



Something to Consider....

As Memorial Day weekend has come, it has caused me to pause and reflect on where we are in this pandemic that started a little over a year ago. Who knew when the COVID-19 pandemic was declared back in March of 2020, that we would still be in this place of fear, sickness and uncertainty a year later? Yet while some things remain the same, other things thankfully have changed. We made it through the year, and through a winter of skyrocketing COVID cases that made isolation continually necessary more for safety than from the cold. And now that spring has come, hope springs eternal. New life is bursting forth with the insects and the animals, and is showing through in the greenery and flowers around us. It even feels like life is starting anew for many of us as we begin to slowly venture out after millions have been vaccinated, and new COVID cases are decreasingly daily. So, as we peek our heads out like the groundhog, or as some run screaming from our hibernation caves, many cannot help but wonder, "What is life going to be like *this year*?" Well, I think it is safe to say: we have lost a lot, hopefully learned a lot, and even gained a lot.

Let us deal with the first assertion, "we have lost a lot" since it is likely the most obvious. As we celebrate Memorial Day, we are painfully cognizant that many lost their lives serving our country in one way or another this year, and in previous years. We should be eternally grateful for every man and woman's brave and selfless service risking their lives for our country, whether we always agreed with the political motivations for war or conflicts, or not.

Yet, on Memorial Day, especially this Memorial Day, we must also acknowledge that millions have suffered illness and even lost their lives one way or another this past year. Whether it be to: serving in the military, contracting the COVID-19 virus, dealing with some other sickness or chronic illness, violence in our communities, domestic terrorism, hate crimes, or other senseless acts; some of our loved ones, as well as millions of people we never knew personally but were a part of humanity, died during this time. Not everybody made it through. We pray God's eternal rest and rewards upon those who have us preceded in death to eternal life.

However, as painful as experiencing loss can be, it does not erase that we are blessed by God. We have gained a lot through Christ. That is why Job was able to say even in the midst of his suffering: "*the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.*" Job 1:21b (NRSV). We always have something to be thankful for. Life is gift.

(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

Something to Consider....

(continued from page 1)

Each of us has an opportunity to use this gift to the fullest. By still being here today, after everything that has happened, we have been given more time: time to spend with friends and loved ones and not take them for granted - time to reconcile broken relationships – time to pursue our dreams - time to strengthen our faith – time to be the change in the world we want to see - time to have a closer walk with Jesus. Never let loss cause you to take for granted what you have left, and what God has yet to do.

Finally, in everything we have gone through, hopefully we have learned some things. For everything in life is a lesson. Proverbs 4:7 advises us: *Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding* (KJV). Hopefully during this pause from the urgencies and everyday practicalities of life, as the world as we knew it was turned upside

down, and as we seek to return not to what was, but to a new normal; let us prayerfully start anew being committed primarily to the most important things in life. Before we resume, perhaps we can let go of some things we don't need to bring with us:

- Maybe we can leave dead-end jobs, for careers or causes we are passionate about .
- Now is the time to be strong enough to walk away from destructive and dysfunctional relationships, and choose new life for ourselves.
- Or perhaps now we can stop living for just ourselves, and turn our attention to how we might help someone who needs it.
- Hopefully, we can forgive past wrongs and mistakes, and usher in renewal.

What do you want to do with this gift of time you have been given? What have you learned? If you are still thinking on it, that's okay. At least you are taking time to consider it. And as we consider what is most important, what to bring with us in this new normal, let us take heed to the words of the Apostle Paul, written in 1 Corinthians 13:11-13 (NRSV):

¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.

¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face.

Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Enjoy the gift and be the gift. Something to consider...

Blessings,

Pastor



BIRTHDAYS - MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Josephine Kariuki	June 1	Maurice Jenkins	June 15
Helen Winston	June 2	Theresa Harris	June 16
Ralph Hopper III	June 3	Michael Thomas	June 16
Christian Pressley	June 6	Victor Lopez	June 18
Alexandria Coleman	June 6	Myan Drake	June 19
Brandy Alexander	June 7	Ryan Dawson	June 21
Charvon Knight	June 7	Kiffany Stargell	June 21
Helen Jones-Kelley	June 7	Christina Olinger	June 21
Bettylene Mulligan	June 8	Angel Drake	June 25
Nancy Winfrey	June 11	Charles Williams	June 26
Elijah Ingram	June 11	Ivy Young	June 27
Myla Jones	June 12	Robin Hirtle	June 27
Noah Hulbert	June 13	Gamal Peters	June 28
Leilani Drake	June 13	Curtis Bowman	June 29
Stan Hirtle	June 14	JoAnne McDowell	June 30

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	Ronalds Todd
Andrea Hirtle	José Vidal & Family
Chante Johnson	Pastor Darryll & Rev. Karen Young
Jose Jones Family	
Karen Jones	
Michael Love	
Jackie McKenzie & Family	
Bob Moore	
Carolyn Moore	
Filomena Nicacio	



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

ROMANS 12:12 NIV

TEENS COLUMN

"Change is the only constant in life." - Heraclitus

Whether you perceive it or not, everything is constantly changing - the environment, the weather, the economy, technology, society, culture, your friends and family, your body, everything. And the better able you are to **embrace change** in what is happening in your world, the easier it will be for you to live your best life. The following are one thought about **change**.

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new" Socrates

"Your life does not get better by chance, it gets better by change." Jim Rohn

"We cannot become what we want by remaining what we are." Max Depree

"And that is how change happens. One gesture. One person. One moment at a time." Libba Bray

"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything." George Bernard Shaw

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending." C.S. Lewis

"Life will only change when you become more committed to your dreams than you are to your comfort zone". Billy Cox

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." John F. Kennedy

"Those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything." George Bernard Shaw

CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, October 3, 2021

Mark your calendar now for the annual CROP Hunger Walk here in Dayton: Sunday, October 3, 2021. More details will come in the July newsletter.



Mac Lakes
Darlene Brookshire
Larry Hollar

College Hill Again the #1 Donor Church for 2020 Dayton Area CROP Hunger Walk

The final, official totals of funds raised during last October's virtual Dayton Area 2020 CROP Hunger Walk are now in. As in prior years, College Hill led the way with \$1,855 raised overall, out of a total of \$10,899 raised locally from 19 churches and families. College Hill's total outpaced the next highest donating church by more than \$400! College Hill folks, taking advantage of varied convenient options for contributing, gave \$1,055 in cash and \$800 in online donations.

In a year with many challenges, including an all-virtual Walk and a reduced number of Dayton walkers, our church once again did a fantastic job in providing much-needed support for the life-giving work of Church World Service and the Dayton Foodbank. Thank you so much to all who contributed, walked, or prayed for the success of our efforts last year.

Submitted by Larry Hollar

No Boundaries

Love is a commitment to seek the good and to work for the good and welfare of others. It doesn't stop at our front door or our neighborhood, our religion or race, or our state's or [our] country's border. This is one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth, as the hymn goes. It often calls us to step outside of what we thought our boundaries were, or what others expect of us. It calls for us to sacrifice, not because doing so feels good, but because it's the right thing to do.

—Bishop Michael Curry, *Love Is the Way*

From NewsletterNewsletter

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.

Next Meeting:
June 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Meeting ID: 838 3655 9076
Passcode: 170476

Submitted by Stan Hirtle

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.

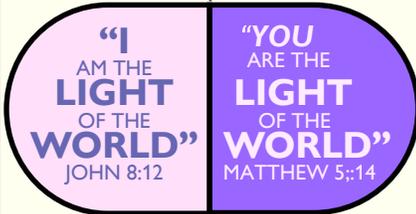
We are continuing our study of the Women of the Old Testament. This is a family-friendly, multigenerational, international gathering in which children, youth, and adults are all encouraged to participate!

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)



In January 2021, National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman presented her poem "The Hill We Climb" at the presidential inauguration. The final lines read: "For there is always



light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."

How often we long for light! In recent years we've agonized amid pandemic, angry politics and new awareness of racism. Some have suffered deep sorrow. But Jesus says, "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12) and invites us to turn to him. God is always bringing light into darkness, through helpers, healers, peacemakers, friends. Sometimes bravery is required to turn our focus from the negative to the positive — to see the light of God.

Jesus also says, "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14, emphasis added) and calls us to brighten the gloom. That requires bravery, as Gorman notes, but as Christians we're urged to look for light not just to make our own lives better but to shine into others' lives too. The Holy Spirit gives us the needed courage — to both see and be light.

From NewsletterNewsletter

DEACONS DEN

The Mission of the College Hill Deacons is to minister to members and friends in need, to the sick, friendless, and those in distress. Our deacons strive to be shepherds to the flock. The Deacons met via Zoom on May 17. New Deacons were introduced and given a list of people they will shepherd. Pastor Worthen gave a devotion based on Acts 6:1-7 explaining the importance of Deacons. A list will be sent to the each member of the congregation informing them of who their Deacon is.

Baptism Treasure Chest Puzzle

By Pat Townsel

Kathy Lakes, Paula and I have been engaged in a missing persons search, just not in the way you might think from the lead part of this sentence. Paula and I began the project, and Kathy is faithfully continuing. She is searching for children who were baptized in our church, but with whom we have lost contact. Years ago, Rev. Jones would present a little wooden treasure chest at a child's baptism. The idea was that members of the congregation would write short prayers or thoughts for that child's future to place in the chest. The chest would be given to them when they were older. Many of them have been sent as recently as the past couple of months, or years. However, Kathy is attempting to make the same kind of promise fulfillment with the few lingering boxes she discovered. This is problematic because we do not know where the recipients live. Please let Kathy know if you have any contact information for:

Wyatt Woodard

Josofine Ruth Addison

The families we have been able to contact have been very grateful. Your help in finishing this project hopefully will create similar happiness and gratitude.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PEACEMAKING

Social Justice and Peacemaking urges everyone to contact your Congressman with your views on the bill in the US House that would establish a commission of experts to study the history and the impact of slavery and racial discrimination, and also make recommendations to Congress for reparations.

Last month, H.R. 40 – a bill that would establish a commission of experts to not only study the history and the impact of slavery and racial discrimination, but also make recommendations to Congress for reparations – was voted out of the House Judiciary Committee. The next step will be for the full House of Representatives. From there it would need to pass the Senate and be signed by the President.

It has been over 400 years since the first Africans were enslaved in what is now the United States. When the colonies became independent of England, issues over enslavement, such as counting slaves as 3/5 of a person when determining state populations, became the compromises for founding the country. Words about God creating all people equal were combined with a legal and factual situation ignoring this profession of what God had done. The labor of the enslaved contributed mightily to the building of America and the accumulation of wealth and privilege for others. When the external slave trade ended in 1804, slaves were created internally, often fathered by their masters with slave women, and then sold away from their mothers. In 1965 the Civil War and its Constitutional amendments ended legal slavery, but after a brief period of Reconstruction, second class citizenship was created and affirmed by courts, with Jim Crow laws, black codes, lynchings and segregation where separation with inequality was tolerated. Exclusion of blacks from beneficial laws of the New Deal and post-World War veterans programs was accompanied through redlining, restrictive covenants and other devices, leading to inferior schools and housing. Another period of civil rights activism ended legal segregation in schools, employment, voting and housing, but with comparatively little improvement in the amount of de facto segregation and inequality.

Today Americans are more aware of racial inequality in education, health care, housing, wealth building, job opportunity, policing, incarceration and other aspects of the good American life. Not everyone does, and biases, victim blaming and even expressed racism remain. But a bigger problem for many is to figure out a fair and effective way to undo the harm that this long history of structural inequality has caused.

The term “reparations” is rooted in the idea of “repair” and means the making of amends for a wrong one has done, by paying money to or otherwise helping those who have been wronged. It should be less about using power to take from a defeated enemy, as was done after World War I eventually leading to World War II, and more about restorative justice. The issue should not be about individuals’ personal guilt and being a bad racist person for those who never owned slaves, lynched or redlined, but about structures from the past that we all live with, and how to make change to undo them. This can also perform some of the functions of a truth and reconciliation commission, which has been used to understand and appreciate the past and its impact, and to accomplish change, as has occurred in other situations of undoing past injustices.

Rep Sheila Jackson Lee, who introduced the bill, states “Though critics have argued that the idea of reparations is unworkable politically or financially, their focus on money misses the point of the H.R. 40 commission’s mandate. The goal of these historical investigations is to bring American society to a new reckoning with how our past affects the current conditions of African Americans and to make America a better place by helping the truly disadvantaged. Consequently, the reparations movement does not focus on payments to individuals, but to remedies that can be created in as many forms necessary to equitably address the many kinds of injuries sustained from chattel slavery and its continuing vestiges. To merely focus on finance is an empty gesture and betrays a lack of understanding of the depth of the unaddressed moral issues that continue to haunt this nation. “

Social Justice and Peacemaking urges everyone to read HR 40, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/40/text> study the issues on all sides, and then contact your Congressperson and give your opinions about this bill. In Montgomery and some nearby counties that is

Rep. Mike Turner

2082 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 225-6465

<https://turner.house.gov/contact>

Our Way Out

While in London, Timothy Merrill was intrigued that signs with arrows read **WAY OUT**, rather than **EXIT**, as they do in America. "Everywhere I went, I saw signs that showed me the **WAY OUT**," he writes. That made him ponder all the Bible characters who looked for a **WAY OUT** of predicaments. Moses looked for a **WAY OUT** of Egypt, Daniel certainly wanted a **WAY OUT** of the lions' den and countless people thought (and still think) there's no **WAY OUT** from their sins.

"The good news of the Gospel," Merrill writes, "is that Jesus Christ is the **WAY OUT**! He is our exit from the messes and disasters we create. He is the exit from sin and unrighteousness. He is the **WAY OUT** of a life without purpose and the **WAY IN** to an abundant life. And the symbol of the **WAY OUT** is not an arrow but a cross. What a blessing to know that Jesus knows — and is — the **WAY OUT**!"

From NewsletterNewsletter

SCHOLARSHIPS

UNCF offers several national and regional scholarships that close in June. Apply today!

It's only June, but now is the perfect time to plan for the start of school in the fall. Check out these UNCF scholarships and internships currently open for applications, and complete your application before the deadlines. Look at some of the opportunities UNCF offers high school and college students that can help you get to and through college. Visit UNCF.org/Scholarships any time to see what is open.



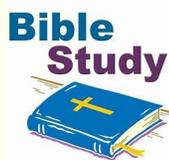
Remember: Complete all steps for the applications!

You will not be considered for a scholarship, internship or program until you submit all the information and essays the application requires.

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

Thanks to all who helped donate one gallon pop tabs to Ronald McDonald's house to help out of town families with children hospitalized. Still collecting used eyeglasses, cell phones, stamp. Darlene.



SAVE YOUR STAMPS

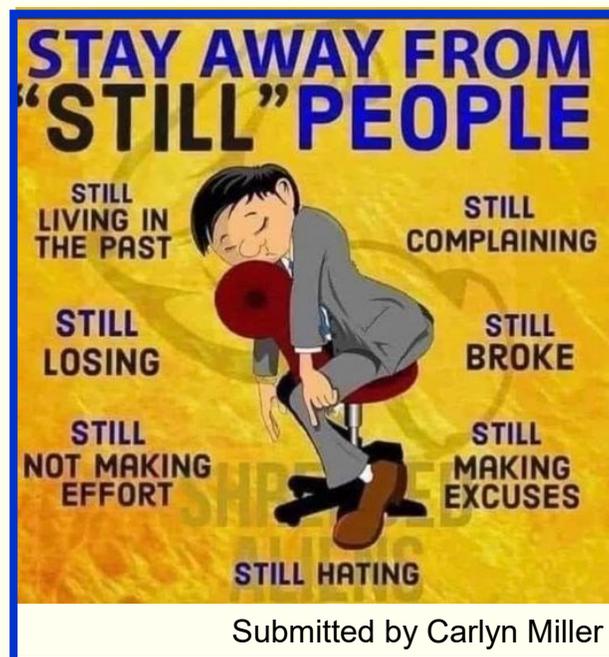
Please save your stamps from letters received. The stamps should be cut 1/4" on each side. Stamps may be given to **Gladys Turner Finney** who will forward them to the Sisters of the Holy Cross to benefit their ministry with the Poor Fund



No Boundaries

Love is a commitment to seek the good and to work for the good and welfare of others. It doesn't stop at our front door or our neighborhood, our religion or race, or our state's or [our] country's border. This is one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth, as the hymn goes. It often calls us to step outside of what we thought our boundaries were, or what others expect of us. It calls for us to sacrifice, not because doing so feels good, but because it's the right thing to do.

—Bishop Michael Curry, *Love Is the Way*
From NewsletterNewsletter



Emergency Broadband Benefit

A new Emergency Broadband Benefit was created as part of the last COVID relief bill. It provides up to \$50 per month to pay for broadband for those who qualify and up to \$100 one time for a tablet or computer. The start date is May 12 and the promotional materials have just been released by the FCC. You can use these materials to help your students, clients, patrons, and constituents sign-up. Program details are in the materials but feel free to contact me if you have questions about how this program works.



Emergency Broadband Benefit toolkit materials are now available for download. The outreach toolkit is a collection of social media, printables, and other content to assist communities, outreach partners, and grassroots organizers in raising awareness about the Emergency Broadband Benefit.

All of the printed materials, except the poster, are designed to be printed in color or grayscale and can easily be printed on home or small office printers. Partners can copy and paste items like model tweets, a press release, and a newsletter insert. Social media images are also available to help spread awareness.

Audio PSAs are currently posted and will soon be joined by videos that provide an overview of the program including an American Sign Language version.

In addition to English and Spanish language versions of the materials, a fact sheet and two smaller printable handouts are available in Arabic, Amharic, Burmese, Traditional Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. These tools are free to use and can be co-branded and/or adjusted to your voice.

Visit www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit for more information.

SESSION NEWS TODAY

- Congregational Meetings: in the future each member will have a name tag and membership rosters will be reviewed on a regular basis for active and inactive membership.
- We are reviewing the possibility of outdoor services for the summer months as we did last year. This was a great community engagement activity for the church.
- Training for deacons and ruling elders will be upcoming. We are diligently focusing on our deacons at this moment. Expect telephone calls of introduction from new deacons. Their training is upcoming, yet we want to ensure every member's needs are being covered to the best of our abilities.
- Ministering committees: due to the Covid pandemic, we have not been actively meeting. Hopefully soon in the very near future we could possibly have face-to-face meetings again and many will continue to meet virtually. We would like for all ministering committees to start submitting monthly committee reports, to keep us abreast of what you're doing and what you would like to do. All monthly reports must be submitted, by the second Tuesday of every month. Session meets the fourth Monday of every month. In order to ensure all action items for any committee will be submit it in a timely fashion to the session. For example if you would like for session to review or take action after your main meeting, your report must be submitted by the second Tuesday in June in order for session to review it, on the fourth Monday of June when we meet.

We look forward to sharing with you session news today on a monthly basis. Any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Clerk of session: Marva Gray.

Submitted by ruling elder: Reverend Dr. Carolyn Peters.

TO ALL FATHERS

To all our dads and dad-like men, hip hip hip hurrah and hurray!
Pandemic restrictions are lifting, so let's celebrate the old fashioned way.

May your presents be ready, and a bright shine on the grill,

May there be plenty of fave foods to guiltlessly eat your fill,

Social distancing relaxed , so may loved-ones be close by,

Their smiles, hugs and kisses gladly showing -dad your're our guy!

And at the end of the day, as you view the setting sun,
Gratefully give thanks to Heavenly Father ,who is Dad number one!

For from His love, grace, mercy came the blessings of this day,
And He can always be celebrated in an old-fashioned, or inventive new way!

Happy Father's Day from Presbyterian Women



THANK YOU

Pat and I are so thankful for all the calls, cards, prayers, encouragement, and some welcome assistance we have received during the course of my recovery. Currently, I am experiencing a growth spurt of strength and independence. I still have a way to go, but my progress is increasingly noticeable. Though prayer is always welcome, I am letting you know we can be removed from the special prayers list. Again, we send you our appreciation for all you have done.

Lee Townsel

PC(USA) Calls for Leaders in Colombia to End Retaliation against Protesters

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) leaders are calling on the government of Colombia to “respect the fundamental rights” of people as they seek solutions to continued unrest in the country. Poverty and the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in growing protests from people who feel their voices are not being heard by the government.

Since April 28, demonstrators have spoken out against tax reform and other economic and social measures. In response, there have been reports of more than 1,000 alleged police abuses against demonstrators that have resulted in injuries as well as a few deaths. Demonstrators have retaliated against law enforcement including damage to a number of police stations in Bogota.

The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), led a delegation to Colombia shortly after becoming Stated Clerk in 2016. He met with leaders in Iglesia Presbiteriana de Colombia to learn more about the efforts to seek peace in a region that has been at war for more than 50 years.

Nelson and the Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, Associate Director of Advocacy with the Presbyterian Mission Agency, have released a joint statement urging the Colombian government to halt abuses against those who seek change. They have also called on the Biden administration to suspend aid to forces involved in human rights violations.

See the statement below.

With great sorrow and frustration, we have seen the reports and images of the violent repression of the protests connected to the national strike in Colombia over the past few days. Videos circulating suggest an alarming disrespect for the principle of proportionality, which is foundational to the operations of state forces. Far from correcting the excesses of the police in response to protests last year, the government has opted to militarize its reaction to the current manifestations of the people’s profound discontent.

We call on the government of President Iván Duque, asking him to immediately halt the abuses and communicate the responsibility of the state forces to respect the fundamental rights of the people, including the right to protest, and to set a space for true dialogue with the groups that participate in the national strike.

We also call on Congress and the administration to urge Colombia’s government to order its security forces to respect international law and human rights. And we call on the Biden administration to suspend aid to the current forces who are committing gross human rights violations.

We pray for the families who weep for the victims of violence in these days. May God illumine us with God’s love and wisdom that we might offer ourselves in the service of justice and transform the daily reality of the Colombian people.

Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Rev. Jimmie Hawkins
Associate Director of Advocacy
Presbyterian Mission Agency

PROPOSED SEVERE FUNDING REDUCTIONS TO RTA

The following are excerpts from testimony given to the Ohio Senate Finance Committee by Director Mark Donaghy, Chief Executive Officer, Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority, concerning the proposed severe funding reductions to RTA in the state budget.

"I am here today to testify in support of maintaining funding levels at \$70 million each year in the next biennium budget. Without adequate funding, Ohio's transit systems will be unable to meet the needs of our communities by keeping citizens employed and healthy. In the Dayton Region, tens of thousands of people use RTA services to get to work in essential jobs in healthcare, retail and logistics. Companies who have recently relocated to or expanded in Dayton such as Chewy, Proctor & Gamble, Crocs, Masonite, Frito Lay, Innovative Plastic Molders, White Castle, Alpla, Energizer and Purina represent 4,000 new jobs added and there are 2,000 more in the pipeline. They are the backbone of the workforce who are keeping the economy growing and supporting all Ohioans needs while trying to provide for their families. Just this week a roundtable of the Airport area employers raised concerns about the demands for increased service coverage and frequency. Our ability to serve these needs has been hampered by the loss of millions in sales tax revenues (from managed care) when the prior administration left regional transit authorities out of the solution they implemented. Without this critical state funding we will be forced to consider service reductions, stopping the economic growth in that area and others.

Also, many others rely on our services each day for life-saving medical treatments such as dialysis and have no other options to access this critical care. We are seeing inequities for communities of color, especially in the COVID vaccination process as these families lag far behind their counterparts in gaining access. Further, we understand that lack of transportation is the most common reason stated for eligible persons being unable to get the vaccine. Our goal is to insure every person has the access they need.

In 2014, ODOT commissioned a Transit Needs Study which concluded that \$180 million in annual appropriations was needed to provide an adequate level of service to Ohio citizens. Today we are at 1/3rd that amount and the needs are so pressing that ODOT received more than \$200 million in funding requests making the program oversubscribed by a 3-1 margin...

Any reduction in funding will have devastating impacts on Ohio's communities. The unintended consequence in this case may well be slowing Ohio's progress toward rebuilding a 21st century economy that our children and theirs desperately need."

Submitted by Stan Hirtle

SHEPISTLES

Shepistles is a multimedia storytelling project that centers Black Women's experience and faith as a resource for healing, faith formation, and everyday living. Shepistles tackles issues that impact Black women significantly. This project includes a 3 month writing workshop series, the creation of an anthology that will be sold as a paperback, e-book and audio book, a podcast and other events.



This year's prompt is focused on Black Women and the Church. We want women with diverse experiences to share their story no matter your relationship with the church today.

Visit <https://womanishprojects.org/shepistles> to learn more and apply.

We are accepting applications until June 15th!

New program helps homeowners and renters affected by the pandemic

Montgomery County launched a new \$10 million grant program targeted at helping local homeowners and renters impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. Half of this funding will benefit homeowners who are behind on their mortgage payments because of a COVID-19 related loss of income. The other half of this funding will help individuals and families who have struggled to pay rent because of the pandemic, as well as providing help to both homeowners and renters who are behind on utility bills.

“The loss of income from this pandemic has caused a lot of stress for our citizens. Many have lost jobs or had hours cut because of the closures, and that has made it difficult to pay for essential needs like housing costs,” said Judy Dodge, Montgomery County Commission President. “We want to help lessen that stress. These housing programs will provide much-needed relief to individuals and families in our county who have had to deal with this terrible pandemic.”

Montgomery County is partnering with The HomeOwnership Center and Miami Valley Community Action Partnership to get these funds into the community. The HomeOwnership Center, a program of County Corp, will take applications for mortgage assistance, and Miami Valley Community Action Partnership will handle applications for rental assistance.

“It’s important that we get this funding out as quickly as possible,” said Marvene Mitchell-Cook, Director of the Office of CARES Act. “These organizations already have established networks, so we can get relief to those in need more quickly and help people get back on track with their housing payments.”

These relief programs are available until Nov. 30 or until the funding is depleted. These programs do not have income restrictions. They only require that someone has lost income because of COVID-19, which has led to getting behind on mortgage, rent, or utility payments.

To qualify for the mortgage assistance program, applicants must:

- Own a home in Montgomery County with an original mortgage of \$200,000 or less
- Have had a loss of employment income after March 1, 2020, due to COVID-19, caused by layoff, reduced work hours, furlough, or reduction in pay
- Be behind in their mortgage or in a forbearance agreement with their mortgage company on or after March 1, 2020
- Complete an application, provide required documentation, and discuss their circumstances with Home Ownership Center staff
- Participate in follow-up with HomeOwnership Center staff about the applicant’s financial and mortgage status

To qualify for rental assistance, applicants must:

- Rent a residence in Montgomery County, Ohio
- Have had a loss of employment income after March 1, 2020, due to COVID-19, caused by layoff, reduced work hours, furlough, or reduction in pay
- Be behind on rent payments on or after March 1, 2020
- Complete an application and submit required documentation to Miami Valley Community Action Partnership

Utility assistance will also be provided through these funds. Both homeowners and renters may qualify for help on their water, electric, gas, or bulk fuel bills if they’ve fallen behind because of COVID-19. Applications for utility assistance will be handled by Miami Valley Community Action Partnership.

Links to apply to these programs are online at www.mcohiocares.org. Website visitors can also sign up for email alerts about upcoming financial aid programs for agriculture, education, nonprofits or healthcare institutions.

As part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the U.S. Treasury has issued Montgomery County \$92 million, of a planned \$200 million allocation. This funding will be used to provide financial relief to individuals and businesses that have experienced hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Presbyterian/Catholic Partnership is now in its 29th Year

Catch the Building Spirit, the Presbyterian/Catholic Habitat for Humanity partnership, which provides affordable housing for families in need, will construct this year's house at 233 West Pease Avenue, West Carrollton. It will begin with Blitz Week May 24 through June 4 (when the main structure of the house is built: framing, siding, roofing, etc.).



Construction will continue throughout the summer to complete all the rest of the house: June to September, Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.; Thursdays, 4:00 P.M. to dark; Saturdays, 8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

The house is being built for the Koko family, who first moved to the United States from Sudan in 2006. After struggling for many years, they wanted a home of their own. Through many years of hard work, not only did all three become citizens, but they also qualified for a Habitat House. The house is two stories, three bedrooms, two baths.



There will be no lunches due to COVID-19 protocol. There will be no wall panel build this year - we already have walls to use.

All the information can also be found on our website: <http://catchthebuildingspirit.org>

Please consider joining in these events to help provide a home for a family in need.

General donations or donations for wall panels can be made at our website, or *our address for mailing donations:*

Make your checks payable to: **Catch the Building Spirit**

Send to: Catch the Building Spirit
1490 Forrer Blvd, P.O. Box 20100, Dayton, OH 45420

PHONE 937-278-4203 • **FAX** 937-278-2606
EMAIL: collegehillcommunitychurch@gmail.com
WEB SITE: www.collegehillcommunitychurch.org/



Rev. Dr. M. Merritt Worthen - Pastor
Marva Gray - Clerk of Session
Jan Brecht - Newsletter Co-Editor
Pat Townsel - Newsletter Co-Editor
Ruth Bragg, Jacqueline McKenzie - Deacon Co-Moderators

College Hill Community
Church
1547 PHILADELPHIA DRIVE

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.

REGULAR MEETINGS JUNE 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 (*June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30*)
Meeting ID: 848 8361 9102 Pass, code: 334762

Christian Education – Saturday, June 5th at 11am on Zoom. Regular monthly meetings the third Sunday of every month following worship.

Personnel – Thursday, June 7th 7pm via zoom

Spanish Language Bible Study - Every Monday at 8:00 PM via Zoom (*June 7, 14, 21, 28*) 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 (*June 8*) – at 5:00 PM on Zoom

Social Justice and Peacemaking – 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 PM on Zoom. This meeting may be moved to the 15th this month.
Meeting ID: 838 3655 9076 Passcode: 170476

Session – fourth Monday of every month at 6:00 PM, (*June 28*) on Zoom

Deacons – third Monday of every month at 6:00 PM, (*June 21*) via Zoom

Indoor/Outdoor Worship Committee – every other Thursday at 6:00 PM, (*June 3 & 17*). *This may be changing for this month. Check with Larry Hollar.*

SPECIAL DAYS/EVENTS JUNE 2021

Flag Day – June 14

Father's Day – June 20

Tentative vacation for Pastor Worthen June 6-12 and June 21-27.