



COLLEGE HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH – PC(USA) SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

**1547 Philadelphia Dr.
Dayton, OH 45406
(937)278-4203**

**Web – collegehillcommunitychurch.org
Email - collegehillcommunitychurch@gmail.com
Church Office Open – 10am – 1pm T, W, TH**

Worship: 10:30 am or on Facebook at [College Hill Community Church - Dayton](#) (Spanish interpretation available)

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 7 – Communion, First Fruits Offering

September 14 – Disability Inclusion Congregational Gathering (see *article below*)

September 21 – Youth Sunday, Time for Children

September 28 – Celebrate September birthdays!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/6 - Kathy Lakes
9/7 - Kim Coleman
9/10 - Bernetha Pulliam
9/10 - Brianna Smith
9/15 - Gladys Turner Finney
9/18 - Beverly Jenkins
9/21 - Larry Jenkins
9/24 - Lucy Brandon
9/24 - Ma'Ckyla Lakes



*“The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.” – **Isaiah 40:8***

Hispanic Heritage Month Begins September 15, 2025 – October 15, 2025

Session Announcement for September 14 Church Gathering

Greetings Church Family,

I am sending this message on behalf of Session reminding you of the congregational gathering planned for September 14 right after the church service, which will be slightly shortened. A box lunch will be provided. Prior to the gathering, please review, or begin to consider **your** ideas-and most of all pray about future directions for our church-and come prepared to discuss them in a small group format. Individually and jointly, we can discern programs and pathways God is calling us to follow.

For planning purposes and ordering the boxed lunches **please RSVP by calling the church office to speak with an office volunteer or leaving a message or signing up at Church where a sign-up sheet will be available.**

WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW.

Romans 12:2 - 4 NRSVUE "Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function,"...

With you in discernment,

Elder Lee Townsel

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS – August 2025

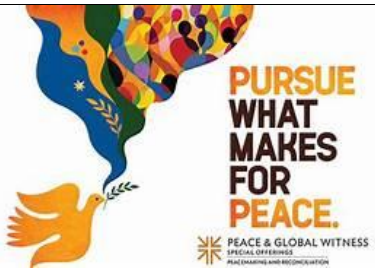
College Hill's Covenant - "Care for one another; Pray for one another; Respect for one another; Everyone has a voice; and open communication. Also, speak up if something is uncomfortable."

Approved motion to take up the final two PC (U.S.A.) Special Offerings for the remainder of 2025: the Peace and Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, October 5; and the Christmas Joy Offering on December 21 (and possibly again on Dec. 24).

Discussion:

- Building & Grounds – Fire Alarm System Installation completed. Forthcoming inspection. Request for approval to repair/replace collapsed roof drain (\$3,127.00) and the reimbursement of \$1,889.95, the cost for funds expended to install Low Water Level Switch on the church's boiler. **Motion Approved**
- Interpretation & Stewardship (I&S) – We need a Stewardship Campaign - I&S needs your support – last official campaign was five (5) years ago
- Nominating Committee – Appoint committee members at October meeting. Slate – Two Session members 2025 class terms end December 2025. Also, two (2) vacancies for Deacons. Officers are to be elected at the 2nd of November's Congregational Meeting.
- Worship & Music
- 1. 26 October 2025 our sermon will be delivered by **Rev. Ruth-Aimée Belonni-Rosario** *Associate Executive for Racial Justice*, The Synod of the Covenant, Presbyterian Church (USA).
- Social Justice/Peacemaking – Individual letters to public officials can be posted on the individual media accounts versus the church's media account.
- Christian Education – Confirmation Class be coordinated by Jose' Jones, Rev. Tinsley, and/or Marcus Johnson
- Proposed 2025 Future Session - September 23, October 28, December 09

Respectfully, Ivy Young, Clerk of Session
Treasurer PMV



The Season of Peace is the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s month long pilgrimage designed to deepen the pursuit of peace for congregations, small groups, families and individuals. It begins September 7 and concludes with World Communion Sunday on October 5, when the Peace and Global Witness offering is collected.

This season is a time of growth, encouragement, challenge, inspiration and education. We are all invited to define and deepen our calling as peacemakers, by challenging injustice, breaking down barriers and dividing walls, advocating for the marginalized, stewarding the common good, teaching peace, and being agents for the transformation of society.

It is a hard time for peace now. It is a time of violence, abuse and intimidation. Guns abound. Bombs fly. Starvation is a means to an end. People are seized, imprisoned and deported. Getting your own way, at the expense of others, is often what matters. Those who disagree are fired and belittled, maybe physically attacked. Things that people need are taken away.

But in Romans 14:19: Paul says to “pursue what makes for peace.” This means building each other up and not casting judgment on those who are different from us or have different customs or needs than our own. Paul is inviting the Romans — and us —to experience the fullness of our diversity. We would see our neighbors, both around the corner and around the world, not as “them” but as “us,” friends and siblings in Christ. This is how we pursue what makes for peace.

Note that peace, shalom in Hebrew, does not just mean the absence of war, particularly if the absence is caused by the threat of war, and the fear of violence. Peace means well-being. It means harmonious living. It comes from community that acts out of love. Peace is active, not passive. Peace is doing, not waiting.

Churches have sought to act locally to promote peace. One organized a program to get people to transform their guns into tools or art. Another organized the feeding of school children and others in low-income areas. Another brought hope and empowerment to women.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering is unique in that half of the gifts received are directed to the national church level for peacemaking and global witness work around the world, while 25% goes to presbyteries for similar ministries at the regional level, and 25% is retained by congregations for local peace and reconciliation work. Think of things our congregation can do to make peace and justice happen around us. And please give

what you can to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Let us be peacemakers. Let us be called the children of God, speaking boldly with moral conviction to the nation and to the world, building, with God's grace, a new moral order in the world community; and acting now for world peace, an enterprise of justice, an outcome of love. ***Shared by Elder Stan Hirtle***

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

The College Hill Community Church Annual Flea Market is **Saturday, September 6**, 10 am to 4 pm. Dozens of community vendors will be in the parking lot selling their various wares and products. CHCC Outreach will have a table, and all proceeds from that table are donated to Rosa Parks Early Learning Center. If you meant to reserve a spot as a vendor, call Krista at 937-499-0142 to see if there is one available. Come on out on Saturday and enjoy a beautiful day with people from our community!

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

Bible Study on Wednesdays resumes this Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 6:30 pm. The topic for this first gathering is Untamed Hospitality. While our culture reduces "hospitality" to friendliness and private entertaining, Christian hospitality remains a public and economic reality by which God re-creates us through the places and people we are given. How do we shift gears to practice untamed hospitality? The zoom link to join in may be found in your email or on our College Hill website.

ADULT ON-LINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult on-line Sunday School has resumed. Sunday School meets at 9:15 am and the zoom link may be found in your email or on our College Hill website. At this time, we are studying the Book of Mark. Speak with Elder Stan Hirtle for more information.

Support the 2025 CROP Hunger Walk on October 12

This year's CROP Hunger Walk is at Shiloh United Church of Christ, 5300 Philadelphia Dr. (at North Main St.), Dayton, on Sunday, October 12, beginning with registration at 1:00 pm and the grand send-off at 1:30 pm. Our College Hill walkers include Gladys Turner Finney, Mack Lakes, and Larry Hollar, and perhaps others (watch Sunday announcements for

names of possible additional walkers). These are the people who will ask you for cash, or a check made out to CWS/CROP, or an online donation (see below), to support the walk.

Please click on <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/college-hill-community-presbyterian-church-dayton-oh> and either set up your web presence as a walker or securely donate funds online to the entire College Hill team or to a particular walker. The funds you give support Church World Service (75%) and the Dayton Foodbank (25%). Last year's Dayton-Area Walk raised more funds than any other time in the last decade, and College Hill Community Church is always among the leading Dayton-area churches in raising funds for our Walk. So, let's keep up the great tradition of generosity for the CROP Hunger Walk! Questions? Contact Larry Hollar (937-643-3168).

Invest In God- Guaranteed Growth Return!

By Pat Townsel

We are all familiar with the saying, "Every day is a new opportunity to do something good." That saying is even better than it sounds because each day offers us *many* opportunities, some of which take only seconds or a few minutes. A prayer can be one or two words. A smile at a passerby takes practically no time yet may be just the thing to lift that passerby's day. Letting someone go before you in line or calling a sick/shut-in church member are other examples. On the other hand, some things you may do to make a positive difference may require substantially more time and effort.

You have been asked to participate in our church gathering by offering your thoughts about the future direction of our church and sharing in the small group discussion. Unlike the examples listed above, this effort will probably take more than a few seconds or minutes of your time to contemplate. Your effort likely will result in at least one positive, achievable idea, especially if you begin with prayer and listening for God's guidance as you devote concentrated time prior to September 14th asking not just for ideas, but also how you can contribute to our church's plan for sharing God's love. By doing this during the two weeks between the issue of this newsletter and the time of our meeting, may you be richly blessed, energized and enthusiastic about our coming time of joint exploration

For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. – Jeremiah 29:11

Call to me, and I will answer you and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. – **Jeremiah 33:3**

4 Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. – **Psalms 37:4**

The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps. – **Proverbs 16:9**

Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established. – **Proverbs 16** 😊

I, Deacon Pat Townsel, and perhaps other Deacons, will be calling sick and shut-in members for their input.

SAVE YOUR STAMPS

Please save your Forever Stamps and stamps with postage amount from letters received. The stamps should be cut 1/4" on each side.

Stamps may be given to Gladys Turner Finney.



Presbytery of the Miami Valley - September 2025 Prayer List

7 September Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3211 Lakeview Ave., Dayton. Moderator Marge Morgan.

14 September Westminster Presbyterian Church, 125 N. Wilkinson Street, Dayton. Pastor Richard Baker, Jr.; Associate Pastor John W. Neely, Jr.; Associate Pastor Nancy Hodgkins; Associate Pastor Caitlin Deyerle; Director of Discipleship Kylie Hettinger.

21 September First Presbyterian Church 123 W. Decatur Street, Eaton. Pastor Annie Melick, Director of Youth Ministries Beth Pool.

28 September First Presbyterian Church 1130 Highview Drive, Fairborn. Pastor Joe Hinds.

5 October Slifers Presbyterian Church, 2999 South Clayton Rd., Farmersville. Pastor Kazy Hinds.

During the month of September, we ask you to pray for the **Committee on Representation and Diversity** led by Co-chairs Francisco Pelaez-Diaz and Justin Miller.

God would rather us walk with an occasional limp than a continual strut. - Max Lucado

Some days, we are warriors. Some days, we are a broken mess. But every day is a good day, nonetheless! Because our faith in God makes every day and everything better and possible. -Debbie R Lachin

SAVE AND REUSE

We continue to collect used eyeglasses, cell phones, stamps, can tabs, plastic tops/ lids and pill bottles (labels removed). We are beginning to collect old blankets, and mattress covers (for sleeping bags), notepads/cards, 2026 calendars and egg cartons.

Give items to Darlene Brookshire.

Bach Society Plans Baroque-Era Choral Concert October 12

The Bach Society of Dayton will offer “Sons of Art,” a delightful concert of music from the Baroque period, on Sunday, October 12, at 4:00 pm at the Kettering Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3939 Stonebridge Road. Featured works include Henry Purcell - Come Ye Sons of Art; Antonio Vivaldi – Gloria; and Marc-Antoine Charpentier - Te Deum. Joining with the Bach Society Chorus and Orchestra are soloists Andrea Chenoweth Wells, Rachael Bell, Ellen Graham, Henry Benson, and Mark Hockenberry. A concert preview at 3:00 pm, entitled “Music and the Baroque Culture of Praise,” will be presented by Professor Steven Plank of Oberlin College & Conservatory. Information and tickets are at bachsocietyofdayton.org.

ELECTRONIC GIVING TO COLLEGE HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Those worshipping online are welcome to send your offering by mail directly to College Hill Church, [1547 Philadelphia Drive, Dayton, OH 45406](#) or On-Line contributions are available as follows: Website: <https://giving.servantkeeper.com/chcc-dayton-oh/member/login>. Sign In/Up and follow the prompts.



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

by Luis Martinez

Hispanic Heritage Month has its roots in the civil rights movements of the 1960s, a time when various minority groups, including Latinos, began advocating for greater recognition and inclusion in American society. The movement toward creating a special month to honor the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans began with Hispanic leaders urging the government to officially recognize the impact of their communities.

The idea took shape when President Lyndon B. Johnson first proclaimed **National Hispanic Heritage Week** in 1968. The week was designed to celebrate the culture,

history, and achievements of people of Hispanic and Latino descent in the United States. September 15, was chosen to coincide with the independence days of several Latin American countries, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico celebrates its independence on September 16, while Chile does so on September 18, making this a time of great historical significance for many Hispanic nations.

Hispanic Heritage Month is a vibrant celebration of culture, history, and contributions of the Hispanic and Latino communities throughout the United States. From parades to educational programs, the month is packed with activities designed to highlight the rich cultural diversity within the Hispanic community. Every year, cities, schools, organizations, and communities come together to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month through various events and traditions that reflect the unique contributions of the Hispanic population to American society.

Hispanic Heritage Month continues to grow in importance as the Hispanic population in the United States increases. As of the latest census, nearly 19% of the U.S. population identifies as Hispanic or Latino, making it the largest ethnic minority in the country. Hispanic Heritage Month not only honors the past but also celebrates the ongoing contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the nation's future.



SEPTEMBER GREETING

So many ways to say hello to those whom you do or do not know

Showing friendly regard for others as about your day you go

A tip of the hat, a nod of the head

A wave of the hand, a card to be read

A call on a land phone, a text on a cell

They all give the message "with you, may all be well."

Love, Presbyterian Women

Darlene Brookshire, Kathy Lakes, Judy McCray, Carlyn Miller, Pat Townsel

September 2025 Worship Plans

Sunday, September 7, 2025: 13th Sunday after Pentecost; 10:30 am Scriptural Texts: Jeremiah 18:1- 11; Philemon 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-33. Sermon: "...and amend your ways and your doings." Communion, First Fruits Offering, Mack Lakes solo.

Sunday, September 14, 2025: 14th Sunday after Pentecost and Congregational Gathering; 10:30 am Scriptural Texts: Psalm 18:1-3; Matthew 7:24-27. Sermon: "Founded on rock." Special worship that precedes Session's Congregational Gathering to discuss church priorities in years ahead.

Sunday, September 21, 2025: 15th Sunday after Pentecost; 10:30 am Scriptural Texts: Jeremiah 8:18—9:1; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13. Sermon: " 'You cannot serve God and wealth.' " Youth Sunday; Time for Children in worship; Hispanic Heritage Month Moment for Mission.

Sunday, September 28, 2025: 16th Sunday after Pentecost; 10:30 am Scriptural Texts: Jeremiah 32:1- 3a, 6-15; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31. Sermon: "God who richly provides us with everything." Celebrate September Birthdays. Moment for Mission on Peace & Global Witness Offering.

Worship and Music Committee Highlights from August 2025

At last month's meeting on August 12, your Worship & Music Committee:

☐ Voted to ask session to approve taking up the final two Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Special Offerings for the year: the Peace & Global Witness Offering on October 5, and the Christmas Joy Offering on December 21 and possibly Christmas Eve. W&M also approved having communion (in addition to first Sundays each month) during worship on Christ the King Sunday (Nov. 23).

☐ Continued worship planning for August through November. We expect Rev. Tinsley will continue with us through those months and beyond. We continued plans for monthly Moments for Mission by Social Justice & Peacemaking on second Sundays, and quarterly presentations by Interpretation & Stewardship ministry. We also anticipate enhanced efforts to involve youth in worship leadership on third Sundays (Youth Sundays), working with Christian Ed. We plan observances on Sept. 14 of Disability Awareness Sunday, of World Communion Sunday on October 5, and the CROP Hunger Walk on Oct. 12 with a blessing of the walkers. The worship on Sept. 14 will be shorter than usual to permit the Congregational Gathering called by session to occur after worship. Hispanic Heritage Month will be observed Sept. 15-Oct. 15, with a Moment for Mission on Sept. 21 and

bilingual songs each week. A special preacher, Rev. Ruth-Aimée Belonni-Rosario, associate executive for racial justice with the Synod of the Covenant, will be invited to preach some Sunday in October (now confirmed for Oct. 26). Several worship-related matters were also discussed.

☐ The Committee went into executive session to discuss a confidential matter.

☐ Next W&M meeting is Tuesday, September 9, at 5:00 pm, by Zoom. Presbytery meets in person earlier that afternoon.

Collaborative Congregations event Aug. 24

College Hill Community Church is one of the eight Collaborative Congregations in Miami Valley Presbytery. As that ministry has developed, these churches plan get-togethers on or around the fifth Sunday of every month that has a fifth Sunday. In August there were five Sundays, but the fifth was on Labor Day weekend. So nearly 50 people (including Gladys Turner Finney, Glenn Herring, José Jones, and Larry Hollar) from five of these churches got together for an ice cream social at Honey Creek Presbyterian Church in New Carlisle on the afternoon of Sunday, Aug. 24. There was a lot of delicious fun—good friends from area Presbyterian churches, tasty ice cream with a great variety of toppings, and the Patriots leading in song. Plan to join the next Collaborative Congregations event—a Thanksgiving-time worship gathering on the afternoon of Sunday, November 23, expected to be at First Presbyterian in Fairborn.