

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



Forest Hill Church
presbyterian

The Tower

June 2017

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear

1 John 4:18

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Lentz".

Dear Friends,

The author of this beautiful letter found in the New Testament speaks powerfully to our world in this time. There is a sense of anxiety that I hear from many and admit to feeling in my own life. Certainly the political climate of our day doesn't help. It is tense. At Forest Hill Church there is talk about change in structure and leadership that causes "dis-ease." Even among people who have known each other for years there are topics and opinions better left untouched in certain company because you just don't know what to say, how to react, or what the reaction will be.

Fear and anxiety do things to our psyche and to our community. Fear has evolved over the millennia to save us from danger. But fear can wear you down. Constant anxiety is bad for your health. Fear creates its own worldview of suspicion and nostalgia. And when our fears are grounded in irrationality or psychosis, they can be deadly.

The author of this biblical letter lifts up love as the antidote to fear. First we trust that "God is love!" (1 John 4: 8) and "God so loved the world that he sent his only Son!" (John 3: 16) When love for God and love for neighbor are your guideposts, then you have fulfilled all the commandments (Matthew 22: 37). And love for neighbor, as the scriptures teaches us, means much more than

caring for the person living next to you, or those who share your values. The “neighbor” includes everybody – especially those you don’t really like! Love trumps hate! Love overcomes fear!

Love also creates its own worldview of curiosity, creativity, hospitality and hope. Love creates community. Love reflects the very heart of God “We love because God first loved us!” (1 John 4: 19)

So, in the midst of the tension, take one minute a day to bathe in God’s love for you. Soak it up! Hold up others to the light of God’s love, particularly those with whom you are in disagreement, or are frustrated or angry. Do at least one thing a day that releases love into the world (start by turning off news broadcasts?) From your energy comes the power to heal the world, create community and restore your own self.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

(Philippians 4: 8-9)

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

Music



As the choir season draws to a close, I would like to 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), Seth Ungemach (music intern), the choir officers, and all the singers and instrumentalists who share their faith through music.

The Chancel Choir's last Sunday is June 4th when we celebrate the feast of **Pentecost**. Please wear RED that day and come to celebrate the birthday of the church and the arrival of the Holy Spirit. Jazz violinist Reed Simon and bassist Bryan Thomas will liven up the music that morning.

Summer Choir begins Sunday, June 11th 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 30.

I wish you good health and safety during your summer travels. My own summer plans include serving on the music staff at the Montreat Music and Worship Conferences the last two weeks of June. These two conferences attract over two thousand conferees, and the setting in the North Carolina mountains near Asheville is spectacularly beautiful.

On July 10th, I fly to Edinburgh, Scotland to spend a week at the Abbey on the Isle of Iona where composer and theologian John Bell will be leading a conference. I'll also spend some time discovering the cultural and natural treasures of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Oban, and St. Andrews (where I'll tour the famous golf course). I'm half Scottish (father's side), and I thought it was time to investigate my roots!

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
annew@fhcpresb.org
216-870-2729

Pastor's Selfish Book Club (PSBC)

The first meeting of the Pastor's Selfish Book Club will be held after church on Sunday, June 25. We begin around 11:15 and end by 12:30 p.m.

If you are the hungry type, bring a snack, bag lunch, or just grab another doughnut!

The first book that we will read together is the National Book Award winner Ta-Nehisi Coates' ***Between the World and Me***. All are welcome.

John Lentz

Thinking about Membership? Classes are Scheduled for June 11 and 18

Share your story, meet the pastors, and explore how to get involved at our next Exploring Membership classes scheduled for two Sundays after worship on June 11 and 18. A light lunch will be provided, and each class will meet from 12:15 to 2 pm.

In our Exploring Membership classes, we:

- Get to know each other –Where do we come from, what are we seeking?
- Get to know more about Presbyterianism
- Learn the vision and values of Forest Hill Church – where the church is headed.
- Discuss the meaning and value of church membership – what is expected of church and member?
- Review the questions asked of those joining the church – what do they mean to you?

Child care can be made available. Let us know if you need it! Register your attendance by contacting the office (216-321-2660 or office@fhcpresb.org). But if you decide to show up at the last minute - come anyway!

If now is not the time for you to explore membership with us, know that you and your family are welcome to our worship, fellowship, service and education opportunities.

Forest Hill Church – A Guide on the Inward and Outward Christian Journeys

Grace Uhle believes that “the Christian life is supposed to involve both an inward journey and an outward journey.” Grace, a member of Forest Hill for 12 years, exemplifies this by attending worship regularly, maintaining a personal prayer practice, participating in adult education classes, and helping out with the Abundance Pantry program.

In 1987, Grace also helped to establish New Life Community, a transitional housing program for homeless families (New Life merged with Interfaith Hospitality Network in 2011 to form Family Promise of Greater Cleveland). While at New Life, she observed that the children had very prescribed lives and were beholden to the schedules and needs of their families. “I’m very interested in the arts and creativity, so I tried to think of a way that we could have a program at New Life that would help the children have some pleasant times.” Grace had an idea to create a place where the kids could have some choices about what they do, but couldn’t quite get the idea off the ground.

Then in the fall of 2007 Grace took part in Faith Leader, a lay leadership program at Forest Hill Church. For her Personal Plan for Ministry, Grace co-founded “Hands-On-Art” at New Life Community. Twice a month for about an hour kids come together and make art - “expressive art with a lot of choices for the kids as to what they do with it...what colors they use, what kinds of brushes, how they manipulate the clay, all those things are up to them.” She reflected, “The kids were usually very pleased...And I think it was enriching for them. They were usually eager to come back. I think for some of them it was just a chance to do something fun that didn’t have a lot of requirements.”

“Hands-On-Art” was established in the spring of 2008, and Grace continued to volunteer for the next six years. The program still exists as part of Family Promise of Greater Cleveland. When asked what her take-away from the experience was she commented, “...that it’s very important to be in small groups in the church, and have some accountability and inspiration to new learning...Forest Hill Church offers such a wealth of different opportunities.”

Where are you on your inward and outward Christian journeys? How has Forest Hill Church played a role in those journeys? The Stewardship Ministry would like to thank Grace Uhle for taking time to tell her story. Do you have a story to tell? Let us know!

Ahren Stock
Elder, Stewardship Ministry

**Black
History
Corner**

Larry Doby – Baseball Pioneer – July 5, 1947

Today in American and international sports, it is not unusual to see many black players starring for our beloved baseball, football and basketball teams. But only 70 years ago this summer, Cleveland Indians' owner Bill Veeck signed Larry Doby from the Negro League Newark Eagles, and on July 5, 1947, Larry Doby became the second African-American in all of Major League Baseball (just 6 weeks after Jackie Robinson) and the first in the American League. Prior to Jackie Robinson's and Larry Doby's debuts, black players were prohibited from playing in the major leagues and were limited to playing in the all-black Negro League.

Although July 5, 1947, in Chicago White Sox' Comiskey Park was a momentous event for Larry Doby and baseball, it was fraught with many challenges and indignities reflecting the entrenched racism in Major League Baseball and throughout America during the peak of the Jim Crow era. That night, upon being introduced to his new teammates in the locker room, "I walked down that line, stuck out my hand, and very few hands came back in return. Most of the ones that did were cold-fish handshakes, along with a look that said, 'You don't belong here,'" Doby remembered years later. In fact 4 players did not even shake his hand and 2 actually turned their backs to him. When the players went on the field to warm up, Doby stood there for several minutes before second baseman Joe Gordon finally asked Doby to play catch with him. Gordon would befriend Doby and became one of his closest friends.

Author Joseph Thomas Moore, in his book ***Pride Against Prejudice: The Biography of Larry Doby***, recounts, "After the game, Doby quickly showered...in the Cleveland clubhouse. His escort...then took him not to the

Del Prado Hotel downtown, where the Indians players stayed, but to the black DuSable Hotel in Chicago's predominantly black South Side, near Comiskey Park. The segregated arrangement established a pattern, on Doby's first day, that he would be compelled to follow ... in many cities, throughout his playing career."

Doby made only a pinch-hitting appearance that first night and struck out, but in the years to follow Larry Doby would have an illustrious career with the Cleveland Indians, Chicago White Sox and Detroit Tigers. He was named to the American League All-Star team 7 times and was a critical part of 2 Cleveland World Series teams. In 1998, Larry Doby was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame and in 2015, the Indians erected a statute of Larry Doby at Progressive Field.

So this summer as you settle in to watch the Tribe, remember the groundbreaking legacy of Larry Doby in the fight against hatred and racism. In a July 29, 2012 retrospective on Doby's career, *The New York Times* wrote, "In glorifying those who are first, the second is often forgotten ... Larry Doby integrated all those American League ball parks where Jackie Robinson never appeared. And he did it with class and clout."



Larry Doby celebrates hitting the game-winning homerun with pitcher Steve Gromek following Game 6 of the 1948 World Series. Of all his awards and trophies, this picture was his favorite.

Sources:

Wikipedia-

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larry_Doby#Integration_of_American_League_.281947.29

*Moore, Joseph Thomas (1988). **Pride Against Prejudice: The Biography of Larry Doby**. New York: Praeger Publishers.*

Scott Lafferty

Member, Black History Month team

The Apostles Build Project

Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity believes in a world where everyone has a decent place to live. They work to end substandard housing by renovating simple, decent affordable houses for lower income families earning between 30-60% of the average median income. Since 1987 they have built/rehabbed almost 200 homes providing permanent housing for over 700 children. They accomplish their mission by working in partnership with well over 1200 volunteers annually and through the generosity of donors.

Forest Hill church will be participating in Habitat's annual Apostles Build project where 12 churches come together to build or fully rehab a Habitat for Humanity house. Each church raises 1/12th of the funds and provides 1/12th of the labor to build a house in partnership with a local family. The idea of going out into the community to serve others, in the way that Jesus' apostles served, has attracted individuals in many churches all over the world. With Habitat for Humanity, churches can share God's love by building houses or fully rehabbing them.

For the 3rd year, Forest Hill Church will be participating in this year's Apostles Build. Our church along with other churches in the Cleveland area will be fully funding the rehabilitation of a house in the Stockyards area on the west side. We have committed to providing volunteers on 3 days. **June 10:** Neighborhood spruce-up day, **July 22:** Build Day, and **August 10:** Build day.

If you are interested in participating, donating or simply receiving more info, please contact **Nathan Baldwin** (n.baldwin.usaf@gmail.com or **(330) 705-7904**), or see the Habitat bulletin board.



Earth Care Notes

As we approach into June and with it summer holidays, picnics vacations, graduations, and weddings, the Earth Care Team offers a few reminders and concerns.

- We will do a Forest Hill Park cleanup after church on Sunday, May 21. Bring clothes and shoes to change into, and gloves; you will receive a genuine garbage bag with which to tromp around the Heights section of Forest Hill Park for 45 minutes gathering trash. (if you are reading this after May 21, and couldn't help out, grab a plastic bag and spend 15 minutes picking up trash anywhere, anytime).
- Are/were you able to contact your local municipality regarding recycling of bulky metal items and electronics? We regret that it is not possible to arrange a pick-up at FH as we have done in the past.
- Make your garden wildlife-habitat friendly! Plant species that are favorites of butterflies, install hummingbird feeders, 'wilderness' plots for little creatures, and drinking water. One website to get you started is <http://www.humanesociety.org/> From the home page, search for "wildlife habitat garden" – you will be offered a number of useful articles.
- Use Rainbarrels and prepare drainage areas to capture water appropriately for re-use. More information may be found at <http://www.cuyahogawcd.org/programs/rain-barrels>
- Above all, on a national scale, the Trump administration, the Presidents' executive orders, and Congressional approval have *overturned* many environmental regulations that govern clean water, land usage, restraints on drilling and other development on public lands, wilderness and wildlife protection---especially in Alaska---and threaten to thwart US participation in the Paris Climate Agreement. **Contact your Congressional Representatives and urge them to support protection for the environment and to propose or support new protective legislation. Go to www.Congress.gov for our Congress peoples voting records, contact information, and pending legislation.**

Dave Neff and the Earth Care Team

News of Our Church Family

Births

Mavis Gantner, daughter of Brynn Keefe and George Gantner and sister of Lillian, was born April 28, 2017. Mavis joins the extended Keefe family – Tom and Morag, Megan and Jamie Allen, and Molly, Lola and Sadie Castillo Keefe. **Lucas Roberto Waynik**, son David and Amy Fuller Waynick, was also born April 28. Lucas is the grandson of Chris and Dan Fuller.

Baptisms

Nora Grace Pinzone, daughter of Joseph and Bethany Pinzone and sister of Jack, John, Joe and Lola, was baptized May 14, 2017. Toni and Alfio Pinzone are Nora's godparents, and her cousin Hannah Daedelow is her sponsor. Mary Ball was the attending Elder. Terry and Jim Daedelow are Nora's grandparents.

New Contact Information

Nan Dorer 216-707-7583
2181 Ambleside Dr #601, Cleve., OH 44106 (Judson Park)

Care Group The FHC Deacons will be responsible for assisting the pastors in 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 Forest Hill Deacons are:

Chris Bell	Jeanette Nemcek
Wendy Brock (CARE leader)	Jason Hidek
Kathy Carr	Ellen McChesney
Sally Davis	Robin Mervine
John Dugard	Gretchen Reynolds
Barb Hansen	Seth Ungemach

Graduations It's graduation season! If someone in your family is graduating, please let the church office know so that all graduates can be recognized.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

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

Volunteer Hours in April

The office volunteers – Nancy Grube, Ellen McChesney, Jane and Chuck Ishler, Cathy Ghiandoni, Anne Smith, and Elspeth Peterjohn, and the TOWER assembly team of Betty Clark, Ellen McChesney and the Ishlers – worked a total of 83 hours in March. Thank you all!

Special thanks to all who step in when Lynda is out of the office, especially Peg Weissbrod.

Social Groups and Circles

Hilltoppers (retired): Planning Meeting

Hilltoppers will meet at noon on Friday, June 16 in South Hall at FHC. We will elect officers and plan program for next year. Please bring a brown bag lunch; beverages will be served. In addition to program ideas, please bring a recipe or description for your “go to” meal when you are pressed for time or don’t feel like a full-on cooking event. We’ll all leave with new ideas!

RSVP (nice but not essential) to: Gretchen Reynolds (216-371-4432 or grr4325@sbcglobal.net).

June 16, FHC – South Hall, 12:00 pm

Iris Circle (all women of the church): Planning potluck

On Tuesday, June 20 we will meet at Nancy Burcham's home for a potluck lunch at 12:00 and to plan our 2017-2018 calendar. We need good food and good ideas for a great program year. RSVP to Nancy (burcham@roadrunner.com or 440-446-0832).

June 20, Nancy Burcham’s home, 12:00 pm

Announcements! Announcements!

Watch for news of summer outdoor worship!	The summer schedule begins June 11
TOWER deadlines: 7 am on June 23, Aug. 18, Sept. 15.	The Fall Festival is sept. 10

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

Emails for the staff are as follows:

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

Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

This notice came from another Heights area church, St Peter's Lutheran Church. Please contact Elite International Educational Services directly if you are interested in hosting.

A host family is needed for a Chinese girl who will attend Hathaway Brown School for the 2017-18 school year. Wendy will be in 9th grade, speaks English and is fully insured. She describes herself as outgoing and positive and loves to try new things.

Her interests include playing piano, drawing, and playing soccer. Wendy has been to the US before for a summer program, so she has already been introduced to American culture. Host families provide room and board along with a loving family atmosphere and receive a generous monthly hosting stipend.

If you have an extra room and would be willing to open your heart and home to her, please contact Elise Coleman with Elite International Educational Services at 610-763-5381 for more information.

Sundays in June

The summer schedule begins June 11

- 9:15 Child Care begins**
- 9:30 Continental Breakfast**
Summer Choir
- 10:00 WORSHIP**
- 11:15 Fellowship Hour**
- 4:00 Labre Project (2nd , 4th Sundays)**
- 5:30 Small Plate Class: Cooking (not June 18)**

<p>June 4: Day of Pentecost 9:30 Youth: Car Wash and Ice Cream fundraiser 10:15 Child Care begins 10:30 Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion 12:15 Coffee & Fellowship 2:00 GCC University</p>	<p>Acts 2: 1-21 Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13 John 20: 19-23</p>
<p>June 11: Summer Schedule begins Trinity Sunday 10:00 Worship: Senior Recognition 11:30 Exploring Membership class</p>	<p>Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13 Matthew 28: 16-20</p>
<p>June 18 10:00 Worship: Baptism 11:15 Blood Pressure check 11:30 Exploring Membership class 12:00 Culture Camp set-up</p>	<p>Genesis 18: 1-15 Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19 Romans 5: 1-8 Matthew 9:35 – 10:8</p>
<p>June 25 8:30 Nominating Committee 11:15 Pastor’s Selfish Book Club</p>	<p>Genesis 21: 8-21 Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17 Romans 6: 1b-11 Matthew 10: 24-39</p>

The Revised Common Lectionary readings are listed here.

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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 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	
<i>The Summer Schedule Begins June 11</i>						
4 PENTECOST See "Sundays in June" Last day of regular schedule	5 9:00 GCC University	6 9:00 GCC University	7 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	8 1	9 2 6:00 Strawberry Festival: Boy Scout Troop #403	10 3 6:00 Trans Art Fair 9:00 Apostles Build: Spruce-Up Day
11 Summer schedule begins	12 19 <i>Culture Camp this week</i>	13 7:00 pm Black History Month Team mtg	14 7:00 Ministries worship 7:15 Ministries meet	15 15	16 7:00 am TOWER deadline for July-August issue 12:00 Hilltoppers	17 9:00 Culture Camp set-up
18		20 12:00 Iris Circle NO PANTRY TODAY	21 10:00 TOWER collators 12:00 Bullshevicks	22 22	23 3:30 pm Culture Camp ends	24
25	26	27 12:00 Abundance Lunch	28 Mid-High Mission: Providence House 7:00 Session meeting	29	30 Youth trip to Cedar Point	JULY 1

June 2017

