



Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

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NEWS FROM CPC IN THE HILL—DECEMBER 2019

A QUILT MADE BY OUR KIDS IN THE SUMMER PRESENTED BY OUR KIDS FOR A NEEDY FAMILY FOR THE WINTER—Last summer, during our Soccer & Art Camp, the kids fashioned a quilt. The theme of the camp was G.R.A.C.E., God's Riches at Christ's Expense, was woven into the quilt squares. After it was presented at Camp closing, the intention of the kids and camp counselors was to give the quilt to someone in need that could use a blanket. The decision was made to donate the quilt to Christian Community Action (from whom we rent our worship space), who



could identify one of their shelter families that would have need of such a blanket for the winter months. On the Sunday before Christmas our CPC in The Hill kids, along with their Arts Camp coordinator (Barb Battista, from our CPC anchor church), presented the quilt to Rev. Grubbs, the Executive Director of Christian Community Action (CCA). The next week she informed us that the quilt had been given to a Grandmother with grand-babies she was caring for at one of the CCA shelters. *Our financial partners make it possible to have camp and have church moments like these.*



OUR 2019 HILL CHRISTMAS STORE WAS A HUGE BLESSING—Our CPC in The Hill annual Hill Christmas Store was held at our worship site for the first time. This provided a great opportunity for our neighbors to actually come into our worship space and learn of our presence here in the Hill. We saw an increase in customers this year, with well over 80 who came to shop for their children. About a third of them new to this annual event. Our anchor church partners, CPC New Haven provided numerous volunteers (many who consider this part of their Christmas experience—“*Our Christmas starts for us at the Hill Christmas Store*”). We are grateful to our



anchor church for their help in providing over 140 brand new items for children. We also are thankful to the Beacon Bikers and to CPC Wallingford, one of our sister church plants, in providing many more items as well. Combined with these and some individuals who also gave to our store inventory, we had 390 potential Christmas presents for our Hill neighbors to purchase this year. Parents and grandparents can purchase new items at a significantly discounted price (\$1 to \$5). In every way, our store was a huge success this year. *Our financial partners make this store possible through their support, especially this year in providing the funds to rent our worship space.*



OUR CPC IN THE HILL LADIES SHOW UP STRONG FOR THEIR CHRISTMAS “UGLY SWEATER” PARTY—Our CPC in The Hill ladies meet regularly on Wednesday evenings for Bible story, prayer, and fellowship. This year they hosted a Christmas party (where they wore those “Ugly Sweaters”) to celebrate and encourage one another. The Ladies group is one of our most effective means to draw others outside our congregation to Jesus and to our church fellowship. *Your financial support makes their ministry possible.*



We have a number of videos that you will enjoy @ <http://www.wastedevangelism.com/hill-ministry-newsletters.html>. Also, here is a link to our 2019 Summer Park BBQ ministry ([here](#)) and a link to an interview I did with a church planting podcast earlier this fall: [Interview](#)



Our CPC in The Hill kids practiced for a few weeks and at our Christmas service read the Christmas story from the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. This is how God changes things.

Update on our Financial Resources—We are grateful to our financial partners for their support, which is currently at 67% of our FY20 goal. We are still in need of pledges and/or one time gifts for the remaining leaving 33% or \$15,642 remaining to be raised for FY20 ministry budget responsibilities. (Again, our budget year began in September '19 and will end in August '20). On a weekly basis, we need to see \$3,950 from outside sources each month; currently, from pledges and one-time gifts, we are at \$2,646 p/mo, needing now to secure an additional \$1,304 p/mo of pledges or one time gifts to ensure we have the resources for the remainder of the FY.

Our budget is very austere, but still needed to keep me full time and to provide the necessary resources for CPC in The Hill ministries. ***Please consider helping us meet our ministry needs for FY20 and become a financial partner with us in reaching our Hill neighbors for Christ.***

We need more financial partners for our ministry—

Lisa and I are so grateful to God for those who support us financially. Please pray and ask God how you, your community group, or church can be co-workers with us in our Hill church plant and ministry by becoming a financial partner.

Thank you.

OUR HILL MINISTRY PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE NEW YEAR

- Please continue to pray for conversion growth for our church and that God will help me, Lisa, and others from our congregation to lead others to Christ.
- Pray for our (i.e., Lisa and my) ministry among our immediate neighbors on Carlisle Street and in the Trowbridge neighborhood where we live. We minister one-on-one and through activities like our Saturday Sidewalk Breakfast.
- Pray that God will help me to develop elders, especially one young man (born and raised in the Hill) who has shown interest in elder-training. This is the long term key to growing and sustaining the Hill church plant for years to come.
- Please pray for some (rather crazy, out-of-the-box) ideas we are discussing to reach our neighbors and introduce them to church (more on this next month). One such crazy idea is developing a Carlisle Street weekly church service—*outside!*
- Pray God moves more individuals and churches to become financial partners with us so we may have the resources necessary for our ministry needs here in the Hill.

Ways to donate—monthly payments or as one annual sum

- Checks: “CPC New Haven”/in memo “FY20 Hill/CA”/mail: CPC New Haven, 135 Whitney Ave, New Haven, CT 06510
- Online at <http://www.cpcinthehill.org/> > Donate > Donation Applied > “Hill Church Planter–Rev. Chip Anderson”



Our final Total Christ class was full. We started with 16 and ended with 11 who took the entire course. There are potentially 3-4 new members from this class.



We held our 1st Christmas @ the Andersons at our Hill apartment. It was a joy to see our good people come see where we live and share in the celebration of the birth of Christ. We also had two of our neighbors drop in to enjoy the food and they even stayed for the White Elephant gift exchange.



A number of our very own Hill and CPC in The Hill Christmas Store workers pause to enjoy themselves before they readied themselves for our store customers.