



## Events

For more  
events &  
info, visit:

cogpca.org/events



SCAN ME

Youth Group Winter Retreat

**SAVE THE DATE** **6-8 FEBRUARY 2026**

Contact Emily MacKenzie for more information  
emily@cogpca.org



*Valentine's Day*  
**Date Night for Parents**

RSVP online @  
cogpca.org

**February 7th**

**5-8pm**

For Church Members  
and Regular Attenders

Birth- 5th grade  
games, crafts, and fun

RSVP by Mon Feb 2nd

Registration  
Required  
cogpca.org/events



### Men's Breakfast

R.E.A.L. Men With a Purpose  
"Helping Men Become Disciples of  
Jesus Christ"

**Saturday, February 7th, 7:15-9:00 AM**

**Speaker: John Pupillo**

**John will be sharing his  
testimony**

**Cost is ONLY \$10 - Pay online or at the door.**

## Sunday Morning Christian Education

### Children

9:15am Rainbow Room-infant-3years

9:15am Room 6 - 3years-5<sup>th</sup> grade

10:30am Rainbow Room-Nursery - infant-age 3

*Kids worship during sermon in Room #6- age 3-2nd  
grade*

### Adults

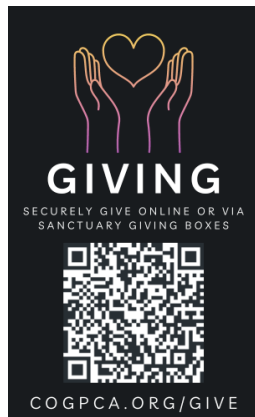
9:15am Our Digital Dilemma led by Greg Hard (begins  
Jan. 18th)

9:15am Matthew- Room #9

9:15am Youth Sunday School - Youth Annex

9:15am COG Foundations (begins Jan. 18th)

10:10am Prayer Meeting in the Church Office



January 18, 2026



**tough questions**  
*honest answers*

## Covenant of Grace

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



9:15am Christian Education

\*Coffee and Tea available in the Welcome Center between  
Christian Education and Worship

10:30am Worship Service

### Connect with Us

Covenant of Grace - church office

410-833-2160 office@cogpca.org

Sr. Pastor Mark Samuel | mark@cogpca.org

Assistant Pastor, Ken Harris | ken@cogpca.org



@COGPCA



https://cogpca.org



We are so glad you're here! At Covenant of Grace we strive to be a hospitable, gospel-centered fellowship committed to helping people know God, become more like Jesus, and serve his world. As we worship together today, our prayer is that Jesus would be glorified, his word made clear, and his people equipped and empowered to love and serve God & their neighbors. Soli Deo Gloria!  
~Pastor Mark Samuel

## Children @ Covenant of Grace

Your children are welcome in all parts of worship at Covenant of Grace! To help support the full participation of families in worship, we make available a kid's worship program during the sermon for children ages 3 - 2nd grade as well as a nursery and cry room. Christian education classes are available for all ages (see back cover). Have a child with special needs? Please let us know & we'll make every effort to accommodate.

After the Service an Elder will be up front with stickers for children who share what they learned this morning.

## Week at a Glance

### Sun. January 18, 2026

10:30am Worship Service  
12:00 Baby Shower for Beckett Arrington  
6:00pm Youth Group

### Tues. January 20, 2026

10:30am Women's Bible Study  
7:00pm Women's Bible Study  
7:00pm Deacon meeting

### Wed.. January 21, 2026

10:00am Women's Bible Study  
7:00pm Women's Bible Study  
7:00pm Middle School D-group

### Fri. January 23, 2026

8:50am Wo. Prayer Mtg. (Zoom)

# Order of Worship

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....PASTOR MARK SAMUEL

CALL TO WORSHIP..... *based on Psalm 27*

SONGS OF PRAISE

PRAISE HIM, PRAISE HIM  
GIVE ME JESUS

INVOCATION PRAYER

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE AND RENEWAL

Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy. We are spiritually poor, but you are rich and in Jesus Christ came to be merciful to the poor. Strengthen our faith and trust in you. We are empty vessels that need to be filled; fill us. We are weak in faith; strengthen us. We are cold in love; warm us, and make our hearts fervent for you that our love may go out to one another and to our neighbors. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE.....EPHESIANS 2: 8-9

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH.....ELDER GREG HARD

OUR GIFTS FOR GOD'S GLORY.....TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERING OF SONG.....THE COG CHOIR

TURN YOUR EYES

SCRIPTURE READING\*.....MATTHEW 7: 24-29

THE SERMON.....PASTOR MARK SAMUEL

"ISN'T CLAIMING CHRISTIANITY AS "TRUTH" JUDGMENTAL?"

SONG OF REFLECTION

JESUS PAID IT ALL

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.† The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic‡ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

SONG OF COMMITMENT.....DOXOLOGY

BENEDICTION

\*Children ages 3 through 2nd grade are invited to attend Kids worship in room #6

†Jesus' 'descent into hell' refers to His death and burial, God's wrath toward sin being poured out on him in our place.

‡By 'catholic,' we mean the universal church made up of all Christians who are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.



## Sermon Notes

**Text:** Matthew 7:24-29

**Title:** Tough Questions: Isn't claiming Christianity as "truth" judgmental?

**Message:** Far from being judgmental, our most loving act is to embrace and share the truth of God in word and deed in all of life.

**Outline:**

**I. Embracing truth is essential to a stable life**

**II. Sharing God's truth is a loving act.**

**III. For truth to sustain us, it must be lived out in life and relationships.**



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## Prayer Requests

Need prayer reach out to the church office or send an email to [prayer@cogpca.org](mailto:prayer@cogpca.org)

**Marianne Danko:** Praise God that donor cells came and Leisa had the stem cell transplant. Pray now for strength as she is very weak dealing with uncomfortable side effects and she is very susceptible to infection. Pray too that her body does not reject the donor cells and that the Lord's hand is upon her over these next two difficult months.

**Vicky Harvey:** Deb (Dave's sister) was released from the hospital to her home last Wednesday (12/30). Her husband, Kurt asks that we continue to pray for her recovery and that he remains healthy.

**Jen Roberts:** Please keep Jen and Jimmy in prayer following a recent job loss, asking for God's guidance and provision.

## Missionary Prayer

### Campus Outreach-Paul & Stephanie Billings January 2026

Campus Outreach D.C. is a college ministry on 5 campuses across the D.C. metro area. CODC sees the college campuses as a mission field where we share the message of Jesus Christ. We are encouraged by what is doing on our 5 campuses (Georgetown, George Washington, Howard, American, and the University of Maryland). I am giving leadership to 23 staff now and serving as an elder at our church. Staff engage with students & help them strengthen their relationship with Christ. Our hope is that students leave college with a strong faith in Christ & skills to be active participants in spreading the Gospel for the glory of God.

Prayer Requests:

- February 2026 Winter Retreat 3 cozy days of fellowship, teaching, snow tubing & time to recharge.
- I have a sabbatical starting in February after nearly 15 years on staff. Please pray that God would give me rest and that he would refresh Stephanie and I in order that we are able to continue leading the ministry in the years ahead.
- We are hoping to send a long-term team to start a Campus Outreach region in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in the next 2-3 years. Please pray that God would allow us to send some of our best equipped staff and graduates there and that these next few years would be marked by healthy growth and gospel expansion.
- Please pray we'd see new converts on all of our campuses this Spring and that we'd be faithful to make disciples and integrate them into local churches.
- Please pray for our pioneering efforts at the University of Maryland and that the Lord would especially bless our growing influence on the baseball team there.

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