

October 2026

The Good News

A newsletter from Community Presbyterian Church



Philipp Melancthon (left), Martin Luther (center), Johann Bugenhagen (aka Pomeranus, second from right), and Caspar Cruciger (right) translate the Bible.
Lithograph by Alphonse Léon Noël from a painting by Pierre-Antoine Labouchère, ca. 1846.
[Presbyterian Historical Society Collections Image no. 4433]

ECCLÉSIA REFORMATA,
SEMPER REFORMANDA

*The church
reformed
&
always
reforming*

REFORMATION SUNDAY
OCT 25, 2026

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Welcome to Community

Building authentic Christian community. **Serving** God's people.
Inviting all into the Way of Christ.

Foundations of the Faith

Why Do We Care About Reformation Sunday?

In Western Europe, the authority of the Catholic Church remained largely unquestioned until the Renaissance in the fifteenth century. Around 1450, the invention of the printing press in Germany made it possible for the masses to read the Bible and other religious texts, enabling the discovery of religious thinkers who had begun to challenge the Church (see the photo on the front page of this newsletter).

The term “Reformation” is used to describe the series of changes in Western Christendom between the fourteenth and seventeenth centuries.

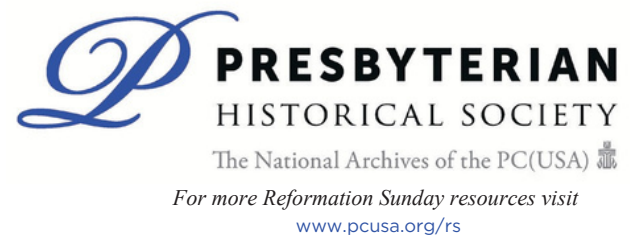
*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-9

Reformers like Martin Luther in Germany, John Calvin in Switzerland, and John Knox in Scotland worked to reform the Church's worship, doctrine and discipline to be more representative of scripture and give us a basis for how we worship in the USA today.

The Reformers believed the church had become corrupt, so change was needed. But it was a change in the interest of preservation and restoration of more authentic faith and life — a church reformed and always to be reformed according to the Word of God.

Reformation Sunday is a day to remember the foundations of our faith, the history of the church and a reminder that we have been saved by grace alone.



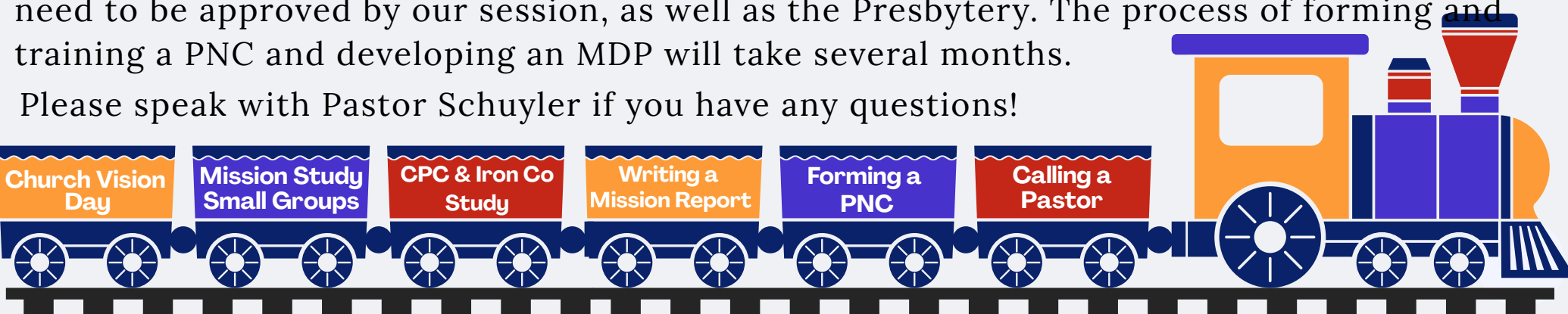
Update on the Pastoral Search

At the time of printing this newsletter, the mission study report has gone through several rounds of editing, but is not yet finalized. When it is completed it will next be sent to the Presbytery for approval. Once approved, we will not be able to change it! Because the mission study report is like an advertisement for our church, we are working hard to make sure it is exactly right before it is submitted.

Once the mission study report is approved CPC will be authorized to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

The PNC will receive training and orientation in support of their work in creating a “Ministry Discernment Profile” (MDP), which is essentially a job posting. The MDP will then need to be approved by our session, as well as the Presbytery. The process of forming and training a PNC and developing an MDP will take several months.

Please speak with Pastor Schuyler if you have any questions!



“Building. Serving. Inviting.”

<https://pcusa.org/ecclesia-reformata-semper-reformanda>

Hope IN THE STORM

As we slide into autumn I am aware that weather and news folks are all talking about the “Super Godzilla El Nino” we are supposed to get this winter. As you might imagine some shrill voices are predicting a water-soaked apocalypse and others say “record snows.” There are numerous predictions out there, most of them attempting to trade in fear and anxiety, like we don’t have enough of that! But it’s safe to say, I think, that we are in for a stormy time this winter. No one can quite say what the storm will look like or how it will touch us but there is a rare consensus that it is likely to be – as I say – a stormy time.

As I contemplate this through my baby boomer lens on life, I can say with some confidence, that we have weathered storms before. In 1918 in the wake of the 1st World War, we endured a horrific pandemic commonly called the “Spanish Flu.” Fifty million people perished world-wide. As the nation began to awaken to the call to Civil rights, the reaction of groups like the Ku Klux Klan were severe and violent. There were thousands of incidents, including extrajudicial killings, lynchings, arson church attacks and more. It is a storm that continues today. In the 1960s as anti-war sentiments and other social justice struggles raged, the USA, during 1970 – 1971 was experiencing five political bombings per day!

So yes, friends, we have been here before. And as in previous times, the people of God are called to *hope in the face of uncertainty; joy in the midst of despair*. I do not need to write a list of the horrors we see today. From ICE shooting people in their cars to the kidnapping and deporting of people without due process, things are not looking good. But for us, these times of distress and struggle call us to our better selves. For us, the turbulent times call for sharpening clarity as we take stands for justice healing and new beginnings.

So dear friends, the voice of the Holy Spirit calls us to shout joy to the storm; to proclaim the Risen Christ in the face of the gallows; to reach out in a sacred embrace of all who struggle and are wounded; all who are imprisoned and all who have no place to sleep.

Let us not surrender to despair or give way to the barrage of information that pours over us every hour. Let us raise our voices in songs of praise and protest. Let us open our hearts to make room for those who are excluded. And let us always hold one another close in the folds of a community whose substance is love; a people to practice holiness every day.

-Pastor Schuyler



Mission Partner Spotlight: Youth Futures

Beds. Belonging. Better Futures.
Utah's Home for Vulnerable and Homeless Youth.

It Takes All of Us

A fitted sheet. A top sheet. A pillow with a pillowcase. Two blankets. These are such ordinary things that most of us would never think to list them. But last year, at UTSleepOut, a Youth Futures staff member shared a story that made us think differently about what a bed can mean.

She had experienced homelessness and significant housing instability herself while growing up. Years later, when a friend suggested she apply for a job at Youth Futures, she wasn't sure what to expect. She imagined something institutional. A large shelter, perhaps. Young people sleeping on cots.

Instead, she walked into a house. A home.
And one day, while making a bed for one of the young people staying there, she found herself looking at a fitted sheet, a top sheet, a pillow with a pillowcase, and two blankets. "I didn't know that was the bare minimum."
She realized she had never experienced something so simple with any consistency herself. She had to step away to cry.
It is difficult to find a better explanation for why Youth Futures exists. A bed can look like a very small thing. Until you've needed one.

“ It is difficult to find a better explanation for why Youth Futures exists. A bed can look like a very small thing. Until you've needed one.”

What Happens After Safety?

A safe bed is where our work begins. It isn't where it ends. The staff member who shared her story at UTSleepOut understood this from experience, too. Finding a roof does not automatically undo what came before it. As she put it that night: "Even though you're physically in a safer place, it takes a long time for your mind and heart to catch up." That is why Youth Futures provides much more than a place to sleep. There are meals and snacks. Showers and clean clothes. Hygiene products. Counseling. Case management. Help with school, employment, medical care, and the practical skills young people need as they move toward independence. And then there are the things that are harder to put on a services list. Routine. Trust. A meal eaten with other people. An adult who notices. Someone who remembers what you told them yesterday. A place where you can make mistakes safely. The knowledge that when you wake up tomorrow, you know where you are.
A bed creates safety. Belonging builds trust. And, over time, both can help create a better future. But none of this happens alone. Youth Futures has always been a community effort. Long before there were Youth Futures shelters in three Utah communities, people recognized that young people experiencing homelessness needed somewhere safe to go. Community support helped turn that recognition into advocacy, and advocacy ultimately helped make licensed youth shelters possible in Utah.
Today, Youth Futures has 55 shelter and transitional-living beds across Ogden, St. George, and Cedar City. Over its first decade, the organization served 4,268 young people, provided 42,353 nights of shelter, and served 96,467 meals. Those numbers are large. But every one of them is made up of something small. One bed. One dinner. One counseling session. One ride. One conversation. One night when a young person did not have to wonder where they would sleep.
And behind those moments is a community of people who decided to help make them possible.



The Youth Futures UTSleepOut is an annual fundraising event held in St George in support of youth experiencing homelessness.

Guests are invited to gather for the evening and may choose to spend the night together outside. All tickets to this event help Youth Futures provide shelter, outreach and care for youth across Utah.

If you would like to show your support, but would not like to participate in the UTSleepOut, please look forward to the Sunday in October (TBD) when Youth Futures will be visiting with our congregation during worship.

November 7, 2026
7pm - 6am

340 E Tabernacle ST
St. George, Utah
84770

Youth

Community Presbyterian Church Families!

Come to our annual Pumpkin Patch Outing!

At the Judd Family Farm
314 E 270 N. in Paragonah
Saturday, October 3 11:30-2:30

Meet @ CPC at 10:45 to carpool or caravan

Includes: pumpkins for everyone, hay ride,
lunch, face painting, cookie decorating,
games, piñata, and more!

The whole family is invited! And it's FREE!



Please RSVP by Sept 27 to
Alexis Montoya at lexilu492@msn.com
or

CPC office at 435-586-8891

Youth of the Utah Presbytery (YUP) Fall Retreat

Kanab, Utah

Saturday, October 17th

Leaving CPC at 8:30am

Returning to CPC on Sunday, October 18th around 5pm

Cost: \$20 (financial aid available)

RSVP and payment due by Sunday, October 11th



Session

Session Report - September

The September meeting of Session was held on Sept 12th at 10:30am. Elders present were Karen Russell, Tammy Vogt, Beth Gaines, Pam Powell, Dana Covey, and Pastor Schuyler. Guest was Danielle Woodstock.

Minutes approved were from the July and August Stated meetings and the July Congregational Meeting.

Ordination and Installation of Pam Powell will be held on September 27th .

Motions passed:

- Approval of the agenda.
- Approval to pay back Adrienne for the purchase of sheet music and for the honoraria to the guest musicians during the summer music season.
- Approval of the Christmas Eve offering to be combined with the Christmas Joy Special Offering.
- Approval of a request from PEO for use of the Fellowship Hall for Nov 14th .

Discussions from Committees:

- Pastor Schuyler has presented a rough draft of the Mission Report to be reviewed and edited.
- The parallel text is under construction.
- The stewardship campaign will be launched at the beginning of November. Dana, the clerk, reminded that budgets and contracts need to be signed before Dec 31st. Stewardship talks will begin earlier than November.
- From Building and Grounds-some of trees along the streets have been evaluated by an arborist and need to be removed.
- Carpeting in Robyn's office will be installed later in September.
- The CPC presence at SUU's Food and Faith and Paint the Town Red was very successful.
- Faith Formation is starting with Alexis Montoya in charge again this year.
- Reports from Treasures that repairs of drainage and lighting have happened, we have had help from the SUU athletes and will try to continue that, and OARS is thinking about making one of their Tues. meetings a service project for Treasures.
- Continued discussion was held about the establishment of a larger compassion fund.
- Pastor Schuyler reports that the tiny house homeless community at Iron County Care and Share will break ground in October.
- He has had several personal visiting sessions with some of the congregation, has continued his visitation of the congregation, has been in discussions with the Presbytery regarding the progress of the pastoral transition.

The meeting was adjourned with group prayer at 12:50pm.

Dana Covey, Clerk of Session

Save the Date!

Meeting of the Utah Presbytery - Here at CPC!

The next meeting of the Utah Presbytery will be held here in our church on November 7th.

Everyone is invited to join the worship that will take place beforehand as well as the meeting itself.

Holy Communion will be served.

More information will be out soon, but for now - save the date!



OCTOBER 2026

Is your birthday missing or incorrect?
Please let us know!
Email changes to
office@cedarpres.org

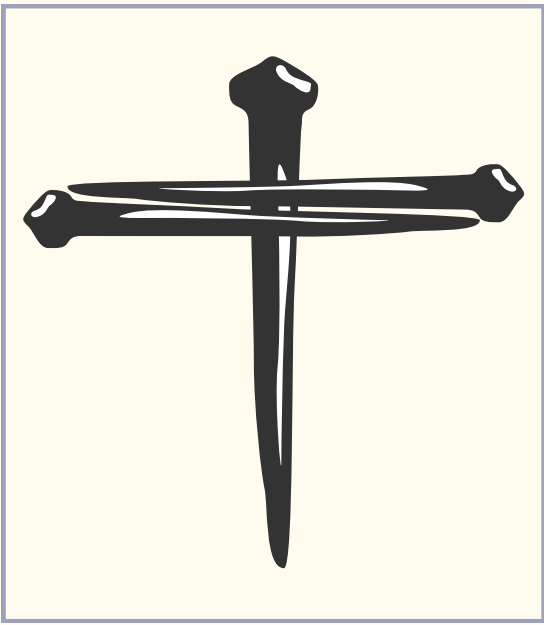
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29 OARS - 6pm	30	01	02	03 Families Connected @ Judd Family Farm - 11:30am Jeff Smith's Birthday
04 World Communion Sunday Noah Fithian's Birthday	05 Choir Rehearsal - 6:30pm	06 OARS - 6pm	07 Sue Foster's Birthday Lunch with Pastor - Noon	08	09	10 Committee Meetings - 9am Meeting of Session - 10:30am
11 2nd Sunday Potluck New Members' Class - 11:15am	12 Indigenous People's Day Treasures Work Day - 9am Choir Rehearsal - 6:30pm	13 OARS - 6pm Ruth Fotheringham's Birthday	14 Lunch with Pastor - Noon	15	16	17 RENEWAL Flight Bags - 9am Botan Berndt's Birthday Sandy Neumeier's Birthday
18 Holy Communion Sunday New Members' Class - 11:15am	19 Scott Woodstock's Birthday Choir Rehearsal - 6:30pm	20 Treasures Work Night- 5pm OARS - 6pm	21 Taelynn Davis' Birthday Lunch with Pastor - Noon	22	23	24 Karen Russsell's Birthday
25 Reformation Sunday Treasures Volunteer Meeting - 11:15am New Members' Class - 11:15am Russ Ewert's Birthday	26 Jerry Russell's Birthday Choir Rehearsal - 6:30pm	27 OARS - 6pm	28 Lunch with Pastor - Noon Zach Merrill's Birthday	29	30	31 Halloween Cathy Croft's Birthday

Have You Ever Thought About “Joining” Community Presbyterian Church?

I know. There are a lot of us out there who don't think much about “joining” things and groups in general. The question comes, “Well, I am here, aren't I? Why do I need to ‘join’ the church?”

The short answer to that question is two-fold. First, we are overjoyed that you are here in our midst and second, there is no requirement to “join” the Church. However membership, as the old credit card commercial goes, “has its privileges.” Members of the Church can serve on session and other teams who make decisions about leadership, ministry and mission. Members do not have to walk lock-step with every jot and title of Presbyterian polity, but members do make a commitment to this Presbyterian way. Members are not called upon to “believe” every bit of doctrine and institutional dalliance we discover. But Members do tend to go deeper into these matters in their lives of prayer and witness.

Pastor Schuyler will be holding a new members class beginning October 11th. You can attend and follow up by consenting to join, or you can attend for the sake of what you might learn. There's no pressure or pushing. There is only invitation to find ways for all of us to go deeper and more fully into our lives of faith. And, sisters and brothers, at the end of the day, the agenda really comes down to the building of a Kingdom Community; God's village right here in Cedar City.



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WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday
10:00am

Faith Formation Sunday School
during worship,
after children’s message

CONTACT US

435-586-8891
office@cedarpres.org
cedarpres.org
www.facebook.com/CedarPres

TREASURES THRIFT STORE

A ministry of
Community Presbyterian Church

435-865-5972

1093 S Main Street
Cedar City, UT 84720

Thursday - Saturday
10am - 4pm

October 2026

The Good News

A newsletter from Community Presbyterian Church

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Cedar City, Utah 84721

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