

Women's Day Worship Service

Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ
4704 13th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds,
Interim Minister

Sunday, March 23, 2025

"This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it."
Psalm 118:24 (NRSV)

Love God and Love Neighbor

ENTER TO WORSHIP....



The Order of the Word
Third Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 23, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
The Liturgical Color is Violet

CENTERING THOUGHT

“You are young, gifted and black. We must begin to tell our young, there's a world waiting for you. Yours is the quest that's just begun. Oh, but [our] joy of today is that we can all be proud to say, ‘To be young, gifted and black is where it's at.’”

(Nina Simone)

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

No. 404 AAHH Jennie Wilson/F. L. Eiland
Hold to God's Unchanging Hand

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuere Marshall

****CALL TO WORSHIP**

Amber Romine

Worship Leader: God is our refuge and strength an ever-present help in the time of trouble, therefore we will not fear.

People: We look to the heavens for inspiration and assurance. Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth, and we look to the examples of our ancestors who showed us courage.

Worship Leader: God is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?

People: We will not fear when reproductive health rights are stripped away; we will not fear Gender violence in public and private places; We will not fear when wage gaps increase instead of decrease; We will not fear gender, age, or racial discrimination; We will not fear when DEI is erased from organizations, but, never from our DNA.

Worship Leader: Fear Not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

People: Let us choose a common vision of peace, justice and prosperity for all God's children, over the vitriol and unjust laws that now defines our national discourse.

Worship Leader: Like Deborah, we will stay “woke” and fight the battle, for a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands have done.

People: Teach the next generation of women to speak Truth to Power and lead us on the path that blends with Your values of seeking justice, grace, love, compassion, and forgiveness for all.

****INVOCATION AND SAVIOR'S PRAYER**

Amber Romine

Almighty God, we come together to give You glory and honor. Come Lord, and weave Your love into our fellowship together, that we may overflow with grace and allow Your truth to fill us with confidence and boldness. May we embody the peace and justice of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray by saying, “Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. They will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.” Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Proverbs 3: 15-18
1 Timothy 4: 12-15

Lesley Thomas

****GLORIA PATRI**

Saint Hilary of Poitiers

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be,
World without end.
Amen, Amen*

STATEMENT OF THE OCCASION

Constance Harris

SONG OF PREPARATION

Judith Christie-McAllister

Oh, Give Thanks

WOMEN'S DAY MESSAGE

Alison Cross, Helen Imani Hinkson,
JaiSun McCormick

“A Spiritual Journey: The Next Gen Women Speak”

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Minister Geneva Hudson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Minister Geneva Hudson

OFFERTORY

Minister Geneva Hudson

MUSICAL SELECTION

No. 671 AAHH Doris Akers

You Can't Beat God's Giving

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Minister Geneva Hudson

****DOXOLOGY**

Thomas Ken

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, Ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

2025 WOMEN OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION

Deacon Priscilla Wallace, Mrs. Deborah Spriggs

CLOSING REMARKS

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

CLOSING HYMN

No. 474 AAHH Doris Akers

Lead Me, Guide Me

****BENEDICTION**

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

POSTLUDE

Diedre D. Gray

May the Grace of God Be with You

...DEPART TO SERVE

Dr. Robert L. Jefferson, Director of Worship and Peoples Congregational Choir
Minister Diedre D. Gray, Assistant Director of Worship and Peoples Praise

*AAHH- African American Heritage Hymnal

** All who are able, please stand

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT PEOPLES CHURCH

- For weekly “What's Happening” submissions and monthly Prodder submissions, please send all newsletter articles to email: info@peopleschurchucc.org. The deadline for “What's Happening” is Wednesday at noon. Prodder submissions must be submitted by 12:00 Noon on the 20th of the prior month.
- A confirmation email reply will be sent upon completion of all requests.

Prayer Meeting Dial-In

Wednesday Word Devotional Conference Call

605-475-5950 Access Code: 8964544#

Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m.

Wednesday Noon Prayer Service

Call 518-992-1039, Access Code: 659959#

Prayer Service is every Wednesday at Noon.

Thursday Virtual Bible Study

Join Zoom Meeting: [Click here to join](#)

Dial-in# +1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 992 6852 3678 Password: 784420

Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ Sunday Morning Praise and Worship Teleconference

Call-in-Number 720-740-9739 Access Code 4684874

The Line Opens at 6:55 a.m.

Virtual Adult Church School

Adult Church School Every Sunday from 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88390857788?pwd=RmZoY2xqeTBIRVdTK09XWFY5cG9OQT09>

Meeting ID: 837 4429 8433 Passcode: 853640

Church School meets every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Elmes Center Classrooms from
September- June

Weekly Announcements

Today, the **Lenten Institute** will not meet after worship, nor will the Lenten Institute Zoom meeting take place on Tuesday at 1:00 pm. Please join us next week either in person after worship or on Tuesday at 1:00 pm on Zoom. Our guest preacher is the beloved **Rev. Dr. Sherry Smolock**. The Lenten theme for next Sunday is, ***"Promoting Spiritual, Mental and Physical Well-being: Spiritual Practices."***

All individuals who participate in our Worship and Liturgical Services and events may have their images appear on our Social Media Platforms, Live streaming, or communication documents. By attending these Services and Events, you tacitly agree to have your image displayed.

The Scholarship Committee is now accepting scholarship applications from high school seniors who plan to attend college or an accredited post-secondary institution of higher learning. The scholarship application with instructions may be completed online (<https://form.jotform.com/250355283920152>) or obtained by emailing a request for application from the Peoples Church Scholarship Committee at scholarship@peopleschurchucc.org. Please note, the due date for applications and all supporting documentation is **Friday, April 18, 2025, at 5:00 pm**.

All high school seniors who are church members are eligible to apply for a Peoples Church Member (PCM) Scholarship.

High school seniors who participate in Peoples programs, such as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Peoples Youth Ministry, but who are not church members may apply for a Peoples Church Community (PCC) Scholarship.

High school seniors who attend DC Public Schools and are recommended by their high school counselors, may apply for the Peoples Designated High Schools (DHS) Scholarship.

If you have any questions, please contact the Scholarship Committee at scholarship@peopleschurchucc.org. Thank you.



Maureen Sullivan, PhD
SC Chairperson

Dear Peoples Church Members,

We want to ensure that you have the best possible communication with our Interim Minister to address any needs, concerns, or messages you may have. His email address is interimminister@peopleschurchucc.org. Please note that the Pastor's Sabbath is on Monday, a time dedicated to rest and reflection. If you need to contact the Pastor via email, we kindly ask that you keep in mind the following schedule: if you send an email on Sunday or Monday, please understand that the Pastor is not likely to respond until Tuesday, as these are his days of rest. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in respecting the Pastor's need for Sabbath rest. Your patience and consideration are highly valued as we seek to support our Pastor's well-being and continued service to the congregation. Should you have any urgent concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Front Office. Thank you

Members of the Pastoral Search Committee

Amber Romine, Chair	Tuere Marshall
James Mack, Co-Chair	Jennine Jackson
Jeff Banks	Brenda Jones
Brenda Ewing	Tanielle Parker
Carol Hamilton	

 <h2 style="display: inline-block; margin: 0 20px;">In Memoriam</h2> 	
Thomas Pinder Passed on January 10, 2025	Mary Elizabeth Rowe Passed on January 26, 2025
Jacqueline G. Jackson Passed on February 23, 2025	

Continuing the Celebration of Peoples Church

A Juneteenth Program, sponsored by the Music and Cultural Arts Ministries, will be presented under the direction of Dr. Robert L. Jefferson, Director of Worship and Peoples Congregational Choir. This is an open call and invitation to all members, neighbors, and friends to participate! This is a historical production featuring song, dance, and spoken word, written by the late Virginia Artist.

There are many opportunities to participate, including both **on stage and behind the scenes**. We need **you** to make this a great event speakers, singers, dancers, stage manager, prop master, costume manager, marketing/PR team, recruitment, logistics, ushers and greeters, and production assistants. This is an awesome opportunity for fellowship and a tangible contribution to the spiritual life of Peoples Church. Also, we intend to have fun! For more information, please email PeoplesUCCMusicMinistry@gmail.com. The program will be on **Saturday, June 21, 2025**.



APRIL	MAY	JUNE	AUGUST
4/12 Easter Jazz Vespers 5:00 p.m.	5/3 Women's Fellowship Tea 2:00 pm	6/8 Confirmation Sunday 10:00 a.m.	8/24 Jazz Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
4/13 Palm Sunday 10:00 a.m.	5/11 Mother's Day Sunday 10:00 a.m.	6/15 Father's Day/Men's Day 10:00 a.m.	
4/17 Maundy Thursday 6:00 p.m.		6/22 Student Recognition Sunday 10:00 a.m.	
4/18 Good Friday Service 12:00 Noon		6/29 Caribbean Sunday 10:00 a.m.	
4/20 Easter Sunday 6:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.			

NOTICE TO CHURCH MINISTRIES, CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS

Many ministries within the Peoples Church have become accustomed to receiving donations through the church and later receiving a check for their funds. However, this practice, its associated expenses, and the required processing time have grown, so the church can no longer support it.

You may recall that the Treasurer managed the funds transfer. People's Church has been without a treasurer for over two years, and it is not prudent for the church to pay an accountant to oversee this function. In addition to having no Treasurer to manage the process, the transaction fees for credit cards and other electronic payment transactions are withdrawn from the church bank account monthly.

Starting March 1, 2025, ministries, clubs, circles, and organizations will be asked to manage their funds directly rather than having them deposited into the church account. The drop-down will no longer be an option on the church's financial system.

For credit card transactions, you can investigate Square, Clover, Merchant Services, PayPal, and other options. Peoples Church will no longer manage the following ministry, clubs, and organizations: Balcony Circle, Camelia Circle, Boy Scouts, Deacon Dues, Easter Advent, Girls Scouts, Hospitality Circle, Jazz Society Dues, Lenten, Men's Fellowship, Scrooby Circle, Women's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship Dues, and Xmas Advent.

UCC offerings such as Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM), Neighbors in Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, and the Christmas Fund will remain managed through church systems.

Thank you for your understanding, continued support, and cooperation. -Board of Trustees

The Camillia Circle
Peoples Congregational Church—4704 13th St, NW Washington, DC 20011
Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, Interim Minister

**Annual Good Friday
Fish Fry**
Homemade Bake Sale - Spring Flowers & Commemorative Lilies Sale

SAVE THE DATE



The **Camillia Circle** invites you to join us after the **Good Friday 7 Last Words Worship Service** for a delicious Fish Fry Dinner Fundraiser. The fundraiser will enable us to continue our support of the church's Sunday Services Altar Flower Arrangements and the floral decorations for the beautification of the Church during high Holiday Seasons. The fundraiser will be held at:

Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ
4704 13th Street NW Washington, DC 20011

OR

Friday, April 18, 2025, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00p.m.
Located: In the Fellowship Hall

*Stay tuned for additional Information



Lenten Institute

Hosted by
Board of Christian Education and Diaconate Board

Worship Service(Sanctuary) and Talk-Back (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, March 9, 2025 (Talk-Back Only)
Launch: Information Session
God's Call and God's Promise


Sunday, March 16, 2025
Hearing God's Guidance
Practicing Spiritual Discernment

Sunday, March 30, 2025
Promoting Spiritual, Mental, and Physical Well-Being: Spiritual Practices

Sunday, April 6, 2025
Loving Others with the Love of Jesus: Building Healthy Relationships

Light refreshments will be served during the Talk-Back.

Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ
4704 13th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011
Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, Interim Minister



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE
PEOPLES CHURCH
2025 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION TIMELINE**

**Nominating Committee
Peoples Church 2025 Nominations and Election Timeline**

**Saturday, March 1, 2025
Nomination Period Begins**

**Thursday March 8, 2025
Nomination Forms Available to the Congregation**

**Sunday, April 13, 2025
Recruitment Sunday**

**Thursday, May 1, 2025
Deadline for Nomination Forms**

**Wednesday, May 7, 2025
Present Draft Slate for Approval at Church Council Meeting**

**Friday, May 9, 2025
Slate Distributed to Congregation**

**Thursday, May 22, 2025 (Virtual)
Nominations from the Floor**

**Sunday, June 1, 2025 (Virtual)
Meet and Greet the Candidates**

**Wednesday, June 4, 2025
Candidates Brief Bio/ Final Slate**

Friday, June 20th through Sunday June 29th - Electronic Voting!

**Monday July 7, 2025
Church Clerk will Notify Elected Candidates**

**Tuesday, July 8, 2025
Results Posted on Church Website, Emailed to Congregation**



We Are Not Alone

An Interfaith Service of Courage & Lament

Sunday, April 6, 4:00 pm

In this time of national crisis, faith communities throughout the DMV are lamenting the loss of federal jobs, necessary programs, and protections for the most vulnerable. We'll come together to grieve these losses and support each other as we seek the moral courage to stand up for our neighbors and ourselves.

Rev. Dr. Sherry Molock and Rev. Dr. Ron Hopson, Clinical Psychologists at George Washington and Howard Universities, will be our speakers, with the Rev. Mia McClain leading music. Chaplains will be available for prayer and support, childcare will be provided, and refreshments and a social gathering will follow.

All are welcome, and we encourage you to come in person! **People's Congregational UCC** is located at 4704 13th St NW. The service will also be livestreamed (see our website).

GREETINGS FOR 2025 FROM THE PEOPLES JAZZ SOCIETY

Dear Members and Supporters,

The Peoples Jazz Society is thankful for your support in this seventeenth year of Jazz in Liturgy at Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ. We would like to share updates and the 2025 Calendar. Firstly, after 16 years of devoted support to the Jazz Society, Jim Butts has decided to resign from the position as Treasurer. Jim assured us that he will continue to support the Jazz Society in all its endeavors. He remains a dear friend, ardent jazz lover and sustainer.

Carolyn Veiga has graciously agreed to serve as Treasurer; and Nina Faulk-Knight has volunteered to serve as Secretary/Webmaster. We are pleased to announce that our own Esther Williams Yarborough will serve as the Youth in Jazz Liaison in support of our mission to promote and preserve Jazz Music. These appointments are effective as of January 2025. Secondly, our exciting **2025 Calendar** is as follows:

Jazz for the Holy Week Journey

Saturday, April 12th at 5:00 p.m. - Sanctuary - Reception to Follow

"In Their Own Words"

**Saturday, July 12th at 11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary
Jazz Brunch and Film Showing**

Annual Jazz Worship Service

Sunday, August 24th at 10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary - Reception to Follow

Christmas Eve Jazz Vespers

Wednesday, December 24th at 5:00 p.m. - Sanctuary - Reception to Follow

Membership in Peoples Church is not a prerequisite to supporting, and belonging to, the Peoples Jazz Society. We are not funded by the Church, but by the membership of supporters like you. Supporting Membership Dues are \$50.00 per year; and Sustaining Membership Dues are \$100.00 per year, payable to Peoples Jazz Society. Dues may be mailed to the Church office or presented to the Treasurer after Church Service. There is always a Love Offering collection at every event; and this collection is devoted to the General Fund of the Church.

The Jazz Society was pleased to provide more than 50 percent of the funding for the recent upgrade of the sound system for the Sanctuary. This gift was made possible through a bequest by one of our original members.

Your support makes it possible to continue our vibrant and renowned Jazz in Liturgy at Peoples Congregational Church. We love you all and thank you for your continuing support.

Our Scripture Guidance is **Psalm 150**. Our favorite quote is from an unknown author and reads:

"Jazz is the Sound when God is Laughing"

God Bless You All in 2025 and Forward,

Peoples Jazz Society

Peoples Jazz Society Executive Committee

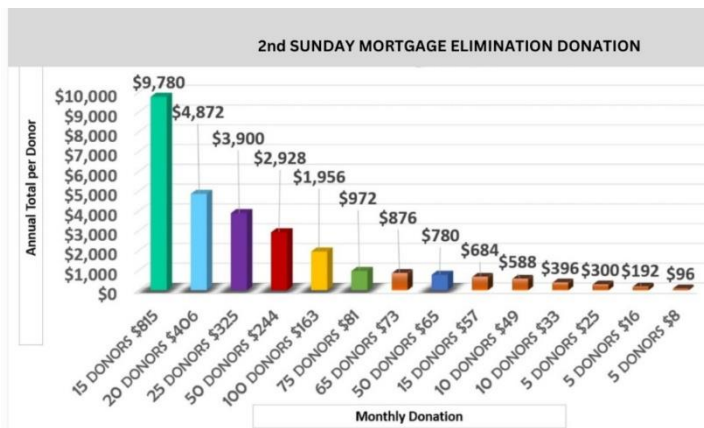
Patricia J. Ellis, President

Carolyn Veiga, Treasurer

Davey S. Yarborough, Vice President & Artistic Director

Nina Faulk-Knight, Secretary & Website

Esther Williams, Youth in Jazz Liaison



2nd SUNDAY MORTGAGE ELIMINATION DONATION

Please consider selecting one of the Monthly Donation Categories in the 2nd Sunday Mortgage Elimination Donation Graph above to create your recurring financial gifts either online or by postal mail. Remember, these financial gifts are above and beyond your usual tithing and offering donations for our Beloved Church.

Of course, if you are unable to commit to the recommended donation amounts on the graph, all donations to the Capital Campaign Community of Faith are greatly needed and appreciated.

Select Peoples Church or REALM for Online Donations

Select Menu Option: Mortgage Elimination

[Complete the 2nd Sunday Mortgage Elimination Donation Form](#)

[DONATE at Peopleschurchucc.org](http://DONATEatPeopleschurchucc.org)

[DONATE on REALM](#)

Send questions or comments to CapitalCampaignPUCC@gmail.com

UPDATE OR CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

Have you moved? Do you have a new e-mail address? Has your contact information changed? If so, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate so that we may update your contact information. Thank-you!

Name(s) _____

Old Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Business _____ Mobile _____

E-mail _____ Envelope# _____

We're constantly updating our church records. Please let us know if there is a change to your member information regarding births, deaths or change in your marital status.

Direct Links to Online Giving for Donations

REALM



Scan the QR Code and **Click on {Give Online} below.**

