



Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 26, NO. 9

April, 2016

April Worship and Second Hour Adult Studies

April 3 *Knowing Jesus* John 20:19-31

Topic Study: Led by Valencia McMillan

Yoga Class and Soup & Salad Lunch

Join us for 2nd hour on Sunday April 3rd and experience a beginners yoga class with Instructor Shirley Pastore McCormack, MA, CYT. Learn the history of yoga and what the "8 Limbs" are, and how this practice is used as a mindful spiritual discipline.

Classes will be taught with all levels in mind; on the floor, standing and/or sitting.

If you plan on floor yoga please bring a yoga or exercise mat.

A soup lunch will be served after the session.

If you're interested in participating please advise the church office by April 1, 2016.

Hope to see you there!

Bible Study with Joe—Led by Joe LaGuardia (every Sunday)

The group will continue (through May) its discussion of the book by Brian McLaren: We Make the Road by Walking. Everyone is welcome.

April 10 *Loving Jesus* John 21:1-19

Topic Study

Elizabeth Lesser, Take "the Other" to lunch

Elizabeth Lesser is the co-founder of Omega Institute, the US' largest lifelong learning center focusing on health, wellness, spirituality, creativity and social change.

April 17 *Believing Jesus* John 10:22-30

Topic Study

John Francis: Walk the earth...my 17 year view of silence

John Francis walks the Earth, carrying a message of careful, truly sustainable development and respect for our planet. (in celebration of Earth Day)

April 24 *Following Jesus* John 13:1,31-35

Topic Study

Gerald Casey The Gospel of Doubt

Casey Gerald chronicles the current state of the American Dream and explores ways to sustain it for a new generation.

Moderator's Musings

We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith.
1 Thessalonians 3:2

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! The joyous message of Easter is fresh in our hearts and minds. It gives purpose to our days and fills us with hope for the future. We have been busy during the season of Lent, but now we are encouraged to move forward with even greater enthusiasm in the days to come.

We are delighted to be welcoming Ben Malkevitch to our staff as our Interim Director of Music and look forward to sharing God's gifts of music under his leadership. We anticipate that his arrival will open a wonderful new chapter in the illustrious music ministry that HCC has enjoyed throughout the years!

As we conclude our quarter of exploring the stewardship of self with our yoga and spirituality session in early April, we enter into the final quarter of our stewardship year where the emphasis is stewardship of the gospel. I have to admit that this one is a greater challenge to me than the past quarters where we have lived out stewardship of God's earth, stewardship of financial resources and stewardship of self as part of God's creation. How can we expand our mission to embrace stewardship of the gospel? In what ways can we become "Timothys" to one another and the wider community in spreading the gospel to strengthen and encourage one another in our faith? Do you have an idea? Is there an area of mission in which you feel HCC could make an impact? If so, I would love to hear from you. I believe we are poised to move forward into new mission opportunities. The sky is the limit! Let's find opportunities that resonate with us and step out boldly in stewardship of the gospel!

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

Jane



... From your Prayer Ministry

Spring has arrived. It brings with it a feeling of rebirth, new life, restored strength, a new found belief that we can and will overcome all obstacles in our way. It is also a time when we give thanks for bringing us through the dark cold days of winter.

We come to God in prayer, most often when we are in need of help in one fashion or another. We also pray to give thanks for the blessings that have been bestowed upon us. The scriptures tell us "Keep on asking and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking and the door will be opened. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks finds. And the door is opened to everyone who knocks." Matthew 7:7-8.

Here is a spring time prayer: "There is real wisdom, Lord, in the adage, it is always springtime in the heart that loves God. Springtime is a season of optimism and hope and the Christian lives a faith centered on hope. Winter, with its cold dark days has gone, just as Good Friday has passed to Easter and beyond. We live a resurrection life reflected in the new life springing up around us.

Thank you Lord for the hope that you bring, that renewal that you bring, both to this world and to our hearts and lives."

You are always in our prayers

May God bless and keep you, Written by Larry Watson

BECAUSE YOU CARE

Illness-Surgery-Hospitalization

Allen Crowley	Jesse Hall	C.D./Lois Clark	Shirley Reading	Lisa Peabody
Mary Rogers	Joe Feudi	Janelle Eccleston	Patty Monroe	Alma G. Jones
"Cas" Castleberry	Lyubov Nikolenko	Henry Sharpley	Nancy Wilson	Dorothy Mathis
Peggy Yeager	Joe/Barbara Tolley	Sidney Mallory	Merle Passell	Paul/Shirley Hummel

Fellowship Ministry Team Report

The Hospitality committee thanks everyone who has provided snacks for coffee hour. The first two Sundays in April are taken care of but we need people starting April 17. Sign-up sheets are on the lamp table, in Campbell Room by the hallway entrance door.

GIANT Garage Sale

Saturday, April 9—9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



We are anticipating a "GIANT" turnout for our annual sale and count on you to help us get the word out to your family, friends and neighbors.

Items are needed for the Tiffany and church tables and small furniture items are welcomed. We can use it all!

You know the drill . . . Volunteers are needed for each section to set-up on Friday evening and during the day of the sale.

Tables are still available for \$25 each. Contact Andrena Sharp at 216.848.0108 or call the church office at 216.561.4800 to reserve a table.

Coming up in May

HCC Annual Meeting—May 22



After church we'll share a potluck meal, hear this year's Peace Award winner, and celebrate the past, present, and future of our church. Its also time to prepare annual reports. It would be helpful for you to send your report to the office via e-mail. A word document is okay, or you can include your report in the body of the e-mail. Please email them to kese.hcc@sbcglobal.net. **ALL Reports are DUE Monday, May 2**

Moving Ahead in Ministry



We thought you would be interested in knowing that our candidate for Ordination, Minister Michele L. Moreland, completed a two-day conference at the Ashland University Convocation Center on March 1-2, 2016. The conference was about *When Faith Hurts: Understanding, Recognizing and Responding to the Physical, Emotional and Spiritual Impact of Child Maltreatment*. These are areas for compassionate ministry about which all of our Ministers are concerned. These forms of spiritual suffering affect children in urban and non-urban congregations and communities. A number of topics were covered that fit into our mission to extend God's care in our community and the world.

Missions Ministry Team Report

Outreach: The Outreach grant committee will review recent grant requests in April. Andrena Sharp, representing Heights Christian Church's outreach, together with a team of volunteers from Disciples Christian Church provided Easter dinner to the homeless families at Elizabeth Baptist Church.

CWF, Outreach, and Peace and Justice committees' project: Thank you Heights Christian Church for your generous donations to the Refugee school supplies. The supplies will be sent to Church World Services in April.

Peace and Justice: The first dialogue group has begun at Heights Christian Church. Another group will start at Stephanie Tubbs Jones community building in April. Green Briar will also host a dialogue group. Watch for more information about dates and times.



Green Chalice: The Care Team met on Sunday, March 20th. Many activities are being planned.

Gardens: It is that time of the year again. We are blessed to have Susan Buddenbaum who graciously agreed to be the coordinating person for our community gardens. If you'd like to grow your own vegetables, contact the church office or go online at www.heightscc.org/index.php/outreach/daefor community garden (where forms are available).

The Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF)

March 30 to April 10 2016



HCC members and their associated organizations are **Community Sponsors for 2 of the films. Make plans to attend!**

Achievement Centers for Children (Debbie Osgood/Grace Loudenstein) will sponsor the documentary *Right Footed*.

April 2 & 3 Discount Code: ACC.

God Before Guns (Kris and David Eggert) will sponsor the new documentary film *91%: A Film About Guns in America*.

April 7, 8 & 9 Discount Code: GBG

Both screenings will be held at Tower City. More information may be found at www.clevelandfilm.org Tickets may also be purchased online or by calling 877.304.3456.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
11:30 a.m. Education Hour

(Nursery & Preschool care provided)

STAFF

Minister *Rev. Roger D. Osgood*
Assistant Minister *Rev. Michele Moreland*
Minister of Outreach *Rev. Joan Brown Campbell*
Interim Director of Music *Ben Malkevitch*
Director of Gospel Music *Willie J. Wright, Jr.*
Office Manager *Kese Webb*
Facilities Coordinator *Mike Faust*
Childcare *Rosie Scott*

OFFICERS

Moderator *Jane Troha*
Vice Moderator *Valencia McMillan*
Secretary *Grace Loudenstein*
Treasurer *Neil Chase*
Assistant Treasurers *Michael Singerman*
 Jim Donald

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Children's Corner

Church Camps at Camp Christian

Rabbit Camp: Grades: 2, 3, 4 July 6-9

For parents who want a shorter camp experience for their children

You Pay \$140 + HCC scholarship \$60 = Total \$200

Otter Camp: Grades: 3, 4, 5 June 26-July 2

Chi Rho Camps: Grades: 6, 7, 8
June 12-18 July 17-23 July 31-Aug. 6

CYF Conference: Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
June 19-25 July 10-16 July 24-30



Otter, Chi Rho & CYF Conference

You Pay \$250 + HCC scholarship \$120 = Total \$370

EARLY BIRD RATE ONLY—IN BY MAY 1ST

Children's Education Committee are making scholarships available for all HCC families

Registration Forms are available in the church office or you may go online at www.ccinoh.com.

All registration forms should be returned to the church for the minister's signature. The church staff will mail all registration forms. If additional financial assistance is needed for camp fees, a scholarship application is also available. Please fill it out and submit it to the regional office.

Rosalind Powell's Labyrinth Presentation on February 28th

Labyrinthian Ways

*Yesterday I walked the labyrinth
Traced path on canvas covering the floor
Church Meeting Hall transformed.
Mystical wordless moment spoke
Welcome so warm I shed tears
And knew at once I had arrived
At a place I know by heart
Promise of challenge and possibility.*

*Other pilgrims walked the path.
Silently we made our way
In to the center and out again
All moving, breathing, stepping wide
To let each other pass on narrow curves
As one people. With joy I laughed
To understand we are community
Joined in wide world by love.*

Ina Hart

