

Discovering God's call, celebrating the Spirit's presence
Witnessing to Christ's transformative power

Forest Hill Church

The Tower

October 2011

Dear Friends,

...Just
Pay attention, then patch
A few words together and don't try
To make them elaborate, this isn't
A contest but the doorway
Into thanks, and a silence in which
Another voice may speak.

Mary Oliver

October is the month of radical change.

Almost each morning I leave the church and walk across Lee Rd. into the park. I follow the path past the parking lot and around the ball fields, by the meadow and back towards the church, across the playing fields (picking up recyclables along the way) and back into the building. I call it my "Prayer Walk."

For the past five months my walks have taken me past trees of green. But soon the trees will turn colors. There is one tree at the back end of the softball fields that turns a stunning and glorious red. It is magnificent. For about a week it is like this and then the leaves curl and fall becoming the mulch for the spring that is promised in time. It is the yearly cycle, of course, and it happens every year but I never tire of it. My soul is thrilled in ways that always surprise me: "John, you have seen this before!" And yet, it is always new.

You may not have the time to take a "Prayer Walk." You may be unable to walk at all. But still there are things to see and look for in this season of radical change. Consider where you are in the cycle of your life. Pay attention to the changes within you. What are you thinking and feeling? What are you hoping for? When are you at your most beautiful? What needs to be let go of in preparation for a new season?

In this season of radical change... just open your eyes.

Dr. John Lentz, Senior Pastor

Check out the website www.fhcpresb.org Come and see!

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Thanksgiving Eve – Save the Date!

We are invited to join with the Heights InterFaith community at the annual Thanksgiving Eve InterFaith Service on Wednesday, November 23rd, 7:30 p.m., at Church of the Redeemer United Methodist, 2420 South Taylor Road, Cleveland Heights 44118. This year's theme will ask us, "What Do We Bring to the Table?" This holiday tradition is an annual event of the Heights InterFaith Council, which seeks to invite every faith community within Cleveland Heights. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the one-hour worship service. All are welcome!



Dear friends,

I recently had breakfast with a pastor-friend. We were sharing our thoughts about the perennial challenge of recruiting people to volunteer their time and energy for the good work of mission and ministry. Recruitment is an age-old challenge that cuts across theological leanings, denominations, and congregational size. We discussed the challenge of obtaining the sheer number of volunteers it takes on any given Sunday to bring about a worship service, fellowship hour, and a vital Christian education program. I remember when our church staff had this conversation a few years ago, one person asked, "Well, exactly how many volunteers does it take on a Sunday morning?" We calculated about 75 people! We couldn't believe it ourselves—roughly 75 people each week! Teachers, shepherds, nursery workers, coffee servers, greeters, ushers, lay readers, crucifers, communion servers, and of course the wonderful choir members!

Our church is busy with activity and energy each and every week. Moreover, the number of people on Sunday mornings is only the tip of the iceberg. We have numerous elders, deacons, trustees, elected leaders, mission volunteers and servers, and ministry members working during the week. This work is not any work. The call is one of listening to the Holy Spirit and working creatively to fulfill God's commission to bring forth the kingdom of God into the world around us.

I hope you can celebrate with us the activity and energy of this congregation. Especially, we invite you to explore what area might be of interest to you. Where is God calling you to live out your passion? In what arena would you like to use your particular gifts or skills in building up the body of Christ? I guarantee that we will find a place for you, or we might discern a new area of ministry for our church. Don't let fear hold you back. Ask a pastor or another church leader if you are so moved. All are invited to serve! All are needed to fulfill God's work in this world.

Blessings be,

Rev. Clover Beal
Associate Pastor, Director of Lay Leadership

Check out the website www.fhcpresb.org Come and see! 3

DANKESCHÖN TO THE DEACONS!

A German thank you goes out to all our Deacons who did a marvelous job planning, hosting, and offering our community our German Fest kick-off luncheon September 18. It was a most festive way to get the program year off to a celebratory start!



Children Ministries

All of our Christian Education programs for children and youth have had a wonderful beginning. The kids are back in the Sunday morning routine and are enthusiastically participating in their classes. Thank you to the wonderful dedicated volunteers who have been teaching, shepherding, and leading this past month.

- In our *nursery* thank you to Ron Register, Lara Troyer, Lisa Koops and Katie Russo.
- In our *Little Explorers*, thank you to Susanne & Laura Peterjohn.
- In our *Children in Worship* class, thank you to Kate & David Burleigh.
- In *Pathways to the Promise Land*, thank you to Barb Cloud, Cathy Ghiandoni, David Peterjohn and Cameron Peters.

Little Explorers

This month the children will focus on the stories about Noah and Moses. In these series of stories the children will explore how God continues to offer his love to all people. After participating in the story the children are welcomed to respond to the theme in art, movement and retelling.

Children in Worship

The children in this age group are asked to respond to the stories they've heard through "I Wonder" questions. There is also a craft response to help them better understand the story. During the month of October the children will explore and participate in stories about Creation, Noah and Moses.

Three and Four year olds

This month the children will focus on the stories about Noah and Moses. In these series of stories the children will explore how God continues to offer his love to all people. After participating in the story the children are welcomed to respond to the theme in art, movement and retelling.

Older four year olds and kindergarten

The children in this age group are asked to respond to the stories they've heard through "I Wonder" questions. There is also a craft response to help them better understand the story. During the month of October the children will explore and participate in stories about Creation, Noah and Moses.

4 Check out the website www.fhcpresb.org Come and see!

FHC Youth Report

Pathways to the Promise Land

Grades 1-5

The next rotation theme centers on *David*. The kingdom of David became the hope of Israel. The Messiah would re-establish this the time of glory and honor to the nation of Israel. The children will explore this focus through art, storytelling and movement.

KISS – Kids in Sunday Service

Our children in grades 1-5 will remain in worship on October 2 and October 30 to celebrate the Lord's Supper. Worship bags with quiet relevant activities and a children's bulletin are provided for the children to help them engage and connect to the liturgy.

Dates to Know

October 2 KISS

Children in grades 1-5 remain in worship to celebrate the Lord's Supper with their families

October 9 Gathering Time

Children will meet in the Chapel at 11:00; then be excused with their shepherd to the workshops

October 30 KISS

Children in grades 1-5 remain in worship to celebrate the Lord's Supper with their families

Faithfully,

Liz Wollaeger

Director of Christian Education

Kerygma:

Exodus Texts To Be Used in October

October 2: Exodus 3: 1-15
October 9: Exodus 6: 1-9 and 12: 29-32
October 16: Exodus 12: 1-14
October 23: Exodus 16: 1-4, 9-12
October 30: Exodus 20: 1-21

Check out the website www.fhcpresb.org Come and see!

5

Introducing Converge

A Modern Worship Experience for Youth

Converge is a new youth initiative of many churches in the Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights and surrounding areas. **Converge** is a monthly worship service for teens with a full band (drums, electric guitar, keys) and a relevant message for our youth. The launch date is planned for October 9th at 7 pm. The location and more details will be announced soon! You don't want to miss **Converge**!

Fun in October for FHC Youth

Haunted Hayride and Corn Maze

Saturday, October 8

Mid and senior highs are invited for a night of fall fun. We are exploring a new hayride at Heritage Farms in Peninsula. Meet at the church at 6 pm and bring \$15 in cash for admission to the hayride and maze. We will return around 10 pm that evening. Friends are welcome to join us!

Trick or Treat

Saturday, October 29

All youth are invited for a new twist on trick or treating. From 1-4 pm, the youth will break into small teams. These teams will trick or treat in local neighborhoods for canned food and other items to support Abundance Cupboard. Prizes will be awarded for teams that collect the most items!

Sunday Mornings

Our Mid High Youth meet every Sunday morning at 9:30 am in the Koinonia Room. We are studying the miracles and parables of Jesus through a variety of mediums, including games, discussion, audio and visual elements, art and more.

Our Senior High Youth meet at 9:30 am for a time of discussion and study on the Book of Proverbs and the wisdom the book has to offer us today.

On October 23rd, our mid and senior high youth will gather together for a special meeting during the 9:30 hour. The Kingdom Experience is designed to offer a better sense of what God's kingdom is and explore how we can join in God's kingdom activity. Stations move participants from creative response to reflection and discussion about what it means for us to be a part of God's kingdom.

6 Check out the website www.fhcpresb.org Come and see!

Thursday Evenings

Senior highs meet at 7 pm every week for "Group Development." We will spend some time in discussion about tough topics for our youth. During the month of October we will meet at the newly opened **Sweetie Fry** (corner of Lee and Silsby, just north of the CH library)!

Looking for help raking leaves as we gear up for winter?

Our youth group is at your service! Throughout the month of October and November, our youth will be available in small work teams to help out at your home. Donations for our service are *not required* but any money received will be put in the mission trip fund. Contact Kristen to arrange for a work crew.



Kristen Otte

Director of Youth Ministries

Kristeno@fhcpresb.org , 440-223-1036

All-Church Work Day Coming Soon

Mark your calendars – the Ministry of Justice & Mission is planning a **Day of Service & Action** on **Saturday, November 19**. Plan now to join in this opportunity to build relationships outside our church walls and tangibly live out our commitment to love and justice. There will be activity options for members and friends of various ages, abilities, and interests. Watch the bulletin in October for details.

Elder Laura Steiner



The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new Chancel Choir officers: Alex Jamieson, President; Julie Minder, Vice President and Social Chair; Joy Stang, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; and Mist'a Craig, Mascot--he's charged with keeping us all in good humor and so far he's done a marvelous job!

Congratulations to the new Sine Nomine Choir officers: Mist'a Craig, President, and Grant Heineman, Vice President. The new Descant Choir officers are: Will Burleigh, President, and Zoe Hartz, Vice President. Sue Conant is the President of Voices in Bronze and has held this appointment for a very long time since she's so good at it!

Anyone else out there interested in joining a choir? We'd love to include you in our warm and loving choir families!

I'd like to welcome new choir members! In the Chancel Choir, new singers include mezzo soprano Julie Wolfram, tenor Willie Dycks, basses Mist'a Craig and Sharif George. The Sine Nomine Choir welcomes Grant Heineman, Ian Zych and Lillie Trammell. In the Descant Choir, we welcome Devyn Etling, Meg Winters, Nathan Smith, Yorrick Trammell, and Drew Stadler.

You may recall from last month's **TOWER** article that I am devising monthly arts-enhanced worship services utilizing the spiritual dimensions of music, visual art, dance, drama, and poetry. On Sunday, September 11th we recalled the 10th anniversary of 9/11 with the music of Bach and the talents of Michael Ferri, the 16-year old violinist who dedicated his music that Sunday to the victims of 9/11.

On Sunday, October 2nd, both world music and global visual arts will help us celebrate World Communion Sunday. Eric Muller-Girard and Barb Lind are working on turning our sanctuary into a virtual global village with decorative arts from around the world. Eric would like to invite anyone with items to share to bring them to church before Sept. 29th so they can be integrated into the "village." (see p. 16 for more information)

Mark your calendars for November 20th (Christ the King Sunday) when we'll celebrate the 20th anniversary of our Elizabeth Popely Husni Casavant pipe organ with major organ works and dancers from Inlet Dance Theater (choreographer, Bill Wade).

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson
216-870-2729 annew@fhcpresb.org

Exploring Membership Class

Saturday, October 15, 8:30 – 12:00
and
Sunday, October 16, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Feeling drawn to Forest Hill? Have questions? Interested in knowing more?

Wondering what is the difference between Methodist, Catholic and Presbyterian?

What do I HAVE TO BELIEVE? What's an Elder? Can I be "spiritual" but not "religious"?

Pastor John will lead this two-part class on Presbyterian faith and history, and the unique community that is called Forest Hill Church. All are welcome and there is no obligation to join. Why not "Come and See!"? You will be glad you did!

Call the office (216 321-2660) or send an email to Pastor John Lentz (pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org), Pastor Clover Beal (pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org) or Lynda (office@fhcpresb.org).

John Lentz

We Hear....

An Interview with John Lentz

Members of the Discernment Task Force interviewed many Forest Hill members and friends over the summer, including several staff members. Here are a few snippets of what Barb Hansen and Peg Weissbrod learned from interviewing John Lentz. The remainder of the interview can be read on our website at:

<http://www.fhcpresb.org/about-us/meet-our-staff/an-interview-with-john-lentz/>

(A printed copy is also available from the Office, upon request.)

What first attracted you to Forest Hill?

"Deanne saw the search committee's ad and showed it to me, saying 'I think this is something you want to take a look at.' I remember the ad had an outline of the church and described Forest Hill as this dynamic, challenging, socially engaged, church in an inner-ring suburb—it gave me a sense that this was not the usual Presbyterian church. It seemed to have a sense of having identified its future--and a bit of a swagger—and I was intrigued."

What makes you proud to be a part of Forest Hill?

"When people outside the church--even outside the presbytery--say, 'Oh, Forest Hill Church, that's a really dynamic church'". . . *continued online*

If you could wave a magic wand and make Forest Hill exactly as you want it to be, what would you do?

"I'd get rid of the pews in the Sanctuary and do something really respectfully architectural with our wonderful sanctuary space." John said he'd turn it around so that the Narthex wasn't cut off from the rest of the church, and enclose the Courtyard to be the main entrance--a really welcoming space to walk into instead of the long narrow Fellowship Hall hallway.

Other physical changes would include having a video screen available for worship--he wouldn't want it up all the time, but he thinks our worship could be enhanced occasionally by visuals. . . . *continued online*

Why do you give your time and money to Forest Hill Church?

Cal 12-13

"Because I'm at my best when I do--it's fun--and I want to be part of a community that claims Jesus as its model. Plus it's a way to support the community, especially when the church is clear about its needs and why it's asking. . . .I would want to be part of Forest Hill Church even if I wasn't on staff here." . . . *continued online*

Describe the one thing we need to keep "doing or being" in the next ten years.

"I think it's absolutely imperative to continue emphasizing small group spiritual formation. People want to belong to something, and small groups are where people get that sense of belonging." . . . *continued online*

What are the biggest issues Forest Hill faces right now?

"The biggest issue right now is NOT money," John said, "because that will sort itself out. The biggest issue is the viability and vibrancy of Cleveland Heights." He believes that if Cleveland Heights fails and our core membership moves away, that Forest Hill Church could disappear as well. He sees our future tied to Cleveland Height's future, and Cleveland Height's future tied to the City of Cleveland's future. . . . *continued online*

Elder Peg Weissbrod

Biblical Humor...or not!

How many angels can fit in a Honda?

All of them.

For it is written: "All of my angels shall sing my praises in one Accord!"



Cal 12-13

Sundays in October	
9:00	Child care begins
9:30	Adult education Youth education Descant Choir
10:15	Descant Choir activity
10:30	Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir
11:00	WORSHIP Children in Worship Little Explorers
11:15	Pathways to the Promise Land (gr. 1-5) (Oct. 16, 23)
12:15	Coffee Hour Sine Nomine Choir (Oct 9, 23)
5:00	Faith Leader (not Oct. 16) Kerygma

October 2 World Communion - Peacemaking Sunday 11:00 WORSHIP: Communion Pathways: KISS (Kids in Sunday Service) 12:30 20s-30s Lunch	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
October 9 11:00 Pathways: Gathering Time 7:00 Youth: Converge worship (place tba)	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14
October 16 8:00 Nominating Committee 9:00 Exploring Membership class	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
October 23 10:30 Session and New Members meet 11:00 WORSHIP: Reception of New Members	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46
October 30 Reformation Sunday All Saints Day 11:00 WORSHIP: Communion Pathways: KISS 4:00 Service of Ordination for Mary Robin Craig Reception following 5:00 Family Promise hosting begins	Joshua 3: 7-17 Psalm 107: 1-7, 33-37 1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13 Matthew 23: 1-12

*The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.
Kerygma texts for October are on p. 5*

*Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."
~ John 4:13-14*

*The Presbytery of the Western Reserve and Forest Hill Church
invite you to the Service of Ordination of*

*Mary Robin Craig
to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament*

*Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian
Sunday, October 30, 2011 at 4:00 pm*

*The Rev. Dr. Edwin Chr. van Driel, Assistant Professor at Pittsburgh
Theological Seminary, will preach.*

*RSVP to office@fhcpresb.org for the reception ~ light refreshments
~ afterward.*



*The Presbytery of Muskingum Valley and Nankin Federated Church
invite you to the Service of Installation of*

*Mary Robin Craig
as Pastor*

*Nankin Federated Church
795 State Route 302 , Nankin, Ohio 44848
Sunday, November 6, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.*

*The Rev. Clover Reuter Beal, our Pastor and Director of Lay
Leadership Development, will preach.*

*RSVP to maryrcraig@sbcglobal.net for the reception ~ light
refreshments ~ afterward.*

October 2: World Communion and Peacemaking Sunday

Lend your mementos and enrich our worship!

World Communion Sunday is intended to remind us of our rich connections to Christians in other parts of the world. This year, for the October 2 service, we would like *you* to participate in that remembrance... by loaning whatever *visible* objects, pictures, and mementos you would care to offer for public display during World Communion Sunday worship. This "enhanced worship exhibition" will be set up on Saturday (by Ministry of Worship volunteers) and will take place *in the sanctuary*, as a part of our worship on Sunday morning.

Each loaned object should

- be visually appealing and/or interesting -- and somehow relate to your own sense of the worldwide church (objects of all sizes, colors and descriptions are welcome and encouraged!)
- be accompanied by an *attached* 3 x 5 index card -- which includes the owner's name and briefly expresses how it symbolizes, or reminds you of, its connection to Christians in other parts of the world
- not be unduly fragile, irreplaceable or precious. (*Those setting up the display agree to take very prudent care of the objects loaned, however, those loaning the objects agree to do so with the understanding that the church and its volunteers cannot be held responsible for any accidental loss or damage that may be beyond their control.*)

Logistical details

- No more than two contributions per person, please.
- Loaned objects (with cards attached) should be left in the Lee Road transept of the sanctuary on September 28, 29 or 30 (the office is open 8:30 – 5; please call for other times)
- After the October 2 worship service, loaned objects should be picked up by their owners; 12:45-ish at the earliest.
- Questions? Contact Elder Eric Muller-Girard: 216-752-7006 or Multimg@wowway.com

Peacemaking - Far and Near

The Peacemaking Offering, to be received on World Communion Sunday, October 2, supports efforts of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God. The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and our Ministry at the United Nations work for the protection of individual integrity and human rights, for elimination of poverty and homelessness, and to halt open warfare and abate violence in many forms.

The Peacemaking Offering also allows congregations to designate one-quarter of the funds collected for some local project. This year, we will support the Home Repair Resource Center. Longtime church members will recall that in 1971, following an adult education class, the church created a nonprofit Housing Corporation as a faithful response to racial tensions and "white flight" that characterized Cleveland Heights at the time. The thinking was that by ensuring the upkeep of the community's older housing stock, property values would be maintained, and peaceful racial integration and economic stability would more likely succeed.

In the four decades since that seed was planted, the Forest Hill Church Housing Corporation – now the Home Repair Resource Center – grew into a broad-based community housing organization. It made good on its initial goal of building community confidence, facilitating about \$14 million in repairs to Cleveland Heights homes, and enabling hundreds of homeowners to respond positively to their housing maintenance needs with financing and hands-on training. More recently, HRRC began offering foreclosure prevention counseling for those with distressed mortgages, and has been rehabilitating vacant Cleveland Heights homes for resale to new owner occupants. HRRC continues "to support the community's rich diversity" through its multi-faceted work.

Forty years is a long time – whether in the wilderness or in a community. On World Communion Sunday we will celebrate the faithfulness of this unique Peacemaking ministry created and supported by Forest Hill in worship, by our offering, and with personal reflections and refreshments following the service in Fellowship Hall. Please join us!

Elder Dick Obermanns

Check out the website www.fhcppresb.org *Come and see!* 17



More information about the PC(USA) Peacemaking Offering and World Communion Sunday may be found at <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/specialofferings/peacemaking-offering/> and <http://www.nccusa.org/unity/worldcommunionsunday.html>

Adult Ed Special Speaker October 23, 9:30 am Rabbi Shawn Zevit

"Exodus and the High Holy Days"

All are welcome to attend this lecture. Kerygma students will all meet together in South Hall.

The book of Exodus teaches about the Holy Days that God commanded. Rabbi Shawn Israel Zevit will speak to us about how the Holy Days serve within the Jewish community as worship to God and identity formation for the Jewish people.

Rabbi Zevit serves as a consultant for numerous organizations in the areas of leadership, community building, money and values, creativity, and spirituality in the workplace. He currently is a Senior Consultant and the Director of Outreach and External Affairs for the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. Rabbi Shawn Israel Zevit, has over 25 years experience in spiritual leadership, organizational consulting and training, educational arts, writing, recording, teaching and performing. Along with serving as a congregational rabbi and consultant to churches, synagogues, non-profit and corporate organizations, he performs traditional and new music from his CDs *Heart and Soul* and *Sanctuary*.

Clover Beal

18 *Check out the website* www.fhcppresb.org *Come and see!*

News of Our Church Family

Baptisms

Walter John Reed, son of Katie and Al Reed and grandson of Jane and Cliff Kowall, was baptized on September 18, 2011. Barry Hartz was the attending Elder. Walt's godmother is Christine Louise Morgan.

New Contact Information

Anne Hunter (email only): anneshunter8@gmail.com

Cathie Kernich (new phone only): 216-409-1885

Marilyn Oviatt

Fairmount Health Center (Breckenridge)
36855 Ridge Rd.
Willoughby, OH 44094

Care Group

The Jerusalem CARE Group will be responsible for meeting members' needs during October. Please contact the church office in case of illness, hospitalizations, births or deaths (or other family emergencies) in any FHC family.

Members of the Jerusalem CARE Group are:

Nancy Wyss, Deacon leader	Jim Manista
Erin & Bill Armstrong	Jane Melbourne
Doris Brandt	Pat & Hal Musick
Ruth & Arthur Brickel	Richard Obermanns
Lucy Conde	Karen Parker
Traci Ext	Carol Scott
Monita Franklin	Steve Sedam
Chris & Daniel Fuller	Peggy Skelly
Carol & Tim Gifford	Damos & Dele Solaru & family
Brett & Annette Himes & family	Derry Stauffer &
Cindy Fink & Kemp Jaycox	Kathy Hanna-Stauffer
Jack & Shelly Jesberger & family	Marjorie Thomas
Matt & Jacquelyn Knoch	Anne Wilson
Dan & Barb Mace	Robert & Julie Ann Yoe

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Bob Bielek, Pat and Fran Drake, Rose Eaton, Betty Farnfield, Marilyn Gifford, Elizabeth Kosnik, Merdine T. Morris, Marilyn Oviatt, Joyce Peters, Millie Skeivis, Anne Taylor

Please pray for those with ongoing prayer concerns:

Robin Dadusc (requested by Kathryn Himmelsteib), Marion Frederick (Jane Frederick's mother), Doug, Marcie and Lucy Harvey (Tom and Paula Harvey's family), Dennis Wedding (Jeannine Gury's brother),

Ushers

Kevin Stauffer, Lead Usher; Joe Andrews, Nick Baumgartner, Charles Ishler, Jane Ishler, Kate Monaghan, Daryl Musick, Victoria Sampson. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

Social Groups and Circles

Presbyterian Women's Fall Gathering (all women of the church)

Presbyterian Women from throughout the Presbytery of the Western Reserve are invited to a Fall Gathering on Saturday, October 8, 2011 from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm at Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Hts. Jinny McCook from the Synod will speak on the mission trip to a Native American reservation. Morning coffee and lunch will be served. To register, please send a check for \$8.00 to: *Nancy Sabo, 2020 Tillotson Rd., Ashtabula, Ohio 44001*
October 8, 8:30 am, Fairmount Presbyterian Church, CH

Hilltoppers (retired singles and couples)

Lunch and Holden Arboretum Train Tour

We are having dinner and Holden Arboretum Tram Tour on Tuesday, Oct. 18. Come join us for a good lunch at Dino's Restaurant and a wonderful view of autumn leaves and special areas of Cleveland's renowned Holden Arboretum. We will meet at 11:00 am in the church parking lot to carpool to Dino's (Rt. 90 and Rt 306). Reservations must be made by **Tuesday, Oct. 11** to Margaret Sentell (330-528-6171). More details and a map will be included in the fliers. For more information, please contact the event chairperson, Lorian Thomas (216-381-4174).

October 18, Lunch at Dino's and Train Tour at Holden Arboretum (meet at 11 am at FHC)

The Back Row (singles and couples 20s – 40s)

Family Halloween Party

Come one, come all to the Second Annual FHC Family Halloween Costume Party on Saturday, October 22 from 5:30 to 8 pm in Fellowship Hall! Please bring a potluck dish to share and be ready to play some fun games. Last year, Woody & Jesse from Toy Story came for a rootin' tootin' good time, and there was even an entire

zoo on display! Even if you don't wish to don a costume, please come and enjoy some fun and fellowship! Contact Christina Hidek, christina.hidek@gmail.com 440/646-9093, if you are interested in helping to plan decorations and/or games. All are welcome!

October 22, 5:30 pm, FHC Fellowship Hall

The Group (singles and couples 60s – 70s) **Piano Recital at CIM**
The Group will gather at The Cleveland Institute of Music at 7:30 pm on October 28 for a concert in Mixon Hall. We will hear CIM pianist Sergei Babayan in a recital that will feature music of Tchaikovsky and other favourite composers. Mr. Babayan is a pianist of unequalled touch, beautiful phrasing and stunning virtuosity. The concert is free but reservations must be made and the hall will fill quickly. Please contact Anne Hunter (anneshunter8@gmail.com) to reserve a ticket.

October 28, 7:30 pm, Cleveland Institute of Music

Office News and Reminders

The deadline for the weekly bulletin is every Wednesday morning.

The deadline for the **TOWER** is as follows: **7 a.m.** on OCTOBER 14, NOVEMBER 18, DECEMBER 9 (one week early). **We will be distributing TOWERs in the Garden Foyer for a week or two following the due date. The TOWER will be posted on the website as soon as it is available.**

Emails and extensions for the staff are as follows:

- ❖ John Lentz, pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org, ext. 200
- ❖ Clover Beal, pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org, ext 201
- ❖ Anne Wilson (music), annew@fhcpresb.org, ext 208
- ❖ Liz Wollaeger (DCE), lizw@fhcpresb.org, ext. 206
- ❖ Kristen Otte (Youth), kristeno@fhcpresb.org, ext 207
- ❖ Becky Austin (financial), beckya@fhcpresb.org, ext. 203
- ❖ Lynda Bernays (office administrator), and all other email: office@fhcpresb.org, ext. 202

Our website is www.fhcpresb.org

If you are in the building and need a custodian, or outside needing to get in, and a custodian is on duty, he may be reached at **216-217-5257**.

CDs of the worship service are available each week. Often they are available soon after worship. If you miss that, call or email the church office, or leave a note, and the CD will be in the volunteer office the following Sunday. The cost is \$1 per CD.

Prayers of the People

Jean Reinhold

It did not seem right to leave
the prayers of the people
on the lectern for someone to find later.
Two notes about death,
three more about needed healing,
one of hope, and a long scrawled message
about Tuscaloosa, Alabama,
the devastation there.
The prayers had been said already
to nodding heads and silence.
They were just dust on the air molecules now.
Specks and flecks on streaming light,
not really seen, but moving between us,
breathed in and out or whispered
or sung as lullabies.

But I could not leave them there,
even after the spoken prayers had been said.
The scraps of paper, the original words.
So I carried the notes out to my car,
and they sat in the passenger's seat beside me.
To Whole Foods, then with the bag
of muenster cheese and oven-roasted turkey.
To Home Depot, to the drive through post-office box,
even to the movies.
They sat alone for 112 minutes
as it started to rain.

Then I parked them for the night, went inside,
and watched TV, especially when the President
said we had killed the enemy. Yes, even then,
the prayers were in the car, while fraternity boys climbed
street poles and waved the flag
and people gathered outside the White House singing,
"America, America, God shed his grace on thee."

The next day the prayers rode beside me, first to school,
then from school, then to the gas station.
Just staring at me, with their death, their disease,
the tornado, and slice of hope.
Each prayer in a different print, some stiff and formal,
one in perfect school-teacher cursive,
one with the words sliding down the page.
I did not know what to do with them -- these six notes.
And their cousin prayers alight in me: for the country,
for the man who pulled the trigger, for the man who said
to send the troops in, for the man inside the president's
suit.
I did not know what to do with these prayers,
for the thousands of boys with guns slung over their
shoulders,
the woman sitting across from an empty chair
in Brooklyn, New York,
the man who cleaned the rubble
for months, the little girl -- pulverized by jet fuel
and a World Trade Center --
her body now just dusty sparkles
passing between us and across the continents,
from Manhattan to Abbottabad.

