

Forest Hill Church

The Tower

September 2014

From the Pastor

In beautiful cursive writing above the dividing wall of Fellowship Hall are these words: “**Discovering** God's Call, **Celebrating** the Spirit's presence, **Witnessing** to Christ's transformative power.” This mission statement, written over 15 years ago, still directs and defines our worship and work at Forest Hill Church. In all that we do – in every program, in every worship service, in every Sunday School class, in every mission project and mission trip – our goal is to invite and encourage every person to discover who they are as a beloved child of God, to celebrate that fact in an inclusive and joyful community, and to witness to God's love and justice outside the walls.

Three years ago, the Session approved a “Vision and Value Statement” which articulated our core values. The core values are:

- Being a warm, diverse and inclusive community;
- Exploring and deepening our faith;
- Participating in engaging worship;
- Participating in faithful social action;
- Discovering and responding to God's call for our lives.

These statements have and will continue to hold us accountable to our common life in Jesus Christ.

As we begin our new program year, consider the ways that Forest Hill is faithful to its call. Consider the ways we can still grow. For the call of faith formation, joyful worship, and just and generous living are not goals to be reached but a journey to be taken together in community.

Clover, Anne and our new staff members Keon (youth) and Dacia (children) are planning a momentous fall program. It all begins on Sunday, September 7.

Thank you for supporting the work of Christ at Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian. I invite each of you to re-commit yourself to our common work and to invite others to “come and see” what God’s Spirit is doing at Forest Hill Church.

Faithfully yours,



Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz
Senior Pastor

Please take time to read this issue of the TOWER – it is chock-full of important, interesting and useful information for the new program year at FHC.

Look for information about

Choirs

A winery tour

Dining and dancing

Cheerful giving

Adult education

Criminal justice

Apples

Dear friends,

*From the Clover
patch*

It is September and I am getting my head around the excitement I feel for my eleventh new year of programming for adult education and spiritual formation, worship, fellowship at FHC. I have returned from a most wonderful three month rest. I am deeply grateful to FHC for supporting my sabbatical. It was everything a sabbatical should be in terms of renewal, nourishment and strength for my on-going ministry with FHC.

The most impactful piece of my sabbatical was my experience in silent retreat in the countryside of Assisi, Italy. The practices of silence and awareness are essential to living out a vital Christian faith. My meditation retreat in Assisi has born fruit and I am now part of a small meditation group that meets on a weekly basis and supports my daily practice. I am finding that what is said about a mediation practice is true – when noise and chatter subside I am better able to listen for God's word to me each day and be present to whomever and whatever is before me. This will profoundly affect my ministry. I am committed to helping congregants develop and sustain the practices of prayer and meditation that will help them become more attuned to God's continuing call upon their lives. I want to offer opportunities for those who feel led to do meditation in a small group to come together to do so.

I am very excited about collaborating with the young adults (22-35) to help coordinate plans for a variety of opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship. I have a vision for a parents' support group. I look forward to partnering with Jean Reinhold to offer a women's weekend retreat this fall (women, pencil in Nov. 7-9).

There are so many things to look forward to in our joy-filled learning and serving.

May we be blessed by God's Spirit in all we do –



Rev. Clover Beal

Children's Christian Education

I want to start with a special thank you to all who volunteered during the summer in the Children's Ministry Programs. Your willingness and dedication this summer to help keep our Children's Ministry programs running smoothly is greatly appreciated.

In the nursery, thank you to Shannon Headen, Jill Roberts, Libby Dolan, Sue Lafferty, and Elizabeth Shaw.

In the Pathways to the Promise Land, thank you to Eric Muller-Girard, Deanne Lentz, Lisa Koops, and Jessica Kelly-Moore.

**Remember:
Summer Pathways for children entering Grades 1-6
concludes August 24
"Images of Jesus in the Arts"**

Children's Ministry Programs 2014-2015

Crib and Nursery

Tracey Long, our permanent childcare provider, will continue to care for the littlest members of our congregation. We also ask volunteers to help staff this room. We hope all families will find this place to be a caring and nurturing place to leave their children while they have an opportunity to worship. Child care is available from 9:15 to 12:30 upstairs in the Monticello wing.

Children in Worship

Pre-School and Kindergarten (ages 3-5)

This worship experience allows the children to be in an environment where age appropriate Bible stories are shared. The children are guided through a worship service and are encouraged to respond to the stories through songs, art, questions and retelling of the stories.

Pathways to the Promise Land Grades 1-5

Our church school for these children is a workshop rotation model. This model focuses on the variety of ways in which the children learn. The children participate in workshops that explore a monthly focus that revolves around the yearly theme. During a three week rotation the children move among workshops to experience the same Bible focus in different learning styles. The lessons are designed as a kid-friendly, teacher-friendly, facility-transforming way to teach Bible stories and truths.

The theme for the upcoming program year is *A Witness to God's Presence*. The Bible is full of characters that witness the very existence of God in their lives and pass that experience on to future generations. The children will be exploring Bible stories from Genesis through the early Church, acknowledging that God exists and is very much present in our lives.

Our first rotation is **Creation**. The creation story is a story of faith. It is a story of people coming to an understanding of the inter-relationship of all things. God created all things and God said this was good. The children will explore this theme by participating in various workshops involving drama, art and games.

The children will be divided this year in the following groups: **Grade 1, Grades 2/3, and Grades 4/ 5.**

Get Connected!

I invite you to consider becoming involved in any of our Children's Ministry Programs. There are many ways to help out: hold a baby for an hour in the nursery , tell a Bible story to our Pre-School and Kindergarteners, teach a Pathways class using art, drama or games, be a shepherd for our Pathways program The experience is rewarding and satisfying. Please contact Dacia Prins at church (216-321-2660 or dacia@fhcpresb.org) for more information.

Dates to Know

September 7 **KISS – Kids In Sunday Service**

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

September 14 **Gathering Time – Creation**

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

September 21 and 28 **Pathways to the Promise Land**

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

I am looking forward to this new and exciting year as Director of Children's Ministry. I also look forward to getting to know each of the children and their families who will be participating in our wonderful Children's Ministry Programs.

Blessings,

Dacia Prins

Director of Children's Ministries

Music



You may know that music can heights or depths of emotion. It can something, or remind us of our first

of depression when nothing else can. It can get us dancing to its beat. It can bring us closer to God and enrich our spiritual lives. And did you know that music occupies more areas of our brain than language does?

move us to the persuade us to buy date. It can lift us out

The 2014-2015 choir season is about to begin and I'm looking forward to seeing all our FHC musical families getting back to work (and play!). Those who participated in choir last year will receive an email or snail mail, but here's the general information for persons who may be interested in finding out about the musical opportunities at Forest Hill Church:

THE CHOIRS

Chancel Choir (adults; high school and college students warmly welcomed): 1st rehearsal will be Thursday, Sept. 4th beginning with a pot-luck supper and general frivolity at 6:40 in Fellowship Hall. Bring whatever dish you enjoy preparing (or purchasing) and we'll have a fine time getting caught up and electing new choir officers. The rehearsal takes place from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. Our first choir Sunday is September 7 (rehearsal at 10:30 am - worship at 11:00 am).

Sine Nomine Choir (grades 6-12; college students warmly welcomed): 1st rehearsal will be Sunday, Sept. 7 in the Chapel after worship. Generally we'll meet every other Sunday (with occasional exceptions) for 30-40 minutes. We'll elect officers at the first rehearsal (looks good on college apps 😊).

Descant Choir (grades 1-5): 1st rehearsal will be Sunday, Sept. 7 at 9:30 am in the sanctuary. The choir practices every Sunday, and after choir (10:15) there is an activities period in youth hall. At 10:45, the children meet their parents in Fellowship Hall and go from there to the sanctuary.

Voices in Bronze (high school students and adults): 1st rehearsal for our handbell ringers will be Thursday, Sept. 11 at 6:20-7:15 PM in the upstairs bell room. An understanding of rhythmic notation is required. There are currently three openings in this group, so I hope to hear from interested persons! No previous experience in bell-ringing is necessary.

Forest Hill Steel Drum Band (all ages): This group plays for worship several times per year. Up to six people at a time can play and the players are always changing. Rehearsals are arranged at the convenience of the players and take place around three weeks before the performance.



I'm looking forward to our Kick-off Sunday (9/7), our Fall Fellowship Sunday (9/28), our World Communion Sunday with lots of global music (10/5), our first AWE (Alternate Worship Service) on 10/12 with the *Forest City String Band* (bluegrass-style hymn-singing), and an evening Compline service: *Ancient Worship for the Modern Soul* around the time Daylight Saving Time ends.

Please call or email me if you have any questions about the choirs or music program. I hope to see lots of new faces and fresh voices intermingled with the “regulars” in the choir families this September.

Let us all sing (or ring) a new song to the Lord---Soli Deo Gloria! (To God Be the Glory!)



Anne Wilson
Organist/Director of Music
annew@fhcpresb.org
216-321-2660 (church); 216-870-2729 (cell)

An event you should NOT miss.....THE KINGDOM PARTY

October 11 - 7:00 'til 10:00

We celebrate Forest Hill Church
and
John Lentz's 20 years of ministry at FHC

There will be music, dancing, food and fun!

Betsy Andrews
Scott Duncan
Nancy Grube
Kermit Lind
Derry Stauffer
LeAnn West, chair

*(survivors of the original
Pastor Nominating
Committee, ca 1994)*

Howdy Saints,



How's it going?

It has already been a month and 15 days since we've begun our journey together. I've gotten to know lots of new people and have officially learned my ins and outs of the building. There have been great opportunities for me to meet and familiarize myself with the youth and parents of FHC. The visions have started to sprout, the plans are being reviewed, the books are being read and the conversations are being had. Along with the pastoral leadership and the core team, I have begun preparation for Forest Hill's youth ministry this upcoming fall, winter, spring and summer. The youth and I enjoyed our time together at the car wash fundraiser and at the Andrews' home for their train workshop, which were both very successful.

What's to come?

We have some great things planned ahead!

September 7, 2014 – A big day in FHC Youth Ministry!

9:30 am - Education for Mid and Senior High

12:15 pm - Sine Nomine Rehearsal

5:00 pm - Youth Ministry Fellowship Kick-Off

September 14 – 5 pm Youth Fellowship

September 21 – 12:15 pm Sine Nomine Rehearsal

5 pm Youth Fellowship

September 28 – Fall Festival after worship

How can we help?

As you all well know, we need for volunteers to make the vision for our youth ministry a success. If you have a special interest in teaching, driving, planning, or mentoring please be sure to let me know.

Remember Jesus loves you and so do I, and there's nothing you can do about it!



Youth Fellowship Schedule

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sunday of
every month:

Christian Ed at 9:30

Fellowship at 5 pm

4th Sunday:

Christian Ed at 9:30

An evening outing

5th Sunday:

We will take a break

Keon L. Abner, Director of Youth Ministries

Adult Education This Fall

Kerygma program's small group bible study

Galatians: Faith and Works

Sunday mornings, 9:30 am, Sept. 7 – Nov. 16

Our seventh Kerygma all-church scripture study will begin Sunday, September 7 at 9:30 am. Paul's letter to the Galatians is one of the undisputed and earliest Pauline letters, typically dated in the mid-1st century. It is an exceptional representation of the argument for faith in Christ over the Law as the way to salvation. In January, we will be studying the four chapters of James as the counter-argument offering Works as the demonstration and witness of faith. Without works, is there any faith at all?

We will begin our study of Galatians on September 7 and 14 in South Hall with an overview and foundation to the New Testament and the Epistle. Beginning September 21, we will break into small groups facilitated by two lay leaders and delve deeper in the six chapters of the Epistle. Please register to participate in the wonderful opportunity to learn more about bible study, to meet new people in a small group setting, and to grow in your faith. All different levels of students are welcome...from novice to Bible nerds!

Progressive Christianity 101, led by Rev. Dr. John Lentz

Sunday evenings, 5-7 pm, Oct. 19 – Nov. 23

Have you been wondering just what a progressive Christian faith is about? Maybe you have no idea about Christianity and would like to learn a little; maybe you've joined the church recently, or you've returned to church as an adult, or you've been in the church for decades ~ and you realize that you'd like to learn more about what you're doing. This could be the class for you! We will try to develop a better understanding of that to which Christians are called. Each Sunday we'll take a look at a different topic.

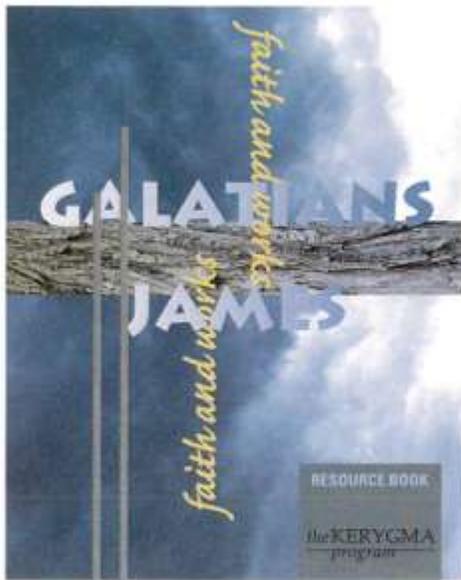
Shifting Gears in the Second Half of Life

Sundays after worship, 12:30 – 2 pm, Oct. 5 – Nov. 9

This six-week course focuses on how to navigate the passage to retirement and beyond with confidence and optimism. Topics will include everything from housing options and important legal documents to wellness, spirituality, and reinventing yourself in your older years. See Chris Henry or Consuelo Heineman for more information.

Pastor Clover Beal

All-Church Bible study! Go deeper in your study skills, meet new friends in a small group setting, and grow in your faith.



What do I have to do, in practical terms, to gain a right relationship with God?

Join us for this special study on Galatians and discover its great meaning for us today! See what Paul has to say about this and other foundational questions as he lays out one of the central tenets of Christian faith.

*Sundays, 9:30 am, September 7–November 16
Register for a small group! Book: \$20*

Reflections

When I arrived at Forest Hill Church this summer, I had no idea what to expect. Looking back on my few short months I have been able to share with you, I am amazed by all that you shared with me in such a short time. Thank you, thank you, thank you, for generously welcoming me. Forest Hill Church is a dynamic congregation, filled with some of the most interesting people I've ever met. Your ministries are diverse and your impact is wide. Your congregation is known in the Cleveland area as a place where social justice is put into place. Early in the summer, when I was still unsure about what Forest Hill would be like, I was talking to a pastor friend from the area. She asked me where I was working and I let her know I was at Forest Hill. Her response to that was, "What a cool congregation!"

As I leave you to head back for my last year of seminary (at Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey), I want to encourage you to understand faithfully who you are as a congregation. This can take place through Sabbath reflection time, conversations with someone new in the church, or witnessing to the work of FHC outside the church. Through this, you might discover more things to appreciate about your church and see that you really are "a cool congregation." More than that, I hope you can have the same pride I have had being a part of your community. You have an abundance of gifts. Share them, and let the world know how your faith impacts your life.

Rachel McDonald, summer intern

The Ministry of Vocation and Leadership Development Program Updates for 2014-15

As a worshipping community striving to listen for God's guidance, we sometimes encounter unexpected surprises and changes in direction. Accordingly, as our new program year begins, we announce some significant changes as well as an explanation of how they came to be.

Faith Leader program is taking a year of rest

In a surprising turn of events, the Faith Leader discernment team and staff have decided that the Faith Leader program will take one year off.

In its first eight years at FHC, Faith Leader has been an "intensive 28-week small-group experience"...a program which has fostered spiritual growth and abundant blessings for more than 70 individuals from inside and outside the FHC community! As the discernment team and pastoral staff prayerfully considered the challenge of securing participants for this year's group, we have come to believe that the Holy Spirit is guiding Faith Leader into a "year of lying fallow", a time of "sabbatical rest." With the decision to postpone the 9th class of Faith Leader until 2015-16, all individuals who had accepted invitations this summer were re-contacted. All have graciously agreed to wait a year. In the history of Faith Leader at FHC, this "year of lying fallow" opens up exciting possibilities for other types of small group spiritual formation programming for those who cannot commit to a 28- week program. We didn't start the summer thinking this would be our Faith Leader "sabbatical year," but we certainly do understand that now. Stay tuned for more faith formation opportunities!

New Offering in Lent!

"Living in the Spirit: An 8-week course on Spiritual Practices"

This past May the Ministry of Vocation and Leadership Development requested and received Endowment funding for a proposal based on the Ministry's desire to offer something to support the deepening spiritual life of the congregation. This course will offer something in the "middle ground" between Faith Leader and simply attending weekly worship.

There are many details yet to be worked out. This is a "save the date" announcement to confirm that this exciting new spiritual enrichment course will be taking place beginning on February 1, 2015. Stay tuned!

Eric Muller-Girard

Elder for Vocation and Leadership Development

For Those Going to College This Autumn!

Dear Ones,

You have graduated from high school and many of you are off to college. We are so proud of you. God bless you on your new adventures. We love you and will be praying for you. Already can't wait to see you on holiday breaks.

I read this blog (written by Dan Boone, president of Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville) entitled: MY TOP 10 MUST-HAVES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS. I thought it was a very good piece and am sending it along to you.

Remember, always, you are a beloved child of God.

Pastor John

Ah, August.

Summer's winding down as retail store aisles fill up with pencils, markers, and glue. Ask any parent what's top of their mind these days and I guarantee you'll get an answer that sounds a lot like this: "back to school!"

Now's probably not the time to attempt a leisurely trip for office supplies because you're bound to bump into at least a few moms and dads studying that ubiquitous supply list. It's such an important part of the back to school ritual: shopping for supplies with list in hand, checking off items as you go.

Those of us in higher education give our students back to school lists, too. Sure, incoming freshmen know to bring to campus a desk lamp, mini fridge, and laundry detergent.

But what about those items that every college student needs that never make the list?

And what about those things that are better left behind as these young adults move forward into a new and exciting phase of life?

I'm a University president, and I know a thing or two about campus life. So I thought I'd create a very special back to school list for new and veteran college students alike. Heed the advice from my list and you're sure to have the best college year yet.

Top Ten Essentials for College Students— What to Bring and What to Leave at Home

10. Bring your uniqueness. You're one of a kind with a special calling God's given just to you. We want to help you answer it.
9. Leave your mother's cooking at home. No cafeteria can beat it.
8. Bring your A-game. This is serious stuff and we expect your best effort.
7. Leave your expectation that showing up in class is enough. It isn't.
6. Bring space for new friends in your life. Don't forget your old ones, but plan on making lots of new ones.
5. Leave your girlfriend or boyfriend. Long distance dating during college usually doesn't last.
4. Bring your social courage. Students who sit in their rooms playing solo games are missing the best part of college.
3. Leave your territorial attitude about your bedroom. Sharing living space with others is a whole new deal.
2. Leave your self-doubt. Confidence is waiting for you to show up.

And the number one thing to take to college (besides flip-flops for the shower)?

1. Bring your dreams. We will help you ignite them.

Oh, and it looks like I left off a very important college must-have. And it's one that undergirds all the others.

While going to college—and enjoying the entire college experience—is certainly a time to forge new independence, remember your roots. So, bring your history—and your future. Bring your parents' advice, your pastors' lessons, and your teachers' wisdom, and don't stop writing your story:

- Remember that Mom and Dad are just a phone call away.
- Make sure you get involved in fellowship and Bible study with like-minded believers on campus.
- Learn as much as possible from as many people as possible.

Life won't always be easy. The college experience will certainly test you from time to time. But when you're firmly established in your faith, ethics, and goals, you'll weather the storms, emerging stronger after the winds of trial and temptation try to knock you down.

The Apple Festival will be September 28!

The Deacons are busy planning a fun-filled Fall Festival celebrating the autumn apple harvest.

Morag Keefe is digging out her favorite delicious apple recipes to delight our palates. Yes, we will have the traditional root beer floats as well (apples optional)!

A scavenger hunt, spoon races with apples, a piñata, corn hole games, the cake walk, and crafts are planned, as well as other surprises.



You can help with cakes, cupcakes, cookies or brownies – we need baked goods for the cake walk. Please drop them off in the kitchen before worship on September 28.

The most important part of the event is your presence and fellowship. This is the time we all gather after summer vacations and travels, and catch up on news, see photos and remark on how tall the children became over the summer. It is always a joy when we gather as a community of faith to celebrate God's gifts.

We will see you at the festival!
Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Deacon

FHC Will Host a Greater Cleveland Congregations Discussion of the Criminal Justice Issue

As we hear from media and find documented in “The New Jim Crow,” our prisons are overloaded with people, primarily young black men, who have been charged and found guilty of felonies for non-violent and low-level drug abuse. Is this justice? Is this what we want in our county?

We have invited nearby GCC Congregations to join us to learn more and to consider what we can do individually and/or together.

Come learn and help welcome friends from Church of the Covenant, Fairmount Presbyterian, St. Paul’s Episcopal & Unitarian Universalist of C.H., who will join us to hear the answers to questions such as:

- What is low-level drug abuse?
- What is the long-term impact of these felony convictions?
- Is overcharging really an issue in Cuyahoga County?
- What’s in the works?
- What can GCC do to confront this injustice?

Find out how GCC plans to ACT to combat the "Felon Factory" in Cuyahoga County. Presenters include:

- **Shakya Diaz**, ACLU Ohio;
- **Edward Little**, Criminal Justice Consultant,
E.L. Innovative Solutions
- **Doug Reeves**, Co-Chair of GCC Criminal Justice TF
- **Khalilah Worley**, GCC Organizer

Sunday, September 7th

12:30 – 2:00 pm in South Hall

snacks and beverages will be provided,

but you are welcome to b.y.o. lunch

Come & find out how we can help make a difference!

Diana Woodbridge

Report on GCC (Greater Cleveland Congregations) Education Team Activities

On August 7, 70 members of the GCC Education Team (which includes some FHC members) participated in a discussion with CEO Eric Gordon of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD). The purpose of the meeting was to present the Master Facilities Plan and highlight the efficiencies and improvements that it represents for the district. This is in preparation for the campaign for passage of the CMSD Bond Levy to finance implementation of the plan that will be on the ballot this November. Our team will be called upon to combine our gifts and strengths to help implement the strategy for passage being developed by the strategy team. Stay tuned for more details about the plan and the strategy.

Gretchen Reynolds

A Word from the Trustees...

The Trustees would like to thank Laurie Logan, who has agreed to be the Church's art curator, and Carl Jenks for his contribution of numerous photographs to the project. Please stop and look at all the new and inspiring art throughout the church. Please also take a moment on your way into church to check out the many improvements that have been made to the courtyard area.

Thanks also to David and Anne Hunter, Nick and Phyllis Baumgartner, Kay Dunlap, Cathy Ghiandoni, Allie Neff, LeAnn West, and Pat and Jim Seeders for participating in a recent weed and trim workday. We are truly blessed to have so many members willing to donate their time and talents to keep the Church looking beautiful.

Eric Rich, Trustee

God Loves a Cheerful Giver! Rejoice!

The Stewardship Season, a joyful time to celebrate and support the presence of the Holy Spirit through the ministries and operations of Forest Hill Church, is right around the corner. This year's theme - **God Loves a Cheerful Giver** - is born out of 2 Corinthians 9: 6-10 (below).

The campaign will kick off on Sunday, October 12 and continue for four weeks, concluding November 2 with Stewardship Sunday at which time all outstanding pledges forms will be due.

A Cornucopia Dinner will be held after the conclusion of Stewardship Season to express gratitude for the community of loving souls whose generosity was demonstrated through the campaign.

An integral part of each Stewardship season is sharing the stories of the importance of this church in our lives. During worship, we will present Minutes for Mission in which two or more people will share their gratitude for the spiritual rewards they find in giving to support the will of Christ through Forest Hill Church.

If you would like to volunteer to tell your story in conversation with a fellow church member, please contact a member of the Stewardship Ministry - Dele Solaru, Scott Peters, Stephen Sedam or Peter Williams.

All members of the church will be encouraged to tell their stories of joyful gratitude through photographs, tweets, quotes, illustrations or whatever best suits your style. More on this later....

May we all embrace the coming Stewardship Season as a glorious demonstration of the presence of God in our lives and our gratitude for the love found in the community of Forest Hill Church.

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written: "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor, his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

2 Corinthians 9:6 - 10

Stephen Sedam, Elder for Stewardship

A colorful poster for a 'Fall Clam Bake' event. The background features a tree with autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and red, with musical notes floating around it. The text is centered and includes the event title, date, and time. A box contains a URL for more information. The logo for the Home Repair Resource Center is in the bottom right corner.

Join us for an evening filled with food, fun, music & more!

Fall Clam Bake

Saturday, September 13, 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Go to <http://www.hrrc-ch.org/2014/08/celebrate-fall-at-hrrc-clam-bake/> for more information

Home
Repair Resource center

Home Repair Resource Center's Fall Fundraiser will be held at the McGregor Home on September 13. Tickets are \$60 per person. Mail checks and reservations to Home Repair Resource Center, 2520 Noble Rd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44121. All proceeds will benefit HRRC.

Please see Charity McDonald (charityrmcdonald@gmail.com or 412-860-8867) or Tricia Dykers-Koenig (triciadk@covnetpres.org or 216-926-6588) to purchase tickets or donate auction items such as dinner parties, sailing trips, weekend getaways, or art pieces.



Another church program year and fall season is unfolding. Care for the Earth which God has given us for safekeeping is one of Forest Hill Church's core values. We should ask ourselves what we as individuals, as families, and as a faith community are planning to do during the coming months to renew and rejuvenate our commitment to do what we can to protect and preserve Creation in the best way possible?

Let our conscience and biblical underpinnings be our guide. We aim to protect, preserve, and enhance the physical world around us – air and water, plants and trees, birds, bees, and all other living creatures. In the face of natural disasters and human-influenced environmental degradations, this isn't easy!

One idea has surfaced which would help educate and direct all of us as we strive to protect and improve our environment: an *Earth Care Fair*, perhaps in the early spring. This would involve an all-Saturday morning program featuring information and education on such matters as air quality, water quality and conservation, sustainable agriculture and eco-friendly food sources, wildlife conservation, best energy utilization and alternative energy sources/issues. Local experts would be brought in to host 'round tables' featuring each topic. Everyone could 'graze' the topic tables as their interests lead them. Lots of folks from the Heights community could be invited.

To pull this off, *many FHC folks* will be needed to help. Do you have an interest in getting involved with the FHC Earth Care team? Please let Lynda (in the church office) or myself know.

Dave Neff
theneffers@sbcglbal.net or 440-269-1229

From the Family Promise Coordinators

We would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the many volunteers who helped to make our Family Promise guests' stay a comfortable and welcoming experience during their week at Forest Hill in July. From preparing meals, playing with children or washing linens, your willingness to share your time and talents and provide hospitality brightened the lives of the families whom we hosted!

Doris Allen	Karen Loughridge
Amber Balough	Julie & Gary Lustic
Derrick Balough	Rachel McDonald
Jennifer Blakeney	Charity McDonald
Nancy Burcham	Jim Manista
Mark Chupp	Pat Musick
Betty Clark	Margie Ravas
Sally Davis	Gretchen Reynolds
Muriel Dean	Iyabo Sampson
Libby Dolan	Sandy Schultz
Tricia Dykers-Koenig	Steve Sedam
Juliann Ely	Sharon Shumaker
Cindy Fink, Kemp & Kate Jaycox	Jeff Smith
Ron & Marcia Grant	Mark Wedell
Shannon & Lotus Headen	Ahren Stock
Lisa, Jed, Linnea, Julia, & Joshua Koops	Lara Troyer, Henry & Margaret Dyck
Scott Lafferty	Julie Waring
Deanne Lentz	Anne Wilson
Kermit Lind	Diana Woodbridge

Volunteers from Grace Lutheran Church
Volunteers from Noble Road Presbyterian Church

We next host in late September! Watch for opportunities to sign up.

Anne Smith and Sue Lafferty
Family Promise Coordinators at Forest Hill



The Haiti Core Team invites you to make your reservation for this year's fundraising event at festive **Soho Kitchen and Bar** on the near West Side.

This year's event will help raise \$15,000 for a **Haiti Outreach** community-owned and sustainable well for the residents of Gabo, Haiti.

- Enjoy Caribbean inspired food and drink
- Hear an Informal presentation on our partnering agency **Haiti Outreach**
- Experience our live auction featuring art quilts (a stunning orange and purple quilt from FHC artist Barb Lind) and a heavenly glass piece from Cleveland artist Mark Sudduth.

Barb Lind will be in Fellowship Hall after worship to take your reservations. You may also call her (216-371-9004).

Reservations are \$60 (\$40 is tax deductible)
Make checks to Forest Hill Church – memo, Haiti

Ride sharing will be available upon request

For more info about the Adopt-A-Well program go to
www.haitioutreach.org

Deanne Lentz

PARTNERSHIP FOR



CLEAN WATER

SUNDAY SEPT. 14TH 5-8PM

HAITI OUTREACH/FHC

25

Check out the website

www.fhcpresb.org

Come and see!

FHC Lay Reader Orientation

Interested in being a lay reader in worship but not sure how to get started? This fall there will be two opportunities to attend a brief orientation on "How to Be an FHC Lay Reader!" In 30 minutes we will cover everything from how to sign up to how you pronounce "Merodachbaladan" (2 Kings 20:12).

Drop by the sanctuary after worship (12:15-12:45 pm) on September 14 or October 12 and we'll answer all your Lay Reading questions and get you comfortable with the microphone.

Questions? Contact Derek Duncan (duncan5oh@yahoo.com).

Already experienced and want to sign up? Go to VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/8fqGmN> and pick an upcoming Sunday

Derek Duncan, Ministry of Worship

Office tidbits

The church phone number is 216-321-2660.

Our website is www.fhcpresb.org

Emails and extensions for the staff are as follows:

John Lentz, pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org, ext. 200

Clover Beal, pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org, ext 201

Anne Wilson (music), annew@fhcpresb.org, ext 208

Keon Abner (youth), keon.abner@fhcpresb.org, ext 207

Dacia Prins (children), dacia@fhcpresb.org, ext 206

Becky Austin (financial): beckya@fhcpresb.org, ext. 203

Lynda Bernays (office administrator), and all other email: office@fhcpresb.org, ext. 202

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

TOWER deadlines: **7 am** on September 12, October 17, November 14

News of Our Church Family

Baptisms

Sophie Amelia Jean-Mary, daughter of Ralph and Michelle Jean-Mary, was baptized on July 6, 2014. Jeff Smith was the attending Elder

Soren Scott Henderson, son of Timothy and Leigh Henderson, was born June 19 and baptized August 3, 2014. Elaine Turley was the attending Elder. Soren's godparents are Megan and Nicolo Accordino.

Parker Robert Yoe, son of Robert and Julie Ann Yoe, was baptized August 10, 2014. Scott Lafferty was the attending Elder. Parker's godparents are Johanna Newsome and Bill Guzzo.

New Contact Information

Keon Abner (Director of Youth Ministries)

11321 Parklawn Dr., Cleveland OH 44108
216-536-3365

Michael and Danielle Cosgrove, Jaden & Ellington
295 E. 149th St., Cleveland OH 44110

Jessica and Madeleine Kelley-Moore

2624 Colchester Rd #1, Cleveland Hts OH 44106
410-562-1797

Obery family phones: Linn, 216-401-9614; Melody, 440-213-2488.
Please delete 216-291-8323.

Derry Stauffer and Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

6362 Woodhawk Dr., Mayfield Hts OH 44124
216-544-0916 (Kathy), 216-691-0272 (Derry)

Grace Uhle

14900 Private Drive, #204B, Cleveland OH 44112
216-368-8968

New emails only

Peter Williams: pwilliams3495@gmail.com

Care Group

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

Members of the Jordan CARE Group are:

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

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Dick Bloomquist, Bill Currie, Pat Drake, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Iris Gilbert, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Elaine Tapié

Please pray for those with ongoing prayer concerns:

Marion Frederick (Jane Frederick's mother), Doug, Marcie and Lucy Harvey, (Tom and Paula Harvey's family), Charles Sawyer (Ann Williams' brother), Dennis Wedding (Jeannine Gury's brother).

Ushers

Jim Roosa, Ayodele Solaru. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

Volunteer Hours in June

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Joan Bacon, Beth Zych, Jane Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, and Elspeth Peterjohn– worked a total of 46 hours in June and 51 hours in July. Thank you all! Thanks also to Peg Weissbrod and Rosanna Sprague, who covered the office when Lynda was away.

Social Groups and Circles

Hilltoppers (retired): Lunch and program

The Hilltoppers will meet at FHC on September 5 for a potluck lunch and a talk by Tricia Vidovic of the Alzheimer's Association of Cleveland. RSVP to Muriel Dean (216-371-1018 or mwilsondean@roadrunner.com)

Friday, September 5, FHC Fellowship Hall, 11:30 am

The Group (60s – 70s): Wine Tour

The GROUP is going on a wine tour in Ashtabula County on September 12. We will enjoy wine, travel through some covered bridges, visit a distillery, shop for apples, and enjoy dinner after an exciting day. We will meet in Ashtabula County at 1:00 p.m. Car pooling is recommended. For reservations and travel details, please contact Cathy Ghiandoni (ghiandoni.c@gmail.com) or Barb Hansen (bjhansen47@gmail.com) by September 5.

Friday, September 12, Ashtabula County, 1 pm

Iris Circle (all women of the church):

Tour and Lunch at Edwin's

On Tuesday, September 16, Iris Circle will meet at Edwin's on Shaker Square, the recently established restaurant which trains people who have been incarcerated and then assists them in finding restaurant jobs. This remarkable program grew out of the founder's gratitude for his own "second chance" and his desire to give others the same opportunity. After the tour and talk, we'll have lunch – outdoors if the weather permits. Specific time (noonish) and cost (reasonable) will be available later. RSVP to Elspeth Peterjohn (216-991-0424 or elspethpj@earthlink.net) by September 15 for reservations.

September 16, Edwin's on Shaker Square, 12:00 pm

Save the Date: On October 21 at 10:30 am, Iris Circle will meet at Ten Thousand Villages shop on Cedar Road for shopping and then walk to nearby Nighttown for lunch. Details will follow.

**FALL FESTIVITIES AT FHC!
SAVE THESE DATES!**

SEPTEMBER 7: REGULAR SCHEDULE RESUMES
EDUCATION AT 9:30, WORSHIP AT 11 AM
GALA YOUTH KICKOFF, 5:00 PM

**SEPTEMBER 14 @ 5:00 PM: HAITI FUNDRAISER AT SOHO
KITCHEN AND BAR**
LIVE AUCTION OF ARTISAN QUILTS &
MARK SUDDUTH GLASS BOWL/VASE

SEPTEMBER 28 @ 12 PM: FALL FESTIVAL
ALL-CHURCH PARTY AFTER WORSHIP

OCTOBER 4 @ 5 PM: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

OCTOBER 11 @ 7:00 PM: KINGDOM PARTY
CELEBRATE PASTOR JOHN LENTZ'S 20TH
ANNIVERSARY AT FHC

WATCH FOR DETAILS THIS FALL!

Sundays in September

- 9:00** Child care begins
9:30 Adult education (small groups begin Sept. 21)
 Youth education
 Descant Choir
10:15 Descant Choir activity
10:30 Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
11:00 WORSHIP
 Children in Worship
 Little Explorers
11:00 Pathways to the Promise Land (Sept. 14)
11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land (gr. 1-5) (Sept 21, 28)
12:15 Coffee Hour
 Sine Nomine Choir (Gr. 6-12) (Sept. 7, 21)
4:40 Labre Project (Sept. 14, 28)
5:00 Youth Fellowship (not Sept. 28)

September 7: Regular schedule begins 11:00 Worship: Communion 12:30 GCC Presentation: Criminal Justice	Exodus 12: 1-14 Psalm 149 Romans 13: 8-14 Matthew 18: 15-20
September 14 12:30 Lay Reader orientation and training 5:00 Haiti Fundraiser at SOHO Kitchen and Bar	Exodus 14: 19-31 Psalm 114 Romans 14: 1-12 Matthew 18: 21-35
September 21 12:15 Blood pressure check 12:30 Labre team meeting	Exodus 16: 2-15 Psalm 105: 1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1: 21-30 Matthew 20: 1-6
September 28 12:15 Fall Festival 5:00 Family Promise Host week begins	Exodus 17: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32

The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.

Psalm 149

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,

to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron,

to execute on them the judgment decreed. This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the Lord!

This is the psalm for September 7