

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



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Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor

Rev. Clover Reuter Beal, Assoc. Pastor

Rev. Tricia Dykers-Koenig, Parish Assoc.

Anne Wilson, Ministry of Music

Dacia Prins, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Shannon Headen, Interim Dir. of Youth Education

Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 21, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

The Third Sunday in the Season of Advent

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

If you are visiting, please join us in wearing a name tag so that we might greet you.

Our ushers have large print editions of the Bible and today's bulletin, hearing devices, activity bags with quiet activities for children staying in worship, and directions to our Monticello Wing nursery for babies and young children.

Announcements

Prelude

arr. Cathy Moglebust

"I Wonder As I Wander"

Voices in Bronze; Chris Vandall, percussion

Lighting of the Advent

Candles The Dyck / Troyer family

Reader One: Because too many people are wandering in the wilderness, because too many people are sitting in the valley of the shadow of death, we light candles...

Reader Two: Because people all over the world are suffering and we are too busy to notice, we light candles...

Reader One: Today we stop everything and light these candles: one for hope, one for peace, one for joy, and one for love...

(Light all four candles in the Advent wreath)

Reader Two: May the light from these candles overwhelm the world...

All: May the light from these candles illuminate the valley of the shadow of death... May the light and the fire from these candles burn away everything that is preventing God's Love from being born among us.

Reader One: Brothers and sisters, be not afraid, even now - even now - God's love is overwhelming the world...

Carol No. 140

"Once in Royal David's City"

Singing Instructions # 140

Stanza 1: Henry Dyck, soloist

Stanza 2: choir

Organ interlude

* Stanzas 3 and 4: All stand and sing

Lesson 1: "When the Time Was Right" John Bell

Read by Edie Duncan, James Birdsell, Claire Jesberger
and Grant Heineman

Carol: "Unexpected and Mysterious"

Calvin Hampton

Kelsey Ferguson, violin

Lesson 2: Luke 1: 26-38

read by Meg Lentz

Carol: "A La Nanita Nana"

Spanish carol, arr. Henry Kihlken

Sine Nomine Choir

Kurt Haas, guitar; Kelsey Ferguson, violin

Lesson 3: Luke 2: 8-20

read by Paul Jennings

Carol: "Glory to God" (from *Messiah*) G. F. Handel

Lesson 4: "The Lamb"

William Blake

Read by Margaret Dyck

Carol No. 114

"Away in a Manger"

Singing Instructions # 114

St. 1: Descant Choir

St. 2:, Vaughn Ullom, solo

St. 3: All sing (remain seated)

Carol: "Still, Still, Still"

Austrian carol

Descant Choir; John Lentz, harmonica

Lesson 5: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7 Read by Shannon Headen

Carol: "For He Was Born"

Ann Kapp Anderson

Lesson 6: "When the World Was Dark"

Iona Community

Read by Gary Sampson

*** Carol No. 10**

"Love Has Come"

Lesson 7: John 1: 1-5, 9-14 read by Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

Offertory Carol: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

arr. Phillip Ledger

*** Benediction** Rev. Clover Beal

Leader: On the eve of Christmas hatred will vanish;
On the eve of Christmas the earth will flourish;
On the eve of Christmas war will be gone;
On the eve of Christmas love will be born.
When we offer a glass of water to a thirsty person,

All: It is Christmas.

Leader: When we clothe a naked person with a gown of love,

All: It is Christmas.

Leader: When we wipe the tears from weeping eyes,

All: It is Christmas.

Leader: When in my heart I no longer want to stay apart,

All: It is Christmas.

Leader: When I am buried in the being of God,

All: It is Christmas.

*** Carol No. 141**

"On This Day Earth Shall Ring"

Carol: "I Saw Three Ships"

English carol, arr. Dolores Hruby

Descant Choir

Colin Burleigh, xylophone

Soloists: Cassie Webster, Vaughn Ullom, Madi Moore,

Troy Prins, Lotus Headen

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Passing of the Peace**

“In dulci jubilo”



Welcome Visitors!

We look forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. Visitor welcome bags are available in the foyers and the narthex. Take one home with you! Be sure to visit our website, **www.fhcpresb.org**, to find a complete list of upcoming events, education programs for all ages, and texts and audio of past sermons.

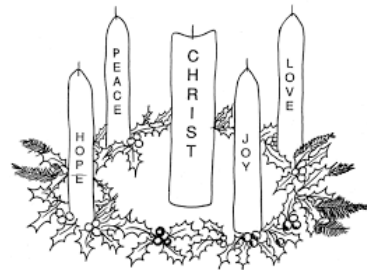
Congregational Notes

Music

The Advent trumpeter is Scott Lafferty.

Lighting the Advent Candles

Jeff Dyck and Lara Troyer, Henry and Margaret Dyck are lighting today's Advent candles.



Prayer Concerns this Week

Prayers are requested this week for the following:

Jane Frederick, Mary Lewis, Arlene and Jack Quinn, Margaret and George Sentell, Debbie Ungemach, Ray and Pat Weissbrod.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Bill and Kay Currie, Flora Dannemiller, Pat Drake, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Iris Gilbert, Ron and Florence Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Margie and Dwight Stauffer, Elaine Tapié.

We invite you to write prayer requests on a slip of paper from the envelope rack and pass it to an usher during the singing of the middle hymn, to be included in the prayers later in the service. Lists of ongoing prayer concerns are in each month's **TOWER**.

This Month's Ushers

Jim Roosa, Ayodele Solaru. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

Nursery care for babies and young children is available on the second floor of the Monticello Wing.

Attendance last week (including Pathways children): 252

Announcements

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels

Bible and Bagels will take a break and reconvene on January 7, 2015.

Abundance Pantry

Abundance Pantry will serve lunch at 12 pm this Tuesday. If you would like to help with lunch or the pantry, contact Beth Zych (lunch) or Paul Jennings (pantry).

NEXT SUNDAY

Worship will be in Fellowship Hall. Classes and choirs will not meet.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homeless Stand Down

Calling for volunteers! The 2015 Homeless Stand Down is on January 24. We are looking for 10 “personal shoppers” for the morning shift – volunteers who help individuals and families choose sweaters, outerwear and boots. Last year FHC provided a dozen volunteers, and we hope to put together another strong team! Please contact Jack Breisch for more information or to volunteer (jbrei@hawken.edu or 440-241-5149).

Care Group

The All-Church Care Group is responsible for meeting members’ needs during December. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will then be passed on to the Care Group leaders.

Black History Month – February 2015

For Black History Month we will be reading ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks***. Robyn Hales will have copies of the book for sale in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. Books are \$10 for paperback, and can be purchased as a Kindle or audio book at Amazon.com. For more information, call Robyn ([216-659-9566](tel:216-659-9566)). We would like to have 60 participants! There will be an in-depth book review in March as well.

Youth News

Every Sunday

- Mid and Sr High classes meet from 9:30 – 10:30 am.

Today

- All youth are invited to a Christmas party in Bodwell Hall after worship

FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions

Program Staff

Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr. / pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org ext. 200

Rev. Clover Beal / pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org ext 201

Dacia Prins / dacia@fhcpresb.org ext. 206

Anne Wilson / annew@fhcpresb.org ext. 208

Shannon Headen / Shannon@fhcpresb.org ext. 207

Office Staff

Becky Austin / beckya@fhcpresb.org ext 203

Lynda Bernays / office@fhcpresb.org ext 202

Stavros Gazis / office@fhcpresb.org ext 202

FHC Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve, December 24

5:00 pm Family Worship

11:00 pm Candlelight Worship

12:15 am Milk and Cookies reception

We need donations of Christmas cookies for the reception.

Please bring labeled boxes or plates of cookies on Christmas Eve.

December 25-26: Office closed

December 28: Christmas 1

Classes and choirs will not meet

11:00 am Worship in Fellowship Hall

Calendar: December 21-28, 2014

<p>Sunday, December 21: 4 Advent</p> <p>9:00 Child care begins</p> <p>9:30 Adult and Youth Education Descant Choir</p> <p>10:15 Descant Choir activity</p> <p>10:30 Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir</p> <p>11:00 WORSHIP: Festival of Lessons and Carols Children in Worship</p> <p>12:15 Coffee hour Blood pressure check Youth Christmas Party</p> <p>Monday, December 22</p> <p>8:45 am Tai Chi</p> <p>6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)</p> <p>7:00 pm Al Anon</p> <p>7:30 pm AA: Borton Group</p>	<p>Tuesday, December 23</p> <p>12:00 pm Abundance Pantry Lunch</p> <p>1:00 pm Abundance Pantry opens</p> <p>Wednesday, December 24 Christmas Eve</p> <p>12:30 pm Wednesday Women's AA</p> <p>5:00 pm Family Worship</p> <p>11:00 pm Candlelight Worship</p> <p>12:15 am Milk and Cookies reception</p> <p>Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day – office closed</p> <p>Friday, December 26 Office closed</p> <p>Sunday, December 28: 1 Christmas</p> <p>10:30 Child care begins</p> <p>10:30 Continental Breakfast</p> <p>11:00 WORSHIP in Fellowship Hall</p> <p>12:15 Coffee hour</p>
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The poinsettias are given by

Chris and Dave Bell in honor of dear family and friends

Joanne Bielek in memory of Robert Bielek

Nancy Burcham in memory of Bill Burcham

The Cameron family in loving memory of Dr. Donald B. Cameron,

Ann Cameron, Mary Margaret Cameron and Alan Scott Cameron.

Don and Betty Clark in memory of their parents

Cathy and Don Ghiandoni in honor of their grandchildren

The Gifford family in honor of Robert and Mary Sacha and in memory of

Dick and Marilyn Gifford and Elizabeth Kosnik

Margie and Mike Glaros in memory of their parents, Eleanor and Don Luff

and Leona and Chris Glaros

Ron and Marcia Grant in memory of Bob and Louise Boylan and

Art and Hazel Grant

Don and Nancy Grube in honor of Anne Wilson, for her 25 years at FHC

Barbara Hansen in memory of Lamont Hansen and Ethel Van Fleet

David and Anne Hunter in honor of and in memory of loved ones

Cliff and Jane Kowall in memory of parents Walter and Elaine Grasson

and Paul and Dorothy Kowall

Deanne and John Lentz in memory of Peter Lentz and Kate Lentz

The Leslie / Richards/ Strachan families in memory of

Hugh, Lois and Barb Leslie

Jon O. Newton in memory of his father, John "Pa" Newton

Vikki Nowak and Todd Webster in memory of Chessie Bleick

Marjorie Ravas in memory of her parents, Dorothy and E. J. Reick

Jim and Pat Seeders in memory of the Seeders and Rice families

Jean Seeley in memory of husband Bill and brother Bill

Dan and Joanne Shaner in honor of Peg and Dave Gamble's 45th and

Sara and Randy Shaner's 43rd wedding anniversaries

Stephen Sedam and Virginia Weiss in honor of Anne and Jeff Smith and
Doris Allen; and in memory of Nelson and Ann Weiss and Herbert
and Ruth Sedam

Jeff and Anne Smith in honor of Camille, Aiden, Andrew, Niki, Sophie,
Chloe, Norah, Kayleigh and Danielle

Dele and Damos Solaru in memory of Otunba Adebajo Solaru and
Opeoluwa Bello

Ben and Drew Stadler in honor of Betty Lyon, Walt Lyon, and
Shirley Stadler

Dorothy Turick in memory of Frank and Ida Turick

Mark and Carol Wedell in memory of Ted Wedell and Ray Wedell

Sharon Wiggins in memory of Rev. and Mrs. Nelson

The Wollaeger and Olson families in memory of Bill and Nancy Olson

Bob and Ginny Young in memory of loved ones

Dene Young in memory of loved ones

The wreaths on the front doors are a gift from the Hilltop Garden Club



Living Water /Community Empowerment In Gabo, Haiti

Remember raising \$15,000 at the wildly successful auction at SOHO this past September? Remember the beautiful quilts, the art pieces, the fast-talking whip-up-the-crowd auctioneer and the generous anonymous donor? Remember all that money was going to build a well in Gabo, Haiti?

Good News!!! The well is drilled and productive! Pure, living water flows in the village of Gabo. But equally wonderful is that the Gabo community has elected leaders who have been taught how to responsibly manage and sustain this new resource permanently for the benefit of all in the village. Our investment in building the facility is matched by the community's investment in building its capacity for making and enforcing regulations that keep the water flowing clean and safe.

Haiti Outreach is not an ordinary charitable organization. What sets them apart is the recognition that, for any development work to be sustainable, the solution must come from the people. Community participation and responsibility are integral and required throughout the entire life of any project. Haiti Outreach is dedicated to helping Haiti become a developed nation—building and maintaining community-initiated projects.

Here is the message we received last week from Haiti Outreach Executive Director Dale Snyder:

Friends -

I am pleased to report that when we drilled the second well at Gabo we found water! And we tested it just today to make sure it was sufficient and it is! We also received your second payment for the balance of the well. So this is all great news that we are delighted to share with you. It means that they should be able to complete the well yet this year. It may be close to the end of the year, and our staff is on holiday from the 24th until January, but we hope to wrap it up and will keep you informed, and of course take photos of the inauguration, regardless of when it takes place.

Thank you so much for your great patience. Although we wish it was, this experience is not that unusual for us in Haiti, and one of the reasons it is not as easy to work there as many other places more developed.

Thank you so very much for your generosity in providing a clean, community- managed well for the people of Gabo. Please ask any questions and keep me informed if some of you would like to join us on a trip. And, if you would like to adopt another well, just let me know and we can select another one for you.

Best wishes for a joyous and blessed holiday season.

*Dale Snyder
Executive Director
Haiti Outreach, Inc*

About your monthly newsletters -- the *TOWER*

Several years ago we offered you the opportunity to read the TOWER online, as it is posted on the website each month. Many of you requested to no longer receive a printed copy. We were pleased to be able to reduce the mailing cost each month. If you would like to resume receiving a printed copy, please call or email the church office.

If you now receive a printed copy and would be just as happy reading it online, please let us know that as well.

Each month the finished TOWERs are put out the Sunday they are ready (that's TODAY), in the hopes that many of you would pick up your copy. When we stamp them on Monday, we often notice names of people who were in church the day before. How about a New Year's Resolution (it's the January TOWER, after all) to look for your TOWER and save us the .69 it costs to mail it?

Thank you, from the Monday office staff and volunteer.

FAITH GUIDES

*O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me. — Psalm 43:3*



Christmas Joy
OFFERING

The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance for those who have dedicated their lives to the service of the church and supports leadership development and education at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

Three ways to give to the Christmas Joy Offering



Through your congregation



Text JOY to 20222 to give \$10



presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy



From the Strategy Team of Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC)

GCC Members:

During this season of family, celebration, hope and promise, our hearts are heavy and our eyes opened by the death of Tamir Rice and the Department of Justice Investigation into the Cleveland Division of Police. Our prayers are with the families of those who have lost loved ones in police incidents, and those who have lost family members to gun violence in any form. As we celebrate this season with our families, we will be conscious of those whose families will find it very difficult to celebrate.

We write to describe to you GCC's strategy and plans for leadership in this time of crisis. As you know, from our inception, GCC has worked for a broad reform of the Criminal Justice system in Cuyahoga County. The tragic deaths in Cleveland in recent years shine light on the importance of these efforts. The Department of Justice (DOJ) report released December 4, 2014 revealed systemic deficiencies in the Cleveland Division of Police. This is the second report released in the past 10 years that has cited the need for comprehensive reform in the Cleveland police to deal with its excessive use of force. ***It is important to understand that the city's process for dealing with this report will unfold over time, and that GCC will play a role in keeping the issues before the community, long after the street demonstrations have faded away.***

GCC is committed to strategies and actions with the long-term goals of reform. Our strategies in place before the DOJ report was released are still relevant and valuable, and now have been aligned with the opportunity presented by the DOJ report. While we applaud efforts to maintain public pressure and awareness that are happening on the street, and the efforts of our congregations to support this public witness, this is work that others are doing. The work that GCC is doing is unique and sorely needed. GCC is a recognized stakeholder in the public debate and the search for solutions.

Therefore, our intention is to be well organized, both in our research and in our actions, rather than respond immediately and reactively with demands that may not yet align with our long-term goal of comprehensive structural reform.

The research we need to do involves understanding the progress and outcomes of DOJ investigations in other cities that have had them: New Orleans, Albuquerque, Seattle, and Cincinnati. We need volunteers from our member congregations to serve on these research teams. If you are willing to serve, contact Louise McKinney at louisewennergmcKinney@gmail.com.

We invite you to join us for at least one of three GCC teach-ins to be held during January in our member congregations. They are scheduled for 7 PM at these locations:

- **Antioch Baptist Church in Cleveland on January 13,**
- **West Shore UU Church in Rocky River on January 29, and**
- **Trinity Cathedral in Cleveland on February 3.**

Other forums, listening-sessions and teach-ins are taking place. To avoid confusion, save the dates and watch for more detailed announcements specifically named GCC teach-ins.

These sessions will: a) Present the findings of the 58-page DOJ Report; b) Update and advance the work of the research teams doing case studies of other cities; and c) Further develop our plans for a public action to move the city of Cleveland toward comprehensive, systemic law enforcement and criminal justice reform. Following our field research and teach-ins, we will go public with a large assembly at a strategic moment in the process of dealing with the DOJ findings that will state our demands to hold our public officials accountable.

Sending blessings to you all in your justice work and in your holiday celebrations,

The GCC Strategy Team

FHC member Diana Woodridge is now on the GCC Strategy Team. Please contact her or Jennifer Blakeney, chair of FHC's GCC Core Team for more information of if you would like to get involved.

Diana: dwoodbridge@sbcglobal.net or 216-291-3745

Jennifer: bmlspirit@yahoo.com or 216-491-9844