

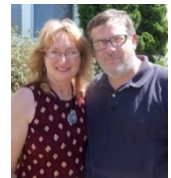


Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

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News from CPC in The Hill — February 2018

For a small church, CPC in The Hill has, even now, a great impact in the Hill community. In this update, I thought I'd highlight some of these ministries and—yes—to also emphasize the cost of these ministries and activities.



SUNDAY KIDS MINISTRY—On any given Sunday half the children are here without their parents—they come on their own with other CPC in The Hill kids. For years, there has been a “baby-sitter” for the kids during the sermon; we’ve decided to invest that time to help the kids learn the Bible, to prepare presentations for a Sunday service (mostly during the kids’ message), and to have material to bring home to their unchurched parents. The increase in kids and increase in supplies adds to the cost of ministry.



PAINTING WITH THE KIDS—Our kids gather together (on a Saturday) about once every other month to learn a Bible lesson and learn how to paint (one that goes with the lesson). One of our ladies supplies paints, brushes, and a canvas (a *real* canvas) for the event. We supply the snacks and drink out of our budget. Again, our kids’ ministry is growing—and parents are starting to join for this quarterly event—which adds to the cost of ministry.

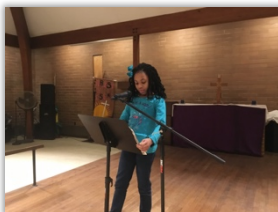


HARVEST PARTY—During Halloween week each year we throw a party for the neighborhood kids: painting and decorating pumpkins and cupcakes. And, lots of candy! This year we had an abundance of kids, close to 40, plus many of their parents (many unchurched). Our kids had fun; a nice alternative to roaming the streets for candy. Parents are grateful that we’d put on such a great event for their kids. This ministry is growing—which adds to the cost of ministry (now about \$250)



SUMMER BBQ PARK MINISTRY—For 8 Wednesday evenings each summer for 2-hours we join our neighbors in a nearby Hill park, roll out a grill, set up a table filled with food, and invite whoever is there to come to the table. We can have near 80 people now, sometimes even pushing the 90 mark, who come listen to a little preached word, a prayer for their lives and the food, and share in some neighborly conversation. So many tell us thank you, but more so that this small thing tells them we love our neighbors and that they feel, even for a moment, important and noticed. This past year the Beacon Bikers gave us 95

backpacks to give out along with our end of summer school supplies. There is no way around it—this ministry is costly, *about \$225 week now*. I will run a specific GoFundMe and a backyard BBQ at our house to raise the funds for this ministry. Please note that GoFundMe in April-May. *This year we need a new grill!*



LEARNING TO READ OUT LOUD—This is an experiment based on my many years of early childhood development research and working in under-resourced communities. We have designed a monthly evening where we gather kids from the neighborhood simply to learn to read out loud, learn to read to someone younger, learn to use a microphone, and to experience reading Scripture out loud. One of the goals is for our children to develop confidence; they are our future for the Hill and for CPC in The Hill. This will grow and

become more costly. Now costs are minimal—some Pizza, fruit, and drink for the kids and some children books (*monthly expense, about \$75; annually \$900*).



CPC in The Hill Year in Review video: <https://tinyurl.com/y72bo6xl>

LADIES BIBLE STUDY—Except for 8 weeks during the summer, the ladies meet for fellowship, Bible study, and prayer each Wednesday evening. Although just a hand full now, it is growing. People are starting to bring people. At present, aside from making study guide copies (usually of the passage I preached the Sunday before), there is little cost—so far the ladies bring food (sometimes snacks; sometimes a real meal). There is a growing need to help with transportation for some of the ladies (gas money or a ride) and not all can bring food (costly on their own home budgets), so we'd like to give the ladies a budget—and maybe even co-pay for a CPC in The Hill Ladies' retreat. Right now the ladies enjoy a day conference with lunch on us (my wife pays and I get reimbursed). As this ministry grows, there will be new and expanding expenses to match the growth.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY—Our men's Bible study is new. Right now, the weekly expense is a few bag of chips and salsa and something to drink. Eventually we'd like to move



out of the church building and into a local café or restaurant (which is a stretch to find in the Hill)—nothing is free; even if we ask the guys to contribute, there will be a growing cost. Along with this, as men we also join a weekly event that offers a breakfast (at noon-time on Saturday) to anyone in need of something to eat and to whoever walks by. At present, most of the costs come out of their pocket and not the church's budget—but for some of them that's difficult—it adds up. We provide the Hot Chocolate, so right now we spend about \$16 a week (an annual expense of \$832—plus we'd like to contribute more when we can).



NEIGHBORHOOD SIDEWALK BBQS—Each Fall and Spring CPC in The Hill throws a sidewalk BBQ on Stevens Street and invite the street . . . and they come . . . easily up to 120 of our neighbors. Events like this help to show we love our neighborhood—and people note it's different because no one else just throws a BBQ dinner for the neighborhood (for free!). Although our church family brings plenty of food and some neighbors want to contribute, this costs us about \$800 a year.

Space here prohibits listing our Sunday Welcoming Coffee+ table, our monthly Movie Night, our involvement in our monthly Hill Management Team Meetings (we supply the coffee and are local heroes!) or the many tables we have at Hill and New Haven community events. As our church grows and continues to emphasize ministries for our neighbors, our expenses will increase. Since we are in an under-resourced neighborhood and are mostly a congregation of low-income Hill residents, we are dependent on outside resources to help us plant this church and minister in this neighborhood. *Please consider supporting us.*

Thank you to those who have been supporting us and for those who recently have given or pledged! For Sept 1, 2017–Aug 31, 2018 we need to raise **\$40,000** to cover expenses. As of **1/31** we are at **65%** pledged or given, leaving **\$14,000** to be pledged or donated. Let me emphasize, pledges are very important in that pledges (for either annual, quarterly, or monthly) helps us to budget and allocate funds to our growing activities and ministries.

OUR MONTHLY FINANCIAL NEEDS — We are at **65%** given or pledged to meet our financial responsibilities for the building of our Hill church plant and ministry. Per month we need to have **\$3,333** of outside support to cover ministry expenses; the gifts and pledges, thus far, has enabled us to see **\$2,167** from our monthly outside giving, leaving a need for **\$1,166** additional monthly support. The grid to the right helps to put what monthly pledging can accomplish. See where you can fit—where you can help!

Monthly	Annual	Supporters	p/mo & yr Totals	
\$30	\$360	9	\$270	\$3,240
\$50	\$600	3	\$150	\$1,800
\$100	\$1,200	3	\$300	\$3,600
\$150	\$1,800	1	\$150	\$1,800
\$300	\$3,600	1	\$300	\$3,600
Additional support needed > > >			\$1,166	\$14,040
p/month to reach our goal				

OUR MINISTRY IN THE HILL PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1) Pray that the men I am interacting with each week will be drawn to God and will join our worship and serving community at CPC in The Hill.
- 2) Don't let this get old: The volume of kids who come to our services and show up at our activities indicate our need of a youth worker/minister; pray God raises up someone (and the funds, which also means increased fundraising!).
- 3) We need to consider moving soon—so pray we have wisdom to know what to do with our Bridgeport home and that God makes a place for us in the Hill.
- 4) Pray we reach 100% of our fundraising goal (\$40,000) soon —we need \$14,000 more to meet our goal. Pray God moves some hearts to give and pray we connect with some churches that will support us.

➤ **Ways to donate**—monthly payments or as one annual sum

- By check to “CPC New Haven”; memo “Hill/CA”; send: CPC New Haven, 135 Whitney Ave, New Haven, CT 06510
- Online at CPCintheHill.org > Donate > Donation Applied > “Hill Church Planter–Rev. Chip Anderson”