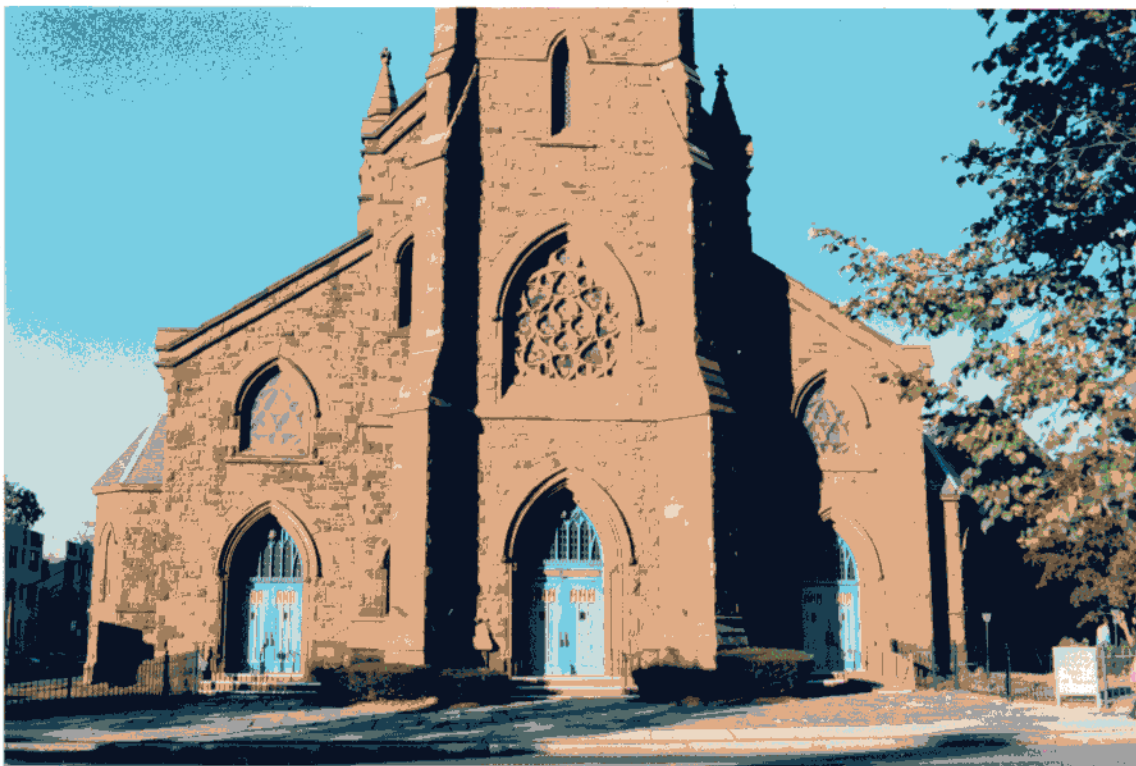


RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS



Asylum Hill Congregational Church located on Asylum Avenue.

The Churches are also a major force in Asylum Hill with numerous programs to meet a variety of neighborhood needs. In fact, it may be necessary to change our name to “Church Hill” at some point. In addition to these specific programs, the churches offer numerous public programs including concerts and religious festivals. The active churches on the Hill and their programs are:

◆ **Asylum Hill Congregational Church**

The church sponsors several programs:

- West Middle School (WMS) Committee
An after school program that runs 5 days per week. Program includes tutoring, computer training, science, music, swimming lessons, karate, and field trips. Serves 150 students from West Middle School.
- Summer School
A six week summer program that has 250 participants from Hartford and surrounding towns.
- I Have A Dream
The first church in the country to adopt this program, AHCC promised West Middle graduates in 1988 assistance to go to college of those who have not moved away. Nearly 90% graduated from high school and over half are attending college or trade school.

- Iglesia Christina Adonay
A Hispanic Church is housed here, also.
- Thrift Shop
The Thrift Shop makes clothing and household items available to neighbors on the Hill at a very reasonable price. Open every Friday, 9:30 to 2:00 and the third Saturday of each month, 9:00 to 12:00.

◆ **Trinity Episcopal Church**

Houses the Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen that feeds Asylum Hill neighbors five (5) days a week. They also house the Asylum Hill Food Pantry that supplies food in emergencies to Asylum Hill neighbors. The Food Pantry is under the aegis of the Asylum Hill Christian Community. They also house the “Welfare to Work” program run by Loaves and Fishes Ministries that teaches commercial sewing skills to women. Trinity is also a tutoring site for the WMS Committee’s program.

- Trinity Asylum Hill Arts Program for middle school students after school from October through May. This includes a theater workshop and dinner and transportation home. Asylum Hill residents form the target audience.
- Offers two week-long summer camp with scholarships for needy. Cosponsored by the church and Camp Washington.
- Sponsors both a boy scout and cub scout troop which meets once a week at the church.

◆ **Immanuel Congregational Church**

Provides office and program space for AHOP/Hill Housing in a building next door to the church. Also, houses the Northend Community Church.

◆ **Glory Chapel**

Started by the Youth Challenge program years ago. They are a positive presence in the neighborhood as they fight drug and alcohol addiction through their intensive residential rehabilitation program.

◆ **Asylum Avenue Baptist Church**

Saturday Soup Kitchen

◆ **Christ Temple Church of God in Christ**

Moved to the Asylum Hill neighborhood just last year.

◆ **Grace Lutheran Church**

Houses a Day Care Center. Also, home of the Silver Service Outreach Program.

◆ **Cathedral of St. Joseph**

Has a food pantry.

SENIOR POPULATION



Pictured above is Immanuel House, a senior housing complex on Woodland Street.

Asylum Hill is home to about 12% of Hartford's 26,000 over 65 population. There are five (5) senior housing complexes in the Hill with approximately 920 units. They are all subsidized with tenants paying 30% of their income for rent and utilities, unless their income indicates they can pay market price. Thus all income, educational and cultural levels live together in great diversity. Presently, under remodeling is a 79 unit senior housing residence on Sumner street due to open in May 1998.

Two city-owned buildings for seniors are shared with younger disabled tenants. This has caused some friction as some of these tenants have substance abuse problems. This federal mandate was lifted last year and seniors are pressing the legislature to restrict senior housing to seniors only and provide other suitable housing with special program activities to meet the needs of this younger disabled or addicted population.

There are a large number of seniors in market-priced housing who require services. Every effort is made to keep seniors in their own homes as long as possible with many City, State and Federal Programs, but safe, secure, well supervised affordable senior housing should be an option which we must pursue. At the same time, we must also see that other low income and variously disadvantaged people have housing throughout the City (not only in Asylum Hill), in which they are not just "housed". Rather, they have whatever services are needed to make them less disadvantaged and more capable and productive to the City. This may mean that a Program Director be provided for each senior or disadvantaged residence.