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.  
<sup>16</sup> Therefore from now on we recognize no man according to the flesh; even  
though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus*  
no longer.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore if any man is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

<sup>18</sup> Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,

<sup>19</sup> namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

<sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

<sup>21</sup> **He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**

**Romans 3:19** Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God;

<sup>20</sup> because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,

<sup>22</sup> even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;

<sup>23</sup> for **all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,**

<sup>24</sup> **being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;**

<sup>25</sup> whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This* was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

<sup>26</sup> for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

<sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

<sup>29</sup> Or is God *the God* of Jews only? Is He not *the God* of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also,

<sup>30</sup> since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.

<sup>31</sup> Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.

**1 Corinthians 15:1** Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

<sup>2</sup> by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,**

<sup>4</sup> and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

<sup>5</sup> and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

<sup>6</sup> After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

<sup>7</sup> then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;

<sup>8</sup> and last of all, as it were to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, who am not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

<sup>11</sup> Whether then *it was* I or they, so we preach and so you believed.