

## Christian Nationalism continued>>

**and Diversity** (CORD) of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley is hosting a series of online and in person events in **February, March, and April** that will engage pastors, congregations, and local leaders in faithful, courageous, and practical conversations around this critical issue.

► Learn more and register at [tinyurl.com/PMV-CN-Series](https://tinyurl.com/PMV-CN-Series)

## Three Special Offerings for 2026



In 2026 there will be three PC(USA) Special Offerings, a change from the four that had been in place. The Offerings give individual congregations the opportunity to join with other Presbyterians in doing the larger work of the church:

### One Great Hour of Sharing

February 18 - April 5

Supporting ministries of compassion through causes addressing hunger, disaster, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees.

### World Communion Offering

September 6 - October 4

Cultivating reconciliation by supporting racial and gender justice, peace-making efforts, global witness, and nurturing ecumenical and interfaith relations.

### Christmas Joy Offering

November 29 - December 20

Supporting causes and ministries that serve God's children, including youth and young adults, leadership development for people of color, and servants of the church in need.



Presbytery of the Miami Valley  
[www.miamipresbytery.org](http://www.miamipresbytery.org)

# PRESBYTERY OF THE MIAMI VALLEY

*Preparing, equipping, nurturing, and connecting congregations in their ministries for God's mission.*

Bulletin/Newsletter Insert

Winter 2026

## Series on Christian Nationalism Faithful, Courageous, and Practical Conversations

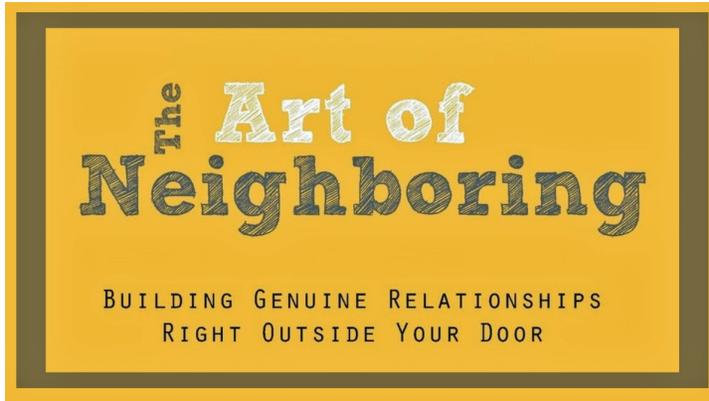


Christian nationalism is an ideology that seeks to merge Christian and American identities. It suggests that to be a “true” American, one must be Christian in a particular way—often white, conservative, and politically aligned with nationalist values. It confuses loyalty to God with loyalty to country, and uses religious language to justify systems of power, racial exclusion, and cultural dominance. This is not the same as patriotism, nor is it about expressions of personal faith in public life. Rather, Christian nationalism insists on a narrow, state-supported expression of religion that marginalizes others and undermines core Christian values such as compassion, justice, and humility.

As part of our commitment to dismantling systemic injustice and affirming the image of God in every person, the **Committee on Representation**

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## Huntsville is awarded a Matthew 25 Grant



**Huntsville Presbyterian Church**, Huntsville, has been awarded a \$2000 Synod of the Covenant Matthew 25 Grant for its program “The Art of Neighboring.”

In September/October of 2025, Huntsville’s pastor, the Rev. **Ben Beres**, preached a sermon series on local evangelism based the book “The Art of Neighboring” by Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon. The congregation worked through what it means to build relationships from the ground up, how to care for neighbors as people and not projects, and what it looks like to foster community amongst our neighborhoods.

One of the suggestions in “The Art of Neighboring” book was that people could host block parties. It didn’t have to be an elaborate event, just space to spend time together. “Come sit by the fire in my backyard.” “Let’s have hotdogs together.” The fall was a great time to be trying those sort of things. But as winter approached, and people head indoors, it would require a little more than a few logs and a match.

Huntsville sought and received a Matthew 25 Grant from the Synod so that the church could provide some funding to encourage folks in the congregation to keep “neighboring” their neighbors.

“The Synod’s grant has given us the chance to do that,” said Pastor Beres. “We’re thankful for the Synod’s partnership in helping us extend this teaching from the fall into the new year (2026). Neighboring is an art for all seasons!”

► Learn about Synod Grants at [tinyurl.com/Synod-Grants](https://tinyurl.com/Synod-Grants)

## Collaborative Congregations Black History Month Celebration



**Collaborative Congregations invites you to a service**

### **Celebrating Black History Month**

Sunday, February 22, 2:00 PM  
At College Hill Community Church PC(USA)  
1547 Philadelphia Drive, Dayton

A Zoom showing of the 3:00 PM Training on Christian Nationalism, hosted by the Committee on Representation and Diversity, will be offered following the service.

*Collaborative Congregations includes **Yellow Springs, Faith, Corinth, Bath, College Hill, and Central Presbyterian Churches.** The churches work together to produce several events during the year to which they invite others in the presbytery to attend.*

SAVE THE DATE

**Synod Presbyterian Women’s Gathering**  
In Dayton July 24-25



**Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Covenant** will hold their annual gathering right here in Dayton at **Southminster Presbyterian Church**, 7001 Far Hills Avenue, July 24-25.

We will share more details as they become available.