



BELL TOWER NEWS

College Hill Presbyterian Church – MID-SUMMER 2025

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

A NEW LOOK FOR THIS SUMMER EDITION

BY SHARLYN STARE, BTN EDITOR

"A picture *IS* worth a thousand words." Today that concept may be more significant than ever. Our email folders and phone messages overflow. We're bombarded with hashtags, QR codes, Facebook links and online feeds all clamoring for our attention.

As Eliza Doolittle in the musical *My Fair Lady* sang: "Words! Words! Words! I'm so sick of words! I get words all day through; first from him, now from you! Is that all you blighters can do?"

In this mid-summer *Bell Tower News*, we're offering an alternative. We're hoping to tell compelling stories with photos. We've selected what we hope are engaging photos with modest captions to tell a little of what God has been doing in and through the ministries of College Hill Presbyterian Church this summer. In an age of hand-held phones taking videos and photos at 30 images every second, that's a real challenge. Enjoy perusing this *Family Album*. Celebrate God at work in our midst through images.



... AND THE MEMORIES ARE PRICELESS

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim 3:16-17 NIV

John 1:3 says of Jesus Christ, *All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made* (John 1:3). As Creator, Jesus uses everything around us to reveal himself, God's wisdom, and the reality of the Kingdom of God throughout time—Genesis to Revelation.

Crude charcoal cave paintings; marks pressed into clay, or drawn on papyrus, cut into stone, or traced as shadows on walls. Images etched on metals or on coated glass, celuloid film, fabric, marble, plastics, and paper; in black & white, Technicolor, Cinerama, 3D, and Omnimax; on screens, phones and trillions of hand-held electronic pulses transmitted light-years through space, and much more. These are man's feeble attempts to memorialize and capture God's revelation. Savor the pictures of God at work in the glorious *College Hill Presbyterian Church's "9 Weeks of Summer."* They are modern-day parables declaring that God is ALIVE and worthy to be praised!



COLLEGE HILL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"9 FABULOUS WEEKS OF SUMMER" FUN & FAITH

MAY 31, 2025 ELIJAH KENNY, CORA HOLLAND, KENYA LUKE, NAOMI AND VICTORY MCKENNA AND LEX BOWERMAN, the 2025 Family Ministries Team, shared the College Hill Community Urban Redevelopment Corp.'s (CHCURC)

COLLEGE HILL
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FAMILY MINISTRIES
5742 Hamilton Ave.



50th-Anniversary Parade. They also hosted a booth at the CHCURC festival at Patrick's Park on the Avenue. They offered games of chance and skill and promoted the upcoming CHPC Connections Camp to families in the community.



CHPC Connections Camp 2025
June 23-27, 9 AM-12:30 PM

77-91 Campers per day (K — Grade 6)
plus **17 Teen Apprentices** (7th — GRADE 12)
and **31 adult and 6 Family Ministry's Staff**
On Friday, June 27, the week ended with a FAMILY CARNIVAL from 5:30-8:30 PM. Over 200 attended.

Before the first camper arrived, the Family Ministry Team and the Teen Apprentices received training in First Aid and what to do in an emergency.



**BE SILLY.
IT'S GOOD
FOR YOUR SOUL!**



CONNECTIONS CAMP IN ACTION



What a week! Connections Camp 2025 brought the excitement of a carnival and the truth of the gospel to kids from kindergarten through 6th grade. Each day featured Bible lessons, games, snacks, crafts plus a special camp store and an incredible teaching team. Staff, leaders, and teens loved serving. Living Hope staff were our camp counselors for the entire week. They were phenomenal. Camp ended with an outdoor Family Carnival and a community-wide celebration. A huge thank-you to every leader, intern, youth, and volunteer who made this camp week unforgettable! It was a beautiful display of God's love in action— We know of at least 18 students who accepted Christ. *Nikki McKenna- Dir. Family Ministries*



"9 FABULOUS WEEKS OF SUMMER" FUN & FAITH

Thursdays in College Hill

This summer, CHPC Family Ministries launched "9 Weeks of Summer," a fun and faith-filled outreach series that was a collaboration with the **College Hill Public Library**, **Cherish Your Children Childcare Center** (across the street from CHPC in the College Hill Plaza), and two other child care services. Thanks to CHPC's Covenant Partner's generosity young people in the College Hill area had meaningful and joy-filled experience each Thursday from June 5 to August 7!



COLLEGE HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY



CHERISH YOUR CHILDREN
CHILDCARE Center



Each week, the CHPC outreach series provided family-friendly, faith-infused activities—interactive lessons, games, prayer stations, parent conversations, and more—designed to introduce spiritual habits and build relationships with local families and children who may not yet be connected to a church. Leaders shared the joy and love of Jesus with our neighbors through creative crafts, engaging character development games, and yummy treats. There were



18 to 32 children from 3 daycare locations came to the library (19 also attended the Connections Camp). Five staff from the childcare sites came along with 8 parents/grandparents.



**A COOL ENDING
TO A HOT DAY!**

MORE SUMMER FUN & FAITH



CLIPPARD PARK FAMILY FUN-DAY

Families from CHPC and the College Hill community gathered at Clippard Park for a high-energy Family Fun Day to celebrate the summer season! From splash pad laughter and bubble stations to free food, music, and games, the day



was packed with joy. Thank you to those who came out and to the team who helped make it a celebration of connection, community, and



ADULT FUN-DAY

It began with this ad in the *Bell Tower News* and ended with smiles of appreciation from the homeowner, “Ms. Hope.” She received a special birthday present from Drew Smith, Nate Powell, Paul Moncelle, Phil Renkert and Christy Roediger (NOT PICTURED)—renewed “curb appeal” and front and back yard care.

REPAIR AFFAIR

Annual Spring Volunteer Event

JUNE 14, 8-12 PM

Use your home repair skills to provide crucial, preventative maintenance tasks for low-income older adults and people with disabilities in our community.



CHASE BANK'S JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION NORTH COLLEGE HILL

The Family Ministries Summer Team also advertised events at CHPC during this special area-celebration June 19th. Fire trucks, food trucks, games, and fun for all ages, plus a guest appearance by Rosie Red, the female mascot of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team. She



is a costumed character who debuted in August 2008. Her name is inspired by a female fan, Rosie Janis, who



was known for her enthusiastic support for the baseball team in the 1940s, and formed a women's group, the Rosie Reds, to keep the team in Cincinnati.



COLLEGE HILL
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THE JESUS UNIVERSITY DIARY

BY HELEN BROOKS, DIRECTOR OF JESUS UNIVERSITY

CHPC's Jesus University (J.U.) is an active site of the City Gospel Mission's regional Princesses Ballet. Spring was busy with a recital on May 10th (Mother's Day weekend) that included an outing for the families involved. Next was an huge recital on June 22nd at Xavier University's "Festival of Faith." J.U. loved representing Christianity at this annual event. Children from other religions and cultures— Hindu, Jewish, Native American, African, Asian etc.—join together to dance, drum, sing, and play musical instruments, sharing their customs and practices. Grants from Johnson Investment and the Greater Cincinnati Fund enabled the girls to go out into the community and to host special clinics for attracting new students and refining the skills of more experienced ones. The CHPC Swimming Ministry offered full scholarships to Jesus U to improve body tone and awareness, and be safe in and around the water.

Jesus University is growing in numbers and spiritual depth. There are now "Littles," very young dancers; "Middles" in grade school; and "Advanced" dancers, up to 18 years of age. The ministry is expanding into two new practice spaces — Sunday school rooms 201 and 205 on the 2nd Floor.

Going deeper spiritually — This summer, Kelley Foresman and Angela O'Neil led the "Middles" classes through a girls' devotional from *The Gospel Project*. Delan Hobbs-Barnes and Meredith Perdomo, the "Advanced" group teachers, just finished leading a Bible study based on the movie "Forged." After completing the study, three

girls expressed interest in baptism. Aaliyah Brooks was the first to be baptized. She received a pink (girls') teen Bible and a certificate from Jesus University.

The "Littles" and "Middles" groups— girls aged six to twelve— were the first girls treated to a swimming party held at William & Anne Clippard's home. The girls and some of their family members enjoyed a beautiful day of cool water and blue skies, plus hot pizza, lemonade, and ice-cream treats. Several parents — including grandmothers, moms, and even a dad—enjoyed the pool and hot tub. There was lots of laughing, talking, and enjoying one another's company. The "Advanced" girls were later treated to a swim-day at the Clippard's.

August 8th at 6 PM at Patrick's Park, the girls danced for the community event hosted by CHPC. The song "Your Way's Better," sung by Forest Frank and now a huge TiK ToK challenge dance, was taught to all three J.U. groups. They had a good time learning the universal moves. The girls are also working on dances for the fall. The "Advanced" group is preparing to dance to Danny Gokey's "Give Me Jesus." The "Middles"

are preparing to lead in worship by dancing to "Be Still My Soul" performed by Kari Jobe.

Goodbye and Hello —The "Advanced" girls said goodbye to their ballet teacher of six years, Aliyah Motley. She stepped down to focus on raising her two small boys. She

and her boys will be missed—Aliyah, for her unique choreography, and the boys, for their tiny footsteps around the studio., Aliyah has not left completely. She will serve as a "sub" as needed. (CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE)



MORE JESUS U DIARY...

(CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE) The “Advanced” group is now led by two very talented instructors, who will take the girls to the next level in dance: Delan Hobbs-Barnes is a creative, liturgical, and ballet Instructor from Overflow Church. Meredith Perdomo, is a dancer with *Ballet Reflect* and an instructor for City Gospel Mission’s “Hub Site.” Perdomo has studied ballet for over forty-one years. She has experience in both American and Russian ballet. She is held in high esteem by Gordon Havens, Princesses Ballet Artistic Director.

Jesus University will add another ballet teacher, Bailey Hatfield. She is affiliated with City Gospel Mission and is an instructor for Grace Hills Church in Green Hills, another Princesses Ballet site.

We welcome all our new instructors to CHPC. We look forward to working with the CHPC Worship Team to enhance the Sunday-morning experience so that all the elements of artistic expression will join in elevating and praising God through singing, prayer, and dance.

In closing, the greatest blessings of our worship journey together are the girls who now confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and dance to the Glory of God the Father. As the Director of J.U., I appreciate the eternal significance of what God is doing through ballet. I am thankful to my husband and others who have signed up to embark on this urban mission—to carry the gospel around a ten-mile radius, serving children who may not have the funds to experience the benefit of the Arts. They bring their tattered smiles to CHPC to practice on Fridays/Saturdays and grow in their faith and grace through Jesus University. *PTL!*



MAY 10, 2025: THE GLITTERING CAST OF THE 2025 RECITAL OF THE CITY GOSPEL MISSION'S PRINCESSES BALLET GROUPS WITH CHPC'S JESUS UNIVERSITY BALLET IN THE FRONT ROW.

USING A GRANT WISELY

“WE TAKE MENTAL HEALTH SERIOUSLY”

BY LEX BOWERMAN, FAMILY MINISTRIES TEAM

December Youth Mental-Health Summit, 12/14/24

After being awarded a Hamilton County Youth *INSPIRE* Grant, CHPC partnered with Living Hope Counseling Services (housed on our campus) to use the grant wisely over the next six months.

We hosted CHPC's very first Youth Mental-Health Summit and began planning similar events for adults and youth through July 2025. The Summits provided a fun, interactive space for adults and youths



(grades 4-12) from the church, Aiken High, Pleasant Hill School, and College Hill Academy. They learned about and discussed their mental health and received practical tools and resources to use in their

everyday lives and *have ways to thrive in 2025!*

April Youth Mental-Health Summit 4/14/25 and

Parent & Youth Summit 7/18-19. The theme for both was “What If?”—*Trusting God with Our Thoughts & Feelings*. Students, CHPC adult leaders, and staff from *Living Hope Counseling* explored how God helps us navigate big feelings and tough thoughts—how God's truth replaces fear & anxiety with courage & peace. Indoor and outdoor group activities, character-building lessons, and biblical teaching led to times of reflecting on each person's God-given superpowers (the unique gifts God placed in them to serve and shine). Students went home with their own *character cape*—a reminder of their worth and purpose in Christ! **FEEDBACK**—“I didn't know I could talk about this stuff with God.” “I liked learning how to stop my mind from racing.” Parents: “Thank you for creating a safe space for my child to talk and grow.” “This was needed more than I knew.” Leaders: “Watching kids discover God's truth about themselves is beautiful and powerful.”

EVERY NOTE COUNTS



BY PENNY SAUER, ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR

Did you know that CHPC has its own orchestra? If you normally attend the Contemporary service at 10:45 AM, you might not. Members and friends of our congregation play at the Traditional 9 AM Service typically on the third Sunday of each month from September through May. Players are high-school age (not beginners) and older. They are not professional musicians, but people who enjoy making music on their instruments in worship of the Lord. One member stated: "It is such a privilege and joy to be

able to contribute to the worship experience in this way." Some of our players took a hiatus from playing since their high school or college days and are now enjoying getting back into playing. Another orchestra member shared: "I've always found the members of this group to be kind, supportive, and encouraging."

Sound like something you would enjoy too? There is no audition required. Just come to a rehearsal and we will determine together whether this would be a good fit. Rehearsals are three Thursdays a month from 5:45 to 6:45 PM in

CHECK OUT THESE WORSHIP-RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 9 AM

The Chancel Choir leads worship during the Traditional Service. You do not need to be able to read music, as long as you can follow a tune. Practice is on Thursday Evenings 7-8:30 PM. Pre-service practice is at 8 AM Sunday morning. The Choir year is September through the first Sunday in June.

The Orchestra—details on this page.

Handbell Choir is under the direction of Dr. Carl Bryant. The group practices weekly on Thursday evenings and performs at the 9 AM Service September through May.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

The Worship Band leads worship during the 10:30 AM service. Musicians learn the music during the week and arrive at 9 AM prepared to play the selected songs.

Lead Vocalists - Auditioned singers perform together leading worship.

HANDY LINKS for each option are at <https://chpc.org/music-worship/>

Just submit your contact info.

the Contemporary Worship space and extending to 7:30 PM on the Thursday before we play in the service. All instruments are welcome, but we are currently in particular need of violins, cellos, and trombones.

Like more info, please contact Penny Sauer at (513)319-0304 or email bpsauer89@gmail.com. Praise God with the sound of worship & music!





GO TO <https://chpc.org/whiz-kids-tutoring/>

Whiz Kids is a one-on-one tutoring ministry for K-5 students focused on literacy, relationships, and faith. In partnership with City Gospel Mission and made possible by the generous support of the CHPC community, Whiz Kids brings hope and help to College Hill Academy students through weekly tutoring and caring adult relationships.

What You Need to Know: Tutoring is

on Tuesdays 2:45-3:45 PM (arrive at 2:35 for prayer); Sept. through April. **at College Hill Academy**, 1625 Cedar Ave. Curriculum, training, and support provided. Work 1-on-1 to build skills in reading and basic math.

Important Dates AUG 31 - DEADLINE TO BECOME A TUTOR!

Sun. Sept 7 - Orientation at CHPC, 2nd Floor Learning Center; Tues., Sept. 9 It's the First Day to Tutor!



BY JINDA BOWERMAN,
Deacon & Nurse

COME EXPERIENCE CHPC'S HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE AUGUST 20, 6-7 PM, CHPC

Did you know that for the past year, CHPC has been developing a Health & Wellness Committee?

WHAT IS ITS MISSION? *To develop a comprehensive health and wellness ministry that assists members and the community in stewarding their spirits, bodies, and minds.* To do this, the Health &

Wellness Committee meets every other month to assess how CHPC is currently meeting the mission and to discuss how we can best support those with the time, passion, and skills to implement programs that help us to steward our spirits, bodies, and minds.

We welcome all interested members of the community to join us at our next meeting on August 20th at CHPC.

IN THE SEPTEMBER BTN: Watch for these articles — Wrap-up and reflections on Summer Ministries including the CHPC Mission Trip to Honduras and the EMI Mission Trip to Kenya; "Over Seas in Finneytown" — the CHPC Swimming Ministry's 49th summer; Oceans 3C's Summer Camp; Officer Nominee Bios; Marriage School; and 2nd Organ Concert.



BY CHRISTY ROEDIGER

Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and mutual edification.

Romans 14:19 (NIV)

Isn't it grand, to be right and win? I hate to say, "I told you so," but . . . when I see that I was right, there is a part of my heart that says, "Ya-hoo! – I won!" And yet, Jesus woos me not to lord over others but to do what ministers respect and peace and what is good for others. Paul tells us to make every effort to do what leads to peace and mutual edification—not just what shines my star. Oh, Lord! I have a long way to go to be like Jesus.

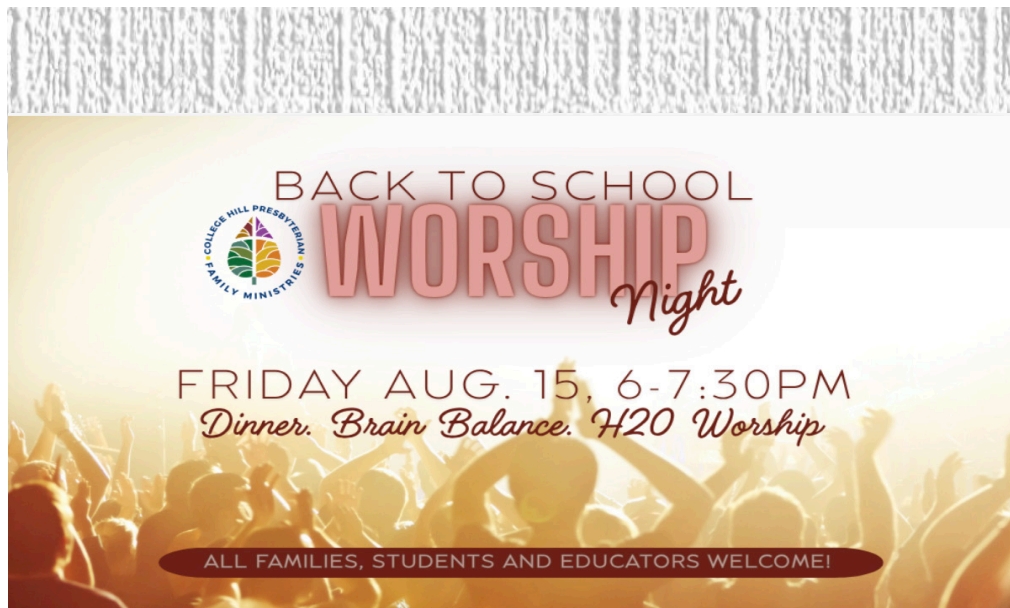
Almighty God, please grant me words that are apples of gold as I live and speak with those around me. Give me a heart that cheers for others and celebrates what is good for those around me. Help me choose what is best for all—not just for me. Continue, dear Lord, to transform me so that I'm what you always hoped that I would be. And please be glorified in my life in Jesus. Amen.

**Bell Tower News
article deadline is AUG. 18th**

Submit an article or photo of an event.
Request more information? Contact
the BTN Editor, Sam Stare
513-382-5902 or starecvg@aol.com



COLLEGE HILL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



COLLEGE HILL PRESBYTERIAN
FAMILY MINISTRIES

BACK TO SCHOOL WORSHIP Night

FRIDAY AUG. 15, 6-7:30PM
Dinner. Brain Balance. H2O Worship

ALL FAMILIES, STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS WELCOME!



MEET ALI FRISBY
New Connection Coordinator

I am both excited and honored to be joining the team at College Hill Presbyterian Church as the Connections Coordinator! My name is Ali Frisby. I was born and raised right here in Cincinnati. I started school at Ozark Christian College, then transferred to the University of Cincinnati, where I am earning my degree in Business Administration with a focus in Church Management.

I have a passion for student ministry, and I love seeing people find their place in the church and grow in their community. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, traveling (when I get the chance), and spending time with friends and family.

I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to serve a community of God-fearing people—and I'm excited to not only lead but also grow alongside you. I'm responding to this calling from the Spirit because it seems to be a natural extension of who I want myself to be in the Lord's Kingdom work. I would love for the congregation to know they are both seen and supported.

My favorite verse is Luke 19:37-40. Meet me in the Atrium on Sundays.



OUTSIDE PRAYER & COFFEE

**AUG 23
(10-12PM)**

Join us as we gather together as a church to pray with and for our College Hill Community. Prayer is in the parking lot, so bring a lawn chair and come enjoy coffee, fellowship, and prayer. Info? Catherine Sanders, csanders@chpc.org



PICNIC SUNDAY

Single, combined outdoor worship at 10:30am followed by a family picnic. Picnic is potluck style with CHPC providing main dish. Games for adults and kids of all ages

L Sunday, Aug 24
10.30AM

AT CHPC
5742 HAMILTON AVE

get the details  www.chpc.org/picnic