



PEOPLES PRODDER

August 2026 Minister's Page

Dear Beloved Community,

As we enter the month of August, I am reminded of the many enriching experiences it brings. It is a time of transition, reflecting both the end of summer and the beginning of a new school year for our young ones. This August invites us to embrace change with open arms and hearts, allowing God's grace to guide us into new beginnings.

When I think of August, the scripture that comes to mind is ***Isaiah 43:19: "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."*** Just as the school year brings fresh opportunities for learning and growth, God is continually at work in our lives, creating pathways for our journey ahead.

Upcoming Events

Sing-Along Event

Join the **Music Ministry** on **Saturday, August 22**, from **12:00 PM to 2:00 PM** for a fantastic Sing-Along! The cost is FREE, and we'll be serving pizza, so come hungry and ready to lift your voice in song! We will explore several genres of music, making it a delightful opportunity to have fun and connect. Don't miss this chance to relax, sing, and enjoy great company!

Back to School Blessing

On **Sunday, August 23**, during our **10:00 AM** service, we will hold a special ****Back to School Blessing****. This is a beautiful time to gather as a community and pray over our students, teachers, and all those involved in education as they embark on this new academic year. We invite everyone to join us as we ask for God's guidance, protection, and wisdom for our young scholars and educators.

Jazz Worship Sunday

Finally, mark your calendars for **Sunday, August 30**, as we celebrate Jazz Worship Sunday! This year, we will welcome the **People's Jazz Society** for their annual concert titled **"Honoring Our Ancestors."** This special event will allow us to worship God through the power of jazz music, connecting our hearts in praise and reflecting on the legacy of those who came before us. Bring your friends and family to experience this unique blend of faith and artistry.

As we navigate this month of transition and preparation, let us embrace the new opportunities that God lays before us with hope and expectancy.

May we come together in joy, unity, and worship as we celebrate all that August has in store.

Loving you into God's next for you!
Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

“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. -

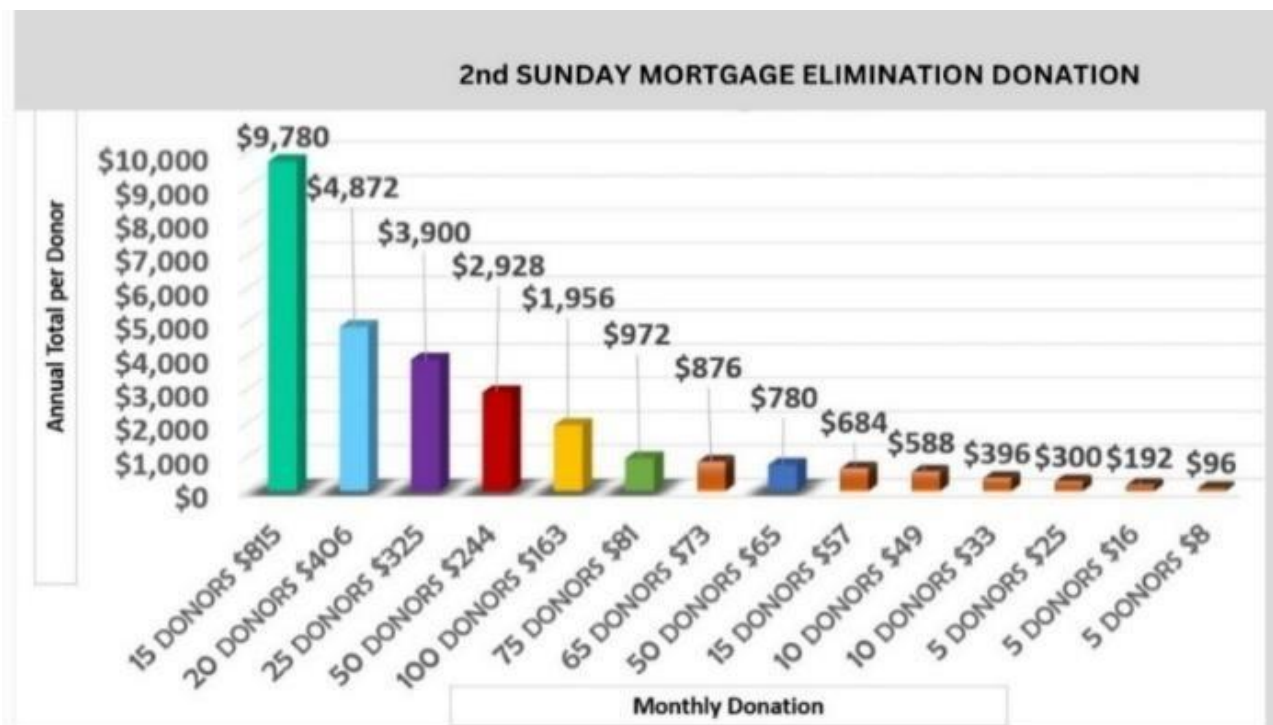
9:15 a.m. Join Zoom Meeting

<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 Peoplechurchucc.org](https://peoplechurchucc.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

The Diaconate Corner

Welcome to the Diaconate Corner. Through this article, we hope to inform you regarding the role of the Diaconate in our church. The Board of Deacons, also known as the Diaconate, assists our ministry in serving the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of the members of our church and our community. Included in our many duties, deacons provide ministerial assistance; assist the ministry with carrying out our worship service; provide visitation for our sick and shut-in members; provide financial assistance to church members or community members in need through the Deacon Fund Offering; welcome new members by assisting with the assimilation of the new member into the total life of the church; and assist with the preparation of youth for church membership through confirmation. Your Diaconate sponsors the following annual church services and programs: Ash Wednesday Service assistance, Maundy Thursday service, Friendship Sunday service, Advent Candle Lighting, and Watch Night Service. We want to hear from you. We will share your joy, listen to your concerns, help you in times of crisis, encourage fellowship, and moreover, we will pray for you and with you. Special requests can be made through the church office. Direct your request to "Chairperson Board of Deacons Peoples Church". Please include contact information. Thank you and God Bless.

The Board of Trustees is continuing the church-wide clean-up project, with our current focus on the Fellowship Hall. All individuals and ministry groups must remove any belongings stored in the Fellowship Hall closets or stage area by August 9. Items remaining after that date will be considered abandoned and will be discarded.

Thank you,
Carol

From Music Ministry

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.

Alto and Contralto "Fun Facts"

DID YOU KNOW?

In everyday and choral usage, "Alto" is a broad term for lower female voices. In classical and operatic training, the distinction is more precise:



Top Ten Reasons for Being an Alto

1. You get really good at singing E flat
2. You get to sing the same note for 12 consecutive measures
3. You don't really need to warm up to sing 12 consecutive bars of E-flat
4. If the choir really stinks, it's unlikely the altos will be blamed
5. You have lots of time to chat during soprano solos
6. You get to pretend that you are better than the sopranos, because everybody knows that women only sing soprano, so they don't have to learn to read music
7. You can sometimes find part time work singing tenor.
8. Altos get all the great intervals
9. When the sopranos are holding some outrageously high note at the end of a song, the altos always get the last words
10. When the altos miss a note, nobody gets hurt

Alto = the lower of the two main female voice types (below soprano/mezzo). A common classification used in choirs, schools, and pop music.

Contralto = the lowest female voice type in classical training — the rarest and deepest female voice, sitting at the lowest end of the alto spectrum.

Think of it this way: **all contraltos are altos, but not all altos are contraltos.** Contralto is a specific, rare sub-type within the broader alto category.

Famous Alto/Contraltos:

Marian Anderson: Performed a wide range of music, from opera to spirituals. Anderson performed with renowned orchestras in major concert and recital venues throughout the United States and Europe between 1925 and 1965.

Nina Simone: A composer, concert pianist, singer, songwriter, and civil rights activist. Simone's bearing and stage presence earned her the title the *High Priestess of Soul*.

Tracy Chapman: Celebrated for her deeply soulful, rich folk-rock alto vocals on timeless hits like "Fast Car" **Toni Braxton:** Known for a dark, deep, and sultry vocal tone



PEOPLES CONGREGATIONAL UCC COMMUNITY SING-ALONG & PIZZA!

The Peoples Congregational UCC Music Ministry is inviting singers and those who like to sing to participate in a Community Sing-Along Workshop.

Do you like to sing alone or in the shower?

Do you like blending your voice with others?

Do you like meeting new friends?

Do you like pizza?

Let's sing together! You don't have to be a professional singer.

When: Saturday, August 22, 2026, 12:00-2:00 PM.

**Where: Peoples Congregational UCC 4704 13th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011**

We will be singing choral literature from hymns, spirituals, gospel, and more. **Cost: FREE**

Register early to have your name entered for the drawing to get free gifts like school backpacks, etc.

Pre-register online at: music@peopleschurchucc.org or contact: Lise Stevens at: lisestevens6@gmail.com

Peoples Preaching and Worship Leader Schedule August 2026

Sunday, August 2, 10:00 am (*Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*)

"Am I a Christian?" Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Roman 3:21-31

Minister Geneva Hudson, Preaching

Rev. Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett, Worship Leader

Sunday, August 9, 10:00 am (*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*)

"Distractions Can Sink You and Me Too" Proverbs 4:25; Matthew 14:22-33

Minister Francis Smith, Preaching

Rev. George Walker, Worship Leader

Sunday, August 16, 10:00 am (*Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*)

"It's Family Time" Psalm 50; Amos 5:21-24

Rev. George Walker, Preaching

Minister Geneva Hudson, Worship Leader

Sunday, August 23, 10:00 am (*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*)

"The Reign of God or Living in Christ" Psalm 27; John 14:1-16; John 15:1-8

Minister Francis Smith, Preaching

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, Worship Leader

Sunday, August 30, 10:00 am (*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*)

Jazz Worship Sunday, "Honoring Our Ancestors"

Peoples Church Reunion Sunday



Bible Quiz

1. What was the total number of the children of Israel that went down to Egypt?
 - i 1000
 - ii 70
 - iii 53

 2. How long were the children of Israel in Egypt?
 - i 430 years
 - ii 150 years
 - iii 666 years
 - iv 40 years

 3. Upon what mountain was Israel cursed for disobedience?
 - i Mount Moriah
 - ii Mount Zion
 - iii Mount Ebal
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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



<i>In Memoriam</i>	
 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
Sing-in, 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_____



PEOPLES
CONGREGATIONAL
United Church of Christ