



Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

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2020 WINTER NEWS FROM CPC IN THE HILL



OUR LADIES FINALLY GET TO MEET IN-PERSON—Our CPC in The Hill ladies have been so faithful through this time of COVID-19 lockdowns and protocols. They kept up their weekly meetings via FB Messenger and Zoom. In October they were able to start in-person meetings—our building landlord gave permission for an every other week schedule (since we share the building with another church). So far, they’ve been able to continue the in-person meetings. They pray and study (typically the passage we covered in the previous Sunday sermon). *Please continue to pray for our ladies, that they’d grow in faith and be encouraged by their fellowship.*

SATURDAY SIDEWALK CHURCH SERVICE CONTINUES SINCE EASTER WEEKEND—Our Saturday Sidewalk Church Service, which takes place in the middle of our sidewalk breakfast, is averaging 8-10 and sometimes has seen 18-20. Of course this service is outreach and, although it is brief (about 15 mins), it is also a full church service with a *Call to Worship, Scripture Reading, a Sermon, Community Prayers, and Benediction.* We want to bring church to our neighbors, desiring that they (and anyone who joins us) know God is present, even here on the sidewalk. Weather doesn’t stop us—and doesn’t stop people from attending, even staying if they’ve already received breakfast. *Your support enables us to feed our neighbors, their bodies and their soul.*



2ND ANNUAL SIDEWALK THANKSGIVING—Lisa did most of the cooking (string bean casserole, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, and two turkeys!). Maxine made Mac n’Cheese. And, Kim brought the Yams. We served about 30 thanksgiving meals to our neighbors. We had some of our Saturday Sidewalk Breakfast team help out and serve as well. Some drizzling, but the rain held off—but that wouldn’t have stopped us! We love serving our neighbors, especially those that might not have a Thanksgiving meal—let alone any meal—that day. *Your support enables us to add this special meal to our ministry activities.*

STARTED A BONFIRE BIBLE STUDY FOR OUR SIDEWALK SERVICE—In step with our outside Saturday Sidewalk Church Service, we have started an outdoor Bible Study. I start up a pit-fire; Lisa serves up some of her chili; and we learn about Jesus from the Gospel of Luke. The goal here is to begin to offer some activities so our Saturday Sidewalk Church Service flock can grow further in their faith. We haven’t let weather stop us—our neighbors are starting to get used to that. Plus, in neighborhoods like ours, folks hang outside even in the winter. The chili helps draw them in, too! *Your prayers and financial support help with the underlying costs of this ministry.*



OUR COVID-19 VERSION OF THE 2020 HILL CHRISTMAS STORE—This year we could not facilitate our regular Hill Christmas Store because of COVID-19. But, we were determined to do something. Thanks to our anchor Church (CPC New Haven) and the Beacon Bikers, we were still able to provide twin events outside (at our Sidewalk Breakfast & Church Service and at Maxine’s Saturday Read Aloud) with pre-packaged Grab’n Go bags (worth \$47 for \$5), along with Christmas carolers at both sites.

Some of our Store regulars appreciated that we hadn’t given up. New families and neighbors discovered something new CPC in The Hill does—no matter what! *Your prayers and support helps keep these annual events going despite COVID-19.*



Update on our Financial Resources

—This year has been tough—and so has the first four (4) months of FY21 (Sep-Aug). Still, we are grateful for all who gave out of their abundance *and* their lack, which puts us at 65% of our fundraising goal (given and pledged) for this FY21. Our goal this year is \$48,911. At this point in the FY, although we are thankful for being at 65%, in actual funds given we are \$3,900 short of where we need to be at this time of the year going into January. Please help us by becoming a financial partner—give one annual sum or by pledging for each month or quarter.



Serving the Hill Community—

—Your support allows us to not only in housing a worshipping congregation, but also to enable us to be creative—to do many things outside, despite the weather or winter, & continue to reach our neighborhood kids, stay in contact with parents, and reach the over-looked populations, which are a part of the Hill community *Please consider partnering with us.*

Please prayerfully consider how you can support us for FY 21! Thank you.

OUR HILL MINISTRY PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray God reaches those who have been coming to our Sidewalk Breakfasts and Sidewalk Church Service each Saturday, that they'd come to know Christ and become a part of our church.
- Pray God continues to draw others into what we are doing here in the Hill—outside, on the street, and in our back yards (for the kids)—as volunteers to help, but more so to be a part of our church and its ministries.
- Pray God draws Hill folk to our new twice-a-month outdoor Bonfire (and Chili) Bible Study, taking a step in seeking to know Jesus and His will for their lives.
- Pray God moves the people whom I have befriended and have been working with over the past years *into our fellowship*, many who would, even now, call me their pastor—*pray God opens their hearts to the importance of church.*
- Pray that God will connect us to new potential supporters for FY21, who will partner with us financially so that we will have all the resources needed for this Hill ministry.

Ways to donate—monthly payments or as one annual sum

- Checks: “CPC New Haven”/in memo “FY21 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”



Connecting with kids during this season of COVID-19 was difficult to imagine. Yet that didn't stop Maxine. She started an outdoor Kids' Read Aloud each Saturday. Kids from the neighborhood gather to read out loud, be asked reading comprehension questions, and even pray together. Yes, kids praying together! This not only was educational for the kids, it help us to stay connected to them and to their parents. Even since winter hit—and the snow—the kids still want to meet and read.

Your support helps supply the snacks and the books . . . and the kids get to take home books!

Maxine continued Friday Night Movies into October, Halloween being the last night. We passed out candy bags and had a supply of pumpkins for the kids or their parents to take home. This was a safe space each Friday from June through the end of October. A much needed space for our neighborhood kids. Maxine will start back up once the snow is gone and (hopefully) warmer weather has arrived.

So, between Movie Night, the Read Aloud, the Sidewalk Church and Breakfast, the Bonfire Bible Study, along with the summer's Park BBQs, CPC in The Hill works hard, in God's grace, to bring the good news of God's kingdom to those in the Hill—in very creative ways. *Your financial support and prayers enable all this to happen.*