



Forest Hill Church  
presbyterian

## The Tower

July and August 2019

### *“May I Have this Dance?”*

At a wedding reception thirty years ago, the father of the bride approached me and asked me to dance. Initially I was intimidated because I didn't know this particular style of ballroom dancing. But he whispered, “Just trust and follow my lead.” His words reverberated in my ear, “Just trust and follow...” Very quickly I found myself moving with grace and ease, spinning around the dance floor as never before, although I'd never danced this dance prior.



When the dance ended, a friend leaned over and said to me, “Veronica, I didn't know you could dance like that! I replied, “I didn't either!”

George Guiver, C.R. writes:

The blessed Trinity stands at the center of all things, at the place where love is eternally shared in an eternal circle of relating, where the one is many, and many become one. It was the purpose of Christ that we should be taken up into the life of the Trinity, “Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you.” (John 17:21).

--Company of Voices: Daily Prayer & the People of God (London: SPCK, 1988) 44.

In the mystery of the Trinity, we are invited to join in the dance of Perichorasis—“the eternal dancing around of the Godhead.” Just as the father of the bride assured me, Jesus assures his disciples then and now, the

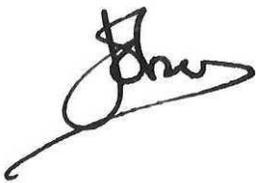
Holy Spirit is at work guiding and directing our steps in the dance of faith (John 16). When we dance, we delight. When we delight, we create, and build up the body of Christ, the Church.

Just as every dance has its wallflowers, those present but not part of the dance, every church has its wallflowers too. If you haven't yet gotten on the dance floor or discovered your best moves, our triune God asks, "May I have this dance?" Furthermore, God says, "Just trust and follow my lead." After all, we can only know the joy of the dance by dancing.

Friends, let's get off the wall and on the floor. God is doing something new, and we are including in the doing of God.

Pastor Veronica R. Goines

### Words from Pastor John



*There is nothing better than a good book in the summer. Usually I spend the months ahead of our vacation scanning the recommended book lists of the Plain Dealer, New York Times and the Washington Post. Over the past many summers, I have purchased the latest Daniel Silva spy book featuring the Israeli spy master Gabriel Allon! Happiness is sitting on the beach with feet in the sand and book in hand!*

*I am a little bit behind schedule this year. Silva is NOT coming out with a new book, as far as I know. I think I may read the first volume of the Game of Thrones series to see what all the fuss was about!*

*So, I am thinking about books and summer reading lists. Several weeks ago, I read the obituary of Rachel Held Evans. I am embarrassed to admit that I had not heard of her until I read her obit. She was 35 years old, or so, when she died. What makes Rachel Held Evans interesting is that she was raised a conservative evangelical Christian. In her teens and twenties, she became aware of a deep agitation of a faith crisis. The seemingly pat answers of faith simply didn't work for her anymore. Being a millennial and at ease with social media, she started to blog; sharing her faith struggles and emerging*

*certainties. She never gave up being a Christian. However, her faith horizon stretched. Her blogs were read by hundreds of thousands of people across the world. I will be reading two of her books and I invite you to read them as well: Searching for Sunday: loving, leaving and finding the church and Faith Unraveled: How a girl who knew all the answers learned to ask questions.*

*Maybe in August we can have a book discussion about them.... But maybe we need to discuss Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth by Reza Aslan first?*

*Have a blessed summer and read well and often!*

John

### Music Notes



Dear FHC Friends,

I hope you are enjoying these warm months, perhaps doing a bit of gardening or planning family visits or vacations to the beach or elsewhere. As I write this, I'm tying up loose ends as I prepare to fly to Italy on Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup>. I'll begin my explorations of the Italian countryside in Assisi where I will learn about the life and ministry of St. Francis.



I will return to Cleveland on July 15th, well-rested and ready to plan the music for the 2019-2020 program year. Summer Choir continues through July with

rehearsals at 9:30 AM in the Choir Room below Fellowship Hall. Won't you give it a try? 😊 During August, small groups will lead the music until the full choir programs resume after Labor Day.

Looking ahead, I'd like to lead an "orcha-band" of FHC instrumentalists on Sun., July 28<sup>th</sup> and Sun., Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. If you play an orchestra or band instrument and can hold down at least a hymn part, send me an email and I'll sign you up. Should be fun!

I wish you all a restorative summer~~

Soli Deo Gloria

Anne Wilson  
Organist/Director of Music  
216-321-2660, Ext. 208 (church)  
216-870-2729 (cell)  
[annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)

## **Family, Youth, and Children**

At the May meeting, the Session of FHC discussed and ultimately voted to approve the More Light proposal submitted by the youth in April. We are very excited for this next step on our journey as a youth group and as a church.

The youth have been clear that they feel FHC is an open and affirming place for them. We want to thank all of those who have worked so hard over the years to ensure that this church is a safe place to be who you are. The youth hope the More Light distinction will help others in the community know that this is a welcoming and loving church.

And yet, the work is never finished.

As FHC continues to live into our dream of a beloved community that welcomes all, we know there is work to do. This distinction is not the end of the journey, but another step on the road.

There is more to do to live into being open and affirming; there is more to do to ensure all of God's children feel comfortable in this world; there is more to do to curb violence against the LGBT community, especially young trans women of color.

The youth hope to continue working, by partnering with the LGBT Center of Greater Cleveland, by fundraising for the More Light membership fee, and by following the guidance of our elders leading the way.

We also know there is more work to do for all of God's children, especially those marginalized and disenfranchised by society and the church. Today we continue to wrestle with racism, sexism, xenophobia, and ableism in the church universal; even as Torah and Jesus modeled laying down privilege and loving those society stigmatizes.

May all of God's children know they are loved.

-Rev. David Wigger  
Interim Coordinator of Family, Youth, and Children

For information about being a More Light Church, or to become an individual member, please visit: [mlp.org](http://mlp.org).

### **Ron Register Inaugural Scholarship Recipients Honored**

The Black Caucus and the Ron Register Scholarship Committee wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to all who turned the concept of a Ron Register Scholarship Fund into a scholarship reality!

On May 26, we recognized the inaugural recipients of the Ron register Scholarship Award, Trevion Johnson and Treasure Eiland. Both were awarded \$2,500.

The committee's criteria for receiving a Ron Register Scholarship were: intelligence and academic achievement; an awareness of social/political

issues; a commitment to working toward building a fairer and more equitable society and world; and financial need.

The committee could not have been more pleased with the applications we received. All were fine and deserving students. However, Trevion and Treasure stood apart.

Treasure Eiland is the first in her family to attend college. In the fall she will attend Fisk University, a HBCU. Treasure graduated with a 3.8 GPA. Treasure was the 2019 student Vice President; three years captain of the volleyball team. Treasure also volunteers at her church and other organizations. She intends to major in biology/pre-med.

Trevion Johnson has overcome much in his young life. He was raised by his grandparents but since his junior year has been living on his own. This independence required him to work two and, at times, three part time jobs. Trevion's indomitable spirit propelled him forward and despite life's obstacles he excelled academically (3.1GPA) and athletically. Trevion was named to the second team all Greater Cleveland soccer team! This fall Trevion will attend Loyola University in Chicago, where he intends to major in business management.

Both Trevion and Treasure were enrolled in the early college program at John Carroll University. We are proud and grateful that we were able to extend a hand in uplifting these two precious lives.

The Scholarship Committee still has much to do. There are many academically deserving but financially challenged students like Trevion and Treasure who could use a helping hand on their way to becoming productive American citizens.

If you are so inclined to be one who extends a hand of assistance to young people like Treasure and Trevion, please donate now to the scholarship fund. Those capable and willing to donate should make out a check to Forest Hill Church and in the memo line indicate that the donation is for the Ron Register Scholarship Fund. Forest Hill Church assumes all administrative and mailing

costs, thus 100% of all donations go to deserving students. All donations are tax deductible.

The Scholarship Committee is composed of both community and FHC folk. FHC members are: Doris Allen, Barbara Cloud, Darla Character-Johnson, Quentin Smith and Diana Woodbridge. Community participants are: Susie Kaeser, Reg T. Evans, and Louisa Oliver.



## News of Our Church Family

**Prayers are requested this week for the following:** Mark Davidson, Robyn Hales, David Hunter, The family of Ramses Hurley, Tyliah Madison, Elizabeth Shaw, and Wesley Washington.

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

**Address Changes:**

Mike Cosgrove  
Correctional Treatment Facility  
C/O Mike Cosgrove  
1100 Jefferson Avenue  
Toledo, OH, 43604

Jane and Chuck Ishler  
2408 Worthington Place  
Avon, Ohio 44011

**Care Group (Group Leader-Laura Minder):** The Jerusalem Care Group will for assist our pastors in meeting members' needs during **July**. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will then be passed on to the Care Group leaders.

**Care Group (Group Leader-Sally Davis):** The Bethlehem Care Group will for assist our pastors in meeting members' needs during **August**. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will then be passed on to the Care Group leaders.

**Thank You to all office volunteers!**

The office volunteers and TOWER assembly team—Jane and Chuck Ishler, Ellen McChesney, Cathy Ghiandoni, and Anne Smith, Thank you all!

**Flower donations are needed!** Are you interested in donating a flower arrangement in honor or in memory of someone? The arrangements are \$45 each and you may donate the flowers (the deacons will find a recipient) or you may take them home. Please email [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) if you would like to take this opportunity to help beautify the sanctuary.

## Social Groups and Circles

### The GROUP

#### JULY-

Join us at the Stauffer's cottage in Mentor on the Lake, Sunday July 28. Come out any time after 2:00 and enjoy the lake. We'll have a potluck dinner around 5 pm, and then attend Rabbit Run Theater to see Mamma Mia at 7:30. Tickets are \$20. For reservations and details, contact Kathy Hanna-Stauffer at [khannas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:khannas@sbcglobal.net).

#### AUGUST –

Come out to **The Grove**, Rt. 91 in Mayfield Village, for a free concert, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 7PM. Chance Band will be playing "Chicago" tunes and more. Bring a picnic, sit on the lawn and enjoy a delightful summer evening.

### Reconnecting with God's Creation in the 21st Century

Members of the recent class, "Reconnecting with God's Creation in the 21st Century," discovered an urban farm, Rid-All Green Partnerships, that is doing exceptional things for the environment and its inner city Cleveland neighborhood---growing healthy produce, creating soil, composting, teaching children and adults, employing youth as gardeners. A tour is available on Thursday, July 18 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. We'll car pool from the church. If you want more info and/or wish to join the tour please contact:

**Kemp Jaycox: [kempjaycox@yahoo.com](mailto:kempjaycox@yahoo.com) or 216-785-5375**

**Grace Uhle: [gdu726@yahoo.com](mailto:gdu726@yahoo.com) or 216-268-8968**

## Sundays in July and August

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| <b>9:15</b>  | <b>Childcare begins</b>   |
| <b>9:30</b>  | <b>Continental Breakfast<br/>Summer Choir Rehearsal (in choir room)</b> |
| <b>10:00</b> | <b>Worship</b>  |
| <b>11:15</b> | <b>Coffee &amp; conversation</b>  |

### Staff Emails

|                          |                         |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Antoinette Richardson    | Administration          | <a href="mailto:office@fhcpresb.org">office@fhcpresb.org</a>             |
| Bookkeeping              | Finance                 | <a href="mailto:finance@fhcpresb.org">finance@fhcpresb.org</a>           |
| Ann Donkin               | Building Mgr.           | <a href="mailto:adonkin@fhcpresb.org">adonkin@fhcpresb.org</a>           |
| Stavros Gazis            | Head Custodian          | <a href="mailto:custodian@fhcpresb.org">custodian@fhcpresb.org</a>       |
| Rev. Dr. Veronica Goines | Co-Pastor               | <a href="mailto:pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org">pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org</a> |
| Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.  | Co-Pastor               | <a href="mailto:pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org">pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org</a>   |
| Peg Weissbrod            | Outreach                | <a href="mailto:pegw@fhcpresb.org">pegw@fhcpresb.org</a>                 |
| Rev. David Wigger        | Family, Youth, Children | <a href="mailto:CE@fhcpresb.org">CE@fhcpresb.org</a>                     |
| Anne Wilson              | Music                   | <a href="mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org">annew@fhcpresb.org</a>               |



***TOWER*** deadline: **8 am** on August 15

**Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257**

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts. OH 44118

216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214

Email: [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) Website: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)

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

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday                        | Saturday                      |
|---|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Regularly scheduled events: meet every week unless noted</b> | 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection<br>7:00 pm AI Anon: Now There's Hope<br>OA Big book Group<br>7:30 pm AA: Borton Group<br>Boy Scout Trp. #403 | 12:00 pm Abundance Pantry<br>5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class | 7:30 am Bible & Bagels<br>12:00 pm Staff Meeting<br>12:30 pm AA: Women's Group | 1:00 pm English Dance<br>4:00 pm ICE vigils<br>Girls Drill Team<br>5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class | 9:30 am AI Anon: Hand in Hand |                               |
| June 30   | July 1   | July 2<br>7:00 pm: Friends of Immigration Meeting                  | July 3   | July 4-Office Closed   | July 5                        | July 6<br>8:00 am Men's Group |
| July 7  | July 8   | July 9<br>6:30 pm: Nominating Committee Meeting                    | July 10<br>7:00 pm Ministry Meeting  | July 11  | July 12                       | July 13                       |
| July 14   | July 15  | July 16  | July 17<br>7:00 pm: TransFamily East Meeting                                   | July 18<br>2:00 pm: Reconnecting God's Creation tour   | July 19                       | July 20                       |
| July 21   | July 22  | July 23  | July 24<br>7:00 pm: Session Meeting  | July 25  | July 26                       | July 27                       |
| July 28<br>2:00 pm: The Group Outing                            | July 29  | July 30  | July 31  |  |                               |                               |
|   |  |  |  |  |                               |                               |

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| July 28   | July 29  | July 30  | July 31  | August 1   | August 2                      | August 3<br>8:00 am: Men's Group       |
| August 4  | August 5   | August 6<br>7:00 pm: Friends of Immigration Meeting                | August 7   | August 8   | August 9                      | August 10<br>7:00 pm: The Group Outing |
| August 11   | August 12  | August 13  | August 14  | August 15  | August 16                     | August 17                              |
| August 18   | August 19  | August 20  | August 21  | August 22  | August 23                     | August 24                              |
| August 25   | August 26  | August 27  | August 28  | August 29  | August 30                     | August 31                              |