



Passing the Baton...

*“When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week,
and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”*

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them;

if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

John 20:19-23

Since we have a congregational meeting scheduled for May 2nd, I will leave church business to the meeting, and take this time in the newsletter to reflect on matters related to both inside and outside of the church. It is amazing how so many of the things that happened in scripture, reoccur similarly even today. That is why the Bible is called the “living word.” It lives, speaks and breathes: faith, hope, wisdom, courage, and peace into our situations.

In this passage in the Gospel according to John, we find the disciples gathered in secret for fear that what happened to Jesus may happen to them. How many of us can relate to locking ourselves in, and hiding or sheltering from perceived dangers outside such as: the pandemic, violence or theft in our communities, police brutality from rogue police officers, or hatred or fear of society for various reasons whether reasonable or not?

The disciples were afraid of what was outside because they had not yet learned to trust that Jesus was with them, whether they could see him or not. And, I would venture to say that many of us are often guilty of fearing the challenges and circumstances around us, especially when we see others being harmed or mistreated around us. Uncertainty can be paralyzing. It is at times like these that we need to be reminded that the Lord promises, “I will never leave you or forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5). Therefore, we are not in this world by ourselves. We always have help.

(continued on page 2)



JOIN US EACH SUNDAY
WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:30 AM (Bilingual Worship) - Inside and On
College Hill Community Church’s Facebook Page
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS 9:15 AM ON ZOOM

Passing the Baton... ***(continued from page 1)***

Still, the disciples had trouble understanding this concept because they were still trying to process and reconcile in their minds that their leader, their friend, their savior was crucified. All the while, some of the women and disciples were claiming he was alive! So, even though they wanted to believe; they still needed encouragement. And whether they realized it or not, with Jesus gone they now needed direction and a reason to keep going forward.

Thus, amid this fear and uncertainty, Jesus made his presence known, allaying fears and chasing away doubts. In doing so, he left his followers with something they could always hold onto, the peace and renewal that comes through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. However, Jesus does not stop there. In addition to his assurances, Jesus also asserts the necessity and healing power of forgiveness toward reconciliation. A forgiveness that would allow the disciples to move past the crucifixion, the resentment, fear and anger they were holding onto, and allow them to move toward a future of building new lives in Christ. This does not mean to excuse what happened, but to use the mistakes of the past to build a better future. In this brief encounter, Jesus was giving them the strength, courage and power to move toward what God had in store for them next. For without realizing it, the disciples by hiding from the world they feared, they were also hiding from the breakthroughs and incredible future God had in store for them. Let this remind us today and always, not to allow fear and uncertainty to prevent us from moving forward in any of our endeavors and the plans God has for us.

What an exciting place to be, poised at the crux of God's next steps! The same way the disciples were encouraged, Jesus encourages us today regardless of our circumstances. God continually reminds us that we are not alone. In fact, we are a continuation of what Jesus already started, and we have the power to do incredible things through Christ. He assures us that:

- We can still minister in a pandemic.
- As we witness injustice, we can fight for positive change.
- As many have been wronged, we must still work toward healing and reconciliation.
- Where there is unrest, we can obtain peace.
- Where there is doubt and uncertainty, faith works wonders.
- Where there is hate, it can be overcome by God's love.
- We can always make a difference!

As we move forward with: our church, our families, schools, jobs, communities, the nation and the world, we are called to be the hands and feet of Christ. While we may not see the Lord in the flesh, the Spirit of God lives in and through us as we continue doing what Jesus did on earth.

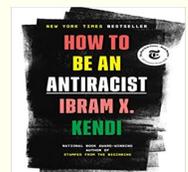
With Loving Blessings,

Pastor Worthen

College Hill/Harmony Creek Book Group

The group is studying the book, "How to be an Antiracist"
by Ibram Kendi

Join us on Zoom **May 20, 2021 07:30 PM**
Meeting ID: 854 1864 3647
Passcode: 852766



BIRTHDAYS - MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Neva Benson	May 1	Obie Harris	May 18
Helen Winston	May 2	Heather Peters	May 21
Charla Baker	May 11	Jacqueline	
Rosetta Brown	May 12	McKenzie	May 24
Morris Brown II	May 12	Ronnell McGriff	May 24
Carolyn Peters	May 13	Sylvia Robinson	May 24
Jimmy Thompson	May 14	Ronnell McGriff	May 25
Marcus Jenkins	May 16	Sandra Martinez	May 25
Alexis Augustin	May 17	Jauntee McGriff	May 28
Indigo Worthen	May 17	Sharon Royster	May 29
Marcus Lambright	May 18	Melodi Brewer	May 30
Gideon Adegbile	May 18		

PRAYER LIST

Jane Beal	Margaret Oglesby
The Bragg Family	Charles Peterson
Marco Antonio Camacho	Bernetha Pulliam
Derrick Daniels/Family	Dick Righter's Family
Paula Drake & Family	Melanie Shoop
Vicki Eason	Ethel Smith
Doris Evans	Kiffany Stargell
Paula Ewers	Mary Steele
Janet Fahlen	Nelson Stone, Sr.
Isabella Green	Dorris Thompson
Hilario Antonio Gutierrez	Gerry Thompson
Diann Harris & Family	Jimmy/Sue Thompson
Obie Harris	Ronals Todd
Andrea Hirtle	Lee & Pat Townsel
Chante Johnson	José Vidal & Family
Jose Jones Family	Pastor Darryll & Rev. Karen Young
Karen Jones	
Michael Love	
Jackie McKenzie & Family	
Bob Moore	
Carolyn Moore	



"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

ROMANS 12:12 NIV

TEENS COLUMN

It's graduation time again. Whether you are graduating from High School, College, or just from one grade to the next, the following is food for thought.

"Everything's always ending. But everything's always beginning, too." - Patrick Ness

"Don't underestimate the power of your dreams." - Corinna Kong

"The best way to predict your future is to create it." - Abraham Lincoln

"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream, not only plan, but also believe." - Anatole France

"Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears, and never regrets." - Leonardo da Vinci

"No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world." - Robin Williams

"Before you act, listen. Before you react, think. Before you spend, earn. Before you criticize, wait. Before you quit, try." - William Arthur Ward

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." - Gandhi

The most important thing in life is to stop saying "I wish" and start saying "I will". - Charles Dickens

"When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us." - Alexander Graham Bell



Fair Districts Activists:

Your help is needed **today** to prevent an effort by Senate President Matt Huffman to push forward a Constitutional Amendment that would radically change the redistricting process and undermine the spirit of the 2015 and 2018 redistricting reforms.

Because US census data will be arriving later than usual, Ohio will need a new timeline for drawing district maps. Fair Districts has been urging Ohio mapmakers to get to work on this important business for weeks now. But instead of holding public hearings, Senate President Huffman hastily put together a proposal for a Constitutional Amendment that circumvents the fair redistricting process put in place by "our" reforms. It gives complete power to the legislature to determine a new timeline -- and it doesn't even insist that maps be drawn using decennial census data.

Email Ohio lawmakers and urge them to reject any attempt to approve a Constitutional Amendment that could be used to cut the public out of the redistricting process and rig maps for extreme partisan outcomes. Go to "<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/no-hasty-changes-to-ohios-redistricting-process>" to take action now.

Thank you for advocating for Fair Districts in Ohio!

Mia Lewis and the whole Fair Districts team

Thank You

Dear Friends,

My recovery is continuing to take longer than expected, but I think I can see a light which I am hoping is at the end of the tunnel. Your prayers, cards and calls have been important in my rehabilitation and treatment. With God's will and the support of my family and friends, I trust that time will be soon. I am looking forward to seeing you all again.

*In Christ's love,
Lee Townsel*

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PEACEMAKING

College Hill Community Church PCUSA is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Social Justice and Peacemaking College Hill Church

Every month on the 2nd Tues. until Jun 8, 2021 at 7 PM

Apr. 13, 2021 07:00 PM

May. 11, 2021 07:00 PM

June 8, 2021 07:00 PM

Meeting ID: 838 3655 9076

Passcode: 170476

Submitted by Stan Hirtle

"God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers." - Rudyard Kipling

Spanish Language Bible Study Monday Nights at 8pm via Zoom

Join us on Monday nights for a lively and informative Bible Study in collaboration with our sister church, the Presbyterian Church of Cartagena, Colombia. Pastor Angelica leads us weekly in a theologically grounded, practical, and participatory investigation of the scriptures.



We are continuing our study of the Women of the Old Testament. This is a family-friendly, multigenerational, international gathering in which children, youth, and adults are all encouraged to participate!

Connect via internet:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89568392922>

Dial-in by phone: (301) 715-8592

Meeting number: 89568392922 (then press # at the prompts, no password required)



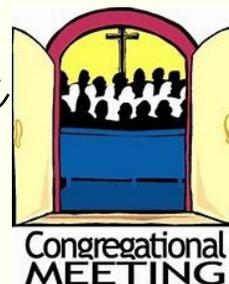
Faithlife.com

College Hill Community Church is now accepting electronic contributions through Faithlife.com.

Here are three different ways to use this electronic source:

1. Load the Faithlife App on your phone. When choosing College Hill, look for our traditional rainbow logo and address, 1547 Philadelphia Dr.
2. Add Faithlife in your phone contacts with the phone number 937-230-6530. Text the word "Give" and an amount, and a link is sent to continue with the contribution. Example: "Give \$10" and a return text gives further instructions.
3. Go to Faithlife.com on-line, create a username and password, and type College Hill Community Church in the search engine. Once you are on the CHCC page, the GIVE button is in the upper right-hand corner. Further instructions are then given.

Join us at College Hill Community Church for the annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday May 2nd immediately following the 10:30 AM service.



SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PEACEMAKING. CONTACT YOUR US SENATORS ABOUT VOTING RIGHTS

In the wake of the 2020 elections, the State and Federal legislatures are alive with activity concerning the election process.

At the federal level, the US Senate is considering SB1, called the “For the People Act”, which passed the US House. SB1 would set federal standards on a number of election issues, including voter registration, such as automatic voter registration from drivers’ licenses and benefits programs, and same-day and online voting registration. It would limit purges of voter rolls, restore the Voting Rights Act after the Supreme Court struck down the scrutiny of states with a history of voter suppression. It would also restore voting rights to people with prior criminal convictions, strengthen mail voting systems, institute nationwide early voting, preventing unreasonable wait times at the polls, and protect against deceptive practices. It would also provide a federal match for small donations to candidates.



At the same time numerous states, including Ohio, are considering changes in their voting laws, many of which reduce voting by requiring more and earlier identification, limiting early voting and limiting mail voting, among other things.

In theory voters should choose the leaders but in practice much of today’s politics involves the leaders choosing the voters, and gaming the system through gerrymandering (drawing legislative districts to one side’s political advantage) and manipulation of voting requirements.

In particular these tactics have historically been used by majorities to oppress minorities, particularly African Americans in southern states. They prevented federal action against lynching, prevented New Deal and post-World War Two veterans programs from equally benefitting African Americans and prevented meaningful civil rights laws from being enacted.

Most people believe in the idea of democracy but there is much disagreement on the details. Today, and often, America faces the question of how to govern itself when people are so strongly divided on so many political, economic and social issues. As a result of the last election one party controls the Presidency and Congress. Before the last election the other party was in charge. Its former president claims that the election was stolen by fraud. There is little evidence of real fraud, but much distrust of the system.

Another issue is whether voting laws should be set by states or the federal government, especially laws that control the election of federal office holders.

In practice some people care more about what voting systems will make it more likely candidates they want will get elected to enact the laws they want. Party officials have admitted this in court.

What should Christians do about this? In Biblical times people lived in kingdoms and empires, not democratic governments. However the Bible calls for social justice and protection of the excluded (“the least of these”). Rulers are called to rule with justice and wisdom and not to abuse their power for selfish ends. To the extent that our institutions are democratic, we all share in these duties.

Social Justice and Peacemaking urges everyone to review Senate Bill 1 at, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1/text>. Review opinions.

Then contact your US Senators. Tell them your thoughts about ease of voting and barriers to voting, what you care about, what you want them to do on SB1.

Senator Rob Portman
448 Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-3353

Senator Sherrod Brown
503 Hart Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-2315

TO ALL MOTHERS

Hey Moms in case you haven't noticed in 2021

Spoiler Old Man COVID letting us know he still is not quite done
Oh, but we have a message that not by a long shot has he won
You are too important and loved for your special day to forget
We guarantee you a Mother's Day that will be one of the best yet
Whether we give flowers, or candy, or breakfast in bed
Jewelry, a silky scarf or perky hat for your head
You'll accept with humble gratitude we assuredly concede
But the love they symbolize is the best gift you'll receive
So to all mothers and mothering persons we lovingly say;

May you have the best ever joyful Mothers' Day
Love, College Hill Community Church, PCUSA Presbyterian Men



**JOIN PASTOR WORTHEN FOR BIBLE STUDY
EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 7 PM ON ZOOM.**

Meeting ID: 848 8361 9102
Pass Code: 334762



**COLLEGE HILL CHURCH
OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday 10 AM - 1 PM - Kathy Lakes
Thursday 11 AM - 3 PM - Paula Ewers

REMINDER

College Hill Church is still collecting pop can tabs, eyeglasses, and old cell phones. Over a quart of pop can tabs was donated to the Ronald McDonald House recently. Let's recycle these items instead of throwing them in the trash.



Submitted by Darlene Brookshire

SAVE YOUR STAMPS

Please save your stamps from letters received. The stamps should be cut 1/4" on each side. Stamps may be given to **Gladys Turner Finney** who will forward them to the Sisters of the Holy Cross to benefit their ministry with the Poor Fund



SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS

I'm 73 but feel like I'm 103. (I may be exaggerating - it's more like 102.) Due to back, knee and balance issues I use a walker when I'm outdoors. I walk at least one mile every day. I keep up to date with national news and usually think about what is going on in the world while I walk. I found myself getting somewhat depressed thinking about what is occurring - mass shootings, discrimination against people who are different, representatives in Congress unable to agree on anything because they strictly follow party lines and are afraid the other party will get credit when good legislations passes, states trying to restrict voting instead of encouraging it, and the list goes on. It made me question why aren't people trying to help each other - treat each other with respect. About two weeks ago, while on my walk, a man was cutting down a tree in a yard. There were twigs all over the sidewalk. When he saw me coming, he picked up all of the twigs along the length of the sidewalk. When I reached him I thanked him and he said, "I just didn't want you to fall." As I continued my walk I thought what a kind gesture he made. I then began thinking about other kind gestures I've been the recipient of. Someone hurrying in front of me to open a door so I don't have to open it while trying to get my walker through. People stopping when I'm resting on my walk to ask if I'm alright. People waving at me when I'm walking and smiling and saying hello when I'm in the community. Just last night I was rolling my trash container to the curb. (I must be quite the sight as a roll the container with one hand and the walker with the other very, very, slowly.) A man on a bike was riding by and stopped and took the container the rest of the way to the curb. My neighbor does it sometimes and another neighbor always brings the container back up to the house. These are little acts of kindness but they mean the world to me. It helps restore my faith in people. My mother, Betty Brecht had dementia since about 2006. She had a positive attitude most of her life. About five years ago when she was still at home, my sister from Oregon visited. When she went in to say goodnight, mom said "it used to be before I went to bed I would think about all of the good things that happened during the day but now I can't remember" she paused and then added, "but what the hell, I can't remember the bad things either". Take time to think about the small things people have done to help you or make your day brighter. I've been doing that the past few weeks and feel so much better. I'm not shutting out the problems in the world. I continue to let my representatives know what I think through emails, but I take time to look at the good things around me as well. I encourage you to follow my mother's example. At night, before you go to bed, think about the good things that happened during the day. Acknowledge the little acts of kindness that mean so much.

Submitted by Jan Brecht

MAMMOGRAMS

The Norma J. Ross Memorial Foundation would like to share a community opportunity with you and your congregation. We are working with insured, uninsured and underinsured women. TO PROVIDE mammogram screenings. We know that early detection saves lives and we are working to make mammogram screenings accessible to all women. We need your help to reach as many women as possible. We are continuing to work with area churches to do more screenings in the community. If you are interested in hosting the mobile mammogram unit at your site, please contact **Sybil Martin** at 937-281-4829. The remaining open dates are: May 8, June 26, July 17, Aug 28, Sept 25, Oct 19, Nov 20th, and Dec 11th. For more information visit www.pinkribbondriven.org.



Submitted by Paula Ewers



GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS NETWORK
Higher Education Scholarships for Christian Leaders
Scholarship Application Information

Complete Applications are due by: May 31, 2021

ELIGIBILITY

Scholarship grants are available to students for full and part-time study toward the first baccalaureate degree or certification at colleges, universities, and vocational schools, or first master's degree in theology. Applicants will be asked to describe the ways or organizations for whom they provide Christian leadership, especially those that help churches or ministries to thrive, address structural racism, and/or engage issues of poverty (which are three of the Synod's most important goals). Presbyterian applicants, including seminarians, are eligible to apply if they are from within the bounds of the synod and are active members of their Presbyterian church. *Applicants are eligible to apply annually, up to a maximum of 5 years.* Applicants must have and maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA to be eligible. All financial grants will be made payable to the session for distribution. Session will return the grant to the synod office if the student's status changes. Grants will not be considered after the application due date: May 31, 2021. Only completed applications will be considered. Special consideration will be given to applicants who are Black, Indigenous, or People of Color, and to those with significant financial need. Applicants and Sessions will be notified by June 30, 2021.

TYPES OF GRANTS

FULL-TIME STUDENTS (9+ credits per semester)

The grant for full-time students is up to \$1500.

PART-TIME STUDENTS (less than 9 credits per semester)

The maximum grant for part-time students is up to \$750.

THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS

Students enrolled in their first master's degree program at Presbyterian theological institutions or an institution approved by the student's presbytery may be awarded a maximum of \$1,500 (FT), \$750 (PT). Proof of presbytery approval must be supplied.

INSTRUCTIONS

The review of applications will begin **June 1**. Applications and all requested materials and endorsement letter from pastor or moderator/clerk of session, must be submitted by the deadline to receive consideration by the scholarship committee. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered nor will they be carried forward automatically. Applicants will need to reapply annually to be considered for continued funding.

All applications must include:

1. This completed Scholarship Application
2. Letter from institution to verify enrollment
3. A list of classes for which you are or intend to be registered, for the upcoming academic year (Fall 2021)

(continued on page 10)

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS NETWORK
Higher Education Scholarships for Christian Leaders
Scholarship Application Information

(continued from page 9)

4. Statement of career objectives and how this scholarship will enable the applicant to reach these objectives.
5. Statement as to how the student demonstrates Christian leadership (in the church or at school), especially those that help churches or ministries to thrive, and/or helped to address racial injustice, and/or engage anti-poverty efforts (the three main goals of the Synod).
6. Endorsement letter from the student's pastor or clerk of session
7. The Expected Family Contribution from a completed FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form (available here: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>)

Questions can be addressed to Rev. Betty Angelini at pastorwarrenfpc@gmail.com or Lisa Allgood at lisa@cpresby.org.

Applications can be completed and uploaded at www.synodofthecovenant/grants, or completed applications should be emailed to grants@synodofthecovenant.org.

Please contact the Synod Grants and Scholarships Committee using the following information:

Grants and Scholarship Team
The Synod of the Covenant
grants@synodofthecovenant.org
248-729-2415

CONGRATULATIONS!

Leilani Drake, Tina's daughter, graduates from Vandalia Butler High School in May. She has consistently been an Honor Roll student and was in the Honor Society. Pre pandemic, she was in several plays and musicals, active in various activities and had many Achievements. Leilani received a wonderful scholarship package and will attend George Washington University in Washington DC this fall. Her goal is to be a doctor. We are so proud! She will turn 18 on June 13th of this year. **CONGRATULATIONS LEILANI ON A JOB WELL DONE AND WE SEND BEST WISHES FOR YOU IN YOUR FUTURE!**



Submitted by Paula Drake

SCHOLARSHIP

Do you know someone who can use a 4-year scholarship to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at an HBCU? I have 25 full scholarships (Tuition, Fees, Room & Board) on my desk starting Fall 2021. Must be a US citizen or green cardholder. 3.5 GPA. Please reach out to Dr. Mureithi on WhatsApp at (520) 232-4144.

Submitted by Gladys Turner Finney



JUSTICE WAS SERVED - BUT DID SOMEONE WIN?

Like many people, I watched parts of the trial of the policeman accused of killing George Floyd. I often found myself in tears as witnesses testified and as I again watched the footage of the crime. I thought of all the people of color who have been killed or beaten by the police without so much as a slap on the wrist. I thought there was no way the jury would find the policemen innocent. However, black friends I spoke to weren't so sure. They said - look at history.

I was so overcome with emotion when the the three guilty verdicts were announced, that I wrote the following on my Facebook page. "Tears came to my eyes when I head the verdict of guilty on all charges in the Derek Chauvin case. **Justice has been served.** The sad thing is neither side really won. One man is dead, and another is headed to prison. Two families are grieving and will never be the same. I think there are good men and women who serve as police officers and I think there are men and women who abuse the power of being police officers. Hopefully, Police Reform will occur. Black lives matter. All lives matter. If we honestly believe God is out father, then we are all brothers and sisters – no matter the color of our skin or our nationality."

After reading my facebook post, Jose Jones emailed me the following: "Will you be writing something on the Chauvin trial? I think what you put on Facebook was SO on point: there is no win here. Police officers not doing bad things because there are, finally, consequences is not nearly as good as officers doing good because they love justice. Help us Jesus! Baby ateos are good but not enough..."

So many lives have been changed as a result of Mr. Floyd's death. Not only the families and friends of the victim and the policemen, but the people who were at the scene when it occurred and testified at the trial. You could hear the pain in the voices and see it on their faces. Everyone who saw video of the crime on television lives have been changed. I cannot get the video of Chauvin kneeling on Mr. Floyd's neck out of my mind. I am so thankful that Darnella Frazier, the 17-year-old who took the video, had the presence of mind to tape the entire incident. I doubt if charges would have even be filed if the video didn't exist. I pray that police reform occurs and officers receive training on how to de-escalate situations without using weapons. I pray that the good men and women who are police officers will intervene when a bad officer starts to go rogue.

Submitted by Jan Brecht

Presbytery of the Miami Valley - May 2021 Prayer List

Each week we ask you to pray for a congregation in our presbytery. In addition, the presbytery committee or group we ask you to pray for during the month of May is the Leadership Council.

2 May: Eaton First Presbyterian Church, located at 123 W. Decatur Street, Eaton, Pastor Ted Dennis and Director of Christian Education Beth Pool.

9 May: Fairborn First Presbyterian Church, located at 1130 Highview Drive, Fairborn, Pastor Joe Hinds.

16 May: Farmersville Slifers Presbyterian Church, located at 2999 South Clayton Road, Farmersville, Moderator Sue Seiler.

23 May: Hamilton The Presbyterian Church, located at 23 South Front Street, Hamilton, Pastor John Lewis.

30 May: Hamilton Westwood Presbyterian Church, located at 1068 Stahlheber Road, Hamilton, Pastor Norman Godfrey.

6 June: Huber Heights Faith Presbyterian Church, located at 5555 Chambersburg Road, Huber Heights, Pastor Julia Williamson.

A Voice for the Voiceless - Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Dr. Carolyn Peters uses her voice to speak for individuals with disabilities who cannot speak for themselves. She speaks up and advocates for their rights so that they are treated fairly. She speaks out to ensure they have access to the opportunities that will help them become independent, live productive, and fruitful lives. Not Surprisingly, Dr. Carolyn Peters is the voice that leads the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Council.



While Dr. Carolyn Peters currently resides in Dayton, Ohio, her roots can be traced to Monroe, Georgia. In fact, it was on a trip home that she began experiencing loss of vision resulting in two surgeries and ultimately being determined legally blind. During this same time, she lost her cheerleader, encourager, supporter, caregiver, her beloved mother. Rather than letting the challenges she faced stymie her, Dr. Peters, with the help of her social work colleagues, developed a plan and received services from the Ohio State Rehabilitation Commission (now known as Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities), where she received mobility and technology training. Later, she retired from her employment as a Social Worker/ Medical Social Worker, enrolled in Tabernacle Institute, and obtained her Doctorate in Theology. Using her doctoral research, Dr. Peters published her first book "Knowing When to Go" based on Ruth, a book in the Bible. It was through the introduction to a local chapter of the National Federation of the Blind that Dr. Peters became involved and assumed leadership positions in local, state, and national organizations. These experiences affirmed for her that she could do anything she put her mind to and that has been the message that she voices as she mentors and inspires others. Her abilities have been recognized by Ohio's Governor John Kasich who appointed her to the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Council, currently serving in her second term as Chair. Faith is an integral part of Dr. Peters life. She is an active member of the College Hill Community Church, where she serves as a ruling elder.

Dr. Carolyn Peters life epitomizes a commitment to transforming the lives of individuals with disabilities and communities. She represents the embodiment of hope, love, determination, and a servant's heart. "You can do anything you set your mind to do."

From Reach Out e-Diversity News

Memorial Day

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971.

Our thanks to you for all you do, defending our flag the red, white and blue

As Americans, we know what freedom means, The joy, the peace and the right to dream.

Freedom we love, but is not free, The sacrifice is great and you give willingly

Our thoughts and prayers are with you today, As you fight for freedom so far away.

May God keep you safe in all that you do, and bring you back home to those who love you.



REGULAR MEETINGS MAY 2021

Worship Service - every Sunday at 10:30 AM at College Hill Community Church. Also live streamed via Face book on collegehillcommunitychurch FB page. Previous recordings of services available on our FB page and Youtube.

Adult Sunday School - every Sunday at 9:15 AM on Zoom. Meeting ID: 812 9453 9963 Passcode: 759784

Bible Study - every Wednesday 7:00 PM on Zoom with Pastor Worthen (*May 5, 12, 19, 26*)
Meeting ID: 848 8361 9102 Pass, code: 334762

Spanish Language Bible Study - Every Monday at 8:00 PM via Zoom (*May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31*)
Connect via internet: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89568392922>. Dial-in by phone: (301) 715-8592
Meeting number: 89568392922 (then press # at the prompts, no password required)

Worship & Music – 2nd Tuesday (*May 11*) – at 5:00 PM on Zoom

Social Justice and Peacemaking – 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 PM, (*May 11*) on Zoom.
Meeting ID: 838 3655 9076 Passcode: 170476

College Hill - Harmony Creek Book Group (*May 20*) at 7:30 PM on Zoom.
Meeting ID: 854 1864 3647 Passcode: 852766

Session – fourth Monday of every month at 6:00 PM, (*May 24*) on Zoom

Deacons – third Monday of every month at 6:00 PM, (*May 17*) via Zoom

Indoor Worship Committee – every other Thursday at 6:00 PM, (*May 13 & 27*)

SPECIAL DAYS/EVENTS MAY 2021

Congregational Meeting: Sunday, (May 2), at College Hill Community Church immediately following the 10:30 AM service

National Day of Prayer: May 6, 2021

Mother's Day: May 9, 2021

Ascension Day: May 13, 2021

Pentecost: May 23, 2021

Trinity Sunday: May 30, 2021

Memorial Day: May 31, 2021

Loving an EGR

During a conversation over coffee, a friend mentioned an "EGR." I had to interrupt and ask for a definition: Extra Grace Required — in other words, people who can seem tough to love. Often, they're the most in *need* of love because they're hurting. Perhaps Jesus was referring to EGRs when he said, "If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much" (Matthew 5:46, NLT).

Truly loving others — even EGRs — might not be as tough as we think. Simple gestures such as smiling, truly listening, sending a note or extending an invitation go a long way toward expressing care and softening hearts.

At times, we all require extra grace.

Thankfully, God has an unlimited amount to extend *to* us and then *through* us. Out of joy, we can find ways — even simple ones — to share God's grace and love with people who need it.

—Janna Firestone

Joys of motherhood

- A hug for no reason.
- The light-bulb moment when your child understands something you've been trying to teach them.
- Smiles and giggles.
- Arms raised in the air after a big accomplishment.
- Hearing Scripture and prayer from your child's lips.
- Quiet moments on the couch.
- Reading aloud together.
- A family meal filled with conversation and laughter.
- Watching your child be kind to another.
- Recognizing a moment you'd like to freeze in time.
- A child's look of surprise and joy.
- A quiet conversation that heals a wounded heart.
- The words "I love you" — and a sticky kiss.

Keep moving!

As they proudly processed across the stage to receive their diplomas, each graduate heard two messages from the principal: "Congratulations!" (in a loud voice) and "Keep moving" (in a whisper). Although the administrator was merely trying to facilitate the flow, she was actually offering sound advice to the young adults: Don't stop or stagnate! Proceed from here and continue learning. This is the beginning, not the end, of a journey. Keep moving!

The three articles on this page are from the publication 'NewsletterNewsletter'.



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THE MISSION STATEMENT FOR COLLEGE HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

We are a family of Christians who intentionally include all God's children as we live in faithful obedience to God's command to love one another and seek justice, using Jesus as our example. We strive to serve God's people and connect to each other personally, spiritually and socially.