

John C. Lentz, Pastor
Lois Annich, Rachel McDonald, Interim Associate Pastors

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



The Tower

December 2016

Dear Friends,

We come to an end and a beginning. December is the last month of the year. Did 2016 go fast, or what? It seems like last week that we were celebrating the Cavaliers. The primaries, conventions, election, World Series and all the other big and small events of our lives seemed to speed the passing of time.



Everyday there seemed to be something that thrilled or horrified. There were too many young black men killed this past year. There was too much mistrust, too much violence, and too many angry words. There were also births and deaths, baptisms and funerals; there were birthdays, engagements, weddings and anniversaries. There were splendid summer nights and cool autumn evenings.

December coincides with the beginning of Advent, the beginning of the church year. We begin again in hopeful expectation of the coming of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We prepare our hearts and homes to receive Jesus Christ – the child born in a manger where “the hopes and fears of all the years” are met.

It is a new year. It is a new day. God comes. The Word became and becomes flesh. We are the body of Christ, sisters and brothers of Jesus and by our actions we incarnate God's love, justice, inclusion and peace.

Come to worship every Sunday. Join in the Adult Education classes to study ***Names of the Messiah*** by Walter Brueggeman. Take time out to pray, serve others, give thanks, sweep out the cobwebs of mind and heart so that you might receive a power from on high!

God bless you as the new year begins.
Emmanuel, God is with us.

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



I sometimes find it difficult to keep up habits that help strengthen my faith. What I've found is that for me simplest is best. One of the practices that has stuck has been the Daily Examen. The Examen is a way I can review my day and pay attention to how the Spirit has been moving in my life. I find it to be something I can use while brushing my teeth, which is just the reminder I need.

The Examen asks you to go through five steps of review as you look back over your day. The five steps are as follows:

1. Become aware of God's presence.
2. Review the day with gratitude.
3. Pay attention to your emotions.
4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.
5. Look toward tomorrow.

I invite you to use the Examen or another spiritual practice that can become a normal part of your everyday life. Whether it's reading a Psalm every morning, using the Daily Prayer app, journaling, or something else entirely, our faith is strengthened by the habits we build. Contact me if you want some help getting started!

I hope you continue to grow in your faith.

Rachel McDonald
Interim Associate Pastor

“Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10) is the theme for our Women’s Advent Retreat on December 3. Psalm 46 has long been a favorite of mine because it is an affirmation of faith in the midst of cataclysmic change. We are going to explore ways to be mindful and grounded in this turbulent world and in a season that can sometimes feel like a runaway freight train.



The theme of mindfulness will actually weave its way through the entire season of waiting and watching for Christ’s Advent. Mindfulness is a hot topic in medicine and psychology these days. More and more research points to the enormous health benefits of slowing down and paying attention to whatever we are experiencing without judgment or distraction. As a pastor I am passionate about the application of mindfulness to our lives because it’s nearly impossible to hear God’s still, small voice when our thoughts are spinning out of control. Slowing down and breathing, sitting compassionately with whatever is arising in our hearts and minds creates the space for us to know that God is God.

Have you ever noticed the difference between mindfulness and mindlessness? Driving through a beautiful vista and being aware of all that you see versus getting to a destination and not remembering how you got there? Slowly eating a meal and noticing all the elements thereof versus inhaling a meal and not noticing what or how much you ate?

In a similar vein, how often do we slow down to be aware of God’s presence in our lives? How mindlessly do we shove God to the back of our minds because other concerns seem more compelling? How often do we forego the sweet awareness of God’s love for us and unwittingly allow frightening fantasies to capture our thoughts and drain our energies?

So here’s the pastors’ challenge and invitation to you: be mindful this Advent. Slow down. Breathe. Pay attention. Be present. Commit yourself to being grounded—through speaking and moving with awareness of yourself and all that is around you. Come to worship and be aware of how God meets you there. Be grateful for the gift of community that holds you in times of turbulence and change. Together let us watch and wait for the One who is surely coming again and who bids us “Be Still and Know That I am God!”

Rev. Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

Music Notes



The four Sundays of Advent, a time when we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ Child, begin on November 27. Due to the commercial hubbub of this time in the secular world, we may sometimes wish to skip Advent all together and join our favorite radio programs by singing Christmas carols early in December. But if one honors faithfully the more meditative and preparation-minded spirit of the four Advent weeks, one may find that the actual Christmas holidays (all twelve days!) are all the more meaningful. As the pastors choose the hymns and carols during Advent, watch the progression as we gradually move, with anticipation, toward the celebration of the birth of Christ. O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

I give thanks to our resident trumpeters, Scott Lafferty and Ahren Stock, who will add a festive touch to our Advent and Christmas services.

Musical highlights during December include a scene from *Amahl and the Night Visitors* on December 4, the Youth Orchestra and Cherub Choir on December 11, and *A Service of Lessons and Carols* on December 18. *A Service of Lessons and Carols* was first sung in 1918 at King's College in Cambridge, England; the annual service is now broadcast to millions of listeners worldwide. The service begins with the singing of the carol *Once in Royal David's City*. A young boy singer (treble) is chosen to sing the solo first stanza just before the start of the service, and it is considered a great honor to be chosen.

On December 24, **Christmas Eve**, there will be a 5:00 pm Family Service and pageant (with the Descant Choir and young instrumentalists), and an 11:00 pm Candlelight Service (with the Chancel and Sine Nomine Choirs). A fifteen-minute musical prelude will precede this service.

I wish you all a blessed Advent and Christmas season.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Anne Wilson
Organist/Director of Music
annew@fhcpresb.org

Children's Ministries



Advent is a time of waiting and a season of hope. Our children embody that hope born into the world through the arrival of the Messiah. Waiting can be difficult for children. Thankfully, there are lots of rituals and traditions to help children mark the passing of time. Whether you light candles on an advent wreath, read passages of scripture, mark the passing days on an advent calendar, or all of the above, remember we are all waiting for the coming of the Christ child. Let us be reminded, and remind our children, to slow down and pay attention. What do you see? What do you feel? What is the best part of waiting, and what is most difficult? It is my hope that each of you will find time for reflection during this advent season. Prepare the way. Light will shine in the darkness.

Children in Worship

Preschool and kindergarten

During the month of December, the Children in Worship Class will continue their Christmas preparations through play and hearing stories about Mary & Joseph, the Shepherds, and the Magi. What wonderful preparation for the "No Fuss" Christmas Pageant!

Pathways to the Promise Land

Grades 1-5

In December, the Pathways children will worship with their families each Sunday in the sanctuary. Pastor Lentz is preparing a family meditation for the third Sunday in advent and the children will be able to enjoy the songs and stories of the birth of Jesus through our Lessons & Carols service.

*Be sure to grab a "Faith to Go" advent packet
loaded with practices and activities
for families to use at home.*

Packets will be available in the sanctuary at both entrances.



December Dates for Pathways (gr. 1-5)

Children will worship with their families every Sunday at 11 am

There will be a Family Meditation every week

December 4: A scene from last year's production of ***Amahl and the Night Visitors*** will be presented.

December 18: A Service of Lessons and Carols will be presented

December 24 – 5 pm: “No Fuss” Christmas Pageant / Family Service

Join us for the Forest Hill Church family service and experience the joy of the “No Fuss” Christmas Pageant. All children who want to participate will be able to do so.

December 25: Christmas Day

Children are invited to come to church and worship in their PJs! Come and celebrate the arrival of the Messiah.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh
Director of Children's Ministries

Women's Advent Retreat, December 3

"Be Still and Know that I Am God."

These comforting words are deeply embedded in Psalm 46:

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge

(Ps 46: 1-2, 10-11)

Come join us and the women of Forest Hill Church on December 3 for a morning of grounding and peace in the midst of a turbulent world and what can often be a busy liturgical season. Come prepare your heart for Christ's Advent.

Continental breakfast will be served at 8:30 am, the program will begin at 9:00, and Morag Keefe will nourish us with lunch at 12:30. Cost is \$10 and there are scholarships available. All are welcome!

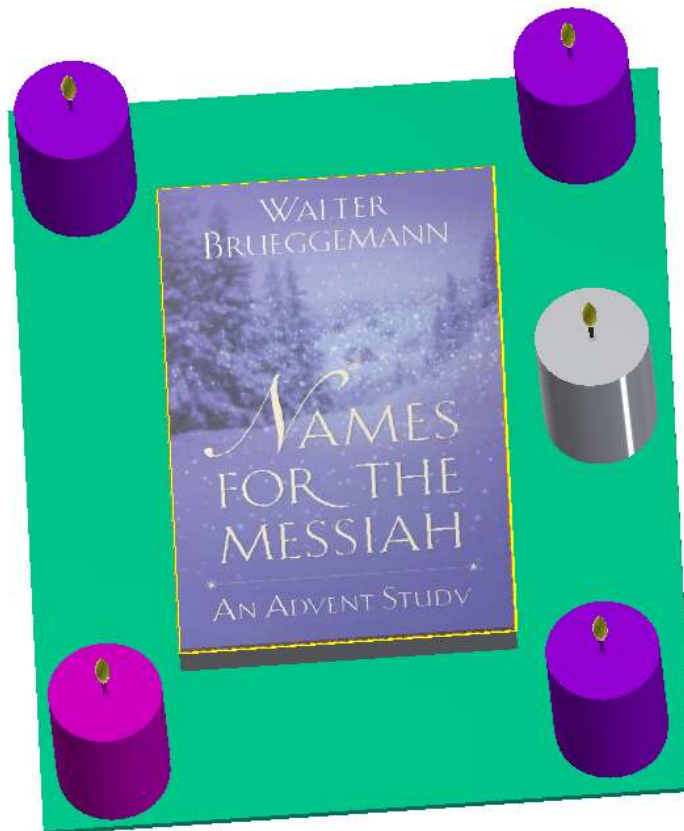
RSVP by November 28 with your email and phone number to the church office: office@fhcpresb.org or 216-321-2660. Bring (and register) a friend!

Rev. Lois Annich and Rachel McDonald
Interim Associate Pastors

Forest Hill Church ADULT EDUCATION – Advent Program

NAMES OF THE MESSIAH BY WALTER BRUEGGEMANN

**Wonderful
Counselor**



Mighty God

**Everlasting
Father**

Prince of Peace

Nov 20 Advent plenary: Rabbi Peter Haas of CWRU

Nov 27 No Adult Education

Nov 20 –27 Book discussion registration

Dec 4, 11, 18 Advent book discussion (small groups)

"Come, Lord Jesus, is not a cry of desperation, but
an assured shout of cosmic hope."

Richard Rohr, Franciscan Priest, Theologian, Author

Deacons' Corner

We will soon enter the season of Advent, which begins four Sundays before Christmas (this year, November 27) and lasts until Christmas Eve.

These weeks, like those of Lent, are spent in preparation. We find ourselves planning, decorating, cooking, baking, singing, sharing time and gifts. In church the color purple reflects the anticipation of welcoming Royalty; the baby who will become King, Jesus Christ. All of the symbolism points to a hope and love that surpasses our human understanding.

We have just come out of an election season filled with dark moments. How often did we hear someone say, "I can't wait for this to be over!" Well, November 8 has come and gone. And now, more than ever, it seems we have to know in our hearts how critical it is to live in a way that demonstrates a belief in love, peace, and hope. We are called to move on in faith, as the weeks of Advent invite us.

Facing forward also includes a time of self reflection as we become more aware of our own limits, of how fragile we are. During Advent, we are encouraged to know this in a way that includes anticipation of Jesus' arrival...that light overcomes darkness and that God's love and forgiveness totally wipe out fear, anger and hopelessness.

Let us look forward to these weeks ahead, believing in the Spirit who speaks to our hearts by the love shown to us in Jesus Christ.

"I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace.
In the world you have tribulation, but be of good cheer.
I have overcome the world."

John 16: 33 (New Oxford Annotated Bible)

Kathy Carr on behalf of the Deacons

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” 1 Peter 4:10

Update from the 2017 Stewardship Campaign

Serve One Another

Thank you all for your participation in this year’s Stewardship Campaign. We are nearing our goals of exceeding both pledges and congregational participation from last year. If you have yet to send in your pledge, please do so as soon as possible so we can finalize budgets and planning for 2017.

A few highlights from our campaign so far:

- We heard remarkable stories from several of our members on what Forest Hill Church means to them, and why they give. The wide range of experiences and feelings always serves to amaze – and inspire.
- To provide an opportunity for more to share their stories, we hope you have seen the dozens of “Why I Give” cards displayed on poster boards throughout the church.

“This church has given me so much!”

“To share my blessings”

“Because it makes me happy. It’s a way to rejoice and be grateful!”

- We enjoyed a festive celebratory lunch at the annual Cornucopia Feast on November 6 (thank you Morag!).

We have so much to be thankful for, and so much to look forward to. If you have any questions, please contact Stewardship Ministry Elder Steve Sedam, or financial administrator Becky Austin.

Dave Burleigh and the Ministry of Stewardship
Elders Stephen Sedam, Melanie Alban, Ahren Stock
Leaders Bill Ladebue, Lance Vernon, Peter Williams

FHC 2016 Operating Budget Update

The great news is that, based on the FHC financial performance through October and the most current projections of revenue and spending for the balance of the year, Trustees are projecting FHC will achieve a balanced budget for 2016. Highlights of the forecast are listed below.

- Base Pledge Revenue is tracking on budget as the FHC congregation continues to fulfill its pledge payments, which allows FHC to continue to be a welcoming, learning, witnessing, worshiping and discerning community. Thank you for your faithfulness!
- Other Pledge Revenue is projected to be \$15K less than the budgeted target, as "non-pledged" donations are lower than the amount received in a typical year. However, due to a recent increase in donations, the amount of this shortfall is much less than what was forecast earlier this year. Thank you!
- Actions have been taken to reduce spending by \$15K for the year, which will offset the 15K shortfall in revenue.

If you have questions or would like additional information about the 2016 operating budget, please feel free to contact me.

Mark Wedell, President of Trustees.

Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC)

Thank you to all who participated in making the Get Out the Vote “deep listening” campaign a success. We canvassed in the traditionally lowest voter turnout neighborhoods of Cleveland and Cleveland Heights over the last two months. We built relationships with residents by sharing our personal stories about voting and feelings about the local criminal justice system. Residents opened up to us and shared stories of violence by police and delayed responses that affected victim outcomes. Other residents were satisfied with policing and recognized that police can’t be expected to manage all the drug violence in their neighborhoods. We registered voters and changed the minds of many who were disinclined to vote. On election day we gave rides, encouraged people to vote, monitored polling places for problems and helped voters if needed. John and Lois were particularly industrious in walking voters in to the polling site under umbrellas when the rain began.

These efforts helped spread the word about GCC to the neighborhoods where we canvassed, and we made an impression on elected officials about the ability of GCC to increase voter turnout. This also increases the attention these public servants give to these unheeded communities.

Another immediate goal of these efforts is to make clear to the newly elected Cuyahoga County Prosecutor our power in the community at the **Now is the Time: Justice and Jobs in Greater Cleveland Assembly** on November 17. The successes of this event will be shared next month.

The Jobs Issue strategy will be rolled out at this assembly as well. Stay tuned.....we’ll keep you posted.

Jennifer Blakeney

Join Us!

Excited by the GOTV actions, the **Now is the Time** assembly? Do you want to maximize the involvement of Forest Hill Church in GCC? Join the FHC Greater Cleveland Congregation Core Team! The Core Team engages our congregation in the work of GCC and is active in various roles within GCC. It also facilitates organizing for issues that arise from our congregation.

We welcome all to join us in working with Greater Cleveland Congregations for justice in our community.

Contact Ron Register, Barb Cloud, Charity McDonald, Kathy Hanna-Stauffer, Diana Woodbridge or Jennifer Blakeney for more information.

RIC Reflection

A reflection by Vikki Nowak on why she serves on RIC

I serve on the Race and Inclusion Committee (RIC) because, although I barely understand the deep depth of my white privilege, I am committed to a daily practice of awareness of it.

I see my white privilege numerous times a day and make a note when I do. At work, my white colleagues and I share our opinions in meetings regularly and challenge each other freely. My equally (or better) qualified black colleagues wait until everything has been said before sharing, if at all, briefly and in a very measured way. In my children's school settings, I've seen white children qualify as "gifted" in our schools automatically while black children had to prove themselves first before being "let in."

But remaining aware of white privilege is tricky. It's no joy ride. Although I've learned, and continue to learn, how to see it, name it and change it, it's uncomfortable trying to help others see their white privilege while they are basking in it. It's even harder on days when I don't see a solution.

At Forest Hill Church, however, we have a unique opportunity. We exist in a safe place with black members and well-meaning white members. When I discuss my white privilege with black members, they have welcomed my attempts to improve. They gently coach me and inspired me to be more aware of my privilege than if I'd been left only with my own understanding.

A good read on the white privilege topic is Beverly Daniel Tatum's book ***Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*** (copies in our church library.) In it, Tatum writes:

*Many white people experience themselves as powerless, even in the face of privilege. But the fact is that **we all have a sphere of influence**, some domain in which we exercise some level of power and control. **The task for each of us, white and of color, is to identify what our own sphere of influence is (however large or small) and to consider how it might be used to interrupt the cycle of racism.*** (emphasis added)

I remain part of, and continue to invest in, Forest Hill Church because it's a congregation where white privilege can be discussed, our behaviors can change, and a healthy dialog can spread outward to our greater community.

Please join me.

The Gifting Season



Once upon a time – you know the story – three Wise Men descended on a stable in Bethlehem bearing gifts to honor the newborn baby Jesus. To this we trace the origin of our tradition of Christmas gift-giving.

Now Aunt Millie really doesn't need a new apron, and Uncle Henry has dozens of ties, so what is the gift-giver to do?

Very simply, there are many worthwhile Earth Care-related organizations that honor God and Earth:

- A gift to Heifer International buys not only heifers, but lambs, chickens, goats, fish, rabbits, guinea pigs, plus tree-seedlings, bees, and even water pumps, providing sustained sustenance to impoverished peoples in many underdeveloped countries throughout the world
- Go to the Presbyterian Giving Catalogue website for gifts that benefit the earth and people who inhabit it: <https://presbyteriangifts.org/gifts/>
- Organizations such as World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Rainforest Alliance, Earth Justice, Center For Biological Diversity, Environmental Defense Fund, National Wildlife Federation, Defenders of Wildlife----are well known entities in the Earth Care category that are deserving of our financial gifts to conserve and protect those wild places and wild things that God has entrusted to our keeping.

To make a gift, Google any of the above organizations' websites to learn how you can contribute. There is often a link from the home page, and you can learn more about the organization's projects, belief and goals as well.

Dave Neff and the Earth Care Green Team

News of Our Church Family

Baptism

Evelyn Lydia Miller, daughter of Sam and Lauren Miller, was baptized on October 23. Charity McDonald was the attending Elder.

In Memoriam We Remember

William Edgar Currie, who died October 19, 2016.

There will be a memorial service at Breckenridge Village on Dec. 3 at 2 pm.

Care Group

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

Members of the All-Church CARE Group are: YOU! And everyone else in the Forest Hill Church family. Deacon Robin Mervine is the coordinator.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Iris and Al Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Jack Quinn, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas

Volunteer Hours in October

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Pat Jenkins, Ellen McChesney, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, Carol Sims and Joie Hill and the TOWER assembly team of Betty Clark, Marilyn Wilk and Marge Thomas – worked a total of 90 hours in October. Thank you all!

The newly-formed Young Family Get-Together Group invites you to join them for an intergenerational family gathering on Saturday, December 10 from 4-7 pm. Make a few ornaments, make new friends and share pizza and conversation. Questions? Contact Rachel McDonald (rachelm@fhcpresb.org).

Social Groups and Circles

The Group (60s – 70s and beyond) Christmas party

The Group's annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 10 at 6:30 pm at the home of Joe and Betsy Andrews (2740 Fairmount Blvd, Cleveland Hts.). Bring an appetizer, salad, vegetable or dessert; the main course will be provided. BYOB

RSVP by Dec. 5 to Cathy Ghiandoni (ghiandoni.c@gmail.com or 216 691-1905). We will again give Christmas assistance to a family from Boulevard School. Details regarding contributions will be given when you RSVP.

December 10, Andrews' (2740 Fairmount), 6:30 pm

Pacesetters (40s – 60s and better): Christmas Party

On Saturday, December 10 at 7:00 pm at the home of Chris and Dave Bell (3040 Scarborough, Cleveland Hts) join old and new friends (including adult children) as we welcome the season with food and fellowship. **Please bring:** an appetizer or dessert to share, and an item or two for the food pantry (paper and personal care products are particularly appreciated). Soft drinks and wine will be provided – you may BYOB (no gifts this year). All are welcome!

RSVPs are not necessary. (Because this group is just that good!) Questions? Call Chris or Dave at 216-932-6992.

December 10, Bells' (3040 Scarborough), 7 pm

Iris Circle (all women of the church): Advent Retreat, Dec. 3

All women of Forest Hill Church are encouraged to attend the retreat "Be Still and Know that I Am God." (see p. 7 for more information) RSVP to the church office.

December 3, FHC Bodwell Hall, 9 am

Sundays in December

9:00 Child care begins
9:30 Adult education
 Youth education (gr. 6-12)
 Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)
10:15 Descant Choir activity
10:30 Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
11:00 WORSHIP
 Children's Worship class (preK, K)
 Pathways children (gr. 1-5) will worship with their families
12:15 Fellowship Hour
4:00 Labre Project

December 4 2 Advent 12:15 Sine Nomine Choir	Isaiah 11: 1-10 Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19 Romans 15: 4-13 Matthew 3: 1-12
December 11 3 Advent 10:30 Cherub Choir 12:15 Sine Nomine Choir	Isaiah 35: 1-10 Psalm 146: 5-10 James 5: 7-10 Matthew 11: 2-11
December 18 4 Advent 11:00 Worship: Service of Lessons and Carols 12:15 Blood Pressure check	Isaiah 7: 10-16 Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19 Romans 1: 1-7 Matthew 1: 18-25
December 25 Christmas Day No choirs or classes	Isaiah 52: 7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1: 1-4 John 1: 1-14

Christmas Eve, December 24

5 pm Family worship and "No Fuss" Christmas Pageant

84 Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
4 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be




we pray you, hear us when we call.
of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

The Latin original of this text for Advent dates from at least the 9th century, and the English version was created a millennium later as part of the 19th-century recovery of early Christian hymns. It is provided here with its traditional plainchant setting.

TEXT: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; as in *The Hymnal* 1940, alt.
MUSIC: Sarum plainsong, Mode IV, 9th cent.; harm. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011
Text Alt. © 1940 Church Pension Fund
Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM
LM
(alternate harmonization, 671)
(alternate tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR)

Announcements! Announcements!

Have you turned in a pledge card? It's never too late!		The Annual Meeting is January 29, 2017 after worship
TOWER deadlines: 7 am on Dec. 9, Jan. 13, 2017, Feb.17		No amount too small... No amount too large

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

Rev. Lois Annich	<i>Interim Assoc. Pastor</i>	pastorannich@fhcpresb.org
Becky Austin	<i>Finance</i>	beckya@fhcpresb.org
Lynda Bernays	<i>Administration</i>	office@fhcpresb.org
Kate Burleigh	<i>Children</i>	kateb@fhcpresb.org
Ann Donkin	<i>Building mgr.</i>	adonkin@fhcpresb.org
Stavros Gazis	<i>Custodial</i>	office@fhcpresb.org
Shannon Headen	<i>Youth</i>	shannon@fhcpresb.org
Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.	<i>Pastor</i>	pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org
Rachel McDonald	<i>Interim Assoc. Pastor</i>	RachelM@fhcpresb.org
Peg Weissbrod	<i>Outreach</i>	pegw@fhcpresb.org
Anne Wilson	<i>Music</i>	annew@fhcpresb.org

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

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 Barton Group AA Boy Scout Ttp #403	1:00 Abundance Pantry 5:00 Fitness Fusion exercise class 7:00 Black History Month coordinators' meeting (not 12/27)	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	
A prayer for the first Sunday of Advent: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and to put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through one who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.						
4 See "Sundays in December"	5	6 5:30 Excell: Parent meeting	7 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	8 7:30 FH Swim Club	9 7:00 am TOWER deadline 12:00 Excell party	10 17 8:00 Men's Group
11	12	13	14 10:00 TOWER collators 7:00 Session meeting	15	16	17 8:00 Men's Group
18	19	20 12:00 Abundance Pantry Lunch 6:30 pm Young Adults: Advent crafts	21 12:00 Bullshevicks 7:00 TransFamily East	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm Christmas Pageant 10:45 pm Music begins 11:00 pm Worship 12:15 am Milk and Cookies
25 Christmas Day 11:00 Worship	26	27	28	29	30 3:00 pm Wedding: Megan Keefe and Jamie Allen	31
JAN 1 New Year's Day 11:00 Worship						
Limited office hours this week – please call first						

December 2016