

# BELL TOWER NEWS

College Hill Presbyterian Church – APRIL 2026

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

**EASTER** is the annual celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection three days after his death by crucifixion.

His resurrection is the "cornerstone" of the Christian faith. The Apostle Paul declares, "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain." —1 Cor. 15:14.

Why? Because Christ's resurrection is the sign & seal of God's love and biblical truths . . . and it changes everything!

**Victory over Death:** It demonstrates Jesus' absolute power over the "clutches of death," showing that he could not be held by the grave. This removes the fear of death for believers, as the "sting of death" (sin) has been defeated. The Gospel of John (chapters 20 and 21) and the early chapters of the Book of Acts testify to Jesus appearing *alive* to thousands.

**Vindication of Jesus' Identity:** The resurrection along with the ascension serve as the ultimate proof that Jesus is the Son of God and the promised Messiah. It validated his unique divine status above any other religious leader or figure.

**Guarantee of Justification:** Scripture states that Jesus was "raised for our justification" (Romans 4:25). This means his resurrection confirms that God accepted his sacrifice on the cross as full payment for sin, allowing believers to be "put right" with God.

**Assurance of Forgiveness:** If Christ remained dead, believers would "still be in [their] sins". The resurrection



provides the certainty that sins are truly forgiven and the penalty of sin has been removed.

**Provision of a "Living Hope":** It offers a "living hope" through a new birth. This hope is not just a wish but a confident expectation of an imperishable inheritance in heaven.

**The "first fruit" of Future Resurrection:** Jesus is described as the "first fruit," meaning his resurrection is the precursor and guarantee that all who trust in him will also experience physical resurrection into glorified, immortal bodies.

**Confirmation of Scripture:** The resurrection fulfilled numerous Old Testament prophecies (such as Psalm 16 and Isaiah 53) and Jesus' own predictions about his death and return to life, proving the absolute reliability of the Bible. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)



## EASTER IS AN EXCELLENT TIME TO REFLECT ON WHY JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS.

BY ELDER DAVE SNYDER, *Embracing Unity*

Yes, Jesus died to reconcile us to God but also to reconcile us to each other. In Ephesians 2:11-3:8 Paul tells us the good news is that we are reconciled to God and that we are reconciled across racial/ethnic lines into one new humanity. In Ephesians 2:15 Paul says “His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity” – Paul elevated this racially diverse unity, in one organized entity, as the very purpose of God. Reflecting back on Bob Sjogren’s recent sermon, God created diversity to reveal his glory by bringing that diversity back together in harmony.

As we navigate through Lent, it is an opportune time to consider how we can become agents of reconciliation in our communities.

Eight years ago, I invited five black CHPC leaders to lunch to hear their experiences within our church. Pastor Drew and I listened for three hours as they shared stories of perceived racism. This moment was transformational for me. While I initially doubted their perceptions, I recognized we had important conversations in which we needed to engage.

Eight months later, we introduced twenty CHPC leaders to a pilot version of Undivided, a cross-racial small group experience, which I later recreated. Over the next four years, an additional 76 people

participated in this journey. During this time Pastor Drew provided me with a steady flow of resources on what the Bible says about race, unity, and justice. I was astonished by how much scripture addresses these topics, yet I had been largely unaware of this teaching after six decades in the church.

Compelled to share my newfound insights, I began writing two-minute essays that highlighted key points. This effort culminated in the creation of Embracing Unity Academy, a collection of 60 essays and videos designed to guide individuals on a journey of racial discovery. In January 2024 I left the corporate world to focus on this ministry full time. Today, we have 25,000 YouTube followers, with a goal of reaching 100,000 by the end of 2027.

Why is this ministry vital? Research indicates that white Christians are less motivated than non-Christians to dismantle structural racism, and church attendees are twice as likely to believe racist narratives. Additionally, while a revival is occurring on American college campuses, for every person who is coming to faith, six are leaving due to the way Christians talk about each other on social media. We increasingly find ourselves in echo chambers that reinforce our

racial and political biases. There is a pressing need for accessible teaching on race, unity and justice that transcends political rhetoric.

Re-discipling ourselves and others to become agents of reconciliation is not easy work because we have been enculturated into non-biblical narratives on race and unity our entire lives. But the Holy Spirit will do the work if we boldly take the first step. In response to my posting our Parable of the Good Samaritan essay in a Facebook theology group, one individual responded: “You provide solid points that have piqued my interest. In no way can I dismiss your arguments off-handedly, as some may do. Some have hardened hearts and are spiritually blind. I will pray and seek discernment regarding your post.” A Black Trump-supporter reposted my “Are Black Americans Inferior?” essay on LinkedIn, adding this introduction: “I wish all Christians thought like this, but the church is holding us back.” And I received this from one of my board members: “I want you to know that in being in some of these difficult conversations with you, God has brought about a conversion in me. Your essay [Unity Requires Civility], for the most part really outlines every reason for

*(CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE)*



## WHY JESUS DIED . . .

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

my conversion. I'm obligated as a follower of Christ to love everybody. But I'm also obligated as a follower of Jesus Christ to recognize that not every believer in Jesus thinks as I do and yet they love Jesus just as much as I do. I'm committed to continuing dialogues with civility – thank you Dave.”

Now is an opportune time to reflect on how God might expand your capacity as an agent of reconciliation. Please pray that God provides the daily bread needed to expand the reach of this ministry. We invite you to pray for financial support, individuals to engage with our material, and for the creation of small discussion groups around this content. Additionally, pray that the Holy Spirit will make hearts receptive to this teaching. We are in a spiritual battle, and your involvement can make a difference.

DAVE SNYDER is the founder of Embracing Unity *Equipping Christians to talk race, pursue church unity, and put things right in our communities. For more information go online to*

EMBRACINGRACIALUNITY.ORG

### CONGRATULATIONS

to the “Whiz Kids” students who portrayed major African-American figures for CHPC’s “live” Wax Museum as the finale of BLACK HISTORY MONTH. To see videos online go to YOUTUBE.COM and search for African American History Wax Museum.

## the resurrection

(CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT COVER)

### The Coming of the Holy Spirit:

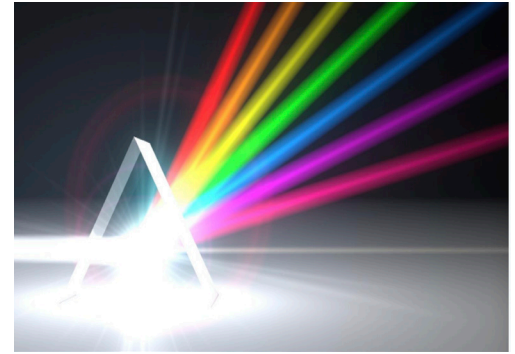
Jesus’ resurrection and subsequent ascension were necessary for the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. This allows the risen Christ to dwell within and empower his followers today.

### Certification of Future Judgment:

The resurrection serves as the sign that God has appointed Jesus to judge the world in righteousness. It guarantees that every person will eventually be held accountable before him.

### The beginning of the restoration

**of all things:** the power of God’s kingdom has broken into the present world, leading toward the final renewal of the entire creation. The Apostle Paul explains it this way: “We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the



redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.” —Romans 8:22-25

### Easter may be known for many things, but this promise is eternal.

“For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”—Romans 8:38-39

NO WONDER THAT EASTER IS JOYOUSLY CELEBRATE BY OVER 2 BILLION CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD.



CHIPPER IN HIS RETIREMENT.

AMY HUDOBA WRITES: Chipper and I just finished our last pet therapy visit after 26 years of ministering to hundreds of people—in hospitals, homes, in firehouses and police stations. This stop was for the Miami Township First Responders. For years God has used my Bedlington Terriers (Sparky and Chipper) to comfort hurting people, and show them God loves and cares for them unconditionally (me, included).





 **partnership course**  
 Weds., April 22 (6:00-8:30 PM) *plus* Sun., May 3rd (12:00-2:30 PM)  
[chpc.org/partnership](http://chpc.org/partnership)

REV. SAMUEL MOCK, ASSISTANT PASTOR

Take the NEXT STEP in following Christ. Inquire into becoming a “CHPC Covenant Partner” (member). Sign up for the “Partnership Courses”— Weds., April 22 (6:00 to 8:30 PM) and Sun., May 3rd (12:00 to 2:30 PM). Dinner and childcare are provided, *upon request*.

Take this excellent opportunity to explore your God-given gifts, talents, and passions, and to consider how God might exercise them here at CHPC and beyond. Learn what it means to follow Jesus as part of this local expression of Christ’s body.

Hear from the church staff about where God is leading CHPC and working *across the street and around the world*. Dig deeper into what we believe as a church. Feel free to ask questions you may have about the church. Pray about God calling you to join CHPC.

To become a Covenant Partner (our official name for church members) you must participate in this class. There is no requirement or expectation that you will formally join the church after attending these classes, but we hope you will. We would love

to have you partner with us in what God is doing in and through CHPC.

You will learn about ECO – Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians, our denomination. Its commitment to “build flourishing churches of Jesus Christ” and vision for *the 21st Century* impacts who we are. You may not hear much about ECO in our Sunday worship, but it’s an exciting partnership too!

We will also share about our “roots” in Presbyterian and Reformed history and theology. God has called and blessed this congregation in Cincinnati to be vital part of his kingdom. We have a rich heritage here that empowers how we live as Christ followers today and partners with others to influence the future.

Interested in participating or have a friend you’re encouraging to participate? RSVP or invite them to do so **online at [chpc.org/partnership](http://chpc.org/partnership)**. This will ensure that we have a meal for everyone. If you need childcare, we will also provide that *upon request*.

**Have any other questions? Contact me at [smock@chpc.org](mailto:smock@chpc.org).**

THANKS FROM CINDY CARLSON for the many ways that God has already answered prayers for her trip to Mongolia (June 8 to July 13) to do special training for English teachers. He has provided a teammate, a former Marine and retired professor with very creative teaching skills, airline tickets, and contacts on the ground for transportations and housing. KEEP PRAYING that God will be glorified!



YOU ARE INVITED TO “BE ON MISSION”

To be on mission is simply to join God in the work he is already doing. This means we can be on mission in our local neighborhoods, churches, homes, and around the world.

**Pray and ask God about joining the CHPC Mission Trip June 11th to 20th being led by Samuel and Elizabeth Mock**

The Mocks are asking people to join them as (1) prayer partners, (2) financial partners (to support the team as we go) and (3) as traveling partners. If you’re interested in joining the team, apply online at

**[CHPC.ORG/Kenya](http://CHPC.ORG/Kenya)**

The cost of the trip will be \$3,000-\$3,500. Scholarship and support-raising guidance is available.

Questions? Email [smock@chpc.org](mailto:smock@chpc.org)

## CHPC'S PASTOR EMERITUS GRADUATES TO THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT 3/9/26



### “JERRY KIRK, CINCINNATI PASTOR WHO FOUGHT PORNOGRAPHY, DEAD AT 94”

REPRINTED FROM *THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER* NEWSPAPER - MARCH 15, 2026

The Rev. Jerry Kirk, a Presbyterian pastor who gave up preaching in College Hill to lead a national crusade against pornography, died March 9 in Richmond, IN. He was 94.

Kirk's transformation from minister to activist in the 1980s made him an influential figure for decades in American politics and religion, taking him from church pulpits to meetings at the White House with U.S. presidents.

Over the course of his long career, Kirk prayed with Billy Graham, lobbied Ronald Reagan and helped found organizations that would go on to champion conservative Christian causes beyond his opposition to pornography.

Despite Kirk's prominent public life, his son, the Rev. Stephen Kirk, said his father focused less on policy and politics than on the people he believed his work would help.

“He started nonprofit organizations that had a cultural impact and sometimes veered into politics,” his son said. “But his passion wasn't politics. His passion was people.”

One of the groups Kirk started, the Center for Christian Virtue, remains a powerful and controversial force in Ohio politics today. Founded in 1983 as Citizens for Community Values, CCV led

the charge against adult book stores and the Robert Mapplethorpe photo exhibit in Cincinnati in the 1980s and 1990s. Later, the group took on legalized abortion, gay marriage and efforts to expand LGBTQ rights.

CCV now is Ohio's largest Christian policy group, winning praise and financial support from conservatives and criticism from those who argue its positions are extreme and blur the line between church and state. The Southern Poverty Law Center has designated CCV a “hate group” because of its stance on LGBTQ issues.

Kirk stepped back from a leadership role in CCV decades ago, but he never wavered in his belief that America faced a spiritual crisis caused by a drift from Christian values.

“It's scary when I think of what has happened in America in the last 30 years,” Kirk said on the Grand Awakening podcast two years ago, referring to abortion, pornography and the debate over transgender issues. He said the spread of pornography in the digital age especially worried him, noting that easy access to sexually explicit material on smart phones made it more difficult to protect children and young people from being exposed to it.

“We need a mighty movement of God's spirit for an awakening if our nation is going to be delivered from this incredible, seductive evil,” Kirk said.

did rhetorical battle with politicians and pornographers, such as Hustler publisher Larry Flynt, his demeanor remained that of the genial pastor who for years organized youth groups and preached the Gospel on Sundays.

He spoke forcefully but politely, whether he was addressing community groups, talking to Tom Brokaw on the NBC Nightly News or writing guest columns for local newspapers.

When he warned Cincinnati in 1999 to be wary of a plea deal Flynt took to avoid a criminal trial on obscenity charges, Kirk didn't lecture them like a politician. Instead, he wrote a column in *The Enquirer* that made his case with the calm tenacity of the minister he'd been for most of his life.

“Cincinnati, don't let yourself be misled,” Kirk wrote. “By bringing pornography back to Cincinnati, Larry Flynt continues a national crusade to eliminate all obscenity laws.”

Kirk wasn't wrong about Flynt's goal. But ultimately, it was the internet, not Flynt, that spelled doom for those laws, which relied on “community standards” to keep out pornography.

When the internet began delivering explicit material to almost anyone, anywhere, anytime, the legal definition of community standards lost its meaning. Kirk lamented that reality later in life, holding fast to the argument he'd made in his youth that pornography did more than coarsen American society and culture.

In his book, “The Mind Polluters,” he argued it put lives at risk. “If we had gotten together sooner for the battle against pornography,” he wrote, “thousands of children would still be alive, millions of women would not have been raped, an entire generation of young people would not have been ravaged through drugs and twisted death-dealing sex.”

### BECOMING A MINISTER, THEN A CALL TO CINCINNATI

Kirk attributed his religious awakening to a [Young Life] summer camp he attended in 1949, when he was a

### A PASTOR'S Demeanor, AN Activist's Intensity

While Kirk's activism put him on a national stage, where he sometimes



**Dan Horn**

Cincinnati Enquirer

Jeff Suess contributed to this report



Share tributes with the Kirk Family by emailing [kariharr12@aol.com](mailto:kariharr12@aol.com).

Memorial contributions can be mailed to *The Prayer Covenant*, P.O. Box 281 New Albany, OH 43054 or online <https://theprayercovenant.org/donate/> or to *Young Life Frontier Ranch*, P.O. Box 2025, Buena Vista, CO 81211.

teenager growing up in Seattle.

As a star high school basketball player who would go on to play at the University of Washington, Kirk met another player who invited him to attend the camp. While there, he said, a camp counselor prayed with him to “accept Christ.”

“Upon returning home, Jerry became the president of the Young Life club at his high school,” according to the website of the Young Life Community Network, a Christian youth organization that awarded Kirk a distinguished alumni award in 2023.

Kirk became a Presbyterian minister in the late 1950s and soon after married his wife, Patricia. [PICTURED] Together they raised five children. Stephen Kirk [Pastor of Cincinnati’s



Hope Church in Mason] said his father’s busy schedule never meant he neglected his family. “He navigated that really, really well,” he said. “He was fully present ... His schedule was always quite full, but he didn’t just come home and collapse.”

Kirk first took a job as pastor of a church in Pittsburgh, but in the mid-1960s he began getting requests to move to College Hill Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati. At first, he said no. But in a video recorded for Young Life six years ago, Kirk said the College Hill church was persistent. After the third request, he said, he told his wife, “I think we ought to go see what’s happening in Cincinnati. Maybe the Lord is calling us there.”

Kirk soon became one of the best-known preachers in Cincinnati, making College Hill Presbyterian a focal point for community service programs, including a popular Teen Breakfast Club on Thursday mornings that attracted hundreds of kids for prayer, music and pancakes.

Kirk’s son said a combination of charisma and humility made his father a popular figure, even among people of different faiths. He recognized early on that the groups he founded and the campaigns he started would find more success if they welcomed everyone.

Years ago, Stephen Kirk said, a fellow pastor remarked on his dad’s enduring popularity. “What’s it like to be the son of the Pope of Cincinnati?” he asked.

### A SUNDAY SERMON CHANGED THE COURSE OF HIS LIFE

Jerry Kirk often said he was happy preaching and raising his family in Cincinnati, but after delivering a sermon in 1983 about the moral and spiritual dangers of pornography, his life took a turn. “He realized there were a lot of people talking about the problem, but no one was really getting involved in it,” Sarah Blanken, his administrative assistant, told *The Cincinnati Post* in 1987.

Soon after, Kirk got very involved. He stepped down as pastor, rounded up likeminded friends and launched a campaign against pornography that would consume much of his career for the next four decades. In addition to his early work with CCV, Kirk founded the Religious Alliance Against Pornography, met with presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush, worked with the leaders of other religious faiths, lobbied elected officials to pass laws protecting children from pornography, and appeared on numerous radio and TV



JERRY KIRK WITH DR. JAMES DOBSON

programs, including the Oprah Winfrey Show.

Kirk continued to work and speak publicly into his 90s, though he admitted on the podcast two years ago that his failing health was beginning to slow him down. He vowed to keep going, though, concluding God would keep him around as long as he still had work to do. “I realized the Lord is going to fulfill his purpose for me,” he said. “If I was going to die, it meant He had gotten it done.”

Rev. Dr. Jerry Ross Kirk is survived by his wife, Patricia; sons Timothy (Sally) Kirk and Stephen (Amy) Kirk; daughters Kimberly (Scott) Hahn, Kari (Mark) Harrington, and Kristi (Rob) Holsclaw; 28 grandchildren plus 19 spouses; 66 great-grandchildren plus 1 spouse. Three great-grandchildren on the way. His memorial service was held March 21 at Hope Church, 4934 Western Row Rd. in Mason, Ohio.

View the Memorial Service on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7rqqZtJyRk>

View this and other Kirk videos on YouTube.com by typing in Jerry Kirk.

### THE KIRK FAMILY CELEBRATING THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST IN JERRY KIRK’S LIFE.



## A LIVING LEGACY: A GIFT TO YOU, CHILDREN & THE WORLD

GOD USED PRAYER COVENANTS TO FORM JERRY KIRK'S LIFE. IN TURN, THROUGH KIRK & STEPHEN EYRE'S BOOK AND CANDY MARBALLI'S CHILDREN'S VERSION AND RESOURCES, MILLIONS OF ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN 86 COUNTRIES AND 40 LANGUAGES HAVE EXPERIENCED LIFE-EMPOWERING CHANGE...AND HAVE PASSED IT ON.

TAKE 40 DAYS AND TRY PRAYING THE PRAYER COVENANT. EXPERIENCE FLOURISHING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND OTHERS!



AS TOLD BY  
BY REV. DR.  
JERRY KIRK,  
FOUNDER



KIRK

EYRE

MARBALLI

In 1967, a leading businessman in Pittsburgh, challenged me to join him in a prayer covenant that profoundly changed my life and ministry. He reminded me of the words of Jesus in Luke 9:23, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow me." Jesus makes it clear to follow him we are called to die to self daily. Then this businessman referred to II Chronicles 15:12 which says, "They entered into a covenant to seek the Lord, the God of their ancestors with all their heart and soul."

He asked me, "Jerry, do you want to follow Jesus that way? Do you want him to be the Lord of your life, and are you willing to ask him to be Lord at the beginning of every day for forty days? If you do, I will pray the same prayer at the beginning of every day for my life and then for your life. Are you willing to join me in this covenant to follow Jesus together flat out and to hold each other accountable to fulfill our commitment?"

My response was immediate and enthusiastic: "Yes! Yes! And yes! I would love to pray that prayer each day for forty days and then pray

it over you. And I am ready to be held accountable to that covenant by you. I want Jesus to be the Lord of my life." That day, he and I sealed our commitment to Christ and each other on our knees in a dorm room at Wilson College in eastern Pennsylvania, the site of the conference we were attending.

I want you to know that this simple but challenging prayer and partnership brought new vigor and vitality to my relationship with Christ and the people closest to me, including my family, friends, and congregation. I learned then, by our friendship through the years, that following Jesus together increased my confidence in the grace and love of God, the power of prayer, and my expectation that God would use me for His glory. This prayer unleashed me to follow Jesus with new zest and strength and to believe that God would use me on a regular basis to bring people to know Christ and follow him passionately.

Are you ready for the joy and adventure that only comes from a growing commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord? Do you desire that God use

you in the lives of others on a daily basis? Then I encourage you to begin praying this prayer daily and watch what God does.

Since 1967, I have joined in thousands of prayer covenants that have strengthened me greatly. The Prayer Covenant is a life-changing prayer that can last a lifetime. It binds people's lives together under the lordship of Jesus Christ and inspires deeper levels of obedience and discipleship. I have come back to it again and again with new vigor and strength. These years of ministry have been an incredible grace gift from God. While this prayer has grown in length, the essence is always the same—"Jesus be the Lord of my life"—and it continues to guide and form me on a daily basis.

**GOD CHANGED THE MY WORLD IN 40 DAYS...**

*The 40-Day Prayer Covenant* is more than just a personal commitment to pray; it is also about spiritual relationships. It is a great joy to follow Jesus; it is the greatest joy to follow Jesus with others.

The Prayer Covenant is a means, a tool, for praying with and for others. It binds people's lives together under the lordship of Jesus Christ and inspires deeper levels of obedience and discipleship.



For Downloadable Prayer Cards and great resources for children, go to

**THEPRAYERCOVENANT.ORG**



# SUMMER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



## APPLICATIONS FOR SWIM LESSONS

For Ages 5 to 95 years

**OPEN APRIL 1**

**CHPC.ORG/SWIM/**

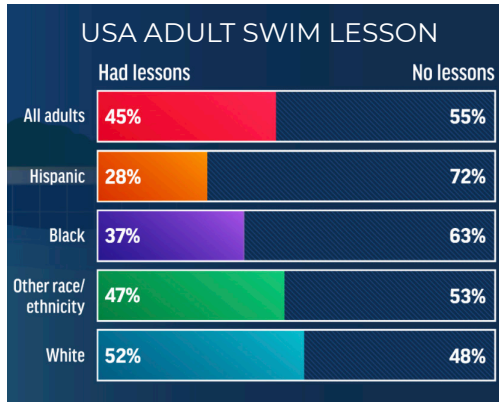
**ADULTS this message is for you and the children in your lives.** Each year, 4000 drownings result in death (11 per day) and 8000 nonfatal drowning occur that may have no aftereffects or may result in brain damage or disability. Drownings are increasing. "Formal swimming lessons reduce drownings in children as much as 88%" and adults have similar reductions. Children where parents don't swim kids have only a 19% chance of learning to swim. (CDC/US SWIMMING FOUNDATION)

The CHPC Swim Ministry, an American Red Cross Provider, teaches adult lessons one-on-one in a large heated,

indoor pool. We include water safety training with the lessons, so students learn how to recognize a swimmer who is in danger and how to safely assist other swimmer who need help.

The Swim Ministry is celebrating its 50th summer "delivering the joy of Living Water." In 2025, the USA Swimming Foundation chose the ministry — one of three swim lesson providers in Ohio — to receive a grant for scholarships for "underserved children" in Greater Cincinnati. This includes Jesus University, Whiz Kids and young people from the community.

For more information, check the website or call Sam Stare 513-382-5902.



## THE 2026 CONNECTIONS CAMP IS "SETTING SAIL"

Students kindergarten through 6th grade "set sail" on an exciting adventure to learn what it means to follow Jesus and trust God as the "Captain of Their Lives." THE 5-DAY CRUISE IS FREE due to the generosity of church members & fund-raising.

**Dates: Mon., June 22–Thurs., June 25  
8:30 AM to 12:00 PM  
(breakfast served 8:30–8:50 AM)**

The end of cruise event, "Set Sail Carnival" is Friday evening, June 26 5:30–7:30 PM, CHPC parking lot – open to campers, families, friends, and the community!

Questions? Contact Nikki McKenna at nmckenna@chpc.org or 513-491-5571.



## SHADOW DAY

On March 17, people interested in the Whiz Kid ministry had a chance to shadow a tutor and their student, ask questions and see the well-prepared tutoring resources—games, pictures, reading & math materials. Pictured are tutor Ann Klusmeier (left) and her student and Betty Jo Sommerville (right) at College Hill Academy. Pray for them.

CHPC.ORG/CPR

**APRIL 18 (12-4 PM)**

American Red Cross  
Adult & Pediatric  
CPR/AED and First Aid

5742 HAMILTON AVE  
CINCINNATI, OH 45224

Mark your calendar and bring a friend!



**Sunday, April 12th beginning @9am**  
 Combined Worship followed by walk and lunch



**April Program**  
 Making the Best of the Fourth Age of Life



**Kathryn McGrew**

55+ lunch & program

*Wed. April 8th*  
**12-2pm**

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**\$10 - RSVP**

[www.chpc.org/seniors](http://www.chpc.org/seniors)

**FREE!** Featuring: Snakes Alive with Rick!

How do animals fit into God's plan for the world?!

**COME & BRING NEIGHBORS!**

COLLEGE HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*You're Invited to....*

**The Magic of Easter**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4**  
**10:00AM**

Egg Hunt, Entertainment, & Jesus

**HELD AT COLLEGE HILL ACADEMY – 1625 CEDAR AVENUE, 45224**



BY CHRISTY ROEDIGER, ELDER

*And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true [they are accurate, incorruptible, and trustworthy]." — Rev. 21:5 Amplified*

Perhaps in spring it is easier to imagine all things being made new, but even with the budding leaves and the riot of spring flowers coloring the gray, the promise of being made new feels far from me. The dissension in our world is wounding and drives me away from the news. The epidemic of loneliness cripples. The evidence of evil discouraging. And yet, we are an Easter people. Our hope is in our risen Lord and the promise that He is returning. We are even now, as we wait, participating in His redemption plan for this world He so purposefully created.

Almighty God, please make all things new and start with us. Make us not only a welcoming community, but a congregation of believers who beckon those around us to You. Give us words that invite to You in a way that newly defines lives. Live in and among us in a way that makes Your new creation evident to our world. Be glorified in Jesus. Amen.



BY PASTOR DREW SMITH

**March 29- Prayers of Lament – Honest Pain**

This Holy Week we will explore the prayers of exacerbation and pain. During this week, we see Jesus weep over Jerusalem, and hear his cries from the cross. How do we talk with God in times of sorrow and despair?

**April 5 – Easter Sunday – Prayers of Celebration**

Let joy rule in our hearts and minds as we join with the risen Christ, who has taken sin and death to the grave and now leads us in freedom to serve and enjoy God forever!

— NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINS —  
**Jesus: The Original Influencer**

**April 12 - Even God Prepares — Mark 1:1-20**

A Study of the Book of Mark begins. God brings big changes through Jesus’ ministry. Let’s explore how we need to prepare for the transformation he brings.

**April 19 - Real Good News — Mark 1:21-2:12**

We all need good news. Jesus never disappoints. His teaching and his life always bring wonderful news to share.

**April 26- New Family Rules – Mark 2:13-3:35**

Jesus doesn’t just transform you individually. He impacts the whole community by making us into his people together. He brings new, good ways for us to flourish in our relationships with one another.



As we “Honor God by growing a diverse community of Jesus followers,” we have the right and responsibility to recommend and call those who will guide, serve and equip the church to flourish.

In October the church’s Covenant Partners (members) elect CHPC’s Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC). The CNC needs your recommendations of people to consider as potential officers: Elders, Deacons, Trustee-Administrators, and the 2027 CNC. Pray about those you know. Feel free to propose yourself.

When the CNC receives names, they meet with each person suggested to discern with them if and how they’d like to serve. Finally, the CNC prayerfully selects a slate of officers for the October 2026 election.

“The Officer Roles and Responsibilities” and the “Officer Nominating Form” can be found online at [chpc.org/nominate/](http://chpc.org/nominate/).



Paper forms are also available in the literature racks by the Sanctuary front door and in the forms box (pictured) at the Atrium entry.

You may contact any of these CNC members: Jinda Bowerman, Terry Fischer, Bonnie Mack, Robyn Russell, Barry Stare and Nancy Shryock. Photos of the CNC, staff and current offices are at [chpc.org/staff/](http://chpc.org/staff/).

- Please pray with and for all the church leaders:
- Pray for wisdom and discernment for the Church Nominating Committee: and
- Pray for those whom God will choose through the church.

Be encouraged to “speak the truth in love, and grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and upbuilds itself in love.” —The Apostle Paul in Ephesians 4:15-16