

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

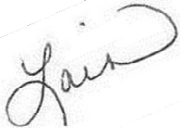
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.



# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio



## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

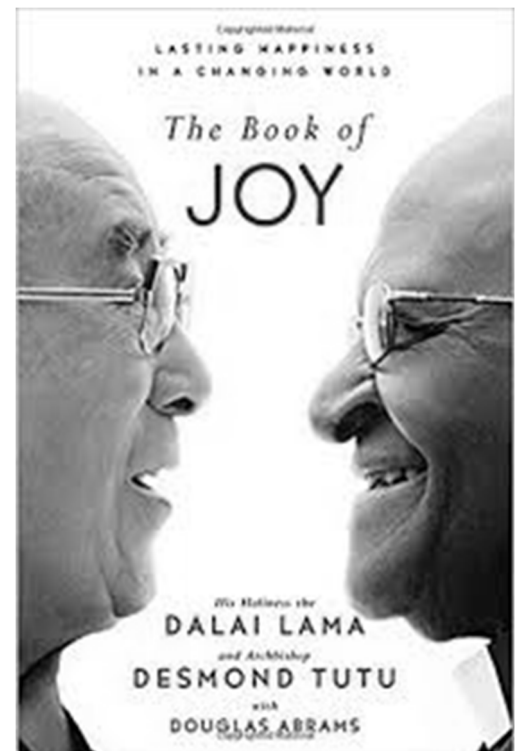
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family



to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

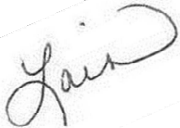
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**



**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

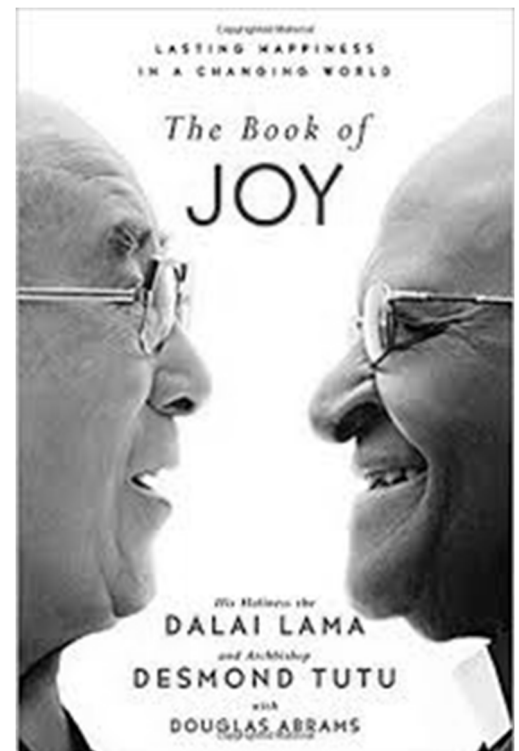
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

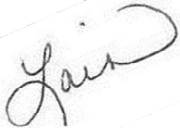
Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.





Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

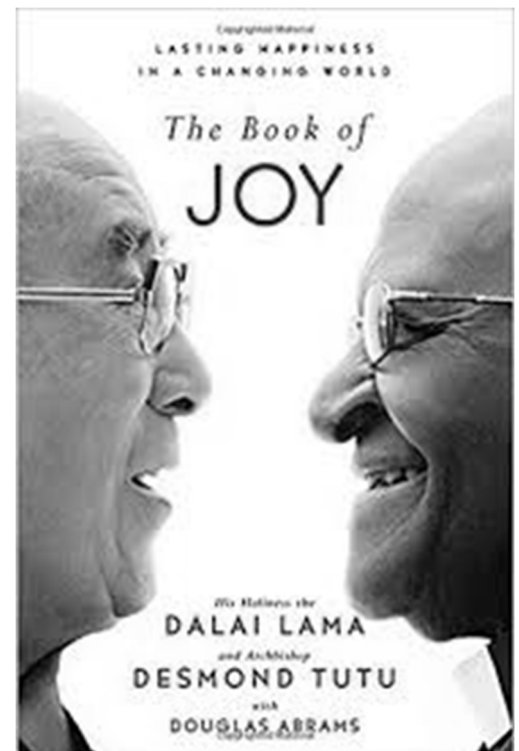
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz





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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

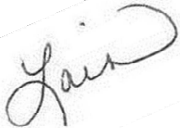
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*



# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

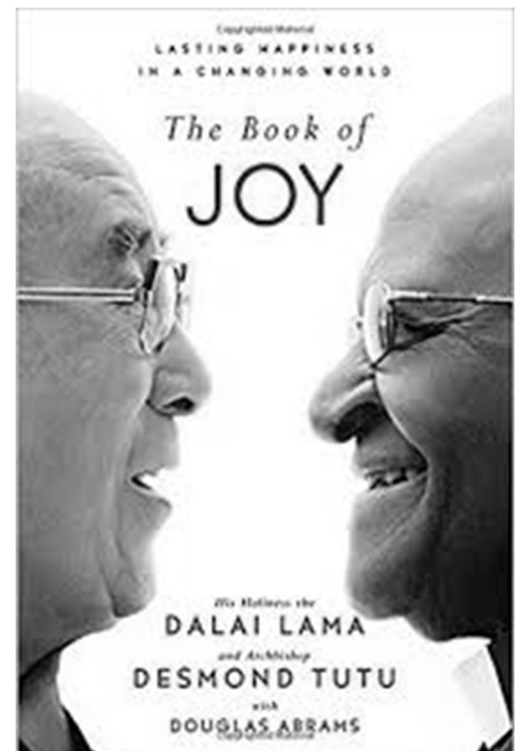
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017



John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

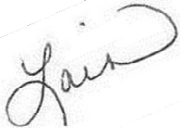
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio



## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

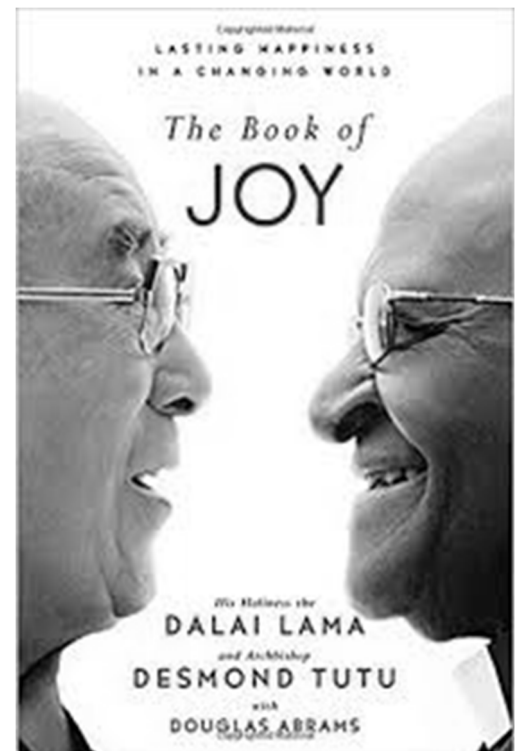
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

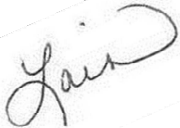
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor





The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

# **SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**

## **for a free screening:**

### **BACKPACK FULL OF CASH**

**A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON**



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

#### Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

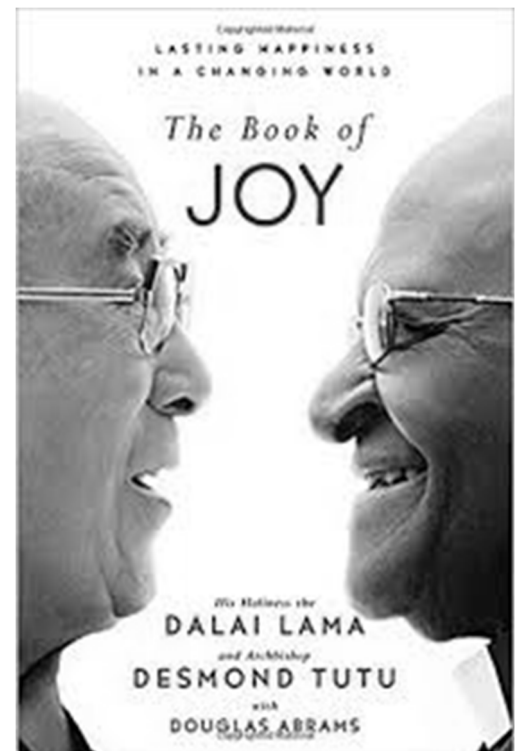
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257



## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

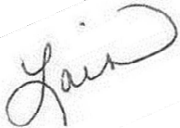
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.



**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

# **SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**

## **for a free screening:**

### **BACKPACK FULL OF CASH**

**A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON**



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

#### Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

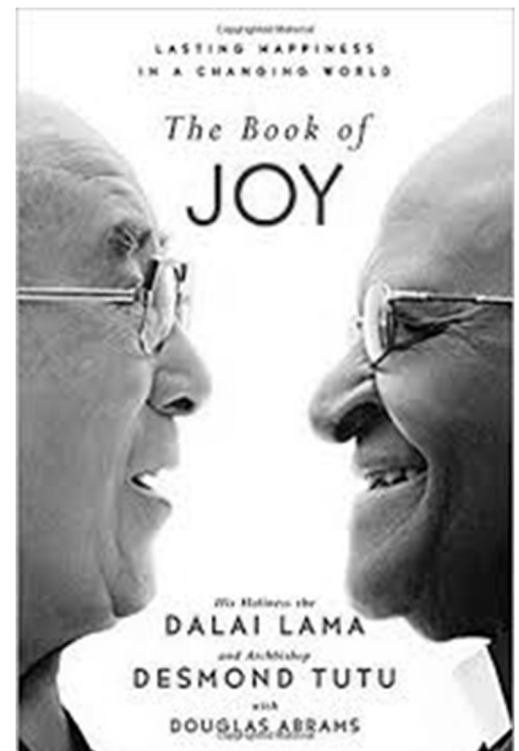
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family



to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

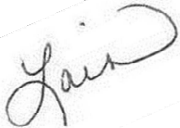
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams



## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14



<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

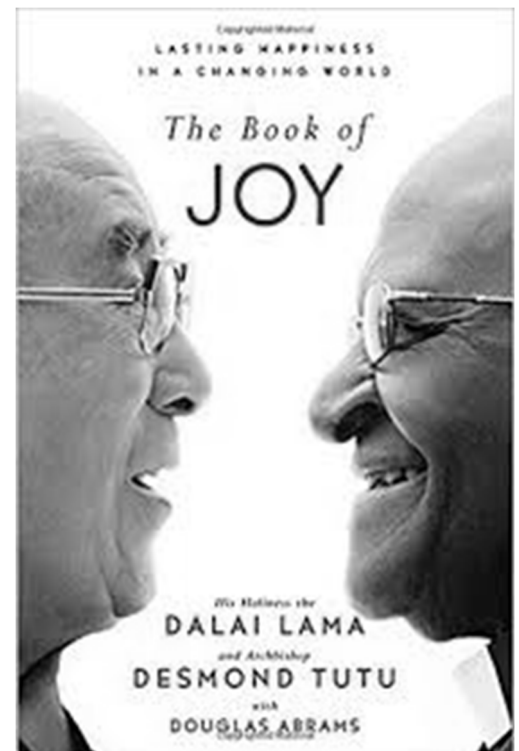
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

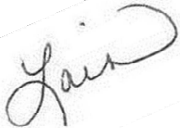
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.



# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register



## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

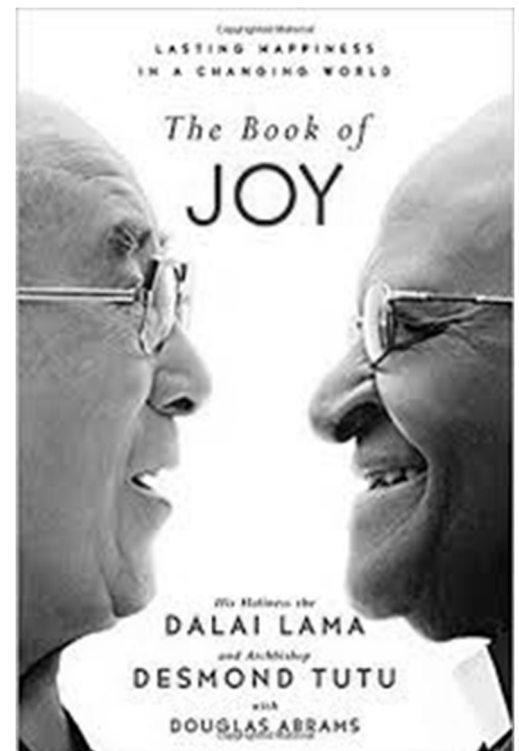
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover



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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

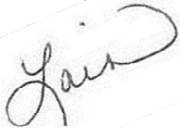
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**



# **SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**

## **for a free screening:**

### **BACKPACK FULL OF CASH**

**A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON**



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

#### Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

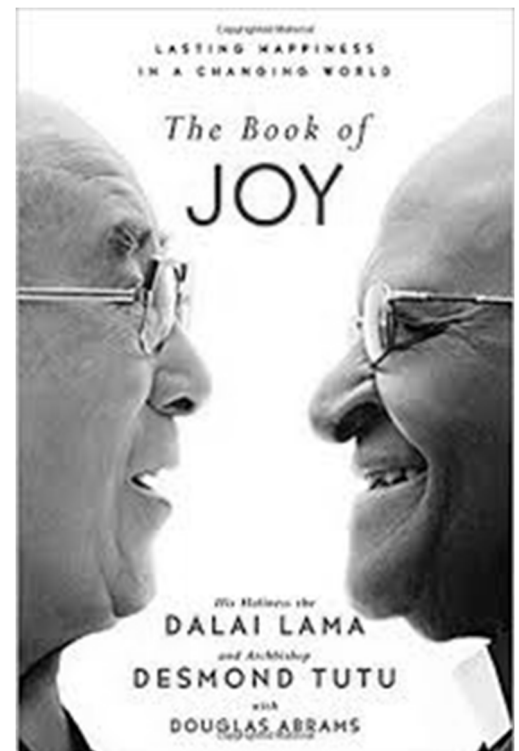
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

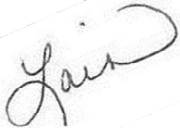
Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.





Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzepronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	---

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

# **SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**

## **for a free screening:**

### **BACKPACK FULL OF CASH**

**A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON**



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

#### Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

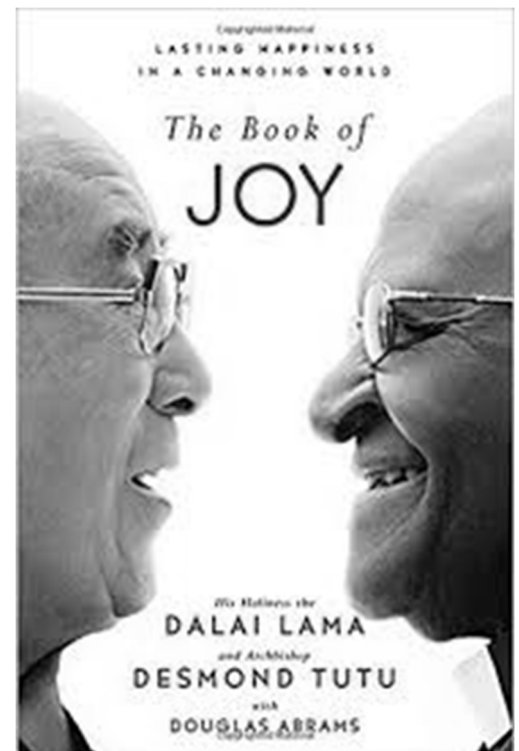
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz





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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

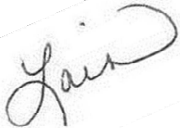
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*



# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

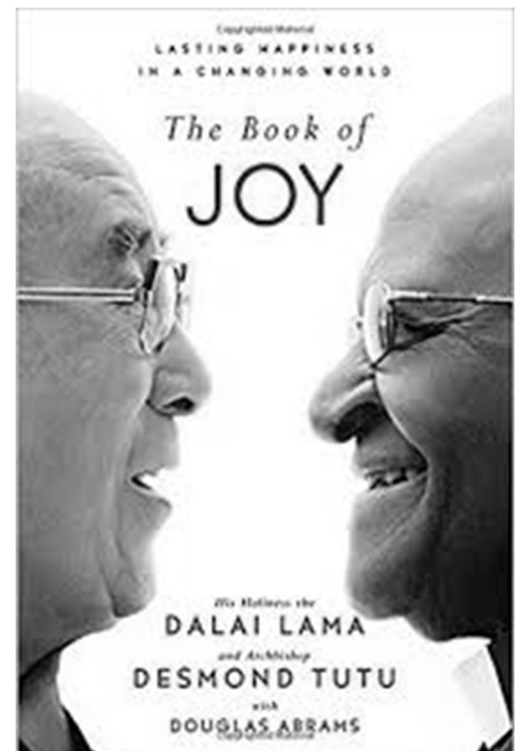
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017



John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

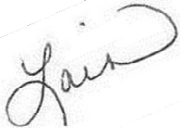
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio



## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

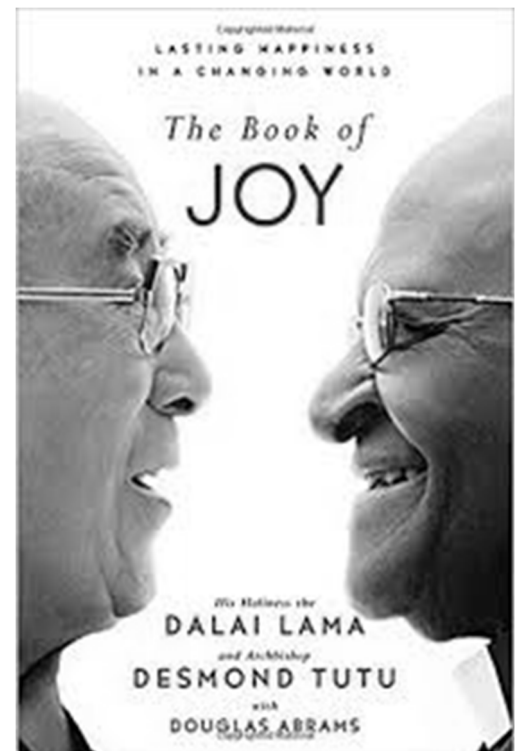
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

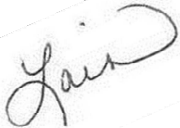
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor





The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

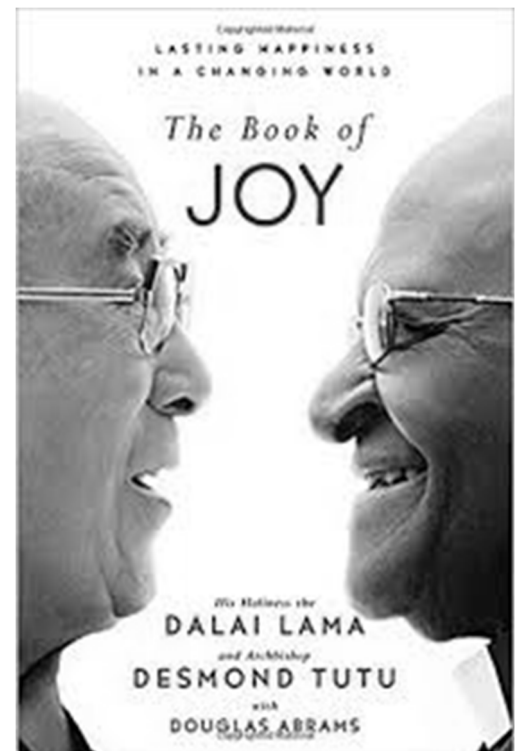
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257



## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

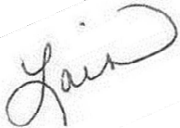
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.



**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

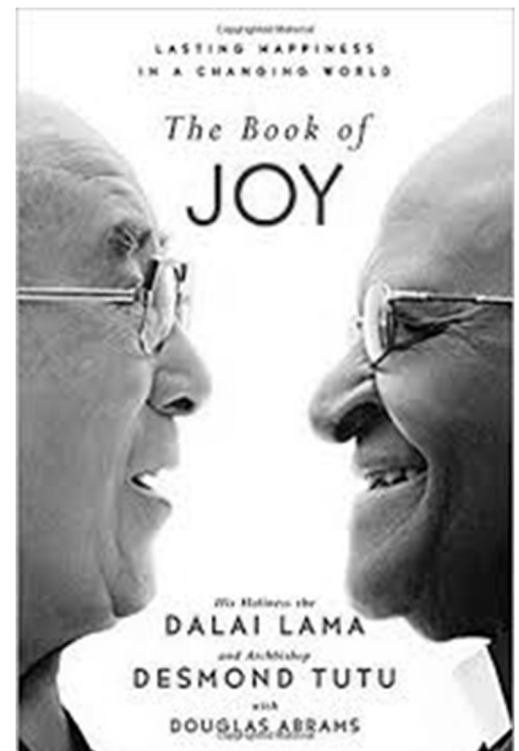
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullsheviks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family



to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

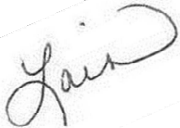
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams



## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14



<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

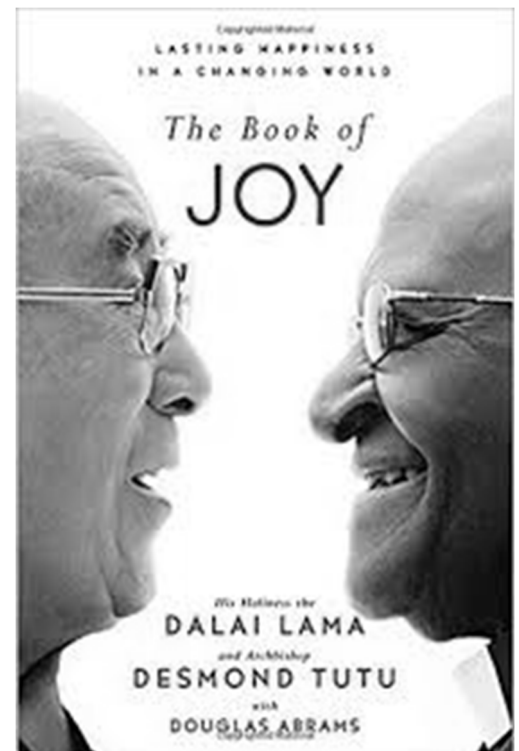
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

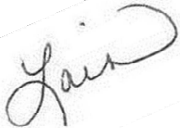
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.



# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all.

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register



## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: coalition@chuh.net

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

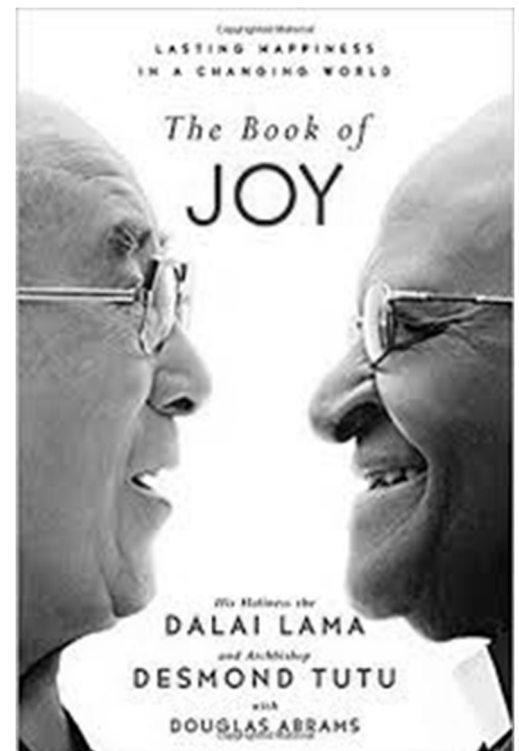
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover



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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

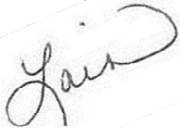
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzepronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	---

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**



**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

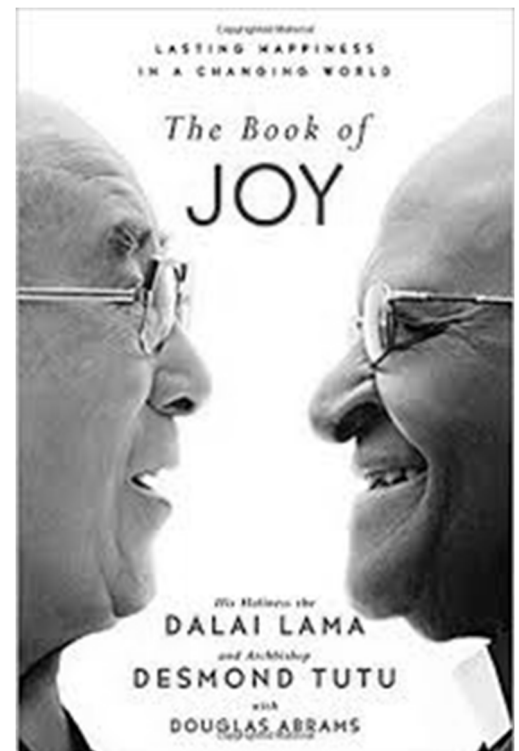
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

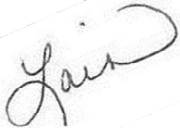
Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.





Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

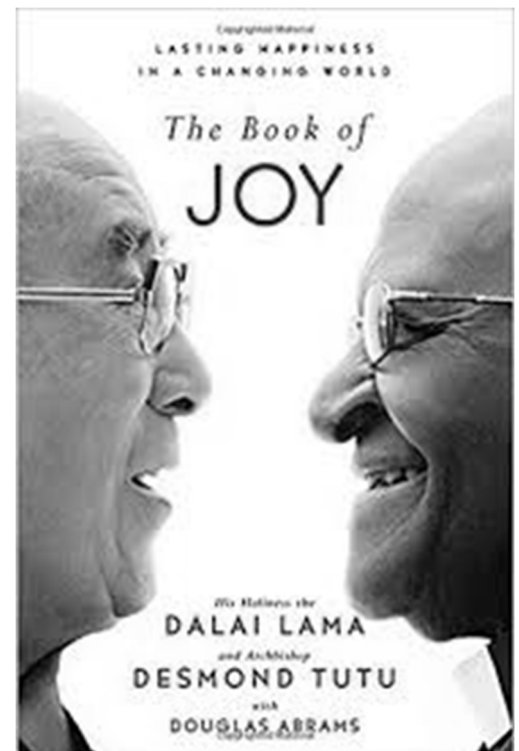
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz





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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

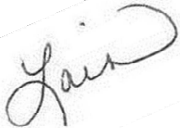
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*



# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: coalition@chuh.net

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

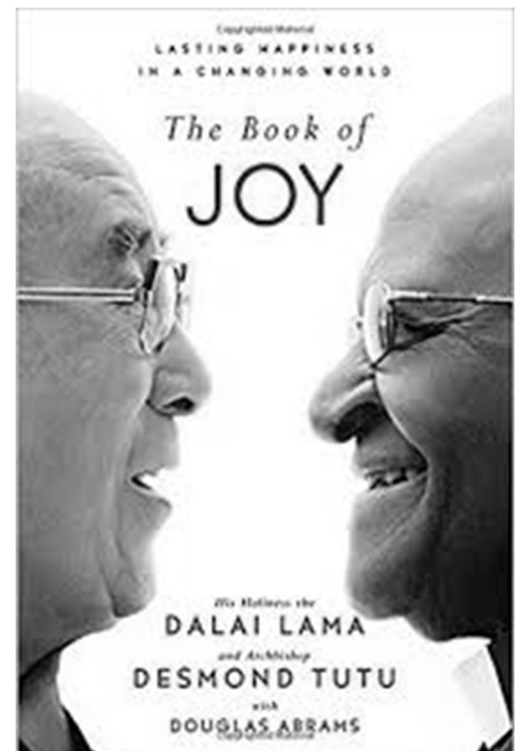
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u><a href="mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org">sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</a></u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017



John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

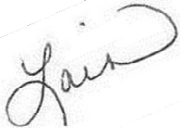
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio



## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

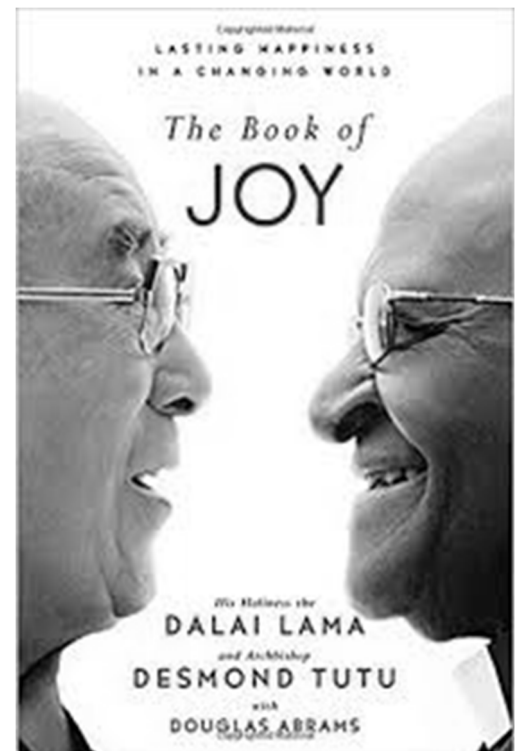
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

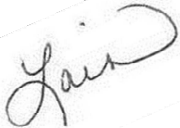
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor





The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: coalition@chuh.net

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

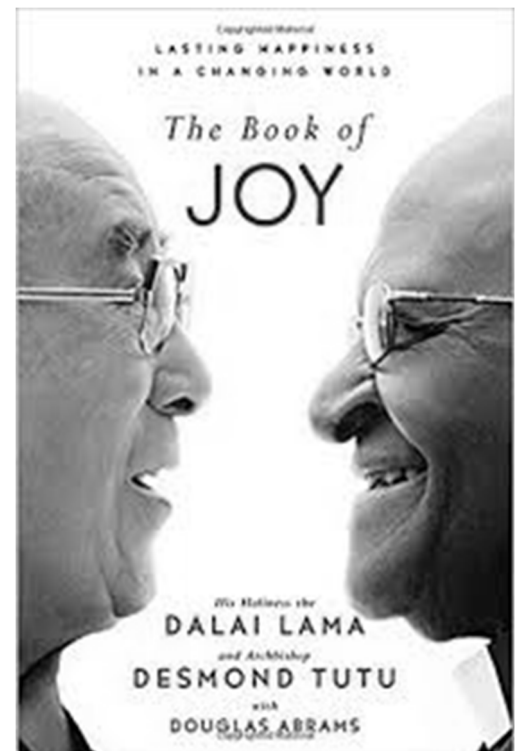
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257



## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

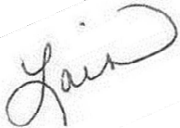
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.



**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

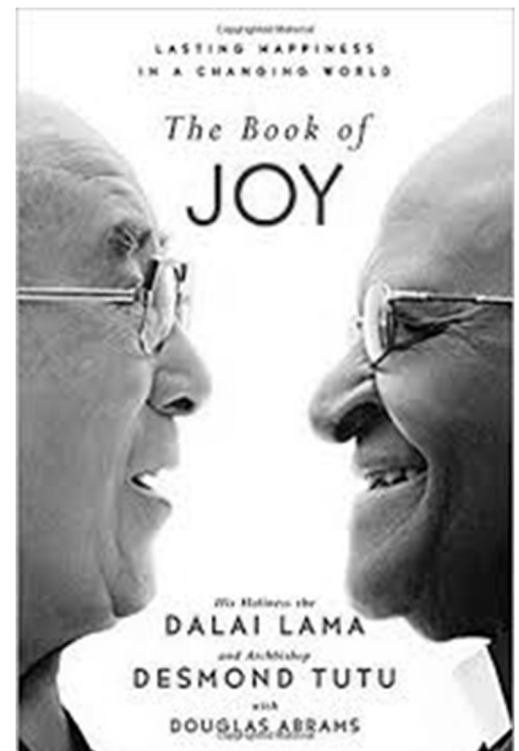
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family



to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

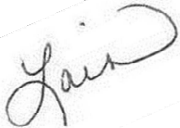
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams



## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14



<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

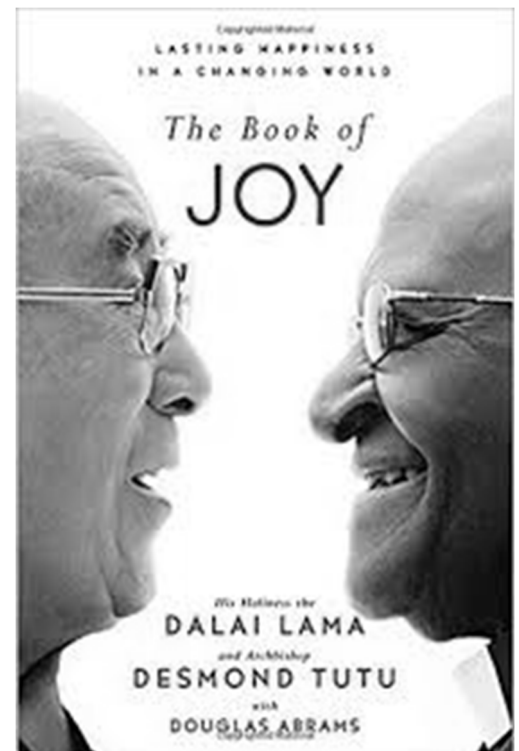
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

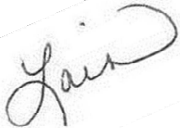
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.



# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register



## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

# **SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**

## **for a free screening:**

### **BACKPACK FULL OF CASH**

**A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON**



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

#### Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

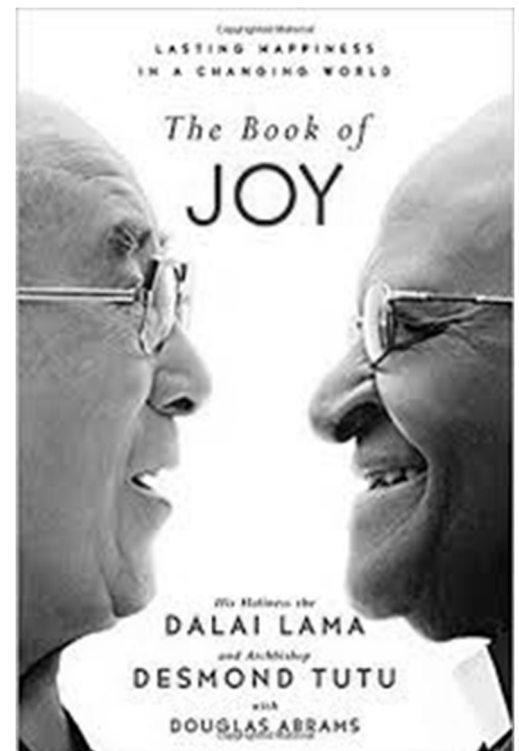
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover



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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

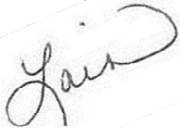
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**



**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

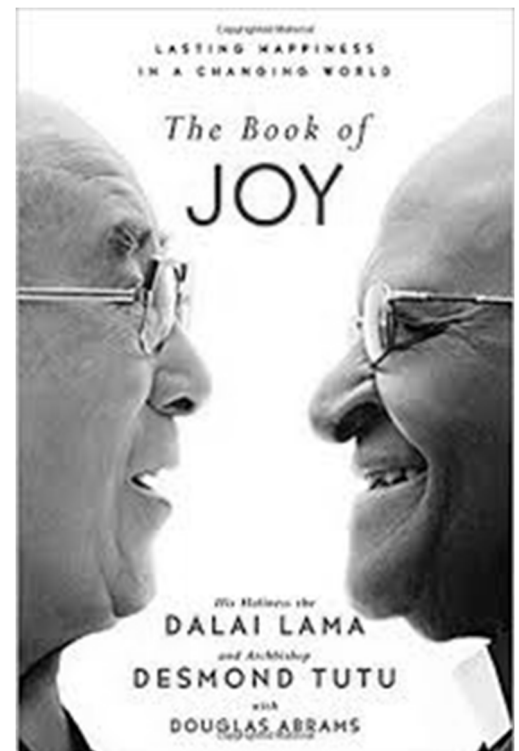
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

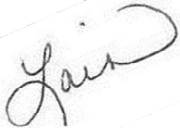
Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.





Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

# **SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**

## **for a free screening:**

### **BACKPACK FULL OF CASH**

**A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON**



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

#### Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

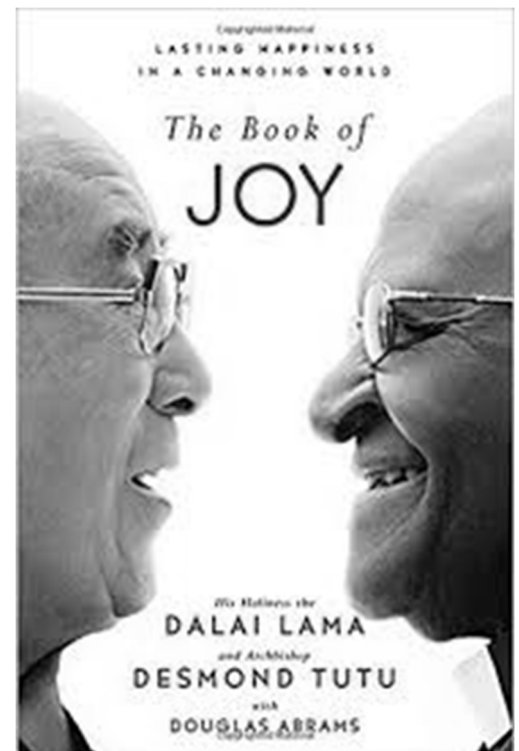
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz





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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charity McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullsheviks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

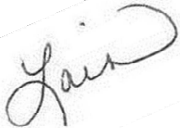
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*



# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

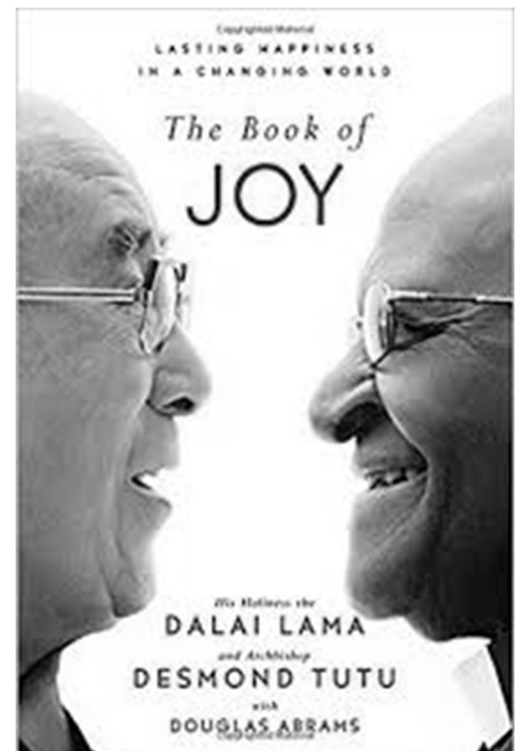
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017



John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

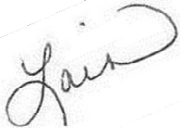
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio



## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

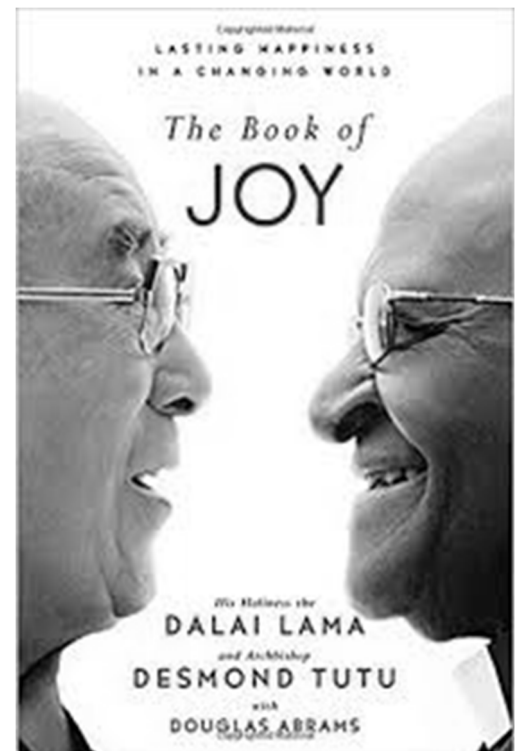
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

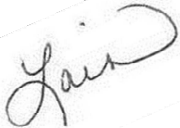
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor





The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

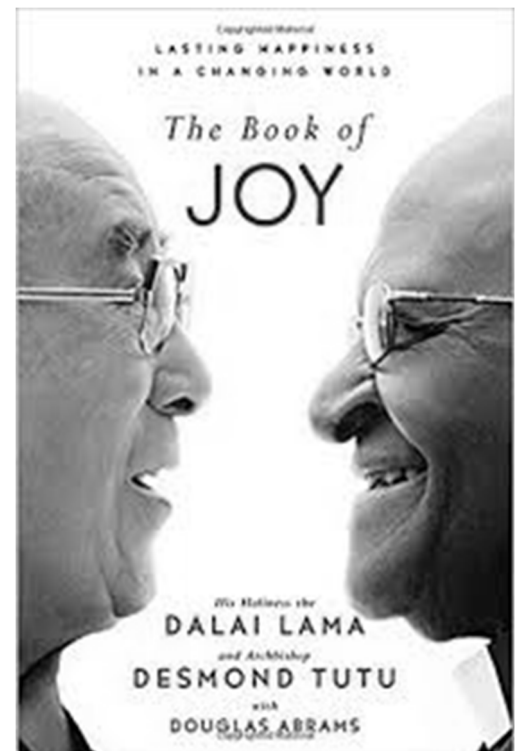
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257



## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

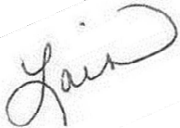
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.



**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

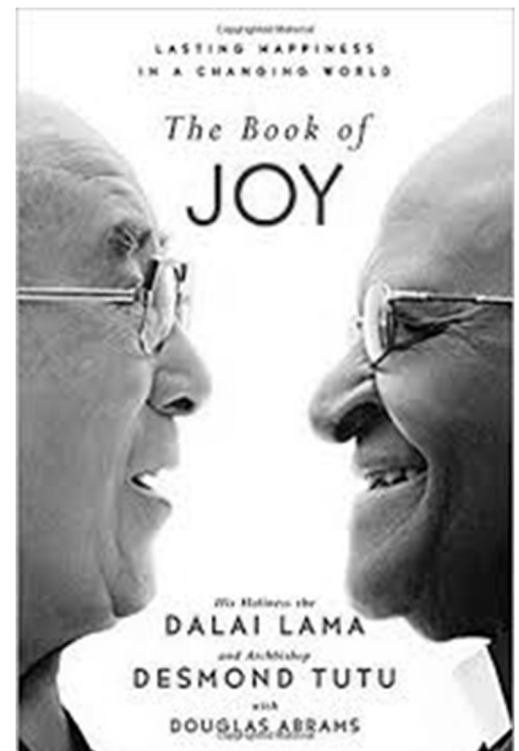
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family



to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

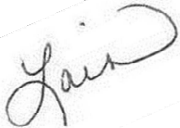
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

## KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all.

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams



## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14



<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

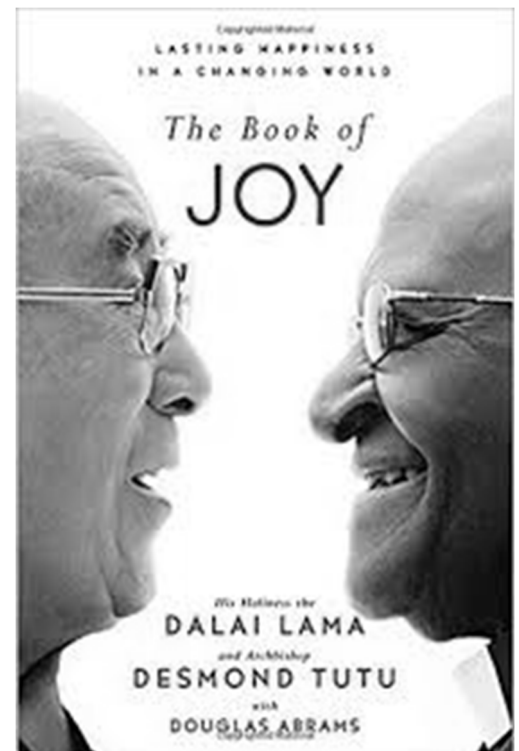
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

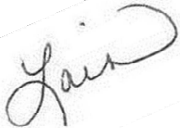
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.



# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register



## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzepronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	---

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

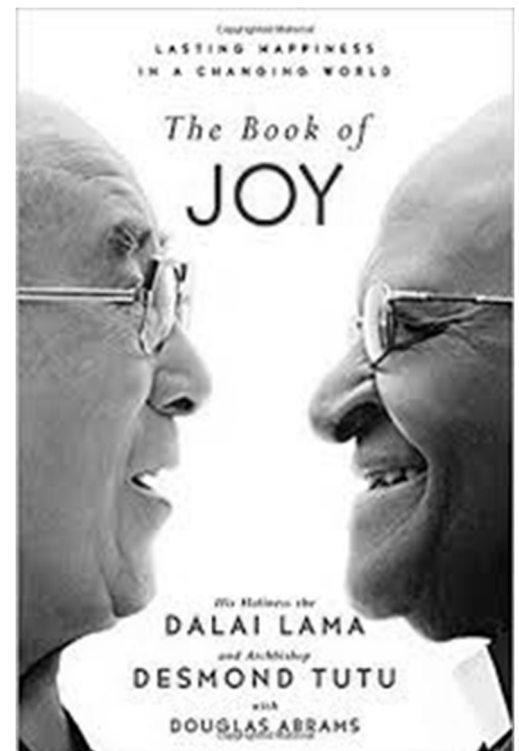
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover



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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

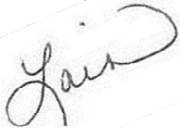
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader	Barb & Kermit Lind
Melanie Alban	Suzanne Marcy
Doris Bartlett	Laura Minder
Chris & Dave Bell	Dave & Allie Neff
JoAnne Black	Cindy & Jon William Newton
Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale	Dora Owusu
Ron & Patty Console	Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn
Jim & Terry Daedelow	Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family
Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky	Lois Reilly
Beth Garrett	Eric Rich & family
Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family	Jim Roosa & family
Kathryn Himmelsteib	Peggy Sasso
Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer	Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family
Jane & Cliff Kowall	Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family
Wafa Kuri	Matt & Sarah Winters & family

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**



**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

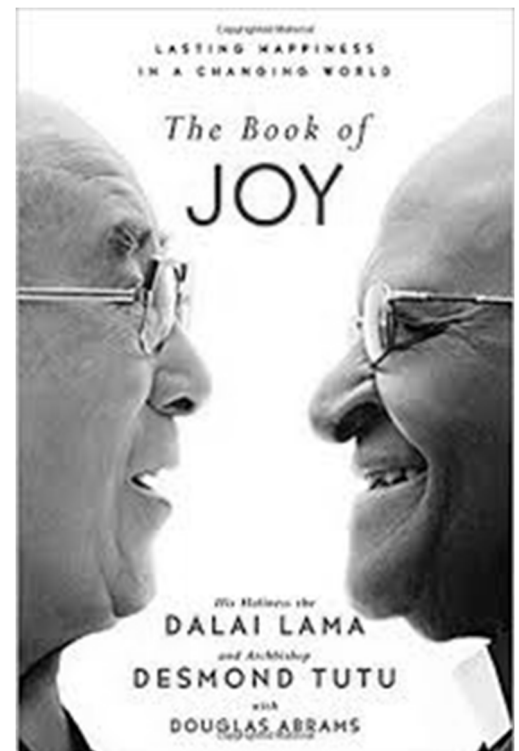
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

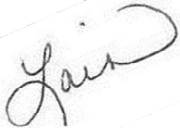
Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.





Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

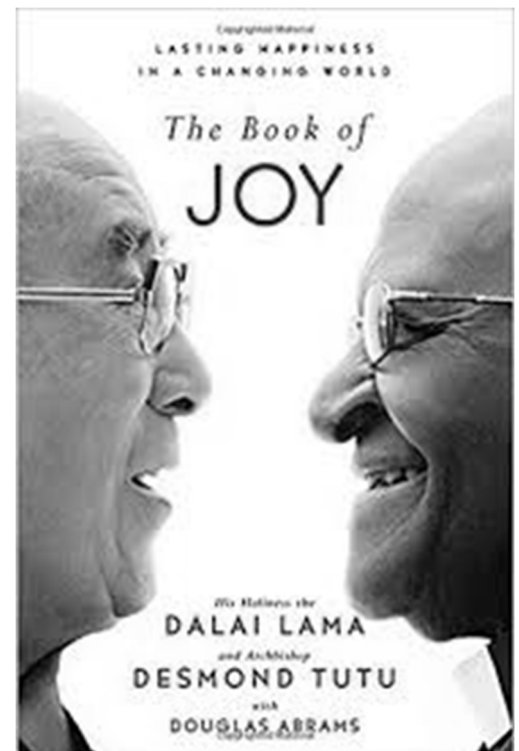
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz





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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

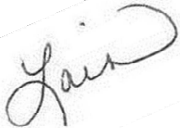
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*



# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzepronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	---

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

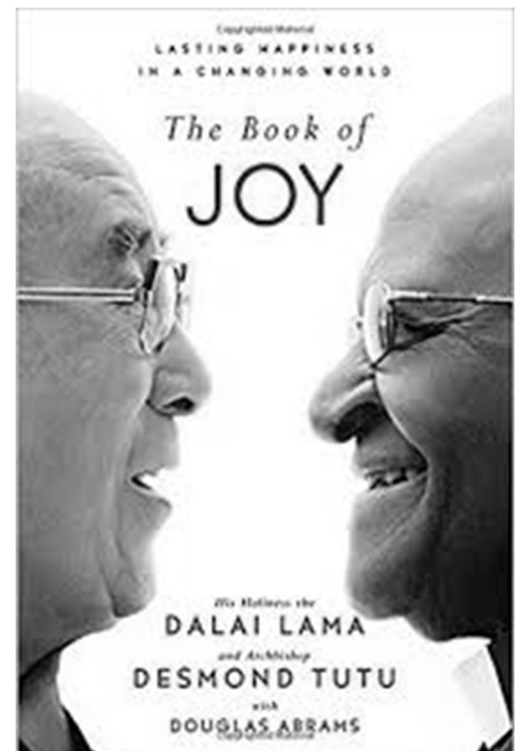
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017



John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

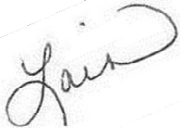
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: coalition@chuh.net

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio



## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

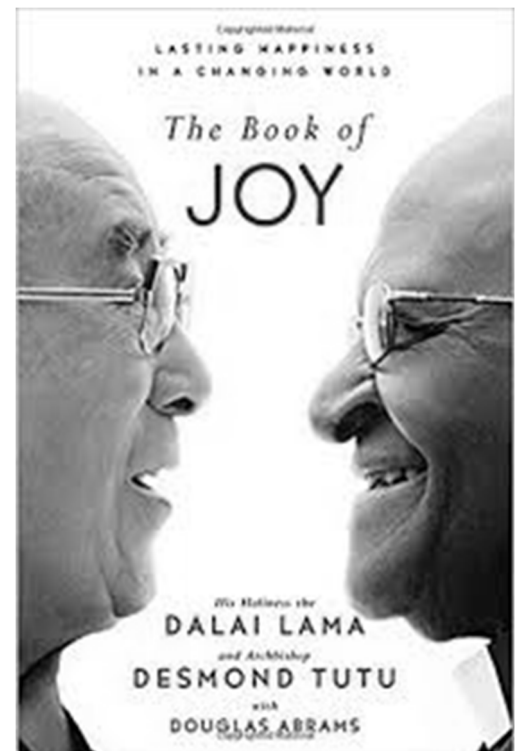
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullsheviks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

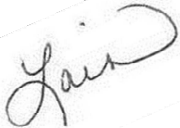
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor





The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: coalition@chuh.net

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

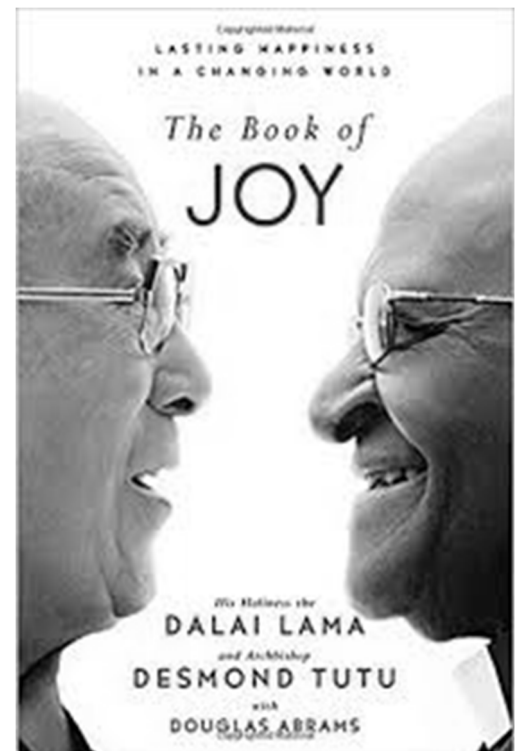
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257



## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

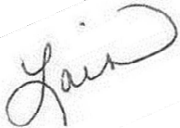
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.



**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

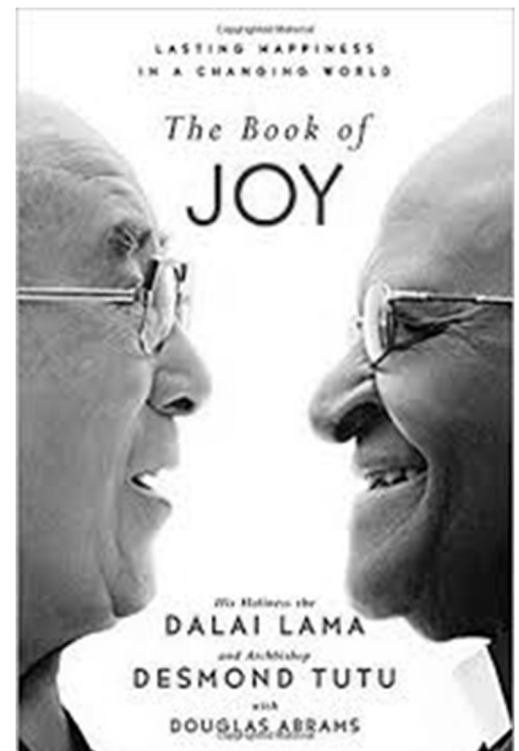
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family



to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

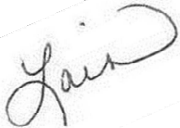
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams



## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14



<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

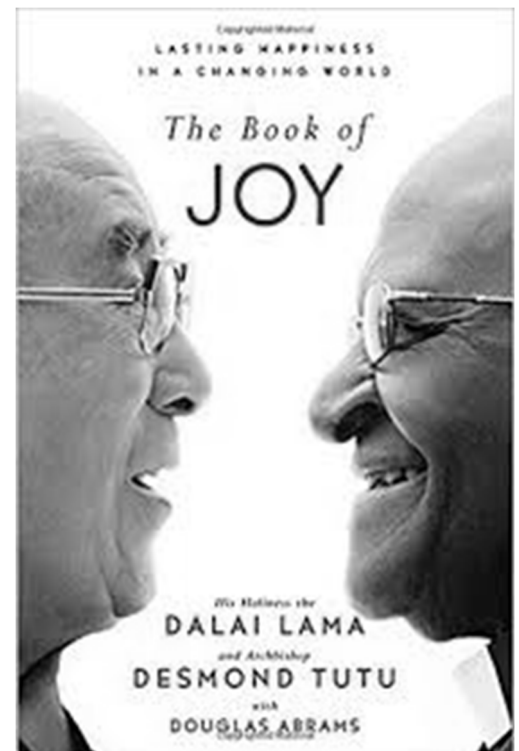
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

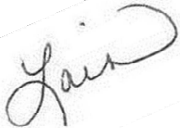
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.



# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register



## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

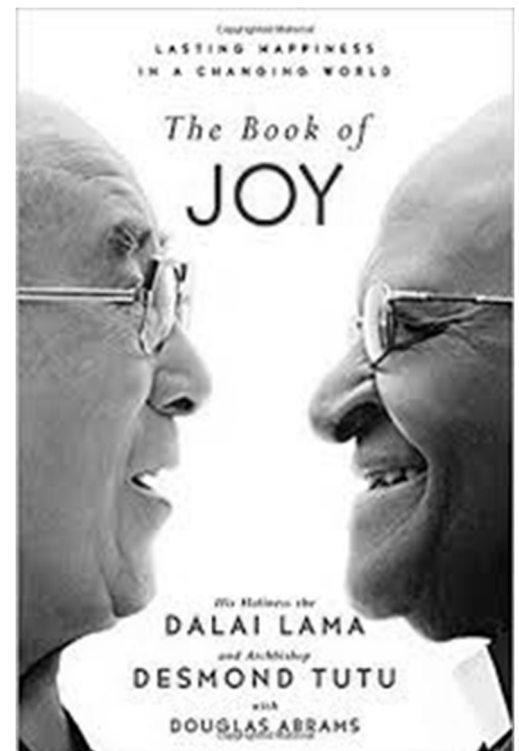
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover



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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

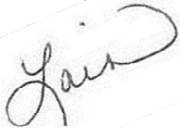
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**



**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

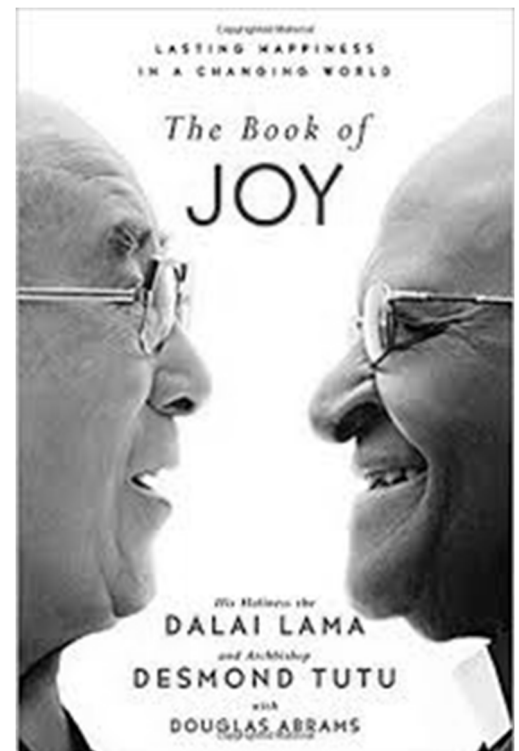
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

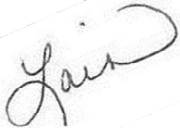
Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.





Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: coalition@chuh.net

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

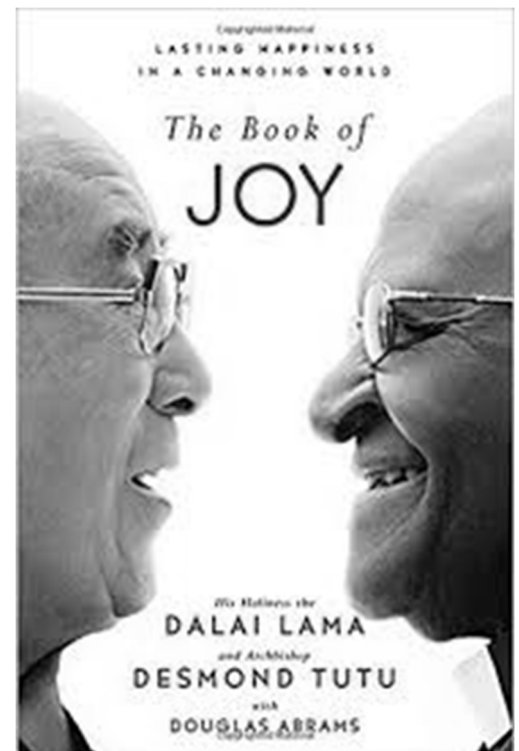
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz





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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

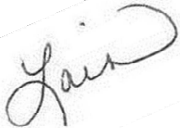
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.





## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*



# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

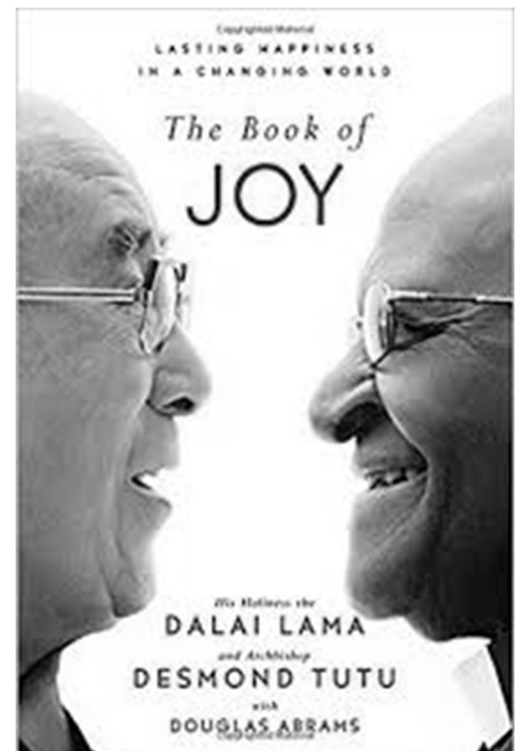
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b>TOWER</b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullsheviks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017



John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

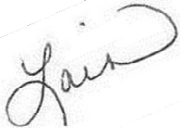
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio



## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

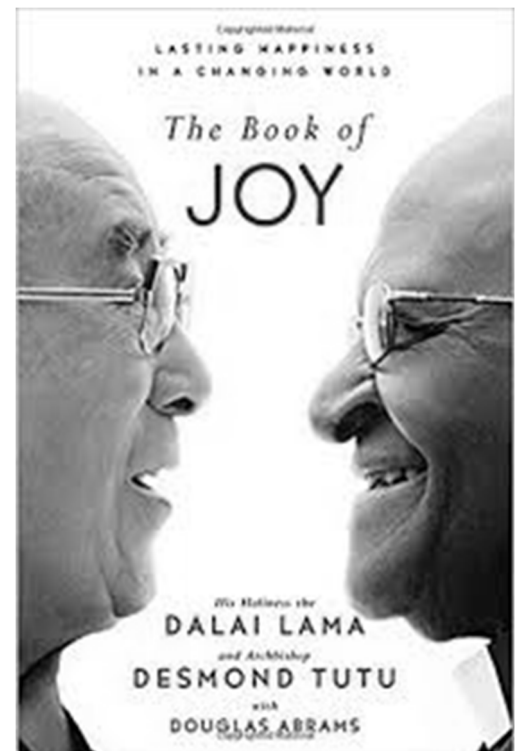
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

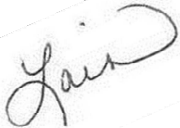
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor





The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

## KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon







Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## **Black History Education Committee**

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

**Ann Williams**



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the



best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

# **SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**

## **for a free screening:**

### **BACKPACK FULL OF CASH**

**A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON**



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

#### Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

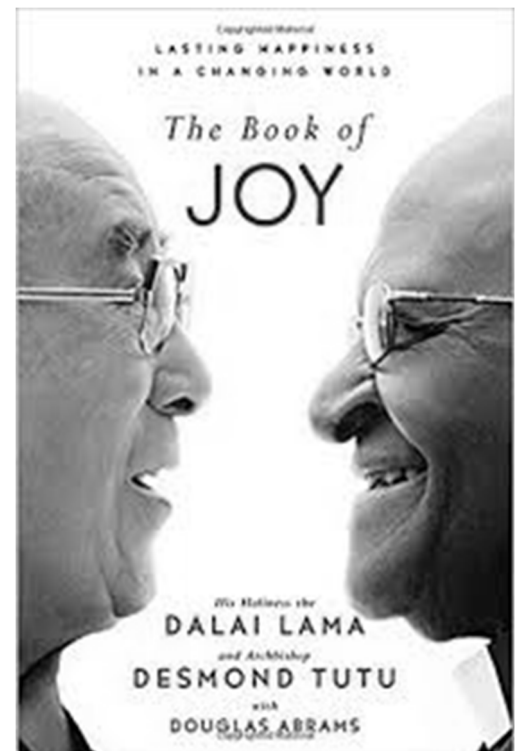
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257



## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

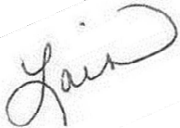
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots



of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.



**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

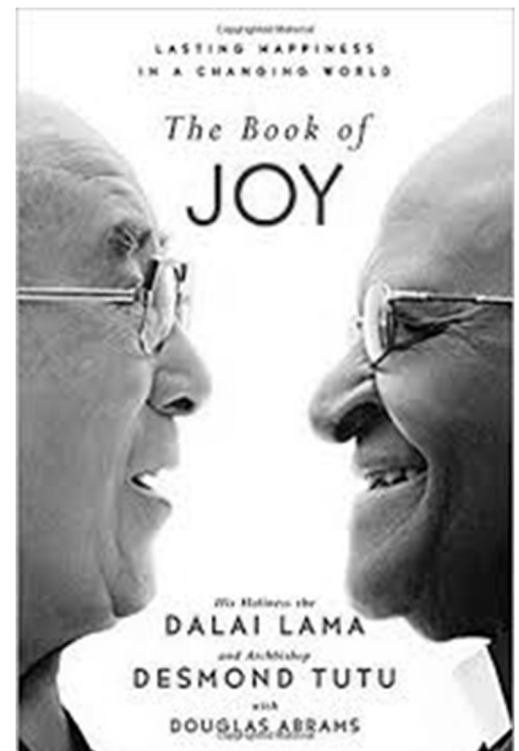
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullsheviks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family



to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

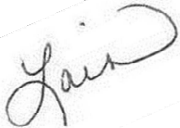
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

Kate Burleigh  
Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams



## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

**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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14



<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

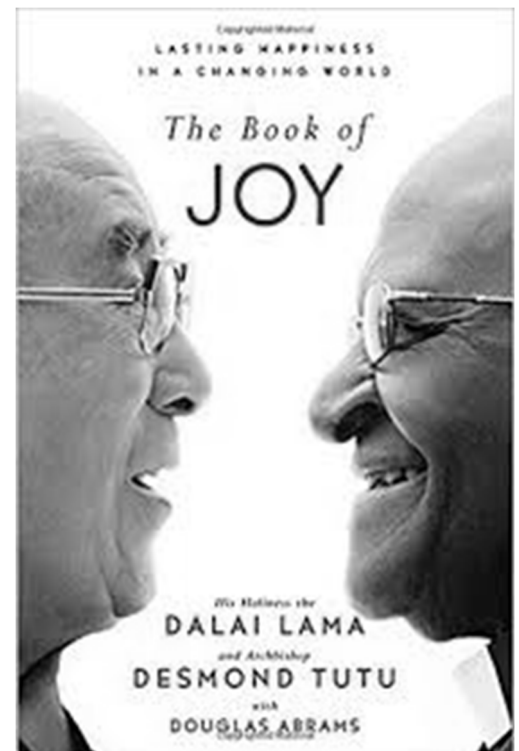
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

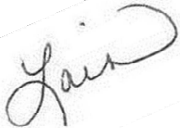
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.



# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries

## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams





Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register



## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**

**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

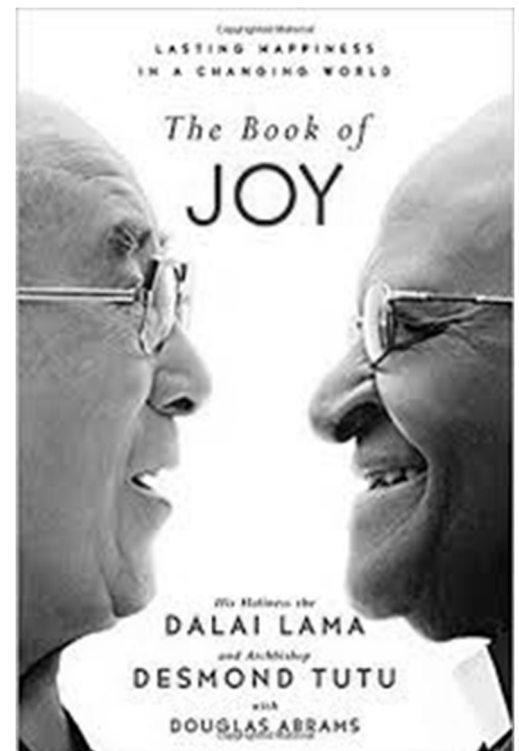
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover



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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017

John C. Lentz, Pastor  
Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

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



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

October 2017

Dear Friends,

WOW, what a September! A magnificent opening Sunday. When the choir added the descant to the last stanza of "Great is Thy Faithfulness" it was one of the most powerful and beautiful things I have ever heard. I bumped into heaven on Sunday, September 10!

**LET'S GO  
TRIBE!**

And the Indians haven't lost yet this month (hope I don't jinx them!) *well, actually you did but they are on another roll*

On Tuesday, September 12 another remarkable thing happened on the steps of Forest Hill. On that morning we shared with the world that we were hosting Leonor Garcia to live in our church in "Sanctuary" for as long as it takes for her immigrant status to be adjusted.

The outpouring of support has been magnificent. If you wish to show your support financially please write a check to Forest Hill Church and write in the memo: Sanctuary support. If you wish to volunteer in some other way, send an email to [sanctuary@fhcpresb.org](mailto:sanctuary@fhcpresb.org)

We have never been through anything quite like this before in our storied history. We are receiving lots of attention from the press and especially from social media. We have learned a lot about what it means to be CHURCH.

Leonor was going to be forcefully separated from her children; a woman whose father died when she was 3 and whose mother had to leave the family

to get a job in Mexico City; a woman who had escaped poverty and violence in Mexico when she was a teenager; a woman who had worked and earned enough to buy a home and raise a family; a woman who is probably on track to become a citizen of this country anyway – but all of that didn't matter to ICE who placed a GPS anklet on her and told Leonor to buy a plane ticket to Mexico where she has no one.

In Romans 13, St. Paul writes: “let every person be subject to the authorities.” The leadership of Forest Hill Church understands that we are protecting a person from the present laws of this land. But remember that Jim Crow was once the law of the land in some states; that separate but equal was once the law of the land; that slavery was once the law of the land. Remember also that every movement for social justice and equity in this nation's history from child labor laws to civil rights was a movement of the church following the upward call of Jesus Christ.

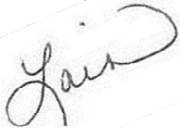
If our one action of welcoming Leonor can move this nation to more just, rational and equitable immigration reform then we have done a good thing. If our action can save a family then we have expressed the heart of Christian faith and what is best about the country that we love.

Peace be with you.

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



Leonor and her family on the day of the press conference.



Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and wildfires! Never-ending political strife! A data breach affecting millions of Americans! Are we stressed yet?

Maybe, yes... and ultimately no.

Let's be honest, our global and personal challenges can often feel overwhelming. It's okay to admit that! Even better, it's a great idea to seek out people with whom we can safely share our feelings.

As people of faith we also can express our deepest feelings and needs in prayer. I cannot do without my morning quiet time with God. I lift up this hurting world and ask for the compassion and wisdom to love and serve whomever God puts in my path that day. The good news is that I truly feel God's peace when I am finished and am empowered to carry on with whatever arises. How and where do you find solace and strength?

On Saturday, October 14, from 9:00-11:30 am Leslie Clement, Angela Sanders Boland and I will host a gathering in which we will present various centering practices that can be of help in our daily walk of faith. Some of you may be old enough to remember Lipton Tea's tag line, "The Pause That Refreshes!" We are hoping to introduce you to simple practices that will refresh and renew you as you seek to remain faithful in the midst of life's storms.

Please let us know that you plan to join us by registering with the church office by phone or email. We look forward to the joy of fellowship and a pause that refreshes!

Rev. Lois Annich  
Interim Associate Pastor



The children's program year is off to a great start! Sincere thanks to all the faithful volunteers (teachers, shepherds, and other adults) who have helped with children's programming. As we look ahead to October, children will worship with their families for World Communion Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy and interesting month of programming!

### **Children's Worship**

### **Preschool and kindergarten**

The children in this age group, ages 3-5, follow the play-based model of Young Children in Worship. After listening to a story, told in a sensorimotor style, the children are given space in which to respond (using art, story re-telling, clay, etc.). In September the children spent time becoming familiar with the routines of their class and heard stories focused on communion and the church calendar. These stories have prepared them for World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the Children's Worship class will join their families, for the first time (this year), in order to receive communion.

### **Pathways to the Promise Land**

### **Grades 1-5**

October is a busy month for the Pathways children. They will participate in World Communion Sunday, study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), witness the baptism of a classmate and learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **October Dates to Know**

### **October 1      World Communion Sunday - KISS**

Pathways children, grades 1-5, will worship with their families and take communion. The Children's Worship class will start in their classroom, room 207, on the second floor of the CE wing, and then join their families to receive communion for the first time this year. Please prepare your children for this special Sunday.

# Bible Study LEGO Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 where they will study the story of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). Using LEGOs, the children will respond to what they have studied and engage in theological reflection.

# October 15

# KISS Sunday – Baptism of Capri Gerteis

Pathways children will remain in the service so that they may witness to the baptism of classmate Capri Gerteis. A wonderful and powerful experience for all!

# October 22

# Service Sunday

Pathways children will meet in Bodwell Hall at 11:00 am to meet with Jack Breisch and hear about the work of the Labre ministry. The children will also be working on a service project collecting coats, hats, mittens, etc. for children/families in need who come to Our Family Home Center.

***Cherub Choir Meets @10:30 a.m.***

## October 29

# Reformation Sunday

Pathways children will start in the service and then be dismissed to Bodwell Hall for a special lesson focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Peace to all,

# Kate Burleigh

## Director of Children's Ministries



## Music Notes

The choirs are off to a fine start! I'd like to congratulate the new **Chancel Choir officers**: Elizabeth Shaw, President; Chris Vandall, Vice President and Social Chair; Carolyn Smith, Secretary; Bob Jeffreys, Treasurer; Nancy Grube, Librarian; Pat Musick, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Carl Jenks, Poetry Corner Coordinator.



The new **Descant Choir officers** are: Cassie Webster, President, and Sarah Dillenbeck, Vice President. Our **Voices in Bronze President** is Carol Gifford. Elections for the **Sine Nomine Choir** have not yet taken place at the time I'm writing this article, so I'll announce them next month.

I'd like to welcome all our **new choir members** (as of this writing on September 13): In the Chancel Choir, we welcome Alexis Wachter, Mark Schmidt and Olivia Sormaz. The Descant Choir welcomes new members Julia Koops, Lucas Ryman and Colin Webster. New members of the Sine Nomine Choir will be announced next month.

On Sunday, October 1, we'll celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with global music and visual arts as we are mindful of the great world-wide community of saints.

Also on October 1, at 7 pm, I will be offering a PowerPoint presentation about **Scotland and the Iona Community**. Join us in Fellowship Hall for Scottish music, dance, and food in addition to lovely images projected on our huge screen. Invite friends!



Last year we tried something new and it was a huge success: **Beer-n-Hymns!** Yes, it sounds rather odd, but it's really fun to have an old-fashioned hymn-sing with a small band and everyone in a jolly mood with their craft beer, mead, or root beer. This will take place Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 pm at the BottleHouse Brewery (2050 Lee Rd., Cleveland Hts.) There will be food trucks available, and you may bring in your own food. The Bottlehouse is a family-friendly place with pinball machines and games for children, and lots

of large picnic tables. We're bringing FHC to the community and it should be a blast. If you're interested in reading about this idea, here's a link from Denver-based, counter-cultural Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber who initiated this idea:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=E9VATLZSm9AC&pg=PT128&lpg=PT128&dq=Nadia+Bolz-Weber+Beer+and+Hymns>

Stop by the BottleHouse to learn more about this unique local business, or go to their website:

<https://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>

**Reformation Sunday** is October 29. A brass quartet will lead our robust hymn-singing. A Mighty Fortress is Our God!

I would like to thank our generous donors to the **Friends of Music Fund**. This fund makes it possible to put on special events like our AWE services and concerts, and it covers the costs of guest instrumentalists and singers. If you would like to offer your support to this fund, I and those who love the role of sacred music in our worship experiences would be most grateful!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
216-870-2729 [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)



**Fall Work Day – October 21  
9-12 am**

**All are welcome!**

**Inside and outside work will be available  
Questions? Contact Ann Donkin  
[adonkin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org) or 216-701-0598**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered, contributed and/ or attended the Fall Festival Country Jamboree! Special thanks to Mary McMillan and Tim Gifford for coordinating the hay bale pickup, to Bob Brock and Dave Bell for jumping in (as deacon spouses they were conscripted for the event), and to Morag Keefe and the wonderful kitchen workers who provided us with a delicious meal. Who can forget Sally Davis's decorations or John Dugard's story telling? Thanks to all the Deacons who set up the event and managed the activities, and to the many unnamed individuals whose hard work made our church kickoff a super success.

We have so much to celebrate at Forest Hill Church and so much work to do as a loving, inclusive community.

*The church is not an institution forcing us to follow rules but a community inviting us to still our hunger and thirst at its table.*

Henri Nouwen

In gratitude, we wish you peace, love and joy.

Kathy Carr, Deacon





Every Blessing  
in Abundance  
2018 Stewardship Campaign

Welcome to Stewardship Season 2018! It is the time we reflect on how our lives have been transformed through our involvement at Forest Hill Church. It is the time we prayerfully decide

how to continue to support the church with our financial commitment in the coming year.

These are exciting times as we renew our vision for the future. We encourage you to be inspired to enable Forest Hill Church to continue living into its mission by supporting this year's aspirational budget. The bulk of our income comes from the pledges of members and friends. It is the one source of income we truly rely on. It is the money we use to provide food to hungry neighbors, provide Christian education for our children, pay our staff, and maintain our buildings.

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on Sunday, October 22. The theme is "Every Blessing in Abundance," based on 2 Corinthians 9:8. The campaign will end on November 5 with our traditional celebratory Cornucopia Luncheon after the worship service.

Whether you receive your campaign materials at church on Sunday, October 15 or in the mail during the week of October 16, please read them carefully. This year's packet includes:

- Stewardship letter from Senior Pastor John Lentz
- Personal note from a fellow member
- Narrative Budget that tells the story of how your donations transformed lives in the past year and of our aspirations for the year ahead
- Confirmation of Pledge/Gift card to be completed and returned to the church.

We encourage you to pray and then act as you feel guided, whether it is to increase your current pledge or to pledge for the first time. We are all called upon to commit to continuing God's work as we build the Beloved Community.

The Ministry of Stewardship

Elders Ahren Stock and Melanie Alban

Elected Leaders Dave Burleigh, Bill Ladebue, Leslie Pendleton,  
Peter Williams

## Black History Education Committee

Every February during Black History Month in the U.S., we hear the critique that Black History is American History and should be part of what we cover all year. The former Black History Month Committee of Forest Hill Church has discussed this at length. We believe that it is still helpful to have a time set aside in February to focus intensively on Black History, so we have decided to continue to have education in its broadest sense during February. We will continue to offer programs designed to increase knowledge and experience, addressing both ideas and attitudes about Black History and Black people. We also believe that we should focus on Black History at other times throughout the year. To reflect this change, we have changed our name to the Black History Education Committee.

### **Mary Seacole: The Creole with the Teacup**

Our first outside-of-February program will be held on October 1, World Communion Sunday, which happens to be the first day of British Black History Month. We will focus on Mary Seacole, a British woman who served parallel to Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War. Mary Seacole is quite well known in Britain, but less so in the U.S. While Florence Nightingale has famously been called “The Lady with the Lamp”, Mary Seacole was called “The Creole with the Teacup”, and was greatly loved by the soldiers she served.



Come to Fellowship Hall following worship on October 1 to learn more about “The Creole with the Teacup” and to enjoy Afternoon Tea together.

Ann Williams



Before I give an update about the Q Deal, let me highlight two important efforts and successes of GCC.

### **Cleveland Heights Housing Team**

The Team, with strong participation from FHC, has been working on the issue of vacant and blighted properties in the Noble neighborhood for the past year and a half with significant successes, including advocacy for added staff in Housing Inspections, cleanup of blighting conditions at 5 individual properties and proactive City policies to deal with the worst properties, such as legislation to require a \$10,000 bond at foreclosure to provide money for grass cutting or essential repairs should the new owner not comply. The Team has also supported the formation of a Community Development Corporation for the City and has raised concern about the outsourcing of the City's building to a for-profit entity. Most recently the Team organized a Forum for Judicial Candidates that increased understanding of/commitment to the role the Court can play in most serious cases of vacant, blighted properties, as well as educating the 86 voters who attended.

See Diana Woodbridge ([diana@ninthrung.com](mailto:diana@ninthrung.com)) if you'd like more information or would like to be involved.

### **GCC Education Team**

As reported in the July Tower, GCC won several requests from Cleveland Municipal School District. One, the formation of a permanent Trauma Team for students who experience or witness violence and other trauma is now underway. Sadly, this trauma is all too frequent and teachers, social workers, and parents are being trained to support these students. Other community members may be needed to provide such support. Please contact Jennifer Blakeney ([bmlspirit@yahoo.com](mailto:bmlspirit@yahoo.com)) if you'd like to be involved.

### **The Q Deal**

GCC leadership led a debriefing session for members of GCC at FHC on September 14. John Lentz started with his oft used quote "we can't always get what we want, but if we try, sometimes we'll get what we need." Our work on getting neighborhood benefits beyond downtown had some disappointments. GCC had pressure from many corners, forcing our leaders to pull the petitions calling for a referendum vote on the deal even though there wasn't a solid community benefit agreement. This appeared to be the

best option given the circumstances; it would allow us to continue our critical work into the future.

***What we did achieve:***

- We obtained over 20,000 petition signatures in just 3 weeks, exposing what goes on in the shadows of local government so Cleveland will never be the same,
- We won the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court that our petitions must be counted
- Dan Gilbert offered “deal sweeteners” of paving basketball courts and building 100 Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Our power was noted and recognized as dangerous to the “powers and principalities”!

Now we must continue to build on our power and relationships with Greater Cleveland’s public officials as well as in our community and GCC congregations. At this assembly, members asked many questions including how do we hold officials accountable, how do we explain to and build the trust of the Cleveland voters who signed the petitions, and how can we keep our membership better informed during such challenges.

Donna Weinberger and others on the Criminal Justice team have been working for over a year on obtaining the support of the county judges and Prosecutor and the ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) board of Cuyahoga County to create two mental health crisis centers, essential to keep residents out of jail when they actually need mental health care. Although County Executive Budish did not meet our request for a financial commitment to these centers, we have full confidence they will be established.

We have come a long way in just 5 years. There is much work to be done to build better communities. We must face our struggle as we walk this valley. With God all things are possible as we work for justice in our community. We are proud of the commitment and tenacity of FHC in this work.

Questions and concerns of your GCC Core Team are welcome.

Jennifer Blakeney

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Gretchen Reynolds

Barb Cloud

Scott Lafferty

Diana Woodbridge

Charity McDonald

Ron Register

## Luther Rose, or Luther Seal

Designed by Martin Luther to represent his theology, ca 1525

*First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17).*



*The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12).*

*This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed.*

*Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.*

*(from a letter written by Luther in 1530)*

# News of Our Church Family

## Marriages

**Brad Shoger** (son of Elaine Turley) and **Kate Winters** were married on August 26, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

**Joseph Jenkins** (son of Patricia Jenkins) and **Adrienne Watson** were married on September 16, 2017 in Cleveland. Dr. Lentz officiated.

## Care Group

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

Members of the Nazareth CARE Group are:

Chris Bell , Deacon leader Melanie Alban Doris Bartlett Chris & Dave Bell JoAnne Black Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale Ron & Patty Console Jim & Terry Daedelow Melinda Dus & Curtis Jastremsky Beth Garrett Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family Kathryn Himmelsteib Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer Jane & Cliff Kowall Wafa Kuri	Barb & Kermit Lind Suzanne Marcy Laura Minder Dave & Allie Neff Cindy & Jon William Newton Dora Owusu Elspeth & Richard Peterjohn Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family Lois Reilly Eric Rich & family Jim Roosa & family Peggy Sasso Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family Megan & Peter Tzeffronis & family Matt & Sarah Winters & family
--	--

## Volunteer Hours in August

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Pat Jenkins, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team—worked a total of 69 hours in August. Thank you all! And thanks to Ann Donkin who covered the office while Lynda was away.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Al and Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Pat Weissbrod

***Emma Jane Gibbs will turn 100 on October 6!  
Cards may be sent to her son:***

***Jim Gibbs  
1561 Spring Garden Ave  
Lakewood, OH 44107***

## **Social Groups and Circles**

**The Group** (60s – 70s and beyond) **Two events are planned**

**Save the dates and watch for information:**

**October 14:** Save the date and watch for news of a Progressive Dinner that's in the planning stage.

**November 5:** We'll go to see *Shrek*, the Heights High musical, at 4 pm, followed by dinner at Anatolia Café (2270 Lee Rd.)

**Hilltoppers** (retired) **and Iris Circle** (all women of the church)

### **Potluck and Program**

We will come together for a potluck lunch on October 10 at 11:30 am in Bodwell Hall. Rev. Lois Annich will speak about her June pilgrimage to Ireland. RSVP to Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

**October 10, Bodwell Hall, 11:30 am**



**SAVE THE DATE: October 10, 2017**  
**for a free screening:**

**BACKPACK  
FULL OF CASH**  
A NEW DOCUMENTARY  
NARRATED BY MATT DAMON



Explore the real cost of privatizing America's public schools.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

7 PM screening in auditorium followed by discussion in the cafeteria.

Cleveland Heights High School 13263 Cedar Rd in Cleveland Heights

Free to the public

Free Child Care available by reservation ahead of time: call  
216.321.0020 or email: [coalition@chuh.net](mailto:coalition@chuh.net)

Sponsors:

Heights Coalition for Public Education

Reaching Heights Foundation

Northeast Ohio Friends of Public Education

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Northeast Ohio Branch, American Association of University Women

Progress Northeast Ohio

## Sundays in October

- 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)  
**11:00** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 8, 22)  
**11:15** Pathways to the Promise Land (Oct 29)  
 Oct. 1, 15: Children stay in worship  
**12:15** Coffee & conversation  
 Sine Nomine Choir, followed by Ekklesia (Sr High mtg):  
 Oct 1, 15, 29  
**2:00** Messiah Chorus rehearsal  
**4:00** Labre Project  
**5:00** Faith Leader (not Oct 8)

<b>October 1: World Communion; Peace and Global Witness Offering</b> <b>11:00</b> Worship: Communion <b>12:15</b> Black History Tea: Mary Seacole, "The Creole with the Teacup"	Exodus 7: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
<b>October 8</b> <b>8:30</b> Nominating Committee <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>2:30</b> Apollo's Fire rehearsal	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
<b>October 15</b> <b>12:15</b> Blood Pressure check <b>11:00</b> Worship: Baptism <b>12:15</b> Mission Fair	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

<b>October 22</b> 8:30 Nominating Committee 10:30 Cherub Choir 6:30 Community Sing: Beer n Hymns (BottleHouse)	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22
<b>October 29 Reformation Sunday</b>	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

***The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.***

### **Three-Church Book Study!**

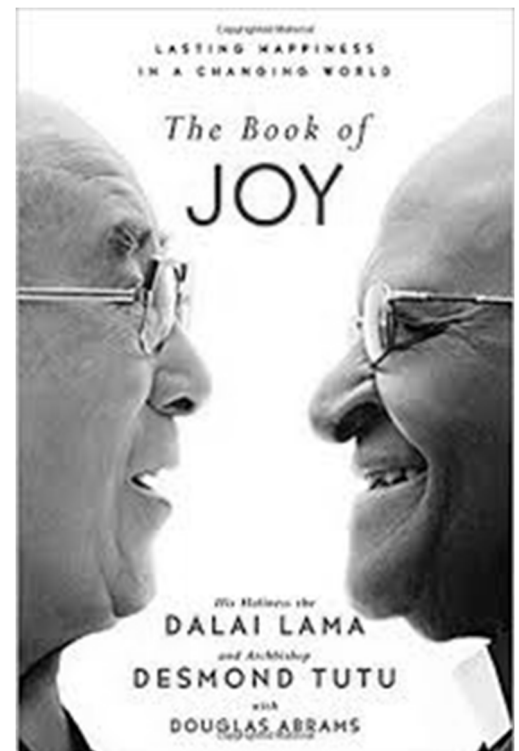
On Wednesdays October 4, November 1 and December 6, members and friends of Forest Hill Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Olivet Institutional Baptist will meet to break bread in each other's churches and to discuss the New York Times bestseller ***The Book of Joy***, written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Get and read the book! Come and join the dinners. Great fellowship guaranteed!

The first dinner meeting is at Olivet (8712 Quincy Ave) on Wed. Oct. 4. Dinner at 6:00 small group discussion at tables.

Come, join the fellowship!

John Lentz



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

<p>The Stewardship Campaign has begun. The Cornucopia Lunch is Nov 5. Save the date!</p>	<p>Interested in helping host Leonor, our sanctuary guest? Email the coordinating team: <b><u>sanctuary@fhcpresb.org</u></b></p>
<p><b><i>TOWER</i></b> deadlines: <b>7 am</b> on THURSDAY Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14</p>	<p>New members' dinner and Compline: Nov. 12</p>

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

## **Table of Contents**

From the Pastor	1
Lois' Page	3
Children's Ministries	4
Music	6
Fall Work Day	7
Thank you, from the Deacons	8
Welcome to Stewardship Season	9
Black History Education Committee	10
Greater Cleveland Congregations update	11
Luther Rose	13
News of Our Church Family	14
Social Groups and Circles	15
"Backpack Full of Cash": movie	16
Sundays in October	16
3-Church Book Group	18
Announcements! Announcements!	19
October Calendar	cover

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 Trip #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	
1 World Communion – Peace and Global Witness Offering	2	3 6:00 Meditation group	4 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (at Oliver Baptist)	5	6 4:30 Wedding rehearsal  <b>Faith Leader retreat: Oct 6-8</b>	7 8:00 Men's Group 3:00 Wedding: Charly McDonald & Ahren Stock
8 See "Sundays in October"	9	10 11:30 Iris Circle & Hilltoppers: potluck and program 7:00 Black History Education Comm mtg	11 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	12 7:00 am TOWER deadline	13	14 9:00 "Retreat: "The Pause that Refreshes"  Shane Claiborne workshop (Pilgrim UCC)
15	16	17 6:00 Meditation group	18 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks 1:00 Hilltop Garden Club 7:00 TransFamily East	19 9:30 Pantry Lunch group mtg	20	21 8:00 Men's Group 9:00 Fall Work Day
22	23	24	25 7:00 Session meeting	26 12:00 Abundance Pantry	27	28 2:00 PEO Author event
29	30 6:00 AI Anon anniversary dinner	31	NOV 1 6:00 Meal and discussion on <b>Book of Joy</b> (location tba)	2	3	4

October 2017