



# BELL TOWER NEWS

College Hill Presbyterian Church – JUNE 2024

513.541.5676 | 5742 Hamilton Ave. | Cincinnati, OH 45224 | [chpc.org](http://chpc.org)

## DELIVERING GOD'S LOVE KENYA-STYLE

*For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope —Jeremiah 29:11.*

Scriptures like this were vital to CHPC's 7-person team's decision to go to Kenya, May 16-26. Less than a week before the group was to depart, the Hope Children's Center was closed to outsiders due to an illness affecting the children. Few people like surprises, but, after a time of intense prayer, the whole team decided to go to Nairobi and be servers and learners as God led. The July *Bell Tower News* will have reflections from the whole team.

Pictured is one of the opportunities that developed.

Four of the team drove with "King David" into the bush for a delivery to a rural Maasai village. Historically, this male-dominated tribal group were fearsome warriors, and semi-nomadic herders of sheep, goats, and cattle. More recently, the Kenyan government has provided schools, but girls, in particular, have real challenges once they reach puberty.

*Add-A-Room* and *Delivering Dignity* are two ministries helping to give girls a future and a hope. They express Christ's love in very practical ways. *Add-A-Room* seeks to provide safety for young, vulnerable girls forced to leave their family's one-room houses and to sleep outside when they reach adolescence. *Add-A-Room* encourages mothers

to attach a room for girls to live in. Then, the ministry provides girls a foam mattress to sleep on, a solar-powered light to study by, and a "Delivering Dignity Kit" for their monthly feminine care needs. The result is girls are more physically protected (fewer teenage pregnancies and early marriages). Plus, more girls finish school and choose a life of dignity and purpose.



"KING DAVID" (FAR LEFT), MOTHER & DAUGHTER, CHPC'S KELLEY FORESMAN, MAGGIE SMITH, BARBARA McMULLEN & DAVE SMITH (WHO TOOK THE PHOTO) SERVED WITH "ADD-A-ROOM," DISTRIBUTING MATTRESSES, BLANKETS, SOLAR LIGHTS, AND "DIGNITY KITS" TO MAASAI GIRLS.



COLLEGE HILL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## MORE DETAILS ABOUT DELIVERING GOD'S LOVE KENYA-STYLE

(ARTICLE ON THE FRONT COVER)



ADD-A-ROOM WAS ONE OF THE RECIPIENTS OF CHPC'S 2024 ENDOWMENT FUNDS. "King David" did a video during the recent Add-

A-Room delivery. Meet the mother who built a room for her daughter. Go online: [YOUTUBE.COM/SHORTS/TGgPMP3UOH8](https://www.youtube.com/shorts/TGgPMP3UOH8)

AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION: Here we have this beautiful room. Today we brought her child a mattress, sanitary towels, a blanket and a solar system [a solar-powered light]. So now we know that she is able to continue doing her homework after helping the mother to milk their cow and goat. And this is why we are calling for people to continue supporting the Add-A-Room program. Whatever amount of money you give goes directly to such kind of beneficiaries. This is a girl who has been saved from rape, abuse, [and] from the cold of the night. We believe that saving such kind of girls is saving a future. We have a [future] doctor in girls. We have [future] teachers here. We have [future] engineers here. Let's continue supporting add-a-room for this. Thank you.



WHILE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, DAVID ALSO HANDED OUT *Delivering Dignity* KITS TO 102 PRECIOUS YOUNG GIRLS AT A LOCAL SCHOOL. THEY NOW HAVE a future and a hope!

## A FUND RAISER FOR



**June 6, 2024 • 5:30-10PM**  
**Happy Hour at Brink Brewing**  
5905 Hamilton Ave, 45224



10% of sales go directly to  
Sonlight Power.

No program; just hang-out and  
enjoy old & new friends and  
prize-winning beers.

Questions? Text Rebecca @  
513-706-8763

## Knits & Pearls

*come and unwind*

**Thursdays, 10 AM at CHPC**

June Elwood (513) 205-7991  
or Gwyn Spindel (513) 761-7185  
for weekly details

A caring fellowship group of  
social knitters and fabric arts  
women who use their talents for  
the benefit of others. In its 17th  
year. Open to the community.  
"A great place to go and unwind."

SHARE THE EXCITEMENT  
HEAR FROM THE 2024 KENYA TEAM  
GLOBAL OUTREACH GATHERING  
SUNDAY, JUNE 23RD, 11:30AM  
CHPC FIRESIDE ROOM — LIGHT LUNCH





Ann Rainey followed Jesus, into heaven on August 2, 2023. She had a profound, lasting impact on SonLight Power. Her husband and founder of SonLight Power, Allen Rainey, reflects on why the mission was made possible through her. "Ann was the driving force in the beginning of SonLight Power. Without Ann—her inspiration, support, grace, faith through financial sacrifice—there would be no solar mission. No development of my skill and talent in solar. No SonLight Power. Her strength of character, Holy Spirit-inspired vision, support, and faithful sacrifice were key ingredients in the success of SonLight Power from the beginning. I and countless others impacted by this mission since then are so grateful."

#### THE 12-PACK THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING

The full story starts at a campground in Mounds State Park, Brookville, IN. Ann and I ended up in the campsite next to a guy with a 12-pack of Budweiser and a loudmouth. We loved the outdoors. But this experience, along with similar unfortunate camping experiences, inspired both of us to consider purchasing land so that we could enjoy a quiet, comfortable place to camp in early

spring of 1995.

By early summer we had purchased 50 acres outside Brookville that we affectionately called Camp Amakanata, named after my grandfather's fish hatchery in rural Georgia, renowned for its ability to grow trout. Ann liked Amakanata as much as I did. Throughout the summer weekends, we were busy clearing the land, exploring, and camping. Ann was there many weekends but also spent time with family.

It didn't take long to realize how important electricity would be to make the camp viable. I considered bringing grid power to the camp at first, but when learning how much it would cost, I started exploring other options. They say necessity is the mother of invention. That was the case when I started my journey with solar power in 1995. Back then, solar power wasn't nearly as mainstream as it is today. Especially in rural Indiana.

Ann waited patiently that winter as I poured into solar power trade magazines, books, and installation manuals. When I was ready, we invested \$1,200 to install two panels, a charge controller, inverter, and battery. Those components would power a well pump and a few lights for camp buildings yet to be.

That marked the beginning of many improvements, experiments – learning and mastering solar power by trial and error. And the beginning of a story much bigger that only God could write. Fortunately, Ann perceived what I almost overlooked.

#### PERSISTENCE

Skip ahead almost five years – I'm entering my fifth semester at Regent University (Virginia Beach, Virginia) pursuing a degree in Practical Theology with what turned out

to be a concentration in missions. It was during that stretch that Ann shared her belief that solar power was going to be part of my long-term mission. At first, I didn't pay attention to the seed being planted. I was distracted by the crush of study. But eventually it worked its way into our prayer life and we were both asking for wisdom and guidance to see what that would be like.

Over time, I envisioned doing solar work in some form as a missions pastor. Ann didn't think that was the answer, but she really didn't know how things would work out. We stayed persistent in prayer. The Bible verse that comes to mind for that season is Luke 11:8 "... and yet because of his persistence..." We were persistent and eventually we found ourselves moving back to Cincinnati for family reasons the last semester.

That's when Wayne Darbonne, then the missions pastor at our church, College Hill Presbyterian Church (CHPC), organized a missions conference. At the conference, Dr. Jeff Heck was doing a breakout session for medical mission teams serving in the Central American country of Honduras. I went and listened to what Jeff had to say. Afterward I asked him, "Is there any need that you have in Honduras for solar power?" And Jeff looked at me and said excitedly, which is out of character for him, "You know solar power!? You need to come with me to Honduras!" And so we did. That was the beginning of our solar-powered ministry—SonLight Power.

#### FOR THE REST OF THE STORY...

and more about Sonlight Power's local, national & international ministry: <https://www.sonlightpower.org/news/tribute-to-ann-rainey>.



**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**  
Lost Gardens of College Hill is the third talk in a series of *free* talks by Ed Loyd, the President of the College Hill Historical Society. It is an overview of some of the many green treasures of College Hill throughout our community's history.

Certainly, the gardens in College Hill have brought beauty, quiet, and repose to those who have sought a retreat to replenish the soul. Large or small, grandiose or intimate, they have a way of mirroring the culture of the times and way of life. Most important of all, in their character they have revealed the passions, failures and triumphs of their creators. Come and bring a friend!



**TUESDAY, JUNE 11th, 6:30 PM** (doors open)

THE COLLEGE HILL GARDENERS &  
THE COLLEGE HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Present *The Lost Gardens of College Hill*

Venue: College Hill Presbyterian Church, 5742 Hamilton Ave,



## IT ONLY HAPPENS EVERY

**TWO YEARS . . .** so the College Hill Gardeners' Garden Walk is usually a sellout. The 2024 event is unique and includes 7 sites — 4 gardens, 2 farms, and an arboretum in the College Hill area, ones typically closed to the public.

Saturday, June 15 the walk begins at 10vAM and concluding at 3vPM. Tickets (passes) will be available for purchase at the June 11th Gardeners' meeting where Ed Loyd will speak. Pay with cash or Venmo.

Scan the black and white QR code or go to Facebook for all the details. Purchase passes online through Eventbrite.com, or picked up tickets at Luminary by LaTerza (the former site of the College Hill Coffee Company). Advance tickets are \$20. The day of the walk, tickets will be \$25 if the event is not sold out.

The homeowners and participants in this year's walk, as well as the CHG members who've organized it and the businesses promoting it, have all worked very hard to make this walk distinct from the other walks—which is what the CH Gardener's events are well-known for. The homeowners and participants have been invited to attend Ed Loyd's lecture on June 11th. Give them a warm welcome. There will be a special presentation before Ed Loyd's talk, too.

Questions?

Email [collegehillgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:collegehillgardeners@gmail.com) .



# IT TAKES A VILLAGE....

BY CINDY CARLSON AND SHARLYN STARE

James Paudel and his family immigrated to the United States from Nepal in 2012, and moved to Cincinnati in 2016. He says he is grateful to live in the U.S. because of the freedoms and opportunities that are available to him. His commitment to Christ is making a huge difference in his life.

He is a 10th grade student from Finneytown High School who Cindy Carlson and others drive to attend CHPC youth group each week. He has participated in the annual youth mission trips for two years. He appreciates his neighbors and friends, including his wrestling and football coaches and teachers at Finneytown High School who have supported and encourage him.

For the past two summers, James (navy shirt) has taught with the

was offered a job at the Powell Cropley YMCA—but there was a hitch. To be employed, James had to prove that his immigration papers were in order. His permanent resident visa or “green card” needed to be renewed.

Around the first of the year, James’ mother was involved in an accident that totaled the family auto and put her on disability. Others helped the family in many ways, but James’ Green Card expiration was overlooked. This was serious. People began praying diligently for a way forward..

Sure enough, God had already provided the team with the skills needed to apply for the visa renewal. Rick Kennedy (a former CHPC member) is James’ “mentor.” Jaylen Williams, a friend and neighbor had told James about the City Gospel Missions’ Mentor program. It took a year of waiting and praying, but James was matched with Rick Kennedy, a retired spokesperson for General Electric. James said having Rick as his mentor is a great help to him. “It’s cool to have a mentor. We do things together. Rick is a friend. We can talk about life, and Rick shares wisdom with me.”

Rick, along with the Paudel’s family friend Cindy Carlson, were able to navigate the U. S. government’s website to successfully apply to renew James’ green card. Three heads were definitely better than one!

Relationships and partnerships like the City Gospel Mission’s men-



JAMES, RICK KENNEDY, CINDY CARLSON WORKING ON THE VISA APPLICATION.

toring program, youth groups, sport coaches, teachers, friends, neighbors, even an “adopted grandmother” have all vital to James and his family. It does take a village of believers pooling their gifts, praying, and acting together to reveal God’s love and provision in obvious ways. Phil 1:5-6 says, “I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?  
Share it with the Bell Tower News:  
[starecvg@aol.com](mailto:starecvg@aol.com), (513) 542-2442.

DID YOU KNOW... a BIG shout out goes to everyone who engaged in some capacity with the Youth Yard Sale Mission Trip Fundraiser. It was a church wide team effort! On May 11th, \$1,725 was raised towards the overall youth mission trip goal of \$10,500.

THAT IS PHENOMENAL!!!  
Thank you for blessing other with your donations. *NIKKI MCKENNAN*



Swim Ministry. Last July, he qualified for a special “pre-Life Guarding” class, designed to give experienced staff a taste of what they would need to do to qualify to take the American Red Cross Life Guarding classes. Three of the class, including James, are now certified Life Guards. James



## WHAT'S EXCITING, FUN, LOUD, AND SOMETIMES EVEN MESSY? M-FUGE

CHPC students will soon be heading to camp in Lakeland, FL. Getting there is part of the fun, as are the mission/service projects that are arranged through the camp.

Every moment spent at FUGE (short for CentriFUGE) Camp is designed to take students out of their normal routine and place them into an environment that is focused on life-change by focusing on "things that really matter."

Nikki McKenna, Director of CHPC's Family Ministries, announces the following schedule:

### **FINAL FUND-RAISER JUNE 9th, 12 AM to 4 PM**

Pray for our last fundraiser, where our trip leaders and students will reach out to their own networks of friends, family, and CHPC community online and by phone to promote the campaign and encourage donations. DONATE at [chpc.org/ministries/youth](http://chpc.org/ministries/youth).

### **Sunday, June 30th, 12 to 1:30 PM**

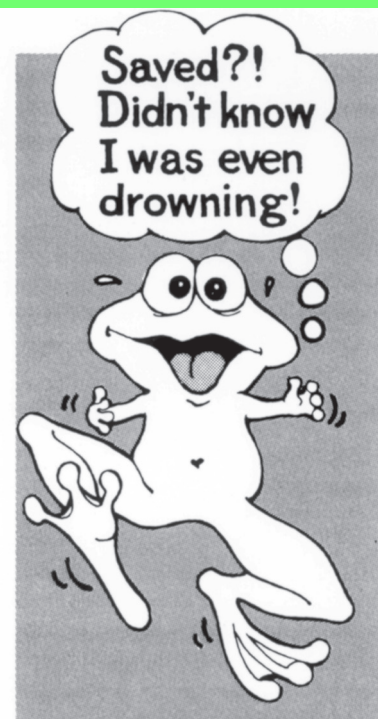
The Youth Mission Trip Send-Off Prayer Luncheon is in the CHPC Parlor. Parents, students, and leaders are invited for this part of the year-long preparation for the trip.

### **July 5-8 and July 12, Kissimmee, Florida.**

### **July 8-12, the Fuge Mission site- Southeastern University Lakeland, Florida.**

### **PRAY for leaders and students.**

Please keep the trip leaders and students in prayer as God continues to prepare their hearts and minds for their journey.



## **DATES for LESSONS FROM THE CHPC SWIMMING MINISTRY**

### **Children & Teens Lessons**

(age 5 and above) at  
North Hills Swim Club.

Mornings — 10 AM, 11 AM,  
or 12 Noon

2 separate weeks:

Week #1 July 15-19;

Week #2 July 29 to Aug. 2

### **Adult lessons**

"Now's your time to learn."

6-7 PM Twin Tower's Wellness  
Connection Pool

2 separate weeks:

Week A July 8-12;

Week B July 22-26

**OUR ONLINE BROCHURE  
is available at  
[www.chpc.org/swim](http://www.chpc.org/swim)**

**REGISTER NOW...  
SPACE IS LIMITED.**





This 4-day Summer Day Camp is designed for children ages 3-8

WHEN: From 9 AM to 12:15 PM  
Mon., July 29th through  
Thurs., Aug. 1st,  
WHERE: In the 3C's Wing of the  
CHPC Learning Center  
COST: \$70/first child.  
\$10 discount for each additional  
sibling (\$60, \$50, \$40). Discount  
is calculated at bottom of form.  
Children must have emergency  
information on file before  
attending the 3Cs' Camp.  
FULL PAYMENT IS DUE AT  
REGISTRATION. Cancellations  
before May 31st will receive a refund  
less any processing fees.



*Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:8-9 (NIV)*

INFORMATION? CONTACT CHRISTY ROEDIGER, CHRISROEDIGER1014@GMAIL.COM



#### PSALM 139:14 PROCLAIMS THAT WE ARE "FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE."

This scripture affirms the inherent value and beauty in each of God's creations, including children with special needs. Key'Arrah (KiKi) Montgomery was born on May 21st with a disability that has affected her life. Key'Arrah was born cognitively delayed. With no language skills she had difficulties in developing as a toddler. "Help Me Grow" (an early intervention program) got involved immediately. At age three she

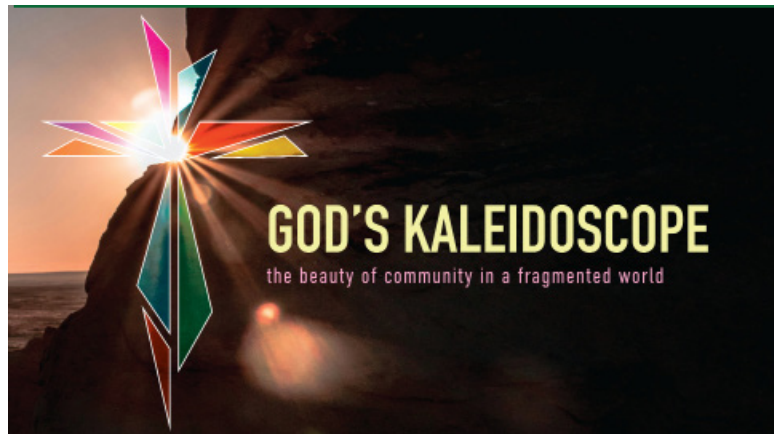


was identified for an IFSP and later at age five, an IEP. Sycamore City Schools have some phenomenal teachers who never gave up on her. It took speech-language therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy for Key'Arrah to be where she is today. She graduated May 26, 2024! It is so amazing to see how she has made it regardless of the struggles she had as a young child when she was taken from her parents. But, through it all, the biggest decision she has made on her own is when she gave her life to God and was baptized. Happy 18th Birthday KiKi! BY ROSA BRINKMAN (MEMAW)

Life is full of changes. In fact, perhaps the most consistent thing in life is transition. We move from infant to baby to toddler to child to teenager and to adult in a constant series of celebrated changes. Our church was founded in 1853 and has endured innumerable changes – our congregation lived through the Civil War and then the 1st and 2nd World Wars! In our lifetime, we have lived through a technology revolution that has changed the way we do most everything; the tragedy of 9/11; and more recently the COVID pandemic. Through it all, we stand on the Rock. No matter what challenge or transition comes our way, we stand on the Rock which is Jesus Christ our risen Lord. You weren't part of the original 12, nor were you able to sit at his feet while he fed the multitude, yet you believe. Your hope is in Jesus and he will be faithful from now to forever.

*Almighty God, you are indeed our hope. We long to see you in person, yet we believe even without seeing. We trust in the truth of your resurrection and that you are indeed alive. We trust in the Holy Spirit that you provide to guide and guard us. Through whatever changes come, please cause us to stick together in this boat and keep our hearts focused on you. We trust you to continue to guide us. In Jesus, Amen.*

— CHRISTY ROEDIGER



## PREACHING IN JUNE

BY REV. DR. ANDREW SMITH, PASTOR

God has created the Church as a unified group committed to following Jesus in all areas of life and sharing his love and truth with the world. Now, unity does not mean uniformity, and agreement about Jesus does not mean we agree on everything. We will disagree about music style, politics, and favorite foods—to name a few. The first-century church had significant quarrels—just read I Corinthians.

However, Paul charges us not to divide because Jesus is more important than all the other issues. So, how do we live out this grand unity? This summer, we will explore the tools of being God's Kaleidoscope—a beautiful community reflecting God in a fragmented world.

We believe that the power of

the cross has destroyed what divides us, and the power of the Spirit will strengthen us and demonstrate Jesus' powerful love, which binds us together. Even in an election season that has become so

partisan and divisive, Jesus unites us. What an exciting time to show the world how powerful God's love in Jesus is.

### JUNE 2 A QUARREL-FREE ZONE—

Proverbs 17:14, Romans 12:16-21  
The Scriptures command that we not let quarrels define our community. Many have been surprised by the contentious spirit we experience during election seasons, but it's nothing new. The Apostle Paul saw churches face quarrels regularly. Let's explore what he said to them and how we can apply it.

### JUNE 9 CHURCH LIKE HEAVEN—

Rev. 5, I Corinthians 3:1-17; 12:24-27  
The community unified in Jesus endures the test of time. Those committed to following Jesus make up the globally diverse heavenly

host who worship Jesus in one voice. In the end, the picture of those gathered before Jesus includes those from every ethnicity, tribe, and tongue. What we do today to live into the unity Jesus accomplished on the cross lasts forever as the eternal church.

### JUNE 16 JESUS' TOP PRIORITY—

John 13:12-17, 34,35; John 15:9-17;  
John 17:11, 20-23

At his last meal and in his last prayer, Jesus makes it clear that our love for another will show the world that we are Jesus' followers. In our unity, the Spirit shines beautifully through the power of the cross so that others can see God's love.

### JUNE 23

### DISAGREEMENT HAPPENS—

1 Corinthians 1:10-17, Acts 15:26-41,  
and Romans 14

We live in a fragmented world, and we are broken people. In reality, we don't live according to God's design. Jesus has accomplished our complete cleansing and total unity, but we still fall short and succumb to sin. Disagreements happen in the church. We must not ignore them and live in denial. Instead, we must learn from God's word how to grow in Christ to spiritual maturity and address our quarrels in loving, caring ways to honor Jesus above all things.



## COLLEGE

- Matthew Dumford, Univ. of Cinti., Bachelors Science, Cybersecurity; Masters of Criminal Justice.
- Anna McSwain, University of Tampa, Bachelor of Science in Marine Science Minors in Sustainability and Spanish.

## HIGH SCHOOL

- Brionna Benton, Withrow High Sch.
- Jassmine Jackson, Woodward H. S.
- Elijah Kenny, Cincinnati School for Performing Arts
- Bailey McKinney, Walnut Hills H. S.
- Joel McSwain, Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy.
- Addison Moncelle, Homeschool.
- Key-arrah Montgomery, Sycamore H. S. (See article on page 7.)
- Jaylen Williams, Finneytown H. S.

## GRADE SCHOOL /MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Jamirah Buckley-Dorsey, 8
- Jah'mya Burnett, North CH, 6
- Reagan Caton, Homeschool, 8

- Aleah Chapman, Princeton Mid., 8
- Brianna Dwyer, Dater Montessori, 6
- Shelby Dwyer, Wilson Elementary, 6
- Andrew Dwyer, Nagel Middle Sch., 8
- Naomi McKenna, Homeschool, 6
- Daphne Vinson, Altersgate, 8

## Pre-SCHOOL /Pre-K/Kindergarten

- Wesley Bandenburg —3 C's PK
- Waylon Baumhower—3 C's PK
- Revere Eggerding—3 C's PK
- Ava Hauck—John Wesley E.L.C.
- Brinley Hunn—3 C's K
- Riley Kling—St. James K
- Indiana Knopf—3 C's K
- Elijah Mouch—3 C's K
- Timothy Neichter—3 C's K
- Griffin Ferguson Schieszer—Pre-Sch.