



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

GROWING A DIVERSE COMMUNITY OF JESUS FOLLOWERS



COLLEGE HILL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WWW.CHPC.ORG

YEAR IN REVIEW



BAPTISMS

3



AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

158



NEW MEMBERS

5

SESSION GOALS FOR 2026



5%

Goal #1: a 5% increase in the number of active Covenant Partners from 251 to 264



10%

Goal #2: a 10% increase in both the number of giving units (from 165 to 182) and the amount of congregational giving (from \$1,100,000 to \$1,210,000)



15%

Goal #3: a 15% increase in the number of participants in CHPC ministry opportunities (from average 35 to 40)

GROWING DEEP AND WIDE

Within pastor circles, conversations about church growth are frequent and often multifaceted. Typically, we focus on quantitative growth, which centers around measurable factors such as attendance—prompting questions like, “How many people showed up on Sunday at your place?” This approach allows us to track our progress in terms of numbers and provides tangible evidence of our community’s expansion.

QUALITATIVE GROWTH: HEART CHANGE AND LIFE TRANSFORMATION

Beyond the numbers, we also emphasize qualitative growth. This form of growth is about heart change and life transformation within our congregation. Although it is more challenging to measure, qualitative growth is profoundly significant. It manifests in stories of individuals learning to love, forgive, and serve one another, reflecting genuine spiritual maturity and transformation.

LOOKING BACK AND MOVING FORWARD

As we reflect on the past year and set our sights on the upcoming year, it is important to remember both quantitative and qualitative growth. Our mission is centered on honoring God by growing a diverse community of Jesus followers. For us, growth means increasing both numerically and spiritually.

We are called to observe the numbers—tracking attendance and participation—but also to listen attentively to the stories of God working in our fellowship. These stories reveal the various ways God brings growth that cannot always be counted but can always be celebrated.



A CALL TO PRAYER

Let us commit to praying earnestly for the coming year. May God increase our numbers and deepen our heart transformation, ensuring that all growth serves to glorify Him. In doing so, we embrace both the measurable and immeasurable aspects of our journey together as a church community.



Drew

DISCIPLESHIP

This year in Discipleship ministries we've served 215 people through our growth group ministries, and 5 groups went through the Practicing the Way series to be with Jesus, become like him and do what he did.

With 14 groups to choose from with meetings spanning every day of the week there's never been a better time to find community to encourage and walk with you as you follow Jesus.

We also updated our Partnership class and lead 12 people through it this year. We also lead 15 people through our Faith-Sharing training to better equip them to share their faith. Our Vision is to encourage, equip, and empower you to live and share your faith authentically and participate in God's plan for a flourishing Community.

YOUNG ADULTS

Serving our Young Adults has been such a blessing. We have served 7 young adults on average, had one of our friends surrender their life to Christ and be baptized and have served 20 total young adults this year.

We've spent the year growing in faithfulness and learning to live in the love God has for us. Most recently we've been growing with the Practicing the Way series which teaches us the importance of a life rooted in Jesus and following his lead as we seek to implement the 9 spiritual practices he regularly lived into.

Please join us in prayer as we continue to explore creative ways to engage young adults in our neighborhood.





LOCAL OUTREACH

This year, we have been blessed to connect with so many wonderful people from our community through our outreach efforts, such as our quarterly outreaches like Celebrate Summer and Harvest Hootenanny.

We celebrated with the College Hill Community by partnering with College Hill Urban Redevelopment Corporation to host two of our events in Patrick Park to ensure we meet our neighbors. Through God's blessing and your faithfulness, we've met nearly 300 new people this year and around 80 requests to hear more about the ministry happening here at CHPC.

GLOBAL OUTREACH

This year, we took a wonderful team of 14 people to serve in Honduras in partnership with Sonlight Power. We, in partnership with the locals installed solar panels on 3 rural schools that had no electricity, giving the students a opportunity to continue education during harvest seasons. We also ran a Vacation Bible School at each site and saw many students give their lives to Jesus. One thing is for sure. Going on Missions will stretch you and teach you to trust God on a deeper level. Riding through thick fog in the mountains on unpaved roads without guard rails teaches us how to trust. When the fog lifts from the mountains seeing God's creativity reminds us to be in awe of our God. Partnering in global missions opens our eyes to how great our God is and reminds us of we how creative our God is and how much God we can learn from our brothers and sisters from other cultures.

Next year we plan to return to Kenya in partnership with Pastor Moses and the Maasia community to participate fellowship with the church plants we've supported there and meet the Pastor's we've been empowering.



3CS PRESCHOOL

Three Cs had an amazing school year last year. We were blessed to serve over 75 families. What a blessing to be able to spread Jesus' love to so many. Our goals for 3Cs are to plant the seeds of Jesus in all who come to our halls, prepare children for school and beyond, and create families that are volunteers and participants in their children's education, in their communities, and beyond.

We have and will continue to work hard at making connections with CHPC. Last year, we had many families participate in the Fall Hootenanny at Patrick's Park, and the Easter Magic show and egg hunt. We also have both past and present students who are part of Jesus University. This year, we hope to introduce our new families to the CHPC events.

This year we have 11 staff members and about 80 students. Every year it's so exciting to know that we get to touch so many people's lives, and we hope that they go on to spread God's love wherever their next steps may be. There is nothing more beautiful than witnessing Christ's love through our sweet little community.



JESUS UNIVERSITY

Jesus University was started (in partnership with City Gospel Mission) at CHPC 2015 with 14 girls it has now grown to over 65 dancers, in 4 separate ballet groups. The girls come from various Cincinnati neighborhoods as far as Liberty Township. We serve and reach out to various schools, and many of the girls served cannot otherwise afford ballet lessons.

At Jesus University, our first goal, is always Jesus first! The girls have wonderful classroom time learning about Jesus, how He loves them and how to worship Him in their daily lives. The girls are given a light lunch as they are learning their bible lesson and given time to check in with each other.

We also provide tutoring services for the girls who may need assistance with remedial skills, free of charge. Through instruction and mentoring, we help our girls build character, self-esteem, discipline, and a love for Jesus and how to honor Him through worship.

We have launched a family support group on Saturdays for parents, it is called "Parents on Pointe." We have had quite a few parents attend the group, they are met with hot coffee, a fancy pastry and listening ears. Currently, the parents are studying "Breathe by Priscilla Shirer."

FAMILY OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT

15 students participated in a day designed to equip them with tools to improve emotional and spiritual health.

PARENT-YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH WEEKEND RETREAT

Families learned to listen with curiosity, strengthen their connections, and build community.

COLLEGE HILL ACADEMY PARTNERSHIP

Our ongoing collaboration included PTA meals, Christmas donations for families in need, and participation in their annual Lemonade on the Lawn event. We're excited about the launch of our new Whiz Kids tutoring site at CHA for the 25-26 school year.

WHIZ KIDS PROGRAM

Our Whiz Kids ministry at CHPC thrived this year, with dedicated leaders mentoring students in literacy and life along with fostering meaningful connections with families.

SUMMER 2025

Summer was a season to remember! Over 9 weeks, we collaborated with College Hill Public Library and Cherish Your Children Childcare, reaching 25+ students each week with games, crafts, and lessons sharing the love of Jesus. Our Family Fun Day at Clippard Park brought together families from CHPC, our 9 weeks of Summer outreach, and Turning Point Church for a day of music, games, crafts, and fellowship.

CONNECTIONS CAMP 2025

This year's Connections Camp was incredible:

38 adult leaders and 15 teen apprentices and interns (ages 13 to 93) served 89 students over 5 days.

Theme: Step Right Up

Friday Family Carnival: 209 people attended for music, food, carnival games, prizes, and celebration.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

We concluded the year with a Back-to-School Night of Worship, including a parent information session hosted by Brain Balance of Cincinnati, dinner, and worship led by the H2O Praise Team where 42 people attended from 3C's, CHPC and College Hill Academy. We blessed every family with a parent and student Back to School Survival Guide and Kit to help them prepare for Back to School.





FAMILY MINISTRIES

2025 has been an extraordinary year for Family Ministries at College Hill Presbyterian Church. We've seen growth, deepened relationships, and celebrated the boundless love of God as we walk alongside families in our church and community.

EQUIPPING FAMILIES

We began the year with a Boundless Equipping Workshop for Parents, welcoming 18 parents to receive resources and support from Lauren Gaines, author of *Unshakable Kids*, and Jeanne Schneider from Living Hope Counseling Services. It was a time of encouragement, learning, and equipping parents to disciple their children. We worshiped and learned alongside our Latin and Chinese brothers and sisters, with Spanish, Mandarin, and English speakers being represented. The multicultural worship reminded us of the beauty of God's kingdom and the unity we share in Christ.

SUNDAY SCHOOL-NURSERY & YOUTH MINISTRY

Our Youth, Sunday School and nursery teams faithfully served families, utilizing our Grow Curriculum to share the Gospel and make a lasting impact on children and youth. Through prayer, discernment, and hard work, we continue to foster lasting relationships and disciple whole families.

2025 has been a year of growth, connection, and joyful service. It is a privilege to witness the love of God reflected in our families, students, and leaders. We celebrate God's faithfulness and look forward to another year of discipleship, fun, and transformation.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

On Tuesday mornings, you can find a group of women (currently more than 50 - an increase of 10 ladies this year!) gathered in the Parlor to learn more about God through Bible study. This study includes video teaching, small group discussions, sharing of how the study impacts their lives, and prayer requests. This ministry offers women an opportunity to connect with God and with one another, form new friendships, and reach out to others. Most of the women attend CHPC, but some come from other churches.

During the last year, the women have completed the following studies:

- "Jonah" - how life's interruptions may actually be divine intervention
- "Wonder of Advent" - Advent reflections, activities, and projects
- "Luke in the Land" - walking with Jesus in His first-century world and exploring the historical and cultural climate of the day
- "Heaven - When Faith Becomes Sight" - the truth about what comes next

This Fall, the women are studying "The Way of Wisdom - a study of the Book of Proverbs." They are applying wisdom principles to everyday topics such as words, work, friendship, marriage, parenting, neighborliness, money management, leadership influence, and more. The wisdom of Proverbs invites us to walk in God's way in God's world.

Last Fall, the women were challenged to work together on a mission by putting their faith into action. They provided CHPC youth with lunches while engaging students in conversation and really listening to them. The women have also been participating in the Found House ministry for homeless families by preparing bedrooms, providing meals, visiting with families, and entertaining children.

Next study: Plans are in the works for another Advent study, complete with outreach projects. In January, the ladies will begin a new study. Watch for information and consider joining



CONGREGATIONAL CARE



E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN

The E-Mail Prayer Chain reaches 152 people and is updated regularly. Please spread the word to others about this great opportunity to pray for one another. People can sign up on the website at chpc.org/prayer. On average we send prayer requests two times a week, many times more often. It is a great way to stay connected and updated on praises, illnesses, condolences and Meal Train opportunities.



FOREVER YOUNG

The Forever Young program has been a big success. This ministry is for those who are 55+ and is a great time of fun, good food and fellowship. We meet in September, October, November, February, March and April from noon to 2:00. A lunch is served with a program following. Many Covenant Partners have invited friends to attend so it is also a good outreach opportunity. So far, we are averaging between 50-60 people attending and are growing!



CONGREGATIONAL CARE & PRAYER

Gene Gosselink and his team continue to do an amazing job reaching out to shut-ins, often by visits but also by telephone calls. Gene reports each month, keeping us informed of progress and needs as they arise.

Wanda Kuyper and her team oversee the Prayer and Care Telephone Ministry and try hard to reach out to each Covenant Partner member during the year.



DIASPORA COMMUNION

Janet Johnson coordinates Diaspora Communion each month, working closely with Elders and Deacons to make sure people who cannot attend communion service are served.



LOVE SHEPHERDS

Elena Stothfang coordinates the Love Shepherd Ministry and keeps abreast of those who need a Love Shepherd. It is wonderful to know that Covenant Partners who can no longer attend Worship in person are being ministered to in such a meaningful way. It is also a great opportunity to serve and it's hard to determine who is blessed more...the recipient or the Shepherd.



GRIEF GROUP

Janet Johnson, Barb Enderly and Joanne Cornelius lead the Grief Group which is meeting bi-monthly. This group is unique in that it meets people right where they are and has no outlined curriculum. The goal is to help those who are experiencing grief find a safe place to share, to discover they are not alone and to minister to one another. Lunch is also served.



KNITTING GROUP

Knitting Group – This group of faithful women meet each week for fellowship and in the process knit beautiful prayer shawls. It is a gift to deliver them in person! If you enjoy knitting, they would love to have you join them.

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Kevin Moser has served as director of traditional worship for the past three years. Our musical goal is to perpetuate the congregational singing of best-loved and most important hymns from historic Christianity while regularly adding worthy new additions. Throughout the past year we have introduced numerous modern hymns to the congregation. We strive to include songs that worship God for his attributes and works as well as songs that testify to God's goodness in our lives. Whenever possible, we try to choose music that complements and reinforces sermons, series topics, and scriptural texts.

The Chancel Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings and early Sunday mornings to support the congregational singing and augment the worship experience with additional special music. Current section leaders who have earned degrees in vocal performance or are currently working toward such include Jadyn Riggs (alto), Sergio Enciso-Suarez (bass), and Eddie Ferran (tenor).

Jill Drewyor continues to serve as the church organist, assisting weekly in service music and choir rehearsals, where her proficiency in many styles of piano accompaniment is especially helpful.

Traditional worship services continue to include music by the CHPC Handbell Choir, CHPC Orchestra and Jesus University dance troupe in our services.





SUNDAY FUNDAYS

We have incorporated 6 combined worship services in our annual calendar. These days, which are “Sunday Funday” allow both services to join together for a combined worship service with an “all-church” activity and a meal together. Our fun days this year were:

- Taste of Honey
- Prayer Walk
- Graduation Sunday & picnic
- Outdoor worship & picnic
- Congregational Meeting & lunch
- Christmas breakfast and worship

ORCHESTRA

Our CHPC orchestra was started by former Director of Traditional Worship Michael Parker and continues today under the direction of Penny Sauer. What began as a simple accompaniment to the traditional service hymns now includes hymn arrangements, orchestral prelude pieces and accompanying the choir anthems.

This volunteer orchestra currently consists of 18 musicians, high school age and up. Some are CHPC members, and some are friends from outside our church body, but they all share a joy of playing their instruments and offering that music as an enhancement to praise of the Lord. The orchestra typically plays on the third Sunday of each month, September through May at the 9 am service, as well as the traditional Christmas Eve service.

HANDBELLS

The College Hill Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir is more than just a handbell choir leading in worship. It is a community of worshippers who believe in the almighty power of a living God. We begin with prayer. We end with prayer. And it's not unusual to stop the rehearsal to pray again. We support each other. We lift each other up before the throne of God. We rehearse.

The handbell choir began the 2024-2025 season by attending a handbell workshop in Madeira. We rehearsed on Tuesdays 7-8 pm September through the beginning of May. We rang in the traditional service the second Sunday October through May. While we desire to become a larger group, we consistently had eight bell ringers: Mary Sue Verhagen, Terry Fisher, Pam Dollard, Dr. Jinda Bowerman, Cindy Carlson, Bonnie Mack, John Wendt, and Ann Klusmeier. We are very thankful for our subs: among them are Jill Drewyor and Sharon Mullens who subbed both at rehearsals and Sunday services when she wasn't playing bells in her own church. Jill also accompanied us several times.

All ringers after each rehearsal polished their bells and put away their music, lights, stands and bells. Terry Fisher and John Wendt consistently arrived early to help set up. Ann Klusmeier produced several slide shows and videos to accompany the handbell choir. A few of the pieces we rang included arrangements of Jesus Shall Reign, Praise to the Lord the Almighty, Called to the Light, Let All Mortal Flesh, and There Is a Fountain.

We fellowship. In December, we had a sit-down dinner at the home of Dr. Carl Bryant, the Director. In May, after our last performance, we met to do a cream polish of the bells. Then we had a sit-down dinner at the home of Terry Fisher.

We are grateful that we can lead in worship and praise our Lord. He has been and is so very good to us.





FACILITY MINISTRY

The last year has been a year of ongoing improvements and updates. We In 2024-2025 have finalized a few major projects. We completed two significant roofing projects. The flat roof above 3Cs Preschool has been replaced and we did much needed maintenance and repair on certain sections of the Sanctuary's slate roof. Additional projects included:

- Updating the signage above entrances around the campus. We will
- continue installing additional signage during the first quarter of next year. including directional signs.
- Installing benches. We were fortunate to receive a donation for benches that were placed throughout the campus.
- Beautifying outside spaces. Pam and Pat Dollard along with the gardening volunteers have completed a few beautification projects around campus. We couldn't maintain our campus without the help we receive from everyone.
- Updating our Wi-Fi network.
- Completing the parking lot.

We continue to find creative ways to partner and use our space. New partners in 2024 included the Weaver's Guild, The Disciples Ministry International, and the YMCA. We look forward to entering new collaborations and partnerships in the upcoming year.

CHPC continues to be the church on the hill in College Hill. A light and beacon proclaiming that we are here and that we care.

FINANCE REPORT

Our Fiscal Year ended August 31, 2025. Each year, Session approves a budget consisting of 3 main components; the amount we believe the congregation will give through tithes and offerings, other income that we will receive (such as building use by other organizations), and how much we will spend during the year.

FY2025 Income	\$1,539,448
FY2025 Expenses	\$1,539,417
FY2025 Net Income	\$31

Many of our expenses are fixed like salaries and utilities. We spend 70% of our annual budget on our staff and facility which is a typical overhead percentage. Our utilities expense has increased significantly over the past year. We were unable to provide our staff an increase for FY2026.

This year, the congregation gave **\$1,138,490** which was 3% over budget! Thank you for your many generous contributions! God provided just the amount we needed through you, and we ended the fiscal year with a balanced budget. For next year, the Congregational Giving will be the same at \$1,100,000. There is a budget report available at the front desk or from Heather Lethander at hlethander@chpc.org.

HOW YOUR TITHES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Have you ever wondered where the money goes that you gift to the church? Our general budget supports all the ministries that take place both inside and outside the church. There are obvious ministries such as worship, Bible studies, Sunday School, global workers, and outreach events in the community. The budget also goes towards staff salaries and our amazing church campus that supports ministries that take place within our walls such as Adult Children of Alcoholics, Found House, Young Life, and Christ's Community in College Hill. We make a difference through outreach to City Link, Mosaix, Pleasant Hill Academy and College Hill Fundamental, and our 3Cs Preschool. We provide direct support for 14 global workers, and even more with indirect support, and send church members out on mission trips to support other ministries around the world.

GIVING FORECAST

Our congregational giving is generous, and has remained approximately the same for 6 years. As our expenses have grown, so has our need for other sources of income. While we have made strong partnerships with other ministries who need a home such as Easter Seals, Turning Point Outreach, Living Hope Counseling, Design and Intent, as well as other organizations such as Cincinnati Children's Hospital, we recognize that congregational giving needs to increase, both in number of giving units and dollars given. We realize that there is a shift in generational giving that also affects CHPC.