

## PROPERTY TEAM PROJECTS

TDG Facility Services has done a good job of taking care of our property since they came on board in December 2020. But the list of things to do is long, and little things go to the bottom of the list. They will eventually get to them, but we can help them make our grounds look much better with little One and Done's.

I am the Chapel sign on Meier Ave. I need some TLC. I used to light up at night, but that was years ago. My cross is bent, my paint is faded. My pole needs cleaning and painting. Can you take me home and paint me and make me light up again? You will be reimbursed for your expenses if you desire.

We are Memorial Markers placed under trees around our grounds. We need help. If you have a power saw that can cut plastic lumber, you can make a difference. A plastic 4x4 that can be cut and put deep into the ground will keep vandals from pulling us out. You can take our metal base and put it on a new plastic base and plant us back where we came from. You will be reimbursed for your expenses if you desire.

I am the light that shines over the Sanctuary Entrance door. I am still good for many years but I could use a good cleaning and a coat of gold spray paint. Would you be willing to take me home and restore me? You will be reimbursed for your expenses if you desire.

*If you are interested in taking on one of these projects, please contact our Property Chair, Denis Larrick at [dlarrick36@aol.com](mailto:dlarrick36@aol.com).*

## JUSTICE MINISTRY Issue 3 and the May Election

The last chance for Cincinnatians to vote on the proposed charter amendment (Issue 3) is Tuesday, May 4. Know that Bishop Palmer and the ORV of the West Ohio Conference, as well as many in the faith community, are supporting this issue to address the tens of thousands of families here needing affordable housing. Please prayerfully consider what Issue 3 could mean to folks struggling to live at or below 60% of the median income in the City of Cincinnati.

*Find a link to the newsletter on the Justice Ministry page at [hydeparkchurch.org/justice-ministry](http://hydeparkchurch.org/justice-ministry). Visit [www.actionforhousingnow.com](http://www.actionforhousingnow.com) to learn more about the amendment.*



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## Response to Suffering in Education

In a “normal” year, summer reading is critical for students to retain knowledge and skills learned in the previous year as well as grow in critical thinking skills for the coming year. A University of Tennessee research study shows that children who don’t read over the summer experience the “summer slide” of losing at least two months of reading development and are at risk of falling behind their classmates.

Pre-pandemic research suggest that two-thirds of the reading achievement gap (I say “opportunity gap”) between high-low socioeconomic statuses in 9th graders can be explained by unequal access to summer learning opportunities during elementary school, and one-third of the gap is present before students begin school. On the other hand, students who read over the summer may gain a month of proficiency in reading.

A recent student at Stanford Graduate School of Education provides new evidence about the pandemic’s impact on learning among students in the earliest grades, showing distinct changes in growth of basic reading skills during different time periods over the past year. 2nd and 3rd graders were most affected, the study found. Overall, students’ reading fluency in 2nd and 3rd grade is now approximately 30% behind what would be expected in a typical year.

Reading is so crucial because it is a key that opens all of the doors of academic skills across all disciplines. It is understood that if a child can’t read effectively by third grade or so, they’re unlikely to be able to access content in their other courses.

We are proud to continue to partner with Summer Camp Reading to help bridge the opportunity gap for children in our community! Can you spend a few hours during the morning to work with 2nd and 3rd grade students? No special skills are needed as games and activities are provided, just a desire to help children who need critical extra attention and encouragement to improve reading proficiency. The camp runs weekday mornings from June 14 – July 23 at Wesley Chapel Mission Center in Over-the-Rhine. You can sign up for a 2-hour time slot (8:00-10:00am or 9:45am-12:00pm) and work with other volunteers and paid staff. You are encouraged to pick a day a week, serve one full week, or choose dates that work for you throughout the 6 weeks. Strict safety protocols will be in place.

For more information and to sign up, please visit [hydeparkchurch.org](http://hydeparkchurch.org) and click the Summer Camp Reading rotating banner on the homepage. For any questions, please contact Karen Bruner at [chatbru82@gmail.com](mailto:chatbru82@gmail.com) or 513-787-3549 or me at [ksmith@hpcumc.org](mailto:ksmith@hpcumc.org) or 513-871-1345.

Peace,  
Pastor Kate



Pastor  
Kate Smith





**Interested in Joining HPCUMC?**

We're offering our Spiritual Gifts and United Methodism 101 classes in-person in our Welcome Center this Spring! Both sessions are required for membership, but they can be taken in any order and there's no commitment necessary to come and learn something new about yourself or our faith!

\***Spiritual Gifts (Tuesday, May 4, 6:30 pm)** Designed to shine a light on your individual strengths as a part of our church community.

\***United Methodism 101 (Tuesday, May 18, 6:30 pm)** An introduction to or refresher on the roots of our United Methodist faith.  
*Please contact Sara Pease (spease@hpcumc.org or 513-979-8192) to register.*

**ABOLISHING OHIO DEATH PENALTY**

**Justice Ministry**  
**BYOD! Bring Your Own**  
**Dessert!**  
**Monday, May 3, 7:00pm -**  
**8:30pm via Zoom**



Join the Justice Ministry as the Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center (IJPC) presents: "Abolishing Ohio's Death Penalty" an engaging event on the history, current status, and need for abolition of Ohio's death penalty. Until we can safely offer our Just Des(s)erts programs again you'll have to provide sweet bites in the comfort of your home. The more you realize how many innocent people are sent to death row to be executed, the more you'll realize the injustice happening all over the country in our criminal justice system. Register in advance for this meeting by going to our website [hydeparkchurch.org/justice-ministry](http://hydeparkchurch.org/justice-ministry).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE**

We are excited to open the doors of our nursery once again! We will have childcare for both the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services. Masks are required for children who are old enough to wear one.  
*Please contact Dana Calhoun with any questions or concerns: dcalhoun@hpcumc.org or 513-979-8181*

**BIBLE STUDY CLASS**

**Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet**  
**Six Tuesdays: May 25 – August 3, 6:30 – 8:00 pm**  
**In-person, Welcome Center HPC**

**Leader: Pastor Cathy Johns**  
Adam Hamilton's book and videos (filmed on location) will explore the sites of Moses' life from the Nile River to the Reed Sea and from Mount Sinai to the wilderness. This Bible study will include history and archaeological data to deepen our understanding of the scriptures. Class members will read a chapter each week and watch a video prior to class.  
*Please contact Pastor Cathy Johns with questions. Books are available in the church office. Suggested Donation for Hardback Book: \$5.00*

**WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS**

**No Reservations Needed!**  
We are thankful to announce that beginning Sunday, April 25, reservations are no longer necessary for Sunday morning worship. For everyone's safety, the following protocols remain:  

- enter the building from the south side (parking lot)
- masks required while in the building
- observe social safe distancing
- sit in pews designated for each service(9:30 and 11). This promotes social safe distancing and allows our ushers to walk through the pews to receive the offering)
- continued suspension of coffee fellowship until the mask mandate is lifted.

Thank you for your patience as we carefully move forward.

**ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UPS**

Flowers on the altar in the sanctuary help enhance our worship together. Please call the church office to reserve your spot to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship. Flowers can be designated in honor or memory of a loved one.  
*Please call Amanda Kern in the church office; she will help you make these arrangements.*

**WESLEY CHAPEL MISSION CENTER Donation Drive**

The start of summer is near! During May 2021 Soul Builders will be collecting items each week for Wesley Chapel Mission Center to help get them ready for summer. Items can be left in the Social Hall at church during the month of May.

- Week One-Flip flops for children and toddlers
- Week Two-Beach towels
- Week Three- Sun screen/swim googles
- Week Four- monetary donations to be able to purchase Children's Bibles Pre K-6th grade –  
*Please make checks out to HPCUMC with Wesley Chapel Monthly Donation in memo line.*

Bring one item or all three or donate money for Bibles. If you have questions or wish to get more involved please call Jan Betts at 513-919-1226.

**SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS**

Welcome our church family back to in-person worship by greeting them at the door! Masking and social distancing will be observed. Please contact Sara Pease at [spease@hpcumc.org](mailto:spease@hpcumc.org) (or 513-979-8192) to sign up.