# Forest Hill Church Service of Worship

September 15, 2019 at 11:00 am

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship. Please join us in wearing a name tag so that we might greet you. Our ushers' directions to our nursery for babies and young children.

# Centering Words

"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are your works; that my soul knows very well."

-Psalm 139:14

### Welcome

### **Choral Introit**

Alleluia (Iona Community, Scotland)



# Greeting Our God with Joy

**Call to Worship** 

Karen Loughridge

Hear the choices God sets before us: life and prosperity or death and adversity.

O God, you have searched us and known us. You know our thoughts and every move we make.

Listen to the ordinances of our God; love God and walk in the way God commands.

O God, we will listen for your words. We will seek to walk on the paths you intend.

Happy are those who delight in God's law; blessed are all who meditate on God's Word. Wonderful are all your works, O God. We are your creation; we are in your hands.

\* Opening Hymn No. 288

"Spirit of the Living God"

\*please stand as able

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession (Jer. 2, Ps. 81)

Ever present God, help us in our weakness. We do not always listen for your voice. We do not always acknowledge the many ways you sustain us in life and faith. We feast on your providence, yet wonder if you are near. Forgive our past indifference, as we pledge to be more attentive to your presence and guidance. Forgive our past selfishness, as we promise to share

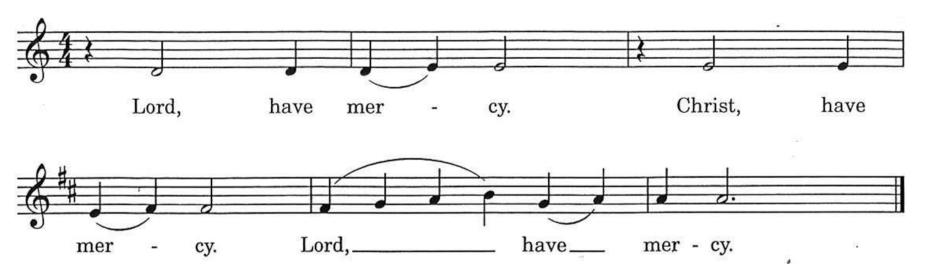
Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

the feast of your bounty with those in need. For actions and inactions that have hurt your heart and the well-being of others, we seek your forgiveness and grace.

### **Time of Silent Confession**

**Kyrie eleison** (Lord, have mercy)

**Craig Phillips** 

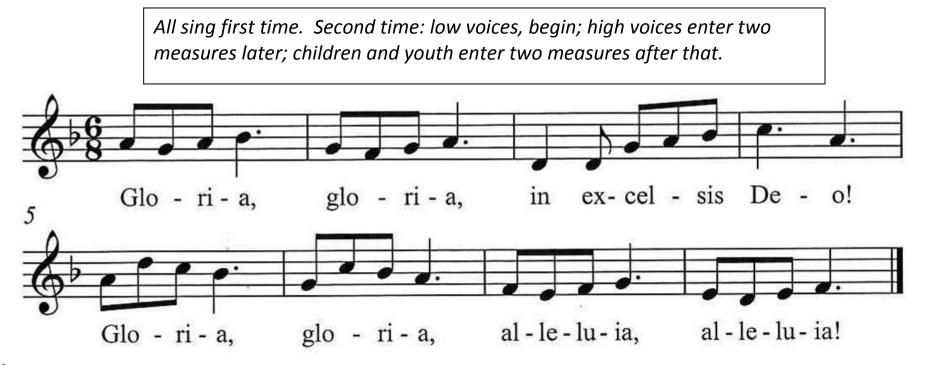


Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

### **Words of Assurance**

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

\*Gloria Taizé



**Anthem** 

Ann Weems

"Good News Music"

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

**Children's Moment** 

Rev. David Wigger

Children are welcome to stay up front for a quiet activity during the sermon

**Scripture Passages** 

Psalm 139:1-18, 23-24

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

After the readings

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

People: Thanks be to God.

We are stand-ing on ho-ly ground, and I know that there are an-gels all-a round; let us praise Je-sus now; we are stand-ing in his pres-ence-on ho-ly ground.

In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied; be glo-ri-fied. In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

In our song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied; be glo-ri-fied. In our song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied; be glo-ri-fied. In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

In your world, Lord, be glo-ri-fied; be glo-ri-fied. In your world, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

We are stand-ing on ho-ly ground, and I know that there are an-gels all-a round; let us praise Je-sus now; we are stand-ing in his pres-ence-on ho-ly ground.

Prayer requests may be passed to the ushers during this hymn

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

"Down Sitting and Uprising"

# Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

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

# Ritual of Friendship/ Offering

Offertory Anne Wilson

> "Love is the Only Response" Laura Minder, soloist)

### Doxology

Sermon

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

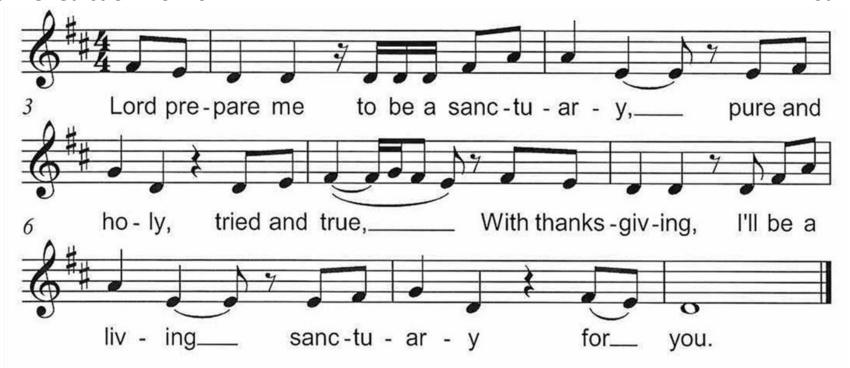
# \* Prayer of Dedication

Going Forth to Live as God's People

Closing Hymn No. 434

"Restore in Us, O God"

\* Commission and Blessing



\* Passing of the Peace

Postlude Louis Vierne

"Symphony No. 1 (Finale)"



# Welcome Visitors!

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

### Notes & Announcements

### **Chancel Flowers:**

 Suzanne Marcy in loving memory of parents Bob and Wilma Weed, brother Bobby and sister Wendy.

### Two types of Prayer Requests:

- If you would like to request prayers for a personal concern, please use one of the slips of paper in the pew rack. Ushers will collect the requests during the middle hymn and pastors will include them in the congregational prayer.
- Guests who attend the monthly Abundance Pantry Luncheon are offered prayer request forms which they turn in if they would like a member of the congregation to pray for them. The following Sunday a member of the church will stand at each exit from the sanctuary after worship to distribute those requests to people who would like to connect with the guests in prayer.

**Prayers are requested this week for the following:** Cheryl Anderson, Mark Davidson, the family of Peter Van Dyke, Robyn Hales, Steve Hoiser, David Hunter, Allan Khoury, Joanna Klingenstein, David Sicking, Elizabeth Shaw, Beverly and Harold Thomas, and Wesley Washington.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Nan Dorer, Marge Drollinger, Iris and Al Gilbert, Florence and Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Judy Sieck, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

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

**Care Group:** The Nazareth Care Group will assist our pastors in meeting members' needs during **September**. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will then be passed on to the **Care Group leader (Chris Bell)**.

Thank you to Deborah Erwin and Robyn Hales, head ushers, and today's usher team.

Thank You to all office volunteers (Ellen, Cathy, and Anne). You are appreciated!

The deadline for the bulletin or weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is 10/17/19 at 8:00 am. You may submit your written request to office@fhcpresb.org.

**To stay up to date on family programming,** please subscribe to the Christian Education Newsletter: **bit.ly/ceNewsletter.** 

# Coming Up

### **TODAY**

Please start saving your egg cartons again! Place all donated egg cartons in the pantry shopping cart.

The Sine Nomine Choir will rehearse in the Chapel after worship today. All persons grade six through college are welcome. Contact Anne Wilson (216-870-2729 or annew@fhcpresb.org).

**Hurricane Dorian Relief Effort:** To contribute google PCUSA Disaster Relief and click on the active disaster link OR - write a check to Presbyterian Disaster Relief and write Dorian on the memo line and the office will make sure that the checks get to the PCUSA relief agency.

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING: Christ invites, and we also offer ourselves in the pursuit to end violence and bring about reconciliation through the Peace and Global Witness Offering of PCUSA. Through our gifts, we offer a healing hand to women experiencing abuse, here in this country and in places like Guatemala, even as we seek to remedy the structures that create their vulnerability. Our giving offers a word of peace to those incarcerated here and those crushed by civil war in places like the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Our offering draws together those who were once at war, creating opportunities for veterans from this land to return to Iraq and build relationships that offer a start to healing and understanding. 25% of the collection for this offering will stay in our community for a related project. Please give generously using the envelope or your usual method of giving. Mark it "Peace Offering." Thank you, Ministry of Justice and Mission.

### **THIS WEEK**

**Bible and Bagels (Bible Study)** discusses next Sunday's texts on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:30. The lessons for this week are: **Jer. 8:18-9:1, Psalm 79:1-9, Luke 16:1-13 and 1 Tim. 2:1-7.** 

### **NEXT WEEK**

**Adult Education with Pastor Lentz 9:30 in the Chapel:** "Saving Jesus," a video series listening to scholars talk about the relevance of Jesus for the 21st century. If you liked "Living the Questions," you will like this!

**Adult Education: From the book of Job has begun.** One class meets in South Hall and one meets in Bodwell Hall. Class begins at 9:30 am and everyone is welcome!

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

CALLING ALL HIKERS/WALKERS/NATURE LOVERS! Pacesetters (historically those who are in their 50's-60's – now VERY broadly interpreted – don't let the age range deter you!) is having a hike to North Chagrin Reservation on Saturday, September 21 at 10 am. We will meet at the Squire's Castle Parking lot off of Chagrin River Rd. We've found a path near the Chagrin River that is delightful (and not all that difficult, for those who are concerned!) For those who want a very short, easy hike, let us know and we will come back and pick you up there at 11 am. Afterwards we will enjoy a cookout/picnic lunch. Burgers (including veggie) are provided; please bring a side dish to share. We REALLY would appreciate knowing if you plan to come! Please contact Mark Wedell, 440-497-8945, mark.wedell@averydennison.com or Carol Wedell 216-470-0152, carolwedell@gmail.com. Those who are new to the church are especially welcome!

Would you be interested in a knitting or quilting group? Would you be a learner or just sharpening your skills? We would SEW love for you to join us as we start a Knit and Stitch Fellowship on September 21! All are welcome at all skill levels. Come to help us make quilts and knitted blankets for local charity. Bring your sewing supplies (machine, thread, scissors and cutting supplies) to quilt, your favorite needles if you knit, enthusiasm if you do neither, and we will do our best to get you started! Young sewers are welcome with parental ok! Call Carol Gifford 216-598-9730 for more information.

Are you interested in becoming part of our Forest Hill Church Community? If so, our next Exploring Membership Classes will be offered: Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> & Sunday September 29<sup>th</sup>. Both classes will be in Bodwell Hall from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. A lite lunch will be provided. Childcare can be available, if needed. Those who decide to join will do so in October. If/when you know you want to attend, email Diana@ninthrung.com.

Build relationships and learn about GCC criminal justice reform! On September 29 from 1-2 pm at the UCC (4217 Bluestone Road, South Euclid, Ohio 44121), GCC members Forest Hill Church & South Euclid UCC are partnering to present an inside look at GCC's ongoing criminal justice reform work. How do we act justly? Overcrowding in the County Jail has led to inhumane conditions and inmate suicides, with a disproportionate impact on the Black community. Approximately 1/3 of those kept behind bars should receive help in a mental health or addiction treatment center, reducing jail overcrowding & addressing many inmates' underlying needs. Presenters: Donna Weinberger, LISW, GCC Criminal Justice Coordinator, and Marcia Levine, LISW and GCC leader. Come learn how this issue is being addressed through organized action by GCC also. Lunch will be provided. Rides will be provided, if needed. See Scott Lafferty or Diana Woodbridge for more info.

# Calendar: September 15-22

# Sunday, September 15:

9:15 am Childcare begins

9:30 am Adult Education

Youth Education

**Descant Choir** 

10:10 am Pathways

10:30 pm Continental Breakfast

**Chancel Choir** 

11:00 am Worship and Children's

Worship with Pastor Goines

12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation

**Black Caucus meeting** 

12:00 pm Sine Nomine

# Monday, September 16:

6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection

7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope

**OA Big Book Meeting** 

7:30 pm AA: Borton Group

# **Tuesday September 17:**

12:00 pm Abundance Pantry

Registration

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise

**Bulletin and Email Deadline** 

6:00 pm Adult Education Meeting

# Wednesday, September 18:

7:30 am Bible and Bagels

12:00 pm Staff Meeting

12:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group

7:00 pm TransFamily Meeting

Jung Education

Speak Life Bible Study

# **Thursday, September 19:**

1:30 pm English Country Dance

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise

# Friday, September 20

10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand

# Saturday, September 21:

9:00 am CEIRS

**Sewing Group** 

# Sunday, September 22:

9:15 am Childcare begins

9:30 am Adult Education

Youth Education

**Descant Choir** 

10:10 am Pathways

10:30 pm Continental Breakfast

**Chancel Choir** 

11:00 am Worship and Children's

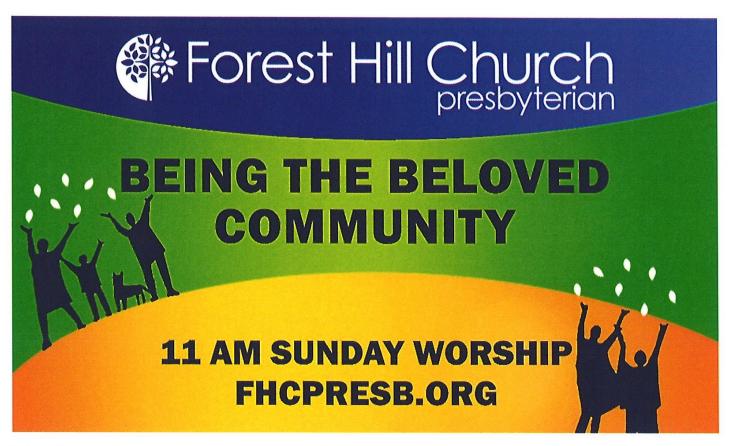
Worship

12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation

**Black Caucus meeting** 

12:15 pm Youth Bowling Trip

12:30 pm Exploring Membership



### BELOVED COMMUNITY manifests and protects agape love as guiding principle and expresses in the following ways:

- 1. Offers radical hospitality to everyone, an inclusive family rather than exclusive club.
- 2. Recognizes and honors the image of God in every human being.
- 3. Exhibits personal authenticity, true respect, and validation of others.
- 4. Recognizes and affirms, not eradicates, differences.
- 5. Listens emotionally (with the heart); fosters empathy and compassion for others.
- 6. Tolerates ambiguity; realizes that sometimes a clearcut answer is not readily available.
- 7. Builds increasing levels of trust and works to avoid fear of difference and others.
- 8. Acknowledges limitations, lack of knowledge or understanding, and seeks to learn.
- 9. Acknowledges conflict or pain in order to work on difficult issues.
- 10. Speaks truth in love, always considering ways to be compassionate with one another.
- 11. Avoids physical aggression and verbal abuse.
- 12. Resolves conflicts peacefully, without violence, recognizing that peacefully doesn't always mean comfortably for everybody.
- 13. Releases resentment and bitterness through self-purification (avoiding internal violence through spiritual, physical, and psychological care).
- 14. Focuses energy on removing evil forces (unjust systems), not destroying persons.

- 15. Persists unyieldingly and unwaveringly committed to justice.
- 16. Achieves friendship and understanding through negotiation, compromise, or consensus, considering each circumstance to discern which will be most helpful.
- 17. Righteously opposes and takes direct action against poverty, hunger, and homelessness.
- 18. Advocates thoroughgoing, extensive neighborhood revitalization without displacement (this also applies to the Church, working toward responsible and equitable growth, discipleship, and worship).
- 19. Blends faith and action to generate a commitment to defeating injustice (not forgetting that injustice can also be found *within* the Church).
- 20. Encourages and embraces artistic expressions of faith from diverse perspectives.
- 21. Fosters dynamic and active spirituality; recognizes that we serve a dynamic God who is not left behind by a changing world or people, and that a passive approach will not work.
- 22. Gathers together regularly for table fellowship and meets the needs of everyone in the community.
- 23. Relies on scripture reading, prayer, and corporate worship for inner strength.
- 24. Promotes human rights and works to create a non-racist society.
- 25. Shares power and acknowledges the inescapable network of mutuality among the human family.

Dear Church Family,

Greetings from Washington D.C! Thank you for the beautiful blessing I received the Sunday before I left! Until July 2020, I will be living in intentional community with 5 other Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs), and working as a "Street Outreach Specialist" with the non-profit Everyone Home DC (focuses on the homeless population). This YAV year is a program of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

I am not the first person from Forest Hill to be a YAV. As you may or may not know, Sophie Beal, David Wigger and Amy Wadsworth were all YAVs.

One of my responsibilities is to raise \$4,000 to help offset the cost of the year long program. Your support will help cover housing, medical insurance and a small monthly stipend. If you wish to make a contribution go to:

- https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/yav-new/jack-lentz/
- Once you are there, click on the blue button that says "SUPPORT JACK"
- You will then be taken to a green page with a yellow button that says "GIVE". Click on it.
- On the next page, you will be asked how much you would like to give. When you have decided, click "NEXT".
- Follow the instructions on the next page and in the section where you are asked to give your billing instructions, under the COMMENTS section at the bottom of the page, type my name (Jack Lentz) and "E 051477". This number is very important to make sure your donation goes straight to me.

To give by phone, call 800-872-3283 and say that you would like to donate money for Jack Lentz and give them the number "E 051477."

If you would rather send a check, please write my name "Jack Lentz" and "E 051477" on the memo line and mail the check to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) P.O. Box 643700 Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Thank you very much. Keep praying for me. See you at Christmas!

-Jack

Community Event Notice
Join Neighbors & Friends for Teatime for Peace!
Tuesday, September 17, 2019
Location: Marymount Convent
St. Joseph Hall
12215 Granger Road
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125
Please RSVP at teatime4peace@gmail.com
or contact Sr. Joyce Soukup for more information
joyceanns103@gmail.com

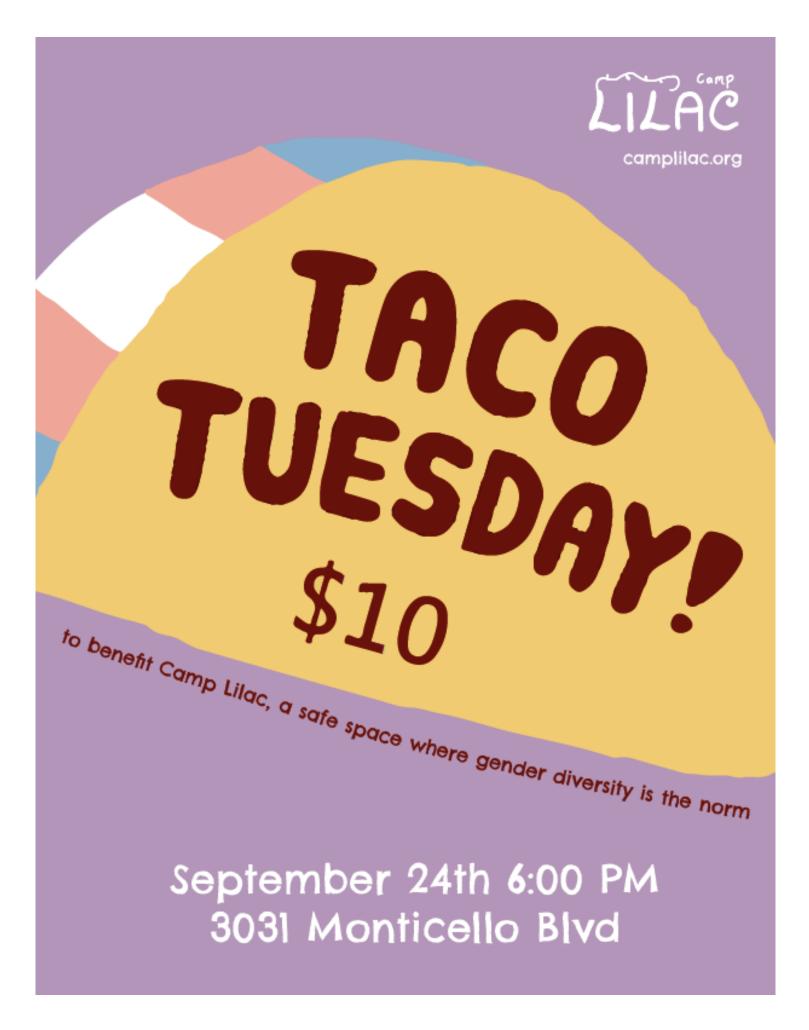
Doors Open 6:15 Program Begins 6:45

**Teatime for Peace** is a chance to have tea, snacks and conversation with neighbors from diverse communities that may not otherwise get a chance to come together.

**The mission of Teatime for Peace** is to host events where people of different belief systems and ethnic and racial backgrounds come together to engage in honest dialogue in a nonjudgmental, respectful environment in which each person has an opportunity to listen and be heard.

**The vision of Teatime for Peace** is to create peace by building the Beloved Community by getting to know each other better, by outgrowing our conscious and unconscious biases about who the "other" is and by both accepting our differences and recognizing our shared humanity and aspirations.





Camp Lilac jams will be available at a discount.

### Staff Emails

Antoinette Richardson

Bookkeeping Ann Donkin

Stavros Gazis

Rev. Dr. Veronica Goines

Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.

Peg Weissbrod

Rev. David Wigger

Tara Beverly

Anne Wilson

Administration

Finance

Building Mgr.

**Head Custodian** 

**Co-Pastor** 

Co-Pastor

Outreach

Family, Youth, Children

Youth Leader

Music

office@fhcpresb.org

finance@fhcpresb.org

adonkin@fhcpresb.org

custodian@fhcpresb.org

pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org

pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org

pegw@fhcpresb.org

CE@fhcpresb.org

youthleader@fhcpresb.org

annew@fhcpresb.org



4PM SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

# blessing of the animals

Front Steps of Forest Hill Church



3031 Monticello Blvd Cleveland Hts. OH

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts. OH 44118 216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214

Email: office@fhcpresb.org Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Rev. Dr. Veronica Goines, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-Pastors Rev. David Wigger, Interim Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministries Tara Beverly, Youth Leader Anne Wilson, Director of Music

# **Exciting News for Greater Cleveland Congregations!**

Keisha Krumm, an IAF (Industrial Areas Foundation) Organizer for more than 17 years will become GCC's new Lead Organizer on November 1<sup>st</sup>. We can't wait! John Lentz and I were privileged to be part of the interview/selection process, and I know I speak for both of us in saying how thrilled we are that Keisha said an enthusiastic *Yes!* to GCC's invitation. To play on Dr. Seuss, "Oh the places you will go," GCC. Keisha is a strong and proven leader and community-builder; she has committed her life to seeking justice where injustice reigns and to empowering others – individuals and congregations – to be part of this important work.



Keisha has a master's degree from the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary in Christian Community Development. She and her husband Stuart have a daughter, Olivia. Keisha comes to us from our sister IAF organization, Common Ground Milwaukee, where she has been Lead Organizer for the past 8½ years. Prior to that she was an IAF Organizer in Los Angeles and Seattle/Tacoma.

I had the opportunity to represent GCC at Keisha's farewell party. About 80 leaders gathered from multiple congregations, Black, White and Latino – and impressively, they seemed to all know each other. The program was chock full of memories and appreciations that characterized Keisha as a caring friend, a devoted mother and a leader passionate about injustice, full of the cold anger that stands firm in the face of power. Though I didn't think it possible, I came home even more excited about the gifts Keisha will bring to Cleveland and the work we will do together as GCC.

# -Diana Woodbridge