

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



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Email: office@fhcpresb.org

Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor
Rev. Tricia Dykers-Koenig, Parish Assoc.
Rev. Lois Annich, Interim Assoc. Pastor
Rachel McDonald, Interim Assoc. Pastor

Anne Wilson, Director of Music
Kate Burleigh, Dir. of Children's Ministries
Shannon Headen, Dir. of Youth Ministries

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Service of Worship
September 18, 2016 at 11:00 am

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 hearing devices, large print editions of the bulletin, activity bags for children staying in worship, and directions to our nursery for babies and young children.

Prayer of Preparation

Lord, give us the eyes of Jesus to see our neighbors and the strangers we meet.

Teach us what it means to love the stranger as we love ourselves. Teach us to love and care for the stranger the way you do. Amen

Welcome

Prelude

Ann Weems

"Good News Music"

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Elder Jennifer Blakeney

Leader: Welcome to a time of wonder

People: and music that calls us home.

Leader: Welcome to hear God's words that inspire and challenge,

People: and God's reminders that we are offered holy hospitality;

Leader: Hospitality that teaches us how to open our lives to others,

People: leading us to live with open minds, open hearts, open doors.

Leader: Let us worship the welcoming God!

*** Processional Hymn No. 769**

"For Everyone Born"

**please stand if able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Knowing that our God walks with us in our confusion, our doubts, our failings, our struggles, we now come humbly before God to ask for mercy.

For the times we fail to offer hospitality to those in our world who suffer injustice, oppression, and poverty, we pray:

People: God, have mercy on us and your people

Leader: For the times we lack courage to address the causes of injustice, oppression and poverty, we pray to our God:

People: God, have mercy on us and on your people.

Leader: For the times we give in to despair and resignation when confronted with the injustice of our world, we pray to our God:

People: God, have mercy on us and on your people.

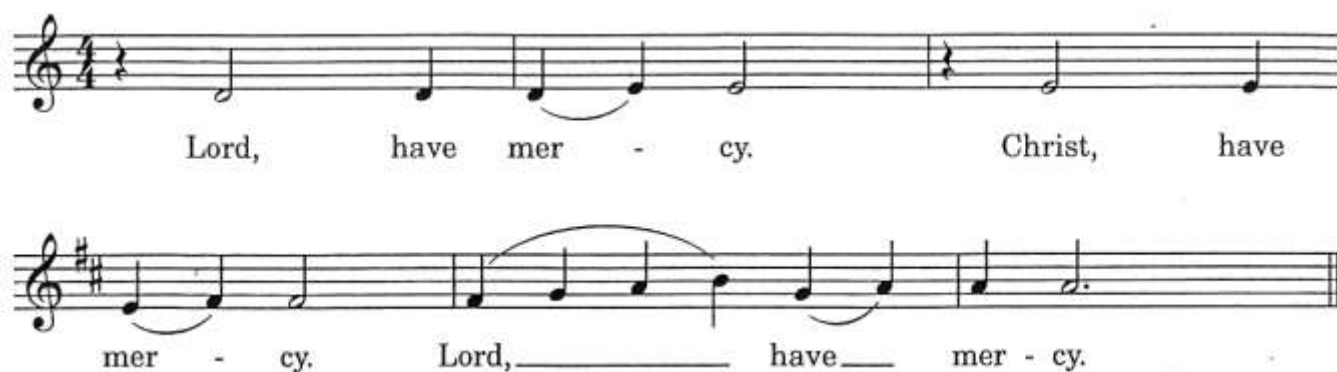
Leader: For the times we allow our fears to triumph over the call to solidarity, we pray to our God:

People: God, have mercy on us and on your people.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

Craig Phillips



Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

*** Response**

Paul Vasile

"Glory to God"

3 Glo-ry to God, — whose good-ness shines on me, and to the

6 Son, — whose grace has par-doned me, and to the Spir-it, — whose love has

8 set me free. As it was in the be-gin-ning, is

now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 12/8 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The piece concludes with a final whole note chord on the fifth staff.

Anthem

Stephen Schwartz

"Beautiful City" (from *Godspell*)

Jack Lentz, tenor

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Family Meditation

Rachel McDonald

*** Hymn No. 399**

"God Welcomes All"

Children in Pathways may leave during the hymn

*Prayer requests to be read during the Prayers of the People
may be passed to the ushers during this hymn*

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 84: 1-4 (*read responsively*)

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts.

People: My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord.

Leader: My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

People: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altar, O Lord of hosts.

Leader: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

Matthew 9: 10-13 (*Eugene Peterson, **The Message***)

Later when Jesus was eating supper at Matthew's house with his close followers, a lot of disreputable characters came and joined them. When the Pharisees saw him keeping this kind of company, they had a fit, and lit into Jesus' followers. "What kind of example is this from your Teacher, acting cozy with crooks and riffraff." Jesus, overhearing, shot back. "Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? Go figure out what this Scripture means: 'I'm after mercy, not religion.' I'm here to invite outsiders, not coddle insiders."

Hebrews 13: 2 (NRSV)

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Leader: Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

"A Radical Welcome"

Prayers of the People

Rev. Lois Annich

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Ritual of Friendship

Offering

Offertory

Carlton Young

"Welcome, Welcome! The Door Is Open"

poem by Thomas Troeger

* Response

South Africa

"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises!"

Ha - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais-es, all our
3 hearts with glad-ness are filled. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your
6 prais-es, all our hearts with glad-ness are filled. Now he
9 sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt, strong of
13 faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy-ful Good News. *repeat first part*

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Going Forth to Live as God's People

*** Closing Hymn No. 301**

"Let Us Build a House" (All are Welcome)

Choir – st. 1 All – st. 2, 4, 5
--

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Choral Benediction**

*** Passing of the Peace**

Postlude

J. S. Bach

"Prelude in F Minor"

The prayers were written by Loreto Conroy



Welcome Visitors!

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

Notes & Announcements

Chancel Flowers Today's flowers are given by Joy Stang in memory of her husband Lou and in honor of her four children and ten grandchildren; and by Diana Woodbridge in loving memory of her husband, Ted, and her mom, Dorothy.

Prayers are requested this week for: Max Harmon, Kathryn Himmelsteib, Dick Peterjohn, Robin Richards, Robert Ruggeri, George Sentell, Joy Stang, and Debbie Ungemach.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Ruth Brickel, Bill Currie, Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Iris and Al Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Jack Quinn, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas.

The Deacons encourage you to stop by the Greeting Card Table in Fellowship Hall before or after worship to sign a card for one or more of our homebound members. We will address and mail the card for you.

Thank you to head usher Roger Heineman and today's ushers. Please contact the church office if you are interested in joining an usher team.

Coming Up

TODAY

Adult Education: Whole Life Stewardship – This series begins today after worship. Rev. Lois Annich will lead the first session, "The Stewardship of Time."

She will lead next week's session, "The Stewardship of Relationships," and author and religion professor Wayne Simsic will lead the third session, "Stewardship of the Earth." You may sign up on line from the weekly email or by leaving a note in the offering plate. You are welcome to come whether or not you sign up , but it makes the planning easier if you do.

Tithes and Offerings: You may have noticed a new card in the pew racks recently. Titled "Tithes and Offerings," the card describes a variety of ways by which you can financially support the mission of Forest Hill

Church. If you are one of those who donates monthly, by automatic payment from your bank, or by regular stock transfers, or for some other reason (known only to you and God) are not putting anything in, you may place the card in the offering plate as it passes by to show your support. Thank you ALL for sharing your time, talents and treasures.

THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are: **Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 91: 1-6, 14-16; 1 Timothy 6: 6-19; Luke 16: 19-31.**

Bible and Bagels discusses next Sunday's text(s) on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:30. Sometimes we discuss the preaching texts instead. All are welcome!

Iris Circle (all women): Anne Wilson will speak about her summer pilgrimage on El Camino de Santiago on Tuesday, September 20. See the *TOWER* for details. All are welcome! (see the photo on p. 8)

Eastside Candidates Forum: On Thursday, September 22 The League of Women Voters and the National Council of Jewish Women will present Ohio Board of Education, Senate and House candidates for the districts that encompass the east side of Cleveland and eastern Cuyahoga County. The forum will be held in the Brush High School Auditorium (4875 Glenlyn Rd., Lyndhurst).

The Heights Music Hop: FHC talent will participate in both nights of the HMH. *Friday Sept. 23, 7:00 pm:* Caleb A. Wright (Featuring Anne Wilson & Others) The Cleveland Heights Church, 12412 Cedar Rd. (Across from Starbucks)

Saturday Sept. 24, 5:30 pm Elégie! Live at The Fix Bistro, 2195 Lee Rd.

Apostles Build: Forest Hill Church is participating in Habitat for Humanity's Apostles Build. Our church, along with 12 others, has committed to provide funds and volunteers to rehab 3 houses on the east side of Cleveland. Available volunteer dates are September 24 and October 8. Additional information can be found on the bulletin boards in the church. There's still time to volunteer for next Saturday's Apostles Build project. The work will begin at 9 am. Contact Nathan Baldwin (216-392-1313 or n.baldwin.usaf@gmail.com) and he will send you registration and other information.

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education, 9:30: Kerygma small groups on "The Odd Couple – Jonah and Ruth" will meet until November 20. See Consuelo Heineman to sign up.

Labre Project: Volunteers are needed to help with the Sunday afternoon meals. We are now serving over 100 people at a time! Please contact Jack Breisch (jbrei@hawken.edu) if you would like to join the team.

Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC): Make an impact on November's national and local elections and hear about the concerns our neighbors in the Noble Rd neighborhood have regarding criminal justice and other issues. On Sunday Sept 25 from 1-6pm, we need 30 members (and friends) of FHC to participate in the substantial listening training followed by canvassing (and voter registration) in this politically critical precinct. National organizing support is being provided to equip all volunteers with the tools and confidence they need to go door-knocking. Contact Jennifer Blakeney (216-526-9844 or bmlspirit@yahoo.com) or Diana Woodbridge (dwoodbridge@sbcglobal.net or 216-291-3745).

Go to greaterclevelandcongregations.org for more information.

El Camino de Santiago, Part II: Join Anne Wilson on Sunday, September 25 at 7 pm as she presents a slide show and informal talk about completing the ancient pilgrimage path known as *El Camino de Santiago* (The Way of St. James) in Spain. Morag Keefe's sangria and tapas will accompany the talk.

LOOKING AHEAD



The Unexpected Guest: All adult members, guests and visitors of Forest Hill are invited to be a part of a fellowship dinner event on Saturday, October 8. The weekly emails contain a sign-up form; please use that if you have access to the internet. If not, please call Sue Lafferty (440-669-4885).

Exploring Membership: The next class will be held on October 9 and October 23 at 12:30 pm (after worship). Anyone curious about the church or interested in membership is welcome. Please use the on-line sign-up form given in the weekly emails, or call the church office.

Faith Leader Small Plates: Two Faith Leader classes begin in October – *Your Spiritual Autobiography* and *Exploring Mandalas*. Please follow the links in the weekly emails for descriptions and to sign up. Call the church office if you have no internet access.

Be sure you are registered to vote: Go to boe.cuyahogacounty.us to be sure you are registered, to find your polling place, or to print an application for a vote-by-mail ballot.

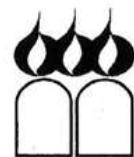
A People of Prayer

Here are three ways our FHC community practices our faith in prayer:

1. Requests continue to be included in the worship service most Sundays. Use the slips in the pew racks and ushers deliver them to the pastor.
2. Guests who attend the monthly free lunch for the food stressed have expressed their appreciation for having their individual concerns and gratitudes recognized. White forms with their messages are available to pick up as you exit worship on the following Sunday.
3. If you'd like a Pantry guest to pray for your request, sign the green form in the bulletin once a month and place it in the offering plate. Those requests will be passed out to guests who wish to connect. ***These forms are in the bulletin today.***

Staff Emails

Rev. Lois Annich	Interim Assoc. Pastor	pastorannich@fhcpresb.org
Becky Austin	Finance	beckya@fhcpresb.org
Lynda Bernays	Administration	office@fhcpresb.org
Kate Burleigh	Children	kateb@fhcpresb.org
Stavros Gazis	Custodial	office@fhcpresb.org
Shannon Headen	Youth	shannon@fhcpresb.org
Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.	Pastor	pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org
Rachel McDonald	Interim Assoc. Pastor	rachelm@fhcpresb.org
Peg Weissbrod	Outreach	pegweissbrod@gmail.com
Anne Wilson	Music	annew@fhcpresb.org



Cleveland
Ecumenical
Institute
FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CEIRS FALL PROGRAMS | 2016

“”

Even more than his depth of knowledge, Wayne Simsic impresses me with the clarity of his experience with the spiritual life; a real “practitioner.”

—feedback from a participant

50%
OFF

FIRST TIME REGISTRANTS

Register online at ceirs.org

EMAIL: bernlag@gmail.com | PHONE: 216-283-1507

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

SAINT FRANCIS & THE WOLF OF GUBBIO
St. Francis Basilica, Santa Fe, NM



The Cleveland Ecumenical Institute
c/o St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2747 Fairmount Boulevard
Cleveland Heights OH 44106-3696

CEIRS READS: *A Discussion of Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence* (2015), by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks
REV. LAURY LARSON

Tuesday | September 20, 2016

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | \$15

The Plymouth Church | 2860 Coventry Road | Shaker Hts. 44120

The Life and Spiritual Vision of Francis of Assisi
WAYNE SIMSIC, M.A.

Mondays, October 3, 2016 to November 7, 2016

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. | \$90

The Plymouth Church | 2860 Coventry Road | Shaker Hts. 44120

TEACHINGS ON THE NATURE OF HAPPINESS:
A Buddhist Perspective
ANI PALMO RYBICKI

Saturday, October 15, 2016

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. | \$50 plus \$10 for Lunch

**University Circle United Methodist Church
1919 E. 107th Street | Cleveland 44106**

An Inter-Faith Discussion of Pope Francis' Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home
RABBI ROGER KLEIN, PH.D.
AND FATHER GEORGE SMIGA, STD

An Evening Presentation

Tuesday, November 22, 2016 | 7 to 9 p.m. | \$25

**Church of the Gesu | McAuley Hall
2470 Miramar Boulevard | University Hts. 44118**

Register online at ceirs.org

EMAIL: bernlag@gmail.com | PHONE: 216-283-1507



Calendar: September 18 - 25, 2016

Sunday, September 18

8:30 Nominating Committee
 9:30 Adult and Youth Education
 Descant Choir followed by
 Descant Choir Activity
 Childcare for children thru Kdg
 10:30 Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
 Cherub Choir
 11:00 WORSHIP
 Children's Worship Class (preK-K)
 11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land(gr. 1-5)
 12:15 Coffee and Fellowship
 Sine Nomine Choir
 Blood Pressure check
 12:30 Whole Life Stewardship program

Monday, September 19

6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)
 Discernment Task Force mtg
 7:00 pm Al Anon
 7:30 pm Borton Group (AA)

Tuesday, September 20

12:00 pm Iris Circle: Lunch and Program
 1:00 pm Abundance Pantry distribution
 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion

Wednesday, September 21

7:30 am Bible and Bagels
 10:00 am TOWER assembly
 12:00 pm Bullshevicks (at Nighttown)

(Weds., cont)

12:30 pm Wed. Women's AA
 1:00 pm Hilltop Garden Club
 7:00 pm Trans Family East meeting

Thursday, September 22

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion
 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze rehearsal
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal

Friday, September 23

9:00 am Hilltoppers:
 Meet for Lolly the Trolley tour
 9:30 am Al Anon

Saturday, September 24

9:00 am Apostles Build

Sunday, September 25

9:30 Adult and Youth Education
 Descant Choir followed by
 Descant Choir Activity
 Childcare for children thru Kdg
 10:30 Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
 11:00 WORSHIP
 Children's Worship Class (preK-K)
 11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land (gr. 1-5)
 12:15 Coffee and Fellowship
 Sine Nomine Choir
 12:30 Whole Life Stewardship program

