



Forest Hill Church
presbyterian

The Tower

May 2015

Dear Friends,

***“After nourishment, shelter and companionship,
stories are the thing we need most in the world.”***

-Philip Pullman

Philip Pullman, the British author of the children's book *The Golden Compass*, knows a great truth. We are the stories we tell.

Who doesn't enjoy those family gatherings when everyone reminisces about "crazy" Uncle Phil or Grammy's fantastic chocolate cake? Every now and then I ask my dad to recount his stories of WWII. I like sharing stories of the "devilish" things that I did with my kids who think I haven't experienced anything or ever got in trouble!

The Bible is a collection of stories. From Genesis to Revelation, people of faith collected the shared narratives that defined them. The stories of the Bible often give alternative views of the same events. The tellers of the stories have different opinions and theological convictions. However, the arc of the biblical narrative describes a God who creates, calls, liberates, redeems, saves, reconciles, hold us accountable to justice, and ultimately brings everything together as one.

It is a grand and wonderful narrative that gives us – the believing community – an identity, a vocabulary, and a mission.

The Biblical story also invites you and me to tell our stories of faith. Remember when you experienced something awesome and unexpected—either good or bad. How has that affected your life? Have you ever had a moment when you thought with Jacob “Surely the spirit of God is in this place?” (Gen. 28:16) When have you walked through the “valley of the shadow” and yet felt accompanied by an unseen presence of love? Do you have a story of meeting Jesus?

As I shared in my sermon of April 12, the way to grow Forest Hill Church is to share transformative stories with others. When has Forest Hill Church made a difference in your life? Folks who are seeking a new church home want to know “why should I come to FHC?” They want to know what difference it will make to them.

And, as Mary Oliver reminds us in her poem “Praying”

*It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones;*

*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.*

Tell your stories. It **will** make a difference!

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.
Senior Pastor

***"I have a new philosophy.
I'm only going to dread one day at a time."***

-Charles Schulz

Dear friends,

Tim and I had a dear friend and mentor, Rev. Steve Hayner, die an untimely death (not that any deaths are timely) in January. His was by pancreatic cancer.

The cancer struck out of the blue to an extremely healthy man—in body, mind and spirit. He was one of the smartest, deepest, most joyful Christians I've ever had the honor to know.



As a young adult, I was an intern in Steve's church, and I lived with him, his wife Sharol, and their two young children. I got to know him, and them, up close and personal: in their home, as parents, as a married couple. Living with a family is a pretty true test of whether "the walk matches the talk." Steve and Sharol's faith and actions were in line.

Steve Hayner wrote reflections on his journey toward death from the time of his diagnosis last April to his death in January. His reflections were often about how time takes on fullness as one's awareness of the limited nature of time increases. Each action and reaction became an opportunity for intentional responses to the grace of God. In the midst of his increased suffering, Steve seemed to be drawn into a deeper level of joy and gratitude.

I read a column in the Washington Post by a 37-year old Stanford neurosurgeon, Dr. Paul Kalanithi, titled "Before I Go: A Stanford neurosurgeon's parting wisdom about life and time" (March 12, 2015). It was published just days before he died from metastatic lung cancer.

Kalanithi reflected on the topic of time. He said we always live our days linearly, on clock time; but when we know our days are numbered, time flattens out, clocks become irrelevant, everything slows down, and if you let it each day can be full with the life that is today. Today is all we have. Today is the gift given to us.

The Beals had to put our loving 14-year old dog, Sadie, to sleep on Easter morning. It was a sad irony that she died on Easter day, but as we kept vigil with her for the four days prior to her death, we each experienced a fullness of time. We watched and waited and looked for signs and cried and told stories of her life. And we whispered to her our thanks for what a good dog she had been to our family.

It was a holy experience and I wouldn't trade that sad time of goodbyes for the world.

Oh, how grief stricken were the disciples as they were caught in time between their betrayal of Jesus at his crucifixion and the rising of their Lord on Easter! Time stood still as they waited in terror about what would be next for them.

Frederick Buechner said, “**You are seeing** everything for the last time, and everything you see is gilded with goodbyes. . . .It is the first day because it has never been before and the last day because it will never be again. Be alive if you can all through this day today of your life. . . Live in the needs of the day.”

I am reminded that the grace we are to live into is the fullness of **this** day, **this** time, **this** moment. That's the invitation we are given. A simple thank you for it all is sufficient.

Blessings to you this Eastertide,

Rev. Clover Beal
Associate Pastor
Director of Lay Leadership

Children's Ministry

In April the children explored after-Easter stories, including Jesus' appearance to his disciples on the road to Emmaus and the commissioning of his disciples. On Easter, many participated in an Easter egg hunt. Over 900 eggs were hidden in the Christian Education Wing and all were found, much to the enjoyment of all the children!

Thank you to all who so willingly share their time and talents to help make the Children's Ministry programs a huge success!

- In our nursery, thank you to the mid-high youth.
- In our Children in Worship class, thank you to Lisa Koops, Kate Kolmodin, and Lara Troyer.
- In our Pathways to the Promise Land, thank you to Danielle Cosgrove, Jenny Himmelman, Carol Leslie, Kate Burleigh, Clyde & Karen Loughridge, Jeremy Ryman & Diane Moyer, and Jed Koops.
- A big thank you to Kara Schellenberg, Laurie Logan, and Robin Mervine for helping with the Easter egg hunt!

Children's Christian Education

Young Children in Worship Pre-School and Kindergarten (ages 3-5)

In May the children will explore some of the parables of Jesus, such as the good Samaritan, the great banquet, and the sower. Each lesson has an activity response to the story to help the children better understand the story. Be sure to ask your children what they have learned in class!

Pathways to the Promise Land Grades 1-5

Our last rotation for this program year focuses on the *Witness to God's Presence: Witnesses Today*. The faith stories of men and women from 2000-5000 years ago have been recorded in the Bible. Even today, God calls us to be witnesses of God's presence, acting as the eyes, ears, feet and hands of God on earth. The children will explore this theme through story and movement.

To Our Forest Hill Family,

After much prayer and consideration, I have made the decision to resign as Director of Children's Ministry. My last Sunday will be June 7th.

I count it a privilege to have had the opportunity to work at Forest Hill as the Director of Children's Ministry. I have learned and grown so much during my time as Director of Children's Ministry. This position was not just a job, it was a ministry and an opportunity to serve Christ and I will be forever grateful for my time at Forest Hill. The wonderful children and families have left a lasting impression on me. I have been blessed by the support of all the members and the remarkable staff.

At the end of June our family will be moving to Texas where Dustin has accepted a job in a podiatric practice. Even though our time has been short at Forest Hill, we have been truly blessed by the love and support you have shown our family. Our entire family will miss Forest Hill dearly. I will continue to pray for Forest Hill to grow in accordance to God's plan.

Blessings,

Dacia Prins

Director of Children's Ministry

Dates to Know

May 3 KISS – Kids In Sunday Service

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

May 3 Presentation of Bibles

Children in Grades 1-5 who have not received a Bible from Forest Hill Church will be presented with one.

May 10 Gathering Time – Witnesses Today

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

May 17 Confirmation Sunday

Children in Grades 1-5 will remain in worship to celebrate confirmation.

May 24 Pathways to the Promise Land

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

May 24 Last Day of Classes for All

Youth Ministry

Celebrate Mother's Day at Forest Hill Church. On **May 10**, the Youth Ministry will be selling ravishing red roses and delectable decedent desserts in Fellowship Hall before and after worship. Honor a mother with a token of your love while supporting our wonderful youth. All proceeds will benefit the Mission Trip. To donate a dozen cookies, please contact **Shannon Headen** (Shannon@fhcpresb.org).

It's not too late to participate in the **Sr. High Mission Trip** to Harlan, KY. Please drop by the Youth Ministry Office for more information.

We'd like to extend a great big **"Thank You"** to all the volunteers this month: Jordan Dail, Krystal Taft, Krystal LaFontaine, Shawn Bittner, Elder Sharon Shumaker and especially Elder Rachel Martinez with Ten Thousand Villages for a wonderful presentation.

Special thanks to all the **crucifers** over the last two months: Molly Webster, Ian Zych, Trent Swain, Nora Duncan, Grant Heineman, Will Burleigh and Blake Himes.

To stay informed, please visit our newly updated Youth Facebook page! Our goal is to reach **100** likes!

Shannon Headen
Director of Youth Ministry



Music Notes



I hope to see everyone at the annual **MAY CABARET** on Sunday, May 3 beginning with supper (pizza and salad?) at 6:15 pm and continuing with our family-friendly intergenerational variety show at 7:00 pm. Some highlights this year include: the Descant and Sine Nomine choirs singing *Happy*, ballerina Devyn Etling, singer Jessica Klein's *New York State of Mind*, and lots more, including fun audience-participation stuff (do you remember the words to *This is the House That Jack Built*)?

May 17 is **Confirmation Sunday** and the Sine Nomine Choir will provide music leadership that day. May 24 is **Pentecost**, and some local jazz musicians will be joining us that morning as we celebrate the tongues of fire through the improvisational spirit. The Descant Choir will have its annual party at Forest Hill Park (during regular rehearsal time) on Sunday, May 31.

This year, the Chancel Choir will sing through June 14, and the Summer Choir will begin when we revert to the **10:00 am worship time on Sunday, June 21.**

All ages are welcome in the **Summer Choir**, even children and babes in arms. There is a brief rehearsal from 9:30 to 9:55 am in the downstairs choir room, then the service at 10:00 am. Give it a try—it's fun to experience worship from "the other side!" Summer Choir meets through July.

On a personal note, I will be walking the ancient pilgrimage route called El Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James) during June and early July. It begins in southern France and then traverses across northern Spain until one reaches the cathedral in the city of Santiago de Compostela, near the Atlantic coast in northwestern Spain. It's over 500 miles with a constantly-changing terrain. More about that next month!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson

Organist/Director of Music

anne@fhcpres.org

216-870-2729

Deacons' Corner

In the month of April, the Deacons reached out to our congregation, families and loved ones in a variety of ways. In addition to prayers shared, calls made, cards sent and meals delivered, we had the pleasure of delivering Easter lilies to those in our community who are home bound or in a nursing home. We truly felt fortunate to extend some joy in this way, and we were very appreciative of Mary McMillan's skillfully developed organizational plan in making this all come together!

Reminder: A greeting card table is set up in Fellowship Hall every Sunday. Please consider writing a few words of concern or joy to someone noted in the church bulletin. We will take care of addresses and mailing!

Stewardship

Think about all of those important financial investments in our lives that we make online monthly, some ***before*** we see our paycheck: taxes, retirement savings, tuition, health insurance, maybe a gym membership! Have you ever considered setting up an ***automatic payment of your pledge***? Your gift can arrive at the church regularly even when you are traveling, sick, or unavailable. It is as easy as setting up an automatic payment through your bank. The bank mails a check to FHC on the dates that you specify.

The work of our ministries is always underway. Forest Hill Church serves our congregation and community better when we receive steady income throughout the year. So while setting up automatic payment through your bank can be a convenience for you, it facilitates God's work all year long!

If you already submit your gifts via bill pay, thank you. If you have questions about the process, feel free to contact Becky Austin (beckya@fhcpresb.org). Please note that at this time, online bill payment is the only automated process the church has in place to receive regular pledges.

Thank you again for supporting the yearlong mission of Forest Hills Church!

From the Financial Office

Dear Members and Friends,

The financial office is improving the way we handle checks for deposit. Beginning in May, we will scan them at church (you may have seen this procedure when you do your banking). This gives us immediate access to the funds and enables swift payment of our obligations. It also minimizes our volunteers' time at the bank.

Please note: *This means that shortly after you give a check to the church (quite likely the same day) it will be cashed – there is no ‘float time.’*

This new procedure will be phased in during the month of May but we wanted you to know in advance so you can get used to the idea of immediate turnaround.

Thank you all for your support of the church!

Becky Austin, financial admin.

Adult Education

May 3 and 10, 9:30 am: DVD series on *Embracing the Prophet in Contemporary Culture*, by Walter Brueggemann. Facilitated by Tim Beal and Kermit Lind.

May 17, 24, 31 and June 7—Topic to be announced (stay tuned!)

Watch for *Summer Adult Education* programming
starting in late June!

GREATER CLEVELAND CONGREGATIONS

*No permanent enemies. No permanent allies.
Only permanent interests: Justice.*

This describes Greater Cleveland Congregations' strategy for carrying out its social justice mission. It is why GCC isn't marching in demonstrations or calling for resignation of public leaders. Instead, organizers at GCC are building relationships with such leaders as Cleve. Mayor Frank Jackson, County Prosecutor Tim McGinty, and Cleve. Municipal School District CEO, Eric Gordon.

In conversation, leaders are made aware of the concerns and goals of our member congregations. They are asked to support our work for justice. If they need encouragement, we bring out our congregants to public assemblies to show the power of numbers behind the GCC leaders.

GCC has been very effective and has accomplished much, but like all things political, it takes time. So hang in there and know that the issues of improving the Cuyahoga County Criminal Justice system and the Cleveland Police Department, maximizing opportunity for regional public school students, and encouraging gun safety legislation and the manufacture of safe guns, are being addressed with careful deliberation and strategizing.

The Forest Hill Church Core Team will keep you informed when your support is needed. If you would like to be more involved in research or other leadership opportunities, please contact any of our GCC Core Team leaders for more information or to get involved.

Jennifer Blakeney (bmlspirit@yahoo.com)

Diana Woodbridge (dwoodbridge@sbcglobal.net)

Barb Cloud, Ed Gemerchak, Gretchen Reynolds, Ron Register,

Charity McDonald



Earth Care and Biodiversity

An internet article on the Last of the Northern White Rhinos reported only 5 (FIVE!) white rhinos left in the entire world: one male and four females. Breeding has been unsuccessful; extinction is imminent. We know why—poaching, to satisfy the misbegotten belief in the dubious medical benefits of rhino horns held by certain peoples.

God gave us a cornucopia of plant and animal life—for our sustenance and God’s pleasure—along with “dominion” over all things. But with dominion comes responsibility. Throughout history, people have plundered the natural world and many animal species have been lost.

There is a complex intertwining network of all living things, and most of us now know that when we ‘break the chain,’ there are consequences. When one species is gone, others are affected, and eventually all of us.

We also know, as our scientific knowledge has grown, that many potential cures for disease and solutions to the world’s problems may lie within the miracle of life of even the tiniest creatures. The care of creation—maintaining the biodiversity of planet earth—is in our hands. It is the responsibility of God-loving peoples.

But how do we revere biodiversity? How do we protect habitats and conserve natural resources? Do we engage in our local community, state, national and even international forums regarding protecting and maintaining the natural world of biodiversity?

The Earth Care Team continues to urge support for reputable non-governmental organizations that are leading efforts to save those who cannot speak for themselves. Please consider supporting the **World Wildlife Fund**, the **Center for Biodiversity**, the **Natural Resources Defense Council**, the **National Wildlife Federation**, the **Sierra Club**, the **Rainforest Alliance**, the **Defenders of Wildlife**, and/or **Earth Justice**. Just “Google” them and get involved!

Dave Neff and the Earth Care Team

News of Our Church Family

Births

Danielle Jordyn Smith, daughter of Dan and Kristin Smith, was born April 6, 2015. Danielle is the sister of Kayleigh, and granddaughter of Anne and Jeff Smith.

Amelia Dolan, daughter of Libby and Andy Dolan and sister of Jack, was born Tuesday April 21.

Baptisms

Samuel Christopher Franklin Wayne Salkin, son of Heidi and Steve Salkin, was baptized on March 29, 2015.

In Memoriam We Remember

Kathleen Davis Currie (Kay), who died April 8, 2015. A memorial service will be held on May 9 at 1 pm at FHC.

New Contact Information

John and Pat Borthwick

36500 Euclid Ave #374
Willoughby, OH 44094
440-465-0558

Charissa and Erik Peterson

3262 Churchill Dr.
Woodbury MN 55125

Don and Betty Clark

Aberdeen Crossing #115
399 Bishop Rd
Highland Hts, OH 44143
216-531-3575

Jack and Arlene Quinn

Brookdale Senior Living
550 Wilmette Ave #225
Ormond Beach CA 32174

New email only

Nancy Lyon-Stadler: nlyonstadler@gmail.com

Care Group

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

Members of the Jordan CARE Group are:

Mary McMillan, Deacon Leader	Neil & Kathy Molyneaux
Debbie Adrine	Jon Newton
Betsy & Joe Andrews	Linda Rainey
Mike & Danielle Cosgrove	John & Kara Schellenberg & family
Dale & Elaine Dannefer	Jim & Pat Seeders
Sally Davis	Dan & Kristin Smith
Ralph & Kathy Dise	Dalma Takacs
Ron & Marcia Grant	Grace Uhle
Roger & Consuelo Heineman & family	Tori Weisberg & family
Dorothy Herd	Becky & Brian West & family
Carl Jenks	Marilyn Wilk
Ellen McChesney	Diana Woodbridge

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Bill Currie, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Iris Gilbert, Ron and Florence Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Margie and Dwight Stauffer, Elaine Tapié

Please pray for those with ongoing prayer concerns:

Arlene and Jack Quinn, Dennis Wedding (Jeannine Gury's brother).

Volunteer Hours in March

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Pat Jenkins, Beth Zych, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn and the TOWER volunteers (Marilyn Wilke and Betty Clark) –worked a total of 69¼ hours in March. Thank you all! And special thanks to Peg Weissbrod, who took over the office when Lynda was away.

Thank you, Forest Hill Church, for the lovely Easter lily. It brightened my week while I was recovering from recent foot surgery!

Kris (and Bill) Fay



Come One....Come All

The all-church, intergenerational, everyone-needs-to-chip-in, springtime, sunshine workday is scheduled for **SATURDAY MAY 2** from 9 am - noon. Did we mention everyone's got a place in this "choir"? Munchies provided; childcare if needed.

Contact David Hunter to get your name on the list and to be assigned the best jobs!

Dhunter10@sbcglobal.net or 440-646-1853

Meet FHC's Newest Members, who Joined March 29

Mike and Danielle Cosgrove are rejoining Forest Hill after several years' absence. We welcome them and their sons Jaden and Eli and look forward to continuing our relationship with them. Mike is an Assistant Director for Cleveland's Department of Community Development and Neighborhood Stabilization Program Manager. Both Mike and Danielle have helped enrich the children's education program.

Marcie Denton and **Chris Vandall** have quickly settled in at Forest Hill. Chris is active as both a singer and a percussionist for several of our choirs, including the Voices in Bronze bell choir and the Steel Drum band. A former stay-at-home dad, Chris is currently a middle-school music teacher in Painesville. Marcie teaches kindergarten in Shaker and is co-president of Monticello's PTA. They have three school-aged children: Garrett, Meridith, and Harry.

Julie Gran is an enthusiastic Midwesterner from Indiana. She comes from a family of Lutheran pastors and has been active in Lutheran congregations in Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio, but has found a home at Forest Hill Presbyterian. She lives in Cleveland Hts. with her partner Keli Zehnder, her two children, Soren (17, at St. Ed's) and Elsa (14, at Beaumont), and two stepchildren, Claire (14, at Hawken) and Audrey (12, at Ruffing Montessori.) She is a civil rights attorney for the U.S. Dept. of Education.

Mary and Steve Hosier are recent transplants from Minnesota who discovered Forest Hill through member Christine Henry. They have two grown children and are expecting their first grandchild. They are looking forward to participating in Pacesetters.

Paolo Ianarelli is the grandson of member Bill Proudfit. He and his wife Maria Rajki have two children, Ben (4) and Maggie (2). Paola was raised in Cleveland Heights, and now lives in Euclid. He recently received his degree in occupational therapy and is currently job hunting. He loves everything outdoors (hunting, fishing, archery, mushrooming) and keeps bees!

Krystal LaFontaine (Krystal #2) has been attending Forest Hill with her partner Krystal Taft (Krystal #1) for some time now and has enjoyed getting involved in spiritual development through Forest Hill's adult education classes and in social justice issues. She participated in the Gay Pride Parade and sang in the Summer Choir last summer. Krystal is an IT specialist with Progressive Insurance.

Sherry Leinweber lives in Chardon with her cat "Yoda-Mu." She enjoys bowling and bowls in two different leagues. She invites people to ask her about her multiple tattoos, especially the butterfly tattoo (there's an interesting story behind it!) She was introduced to Forest Hill by members Shawn Bittner and Krystals 1 and 2.

Heidi Salkin and her husband Steve were married by Pastor Clover Beal and now have a son, Sam. Heidi is a hair stylist and a master of social media (be sure to visit her Pinterest pages!) She is joining by Reaffirmation of Faith.

Becky and Michael Stawovy (pronounced “Stavovy”) live in Cleveland Hts. with their 3 children: Stosh (a freshman at Heights High), Sammy (an 8th grader at Roxboro Middle School) and Stella (a 2nd grader at Roxboro Elementary school). They are both employed as Materials Engineers.

Leslie and Rob Strachan were married at Forest Hill by John Lentz. Leslie is the niece of Elder Carol Leslie and grew up here, joining Forest Hill as a confirmand, before leaving for college. Rob and Leslie moved back to the area in 2011 and are living in Hudson. She is an employee relations coordinator for Summa Health System, and Rob works with his family business in Twinsburg. They look forward to raising their 5-month-old son Carter in the Forest Hill family.

Social Groups and Circles

Young Adults (20s-30s): Second Sunday Brunch – May 9

Pacesetters (40s – 60s): GAME LOVERS night

The Pacesetters’ May event will be a Game Night on Saturday, May 9 at 7 PM at the home of Carol and Mark Wedell, 27809 South Woodland, Pepper Pike, Ohio. Come for an evening of fellowship, inspiration, insanity, and laughter! No preparation necessary...just bring your wits and a desire for some fun competition. Soft drinks and snacks will be provided—you are welcome to bring an alcoholic beverage if you wish. No need to RSVP; *all* are welcome, especially new members and visitors to Forest Hill!

For questions or directions, please contact Mark Wedell (440-497-8945, mark.wedell@averydennison.com) or Carol Wedell (216-470-0152, carolwedell@gmail.com).

May 9, Wedells’ home, 7 pm

The Group (60s – 70s): Suburban Symphony

The Group will attend the Suburban Symphony Orchestra concert on Sunday, May 17 at 3:30 pm, and gather for dinner at Anatolia’s on Lee Road after the concert. The concert features a superb violinist and promises to be a fine afternoon. Please RSVP your dinner reservations to Anne Hunter (anneshunter8@gmail.com or 440-646-1853)

May 17, Suburban Symphony and Dinner, 3:30 pm

Hilltoppers (retired) : Annual Luncheon

June 19, 2015 will be the annual Hilltopper's Luncheon at The Hilton Garden at 11:30 am. Following lunch we will have our planning meeting for the 2015 - 2016 year. More information will follow, but for now please save the date.

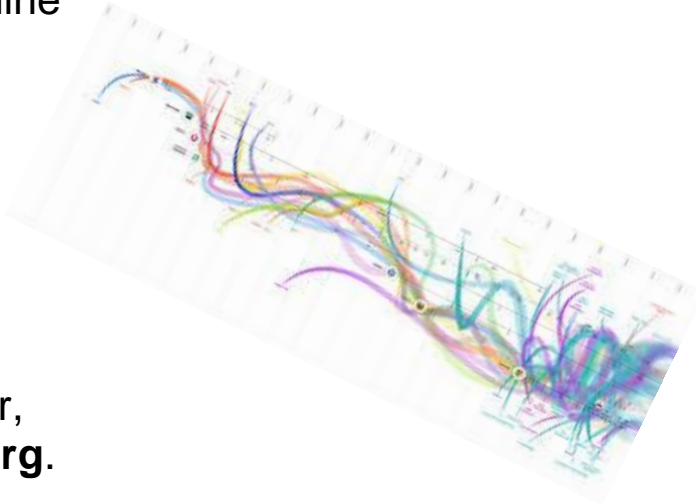
June 19, The Hilton Garden, 11:30 am

Notes from the Web....

Remember...our Forest Hill Church website isn't just for visitors! There are all kinds of helpful links for members. For example, you do all this online:

- Listen to and/or read past sermons online
- Access the church directory
- Read current and past bulletins
- Read current and past Towers
- Check which Congregational CARE group you're in
- Learn how to pay your pledge online

Want to know more? Contact our web editor, Peg Weissbrod, at **webeditor@fhcpresb.org**.



What to Say in Fellowship Hall to . . .

A core value of Forest Hill is being hospitable and inclusive, but it's not always easy making conversation with people we don't know very well.

So we've decided to share some tips for making conversation with all kinds of different people. They work anywhere, but we're calling this ***What to say in Fellowship Hall to...*** A teenager. Someone who just lost their job. An expectant mom. Someone who's had a death in the family.

But we're starting off with the hardest category. Someone whose membership status you don't know.

We've all been there. Someone you don't recognize is standing right next to you at the donut table. You want to introduce yourself, but what if you discover they've been members for years?

Step one. Think. Is this the first time you remember seeing this person? If you're pretty sure this is a new face, introduce yourself, say you haven't been in church lately, and ask if they've been coming to Forest Hill for very long.

If it *is* their first time here, congratulations! You just saved a first-time guest from the dreaded "Here-I-am-but-no-one's-talking-to-me" blues.

Step two. ***Don't*** launch into a sales pitch for Forest Hill Church. Instead, ask them about themselves. Where do they live? How did they hear about Forest Hill? Are they long-time residents searching for a new church or did they just move to the area? Are they married? A student? Have kids? Recently retired?

Once you know a bit about them, don't monopolize them. If you see someone else you could introduce them to, great. Otherwise, thank them for coming, smile warmly, and tell them you hope to see them again.

The same process works with someone who's been visiting for several months. You want to get to know them, not sell them on Forest Hill. Find out what brought them here. Ask what they like or don't like about what they've experienced so far.

And if worse comes to worse and someone tells you they've been a member for over 30 years, you can always exclaim, "I ***thought*** you looked familiar!"

Then go ahead and ask where their name tag is!

2015 HEIGHTS CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Teams	Time	Forest Hill Park Field
1	April 19	FHC vs Korean Central	3:15 pm	#5
2	April 26	St. John vs FHC	3:15 pm	#6
3	May 3	St. Ann's vs FHC	3:15 pm	#5
4	May 10	<i>Mother's Day - No games</i>	n/a	n/a
5	May 17	FHC vs Ch. of the Saviour 'B'	3:15 pm	#4
6	May 24	FHC vs Fairmount	6:00 pm	#7
7	May 31	<i>Memorial Day Weekend – No games</i>	n/a	n/a
8	June 7	FHC vs Christian Assembly	3:15 pm	#6
9	June 14	FHC vs Ch. of the Saviour 'A'	3:15 pm	#4
10	June 21	<i>Rain Makeup</i>	tbd	
11	June 28	FHC vs Fairmount	6:00 pm	#7
12	July 5	<i>4th of July Games</i>	tbd	
13	July 12	St. John vs FH	3:15 pm	#6
14	July 19	St. Ann's vs FHC	3:15 pm	#4
15	July 26	Double Elimination Tournament	tbd	
16	Aug.2	Double Elimination Tournament	tbd	

Sundays in May

9:00 Child care begins
9:30 Adult education
 Youth education
 Confirmation
 Descant Choir
10:15 Descant Choir activity
10:30 Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
11:00 WORSHIP
 Children in Worship class
11:00 May 10: Pathways to the Promise Land
11:15 May 24: Pathways to the Promise Land
12:15 Coffee Hour
 Sine Nomine Choir (Gr. 6-12) (May 3, 10)
4:40 Labre Project (May 10, 24)

Classes and children's choirs end May 24.
The summer schedule begins June 21 (note change).

May 3 5 Easter 11:00 Worship: Communion Presentation of First Grade Bibles 6:15 May Cabaret (6:15 dinner, 7 pm show)	Acts 8: 26-40 Psalm 22: 25-31 1 John 4: 7-21 John 15: 1-8
May 10 Mother's Day Youth Flower and Bake Sale 12:30 Young Adult Brunch	Acts 10: 44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5: 1-6 John 15: 9-17
May 17 7 Easter 11:00 Worship: Confirmation Dedication of Maya Garrett 12:15 Blood Pressure check 3:30 The Group: Suburban Symphony	Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5: 9-13 John 17: 6-19
May 24 Day of Pentecost	Acts 2: 1-21 Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b Romans 8: 22-27 John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15
May 31 Trinity Sunday No children's classes or choirs	Isaiah 6: 1-8; Psalm 29 Romans 8: 12-17 John 3: 1-17

Announcements! Announcements!

Children's classes and choirs end May 24.		The summer schedule begins June 21
Electronic check scanning will begin in May. See page 10 for details.		TOWER deadlines: 7 am on May 15 June 19 Aug 14

The church phone number is 216-321-2660. Our website is
www.fhcpresb.org

Emails and extensions for the staff are as follows:

Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.	<i>Pastor</i>	<u>pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org</u>
Rev. Clover Beal	<i>Pastor</i>	<u>pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org</u>
Anne Wilson	<i>Music</i>	<u>annew@fhcpresb.org</u>
Dacia Prins	<i>Children</i>	<u>dacia@fhcpresb.org</u>
Shannon Headen	<i>Youth</i>	<u>shannon@fhcpresb.org</u>
Lynda Bernays	<i>Administration</i>	<u>office@fhcpresb</u>
Becky Austin	<i>Finance</i>	<u>beckya@fhcpresb.org</u>
Peg Weissbrod	<i>Publicity</i>	<u>webeditor@fhcpresb.org</u>
Stavros Gazis	<i>Custodial</i>	<u>office@fhcpresb</u>

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

If you worshipped with us on one, several or many occasions and would like to get to know us better, please come to our . . .

“Getting To Know You” Dinner
Friday May 22nd – 6:30 pm
at the home of Rachel Martinez-Finn and Bill Finn
2592 Berkshire Road, Cleveland Heights
hosted by Forest Hill’s Welcoming Team

The evening will be a fun, informal opportunity to meet with Pastor John and some of Forest Hill Church’s leaders.

Appetizers, beverages, main course and dessert will be provided.

Guests who wish are welcome to bring a side dish to share.

RSVP to Diana Woodbridge 216.291-3745 or
dwoodbridge@sbcglobal.net
Or the church office 216.321-
2660/office@fhcpresb.org

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Save the Date – June 14

Theologian Walter Brueggemann will be at Forest Hill Church!

He will lead the 9:30 Adult Ed class, preach at 11 am,
and give a public lecture at 2 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Regularly scheduled events: meet every week unless noted	6:00 Progress not Perfection AA 7:00 AI Anon 7:30 Borton Group AA Boy Scout Trp #403	1:00 Abundance Pantry 5:00 Fitness Fusion exercise class	7:30 am Bible & Bagels 12:30 AA meeting	5:00 Fitness Fusion exercise class 6:20 Voices in Bronze 7:30 Chancel Choir	9:30 AI Anon	
3 See "Sundays in May" 6:15 May Cabaret	4	5 Primary election Polls open 6:30 am – 7:30 pm	6	7 7:00 Ministry of Justice and Mission mtg	8 1 1:00 Hilltoppers	2 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Spring Work Day 10:00 Worship Planning Meeting 2:00 Memorial Service: George Louis Seidel
10	11	12	13 12:00 Bullshevicks 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	14 7:30 FH Swim Club	15 7:00 am TOWER deadline	9 9:00 Confirmation retreat Habitat for Humanity: Apostles Build 1:00 Memorial Service: Kathleen Davis Currie 7:00 Pacesetters' Game Night
17	18	19	20 10:00 TOWER collators 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club	21	22 6:30 "Getting to Know You" Dinner	16 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Habitat for Humanity: Apostles Build
24 25 Memorial Day Office closed	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry lunch	27 1:00 Iris Circle 5:00 PWR meeting (Christ PC, Chesterland) 7:00 Session meeting	28 5:00 Excell graduation	29	30	
31						

May 2015

May 2015

The summer schedule begins June 21 — note change!