PEOPLES PRODDER
NOVEMBER 2026

Monthly Message from the Pastor

New Beginnings

“Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it.” - Habakkuk 2:2

Grace and Peace to You!

I remain reflecting on the mighty moments we shared during the last weekend of October. I am humbled by and thankful for the overwhelming support of this congregation in calling me to serve you as the 11th Senior Minister. As we begin this journey together, we must move with the vision of Sankofa, fetching the best, leaving the rest, and marching boldly into the future. This requires a collective spirit that is prayerful, discerning, and courageous. There is great work ahead of us, but God has prepared us for it.

Our upcoming Children’s Sabbath Sunday - November 8th - will be an opportunity for us to focus our attention on the ones who Jesus said “hold the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.” Much of my work in recent years has been preoccupied with advocating for the children and families who are facing the greatest challenges in our communities, and who therefore, need the most support. As I shared on October 25th, doing the most for the least is the definition of equity, a word that has been scandalized by those who oppose the Politics of Jesus because it threatens their hold on worldly power. Our obligation is to follow the teachings of Jesus faithfully, and on November 8th, it’s all about the children. On behalf of our Interim Pastor and me, let us thank Alison Cross, who has done a marvelous job designing and planning the November 8th service; we also welcome Ashley Iman, who I trust will be a dynamic speaker.

My first Sunday with you will also be the last Sunday for Rev. Benjamin Lidell Bragg-Reynolds, who has faithfully led this congregation for more than three years. I am looking forward to watching the video tributes to him, and I want to encourage each and every member who has been touched by his ministry to give him every flower you can find while he can see the view. The Bible declares “how beautiful…are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, “Your God reigns!” (Isaiah 52:7).

Peoples Church would not have been ready for our new beginnings if it were not for Rev. Bragg - Reynolds and his pastoral attention to this tender moment of transition. We must honor him, withholding nothing. November 15th will be my first Sunday at Peoples and he and I will share a special moment in the pulpit signifying this important transition. His parting thoughts will pave the way to our bright future.

We are approaching the time of Thanksgiving and the season of Advent, when we look to the coming of our brother, our friend, our revolutionary messiah, Jesus Christ. In the midst of internal transition and new beginnings, in the face of tyranny at home and tumult abroad, we need Jesus in a special way this year. Let us begin - even now - to prepare our hearts to welcome Him and embrace His challenge to us.

I am faithfully and fiercely yours in Christ,

Rev. Paul Robeson Ford, Senior Minister-Elect

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

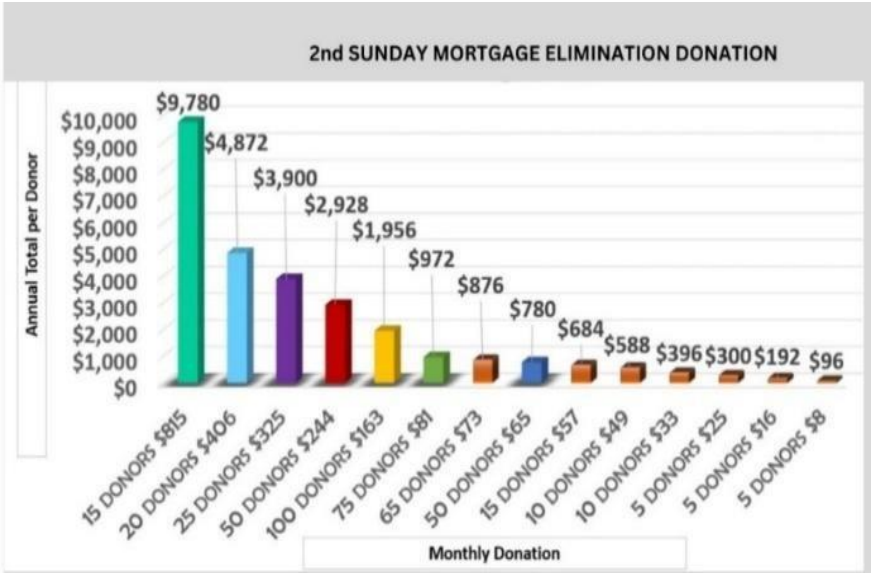
The Line Opens at 6:55 a.m.

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=RmZoY2xqeTBlRVdTK09XWFY5cG9OQT09

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
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.

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.

MUSIC MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will begin preparing for our annual Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols, which will be held on **Sunday, December 20, 2026 10:00 AM.** We will conduct full and separate choir section rehearsals, which may be held in different areas in the church (e.g., Sanctuary, Chapel, etc.) If you are not already a member of the Peoples Congregational Choir but would like to participate in this program, please contact the Music Ministry Administrator at music@peopleschurchucc.org to register. **Rehearsals begin Saturday, October 10, 2026.** Please refer to the rehearsal schedule as follows:

OCTOBER

October 10: PCC/Christmas Sectionals 9:30 - 10:30 AM - Sopranos and Altos in the Chapel; Tenors and Basses in the Sanctuary. 10:40 - 11:30 AM full choir in Sanctuary

Oct 17: PCC/Christmas Sectionals 9:30 - 10:30 AM - Tenors and Basses in the Sanctuary; Sopranos and Altos in the Chapel. 10:40 - 11:30 AM full choir in Sanctuary.

Oct 24: PCC/Christmas rehearsal in the Sanctuary from 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Octo 31: PCC/Christmas Sectionals 9:30 - 10:30 AM - Sopranos and Altos in the Chapel; Tenors and Basses in the Sanctuary. 10:40 - 11:30 AM full choir in Sanctuary.

Nov 7: PCC/Christmas 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM in the Chapel

Nov 14: PCC NO REHEARSAL

Nov 21: PCC/Christmas 9:30 - 11:30 AM in Sanctuary

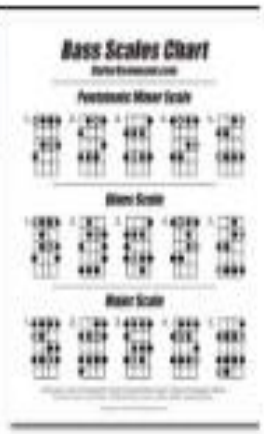
Nov 28: PCC Sectionals 9:30 - 10:30 AM - Sopranos and Altos in the Sanctuary; Tenors and Basses in the Chapel. 10:40 - 11:30 AM full choir in Sanctuary.

DECEMBER

Dec 5: PCC/Christmas 9:30 - 11:30 AM full choir in Sanctuary

Dec 12: Full Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary from 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Dec 19: Full Dress Rehearsal in the Sanctuary from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Basso Profondo (True Bass): This is the deepest and lowest common male vocal type. True basses are rare because most low voices are actually baritones who can hit a few deep notes.

Baritone/Bass Fact or Fiction?

Q: Why do baritones always look so stressed during a choral piece?

A: Because the director wrote a high G, the tenors are pretending they can sing it, and the baritones know they are about to be asked to "Just help out the tenors today."

Q: Why did the baritones bring a latter to rehearsal?

A: To reach the high notes they didn't want to sing!

Q: Why did the baritone sit next to the bass?

A: To keep things grounded!

PEOPLES PREACHING, WORSHIP LEADER, AND BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE
NOVEMBER 2026 **Sermon-Talk-Back – Corbin Lounge*

Sunday, November 1, 10:00 am (Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost) *
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
"Readiness for Renewal and Light" Psalm 78:1-7; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, *Preaching*
Minister Geneva Hudson, *Worship Leader*

Thursday, November 5, 6:00 pm (Bible Study)
"Preparing for a New Season in the Transition of Ministry"
Psalm 78:1-7; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Sunday, November 8, 10:00 am (Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)
CHILDREN'S SABBATH
THEME*: "The Future is Listening. Are We?"*
Celebrating Children's Voices and Advancing Literacy Equity
Proverbs 31:8-9; Mark 10:13-16
Ashley Iman, *Featured Speaker*
Children's Author and Educational Leader
Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, *Worship Leader*

Thursday, November 12, 6:00 pm (Bible Study)
"Advocating for the youngest and the 'silenced' in our midst"
Psalm 98; Isaiah 65:17-25

Sunday, November 15, 10:00 am (Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)
A SERVICE OF FAREWELL
"The Cost of Discipleship" Psalm 107:1-9; Exodus 3:1-12; Matthew 4:18-22
Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds, *Preaching*

Sunday, November 22, 10:00 am (Reign of Christ)
Rev. Paul Robeson Ford, *Preaching*

Sunday, November 29, 10:00 am (First Sunday of Advent)
Rev. Paul Robeson Ford, *Preaching*

Senior Minister Candidate-Elect

Congratulations, Rev. Paul Robeson Ford, Senior Minister of Peoples Congregational UCC!!

Bible Quiz

1. Eve was the first human God created.

- **i** True
- **ii** False

2. When Moses saw the burning bush in the wilderness, he took off his hat.

- **i** True
- **ii** False

3. Noah built a huge boat that saved him and his family from a huge flood.

- **i** True
- **ii** False

4. Jonah spent three days and three nights inside a great fish.

- **i** True
- **ii** False

Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ

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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
Laura Minor
moderator@peopleschurchucc.org

Administrative Staff

Operations Specialist
Yvette Hunter
yhunter@peopleschurchucc.org

Maintenance Staff

Towanda Chew
Sterling "Stan" Evans
DeVonte Robinson

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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