AUGUST 2024 | VOLUME 27

# PCCNOW



# How Do Christians Fund Churches and Kingdom Work? Pt. II

"So, the believers in Antioch decided to send relief to the brothers and sisters in Judea, everyone giving as much as they could." (Acts 11:29)

Last month's focus began in Europe where many countries charge their citizens a church tax. The monies the governments collect go directly to the churches. In six European countries the tax is mandatory. These "church tax" payments account for billions of dollars in euros each year and provide the largest source of revenue for most religious groups.

In Portugal, Italy, and Spain, citizens can voluntarily choose to pay the church tax. In Ireland, UK, France, Belgium, Norway, and Netherlands there is no church tax. In countries with a church tax, citizens can deregister from their religious group to avoid paying the tax. Pew Research found that avoiding paying the tax by officially pulling out of their denomination did *not* lead to people doing so, even though it would increase their disposable income. For those who pay church tax, people have not opted out because they believe religious organizations strengthen morality, bring people together, and help the poor.

Practices and customs developed over centuries greatly influence individual beliefs on funding God's kingdom. Let us allow the Holy Ghost to continue to speak to each of us in our desire to support the Kingdom of God.

Information from pewreasearch.org

# IN THIS ISSUE:

"How do Christians Fund Churches and Kingdom Work"

PAGE 1

Shoe Collection Breaks Records

PAGE 3

"Scholarships for the 2024-2025 School Year Awarded

PAGE 4

Community Event Photo Recap

PAGE 5

**Temple Observations** 

PAGES 6-8

"5 Reflective Scriptures for August" / Prayer Corner

PAGE 10

AND MORE!

### **Consolations**

When my world falls apart
And all's crashing in
When I'm overwhelmed
By the depth of my sin

When doubts seem to crowd

And fear closes in
I know where to go
To find renewal within

When all of my hope
Lies shattered and broken
And the comfort of friends
Seem no more than a token

I quickly retreat
To the word He has spoken
And find contained there
The Christ I have hope in

by Vicki Plaster Baird

### The Chest: Where Does the Money Go?

During offering times, The Chest is opened. All monies dropped into the chest are used in restoration projects for the temple.

This year's restoration plan focuses on repairs to the temple's exterior. This will begin this month, and it will be a thorough and complete renewal on the area around the handicap entrance. This project will require a very large expenditure, so everyone that contributes will make an impact. Please pray.

Many place cash in the Chest. If you choose to use an envelope, please write 'Building Fund' or 'Restoration' on the blank line. If your giving is for the heating/boiler, please write 'Boiler' on the line.

12-month total (Nov 2022-Oct 2023): \$28,949.89 6-month total Nov 2023-May 2024): \$55,196.50 The total collected for May 2024: \$ 2,599.00 The total collected for June 2024: \$2,398.00 The total collected for July 2024: \$8,754.50 (Includes \$3392.50 Shoe Money)

Your continued giving really matters. Thank YOU for supporting the improvements!!



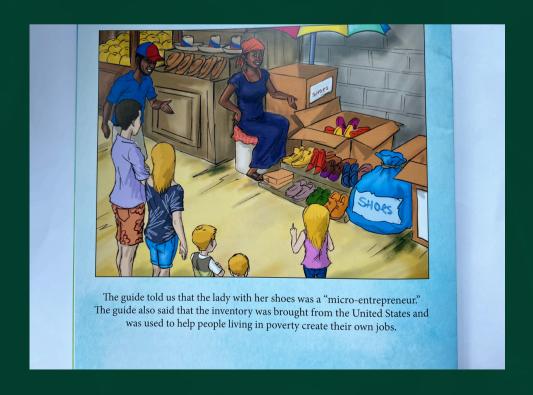
### SHOE COLLECTION BREAKS RECORDS

On June 24, PCC brought 262 bags of shoes up to the parking lot from the lower auditorium. Within 3 weeks, a check for \$3,392.50 was mailed to the church as a "Thank You" for collecting, banding and bagging sets of 25 pairs in clear bags. This check was deposited into the Restoration Fund. It will be used to help pay for our August start to major church exterior restoration.

Please continue to bag unused shoes in your home and the homes of family or friends. Bring them into church and we will process them for those in need. Great Job, Saints of God!

The total weight of our shoe project was 6,785 pounds. This is nearly three and a half TONS of shoes. Our shipment will be used to bring microentrepreneurs the shoes they need in their businesses. This lifts families in developing countries out of poverty. This year-round Shoe Project begins again the day after shoes are shipped out. Shoes are still pouring into the church and over 200 pairs of shoes have already been bagged in July.

Many thanks to our seven sister churches that donate to this project. And thank you, PCC family, for continuing to collect shoes and bringing them in for processing. Your shoes make a huge difference to those you will never even meet!!



# Scholarships for the 2024-2025 School Year Awarded

The first Sunday in July saw four PCC members receive scholarships. This was the 59th year Pentecostal Church of Christ provided financial awards to those seeking higher education. Sister Nijah Renae Winegarner opened the day by sharing her feelings as a "first time" PCC scholarship recipient. She was followed by Dr. Natalie Feagin. Elder Feagin has received numerous scholarships from PCCSF and reflected on the impact such support provides.



- Natalie Thomas Feagin
- Rekale Fomby
- Raymond Parker
- Nijah Renae Winegarner

Congratulations to all! Much love and blessings to those who made these scholarships possible though:

- Yard sales,
- Gift card purchases,
- Bake sales,
- Aluminum can recycling, and
- Donations

Thank you for blessing and supporting the future of this church family.









### TEMPLE & COMMUNITY OBSERVATIONS

Upcoming Events and Important Announcements- August 2024



#### NEXT GEN ICE CREAM SOCIAL

There will be an Ice Cream Social sponsored by PCC Next Gen today, 8/4, in the lower auditorium directly after service.

Additionally, we will be handing out backpacks filled with school supplies for students who could not attend our Back to School event. Please note, students must be present to receive a backpack.



#### ST. PAUL PARISH FELLOWSHIP

If your last name begins with T, U, V, W, X, Y, or Z, you are invited to join the St. Paul Parish Fellowship to be held on Sunday, August 11th at 1:30pm. We will be meeting at Red Lobster in Parma. We look forward to seeing you!



#### 2024 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Our annual Women's Retreat will be held September 7-9 at The Retreat at Sandusky in Sandusky, OH. We will be camping again this year! Cost is \$200 per person and includes the Registration Fee, Lodging and All Meals.

### TEMPLE & COMMUNITY OBSERVATIONS

Upcoming Events and Important Announcements- August 2024



# BIBLE STUDY SUMMER SCHEDULE

From July 3rd until August 28th, Wednesay night Bible Study will be held virtually each week at 7pm. You can find us live on our Facebook page, at pcccleveland.org, or on YouTube at 'Pentecostal Church of Christ Cleveland'



#### **HOMECOMING 2024**

Please mark your calendars for our Homecoming celebration to be held on October 20th at 10am. Invite friends, family, and neighbors - old and new!

Everyone is welcome to join us.

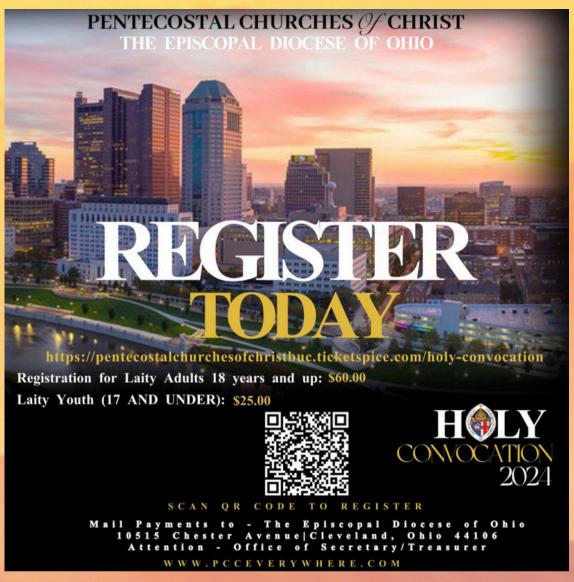


### ACCESS FREE COUNSELING SERVICES\*

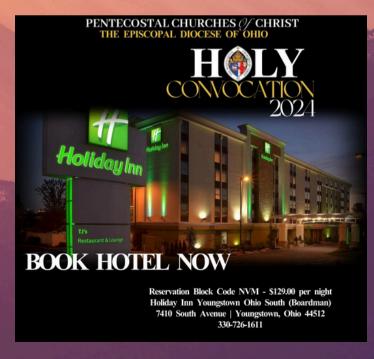
PCC members are able to access confidential, professional Christian counseling and education resources as part of Moore Counseling & Mediation Services Inc.'s Church Assistance Program (CAP).

Covered counseling topics include financial hardships, dealing with grief, beating stress, setting goals, suicide intervention and more.

\*Amount of free sessions per counseling topic are limited. Contact MCMS CAP Department at 216-404-1900 to learn more.







# **ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY NOTICES**





# **NOW HIRING**

The North Randall location of Sherwin Williams is hiring part time positions (with an opportunity to become full time) for individuals ages 18+. For more information, please contact Brother Tristen Smith at (216) 475-1181.

Have a job or volunteer opportunity you'd like promoted?

Contact PCC Next Gen at pccnowcleveland@gmail.com

# 5 Reflective Scriptures for August

#### ~Hebrews 11:1-2 KJV

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

#### ~Psalm 20:7-8 KJV

7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: But we will remember the name of the LORD our God. 8 They are brought down and fallen:

But we are risen, and stand upright.

#### ~Jeremiah 17:7 KJV

7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

#### ~1 Timothy 6:12 KJV

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

#### ~Matthew 5:16 KJV

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

# **Prayer Corner**

Mother Clarice Craig-Mavec

God of mercy, compassion, forgiveness and grace, thank you for your open arms that receive us when we pray. We acknowledge our sin and are grateful that you as Holy Spirit pursue and redirect us. Thank you that you always look at your chosen ones with love and never disdain. It is because of this grace that we are welcomed into your presence. Thank you for never shaming us because of our wrongdoing and always wanting us to be closer to you.

Father, you are our perfect example of how to serve and rest. God, we want to be obedient in line with your call. Help us to walk in the freedom you have given and not in bondage that may come from any area. Especially when it causes us to prioritize doing rather than being with you. Thank you, God, that we can continue to serve because we love you and not because you require us to prove anything to you. Jesus' work always stands above all we can ever do. We can rest in you spiritually through salvation and physically through time set aside intentionally.

Thank you, Lord! Amen.

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

Galatians 5:1 NIV

#### **Fitness & Nutrition**

# Pampered Chef -Rumae Watkins-Clark (Independent Consultant)

"Pampered Chef is a multinational multi-level marketing company that offers a line of kitchen tools, food products, and cookbooks for preparing food in the home." - via Google

Phone: 216.256.3610

**Email:** roomawe@gmail.com

#### **USANA- Darran Blount (USANA Affiliate)**

"USANA is internationally recognized for high-quality, science-based nutritional supplements, healthy foods, personal care products, and skincare products."

**Phone:** 216.339.1407

Website: http://2610690.usana.com/

#### **Banking and Finances**

#### Primerica- Barbara Jackson

For over 40 years, this financial services company has offered assistance with insurance, investments and other financial needs.

**Phone:** 216.397. 3144

**Email:** bjackson.xlsa5@primerica.com

#### Be Your Own Bank- Lila Starr Gordon

The greatest economic empowerment in the world.

**Phone:** 216.401.9783

Email: lilasgordon1@gmail.com

#### **American National- Regina Lewis**

"American National offers personalized insurance coverage for life, home, business, auto and much more."

Phone: 216.253.4879

**Email:** regina.lewis@american-national.com

#### **Healthcare and Social Assistance**

# Care After Pandemic Virus Resources LLC- Danita C. Craven-Davis

Specializing in Home Health, this private agency offers CPR & First Aid training.

**Phone:** 216609.5630

Email: dirtyred07@icloud.com

#### **Torre Says Real Estate Agency-Torre Escott**

Home-buying made simple **Phone:** 216.200.6930

#### **Gigis Home Childcare- Jodie Clark**

Childcare services offering full-time and part-time childcare and babysitting for infants and toddlers.

**Phone:** 440.673.8788

Instagram: @jojoschildcare\_

### **Business Corner**

Do you have a small business that you'd like us to promote? Email *PCC NOW* at pccnowcleveland@gmail.com to be included in next month's issue.

#### **ACN-Lila Starr Gordon**

Residential & Business Services

Phone: 216.401.9783

Email: lilasgordon1@gmail.com

#### **Fashion and Beauty**

# Mary Kay- Josephine Redrick (Independent Beauty Consultant) | Patricia Coleman

Cosmetics and skincare products

Phone: 216.406.5488 | 216.356.9642

Email: redrickjojo@gmail.com | patriciacoleman815@gmail.com

# Diary of Queen Esther- Shelena Racquel (Style Consultant)

Homemade salts, body butter & fashion collection

**Phone** 216.990.3841

Website: www.diaryofqueenesther.com

#### **Marketing and Communications**

#### Now U See iT- Dante Alston

Marketing, Branding, Consulting

Phone: 440.552.8346

Email: nowiseeit23@gmail.com

**Website:** https://m.facebook.com/100054311749912/

#### **Residential Services**

#### **G** and **J** Cleaning Services-Greg and Jennifer Clayton

*Try Us Now | No Regrets Later* 

Email: gandjcleaningsrv@yahoo.com **Phone:** 216-533-4498 | 216-556-1709

#### **Planning and Organization**

#### The Rhoyal Organizer- Brianna Smith

Daily Devotions Prayer and Gratitude Journal Email: therhoyalorganizer@gmail.com **Website:** therhoyalorganizer.shop

#### **Automotive Services**

#### Enterprise Car Sales- Mike Catania

Car Sales Associate
Phone: 440.735.2030

PAGE 11

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Wishing our First Lady, Elder Lillian M. Hanna a very happy birthday. We pray that your years ahead are full of God's favor, abundant blessings and posterity.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing a happy birthday to all of those celebrating throughout the month of August. Those celebrating include:

Elder Lillian Hanna Evelyn Crawford Courtney Dorsey Miguel Boyd Sr. loe Caldwell Patricia Coleman Lisa Fomby Samone Glover Ronald Hubbard Darryl Jackson Jasmine Johnson Valerie Lindsey Willie Catherine McCann Monica McConnell Mary Palmore Josephine Redrick Deacon Michael Ryan Robin Ryan Lynn Salaam Christine Shields Kevin Williams





## **Weekly Prayer Times**

Monday Evenings- 7PM
Wednesday Mornings- 7AM
1st Saturday of each month- 12PM

Conference Call Number 516-597-9820

For more information, contact: Sister Phorfina Wade (Call Moderator), Elder Dyna Richardson (Prayer Lead Scheduler), or Overseer Dennis Grant.

# "In the Word" Bible Study

#### Wednesday Evenings - 7PM

Join us for our weekly bible study on Wednesdays, starting at 7 p.m. We look forward to seeing you! You can also view Bible Study via the church's YouTube channel or the PCC Facebook page.

## **Music Ministry Rehearsal**

## Thursday Evenings - 7PM

For those interested in participating in the music ministry (i.e. the choir and praise teams), please join us for weekly rehearsals.

# **The Doorkeepers Ministry**

Every first Saturday morning - 9:30AM For those who are interested in joining the Usher's Board, you may speak to Sister Sonia Stinson.