

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

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



The Tower

June 2016

Dear Friends,

I would like to share with you my summer plans.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Lentz", with a long, sweeping underline.

I have asked for permission to bundle my vacation and study leave for 2016 into an extended time away this summer. The Session approved this at their March 30 meeting. This means that I will be taking most of June and July off. I have never done this before. In fact, I have never taken my full vacation or study leave in any given year!

After officiating at the wedding of Katie Fay on Saturday, June 4, I will preach June 5 and then our family will head to California to celebrate daughter Meg's graduation from Stanford University on Sunday, June 12. On July 9, I will officiate at the wedding of Sarah Sprague in New York State.

This is a vacation and not a sabbatical but I do hope to accomplish some things in the time away. There are lots of things to do around the house! I plan to travel to some favorite Civil War battlefields and take a few days at the Abbey of Genesee in Western New York in silent retreat.

I will be writing. I have been asked to write a scholarly article for the Utah Law Review on "Bystanding in the Bible." What do the Hebrew scripture and the New Testament teach about the moral responsibility to help our

neighbor? Next March, I will be part of the panel at the University of Utah Law School discussing "Bystanders and the Law."

For the final week of July the Lentz family will head to Bethany Beach, DE for our annual beach week.

I will be back in the office the first week of August.

During my time away both the Rev. Lois Annich and Rachel McDonald will be here to lead worship, visit, support the work of the ministries and be your pastors. As you have come to know, their faithful leadership blesses us. It is very important that you support their ministry and the mission of Forest Hill Church. If you are in town come to worship. Many folks visit churches during the summer and we want to show the vitality of our church.

Thank you for your support and prayers.

Faithfully yours,

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



The church phone number is 216-321-2660. Our website is www.fhcpresb.org The custodians' phone is 216-217-5257.

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

The old saying, “Watch what you pray for!” reminds us to remain open to the way life unfolds. Have you ever prayed for a certain virtue and discovered that it only grew in you as a result of problems or challenges? Have you prayed for an outcome to which you were stubbornly attached only to find out later that you didn’t really have all the facts?

I am writing this a few days before Pentecost and am wondering how the apostles felt on that first Pentecost, when the Spirit came upon them like the “rush of a violent wind?” Were they afraid? Could they have foreseen the way the Spirit was going to turn their world upside down? Could they have known that they would receive the strength to go beyond their well-worn limits?

The Holy Spirit is known as The Comforter, and that feels really good to us when the world appears to be spinning out of control. But the Holy Spirit is also an agent of change, part of the Godhead that blows where it will and stirs things up in surprising and life-giving ways.

Change is not a one-size-fits-all experience. In my work as a life and leadership coach, change is often a good thing. People come to me for coaching or counseling because they want to change certain aspects of their lives that aren’t working. But change can also feel devastating when it comes as a result of bereavement or loss.

My kneejerk reaction to change can be resistance and fear. It helps me to look back and trace God’s presence through numerous transitions, both good and bad. Change has at times pushed me out of my comfort zone to do things I would never have thought possible—taking creative risks, forging unlikely friendships, and growing in surprising ways. As we move through a discernment process here at Forest Hill Church and as we navigate our own personal journeys, let’s continue to remind each other that God is faithful through all life’s ups and downs.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Rev. Lois Annich, Interim Associate Pastor

1 Corinthians 12: 12 says, "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with the body of Christ." As the body of Christ, we are tasked with working together, not devaluing the importance of any part. As we work together, we are always looking for ways to make sure the right hand knows what the left hand is doing. In the month of June the Discernment Task Force will be leading the congregation in an exercise which will build community and conversation among all the different parts of our church.



To give you a preview of the conversation starters, here are some of the questions you will be asked.

1. What do you think are the main factors and forces that will be shaping the future of Forest Hill Church in the next 10 years, drawing on your own experience, reading, and reflection?
2. Within the context of our core values, what do you think God is calling Forest Hill Church – as a whole community – to be and do in the next 10 years? (Please be as specific as you can.)
3. In light of Question 2, what do you think God is calling you to be and do in the next 10 years?
4. How could Forest Hill Church equip you to become more engaged in God's call for Forest Hill Church?
5. How could Forest Hill Church help you more fully realize your potential as a child of God?

To work together, we will be encouraging everyone to use these questions not just for personal reflection, but for communal discussions. We grow and strengthen our church through being mindful of all of the many parts at work. Through exercises like these, our decision making can then be influenced by the will of the whole body, not just a few parts. Your participation is crucial! I hope you will join in these conversations.

In Christ,

Rachel McDonald, Interim Associate Pastor

Music



As the choir take this moment to thank all the dedicated, creative and loving people who have faithfully attended rehearsals each week in order to praise God in song every Sunday morning. It is a joy for me to work with all the choirs, and I'm grateful to all my special helpers, particularly Nancy Grube (choir librarian), Ginie Mast (assistant conductor), Seth Ungemach (music intern), the choir officers, and all the singers and instrumentalists who share their faith through music.

Summer Choir begins Sunday, June 5 with rehearsals held at 9:30 am every Sunday before the 10:00 am worship service. The music will be easy to learn, and singers of all ages (even babes in arms) are most welcome to participate. No hot choir robes – just come as you are. Bring the whole family and experience the worship service from *the other side*. The Summer Choir sings through July.

I wish you good health and safety during your summer travels. My own summer plans include first a few days in the Detroit/Ann Arbor area collaborating with Tom Trenney (my former student and now great friend) and his professional chorus *Sounding Light*. I will be rehearsing for and accompanying three concerts on June 3-5.

On June 8, I fly to Spain where I will again be making a pilgrimage journey, ***El Camino de Santiago de Compestela*** (The Way of St. James), this time finishing the section that I didn't have enough time for last summer. The Camino is one of the three main Christian pilgrimage routes (the others being to Rome and Jerusalem), and it became important around 1000 years ago. The section I will be walking during June will be from Burgos to Leon and then from Ponferrada to Sarria.



I'll also be playing two jazz concerts in the cities of Llerida and Barcelona.

July 4 will find me back in Ohio and I'll back at the organ on July 10. Fern Jennings will be the organist while I'm away. She earned a degree at the Cleveland Institute of Music and most recently served as Music Director of the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland. I know that you will give her an enthusiastic and warm FHC welcome!

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson
Organist/Director of Music

Prayer Requests

Did you know that Forest Hill Church offers three kinds of prayer requests?

No doubt God can untangle our prayer requests but some of us humans become confused with the three ways we now try to connect.

On most Sundays congregation members may write their prayer requests on the slips available in the pew racks, and the ushers will collect them to be included in the worship service.

On the Sundays after the monthly Abundance Pantry lunch, prayer requests from the lunch guests are placed in baskets at the exits from the sanctuary, and members are urged to take one and pray for that person's concern. Many pantry guests have expressed thanks for this caring expression.

On the Sundays before the monthly pantry lunch there will be green forms in the bulletin on which you may write **your** prayer requests. Place these with the offering and they will be made available to pantry guests who wish to pray for **you**.

Thank you!

Grace Uhle

Exciting News From Greater Cleveland Congregations

Excerpts from Press Release by Metro IAF:

Update on the National “Do Not Stand Idly By” (DNSIB) Campaign

Leaders of the DNSIB campaign applauded President Obama’s actions announced on April 29 to help make “smart guns” available for law enforcement officers, as well as individual gun purchasers.

Rabbi Joel Mosbacher, co-chairperson of the DNSIB campaign said that a preview of the plan presented on Thursday was “substantive” and includes three key recommendations made by DNSIB.

1) The federal government will develop specifications for smart guns. These specs can be used by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to guide future procurement decisions, and will also guide manufacturers in their efforts to meet the growing demand for smart guns.

2) The Department of Justice will provide “resources” for law enforcement agencies interested in purchasing smart guns. DNSIB has called for federal subsidies—at least until the technology matures and the cost comes down.

3) The White House will convene public officials from across the U.S. to share strategies for reducing gun violence. DNSIB leaders told the White House they are certain that the officials from 85 cities, counties and states who have taken initial steps to ask manufacturers to bring smart guns to market will be eager to collaborate on this.

A number of key DNSIB recommendations were **not** included in the President's plan, including DNSIB's proposal to use the leverage of the Army's \$580 million handgun contract currently being negotiated, as well as other federal contracts.

“There is much more that President Obama should be doing,” Rabbi Mosbacher said. “But for anyone who worried that the President’s ‘smart gun’ announcement in January was just talk, today’s report will come as welcome news. These actions are real. And we think they will send a clear signal to gun manufacturers that the largest gun purchaser in the nation – the federal government – is in the market for smarter, safer guns.”

DNSIB announced that its leaders would attend the Annual Shareholders' meeting of Sturm, Ruger and Company firearms manufacturer (www.ruger.com) to reinforce DNSIB's position that the company should respond to growing interest in smart-gun technology among local, state and federal governments – which collectively represent 40 percent of America's gun market. "Leaders from 85 cities, counties and states – all of whom purchase guns for their law enforcement officers – have asked Sturm Ruger for information on its plans and capabilities in the area of gun safety technologies," Mosbacher said. "And now the President has brought the purchasing power of the federal government to the table. Our sense is that it would be smart for Sturm Ruger management – and other gun CEOs – to objectively assess and respond to this emerging market." Sturm, Ruger & Co., one of the largest gun manufacturers in the world, is a major U.S. government contractor.

Speaking to why this is such an urgent issue, DNSIB leader Donna Weinberger, from Greater Cleveland Congregations, said, "Earlier this week, a three-year-old boy in Georgia shot and killed himself accidentally with his father's gun. News media have reported that the gun involved was made by Sturm Ruger. Incidents like this would be prevented by smart-gun technology that uses user-recognition technology to prevent firing by unauthorized users." Studies project that smart-gun technology, if widely available, would significantly reduce gun-related deaths in every major category: suicides, homicides and accidental shootings.

DNSIB has been building support among law enforcement leaders across the country for this technology. In 2014, the group held the nation's first-ever Smart Gun Show, where chiefs and officers from nine police departments in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey were able to see and shoot smart-gun models.

Do Not Stand Idly By was launched in 2013 by the Metro Industrial Areas Foundation (Metro IAF) – a network of citizens' organizations made up of religious congregations, unions, schools and civic groups – to encourage public-sector leaders to use their firearms purchasing power to create change in the gun industry. Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC) is an IAF affiliate and an active participant in DNSIB.

Endowment Notes

Over 60 percent of Americans do not have a will and fewer than 20 percent of those who do have a will include a charitable bequest. Could this be you?

More than 30 years ago, the Forest Hill Church Futures Associates were created as a group of members who took the important step of including the church in their will or estate plans. Most of these people made annual pledges to the church's regular budget to support Forest Hill's mission and programs. A bequest from your estate has the power to impact future generations by allowing Forest Hill to continue God's work.

We are working to keep the roster of Futures Associates current. If you have included the church in your plans, please let us know.

It's easy to include the church in your will and still provide for your loved ones. A will is a unique document and must be structured to fit the needs and estate plans of each individual in accordance with laws of the state. For this reason, you should consult an attorney to assist you in drafting your will and estate plan. You may also want to explore other estate planning options, such as designating the church as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or an IRA account.

You can touch the future of God's transformative power at Forest Hill Church with your charitable bequest. If you are interested in knowing more about how your gift to the Endowment Fund can make a difference in the future of Forest Hill Church, please contact David Olson, Chair, FHC Endowment Fund (216-906-6465 or 2xtwins@roadrunner.com).

Did you know that the Pathways program was originally funded by an Endowment Fund grant?

Use Automatic Bill-Pay to Keep Your Pledge Current

Keep up-to-date with your pledge without writing checks. Use your bank's online banking services and set up Forest Hill Church as an automatic monthly payee. There's no cost to you and Forest Hill receives 100% of your payment.

Sign in to your online checking account and select your bank's automated bill paying service. Type in Forest Hill Church as the payee, enter your giving amount and the date you want the money sent to Forest Hill, and submit – that's it, you're done!

You can determine when donations are made and how much is paid, and you may update or even cancel your payment any time before it processes. A monthly amount can be set and checks will automatically go to the church even if you're on vacation.

Automated bill paying is especially helpful when you are travelling – plus it saves you time and money since no stamps are required.

Online bill paying is offered free by most area banks. If you're new to online banking, there are direct links to various bank bill paying sites on our website:

<http://www.fhcpresb.org/about-us/giving/automatic-bank-payments/>

Using this requires that you set up online banking with a user name and password; this allows you to do most of your banking online (checking balances, doing transfers, paying bills, even making deposits if you are using a mobile device). If you'd like help getting started, please contact your bank's customer service office. This is a service that is set up and administered by the banks; Forest Hill Church simply benefits from it – and so will you!

Bill Ladebue, Trustee

Deacon News

This summer the Deacons will be busy planning the annual Fall Festival. After last year's "State Fair" theme, the Deacons will be priming for another great event. The festival will be held on kickoff **Sunday, September 11** immediately following worship. Over the summer you will see volunteer opportunities to help out with this annual event (decorating, cooking, etc).

If you have a skill that may be found "under the Big Top" and want to show it off during the festival (unicycle riding, stilt walking, juggling, tightrope walking, fire eating, sword swallowing, lion taming), please contact Jason Hidek (jason.hidek@att.net or 440-264-3296).

Summer Events at Forest Hill Church – Mark your calendars for these July and August dates

Abundance Pantry Lunches June 28, July 26, August 23

Deadline for July-August TOWER June 17

Youth Mission Trip to Washington DC July 3-9

You have supported the youth by buying cookies, pancakes and muffins. Now support them with your prayers! They will be commissioned during worship on July 3.

Visitors' Picnic Sunday July 10 11:30-1:00

Forest Hill Church Welcoming Team is hosting a "Getting to Know You" picnic. Watch for information!

If you'd like to be involved, contact Rachel Martinez-Finn (216-862-5443 or cruzmack@gmail.com)

Annual Outdoor Worship and Cookout Saturday, August 13, 5 pm

Regular Schedule and Fall Festival Sunday, Sept. 11, Worship 11 am

Water, Water Everywhere...

...nor any drop to drink (*ten points if you can identify the original source of this line!*).



Here in the Midwest we have an abundance of water, which bodes well for our region as continuing climate change suggests oncoming and perhaps sustained droughts in other parts of our country and world. But *potable* water is not inexhaustible (not even here, where we seem to get resupplied with rainwater daily). And we are all aware that in third world countries (and even in some US cities) good drinking water is in short supply.

The Forest Hill Church community funded a small but vitally important well project last year, providing clean water for a Haitian village. What can we do in our own homes to honor and preserve our easy access to life-giving water?

Here are some ways be good stewards of our (so-far) abundant Lake Erie water:

- Minimize water usage: If the water is running and you are not actively using it, you are wasting it. This applies to washing cars as well as to brushing teeth and washing hands and dishes.
- Take shorter showers
- Collect rainwater in rain barrels for re-use in your garden
- Dig a 'trench' around your garden to capture water run-off
- Use timers to avoid flooding your lawn and garden
- Eliminate the use of plastic water bottles (and the water they contain)



Finally, save your 'splish-splashes' for the community pool or beach, and if you must run through the sprinkler with your kids or grandkids, run fast (and do it when the lawn or garden needs watering anyway)!

Have a good and safe summer, and be ever mindful of all aspects of Earth Care.

Dave Neff and the FHC Green Team

News of Our Church Family

Baptisms

Amelia McKee Dolan, daughter of Elisabeth and Andrew Dolan and sister of Jack, was baptized April 24, 2016. Gary Sampson was the attending Elder.

Jordan Patrick Hsu, son of Bethany and Robert Hsu and grandson of Chris and Dave Bell, was also baptized April 24, 2016. His grandmother Chris Bell was the attending Elder.

Deaths

Dwight G. Stauffer died May 12, 2016. He and his wife Margy joined FHC in 1951; family members at Forest Hill include Derry Stauffer and Kathy Hanna-Stauffer; Tammy Steele; Kevin, Laura, Jacob and Adam Stauffer.

New members (received May 15, 2016)

Meg and Larry Cull

Leslie Pendleton

Carolyn Smith

Lisa Vahey

Amy Wadsworth

Kiva Bohanon, Linda Martin and Doug Vahey are also joining but were unable to be here on May 15.

Care Group

The Forest Hill Church Deacons will be responsible for meeting members' needs during June. Please contact the church office in case of illness, hospitalizations, births or deaths (or other family emergencies) in any FHC family.

The Deacons are:

Kathy Carr

Sally Davis

John Dugard

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer

Barbara Hansen

Jason Hidek

Jenny Himmelman

Kemp Jaycox

Suzanne Marcy

Ellen McChesney

Robin Mervine

Gretchen Reynolds

Seth Ungemach

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Bill Currie, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Emma Jane Gibbs, Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, George Sentell, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas

Please pray for those with ongoing prayer concerns:

Jack Quinn, Dennis Wedding (Jeannine Gury's brother).

Volunteer Hours in April

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Pat Jenkins, Beth Zych, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, Elspeth Peterjohn, Barb Hansen and the TOWER assembly team of Marge Thomas, Betty Clark and Marilyn Wilk–worked a total of 80 hours in April. Thank you all! And special thanks to Peg Weissbrod, who covered office duties for Lynda when she was away after Easter.

**Congratulations to these
Forest Hill Church Graduates**

Charity McDonald is graduating from Cleveland State University with an MBA.

Patrick Forscher (ne Schnarrenberger, nephew of Ann Williams) and his wife Emily Forscher will receive PhDs in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin (Madison).

Alex Marunowski is graduating from Case Western Reserve University .

Mary McPheeters is graduating from Brush High School (South Euclid-Lyndhurst) and will attend Case Western Reserve University.

Abby Forsythe is graduating from Hawken School and will attend Washington University (St Louis).

Rachelle Bohanan and Ragine Bohanan are graduating from Heights High (Cleveland Hts).

Social Groups and Circles

Hilltoppers (retired): **Planning meeting** - Hilltoppers will meet at the home of Nancy Burcham (301 Rosebury Ct, Mayfield Hts) on June 17 at 1:00 pm to plan activities for 2016-2017. Bring your ideas for an interesting program year! Beverages and dessert will be served. RSVP to Dean Young (216 291-2915). **June 17, Nancy Burcham's, 1 pm**

Iris Circle (all women of the church): **Planning potluck** - Iris Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 21 at noon at LeAnn West's (22171 Harms Rd, Euclid) for a salad potluck lunch to plan activities for 2016-17. RSVP to LeAnn (216 692-0917 or kleannwest@sbcglobal.net). Bring lots of ideas for interesting gatherings! **June 21, LeAnn West's, 12 pm**

Workday Volunteers

Many thanks to those who made the church work day a big success. All scheduled work was completed including the washing of 120 windows and the washing and installing of 60 screens. Considerable amount of work was done on the church's gardens and grounds. Thirty-eight members, eight Boy Scouts and one scoutmaster contributed their time. The forty-seven volunteers ranged in age from three to ninety-five.

Brittani Ball	Tim Gifford	Steve Marunowski
Caiden Ball	Kurt Haas	Hal Musick
Keara Ball	Roger Heineman	Jim Seeders
Mykelti Ball	Anne Hunter	Pat Seeders
Mary Ball	David Hunter	Dean Sieck
Nick Baumgartner	Paola Iannarelli	Jeff Smith
Theresa Baumgartner	Paul Jennings	Derry Stauffer
Jessica Baumgartner	Allan Khoury	Ahren Stock
Dave Bell	Kermit Lind	Alisha Trammell
Kay Dunlap	Laurie Logan	Mark Wedell
Peter Eloff	Clyde Loughridge	Peter Williams
Cathy Ghiandoni	Karen Loughridge	Boy Scouts –
Carol Gifford	Jim Manista	1 scout master & 8 scouts

Sundays in June

The summer schedule begins June 5

9:00 Child care begins
9:30 Summer Choir
 Continental Breakfast
10:00 WORSHIP
11:15 Fellowship Hour

June 5 3:15 Softball vs. Fairmount PC 4:30 Youth: Ice Cream Social	1 Kings 17: 8-24 Psalm 146 Galatians 1: 1-12 Luke 7: 1-10
June 12 8:30 Nominating Committee 12:00 Young Adult Brunch 3:15 Softball vs. St. John 5:00 Labre Project	1 Kings 21: 1-21a Psalm 5: 1-8 Galatians 2: 15-21 Luke 7:36 – 8:3
June 19 11:15 Blood Pressure check 3:15 Softball vs. Korean Central	1 Kings 19: 1-15a Psalm 42 Galatians 3: 23-29 Luke 8: 26-39
June 26 8:30 Nominating Committee 3:15 Softball vs. St. Ann's 5:00 Labre Project	1 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14 Psalm 77: 1-2, 11-20 Galatians 5: 1, 13-25 Luke 9: 51-62

The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.

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	1:00 Abundance Pantry (not June 21) 5:00 Fitness Fusion exercise class	7:30 am Bible & Bagels 12:30 AA meeting	5:00 Fitness Fusion exercise class	9:30 AI Anon	8:45 Discernment TF Retreat: Non-ministry groups
June 2016						
The Summer Schedule begins June 5 – worship at 10 am						
See "Summer Events" for important July-August dates						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
See "Sundays in June"	7:30 Boy Scout Trip #403	Directory Photos: Tues, Thurs, Fri 2-9 pm Sat 10 am - 5 pm	7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet		7:00 CE Volunteer Thank-you gathering	3:30 Wedding of Katherine Fay and Jonathan Hall
12	13		14	15	16	17
	7:30 Boy Scout Trip #403		(no photos today)		7:00 am July/Aug TOWER deadline	June 18-25 PC(USA) General Assembly, Portland OR
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Culture Camp Mon – Fri 9:30 – 3:30						
		12:00 Iris Circle				
26	27	28	29	30	JULY 1	2
		12:00 Abundance Pantry Lunch	10:00 TOWER collators 7:00 Session meeting			
Fiesta Friday 7 pm						

June 2016

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Announcements! Announcements!

Watch for information about summer Pathways for children in grades 1-6	Summer choir begins June 5. Come once or come all summer!
TOWER deadlines: 7 am on June 17, Sept. 16, Oct. 14	Look for news from the Discernment Task Force