

Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

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August 2017 Update — News from CPC in The Hill



Our 1ST HS GRAD COLLEGE READY—I picked up Ta'quann from his College orientation retreat—call it a pastoral opportunity. On the drive home I told him, "This going to college isn't just about you. You need to focus and do well. Getting accepted into college isn't just about you—it's about all the kids back in the Hill following behind you. They'll see you and realize, 'If Ta'quann can do this, I can do this.'" He agreed. He is our first to get into college after graduating high school. This is a milestone, not only for Ta'quann and his mother, but for us as a church. In a ministry like ours in an under-resourced community like the Hill, it is vitally important to connect our ministry to the lives of our families. Yes, Ta'quann had to get the grades—which he did and earned the New Haven Promise Scholarship! But it was a team effort: the church family taking a direct interest in Ta'quann's success. Committed friends from our anchor church helped with professional college counseling (free of charge!),

committing resources and time to college search and help with forms (and forms). They taught and counseled Ta'quann's mother (Maxine) on how to calculate GPAs and and ask good parent questions. Some of us from CPC in the Hill helped with college visits and assisted Ta'quann staying on top of the countless forms, due dates, and items needed by the college. We are for this young man as he heads to Eastern Connecticut State University for this Fall semester.

BEING PRESENT AND CONNECTED WITH OUR HILL COMMUNITY—I give full credit to Maxine, our CPC in The Hill admin assistant, who constantly looks for events and ways to connect to our community. Christian Community Action celebrated their 50th anniversary in the Hill with a grand community event in the field near our 158 Davenport building. Maxine secured a table—I believe we were the only church among the non-profits at the event. People love our tables! We have crayons and coloring for the kids. We had candy, of course. And, as usual, we were the only ones with water. We had a constant stream of people. We handed out flyers for our church and attached a packet of flower seeds—and invited people to come grow with us.





OUR 2017 SUMMER PARK BBQ MINISTRY—Our "In His Midst" Park BBQ ministry began the first Wednesday in July. We have been serving roughly 60 to 90 (yes, 90) people thus far in these evenings. The Beacon Bikes (a Christian Motorcycle Association chapter) has been so gracious to help us out each evening. The neighbors love that we are back. A police officer on our first evening told us he was glad we were back and that he was chasing away others because he liked what we were doing and saw how we cared about our neighborhood. God has given us a good rep! Because of a closing of a large housing authority nearby, many of the familiar people who already knew us were gone and many (really, many!) new people were present. We had to win them over. The hardest part is being asked by the homeless (especially

families) who have not secured a bed in a local shelter, "Can you help us?" "God help us to help. *Remember the hot dogs and hamburgers*

are just a door. Move some of these new park friends to faith. Encourage them to join us as a church."



OUR FIRST ART EVENT FOR OUR KIDS—I love it when

people in our congregation want to do something for our community. Maxine came to me and said that Sharon (one of our new CPC in The Hillers) wants to do an art class for our kids. Perfect. Was my response. They planned it all out. Sharon had the supplies. And, a date was set. In all about a dozen kids gathered. They learned about Noah and the Ark. Then, Sharon taught them how to set up their canvas and what paints to use. And . . . we had neighborhood artists! This was a pilot event. Kids loved it and it worked out well. They plan on doing it again in the near future. I believe the topic will be about God's creation.

FINANCIAL GOAL UPDATE— Typically, raising support for a potential church plant means, without the gifts and support of others, there would be no church plant. This motivates people. CPC in The Hill, however, offers a different challenge: if an individual doesn't give, there is still a church (plant). There is no appearance of immediacy. Our anchor church wants to see us move to the Hill as soon as possible, which will make our ministry more effective. As of 7/31, we are at 63% of our financial goal and responsibility for this year's budget (9/1/16–8/31/17). We still need to raise \$14,000 to cover this year's ministry expenses.

<u>Supporters</u>	Annually @	or monthly @	
17	\$500	\$42	= \$ 8,500
5	\$700	\$58	= \$ 3,500
2	\$1,000	\$83	= \$ 2,000
		In order to raise	= \$14,000

See how you fit in the table above and where you might be able to help us.

Prayer Partner Goal Update—We are grateful for the **200+** people that count themselves among our prayer partners. We also appreciate churches that are praying for us; as well as the ladies in Rome, NY. For those on Facebook, I post daily requests, give answers to prayer reports, and post pictures as well. Pleas

Check out our Hill ministry video at http://tinyurl.com/zfand7p

daily requests, give answers to prayer reports, and post pictures as well. Please join our CPC in The Hill Prayer Partners at https://www.facebook.com/groups/CPCintheHillPrayerPartners. We cannot do this without the prayers of the saints.

FYI—the New Fiscal Year is upon us and ... and this means a new round of annual fundraising. Please consider supporting us with your prayer and as financial partners. This coming year, we will be responsible to raise about \$40,000. Will you please consider helping us in the 2017-2018 ministry year?

Our Ministry in the Hill Prayer Requests

- Please pray God works in and through us during our "In His Midst" Park BBQ ministry—and that we'd see some come to Jesus and, of course, come join us at CPC in The Hill.
- Continue to pray God will move some of the families whose kids already join us to join us as well.
- Pray God raises up new supporters for the coming year.
- Our Park BBQ ministry makes me think of our kids and youth and more and more kids are coming to church—even asking their parents to get them ready, although their parents haven't starting attending (yet): Pray for youth workers to be raised up for the kids and teens. There is a harvest ready.

Ways to donate:

- Monthly payments or as one annual sum
- By check to "CPC New Haven"; in memo "Hill/CA"; send to CPC New Haven, 135 Whitney Ave, New Haven, CT 06510
- Pay online at www.anabaino.org (online donations, upper right-hand corner; drop down to Hill Church Plant-Chip Anderson)



51% of the Hill is Hispanic. Julio (bottom right) has been joining us—he speaks very little English. Ta'quann (upper left, leaning in) is helping him with some English during our monthly fellowship meal.



I love praying for our Hill kids and covenant children as we gather at the Table each Sunday.



Arnie & Georgia Monahan from our anchor church joined us. They fit in perfectly and showed their servant hearts—and brought Mac 'n Cheese, too!