

THE HILL STREET LAMP



A HILLITE STORY: DEBBIE RODRIGUEZ

I would like to take the time to give a little background. Before joining CPC in the Hill, I left the church I was connected to 4 years ago. For some reason, I wasn't able to connect with another body of believers after leaving that church. It wasn't until I saw CPC doing ministry in our neighborhood park did I think that connecting could occur. That day I saw believers from every social economic and racial background, in an area disparaging and needing the grace of God, loving our people. This most telling thing that made me know I wanted to be connected with this body was a bunch of white kids, reciting Shakespeare in our Park. Right then, I realized this body of believers were on a mission to promote God, in his love.

When I finally attended CPC in the Hill, I listened intently to this young minister, who was unshaken by all the little mishaps that seem to happen in the inner city. (I.e.—Service didn't start on time, the bulletin was backwards, kids walking up to the pulpit in the middle of the sermon, etc.). This was an imperfect church for imperfect people, and I knew that I was right at home.

It was a good thing, because I was about to face some significant challenges.

Recently, my health has prevented me from working for the past two years, and has forced me to reassess who I really am apart from what I did for living. Previously, what I did was the source of my identity; for so long I was in a job that I loved for 30 years, and was able to follow my clients from homelessness all the way through becoming renters of their own apartments, and even sometimes though their deaths. However, the preaching of the gospel has reminded me of where my true identity lies: the righteousness of Christ!

In addition, through this church, I've been able to go back in my past and truly forgive the person who molested me when I was eight years old. This was something I believed I would take with me to the grave. I had a cold and callous ill will for this man. But because of the gospel, I can tell you today we are friends, and I wish him peace. And despite these wounds, Moses and I were married when we joined CPC, and we began to grow together spiritually with our



CPC family.

I don't think I've ever felt as close to a group of people, as I have with my church family at CPC. We are not just a body of believers. We are Family! As I continue to journey down the path that God has chosen for me, no matter what the outcome, I know that my church family will continue to support my husband and me through whatever life may bring! As we will continue to do for our church families.

God loved me through being promiscuous, a drug addict, and a convicted felon. I don't always like the way I feel when I am going through things, and

sometimes I don't like GOD when I am going through those things, but I have to keep living to see what he has for me next. No matter what it may be, it will be at CPC in the Hill!

Friends, I hope you are encouraged by the emancipative and sustaining power of the gospel! When all else is powerless to set us free, God enters in to our lives, by the Holy Spirit, applying the gospel to our hearts and minds; as a result, we are overwhelmed by the beautiful colors of God's creation being restored and replanted, against the backdrop of the desert of our lives. Thanks for making these miracles possible!!!!

Pastor Tolivar

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press re-

leases, market studies, and reports.

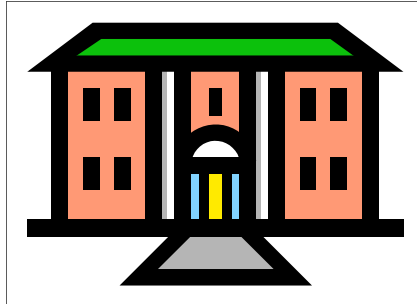
While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing

the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

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The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your

customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice

column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

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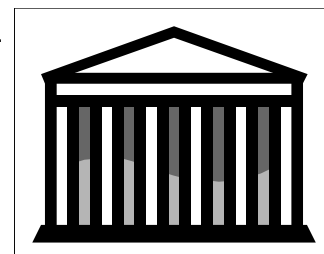
Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes

thousands of clip art images from which you can choose

and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols. Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure

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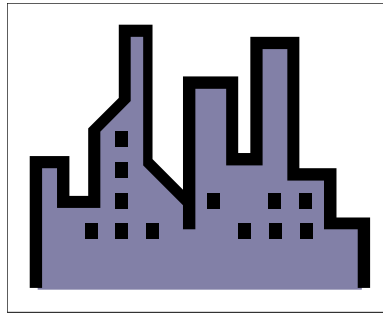
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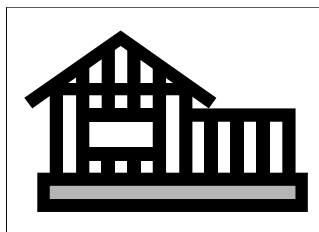
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A Journal of Christ
Presbyterian Church in the
Hill

158 Davenport Ave.
New Haven, CT. 06519

Phone: 203--787-9457
E-mail: twills02@gmail.com

We're on the Web:
www.epcinthehill.weebly.com

That He Might Walk Among Us

BIG CHANGES IN THE HILL!!!

Approximately two years into our church plant, the Lord has bestowed upon us an unbelievable opportunity. Although our time of using the local Boys & Girls Club as our venue for worship has been very positive, it has definitely had some drawbacks. In particular, many of our neighbors have simply had a hard time taking us seriously because we didn't worship in a church; although somewhat superstitious, their perceptions of what makes a church valid were not being met by our worshipping in a common grace venue.

Secondly, driving through our neighborhood on Sunday mornings to pick folks up has revealed a serious gap in our accessibility; simply put, our neighborhood is an absolute ghost town on Sunday mornings, making getting to church a low possibility. We learned that our residents are night owls; they are sleeping in on weekend mornings due to being up all night. Therefore, these two obstacles required us to make some strategic changes in our time and location of Worship.

By God's grace, he provided an opportunity for us to be able to worship at the same location we have our weekly bible studies and where our offices are already located. This tremendous provision enables us to centralize all of our activities in one place, further establish our credibility in the neighborhood, and multiplies the amount of outreach opportunities, which is all provided at a very minimal increase in our monthly rental costs. The level of excitement, encouragement, and empowerment this has brought to our young congregation is nothing short of supernatural! God is taking us somewhere! ***Please pray we continue to follow His lead in all we say and do.***



Points of Prayer Emphasis....

- ⇒ God would empower our efforts to transition our church and neighborhood to our new location in a Gospel-Centered manner!!!
- ⇒ Our Inaugural Service at the new location on Nov. 20th would be imbued with the power of the Spirit to awaken and sanctify those whom He has called to Himself! Use
- ⇒ God would use Jason Williams' story and ministry to bring gospel life to the youth of our city when he comes to minister with us Nov. 11th--12th.
- ⇒ That God would empower us to effectively prepare for our Hill Christmas Store outreach on Dec. 17th; Relationships, needs, and evangelistic opportunities would be plentiful!
- ⇒ That the Spirit of God would lead our leadership team into the truth, clothe us with humility, and strengthen us to depend on the gospel with great longsuffering! The spiritual battle is intense in our city right now; we are currently mourning our 27th murder for 2011.
- ⇒ God would continue to equip and empower our people to serve, lead, and love Christ and one another.
- ⇒ **Praises...**
- ⇒ Maxine H. celebrates that the Lord has enabled two of her children to re-enter college.
- ⇒ The provision of a new worship facility and additional funds to help with our budget.
- ⇒ The addition of Bill I. and Sharon P. to our spiritual family!
- ⇒ The addition of new leaders to our youth & Sr. High Sunday School team
- ⇒ Establishment of a Mercy team to meet the needs of our church family.