



PEOPLES PRODDER

May 2026 Minister's Page

Embracing the Summer Season Together

Dear Beloved Peoples Congregation,

As we transition from the vibrant blooms of spring into the warmth of summer, I am filled with gratitude for Peoples community and the many blessings we share. The longer days and sunshine remind us of God's unwavering presence and love in our lives. With summer upon us, I want to take a moment to reflect on this season and the opportunities that lie ahead.

In Galatians 6:9, we are reminded, *"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."* This scripture serves as a powerful encouragement as we enter a busy time in our church and community. While the summer months often bring vacations and leisure, they also offer opportunities to sow seeds of faith, connection, and service.

This year, our church will remain a bustling hub. **The Washington Jazz Arts Institute** will be using the facilities, and we are excited to welcome the **Pedalheads** program, which will be utilizing the parking lot. These vibrant activities bring life to Peoples campus, giving us the chance to reach out to families and individuals who may not yet know Christ. Let us be diligent in our outreach and hospitality, ensuring anyone who enters the doors feels the warmth of Peoples church family.

Additionally, the **New Synagogue Project** will continue progressing throughout these summer months. We look forward to collaborating and building relationships with our neighbors in this endeavor. It is a reminder of the importance of unity and sharing God's love beyond our walls.

As we engage in all these **activities**, we must remain faithful in our **giving**, especially during the summer months when attendance may fluctuate. Our church relies on your continued generosity to fund our ministries, support our outreach efforts, and maintain our facilities. Your gifts enable us to serve others, enrich our community, and expand the Kingdom of God. In **2 Corinthians 9:7**, we read, *"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* As we embrace this season of giving, let us do so joyfully and intentionally.

May and June are filled with significant events on our church calendar. I encourage everyone to participate actively in our services, outreach programs, and fellowship opportunities. Summer is a time for spiritual growth and rejuvenation. As we approach these upcoming activities, look for ways to get involved, whether through volunteering, attending, or simply inviting a friend to join us.

"Let's not grow weary in doing good;" instead, let us press on, trusting that our efforts will bear fruit in due time. Together, we can make this summer a time of flourishing faith, strong community bonds, and vibrant ministry. Blessings to you all as we embark on this exciting season together.

I look forward to seeing what God has in store for us!

Loving you into God's next for you – I remain,

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

Interim Minister

“Peoples Church FYI”

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. -

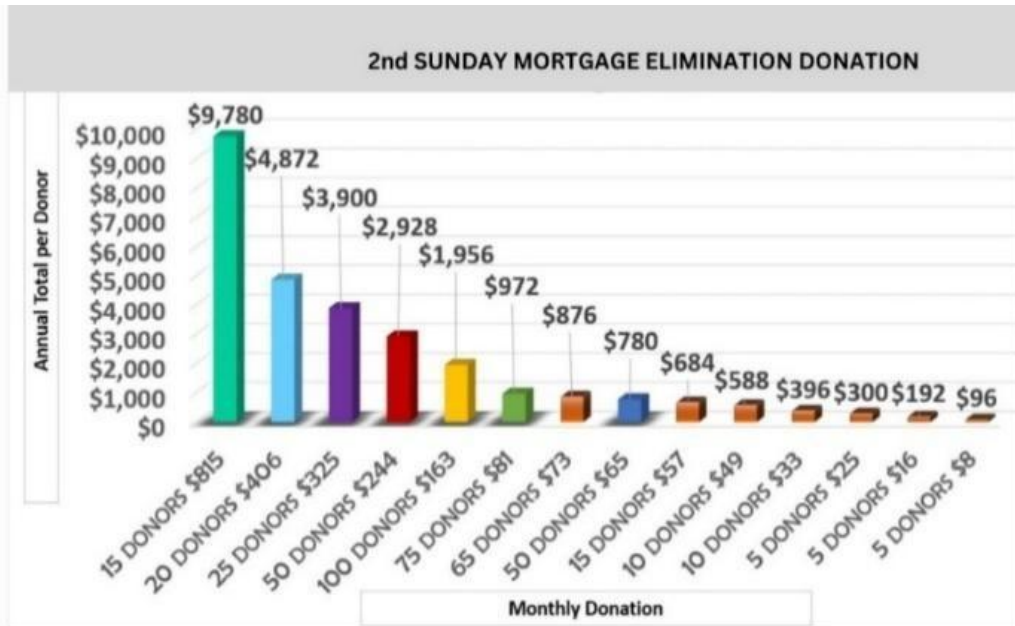
9:15 a.m. Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 837 4429 8433 \ Passcode: 53640

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





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 Peopelchurchucc.org](http://DONATEatPeopelchurchucc.org)

[DONATE on REALM](#)

Send questions or comments to CapitalCampaignPUCC@gmail.com

SPECIAL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Peoples Church! All individuals who participate in our Worship and Liturgical Services and/or 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 having your image displayed.

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 Friday, 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 Friday or Saturday, please understand that the Pastor is not likely to respond until Monday, 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

Music Ministry Announcements

There are several opportunities for you to participate in the music ministry at Peoples: we invite you to come and be a part of Peoples Congregational Choir. Rehearsals are on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

There are also opportunities to sing with Peoples Praise, our praise and worship team. Rehearsals are on Saturdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Instrumentalists are also welcome.

You can help grow the music ministry by bringing or inviting a friend or family member to church. You don't sing or play a musical instrument? We are also looking for a few people with the desire to help by providing administrative support. If you are interested, please reach out to the Music Ministry Administrator at: music@peopleschurchucc.org.

WELLNESS CORNER

Oral health: A window to your overall health.

Your oral health is more important than you might realize. Learn how the health of your mouth, teeth, and gums can affect your general health.

Did you know that your oral health offers clues about your overall health? Did you know that problems in the mouth can affect the rest of the body? Protect yourself by learning more about the link between your oral health and overall health.

What's the link between oral health and overall health?

Like other areas of the body, the mouth is full of germs. Those germs are mostly harmless. But the mouth is the entry to the digestive tract. That's the long tube of organs from the mouth to the anus that food travels through. The mouth also is the entry to the organs that allow breathing, called the respiratory tracts. So sometimes germs in the mouth can lead to disease throughout the body.

Most often the body's defenses and good oral care keep germs under control. Good oral care includes daily brushing and flossing. Without good oral hygiene, germs can reach levels that might lead to infections, such as tooth decay and gum disease.

Also, certain medicines can lower the flow of spit, called saliva. Those medicines include decongestants, antihistamines, painkillers, water pills and antidepressants. Saliva washes away food and keeps the acids germs make in the mouth in balance. This helps keep germs from spreading and causing disease. Oral germs and oral swelling and irritation, called inflammation, are linked to a severe form of gum disease, called periodontitis. Studies suggest that these germs and inflammation might play a role in some diseases. And certain diseases, such as diabetes and HIV/AIDS, can lower the body's ability to fight infection. That can make oral health problems worse.

What conditions can be linked to oral health?

Your oral health might play a part in conditions such as:

- **Endocarditis:** This is an infection of the inner lining of the heart chambers or valves, called endocardium. It most often happens when germs from another part of the body, such as the mouth, spread through the blood and attach to certain areas in the heart. Infection of the endocardium is rare. But it can be fatal.
- **Cardiovascular disease:** Some research suggests that heart disease, clogged arteries and stroke might be linked to the inflammation and infections that oral germs can cause.
- **Pregnancy and birth complications:** Gum disease called periodontitis has been linked to premature birth and low birth weight.
- **Pneumonia:** Certain germs in the mouth can go into the lungs. This may cause pneumonia and other respiratory diseases.

Certain health conditions also might affect oral health, including:

- **Diabetes:** Diabetes makes the body less able to fight infection. So diabetes can put the gums at risk. Gum disease seems to happen more often and be more serious in people who have diabetes.

Research shows that people who have gum disease have a harder time controlling their blood sugar levels. Regular dental care can improve diabetes control.

- **HIV/AIDS:** Oral problems, such as painful mouth sores called mucosal lesions, are common in people who have HIV/AIDS.

- **A number of cancers** have been linked to gum disease. These include cancers of the mouth, gastrointestinal tract, lung, breast, prostate gland and uterus.
- **Alzheimer's disease:** As Alzheimer's disease gets worse, oral health also tends to get worse.

Other conditions that might be linked to oral health include eating disorders, rheumatoid arthritis and an immune system condition that causes dry mouth called Sjogren's syndrome. Tell your dentist about the medicines you take. And make sure your dentist knows about any changes in your overall health. This includes recent illnesses or ongoing conditions you may have, such as diabetes.

How can I protect my oral health?

To protect your oral health, take care of your mouth every day.

- Brush your teeth at least twice a day for two minutes each time. Use a brush with soft bristles and fluoride toothpaste. Brush your tongue too.
- Clean between your teeth daily with floss, a water flosser or other products made for that purpose.
- Eat a healthy diet and limit sugary food and drinks.
- Replace your toothbrush every 3 to 4 months. Do it sooner if bristles are worn or flare out.
- See a dentist at least once a year for checkups and cleanings. Your dentist may suggest visits or cleanings more often, depending on your situation. You might be sent to a gum specialist, called a periodontist, if your gums need more care.
- Don't use tobacco.

Contact your dentist right away if you notice any oral health problems. Taking care of your oral health protects your overall health.

By Mayo Clinic Staff
March 14, 2024


Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ 4704 13th St NW, Washington, DC 20011 202.829-5513

The Wellness Ministry

is sponsoring
A

CPR Certification Class

Get your 2 year certification/recertification for CPR and First Aid.



Where: People's Congregational UCC, 4704 13th St NW, Washington, DC 20011
When : Saturday, June 20, 2026 at 9:30:00 AM

The training will include: Compression only resuscitation in adult child and infant, first aid and choking in adult, child and infant.

The class will be conducted by a member of DC Fire and Rescue Squad. The cost is \$55.00 per participant.

RSVP to bwel1atpeoples@gmail.com

Rev. Benjamin L. Bragg-Reynolds
Interim Minister

PEOPLES PREACHING AND WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE

MAY 2026

Sunday, May 3, 10:00 a.m. (Fifth Sunday of Easter) *

"Moved and Challenged" Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; Romans 1:8-17

- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, Preaching**
- **Rev. George Walker, Worship Leader**

Sunday, May 10, 10:00 a.m. (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

Mother's Day and Women's Day – Women's Fellowship

"Her Story, Our Talk Across Generations" Psalm 139:14

- **Diana Veiga, Worship Leader**

Sunday, May 17, 10:00 a.m. (Seventh Sunday of Easter) *

"You, Me, and David" Psalm 51; Romans 7

- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, Preaching**
- **Minister Geneva Hudson, Worship Leader**

Sunday, May 17, 3:00 p.m.

Ordination Service for Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett

Sunday, May 24, 10:00 a.m. (Pentecost Sunday)

Confirmation Sunday

"Gift of the Spirit" Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Acts 2:1-21

- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, Preaching**
- **[Rev.] Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett, Worship Leader**

Sunday, May 31, 10:00 a.m. (Trinity Sunday) *

"Make a Choice" Psalm 8; I Corinthians 13:11-13

- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, Preaching**
- **Minister Francis Smith, Worship Leader**

* Indicates Sermon-Talk-Back following the service in the Corbin Lounge

Communion Sunday, April 5, 2026



April 19, 2026 Sunday Service



Happy Birthday to:



Wanda Hughey	05/02	
Earlene Jenkins	05/02	
Bryon Barlow	05/05	
Karlene Baddy	05/05	
Carol Hamilton	05/07	
Minister Geneva Hudson	05/07	
James Mack	05/07	
Angela Rice	05/09	
Karen Hammond	05/17	
Brandon Hunter	05/17	
Laura Minor	05/20	
Davey Yarborough	05/21	
Minister Francis Smith	05/23	
Stacie Banks	05/26	
Davie Yarborough	05/29	

Bible Quiz

1. What were Solomon's other names?
 - a. Jedediah and Lemuel
 - b. Joab and Lemuel
 - c. Jedediah and Joab
 - d. Lemuel and Jeremiah

2. Who was the most wicked king of Israel?
 - a. Ahab
 - b. Abimelech
 - c. Manasseh
 - d. Menahem

**Peoples Congregational
United Church of Christ**

4704 Thirteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011
Phone: 202.829.5511
Follow us on Twitter
@PeoplesCongUCC

We are on the Web!
www.peopleschurchucc.org



Love God & Love Neighbor

Prodder Guidelines



The Peoples Prodder is our Monthly Newsletter, which informs our community about recent announcements, updates, and information pertaining to the life of our congregation.

All announcements and flyers for the upcoming edition of the Prodder must be submitted by 12:00 Noon on the 20th of the prior month.

Announcements and flyers can be emailed to yhunter@peopleschurchucc.org.

Please do not mail information; electronic submissions are required. Announcements should be a maximum of 90 words and informational about Peoples Church events or members and their families. All announcements may be edited, and submissions are subject to final approval by the Ministers.

Contact Information

Interim Minister

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg -Reynolds
interimminister@peopleschurchucc.org

Church Moderator

Diana Haines Walton
moderator@peopleschurchucc.org

Administrative Staff



Operations Specialist
Yvette Hunter
yhunter@peopleschurchucc.org

Maintenance Staff

Towanda Chew
Sterling “Stan” Evans
DeVonte Robinson



In Memoriam

	In Memoriam		
Sylvia Hawkins Passed away 2/17/26	George White Passed away 2/20/26		
Minnie Boyd Passed away 2/24/26	Robert” Bobby “Felder Passed away 3/1/26		
Claudia McKoin Passed away 4/19/2026			

Realm Registration



Scan the QR Code: Peoples Realm
Sign-Up, Sign-in or Make a Donation

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 _____



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