

BELL TOWER NEWS

College Hill Presbyterian Church – August 2021

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



FROM PASTOR DREW'S DESK...

About the Sermon Series for August 15 to September 19: *Say YES*

As we reenter life after quarantine and transition into the fall with schools and the church reopening, we need to practice saying, "Yes," as

God's people. We will explore the crucial commitments that need our yes in this unique season post-COVID. Sometimes we need help with courage and trust when saying yes to an adventure outside of our comfort zone. We need to learn from our biblical examples to say, "Yes," to God with wisdom and discernment.

Isaiah experienced God's magnificence and overwhelming forgiveness before he was moved to say yes, "Here am I! Send me." Rebecca grew in trust in God as she said, "Yes," to serve God. Acting in strength and courage, Joshua led God's people into the Promised Land. In spite of opposition and danger, Daniel continued to say yes to seeking

God and obeying God in troubling times.

Let's learn from those who have gone before us how we "Say Yes" to God:

August 15 – "Rebecca Says Yes to Service."

August 22 – "Joshua Says Yes to the Next Generation."

August 29 – "Daniel Says Yes to Obedience."

It will be an exciting series.



Here am I! Send me.—Isaiah 6:8



OPEN HOUSE

TOUR CHPC'S RENEWED CAMPUS

Sunday, August 15

10:00-10:30 AM or 11:40-12:00 PM

AREA GUIDES WILL POINT OUT CHANGES and TALK ABOUT USES OF THE SPACES

— DETAILS ON PAGE 5 —

LEARNING FROM THE PAST, INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

In this edition you'll find articles about ways that individuals and ministries have invested in young people this summer: CHPC Youth Ministry's Mission Trip to Wilmore, KY; Aiken High School's Urban Young Life Camp; and Pleasant Hill's Summer Scholars. Also, look for how to provide school supplies, be a tutor or mentor for a young person, periodically help in Pleasant Hill Academy this fall, and other ways to say, "Yes," to God.



COLLEGE HILL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

YOUTH MISSION TRIP BY THE CHPC YOUTH DEPARTMENT



CHPC's youth headed for camp last month, and it was life-changing for many who went. MFUGE (Mission Centrifuge) is a Bible camp experience that combines worship, Bible study, teaching times, and fun and games with mission work.

Pictured above are the trip leaders and the 12-student team: Ben Bowerman, Lex Bowerman, Nicholas Dumford, Gabby Hallums, Cora Holland, Kourtney Mace, Narthey Maddy, Izayyah Montgomery, Key'Arrah Montgomery, James Paudal, Jaylen Williams, and Kyle Williams. The group spent the week at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky, learning about "Dwelling with God."

Again and again, we returned to Psalm 46 and were reminded that "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."



Where do we dwell? Where is our refuge when (not if) that trouble comes?

Students were able to learn and worship with hundreds of other teens and feel that sense of God's presence in community with their peers.

For four days, the group set aside their distractions and retreated into a time of prayer, Bible study, service to others in the



Lexington, KY area and worship.

A time away as a youth group provides our students and adult leaders with the chance to connect and talk in a way not possible in a two-hour group meeting once a week. Because MFUGE handled all the programming, the adult leaders—Samuel Mock, Luke and Molly Verhagen, and Jennie Key—had a lot of opportunities to hang out with students and connect with them. It also gave all of us a chance to talk about faith: ours, theirs, and how we can grow closer to God in the coming year. Serving others in God's name is a good way to get closer to God. Our group left the campus to serve

Arbor Youth Services in Lexington, Kentucky, a nonprofit that provides emergency shelter to children from birth through seventeen who are homeless, have been removed from their homes, have run away, or are otherwise in crisis and helps young adults in crisis or who age out of the foster care system. The ministry also provides housing at a reduced rent for young people struggling to get on their feet.

Students did yard work at the apartments and tackled pantries, porches, and sorting items in a "free store" Arbor operates. Our team did everything asked by the ministry. In fact, Arbor ran out of work for us, expecting it would take longer to accomplish the tasks it had. Our contact, Missy Pate, choked up as she told students what their work meant to her organization.

The students worked hard and played hard. They had fun with frisbee and Euchre, dancing, and participating in a Mega Relay competition of silly games at the end of the week. They laughed, got loud, let off a steam. Most importantly, the time away had a real impact on our



students . . . even the service tasks. We grew during thoughtful conversations and quiet times of reflection and study.

Two of the teens from CHPC decid-

ed to give their lives to Christ. One student made a recommitment to grow in Christ's Lordship.

Here are some of their comments about the experience:

- "I was touched by the many deep conversations I was able to have and the great worship sessions."
- "I got to know God more and got more bold and will not be ashamed of God."
- "I bonded more with my church."
- "My eyes have been reopened to God."
- "Thank you so much. You really helped me connect to God even more. If I was with you right now, I would hug you."
- "This camp has helped me accept Jesus."

THANK YOU CHPC

The Youth Mission Trip would not have been possible for some of our students without the generosity of our congregation. People made donations specifically so that no student would miss the trip because of financial need. Others donated so we could have a meal together off campus. Students and leaders are grateful for these *investments in future generations*. ■

IT'S A SIN TO BORE A KID...

has been one of the core beliefs of Young Life, an international ministry. A number of CHPC members are actively involved locally.

YL fervently believes every kid has the right to hear and respond to the Gospel. YL's school-based teams build relationships and disciple adolescents year round. Camps that promise "the best week of your life!" are an integral part of the ministry.

Timber Wolf Lake, in Lake City, Michigan, is enjoyed by more than 12,000 young people each year. At Timber Wolf the entire week is designed to provide every kid with a clear and personal invitation to become a disciple of Jesus Christ.

When kids respond to Christ, they are invited to stand and publically profess their faith in Christ at a "say-so" during the last club of the week.

Pictured are the eight Aiken students who returned July 7th from



"BEST WEEK OF YOUR LIFE" PROMISE CAME TRUE!

Timberwolf Young Life Camp. The students had a blast. Six of them started a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. PRAISE GOD!

Looking forward to what God continues to do in the lives of Aiken students? Learn more about being part of the Aiken Team's prayer support and ongoing ministry. Contact Yohannes Berhane from Urban Young Life's Team at College Hill's Aiken High School: 614-843-6371.



THE EXPLORATION CLASS isn't a camp or a mission trip. It is an opportunity offered periodically by Pastor Drew Smith and church leaders for adults and young people to explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus; a Presbyterian in the ECO (Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians); and an official, fully-participating member of College Hill Presbyterian Church (a Covenant Partner). Watch for future classes to learn about the past—history, theology—and envision the future together *honoring God by growing a diverse community of Jesus followers*. Questions: info@chpc.org . ■

“BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING” 3-WAYS

“Mary” met “Superman” the first time she volunteered as a classroom helper in Pleasant Hill Academy’s Summer Scholars program. The somber-looking fourth-grader was pacing outside the principal’s office. His Superman shirt prompted her to ask, “Aren’t you supposed to keep your super-hero status a secret?” She didn’t get much of a response.

The next day, the boy was sitting in the common area, looking dejected. An administrator explained that he had learning problems (held back two grades), got picked on by the other kids, and acted up to get attention. Mary said a quick prayer for God to find a way to let her work with that boy.

Later, an aide brought “Superman” to Mary’s sixth-grade enrichment class. The boy had been removed from his class again. Mary smiled and invited him to join other students learning Morse Code letters. Completely engaged, he used a flashlight to spell out the message “Pleasant Hill Academy All-Stars” to the student pictured. “Superman” smiled. The message he sent was acknowledged. He knew that he had paid attention, followed directions, and was understood. It was an amazing victory.



FLASHING “OK” IN MORSE CODE

The partnership between CHPC and Pleasant Hill Academy (PHA) often bears this kind of fruit. Initiatives are planned and organized by Pastor Darryll Davis, Kelley Foresman, Colleen Scheid, and “The Friends of PHA.” The school’s principal Shau-

na McDowell (pictured) and Resource Coordinator Shane Fletcher affirm the church’s service. Volunteer who serve the children of our neighborhood school find themselves blessed beyond measure. “And as God’s grace reaches more and more people, there will be great thanksgiving, and God will receive more and more glory” 2 Corinthians 4:15.



NO MATTER HOW LITTLE OR HOW MUCH TIME YOU HAVE TO INVEST, THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN SHARE IN THESE BLESSINGS:

WAY #1 —WHIZ KIDS/TREEHOUSE TUTORING (Grades 1-6) involves one hour per week of one-on-one work with a student in a group setting with other pairs. The commitment is from 4:50 PM to 6:10 PM most Tuesdays from October through April. Oversight is provided by Colleen Scheid, who registers and trains tutors in September. Tutoring materials are provided. This faith-based program incorporates Bible teaching in the curriculum. Tutors are invited to pray for their student at the end of each session. No prior knowledge or experience needed except the ability to read fluently and a desire to love and help a student. We invite volunteers ages 16 to 100!

CONTACT COLLEEN SCHEID AT 513.505.9826 OR SCHEIDISON@GMAIL.COM

WAY #2 —MENTORING involves a larger time commitment, but you have the freedom to spend your time as you and your student decide. Mentors receive a more thorough background check and must have a commitment to following Christ and to sharing love and truth with others. Mentors commit to spending at least an hour weekly with a student, year-round. City Gospel Mission and related churches like CHPC provide group activities that mentors and students can attend. There are regular offers of free tickets to city sports and cultural events.

Contact KAREN KREMZAR AT 513.235.6470 OR CHFMENTORING@GMAIL.COM

WAY #3 —“FRIENDS OF PHA” is a group of CHPC and community volunteers who provide teacher appreciation events and general support to the staff, students, and families of the school. They provide a meal each semester for the Whiz Kids/Treehouse tutoring programs, organize a few staff appreciation events each year (personal thank-you notes, gift cards, and Valentine’s Day gift bags), and seek to fill needs when the principal asks for things (2-liter bottles for science class, backpacks, constructing bookcases and garden boxes, etc). If your home or work schedule is very busy, this is a great ministry for you because the time commitment is very flexible.

CONTACT JANET DUMFORD AT JDUMFORD@CHPC.ORG

PRAYER—A WAY FOR EVERYONE TO HELP. Prayer fits all life schedules and is not limited by a person’s age, experience, ability to drive, gifts, etc. Prayer is vital to releasing God’s transforming power and grace! (Ephesians 3:16-17 and 6:18). Sign up online to be an ePrayer partner. Send your name and email to JOANNE SAMAD CORNELIUS AT CHPC.ORG/PRAYER.

OPEN HOUSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sunday, August 15th, take time before or after worship to wander through the church building renewed through the 2016-2018 re-Generation Fund-Raising.

Many have seen and enjoyed the welcoming spaces for worship, the Fireside Room, *MainStreet* and the Parlor. But have you seen the area (pictured) in the Ministry Center offices that declares the CHPC mission for visitors and staff see?



You may not have children, but plan on visiting the Learning Center (formerly known as the Barnabas Center). The building has been transformed into three floors of space for KIDS — Sunday School, 3C's Nursery School—and for “big kids,” too.

During the Open House “Area Hosts” will be present to answer questions about the renovations that have occurred over the last year and to talk about future ministry plans!

Don't miss the “Great Commandment: Great Commission Wall” a creative reminder of the sacrificial giving that made the re-Generation changes possible. Giving was a response to Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for the salvation of the whole world. May the buildings be used to attract people outside the church in ways they can understand so that they will know the love of Christ eternally.

FROM REV. JENNIFER CRONK, PASTOR TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CUT OUT FOR FAMILY FUN ✂

FAITH FORWARD

AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Thank God for 3 people that mean the world to you.	2 Sing your favorite praise song to God.	3 Thank God for being your PROVIDER	4 Pray for your family members, each by name.	5 Thank God for being your FATHER!	6 Write your names. Thank God for one thing that starts with each letter of your name.	7 Tell God about your favorite smell.
8 Pray for the leaders of your church.	9 Make a list of questions you have for God. Talk to Him about them.	10 Thank God for being your SAVIOR!	11 Ask your mom or dad if you can pray for them.	12 Thank God for being your FATHER!	13 Pray for people who are sick and need healing.	14 Go outside and take a minute to look at the stars. Then tell God what's on your mind.
15 Read Psalm 20:1-4. Turn those verses into a prayer for your family.	16 Pray for someone who you don't know Jesus yet.	17 Thank God for being your GUIDE	18 Learn to pray from Daniel's head Daniel 6:10.	19 Thank God for being your COMMITMENT!	20 Thank God for your close friends.	21 Pray for someone whose name starts with the letter L.
22 Spend two minutes enjoying God's company in complete silence.	23 Pray for someone who has hurt your feelings.	24 Thank God for being your DEPENDENT!	25 Tell God something you love about August.	26 Thank God for being your NEEDLE!	27 Ask God how He feels when He sees what's going on in the world?	28 Pray for the bonfire.
29 Pray the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13.	30 Pray with your parent(s) or your sibling(s).	31 Thank God for being your HELPER!	<i>Time spent in prayer is never wasted</i>			



A GIFT FOR YOU

On July 8, 2021, City Gospel Mission gave a special thank-you gift to CHPC's Jesus University ballet group which you can enjoy as well.



Dale Ann Watkins, Youth Programs and Princess Ballet Director Gordon Havens released a YouTube.com video with a compilation of the dances that Princesses sites performed this spring. The city-wide theme of the dances was "Surrender." This message accompanied the video: "It is the culmination of all your work in a very difficult year. Many sites were not able to meet, and even those of you who were able to meet had challenges. But the performances

are so amazing and beautiful! Thank you for all that you gave to your girls in diligence, practice, experience, and joy!"

There are several excellent clips of CHPC's Jesus University's evening recital on April 24th. Go to YouTube.com and search for "Princesses Ballet All Sites Recital 2021." It is a gift well worth opening. Your prayers and financial support of Jesus University are a great investment in the future generation. Thank you!

SWIM MINISTRY

These groups provided grants for this summer. Olympic-watchers may recognize some, like the USA Swimming Foundation. Olympic commentator Rowdy Gaines, spokesperson for "Step into Swim," made a pilot project of lessons for underserved refugee kids possible.



MODEL ADVOCATE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

BY SHARON McCUTCHEN

Last month marked the thirteenth celebration of Bebe Moore Campbell Minority Mental Health Month. Why care? Why is that important to you?



BEBE MOORE CAMPBELL

Bebe didn't plan to be an author, a teacher, or an advocate. These grew out of her struggle to get help and support for her daughter in her battle with mental illness and Bebe's battle with a system preventing access to that help.

One in five American adults live with a serious mental illness. "However, background and identity can make

access to mental health treatment much more difficult. Minority Mental Health Awareness Month is a start in changing this" (<https://www.interim-inc.org>).



If you or a loved one is struggling with mental health issues and seeking quality care, a great resource is Urban Greater Cincinnati Network on Mental Illness (NAMI), whose mission is "to improve the lives of family members, friends, and persons living with mental illness in urban communities through education, advocacy, resources and support."

Daniel H. Gillison Jr., NAMI CEO noted, "Sometimes we do not think about access to care, especially when it comes to mental illness and if we live where medical care for mental illness is easily accessible.

But the effect of racism and racial trauma on mental health is real." In these difficult times, "we're all dealing with change, uncertainty, and mental health challenges and need to accept that mental health vulnerabilities do not discriminate, and neither should our mental health care system."

CHPC member Sharon McCutchen serves with NAMI. For more information contact her at smccutchen.nami@outlook.com and/or 513.378.7049.



The NAMI website is www.ugcnomi.org.

The mental health resource on CHPC's campus is Living Hope Counseling Services directed by Jeanne Schneider MA LPCCs. Contact her at www.livinghopecs.com, 513-371-5135.

SESSION UPDATE

BY SHARLYN STARE, SESSION ELDER

August 2021 —The vision of our denomination, the ECO (Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians) is to *build flourishing churches who make disciples of Jesus Christ.*

In order to fulfill that calling, ECO churches like ours must develop lay leaders within our churches who are skilled in the “10 Core Competencies.” Each month the elders watch videos before the Session meeting and work through the discussion questions.

The training is excellent and FREE. Anyone can enroll. The ten competencies covered are — (1) Maturity of Faith and Personal Call: Spiritual Formation Basics; (2) Personal Integrity: Spiritual Practices; (3) Biblical Knowledge and Interpretation: The Whole Story of Scripture; (4) Theological Knowledge: Overview of the ECO Essential Tenets; (5) ECO Polity Knowledge and Application: ECO Polity Overview; (6) Sacramental Knowledge and Practice: Theology of the Lord’s Supper and Baptism; (7) Missional Engagement: Incarnational Posture and Missional Direction; (8) Leadership Development: Our Call to Discipleship; (9) Team Leadership: How to Be a Healthy Team;

(10) Preaching and Teaching: Basics of Teaching the Bible.

If these topics sound dull, think again and check out <https://ecopres.org/resources/>. If you dare, there’s even a tool called the “360° Assessment” to allow others to give you feedback on your abilities in these areas. It’s very humbling to see yourself through the eyes and experiences of other, including your own family members.

In September, watch for the SESSION UPDATE from the Clerk of Session, Janet Dumford.



CORRECTION BY REV. DR. RONALD RAND

Thank you for the article and photos in the July BTN. One correction however. This will be our 40th Year Celebration, not 50th. FATHERS began on August 31, 1981. About 15 of the original 28 leaders will meet this year on August 31st and celebrate. We will each give Glory to our Heavenly Father by sharing specific things He has done in the lives of our family members. For more information on the nationally-known FATHERS Ministry birthed at CHPC, email:

Ron.upbuilding@gmail.com

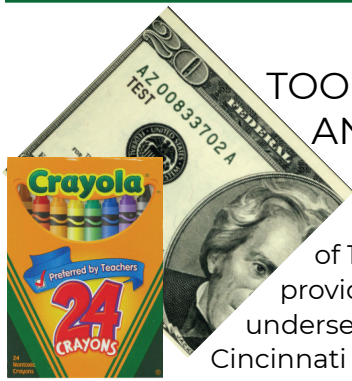


HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE 20 YEARS OF SOLAR POWERED MISSION TRIPS?

With a mission trip, of course. June was the 20th anniversary of SonLight Power’s first mission trip to Honduras. Fittingly, a SonLight Power mission team served in Honduras to commemorate the milestone. Since 2001, when SonLight Power founder, Allen Rainey, and a team of SonLight Power volunteers from CHPC equipped a remote medical clinic with solar power in the mountains of Intibucá, Honduras, the Central American country has remained an important mission field.

In economic terms, the need in Honduras is well-documented. According to World Bank estimates, even before factoring the double impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and hurricanes Eta and Iota last year, almost half of the population—nearly 5 million people—lived on less than \$6 per day in 2019. That’s the second highest poverty rate in Latin America after Haiti. So, for

two decades now, SonLight Power has been using solar power to share God’s love with Honduran communities in need – not just economically, but spiritually. Interested in a more details or a short-term mission trip? Info and videos at www.sonlightpower.org/join-mission-trip.



TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS: ANNUAL LOVE GIFT

BY SUNDAY AUG. 8TH,

donate cash and boxes of 16-or-24-count crayons to provide supplies for over 14,000 underserved students in the Greater Cincinnati area.

A donation of \$20 provides basic tools for school for FOUR grade school kids. By buying wholesale and in bulk, Feast of Love Ministries multiplies monetary gifts and supplies pencils, glue sticks, pens, scissors, and 2-pocket folders with prongs. In addition, 11,000 boxes of crayons are needed. Donations are tax deductible. Write checks to Feast of Love/Tools For Schools, 5742 Hamilton Ave., Cinti, OH 45224. Questions? Bev Graves (513) 591-8786 or beverlygraves@mac.com.

This year CHPC is partnering with the Evangelical Community Church for donations and help with distribution.

ON MONDAY, AUG. 9, Tools For Schools will be distributed from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. A team is assigned to each item (i.e., “the scissor team”). Team members count out the supplies for a given school, and take the items to school’s staging point. From 10:30 AM to 1 PM, the school representatives arrive to pick up their allotments. Supplies are loaded into the school’s vehicle. Then the school representatives are asked if the Tools



August 22nd is the Children’s Ministry Grand Re-Opening! Aug 1, 8, and 15, there are no classes for children ages birth to 6th grade. Worship bags will be available for children. Pick them up from Rev. Jennifer Cronk or Catherine Sanders at the Front Desk in the Atrium as you enter the church.

Starting Aug. 22nd expect: 9:00 Service—Nursery (birth-4 yrs. old); Children’s Worship (5 yrs. old-3rd grade); 4th grade and up will sit with their parents in worship).

10:30 Service—Nursery (birth-3 yrs. old); Preschool and Kindergarten (4 yrs. old-kindergarten); 1st-3rd grade Sunday School; 4th-6th grade Sunday School.

Questions? JCronk@chpc.org

For Schools team may pray for the school. If the answer is “yes,” the team does a brief prayer.

Work 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM by contacting Barry Stare at (513) 382-5897 or bzuthr@me.com . A few people are needed from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Lunch is provided.

WELCOME LAURIE AND RUDY KLAAS AUGUST 22

Last month’s July edition of the *Bell Tower News* included an article from the Klaases, global mission workers in Senegal. That edition and all back issues can be read online at chpc.org/belltower-news/

Rudy and Laurie were CHPC members who said, “Yes” to God, and were equipped to serve overseas. They were commissioned and sent out by CHPC in May 1986, as Ministers of the Gospel



through Wycliffe Bible Translators. The Klaaes raised two children overseas. God has refined their understanding of their ministry as a

couple and individually.

On August 22nd, Rudy and Laurie will bring greetings in the 9:00 and 10:30 AM worship services.

From 12 PM to 12:30 PM in the Parlor,

they will speak about their family and work. They may describe how their own visions of ministries have changed over the years, and the effects of the pandemic. They can provide insights into how they and others hear God’s Call to serve him.

For a more personal update, at 12:45 PM join the *Outreach Lunch Bunch* PM —Krimmer’s restaurant, 1704 Galbraith Rd., just west of Hamilton Ave.). NO RESERVATIONS NEEDED.

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