

What's happening at CPC

- ♦ **Fall schedule begins today, September 13**
 - 8:30 a.m. first worship service
 - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for children
 - 10:00 a.m. High School class
 - 10:00 a.m. combined adult Middle Hour
 - 11:00 a.m. second worship service
- ♦ **Prayer Meeting today, September 13,**
12:30 - 1:30 p.m., MC-D
- ♦ **Middle Hour for Adults, September 20**
 - Sermon Q&A ~ main hall
 - Exodus ~ Potter's House basement
 - Marriage Class ~ MC-1
 - Discovering CPC* ~ AC-4
 - Colossians ~ AC-5
 - Foundations of Christian Life ~ AC-6
 - Women's Class ~ Potter's House library
- ♦ **Discovering CPC fall middle hour class**
This class runs twice a year, fall and spring, and introduces CPC to those who are interested in church membership. It covers our history, our distinctives, and our vision for the future. Sign up in advance by noting it on your *Welcome* slip or by calling the church office.
- ♦ **Congregation-wide meeting, September 20,**
6:30 p.m., main hall

You will find details of these events along with many other announcements and our calendar on our website: www.columbiapres.org

Thank you for serving today!

	Serving	September 13
8:30 a.m.	Ushers/Set Up	A Edwards, D Chandler, H Bradley, M Tucker, D&D Nace
	Projectionist	D Merrill
	Greeters	G Bayless, K&D Plantz
	Nursery Captain	J Parlette
	Infant Nursery	L Davidson, D DeSena
	1's & 2's Nursery	P Chao
	3's Nursery	K Bradley, N Erickson
	Prayer Team	D Rowell
	Children's Worship	S&P Maggio
10:00	Infant Nursery	E Hartin, J Jacob, C Rushing
	1's & 2's Nursery	D&M McKinney, M Farmer
11:00 a.m.	Ushers/Take Down	J Schaefer, B Singer, R Kraus, M Plantz, D Floyd
	Projectionist	A Koch
	Greeters	G Greenslit
	Infant Nursery	P Floyd, S Kahwajy
	1's & 2's Nursery	MC Jeske, H Floyd, K Sciannella
	3's Nursery	M Dransfield, R Reichard
	Prayer Team	No one
	Children's Worship	D&H Swearman, C Tucker
Financial Sec.	K Singer, B Warner	

Next Sunday Pastor Allen Harris will preach on "See the Big Picture of the Kingdom" from Matthew 13:24-43.

Columbia Presbyterian Church

10001 Route 108
Columbia, MD 21044
410-730-6004

Pastors: Allen Harris, Steve Green, Tim Flora
Staff: Robbie Pennington, Dan Halley, Eric Johnston



♦ **September 13, 2009**

*We want to know Christ,
to know His hope,
and to know His power.*

Ephesians 1:17-23

Good morning! Welcome!

We are here to worship God. He created us, redeemed us after we rejected Him, and holds on to us forever. Once we know Him, the only reasonable response is to worship Him.

We worship God corporately as a church on Sunday mornings, as families and as community groups through the week, and individually.

We love God and so love our neighbors ~ those sitting next to you this morning, those who live near you, those with whom you work or go to school.

This morning

You are warmly invited to keep your children with you in worship or you can entrust them to our dedicated, caring volunteers. We have nurseries downstairs for children up to 3 years old.

There is an opportunity during each worship service for children age 4 through grade 2 to be dismissed to a Children's Worship service.

At 10:00 a.m. we have classes for all ages. Adults will meet together this morning in the main hall.

<i>Children's Sunday School Classes</i>	
3s	MC-C
4s	MC-B
Kindergarten	MC-A
Grade 1	MC-2
Grades 2 & 3	MC-D
Grade 4	AC-3
Grade 5	AC-2
Middle School Girls	AC-1
Middle School Boys	PH-11

Worship Services ~ 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17



Call to Worship

Completely Done

Prayer of Adoration

Ministry in Focus

Scripture Reading - Matthew 12:46-13:23

Kind and Merciful God

The Lord Is

Completely Done

Pastoral Prayer
Worship in Giving*

Message

Loved with Everlasting Love ~ TH703

O Love That Will not Let Me Go

Benediction



*Children age 4 through grade 2 are dismissed following
Worship in Giving to Children's Worship downstairs in MC-A.

Worship Leader: Rev. Tim Flora
Preacher: Rev. Allen Harris

Prayer Guide

Pray for our Sunday School ministry to children. Pray for our **Sunday School** and **Adult Middle Hour** teachers as they prepare for their classes and ministry to their students.

Praise God for answered prayer. We received the written Decision in Order from the county concerning our **facility expansion**. Pray for the Building Executive Committee as they make plans and decisions before construction can begin. Pray for the necessary funding to accomplish God's work and that He would be glorified.

Many of us have suffered illness or the death of a loved one this year. Pray for healing and comfort.

Pray for our church family members who are **servicing in the military**: Michael Belliveau, Jim Bjerkaas, Lee Brian (Esther Brian's nephew), Ashley Chisholm, Tony Corbett, Loren Erickson, Chris Grussendorf, Vinnie Lamolinara, and Nathan Perrault.

If you would like to be added to our Prayer Chain, email us at office@columbiapres.org.

The Gospel of Matthew #95

WHAT ABOUT CHRISTIANS WHO “FALL AWAY”?

Matthew 13:1-23

Context: Major Sections so far:

Works: Narrative 1: ch 1-4: Birth & beginning of ministry
 Words: Teaching 1: ch 5-7: Serm on Mt: Lifestyle & blessings of disciple
 Works: Narrative 2: ch 8-9: Compassionate authority in action; beg crits
 Words: Teaching 2: ch 10: Commission to Kingdom ministry: Warnings & encouragement
 Works: Narrative 3: ch11-12: Apparent failure: doubts, unbelief, attacks
 Words: Teaching 3: ch 13: Parables of the Kingdom

This 3rd block of teaching is once again different:
7 parables.

Parable: “to throw alongside”: comparing 2 dissimilar things
6x: “the Kingdom of Heaven is **like**...”

Parables are

- a) realistic: commonplace stories of familiar things
- b) symbolic: illustrate some spiritual truth about the Kingdom
- c) both reveal and conceal

Parable 1: the four kinds of soils.

The story (v3-9) – Why parables? (v10-17) – Parable explained to the disciples (v18-23)

Look at first parable as answer to 2 important Qs:

1. Can a true Christian lose his/her salvation?
2. Can a true Christian not display visible fruit?

I. The Parable

- A. The context (ch 11-12)
- B. The parable (v3-9)
- C. “Why parables?” (v10-17)
- D. Interpretation of the parable (v18-23)
Q: how many soils are true Christians?

II. Two key words unlock the meaning of the parable:

- A. “_____ / _____” (v18)
Connects the meaning to what said in v10-17
- B. “_____” (v13, 14, 15, 19, 23)
You cannot understand the Gospel without it transforming your life

III. So the answers to the 2 Qs:

- A. Christians who “fall away” were never Christians in the first place
- B. The ones who call themselves Christians without any observable fruit are in fact not Christians at all

Fruit: Galatians 5:22-23; I Thess 1: I John

IV. The application for you

- A. What observable difference has Jesus Christ made in your life?
What is true of you that can only be explained by Jesus Christ in your life?
- B. Do you see the worries and deceitfulness of money choking your walk with Jesus?

Recognize and admit where your heart is and come to Him (11:28-30) for forgiveness and a new life.

- C. Are there people in your life who think they are Christians because of some past experience, who you need to warn of possible false assurance?
That is what Jesus is doing here for those who **want to know**