

CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH NEW HAVEN
Fall 2025 Congregational Meeting



The Calling of the Church

1 Peter 2 - “So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. 2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. . . .

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. 12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.”

Majoring in the Majors

- **SUNDAY WORSHIP**
- **SMALL GROUPS**
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL/STUDIES**

Sunday Worship

Priority of all Priorities:

- Essential to the life of the Christian and the Church
- The Body growing up into the Head (Eph. 4): Fully engaging with Christ our Prophet, Priest, and King
- Logic of the Gospel: Liturgy forms our Hearts
 - Praise
 - Confession & Forgiveness
 - Word & Sacrament
 - Coronation

Small Groups (Life Groups & Discipleship Groups)

Life Group Main Goals:

1. Spiritual growth in a more intimate setting
2. Building Relationships
3. Local neighborhood missional involvement
4. Personal prayer

Not all Life Groups are created equal! They look different, but should all have the same goals.

Discussion Topic: Sermon text or approved book

Small Groups (Life Groups & Discipleship Groups)

Life Groups

- Shuffle/merge/multiply - Thursday Downtown & Hamden/Cheshire
 - New North Haven/Hamden group (co-led by Josh K. & Pete C.) meeting on Thursday nights
 - Previous Hamden/Cheshire & Thursday downtown all welcome to try new groups
 - Thursday downtown led by Craig
- Westside still in transition - praying for key leaders
- Pastor Craig will be visiting (as requested!)

Small Groups (Life Groups & Discipleship Groups)

Discipleship Groups:

- Women's (Zoom) - Diane Miller & Lisa Graham
- Mom's - Meg Bogue
- Men's micro-groups - see Craig; with various leaders
- Young at Heart - Stacy Roney & Paul Wildey

Sunday School

- “Counter-catechesis” - we all are being shaped according to values and idols throughout the week, much of which de-forms our hearts. Sunday school and studies are meant to counteract that as we seek to be fully formed into the image of Christ.
 - Children - Building relationships and a knowledge of the Lord

Children's Sunday School

SS Class	Children	Teachers
2 - 3	11	Miranda & Ken H., Katie L.
Pre K - 1st Grade	7	Tanilla B., Elena G.
Grades 2 - 5	6	Julie W., Bill P.
Grades 6-8	3	Cliff B. & Pete C.
High School	9	Jerry O.

Adult Sunday Studies

- **Fall**

- Sept-Oct - Total Christ
- Nov-Dec - Church History taught by John Roney

- **Spring**

- Bible Overview - Redemptive-History
- Living Missionally in your neighborhood - taught by collaboration of leaders
- Vocation & Calling
- Emotions & Spirituality

Church-Wide Ministries

Pastoral Care | Doctor of Souls

- Annual pastoral visits for all members (some still pending!)
- Pastoral Counseling always available
- Regular hospital and home visits with Shepherds
- Weekly “drop-in” time with:
 - Pastor Craig - Fridays 7:30-10:30am

Mercy Ministry | One Body

- Mercy Team activity headed by Kaitlyn Jessee
- New fund approved - “Compassion Fund” for Regular attenders
- Updating mercy fund application and process
- Increased involvement in the Hill
- Correspondence campaign where adults write letters to covenant children now away from home attending college
 - Expanding this to include “shut-ins” in our congregation

***NEW Christian Leadership Training**

WHO: Anyone interested in growing their faith and service in the Church. Especially for small group leaders and active new members. All are welcome.

WHAT: Monthly training sessions & discussion on key topics such as: Bible Interpretation, Small Group Leadership, Missional Living & Hospitality, and Lay Counseling. Builds on the Total Christ vision from SS.

WHEN: Last Fridays of the month, 6:30-8:30pm, with meal. Starts Sept. 26.

WHY: We need highly trained leaders who are devoted to the Word and committed to the Mission!

Church-Wide Retreat!

Join us for a restful & invigorating weekend of fellowship in Christ!

7:30pm Friday October 10 - 3pm Sunday October 12, 2025

Camp Wightman, 207 Coal Pit Hill Rd, Griswold, CT 06351

Register online now!

We will have 2 simultaneous full worship services at the retreat and back home at 135 Whitney

School of Discipleship

- Adult Sunday Studies
- Christian Leadership Training
- Pastor's Book Pick continues
 - *A Place to Belong: Learning to Love the Local Church*, by Megan Hill (our retreat speaker!)
- Podcasts
 - Weekly Sermons
 - “Beyond” - Sunday Sermon Discussion
 - “What We Believe” - always available as our theology training class
 - Adult Sunday Studies

Church-Wide Events

- Weekly Sunday Lunches
- Congregational Meeting - Sept. 28
- Retreat - Oct. 10-12
- Thanksgiving Fellowship Meals - Nov. 27
- Work Day & Decor Setup - Dec. 6
- Christmas Service - Saturday Dec. 13 - *New Vision
- Spring Work Day - March 21
- Easter Egg Hunt - March 28
- Good Friday Service - April 3
- Easter Fellowship Meals - April 5
- Thursday Summer Picnics in July
- [See Calendar Handout]

***NEW Journal on Vocation**

How does your faith shape the way you approach your daily work—its purpose, your attitude, or how you relate to others?

CPC is a vocationally diverse church, ranging from PhD students to accountants, engineers and elementary school teachers. The beauty of the church is not just our worship on a Sunday morning, but the way we glorify God in our vocational lives. The goal of this project is to provide a space for the congregation to collaborate on a written reflection about vocation through a journal or “zine,” to understand one another and to witness to the broader New Haven area how Christians are living their faith in action.

Editor-in-Chief: Seth Bollinger

Managing Editor: Layne Boles

Deadline for Submission: Oct. 31; Distribution around Christmas

Budget - 2025-26 (FY26)

\$1,000s						
		Fiscal 2025		Fiscal 2026		
		Budget	Projection	Budget		
					increase	
Sunday Collection	\$	562.8	\$ 573.9	\$ 583.2	2%	
Total Revenue	\$	674.4	\$ 685.5	\$ 687.2	0%	
Total Expenses	\$	674.4	\$ 725.4	\$ 687.2	-5%	
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$	-	\$ (39.9)	\$ -	-100%	
Drivers:						
Sunday Collection			\$ 11.1	\$ 9.3		
Facility Expense			\$ (55.8)	\$ (56.0)		

Leadership Updates

Session

- Vote for Pete Chuchta to become Ruling Elder - Sept. 28
- Vote for Preston Graham to become Pastor Emeritus - Sept. 28
- Rob Hawkes to become Emeritus

Women's Leadership Board

- Patty Chuchta has become full member
- Lisa Hawkes to become Emeritus
- Jennifer Cheng continues Sabbatical

Leadership Updates, cont.

Servant Leadership Board changes:

- Barbara Battista - Facilities
 - Thank you Fred!!
- Colleen Rice continues Sabbatical

Need New Treasurer

Alexis Vano, our Administrative Coordinator, returns from Maternity Leave tomorrow!

Thank you Hannah Chen!!

Target Ministries

Children

Children's Ministry Handbook

- All are encouraged to watch the MinistrySafe video

Discipleship

- Sunday School
 - Key tool the church uses to disciple
 - Primary way fulfills her vow to you, the parents

Events

- Welcome Sunday
- Event at Retreat
- Valentines Party - Date TBD

Youth

- **Discipleship**
 - **Sunday School**
 - Fall: “Ecclesiastes: An Apologetic For the 21st Century”
 - Winter/Spring: Biblical Theology
 - **One-on-One discipleship** with me and other members of youth team
- **Youth Fellowship events**
 - Fall: (1) Harvest Party & (2) Christmas Party Service Project
 - Winter/Spring: (1) Ice Skating & (2) Rock Climbing
- **Youth Service events**
 - Children's Event @Retreat (Oct. 10-11)
 - Easter Egg Hunt (April 28)
 - Youth Sunday (June 14)

College

- **One-On-Ones**

- College is significant and transformative time in your life! However I can support and encourage you in your journey it would be an honor. Let's get together:
 - To Pray
 - Read and study the scriptures, how to apply the scriptures, apologetics
 - Go through a book together
 - Solve all the problems in the world!
 - If you need counsel
 - Or you simply want to chat (join WhatsApp group or see handout for dates)
- Scheduled Game Nights in Fall and Spring (join WhatsApp group or see handout for all dates and information)
- Fall Kick-Off Lunch Sept. 25, 12-1pm @ Commons 168 Grove St
- Christmas Shindig: Dec. 7th from 5-7pm

Whatever your interest I would love to get to know you!

Continuing support for Athletes in Action at Yale with Colleen

Graduate Students

- Yale Law School Bible study
- Plug into a Life group
- One-on-one discipleship with Craig
- Other Possibilities?

Target Outreach Events

Young Adults (previously 20s/30s)

- Park BBQ/Hang - 9/1/25
- Mixer w/ Young at Heart - 1/16/26
- Oz ball 4/25/26

Men

- Tailgate @ Yale Football (vs. Penn) - Oct. 25
- Winter Service Project
- Spring: Men's Outdoor Event

Women

- Social @ Bear's 9/19/25
- Service project 1/24/26 or 1/31/26

Summer 2026

- Prayer needed!
 - We're still discerning the best way forward for our summer plans, and how to take what we learned from our Mission Trip to implement in New Haven.

Communications Update

Weekly Emails

- Wednesdays - Prayer and Worship
- Fridays - Highlights & Announcements

Website is main place for Announcements and Events

New Phone Capability!

- Feel free to text Alexis at our normal # 203-777-6960 with any questions