

## Forest Hill Church

The Tower

November 2014

Dear Friends,

We have turned the corner into November and our minds and hearts (as well as the weather) turn towards the end of the year and to the holidays that shape it – Thanksgiving and Christmas. For many it is a joyful time. For some it's a difficult time of making ends meet, of keeping warm, of finding enough food. May the colder weather and the festival traditions move our hearts towards compassion and generosity.



I am in a particularly thankful mood as I write this. No matter what happens in the next couple of months, my winter shall be warmed by the memory of the “Kingdom Party” on October 11. I am still in a state of almost speechlessness. The party given to celebrate my 20 years of ministry at Forest Hill Church left me humbled, honored, and overwhelmed with blessing. “Thank you” will have to do, but those two words cannot express my gratitude.

Thanks to LeAnn West and her committee who organized the event, all of whom were members of my call committee back in 1994. Thanks to Kermit Lind who was an outstanding MC and looked good in boxer shorts and cowboy boots! Thanks to Nancy and Don Grube and Derry Stauffer. Thanks to Penny and Jim Chapman and Janie Fouke who came from far away to help the celebration. Thanks to Scott Duncan who “piped” me in. Thanks to Betsy Andrews around whose beautiful dining



room table the question to me was asked long ago: “John, will you accept the call?” Thanks to Todd Webster and his beautiful haikus. Thanks to the choir and to son Jack. Thanks to Ron Register. Thanks to Grant Heinemann and Ian Zych. Thanks to LaDon Headon. I was so happy to dance and use the beautiful wood floor of Fellowship Hall for what it was intended! Thanks to the “Ministry of Intrigue” (no names please) for my retired softball jersey! Thanks to Morag Keefe who creates masterpieces of delicious food.

Thanks to Clover Beal, Anne Wilson, Dacia Prins, Keon Abner, Liz Wolleager, Lynda Bernays, Becky Austin, Stavros Gazis, Michael Broadwater, Anthony Bland, and Nate Thomas. These people are so gifted and make me look better than I am!

Thank **YOU** for your generous gift to the Lentz family. YOU, the members and friends of Forest Hill Church, have shaped and nurtured Deanne, Jack,



Meg and Sarah and perhaps most of all me. You all have taught me the faith, the generosity, and the joy of following Christ. We love you so much.

Peace to you and all the communion of Saints – that great cloud of witnesses – at Forest Hill. Thanks be to God!

Pastor John Lentz

Friends, I found this very well-written and solid in its wisdom for our response-ability when our children ask:



## **“Mom, Why do I have to go to church today?”**

September 30, 2014

***achurchforstarvingartists.wordpress.com***

Written by Jan Edmiston

*It's no secret that many of our Millennial children do not “go to church.” There are many very good reasons why this is true. Words like inauthentic, boring, hypocritical, small-minded, and inconsequential come to mind. I remember seeing a film about Millennials and religion about a decade ago, created – not by a denomination or research group, but by a college student. “I don’t need church,” she said. “I have friends.” I hope that’s true for all Millennials and yet . . .*

*Last week, [the author’s child] went to the funeral of a man 76 years her senior. They had had little in common in terms of life experience and political/sociological perspectives. They were not related by blood. Apart from the whole salvation, Biblical literacy, “learning how to be a good person” arguments for being part of a church – which I could argue here but won’t for now – community is one of the best reasons for wanting our kids and everyone to be part of a spiritual congregation. People come together who would never be at the same party or live on the same block or work in the same offices.*

*My child shared after the funeral that she felt so loved “to be back.” These were people who have known her since before she was born. They watched her learn to walk and talk. They encouraged her when she read the morning Psalm from the pulpit without being able to say her “Rs” and they loved seeing her in worship wearing her soccer uniform. They donated money for her to go on a mission trip. And when she went to college, a group of young adults (not much older than she) gave her money to buy her first textbooks.*

*As crazy as Church World makes us, when community is created well in the name of God, something holy and wonderful happens. The truth is that a child can grow up in a congregation and Never Get That. The stories never stick in a personal way. The worship and behavioral liturgies of life feel bland. The relationships are shallow. The experiences are hurtful. This happens too often perhaps because we misunderstand what's important about "going to church." It's not about the rules (what we wear, how we sit and stand.) It's about the relationships – and not just about the relationships between the youth.*

*Why do we go to church? If my kids asked me today, I'd say, "You know why. This is the community that brought us food when you were born and when your grandparents died. These are the people who took care of you when we couldn't. They were the ones who served you cookies on Sunday morning and took you seriously after they asked (for the hundredth time) 'How's school going?' They remembered your name and the fact that you mentioned a friend who needed prayer. They held us accountable and shared hard words. They were glad to see us on Sunday mornings or out running errands. They befriended your parents and loved you when you joined us on pastoral calls. They kept their baptismal vows for you and the other children of the church. They loved you." Can most of our churches say this? And if your congregation doesn't have any/many children, can the adults say this about each other? Relationships are what move us. Our relationships with each other and with God. And good relationships move us outward to notice the world and others, as we have been noticed.*

*Amen.*

*Blessings be,*

*Clover Beal  
Associate Pastor*

# Children's Ministries

October was abuzz for the children in Pathways to the Promise Land as they had fun learning about the 10 plagues, and sharing a Seder meal together. The younger children had fun learning about stories of creation and Noah. Thank you to all who led, shepherded, guided, and nurtured our children.

- In our nursery, thank you to Jennifer Carr, Amber Balogh, Todd Webster, Josh and Pam Webster, and Zoe Hartz.
- In our Children in Worship class, thank you to Lara and Jeff Dyck.
- In Pathways to the Promise Land, thank you to Jane Duncan, Carol Leslie, Laurie Logan, Jewrett Bailey, Lauren Miller, Diane Moyer and Jeremy Ryman, Jessica Kelley-Moore, and Christina Hidek.

## Children's Christian Education

### Children in Worship

Pre-School and Kindergarten (ages 3-5)

During the month of November the children in this class will be exploring and participating in Bible stories about Moses and the burning bush, the Exodus, and the 10 commandments. They will also begin their advent series. Each story has a response to help the children understand the story. Be sure to ask your children what they did in Children in Worship class.

### Pathways to the Promise Land

Grades 1-5

In November the children will be learning about the Israelites wandering in the wilderness. The Israelites wandered in the desert trying to understand the presence of God. We too struggle for this understanding. May we learn from their experience that God is always present in our lives. The children will be exploring this theme through art, drama, and map activities.

### Dates to Know

#### November 2

#### KESS – Kids in Sunday Service

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

#### November 9

#### Gathering Time – Wandering in the Wilderness

Children in Grades 1-5 will gather in the Chapel at 11:00, then be dismissed with their shepherds to their workshops.

**November 9**

**Cherub Choir (Pre-School and Kindergarten)**

Cherub choir will rehearse in the Sanctuary at 10:30 and will be singing during the 11:00 worship.

**November 16 and 23 Pathways to the Promise Land**

Children in Grades 1-5 will begin in worship, then be dismissed to their workshops.

**November 30**

**KISS – Kids in Sunday Service**

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

Blessings,

Dacia Prins

Director of Children's Ministries

*Music Notes*

November begins and **Daylight Saving Time** ends on the first Sunday, **November 2**, so I hope the congregation and choirs will enjoy the extra hour of sleep!



We welcome **new choir members**: Garrett Vandall and Jalen Bailey in Sine Nomine Choir, and Vaughn and Noel Ullom and Caleb and Ben Lee in the Descant Choir.

I'm grateful for several recent gifts to the **Friends of Music** Fund. The FOM fund is used to hire guest instrumentalists, dancers, artists, etc. that enhance our services of music. All donations are heartily and thankfully accepted! Thank you for considering a gift.

The Descant Choir will sing the charming **Scottish Penny Song** on **November 16<sup>th</sup>**, and the children will be collecting pennies to donate to the FHC Food Pantry. Start saving up (or collecting) your pennies in preparation for gleefully throwing them into the children's baskets.

Please mark your calendars for Forest Hill's first **Compline** service on Sunday evening, **November 16 at 7:30 pm**. Meditation and contemplation, folded in prayer, chant, and music, are the essence of Compline—one of the monastic prayer services of the Christian church, and the last religious observance (office) sung at the end of the day. Since the fourth century, Compline has become a meaningful part of monastic life, replacing nighttime prayers said privately. The entire service is sung, unaccompanied, and the sanctuary will be illumined primarily by candles. The choir will sing from the congregational pews. This service provides worshipers the time and space for silence, meditation, and mystic communion with the Divine. We will enter the candle-lit sanctuary in silence and simply receive the blessings of the mystery.

I hope you will join us for Compline on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

*Soli Deo Gloria* Anne Wilson  
Organist/Director of Music  
[annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)  
216-870-2729

## 2015 Stewardship Campaign

*The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

2 Corin. 9: 6-7

As the Stewardship Season approaches its final weeks, we encourage you to submit your pledges by Sunday, November 2, 2014. On Sunday, November 9, we will gather in Fellowship Hall following morning worship to celebrate our generosity at the annual all-church Cornucopia Luncheon.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed one or more **Expressions of the Cheerful Giver** this Stewardship Season. We appreciate all of the photographs, digital images, videos, written reflections, quotes, poems, illustrations, and tweets that members and friends have provided these past few weeks. They not only decorate our walls, but also cause each of us to pause and reflect on Paul's words and their meaning in our lives and in our work at Forest Hill Church.



We also thank the members who stood before the congregation and shared their thoughts about the spiritual rewards and joy they from receive from giving cheerfully to support Christ's will through Forest Hill Church.

Our congregation's support of the ministries and operations of Forest Hill Church is inspiring. The Holy Spirit is at work at our corner of Lee and Monticello through the vibrant work of our ministries, ministers, lay-leaders, small groups, and everyday good works of our members and friends.

We are truly blessed!

If you have not done so, please join us in celebrating the presence of God in our lives by making a pledge and submitting your **Expression of the Cheerful Giver**.

Yours faithfully,

***The Ministry of Stewardship***

Dele Solaru, Chair; Scott Peters, Steve Sedam and Peter Williams



# Forest Hill Church Fall Women's Retreat



## How Big is Your Brave?



Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

River's Edge

3430 Rocky River Drive, Cleveland

9 am -9 pm

\$40 per person

Contact [Pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org](mailto:Pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org)  
or call 216-321-2660  
to register

All of us have fears we are trying to tame. Join us for a spirit-filled retreat where we'll share fellowship, art, song, food and meditation to give us a big boost of brave.

"I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline."

2 Timothy 1:5-7

## **Adult Faith Formation Opportunities**

### **Young Adults (20s – 30s):**

#### **“Speaking of Faith”**

Four Tuesdays, Oct. 21 – Nov. 11, 7:30 pm at the Beals’  
(2884 Warrington Rd, Shaker Hts)

Join us for engaged conversation and a good time discussing topics of faith: God, Religion, Jesus, Salvation, Bible and Church. Please give Clover a heads up if you’re coming ([pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org) or 216-321-2660). Friends are always welcome!

### **Galatians Bible Study continues through November 16**

#### **Sundays at 9:30 am**

The readings are:

November 2, Galatians 5: 2-26

November 9, Galatians 6: 1-18

November 16, Wrap-up in South Hall

### **Christianity for Seekers continues through November 16**

#### **Sundays at 5 pm**

### **Dr. Joseph Kelly, November 23, 9:30 am**

#### **“The Feast of Christmas”**

Many Christians struggle to balance the religious and secular elements of Christmas, but the history of the feast shows that this is nothing new. The religious Christmas has changed over the centuries and, contrary to many critics, is thriving today.

**Advent Adult Education Series beginning Nov. 30  
Sundays, 9:30 am**

***MYSTICS, MARTYRS AND SAINTS***

*Learning from the extraordinary lives of BONHOEFFER, SAINTS  
IGNATIUS, FRANCIS AND CLARE, and the BA'AL SHEM TOV*

**November 30, 2014**

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945): Prophet, Pastor and Martyr**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a theologian, martyr, a spiritual writer, a musician, a pastor, and an author of poetry and fiction. The integrity of his Christian faith and life, and the international appeal of his writings, have received broad recognition and admiration, all of which has led to a consensus that he is one of the theologians of his time whose theological reflections might lead future generations of Christians into creating a new more spiritual and responsible millennium. Bonhoeffer was a German theologian famous for his stand against Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party. His beliefs and convictions ultimately cost him his life in a Nazi concentration camp. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was one of the most famous theologians and martyrs of the 20th century.

**Gerri Beal, M.Th**, carries a familiar name in the FHC community. Ms. Beal finished her Masters in Theology degree from Whitworth University in 2014. She has always had a passion for the life, writings and teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Her Masters thesis was titled, "Bonhoeffer and the Finkewalde Seminary: A Hope for the Church of Christ." Gerri lives in Hood River, Oregon and comes to Cleveland at least two times a year to see her children and grandchildren. Her son, Tim, writes books and teaches, and did not fall far from the apple tree when it comes to his scholarly capabilities and interests. We are delighted to have Gerri teaching in adult education!

**December 7, 2014**

**Saints Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) and  
Clare of Assisi (1194-1253): Saints and Revolutionaries**

**St. Francis of Assisi** was an Italian Catholic friar and preacher. He founded the men's Order of Friars Minor, the women's Order of St. Clare, and the Third Order of St. Francis for men and women not able to live the lives of itinerant preachers as was followed by the early members of the Order of Friars Minor, or the monastic lives of the Poor Clares. Though he was never

ordained to the Catholic priesthood, Francis is one of the most venerated religious figures in history. His influence on the church (and the none-churched) is still profound to this day.

**St. Clare** is an Italian saint and one of the first followers of St. Francis of Assisi. She founded the Order of Poor Ladies, a monastic religious order for women in the Franciscan tradition, and wrote their Rule of Life—the first monastic rule known to have been written by a woman. Following her death, the order she founded was renamed in her honor as the Order of St. Clare, commonly referred to today as the Poor Clares.

**Natalie Kertes Weaver, Ph.D.**, is Chair and Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Ursuline College. She is also the director of the Humanities program. Dr. Weaver has presented research on an array of topics in theology at regional, national, and international conferences. She has published *Marriage and Family: A Christian Theological Foundation* (Anselm, 2009); *Christian Thought and Practice: A Primer* (Anselm, 2012); and *The Theology of Suffering: An Introduction for Caregivers* (Routledge, 2013). Her areas of interest and expertise include feminist theology, theology of suffering and death, theology of the family, and religion and violence. We are delighted to have her back as our guest lecturer.

**December 14, 2014**

**St. Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556): Saint and Reformer**

Ignatius Loyola founded the Jesuits (the Society of Jesus). The Jesuits were one of the major spearheads of the Counter-Reformation. The work done by Ignatius Loyola was seen as an important counter to Martin Luther and John Calvin. Ignatius Loyola's Jesuits transformed the Roman Catholic Church in terms of quality and they became a vital part of the Counter-Reformation.

**Eric Muller-Girard** is a Ruling Elder at FHC. Eric is an artist, father, and avid churchman. Eric is certified as a Spiritual Director through the Ignatian Spirituality Institute at John Carroll University. See below for information about a spiritual program Eric will lead in Lent.

**December 21, 2014**

**Rabbi Ba'al Shem Tov (1698-1760): Mystic and Transformer**

Rabbi Israel ben Eliezer, known as the Ba'al Shem Tov (master of the Good Name), lived in the 18th century and is considered to be the founder of Chasidic Judaism. He was known in his lifetime to be a holy man and was

widely regarded for his teachings and philosophy. As a teacher, he drew his insights from Kabbalah, (Jewish mysticism), but expressed it in such a way that was accessible to the average person. Though he valued the study of Torah, he believed that one need not be a scholar in order to achieve spiritual heights. He emphasized a love of God, extemporaneous prayer, love for fellow human beings, and finding the joy in life and religion. His teachings are best preserved in the legendary stories that are told about him and his deeds. Rabbi Melinda Mersack will introduce us to this legendary figure.

**Rabbi Melinda Mersack** was ordained by the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, a Reform Jewish seminary, in 2000. She is the Director of Interfaith Family Engagement for the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and Jewish Education Center of Cleveland. In this role, she serves as a resource and connector for interfaith families wishing to explore and/or participate in Jewish life in Greater Cleveland. Rabbi Mersack teaches adult education classes throughout the Jewish Community. She also enjoys presenting to church groups and participating in interreligious programs and discussions. Prior to serving as the Director of Interfaith Family Engagement, Rabbi Mersack served as a rabbi at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple in Beachwood.

**Living in the Spirit: A Lenten Journey with God**  
**Sundays, Feb. 1 – March 28, 2015, 5 – 7 pm**  
**Save the date(s) now!**

This unique opportunity may be just right for you! "Living in the Spirit" is an eight-week program offered to support your spiritual life; it's designed to help you experience God – personally and directly – through prayer, reflection and weekly small-group conversations. It is a rich eight-week spiritual pilgrimage for those who seek meaning and purpose ...an "inner pilgrimage" that requires commitment ...but no passport! Weekly small-group meetings will take place at FHC.

"Living in the Spirit" is being offered in collaboration with an experienced team of ecumenical leaders trained by the Jesuit Retreat House of Cleveland. "Living in the Spirit" is sure to be a groundbreaking event for Forest Hill... and, we hope... for you! Be a part of it.

Attendance will be limited to 35 participants; the cost is \$40 (scholarships are available.) Full written information will follow in December and a "Question & Answer" informational event will open the registration period following worship on January 11. Registration closes Jan. 25. Consider this as a gift to yourself.

Interested? For more information, please contact Pastor Beal ([pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org), 216-321-2660) or Elder Eric Muller-Girard (216-752-7006 or [multimg@wowway.com](mailto:multimg@wowway.com)).

## **Thanks from the Deacons**

We want to thank everyone who came to the Apple Festival and made it so successful. We could not have done it without your help!

- Tom and Morag Keefe were wonderful with food planning and preparation, as well as the many details that made the meal special.
- Marcie Denton helped draw the design for the cake walk.
- Clover and Keon collaborated for us to have the inflated playhouse.
- The face painters did such a great job.
- The corn hole games were lent by the Stauffers.
- Then there were all those yummy donations for the cake walk.
- Wasn't the balloon lady amazing and fabulous?

Photos by Cathy Ghiandoni are on the Deacons' bulletin board.

These are only some of the highlights of our wonderful day, which was so filled with fun that we did not get to the piñata or the spoon race.

## **Christmas Cards**

We are planning our Christmas card mailing for the holidays, and could use any spare cards you might have to share. Please leave them in the volunteer office.

The Deacons thank you for all you do to make Forest Hill Church great.

Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Deacon

## Kitchen Renovation Begins Soon!

After a great deal of hard work by the kitchen committee, help from the endowment fund, money from the operating fund, and several personal gifts by our members, the new kitchen appliances will be delivered soon. Major items being installed include a new 6 burner stove, a convection oven, a new work table, new drawers and pot racks. Thanks to the generosity of our members with their time and with their financial gifts we are bringing the kitchen into the 21st century. Food and fellowship are a central part of making Forest Hill Church a welcoming place and these improvements, along with planned additional improvements to the cabinets, flooring and lighting, signify the dynamic nature of our church. This would not be possible without your continued financial generosity.

The FHC Trustees

## Earthkeeping and Climate Change

The Earthkeeping Summit held at OSU on October 12-13 was a great success, bringing together concerned individuals from many faith communities throughout the state. FHC and Fairmount Presbyterian, both of us Earth Care Congregations (the first two in Ohio!) were among the sponsors of the event. Approximately 125 people attended.



The focus of the summit was on the intersection of the irrefutable facts and figures of the reality of climate change and the moral response of humankind to care for the environment. Two renowned individuals—Dr. Kathryn Hayhoe of Texas Tech, and Dr. David Orr of Oberlin College – were the keynote speakers. Here are some key takeaways.

- Climate Change is NOT global warming per se, but planetary destabilization.
- This is primarily caused of as a result of mankind's activities.

- There is no law which speaks to future generations. The only voice is us at the present
- Throughout history the Church has been an influential agent of social change.

Consequently it is people of faith that can and will lead the charge in mitigating the effects of climate change – by caring for the *people* as well as for the *planet*. It is God's living creations— people, plants and animals – who suffer the most from increasing climate change. Droughts and floods displace people. Loss of habitat decimates animal wildlife. *What would we do if California dries up and we can no longer obtain much of our food from there? What would we do if everyone in the US needed to move to the Great Lakes for water?*

Dr. Martin Luther King stated in 1967 something that is very applicable today:

*There is such a thing as being too late. Procrastination is the thief of time. Life often leaves us standing bare, naked and dejected with a lost opportunity. The tide in the affairs of man does not remain at the flood, it ebbs. We may cry out desperately for time to pause in her passage, but time is deaf to every plea and moves on. Over the bleached bones and jumbled residue of numerous civilizations are written the pathetic words: 'Too late.'*

But it is *never* too late for people of faith. Between despair and doing nothing, and optimism—believing nothing needs to be done and that all is well – is HOPE, which provides the energy for DOING. This is what characterizes people of faith – we DO.

What are YOU doing to care for Creation?

Dave Neff and the Green Team





## News from Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC)

### GCC Criminal Justice Issue Team: Shut Down the Felon Factory in Cuyahoga County

Six FHC members attended the October 14 meeting of this team. We heard that the Leadership Team has met with Judge David Matia to learn how the Drug Court operates, and met with the County's Juvenile Prosecutor to discuss the handling of juvenile cases. The Team will be meeting with County Prosecutor Tim McGinty on October 29 to ask that he take action to shut down the felon factory in three ways:

- expand Drug Court
- increase alternative disposition/diversion programs
- shift low level drug cases to municipal courts to be adjudicated as misdemeanors.

### Why is this an important justice issue?

Here are a few facts:

- Ohio has the 7<sup>th</sup> largest prison population in the nation. ***Forty-one percent of those entering prison were convicted of a low-level, nonviolent offense.***
- In 2013, nonviolent possession of drugs was the leading offence filed by our County Prosecutor. ***In Cuyahoga County African-Americans are 6 times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than whites, yet 74% of the cases channeled to Drug Court are white.***
- In just one Cleveland neighborhood (Glenville) of 269 people incarcerated at a cost of over \$12.4 million, 156 were jailed for low-level, nonviolent offenses.

### What's next?

On Nov. 13, GCC will gather at Antioch Baptist Church at 6:30 pm to hear an update on the meeting with Prosecutor McGinty and his plan to reduce the felon factory in our county. ***Please mark your calendars for November 13.*** We hope to bring a large contingent to show our concern for this important issue. Watch for details!

## **GCC Criminal Justice Team: Gun Safety**

The GCC gun violence team held a very successful assembly of 200 participants in September to hear FHC member Barb Cloud's testimony and to encourage further action toward improving gun safety in our communities. If you haven't seen the Channel 3 story, check out:

<http://www.wkyc.com/story/news/local/cuyahoga-county/2014/09/16/community-comes-together-to-fight-gun-violence/15753945/>

## **GCC Education Team**

GCC has voted to support the Cleveland Municipal School District request for a bond renewal (Issue 4) on next month's ballot. The 2.5 mil bond renewal will generate \$200 million for construction of 22 new, smaller, modern and efficient schools and for refurbishing 20 others. The State of Ohio will provide an additional 68% match for new construction, if the bond passes.

This facility plan is vital to update school models, save on operating expenses, and respond to excess capacity. The updates will also be important to keep young people in Cleveland when they have school aged children and will create significant benefit to the local economy. The independent Bond Accountability Commission (BAC) has recommended the renewal as it is satisfied with the responsible use of current bond funds. Finally, this is not a tax increase, but maintains current tax levels.

Contact Jennifer Blakeney for more information about this initiative:  
**[bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)**

Diana Woodbridge and Jennifer Blakeney

# News of Our Church Family

## Care Group

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

Members of the Jericho CARE Group are:

Cathy Ghiandoni, Deacon Leader

Janet Banis

Nick & Phyllis Baumgartner

Jennifer Blakeney, Marius Juodisius

Jack & Mary Ann Breisch

Robert & Wendy Brock & family

David & Kate Burleigh & family

Joseph & Janet Dauer

Larry Dorod

Marge Drollinger

John & Sheryl Dugard

Elizabeth Farnfield

Bev Gairing

Cathy & Don Ghiandoni

Tom & Paula Harvey

Alec & Nancy Jamieson

Eunice Manu

Twanda Petterson

Carol Phillips & family

Jean Seeley

Connie Sekerak-Hicks

Chuck & Lora Smith & family

JT & Sarah Tan & family

Liz Wollaeger & family

Katie Zito & family

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Dick Bloomquist, Bill Currie, Pat Drake, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Iris Gilbert, Ron and Florence Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Elaine Tapié

**Please pray for those with ongoing prayer concerns:**

Marion Frederick (Jane Frederick's mother), Doug, Marcie and Lucy Harvey, (Tom and Paula Harvey's family), Charles Sawyer (Ann Williams' brother), Dennis Wedding (Jeannine Gury's brother).

## Ushers in November

Robyn Hales, Paula Harvey, Tom Harvey, Jason Hidek, Diane McFiggen, Tom McFiggen, Dick Peterjohn.

Roger Heineman, Head Usher

## **Volunteer Hours in September**

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Beth Zych, Jane Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, and Elspeth Peterjohn; and TOWER collaters Marilyn Wilk and Betty Clark – worked a total of 62 hours in September. Thank you all!

## **New email**

Don and Betty Clark: **donandbetty657@gmail.com**

## **Expanded Fair Trade Bazaar Sunday, December 7, 9-2 in Fellowship Hall**

Come do your Christmas shopping at our expanded annual event! Ten Thousand Villages is still the anchor store, but we will also host other fair trade vendors as well as a few local artists. Our goal is to make your gift giving benefit not only the recipient, but also the craftspeople who created the pieces and who will receive fair reimbursement for their work. So we bring the vendors to you.

Plan your gift list and join us. Invite your family and friends.

If you would be available to help with sales, please contact Jennifer Blakeney (**[bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)**).

## **Social Groups and Circles**

### **Young Adults (20s – 30s): “Speaking of Faith”**

Four Tuesdays, Oct. 21 – Nov. 11, 7:30 pm at the Beals’  
(2884 Warrington Rd, Shaker Hts)

Join us for engaged conversation and a good time discussing topics of faith: God, Religion, Jesus, Salvation, Bible and Church. Please give Clover a heads up if you’re coming ([pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org) or 216-321-2660). Friends are always welcome!

**Tuesdays thru Nov. 11, Beals’, 7:30 pm**

**The Group (60s – 70s): “Natural Namibia” slide show**

Dave and Allie Neff will present a slide show on “Natural Namibia” (in SW Africa on the Atlantic Ocean) on Saturday, November 15 at 7:00 pm at the home of Pat and Hal Musick, 369 W Glen Eagle Dr., Highland Hts. RSVP to the Musicks (440-442-3592, 440-666-3037, or [halmusick@att.net](mailto:halmusick@att.net)). Q & A and dessert will follow the presentation.

**November 15, Musicks’, 7:00 pm**

**Hilltoppers (retired) : “Guys and Dolls”**

Hilltoppers invite all interested parties to join them on Sunday, November 9 at Heights High at 4 pm for the all-district production of “Guys and Dolls.” Tickets are \$10. RSVP and order tickets by calling Lucy Conde (216-382-5177) or Nancy Grube (440-461-4693).

**November 9, Heights High, 4 pm**

**Iris Circle (all women): Holiday Angel Preparations**

On Tuesday November 18, we will meet at 11 am to prepare Christmas tree ornaments for Holiday Angel gift giving to Boulevard School children. We will cut, paste, punch and tie so our Christmas tree will be filled with ornaments for church member to choose from for gift giving ideas. We provide the materials – you make the ornaments. BYO lunch or enjoy lunch made by Don Ghiandoni, our honorary chef. Please order by Nov. 16 (\$6 for your choice of roast beef or turkey sandwiches with chips and brownies – contact Cathy Ghiandoni ([ghiandoni.c@gmail.com](mailto:ghiandoni.c@gmail.com) or 216-691-1905). Coffee and tea will be provided.

We will also pack gift boxes for FHC college freshman. Cash donations are encouraged.

**November 18, FHC Bodwell Hall, 11 am**

***Save the date for the next Iris Circle gathering:  
Dec. 16, noon, for  
“School Days Memories and Memorabilia”***

## Sundays in November

- 9:00** Child care begins  
**9:30** Adult education  
 Youth education (no class Nov. 30)  
 Descant Choir  
**10:15** Descant Choir activity  
**10:30** Continental Breakfast  
 Chancel Choir  
**11:00** WORSHIP  
 Children in Worship  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Nov. 9)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (gr. 1-5)  
 Nov. 2, 30: Children stay in worship for communion  
**12:15** Coffee Hour  
 Sine Nomine Choir (Gr. 6-12) Nov. 2, 16  
**5:00** Youth Fellowship (not Nov. 30)  
 Christianity for Seekers (not Nov. 30)  
**5:40** Labre Project (Nov. 9, 23)

<b>November 2</b> All Saints Day 9:00 Exploring Membership class 11:00 WORSHIP: All Saints' Communion 12:30 Adult Ed: Shifting Gears class	Joshua 3: 7-17 Psalm 107: 1-7, 33-37 1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13 Matthew 23: 1-12
<b>November 9</b> 10:30 Cherub Choir 11:00 Worship: New Members join 12:15 Cornucopia Lunch 1:00 Young Adult brunch 4:00 Hilltoppers: "Guys and Dolls" at Hts High	Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78: 1-7 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 Matthew 25: 1-13
<b>November 16</b> 12:30 New Member Brunch Blood Pressure check Haiti update meeting 7:30 Compline service	Judges 4: 1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 Matthew 25: 14-30
<b>November 23</b> Reign of Christ 12:30 Haiti update meeting 2:30 Music recital	Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24 Psalm 100 Ephesians 1: 15-23 Matthew 25: 31-46

**November 30**

**1 Advent**

11:00 WORSHIP: Communion

**Isaiah 64: 1-9**

**Psalms 80: 1-7, 17-19**

**1 Corinthians 1: 3-9**

**Mark 13: 24-37**

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here. The Kerygma Bible Study readings are listed on the Adult Ed page (p. 10).***

The Partnership for Middle East Peace presents

## ***Voices Across the Divide***

At the Cleveland Institute of Art Cinematheque  
11141 East Blvd in University Circle  
Sunday, November 2 at 4 pm

***Voices Across the Divide*** is a powerful documentary and oral history project exploring the Israeli/Palestinian conflict through rarely heard personal stories. It is narrated by Alice Rothchild, an American Jew raised on the tragedies of the Holocaust and the dream of a Jewish homeland in Israel. Dr. Rothchild says "The film follows my personal journey as I begin to understand the Palestinian narrative, while exploring the Palestinian experience of loss, occupation, statelessness, and immigration to the US." She will be present for conversation after the film.

One showing only!

Contact FHC member Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com))  
for more information

## ***Announcements! Announcements!***

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>December Dates</b></p> <p>Dec. 7 Fair Trade Gift Bazaar</p> <p>Dec. 21 Festival of Lessons &amp; Carols</p> <p>Dec. 24 Family Worship, 5 pm</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Candlelight Worship, 11 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Advent begins Nov. 30 and so does the Advent Adult Ed series (see p. 11)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Did you know that your monthly or weekly donation to FHC can be paid on-line with your other regular payments? It's free, easy, and convenient!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on November 14 December 12 January 16, 2015</p>

The church phone number is 216-321-2660. Our website is  
[www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)

Emails and extensions for the staff are as follows:

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**Clover Beal**, [pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org), ext 201

**Dacia Prins** (children) [dacia@fhcpresb.org](mailto:dacia@fhcpresb.org), ext 206

**Keon Abner** (youth) [keon.abner@fhcpresb.org](mailto:keon.abner@fhcpresb.org), ext 207

**Anne Wilson** (music), [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org), ext 208

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Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257