

BELL TOWER NEWS

College Hill Presbyterian Church – May 2022

513.541.5676 | 5742 Hamilton Ave. | Cincinnati, OH 45224 | chpc.org

RESURRECTION! NOW WHAT?

BY REV. DR. ANDREW SMITH, PASTOR

After a glorious celebration of the resurrection, what do we do next? Jesus has freed us from the fear of death and sin. We have joined with the risen Lord to live life in the power of the Holy Spirit. How do we live today in the joy of new life? We have not been liberated to live according to our old way of life. We have the opportunity to live according to God's beautiful truth.

"Understanding the Assignment," our new sermon series, explains God's assignment for us as God's chosen people. The celebration continues because the Holy Spirit now leads us into accomplishing God's plan in our lives and in our city. God has released us from sin and judgment, *SO THAT* we can live for God and fulfill God's wonderful plan of rescuing the world. We have a new purpose and direction in light of the resurrection of Jesus! God will continue to bring life out of what seems to be dead. God has called us at CHPC to work together as God's people to impact our community for God's glory and pleasure, which brings mercy, justice, and love into

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

JESUS TAUGHT THAT PROVIDING SHELTER FOR THE SHELTERLESS, FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY, AND CLOTHING FOR THE NAKED ARE SACRED ACTS. THEY'RE ALSO THE HALLMARK ACTIVITIES OF MOTHERING. WHEN WE DO THEM FROM THE RIGHT MOTIVE FOR THOSE IN OUR HOMES, FAITH COMMUNITIES, AND BEYOND, IT'S AS IF WE'VE DONE THEM FOR CHRIST HIMSELF. (MATT. 25:31-45)

—JEN WILKIN, AUTHOR



HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY

*TO THE BIRTH-MOTHERS, ADOPTIVE-MOTHERS, GRAND-MOTHERS, AUNTIES, GOD MOTHERS, AND NURTURING WOMEN,
ESPECIALLY THOSE IN WAR-TORN COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.*



COLLEGE HILL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, HOPE, AND PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH EMOTIONAL PAIN

BY JEANNE SCHNEIDER, DIRECTOR OF LIVING HOPE COUNSELING SERVICES

National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention is encouraging people to join in the National Weekend of Prayer for Faith, Hope and Life the weekend of May 13-15. For more information go to <https://theactionalliance.org/faith-hope-life/national-weekend-of-prayer>.

We encourage you to be aware of and be sensitive to for those struggling with psychological/emotional pain, suicidal thoughts, suicide attempts, and a loss of a loved one by suicide or death.

THE PAIN IS REAL.

Acknowledge that some in the church and other faith communities are in deep emotional or psychological pain. This pain could be from (a) general hopelessness, mental illness (depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, etc.), trauma— either recent or in childhood— purposelessness, social isolation, meaninglessness, or thoughts of suicide; (b) the difficulty of caring for someone experiencing such pain; or (c) the loss of someone who died by suicide.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

Emphasize that those experiencing

emotional or psychological pain are not alone. This type of pain is common, even among people of deep faith. Yet, too often, we do not acknowledge that fact. At any given time, there may be many in the community experiencing deep and seemingly unbearable pain. Those in pain are surrounded by individuals in the church or faith community who care for them deeply but may not know how to express their love and support. In addition to offering assuring those in need that members of the community are there for support, focus on the comfort offered through the eternal presence of God.

THERE IS HOPE.

Life-sustaining hope can be found through faith, through the comfort and support of others, and through the effective treatment of mental, psychological, and emotional problems. (EXCERPT FROM NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION.)

Living Hope encourages those who may be struggling or know someone who is struggling to reach out for help for the other person and/or for yourself so you can be



part of God's ministry to the person in need.

HELP SUPPORT THE MINISTRY.

We offer affordable care to all and continue to be an equipping and training center for the next generation of counselors. Send tax-deductible contributions to Living Hope Counseling Services, 5742 Hamilton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45224. Donations of water bottles and facial tissues for the ministry can be dropped at the counseling center or the CHPC front desk.

Living Hope can be reached at 513-371-5135 or our website www.livinghopecs.com. There is also the National Suicide Prevention Line available 24 hours a day: dial 988.



SONLIGHT POWER AND CHCA

SERVICE IMMERSION PARTNERSHIP IN PUERTO RICO

In Jan. 2022, high school students and teachers from Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy (CHCA) teamed with SonLight Power on a service immersion trip to Puerto Rico that made a lasting impact in the lives of

those served and those serving. The video was recorded by the students on camera phones. Watch the video at youtube.com/watch?v=U3PIV-me2YwE as students share their perspectives on their first mission trip with SonLight Power—to bring “light” to a church. Listen for the cheer when the lights go on! www.sonlightpower.org/partners for info.



ENDOWMENT FUND ENPOWERING MINISTRY OVERSEAS

The Endowment Fund at College Hill Presbyterian Church was established in 1975. The principal money in this trust account is invested, and income generated by the fund is given away in the form of annual grants. The Endowment Fund is successfully managed by an independent

investment company that reports to CHPC Trustee Administrators. This year, \$45,000 was available for grants. Praise God! Grant Guidelines: funds are to be used for missions or outreach that aid evangelism and compassion for groups or people “beyond the walls” of CHPC. The grants are for one-time expenditures, not annual budget expenses.

GRANTS FOR 2022 USE

21 ministries were supported: 3 in our neighborhood, 5 in Greater Cincinnati, 3 in the USA, and 9 overseas. This month focuses on those overseas.

OVERSEAS:

- **NABILALA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME** for a Ugandan Presbyterian couple to run an evangelistic summer camp for underserved children in their rural area.
- **THE LOTUS FLOWER** is an NGO (a nonprofit organization that operates independently of any government) in northern Iraq. Chris and Greg Callison work closely with the group. This year the grant will supply children’s coats to a nearby Yezidi refugee camp. The Yezidi families have lived in tents since the 2014 war.
- **CALL OF LOVE MINISTRIES** is producing a series of discipleship videos in Arabic for Arabic-speaking seekers and new Christians.
- **CAMPUS OUTREACH IN UDON THANI, Thailand**, will host student training retreats during the school year and summer events for new Christians among the students.
- **OUTREACH IN TURKEY:** John and Dianne Fowler’s friends in Izmir run a laundromat ministry to refugees offering friendship, English lessons, and other services for families.
- **EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE OF ADDIS ABABA** has been required by several recent events to greatly strengthen its ability to offer online coursework. This funding will provide more computers, internet infrastructure improvements, and recording equipment toward that end.
- **PARTNERS FOR HOPE CHILDREN’S CENTER:** This grant will provide 18 new treadle sewing machines for Hope Community Centre’s new vocational education program in Kinangop, Kenya. (This is Lucy Gacheru’s ministry to orphans.)
- **TORCHBEARERS FELLOWSHIP IN SOUTH INDIA** will translate discipleship and pastor training materials using EMI principles into two more South Indian languages.
- **“DELIVERING DIGNITY” CONGO**, which Jacky Kalubi initiated during her medical mission trip last summer, will purchase and ship at least 200 ladies’ “dignity kits” made in Kenya to the clinic in Congo and train girls to use them, and stay in school. ■



www.chpc.org/nominate

Act now! Before May 31 go to the website above to help to choose the church’s leadership.

The Church Nominating Committee (CNC) Elder Dan Ott says, “A distinctive trait of the Presbyterian form of government is that the congregation chooses its leaders. This has been true since John Calvin’s day, the mid-1500’s. This representative form of governing was even adopted by the founders of the USA.” Calvin described *orders* or offices of the church: two types of Elders—teaching ones (pastors and preachers) and governing ones (lay leaders)—and Deacons (who serve and care for the needs of the congregation). The online form has more details on how officers serve inside and beyond the church.



Your Church Nominating Committee (CNC) is asking for you to submit the names of “covenant partners” (members) you would like us to consider. You may even nominate yourself. The CNC will pray earnestly, interview all submissions, and recommend a slate of nominees for the October Congregational Meeting.

The current members of the CNC are Becky Allf, Ken Elu, Sharon Holland, Ann Klusmeier, Gwyn Spindel, and Dan Ott (Chairman). For questions, contact me, Elder Dan Ott (darkhorsedan@gmail.com)(513) 470-0758 or a CNC member.

FAMILY FUN & FAITH SCRAPBOOK



AN EASTER EGG HUNT & PARTY WAS HELD ON SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH, FROM 1-3PM AT PLEASANT HILL ACADEMY (NEXT TO THE LIBRARY) IN COLLEGE HILL. FEATURED WERE AN EASTER STORY WALK, A LIVE BAND, THE EASTER EGG HUNT, LOTS OF GAMES FOR THE KIDS, AND A MAGICIAN WITH SOME FUN EASTER TRICKS UP HIS SLEEVE. THE COMMUNITY EVENT WAS HOSTED BY COLLEGE HILL PRESBYTERIAN.

THANKS TO ALL the donors of plastic Easter eggs and Easter candies; to those who made time to “stuff” plastic eggs with candy, who helped with the preparations for the “Egg Hunt,” took photos, enjoyed the music, applauded the magician who shared the Gospel story “kids’ style,” and cleaned up the area afterwards. It was a fun time for the community and the Party Team...a way to say, “Some-bunny loves you” —His name is Jesus! Thanks to Pastor Jennifer for *hatching* the EGG-citing event.

ENJOY THIS NEW COLUMN IN A QUIZ FORMAT. INTERESTINGLY, JESUS TALKS ABOUT THIS SUBJECT MORE THAN MANY OTHERS.

1. The average price of a used car is now \$28,000. About how much could a buyer save by systematically putting away money for five years before the purchase, instead of financing the car at 4.5% interest for five years after the purchase?
A. \$31 B. \$310 C. \$3,100.
2. In a recent survey, what percentage of American churchgoers agreed with the sketchy statement, “God wants me to prosper financially?”
A. 29% B. 49% C. 69%
3. About what percentage of American millennials give less than \$50 a year to charities?
A. 4% B. 44% C. 84%

BIBLICAL WISDOM

1. “The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty” (Proverbs 21:5 NIV). The correct answer is C.
2. “In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other” (Ecclesiastes 7:14 NRSV). The tragic survey result is C.
3. “Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’ In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me” (Malachi 3:8-9 NIV). The correct answer is C. [WOW!]

PRAY FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

BY CHRISTY ROEDIGER

PRAY FOR—Schools in College Hill to lovingly nurture parents and young people: Pleasant Hill Academy, College Hill Fundamental Academy, Aiken High School, Mercy McAuley High School. Pray for the teachers and staff, that they will be drawn to Christ and grow aware of their need for God. Pray that each child would have at least one caring adult focusing on their needs and growing-up challenges. May parents be drawn to God and a church community that will help their whole families experience God's love and faithfulness. Many are growing up in poverty, anxiety, depression, hopelessness, despair.

• *Tutoring Programs* through City Gospel called Whiz Kids and Treehouse Learning. Pray for students, tutors, families, and children learning and loving to read and have solid trusting relationships.

• *Pray Revelation 21*: working for the *shalom* of the city, and peace among neighbors.

• *Jesus University* is a ministry for girls that teaches ballet, Bible, relationship with Jesus, and living pure in an impure world. Pray for girls' lives and home situations. Pray for the ministry as it partners with worship leadership within College Hill Presbyterian Church.

• *Art of Becoming (AOB)* is an affordable half-day retreat program for people seeking to know who Christ made them to be versus how they present themselves. Pray people might hear about AOB, and discover how much God loves them.

Pray for changes on "The Avenue." Go to <https://chcurc.com>. Email to get info about the neighborhood from chCurrents@gmail.com.

THE DAY THAT PASTOR DREW WENT TO CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Palm Sunday, April 10th Pastor Drew Smith switched places with Pastor Jennifer Cronk. She preached and he visited several Sunday School classes. His sermon on April 24th, explained why. You can always watch or listen to previous sermons by going online to chpc.org and selecting "SERMONS." Why did Drew visit the Sunday School? Check out his April 24th sermon.



Multi-media Talk by Sharlyn and Barry Stare for gardeners and even those with "black thumbs."

GARDENS ARE A REFLECTION OF THEIR CREATOR

TUESDAY, MAY 3 AT 7 PM, CHPC

The College Hill Garden Club is hosting this whirl-wind trip through history — from the Garden of Eden to Gethsemane to glimpses of London, England's Chelsea Flower Show. "Buckle your seat belts!" for this fast-paced trip and discover how you too can regain Paradise.

May 3 is a pre-sale of plant at the CHG *PLANT SALE: SAT, MAY 7* (9 AM to 2 PM) held at the CH Coffee Co. parking lot. The *2022 CH Garden Walk is SAT, JUNE 18* (10 AM to 3 PM). Buy a pass to see 8 wonderful distinctly different home gardens. It will surely be another sell-out. Passes will be sold at the Coffee Hill Coffee Co. and online at chgw.eventbrite.com. \$15 in advance, \$18 day-of.

THE GREATER CINCINNATI PRAYER CANOPY Q&A

BY CHRISTY ROEDIGER,
PRAYER CANOPY
CAPTAIN FOR CHPC



PREPARING THE QUEEN CITY FOR THE KING

The Mission of the *Greater Cincinnati Prayer Canopy* is:

To seek the Lord to raise a canopy of prayer over Greater Cincinnati for Kingdom revival by connecting and uniting worship and prayer effort under the supremacy of Jesus. We desire to partner with the Holy Spirit for our City to be transformed through awakening, disciple making, prayer, healing, and restoration of the Body of Messiah. We are a reconciling body of disciples that unite in prayer to glorify God according to Scripture.

It's been fun to see the enthusiasm for the Greater Cincinnati Prayer Canopy throughout our faith community. Along the way, folks have shared a few questions that might be of interest to you.

Question: I see the "Prayer Guide," but I'm not really sure what to do with it... I don't feel comfortable reading a rote prayer, but I like the idea that the Prayer Canopy gives me a way to impact my hometown. What do I really do with a Prayer Guide?

Answer: You're absolutely correct that you aren't being asked to read the Prayer Guide to God. Yet, we live in a big city and may not be aware of the many things going on

around town that might benefit from prayer. The "Prayer Guide" is simply a tool to communicate some of the opportunities in Greater Cincinnati where we are petitioning God to move. The "Prayer Guide" helps us pray in unity across the entire metro area and provides a way to help the Christian community in Cincinnati to pray with one voice.

Question: An hour seems like a long time – I don't think I can pray for an entire hour.

Answer: An hour may feel like a long time as you get started with the Prayer Canopy. You may want to pray with another person and take turns so that you are sharing the hour. It may help to have a nice cup of coffee or tea or lemonade to fortify you during your prayer. Choose a location where you won't be disturbed so you will be comfortable for the time. You may want to read through the "Prayer Guide" first and maybe make some notes – things to add or focus on that speak to your heart. Just give it a try, and be patient with yourself as you get started.

Question: I see topics in the "Prayer Guide" that I don't know anything about. How can my prayer make a difference when I'm unfamiliar with a

situation?

Answer: God is so kind to us and listens to us no matter what. The "Prayer Guide" may introduce new topics to you, and that may be something God uses to expand your heart or your understanding of our community. God accepts you and your prayer and will bless your efforts. Allow Him to move through your prayer and understanding as you step forward in faith. Just give it a try and see what God does!

Other questions about the *Prayer Canopy* or a story about praying with the "Prayer Guide?" How do you see God moving around you as you step out and pray the "Prayer Guide?" I'd love to hear from you: chrisroediger1014@gmail.com / 513-675-0346. Blessings to you as you *Just Give It A Try!*



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 14th year. Open to the community. "A great place to go and unwind during this virus season." No masks for vaccinated, but you may wear a mask if you wish.

PICK UP YOUR *PRAYER CANOPY GUIDE* IN THE CHPC ATRIUM. "JUST GIVE IT A TRY."



SESSION UPDATE

BY JANET DUMFORD, Clerk of Session

Session continues to follow the *CHPC Transformation Prescriptions* given in 2019. This month the Ministry Staff came to the Session meeting and shared their goals for each of their ministry areas in 2022. This is part of the Ministry Audit that Session is required to do each year. The goals are mainly in three areas: Evangelism (sharing the Gospel), Discipleship (growing Jesus-followers), and Kingdom Diversity. Staff and CHPC ministry partners can encourage each other, and work together towards these goals.

God is doing exciting stuff in our midst, and your Ministry Staff is hard at work! This summer there is everything from a mission trip to London, to a youth mission trip in Kentucky, the Swim Ministry, outdoor worship, ALPHA, and Growth Groups.

If you have questions, email session@chpc.org. Interested in attending Presbytery or Session or have questions or want to know ways you can express interests? Contact me: Janet Dumford at jdumford@chpc.org. I will respond. PLEASE PRAY FOR YOUR SESSION.

refresh your marriage

Bring a new level of love & respect to your marriage... learn practical tools to:

- Understand elements of a healthy marriage,
- Give and receive emotional support,
- Communicate care and understanding,
- Give affirmation, and
- Navigate problems to “win-wins.”

Friday May 20 (6:30-9:30 PM)
Saturday May 21 (9 AM-5 PM)

Where? In-person at Mariemont Community Church in Cincinnati — OR—online via Zoom.

How Much? Whatever freewill offering you can afford (a \$100 value).

Register/ more information, contact cwavle@equippingministries.org or (513) 742-1100.

Deadline for Bell Tower News submissions is the 15th of each MONTH to Sam Stare starecvg@aol.com.

BE PART OF THE TEAM
Have something you'd like to write about? Have an idea for a future feature? Email starecvg@aol.com.

PRAYER CORNER

BY CHRISTY ROEDIGER

The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on him in truth
Psalm 145:18 (NIV)

Have you ever felt like your prayer was going nowhere and that you just weren't connecting with God? It can be a frustrating or even scary and may discourage your heart. What can you do, and what are ways to connect with God when you feel connection is missing?

It's happened to me, and I think it happens to others. Don't despair! There are things that you can do to “prime the pump” and connect with God in a way that you can sense and experience. Different approaches may work better for certain personality preferences or in even different circumstances. Be willing to try different approaches – don't give up! God appreciates perseverance... remember the widow woman who wore down the judge (Luke 18-1-8). A few ideas:

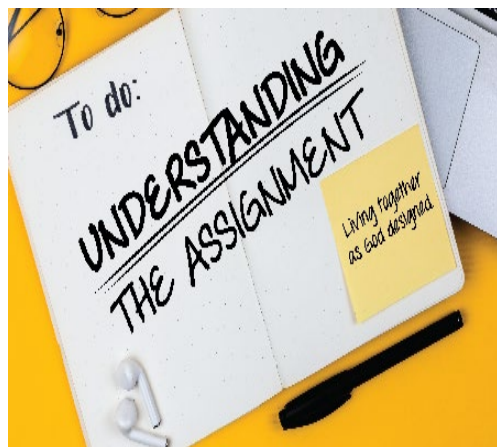
- Pray with a prayer partner.
- Sing some of your favorite worship choruses.
- Enjoy a quiet time with Jesus — not *doing* anything, just *being*.
- Journal or write a letter to God that communicates your heart or your frustration or your petition or your desire for God's presence.
- Take a walk in nature or through your neighborhood and thank God for what you see: his creation, his people, his provision, your own health and ability to walk.

Seek and you will find HIM! LUKE 11:10

RESURRECTION! NOW WHAT?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

our world. God has assigned us to live together according to God's beautiful plan. God has called us to live out Jesus's directions: *We exist to honor God by growing a diverse community of Jesus followers.*



SERMON SERIES:

4/24 Sermon – PURPOSE FOR TODAY: We honor God. God has saved us so that we glorify and honor God with our lives. We rejoice in the joy of the Lord, and we reflect the goodness of God to the world. We have an eternal purpose.

5/1 – FLOURISHING GROWTH: We are growing deep and wide. God desires for the whole world to hear and follow Jesus's words of life. We get the privilege of sharing the Good News of Jesus with the world by inviting others near and far to join us in following Jesus and by challenging one another to grow in Jesus's fullness in all areas of life.

5/8 EMBRACING UNITY: We celebrate diversity in our unity in Jesus Christ. God gives us a common purpose for life so that we demonstrate to the world the unifying power of Jesus. What the world works to divide, God has united through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We are empowered to demonstrate the ways

of heaven to the world!

5/15 THRIVING TOGETHER: We work in community. God empowers us to live together in unity and obedience to him. We develop deep relationships with one another that welcome honesty, sacrificial support, and uplifting encouragement of one another. God knits us together in life-giving relationships.

5/22 LIVE TO LOVE: We follow Jesus in our daily lives. God has saved us so that we will obey Jesus. We want to make Jesus the leader of our decisions, actions, and thoughts. We seek to learn about Jesus so that we can do all that God has created us to do. We know that God knows best and Jesus will lead us to what is good for all.

5/29 ASCENSION & REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY: Jesus told his disciples that it was good for him to go away because only then would he send them another Helper, the Spirit of Truth (John 16:7-16). And that's exactly what happened on the day of Pentecost, ten days after Jesus' ascension. Once ascended, Christ gave the gifts of repentance and forgiveness of sin to all believers and the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish God's Mission (Mt 28:18-20).

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY is also when we celebrate those from who have died in the past year, and who rest from their earthly labor. More than a litany of faces and names, it is a faith statement that one day, Jesus will return from heaven to collect the living and the dead who love him. For just as Jesus went into heaven, so will all Christians, to glorify God and enjoy him forever. "Come quickly, Lord Jesus." ■



June 6-10 MISSION TRIP FOR 6TH GRADE TO 12TH GRADE STUDENTS. Info. at fugecamps.lifeway.com. Online at chpc.org/youth. Contact: SAMUEL MOCK (smock@chpc.org).

JUNE 24-26
chpc.org/kidscamp

CentriKid Camp
Campbellsville University
Campbellsville, KY

CHPC KIDS Summer CAMP

Registration **\$185**
Up to 50% Scholarships Available

June 24-26 CAMP FOR KIDS who have completed the 2nd to 6th grades. Christian atmosphere. Online at chpc.org/kidscamp. Scholarships. Contact: JENNIFER CRONK (jjcronk@chpc.org).

SWIM LESSONS
Children / Teens

North Hills Swim Club
10 AM, 11 AM, 12 PM
Wk #1 June 27-July 1;
Wk #2 July 18-22;
Wk #3 August 1-5.

Adults 6-7PM, July 11-15; July 25-29

scholarships available

CHPC.ORG/SWIM

Aug. 1-4 9:30 AM-12 PM, 3 C's CAMP at CHPC FOR AGES 3-8. Run by qualified 3 C's Nursery School teachers. Online at chpc.org/3cs-camp. Scholarships and sibling discounts available.

