

# The Tower Newsletter June 2024



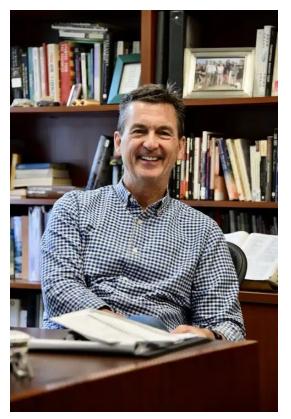
# CONTENTS

WORDS FROM
REV. DR. JOHN C. LENTZ, JR
FAMILY, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN MINISTRY
CHRISTIANITY 101 FOR YOUNG ADULTS
CELEBRATION AND TRIBUTE!
OPEN CALL FOR SINGERS
RACIAL EQUITY BOOK CLUB6
SESSION HIGHLIGHTS
SHARING SESSIONS
2024 RON REGISTER SCHOLARS8
TRANSITIONAL PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE
ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH (ASG)9
DEACONS
90TH BIRTHDAY OF NED EDWARDS10
STEWARDSHIP11
WORSHIP11
EARTH CARE CONGREGATIONS12
SANCTUARY CLEANING
TRANSPLANT HOUSE OF CLEVELAND 5K RUN & 1-MILE WALK
JUSTICE MINISTRY

Cover photo by Kitty McWilliams

#### WORDS FROM REV. DR. JOHN C. LENTZ, JR.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from heaven! Praise God in the heights! Psalm 148:1



I admit it, I am really feeling the countdown to retirement. Or, as I have been calling it, graduation! And it is a graduation, of sorts. You all have taught me so much and I will take it out into the world. Thank you!

This is my antepenultimate *Tower* letter! I have two more Session meetings to moderate. AND, I have only six more sermons to preach. (Inside scoop... Deanne is preaching on July 28!)

Like you, I have anxieties. What do I do on Sunday, August 11?

One of the hardest realities of retirement

from ministry is that Deanne and I can't come worship at Forest Hill Church. I cannot do weddings and funerals. I cannot visit you in the hospital. I cannot take your calls to talk about the church. This is hard for me to write and perhaps hard for you to accept. Furthermore, you shouldn't go to the Transitional Pastor or, in time, your new Installed Pastor and ask them for permission for me to do something, or attend this or that.

Deanne and I were just told by someone at the Presbytery office that we can attend funerals but we should arrive late, sit in the back and leave early; don't mingle.

It seems harsh, but it is for the good of the community.

Your job is to turn towards the new thing that God is doing. My job is to turn towards my new chapter and not to bring confusion or sow unintentional conflict.

If we see each other at the Rec Center, Cumberland Pool, Dave's, Progressive Field, Severance Hall or on the street, OF COURSE we stop and greet and share what is going on in life. We will never stop caring for you all: "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love!" But we shouldn't talk about the church. And, frankly, when you call a new pastor that you are thrilled about, I may not want to hear about how great she is. How young and funny he is. How wonderful their sermons are and how swiftly the Session meetings fly by!!

We will figure it out. Deanne and I are so very grateful to you.

Love to all, John

# FAMILY, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN MINISTRY



Children enjoyed cake and ice cream on Pentecost, the "birthday of the church."

Our youth group gathered for a fun evening of "House Church" to enjoy dinner, a team challenge, and a Pentecost photo scavenger hunt.





A joyous celebration of Pentecost with everyone wearing red!



# CHRISTIANITY 101 FOR YOUNG ADULTS

(under 40-ish) Sunday, June 2, and Sunday, June 9 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (immediately after worship) Lunch and childcare provided

Rev. Lentz will lead two sessions for young adults who are interested in exploring Christianity, faith, and the church. What do you hope to find by becoming involved in a faith community? What are your questions, hesitations, concerns? What things draw you in or keep you at a distance?

Join us for lively discussion in fellowship with others!

Please register here: https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/ef8455

Questions or more info needed? Contact Amy Wheatley, <u>ce@fhcpresb.org</u> Family, Youth, and Children's Ministry



#### **CELEBRATION AND TRIBUTE!**

Save the date! On Saturday, August 3, we will gather in tribute to our beloved pastor, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr. This celebration will feature wonderful music, memorable stories, shared laughter, and lots of love. Congregants and friends can also contribute to a scrapbook that is being assembled to share well wishes and fond memories. Keep your eyes and ears open for further information. You will learn more in the coming weeks.

#### **OPEN CALL FOR SINGERS**

As part of the event on August 3, there will be a musical tribute to John. There is an open call for singers to come and join the Chancel Choir for this tribute service! Rehearsals are on Thursdays, July 25 and August 1, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Please email Ying at <u>music@fhcpresb.</u> org if you are interested!



#### RACIAL EQUITY BOOK CLUB Saturday, June 8, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. via Zoom

#### You Sound Like A White Girl: The Case for Rejecting Assimilation by Julissa Arce

This is an important book that challenges the idea of American exceptionalism with equal parts passion, fury, intimacy, and ignored history. Arce celebrates the Mexican American immigrant experience in all its vibrancy and nuance while fearlessly naming the pain inflicted by American racism, ethnocentrism, and xenophobia.

Persons interested in reading and discussing books that further individual and collective knowledge about racial equity issues are invited to join the discussions. For more information or the Zoom links, email racialequitybuddies@fhcpresb.org.

The First Congregational Church of Hudson (UCC) and the Ministry of Adult Spiritual Growth of Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian, are sponsors of the equity book club and racial equity buddies program.



# **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

The Session of Forest Hill Church met on April 24, 2024. Pastor John Lentz was the Moderator for the meeting.

After opening with prayer, Pastor Lentz called attention to the Vision Statement of Session which had been developed during a retreat earlier in March. The vision statement is:

By 2027, Session will courageously embrace the transition by being: spiritually led, more diverse, fully prepared to serve, living into individual gifts, connecting with and across ministries and communicating openly and actively with congregants, as a Matthew 25 and beloved community.

Moderator Lentz announced that a new person, Jace Holmes, has joined the staff as Bookkeeper.

Session approved elders to represent the church as commissioners at Stated Meetings of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve in meetings throughout the remainder of the year. The church is entitled to send two commissioners to each meeting.

The financial reports dated March 31, 2024 were received by session elders in advance of the meeting.

Twanda Patterson was examined and joyfully received by Session as a new member of the church.

The Personnel Committee recommended two items related to the retirement of Moderator Lentz. Session approved those items. Those items are confidential and not reported here. At the recommendation of the Celebration Committee, Session approved the serving of alcoholic beverages on Saturday, August 3 for the celebration of John's retirement. These will include beer, wine, and champagne.

Pastor Lentz invited elders to share their thoughts on the recent presentation on the results of the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) by Elizabeth Holmes, Holy Cow! Consultants. Elders were thankful for the excellent turnout of congregants for the gathering and the highly professional presentation. The results highlighted the drivers of satisfaction, areas where FHC exceeded benchmarks, and areas where the church fell short in comparison with benchmarks.

Some of the results were complex and challenging for some to fully understand. Other results highlighted areas for growth.

While respondents were generally positive about their levels of satisfaction, elders noted that those who felt negatively about some aspects of their experience at FHC should be heard and their concerns kept in mind. Pastor Lentz noted that ways to move forward are to "tell the stories" about FHC over the past 30 years, communicate more about the work of Session, and move through the transition with the CAT results in mind. Pastor Lentz challenged elders to talk about the CAT results within their ministries and seek ways to respond.

Pastor Lentz reported on those who have agreed, so far, to serve on the Transitional Pastor Search Committee. Elders were asked to volunteer, as well as to provide additional names to fill out the slate. The results of that effort are highlighted elsewhere in this issue.

Strategic priorities for endowment were discussed. Each ministry talked about their plans for use of endowment funding. Final decisions will be made at the next meeting.

The meeting closed with a circle-prayer reflection on the prompt of "Thank you, God, for ... " in Christ's name at 8:56 PM.

Submitted by Elizabeth J. Shaw, Clerk of Session

# **SHARING SESSIONS**

Session wants to hear your anxieties, concerns, questions, and hopes involving John's retirement.

The Elders of Session will be providing several opportunities for the congregation to share at the following times:

• June 2, after the worship service, in person in Bodwell Hall, the Library, and Fellowship Hall, and virtually by Google Meet. (To join the video meeting, click

this link: <u>https://meet.google.com/wni-wivg-sot</u>).

- June 9, after the worship service, inperson only in Fellowship Hall.
- June 10, 7:00 8:00 p.m., virtually only. (To join the video meeting, click this link: <u>https://meet.google.com/riq-hvsh-rhc</u>)

Please join in on one or more sessions.

#### **2024 RON REGISTER SCHOLARS**



Presenters of the award, Rachael L. Evans and Joseph Register, are on the ends. In the middle is Ron Register, for whom the scholarship is named. The recipients of the \$2500 awards are, left to right: Gionni Mitchell and Egypt Sa'ad.

The Ron Register Scholarship is named in honor of FHC's own Ron Register, who served on the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education for 16 years, including four terms as president. Two Cleveland Heights High School graduates were selected to receive awards of \$2,500 this year.

**Gionni Mitchell** is an active Heights student. She holds an exceptional grade point average and was inducted into the National Honor Society in her sophomore year. Her school activities include the Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN), where she has found opportunities to mentor and tutor other students, and the Senior Student Council. She played volleyball for four years and captained the varsity team her senior year. She also ran track and held a part-time restaurant job in her junior and senior year. Her teacher references cite her leadership skills, her commitment to herself and the community and a drive to succeed. Gionni plans a future career in Business, potentially in Real Estate.

Egypt Sa'ad also received the Ron Register In addition to carrying an Scholarship. excellent GPA, Egypt has been extensively involved in activities during her years at Heights. She participated in MSAN for all four years. She was nominated by district leadership to be part of the First Ring Student Leadership Institute during her sophomore and junior years. In addition to playing lacrosse and holding down part-time work, Egypt found time to serve as a school ambassador and mentor for refugee students. Her teacher reference noted her natural leadership skills, strong work ethic and her initiative in helping other students. Egypt plans a career as a criminal defense lawyer.

Dear Scholarship Committee,

I'd like to sincerely thank you for selecting me as a recipient for the 2024 Ronald Register Scholarship. I am beyond blessed to be a part of a school system that continues to support me as I pursue higher education. This scholarship will lighten the financial burden which allows me to focus on the most important aspect of school: learning.

In the fall I plan to pursue my major of Human Resources, possibly double majoring to study Fashion & Retail Studies as well. Ultimately, with the help and guidance I have received, my higher education goals are possible. I too hope to do the same for others in the future.

THANK YOU!

Sincerely, Gionni Mitchell Cleveland Heights High Class of 2024

# TRANSITIONAL PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

We welcome and thank Nicole Lawrence, Dick Obermanns, Adam Majot, Marcie Denton, and Ron Zimmerman who have agreed to serve on the Transitional Pastor Search Committee.

The Transitional Pastor Search Committee is a committee of Session, tasked with finding a pastor who will serve the church and sign a one-year contract with the Session. That contract can be extended, if needed. This committee will seek a pastor whose approach to ministry aligns with the vision and mission of FHC and the ways in which we discern our future.

Although a Transitional Pastor can come from anywhere, it is probable that they will be someone from N.E. Ohio. The Transitional Pastor role does not require a Presbyterian, although probably they will be.

A Transitional Pastor is usually someone

who is retired and has good listening and preaching skills. The task of the Transitional Pastor is to help the congregation get ready for new pastoral leadership.

Please pray for the work of the committee. If you have any questions, you may ask Elizabeth Shaw, the Session Clerk, or a member of the Transitional Pastor Search Committee.

It is hoped that the Transitional Pastor will begin their term here in September.

Note: The committee that will search for the next ordained and installed pastor will come from the church's nominating committee and will be voted on by the congregation. This process will commence sometime before the end of 2024. If you would like to recommend someone to the Nominating Committee please contact: Jeff Smith, Pat Jenkins, Sonji Kenyetta, Adam Majot, and Barb Hansen.

#### **ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH (ASG)**

#### Seeking Facilitators for Bible Fellowship

Community-building and small-group development is important to the congregation. Bible study is a good way to meet that need. Yet, as society has changed, the Ministry of Adult Spiritual Growth (ASG) recognizes it must adapt. Thus, our vision is to develop and provide Bible Fellowship over several days of the week – morning, afternoon, or evening, in person or by Zoom – to allow for scriptural study and community-building.

To do so, we need facilitators to carry out our vision. We are looking for people of all ages. ASG will provide training. Pray, listen to God's

voice and step out in faith by signing up at the following Breeze link to become a facilitator: <u>https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/882f52</u>



# DEACONS

GREEN GRASS and BLUE SKIES! Happy Summer! Together, the Deacons of FHC pray for the grace of God's word to inspire our call to minister to our beloved community. The Deacon ministry seeks to serve by offering comfort, care, and fellowship through monthly Care Groups.

Special thanks to monthly Care Group leaders: Mary Ann Breisch for March, Deanne Lentz for April, and Nate Martin for May. Fellowship Hall is filling up after services and it is great fun to see everyone gathered! Special thanks to our custodial staff for their strong support. Looking ahead to summer, the Care Groups will include John Dugard for June (Jordan), Gail Larson for July (Jerusalem), and Consuelo Heineman for August (Mt. Sinai).

As part of diversity, equity, and inclusion, each ministry was asked to write a mission statement. We frequently reflect on the words and meaning of this statement and use it to inform our discussions and planning.

#### DEACON MISSION STATEMENT

The Deacons are called to express God's love to the Beloved Community, our fellow worshippers, and guests of all ages, races, genders, and beliefs, through care, welcome and fellowship activities. By intentionally honoring the differing needs and preferences of our diverse congregation, we commit to racial equity and ways to welcome, value and include our entire faith community.

Thanks be to God for multiplying our gifts and opportunities as a Matthew 25 community!

Deacon Kay Dunlap, Elder

#### SAVE THE DATE OF SEPTEMBER 8th for our annual congregational Fall Festival!

Plans are underway, and we welcome all and any assistance! Contact Kay Dunlap (<u>deacons@fhcpresb.org</u>) if you would like to help.



#### 90TH BIRTHDAY OF NED EDWARDS

FHC's former pastor, Ned Edwards, is turning 90 on June 20! If you would like to send him a card, please mail it to:

Ned Edwards 5233 Crystal Drive Beulah, MI 49617



# STEWARDSHIP

#### **Feeling Each Others' Warmth**

As spring rolls into a warm Cleveland summer, so many of us in the Forest Hill congregation look forward to time spent in fellowship. Like our garden plants turning toward the sun, we turn toward each other. Fun is afoot, and so is ministry work.

Once again, there are new testimony videos featuring your fellow congregants available for you. Jack Breisch and Ed Gemerchak celebrate providing hospitality for each other. José Luis Claure Villarroel talks of the importance of having a community of faith. Jim and Kay Hogg speak of sharing talents.

The testimonial videos are posted on our web site and on YouTube. A new crop of videos is in the offing. We'll send weekly reminders when new faces appear. In the meantime,



use this link or the OR code here to visit the landing page for all the videos.

And, if you haven't yet had a chance to submit your commitment form for 2024, you can return the envelope that came in that

If you are interested in being a lay reader for worship, please contact Linda Martin at martin3386@ameritech.net or (216) 280-4049. If you wish to assist in serving communion, contact Jeanette Nemcek at jet0830@aol.com or (216) 789-6740.

To contribute flowers for Sunday worship, use this form: https://fhc.breezechms.com/ form/641db7701127776329





Forest Hill Church

WINDOWS OPEN **TO JERUSALEM**, **ON OUR KNEES PRAYING, GIVING** THANKS TO GOD. (based on Daniel 6:10)

2024

Online 2024 Annual **Gift Commitment** www.fhcpresb.org

mailing or <u>click here</u> to submit your form electronically. And don't forget to keep up with that commitment over the summer. We may take a break, but the important ministries that our financial commitments support don't. Your gift is so important to what we do together!

We are, as always, honored to work alongside vou.

Keith Logan, Elder

(stewardship@fhcpresb.org)

Kim Hill, Jenny Himmelman, Jean Reinhold, and Peter Williams, Elected Leaders

#### **WORSHIP**

#### Lay Readers for June

June 2: Dean Sieck June 9: Karen Loughridge June 16: Leslie Clement Iune 23: Nathaniel Martin June 30: Jean Reinhold



# EARTH CARE CONGREGATIONS



#### Getting the Lead Out

We are familiar with the problems experienced a few years ago (and still) with lead in the water supply in

Flint, Michigan. Unfortunately, this is but one example. Many of our cities, both urban and rural areas with older homes and municipal infrastructure, contain lead in pipelines, as well as other sources like house paint, which decays over time. Lead dust debris can be ingested. Lead-contaminated drinking water has been shown in several medical studies in children to be linked to permanent intellectual disabilities and behavioral disorders.

Additional sources of lead that people may not be aware of include small airplane use of leaded gasoline and steel production. These two usages generate toxic air pollutants, and industrial lead pollution directly affects under-privileged communities living close to the source. Earthjustice has confronted the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), who is primarily responsible for oversight of safe drinking water, to enforce and strengthen actions to tackle the lead problem:

- replacing deteriorated lead pipelines through monies provided by the 2021 infrastructure Inflation Reduction Act. For example, Newark, NJ, has already replaced nearly all of its 23,000 lead service lines.
- creating a rule that any amount of lead dust in homes, schools, and daycares is hazardous and must be removed
- adopting of regulations for leaded aviation gasoline
- adoption of new rules regarding toxic emissions from steel mills.

Despite these positive actions, there continues to be legislative opposition to regulations which are thought by some to enhance governmental interference and control. The EPA is a governmental agency engaging in environmental responsibility, and is deserving of our support.

Dave Neff, Earth Care Leader



# SANCTUARY CLEANING

Have you noticed how the sanctuary sparkles now? With a lot of effort and elbow grease, a dedicated group of women have been scrubbing the pews and sanctuary of scuff marks, pencil marks, grime, etc. They have put in more than 40 hours of cleaning.

Thank you to Nancy Grube, Kris Fay, Dene Young, Nancy Burcham, and Margie Ravas for your hard work and dedication to making our sanctuary clean and beautiful!

#### TRANSPLANT HOUSE OF CLEVELAND 5K RUN & 1-MILE WALK

Members and friends of all ages are invited to join Forest Hill's team as we walk to support Transplant House of Cleveland (THOC) and to celebrate the "Gift of Life" on Sunday, June 9th. The 5K run/1 mile walk begins at 8:30 am at THOC and winds through University Circle.

Transplant House of Cleveland is a local nonprofit, which provides affordable, temporary housing and a welcoming, supportive community to organ transplant patients and their families. THOC, located in University Circle, is under the leadership of FHC's own Elaine Turley (co-founder and Executive Director) and is truly an example of the healing power of community.

Please notify Sue Lafferty if you would like to

join the Team or if you have any questions. We will coordinate car pooling from Forest Hill on the day of the event.

Team members will need to complete the online registration form on Transplant House's website OR complete and mail <u>this</u> <u>registration form</u>. Our team name is Forest Hill Walkers. Entry fee is \$30 per entrant in advance/\$35 day of the race. All team members will receive a T-shirt. Registration forms will also be available at church.

Can't run or walk but would still like to Support Transplant House of Cleveland? You may:

Write a check to Transplant House of Cleveland and mail it to: 2029 E. 115th St., Cleveland, OH 44106

Give online via this link: <u>https://www.</u> <u>transplanthouseofcleveland.org/5k-run-1-</u> <u>mile-walk/</u> where there is a DONATE button at the top of the page.



#### **JUSTICE MINISTRY**

#### TRUSTEES

#### **Community Grants**

In 2023, the Justice Ministry revised community grants and that process will continue in 2024. We are asking Forest Hill Church members to nominate organizations to receive Community Grant funding. There are three levels of funding (\$500, \$1000 and \$3000), and we anticipate that close to \$28,000 in grant funds will be distributed.

To nominate a nonprofit organization for funding through the Forest Hill Church Community Grants, please complete <u>the form</u> <u>at this link</u>. Nominations must be submitted by Friday, June 7, 2024.

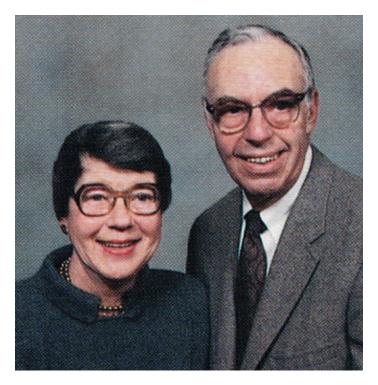
FHC members who nominate an organization to receive support must be sure to discuss this nomination with the organization prior to submitting this form. Please note that no member may nominate an organization at which they or a family member are employed. FHC Community Grant reviewers may nominate an organization, but they must recuse themselves from discussion or decision-making about that nomination. These grants may be for general operating or a specific project or activity.

We anticipate that nominated organizations will be shared on our website and through other communication methods, so we can grow our knowledge about the wonderful work happening in our communities. We anticipate that organizations that receive a grant will share their work with us in other ways, as well—perhaps via a visit, a brief report, a Zoom learning opportunity, or other structures to help us learn from the grantees and their work. Decluttering FHC continues room by room. Next up...the JIN ROOM!

Please help in the effort to identify materials stored here as the space is overloaded with mystery goods. If you, your ministry, committee or social group are storing things in the Jin Room, we need you to mark everything with a post-it note if you wish it to remain. (Pads will be on the counter top.) Unclaimed or unuseful items not useful any longer will be on the FREE TABLE in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you,

The Trustees

The Jin Room was a gift of the Eisenbrown family, husband Richard and sons Stephen, Peter and Robert, after the passing of Mai Jean "Jin" Eisenbrown in 2004. We give thanks for this wonderful gift.



#### PRESBYTERY FIELD TRIP TO THE ART MUSEUM

#### Thursday, June 6, at 2:30 p.m. and Sunday, June 9, at 2:30 p.m.

Visit the Africa and Byzantium Exhibit at the Cleveland Museum of Art with the Presbytery of the Western Reserve! Bring a neighbor or two, a group from your church, or come by yourself and make a new friend. The Presbytery is planning visits for the afternoons of Thursday, June 6, and Sunday June 9, both at 2:30 p.m. Discount tickets are \$10 each for a group of ten or more. Museum members can see the exhibit for free but must have a ticket for crowd control purposes. If the service is available at the time of our visit, they will also offer a docent-led tour. Transportation to and from the Museum is not provided, but carpooling from church would be a great idea.

If you are interested in joining this event, please complete the form at <u>https://www.preswesres.org/artmuseum</u>.

Read more about the exhibit here: <u>https://</u> <u>www.clevelandart.org/exhibitions/africa-</u> <u>byzantium</u>.





#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS 4.0**

#### A Multicultural Celebration and Fundraiser Saturday, June 15, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Through the generous support of our donors, AMIS, Inc., has provided more than \$300,000 of support, hope and a sense of community to Northeast Ohio families with roots in over 26 countries, including The Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Mexico, Bulgaria, Honduras, Jordan, Burkina Faso, Afghanistan, Guatemala, Venezuela, Nicaragua, and many more.

Experience a night of cultural exchange through food, music, and community. Savor culinary traditions from diverse regions at global food stations. Enjoy music and food showcasing the rich cultures of AMIS families. And most importantly, connect with one another in a spirit of community and fellowship. Tickets may also be purchased to sponsor a newcomer guest.

Location: BurkleHagen Studio 1717 East 36th Street Cleveland, OH 44114

Please register at this link: <u>https://amisohio.</u> <u>org/cultural-connections-2024/</u>.

# SUNRISE YOGA AND MUSIC

#### Sundays, June 9 and 16, 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.

Join us for "Sunrise Yoga and Music" in the courtyard. These sessions are for all ages, and we encourage everybody who is interested to come.

Chairs will be provided for those who prefer to sit down. Please bring your own mats for those that prefer to be on the ground. Childcare can be provided.

A donation to Virginia Weiss's practice is appreciated!

Please register at this link: <u>https://fhc.</u> <u>breezechms.com/form/sunriseyoga</u>



#### **BUILDING RENTAL**

The church is available for your next baby shower, family celebration, concert or conference! Fellowship Hall seats 200, and there are smaller spaces available as well. There are two kitchens, custodial help and free parking! The possibilities for your event are endless. Fees adjust for members and non-members.

Contact Laura Schultz for more information, or fill out the request form here: <u>https://fhc.</u> <u>breezechms.com/form/9894b2</u>.

# ADOPT A GARDEN

We thank Jim and Pat Seeders for their years of service and keeping the gardens beautiful!

Now, we are proposing an "Adopt a Garden" program to maintain the gardens at the church. If you are interested in adopting one or more garden areas, please contact Gary Lustic (216-371-2084 or galustic@gmail. com).

#### **Responsibilities include:**

- Clean out and prune your garden in the spring. If you get your area cleaned out before spring cleanup day, we can schedule the Boy Scout Troop to spread mulch.
- Work your garden twice per month, weeding and keeping things trimmed. If you have a group of four, you could have two people work one time each month.
- Some areas might have large pots which could be planted with annuals in the late spring.
- Clean out and prune your garden in the fall. Again, scheduling your entire group would make this manageable.

The church will budget for all supplies: mulch, yard bags and any plant materials. We recommend bringing your own garden tools.

If you want to submit a whole gardening team to support a garden, that would be a green "thumbs up!"



#### KEMP JAYCOX SUSTAINABILITY GARDEN

John's words in his sermon on the morning of May 19, 2024, were prescient of what took place outside of the church doors right after the service. To paraphrase John: Preparation, patience, and people in community together is when the spirit is released. There is abundant power and abundant energy in that moment. Preparation, timing and meeting the moment produce miracles.

It was surely a miracle that the hard work, preparation, and patience of many was rewarded. It was surely a miracle that the weather was beautiful, that Kemp was able to join us for the dedication, and that his friends from college were there to celebrate with him.

After the service, members of Forest Hill Church walked out through our red front doors and proceeded out to the circular garden at the corner of Lee Road and Monticello Boulevard. Kemp Jaycox was the guest of honor for this dedication of the garden. For all those present, it was a gift to see Kemp roll down the sidewalk and up onto the lawn



Nicole Mayer, Cullen Howe, and Chad Mayer with Kemp Jaycox



to view the garden that was redesigned with plants native to northeastern Ohio. Why plant native? The plants are easier to care for, provide food and shelter for wildlife, and help to restore the ecosystem.

Kemp has long been an advocate for the environment; through high school, college, and graduate school and then in his professional life as well. He eventually turned from reactive work to proactive work and focused on projects that would benefit the environment, such as renewable energy and sustainability. In addition, Kemp and Steve Sedam co-taught a class at FHC called "Reconnecting with God's Creation" five times.

Last fall, Gary and Julie Lustic and Steve Sedam planted over 100 native perennials in this garden, many donated by FHC member Dick Obermanns. Kemp was involved in the whole process and received updates and pictures as we worked. It was a heartfelt dedication to a well-deserving man, who has overcome challenges and still participates in improving our environment. The dedication plaque reads, "Kemp Jaycox Sustainability Garden" and will be permanently placed soon. Thanks to all who participated in making this a reality. It was truly the gift of the spirit at the corner of Lee and Monticello on this particular May morning!

# WORSHIP IN JUNE

# **Remember!**

Summer worship begins at 10:00 a.m. from June 2 through September 1

Due to the busy summer schedule, worship will sometimes be outside and sometimes inside.

- June 2 OUTDOOR WORSHIP on the front steps. Dr. Lentz preaching.
- June 9 INDOOR WORSHIP with Baptism! Dr. Lentz preaching.
- June 16 OUTDOOR WORSHIP on the front steps. Rev. Shannon Garrett-Doege preaching.
- June 23 OUTDOOR WORSHIP on the front steps. Dr. Lentz preaching.
- June 30 WORSHIP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL led by Rev. Sally Wile and Mary Ann Breisch

You won't want to miss any of the worship services this summer. Summer is a great time to bring friends!

# SUMMER SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN

When worship is outdoors, children of all ages join their families on our front lawn. Bring your chairs and blankets! There will be a special area for our youngest children and their families with sand, water, and bubbles for play.

When worship is indoors, childcare is provided for children, ages birth to 5 years, from 9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. in Rooms 201/203. Older children (ages 6+) join their families for worship in the sanctuary.



- June 1 Nicole Lawrence
- June 3 Scott Lafferty
- June 3 Joy Stang
- June 4 Laura Schultz
- June 4 Dick Secor
- June 6 Kiva Bohanon
- June 6 Cindy Newton
- June 6 Lara Troyer
- June 7 Jon Adams
- June 7 Gary Lustic

- BIRTHDAYS
- June 7 Karen Parker
- June 8 Marius Juodisius
- June 8 Nancy Lyon-Stadler
- June 9 Linn Obery
- June 9 Suzanne Seifert
- June 13 Beverly Thomas
- June 14 Michael Broadwater
- June 16 Vikki Nowak
- June 17 Kathy Cameron
- June 17 Nancy Jamieson

- June 19 Jake Ezell
- June 20 Carrie Fister
- June 20 Virginia Weiss
- June 22 Lane Baldwin
- June 22 Chris Chapman
- June 22 Chris Chapma
- June 23 Ann Donkin
- June 24 Doris Bartlett
- June 24 Marge Thomas
- June 28 Rachel Martinez-Finn
- June 29 Jane Frederick

# CALENDAR

## June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 am - Pride Parade
2 11:15 am - Christianity 101 11:15 am - Sharing Sessions 5:00 pm - Talent Show	3	4	5 7:00 pm - Personnel Committee	6	7	8 10:00 am - Fiber and Fellowship 10:30 am - Racial Equity Book Club
9 9:00 am - Sunrise Yoga and Music 11:15 am - Christianity 101 11:15 am - Sharing Sessions	10 7:00 pm - Sharing Sessions (virtual)	11 7:00 pm - Church Growth Meeting	12 5:00 pm - Eastside Citizens Empowerment Foundation 6:00 pm - Justice Ministry 7:00 pm - Ministry Meetings	13 7:00 pm - Forest Hills Homeowners Association Meeting	14	15 3:00 pm - Cher Liu Student Recital
16 Father's Day 9:00 am - Sunrise Yoga and Music	17	18	19 Juneteenth - Office Closed	20	21	22 2:00 pm - Baker Graduation Party
roga and music			<ul> <li>Culture Camp</li> </ul>			rurty
23 Labre Ministry at North Church 11:15 am - Linger a While with Dave Neff	24	25	26 7:00 pm - Session Meeting	27 5:45 pm - Excell Parents Meeting	28	29
30						
Regularly scheduled events meet every week unless noted	8:00 am - Bulletin and email deadline 6:00 pm - AA: Progress Not Perfection 7:00 pm - Al- Anon: Now There's Hope 7:30 pm - AA: Borton Group	10:30 am - Abundance Food Pantry 6:30 pm - Transitional Pastor Search Committee	7:30 am - Bible & Bagels (virtual) 12:00 pm - Staff Meeting - AA: Wed. Women's Group 6:00 pm - AA: Four Absolutes	1:00 pm - English Country Dance 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts	9:30 am - Al- Anon: Hand in Hand 5:00 pm - Praying with Others 6:30 pm - Scottish Country Dance	

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Rev. Dr. John Lentz, Jr.	Pastor	pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org
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Antoinette Richardson	Community Engagement Manager	office@fhcpresb.org
Laura Schultz	Digital Communications Manager	churchadmin@fhcpresb.org
Jace Holmes	Bookkeeper	finance@fhcpresb.org
Ann Donkin	Building Manager	adonkin@fhcpresb.org
Custodians		custodian@fhcpresb.org
Rev. Carol Wedell	Parish Associate	

#### 3031 Monticello Blvd. Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

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Custodians' cell phone: 216-217-5257

Email: <a href="mailto:churchadmin@fhcpresb.org">churchadmin@fhcpresb.org</a>

Website: www.fhcpresb.org

#### Deadline for the July Tower: 9:00 a.m. on June 20, 2024 Deadline for The Week Ahead email: 9:00 a.m. every Monday

#### **Giving Options**

Friends of FHC, you may give monetary gifts or donations by texting 216-400-5300, or see the online giving options at <u>fhcpresb.org/give</u>. You may also mail a check to the church bookkeeper (3031 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118).