



Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 26, NO. 10

May, 2015

WORSHIP IN MAY

May 3

Joe LaGuardia will be preaching: "From Winter to Spring" - Psalm 22:25-31
Pastor Roger and Debbie will be out town for the Pittsburgh Marathon.

May 10—Mother's Day

"Even on [insert name of group here]" - Acts 10:44-48

May 17

"So That We May Know" - Ephesians 1:15-23

May 24—Pentecost

You are invited to wear red to match the red geraniums that will fill the chancel as we celebrate the birth of the church through the power of the Holy Spirit. Geraniums can be ordered by filling out the bulletin insert or by calling the church office at 216.561.4800.

May 31

Come celebrate as the youth of this year's Pastor's class are baptized.



Memorial Day Parade—May 25

We invite everyone to participate with us in Shaker's Memorial Day Parade. We are looking for volunteers to wear our colorful puppets, and others - young and not so young - to march in the parade and toss candy to the spectators. The parade will travel east on Van Aken from City Hall to Thornton Park. Please email the church office at kese.hcc@sbcglobal.net, or let Pastor Roger or Donita Singerman know if you can join us. It's a great opportunity to wear our HCC T-shirts and promote our church.

Coming up in June

June 7 HCC Annual Meeting—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 Tuesday, May 26.**

June 14 TTB Community Choir Concert—4:00 p.m.

GREEN CHALICE NEWS



Is your collection of plastic shopping bags growing and threatening to overwhelm you? Please feel free to donate them to a good cause. This summer at the General Assembly, Disciples Women's Ministries is helping Disciples Youth turn them into crocheted plastic sleeping mats for the homeless. We can help by creating balls of "plarn;" plastic yarn made from plastic bags. HCC's Creation Care team will be planning opportunities to make plarn and/or teach you how to do so at home. For now, start saving those bags.



Along The Path . . .



As the church program year winds down there is still lots going on at HCC that you won't want to miss: Joe LaGuardia preaching on May 3, baptisms on May 24 and 31, the Shaker Memorial Day parade, and our annual meeting on June 7 where we'll hear from our Peace Award winner and celebrate our 85th year as The Heights Christian Church. See you in church!

Roger

...from your Prayer Ministry

How many books have been written --- and have we read (!) on "How to Improve Your Self Esteem"?

"...Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan. As he was coming out of the water, ...a voice came from heaven saying : You are my Son, the Beloved" (Mk. 1:9b-11)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God.

... All things came into being through him and without him not one thing came into being." (Jn 1: 1-3)

In his book *Being the Beloved*, Henri Nouwen describes how his life experiences led him to realize that **we too**, are "**The Beloved**". We came into being through Him who was the Word, and God declares to us every day: "*You are my Beloved.*"

It's so much easier to listen to those inner voices that keep whispering " You are a sham ... a fraud"..."People like you but if they knew the truth"... "There you went again and used harsh, critical and judgmental words." You're the Great Pretender!" Accepting those negative terms often feels a lot easier than thinking of Belovedness!

But in truth, you ARE the Beloved! Perhaps what friendship and community are about is "giving to each other the gift of our Belovedness." Nouwen, p.31



We, at HCC stated together that our mission is Building Community. What better building blocks can we offer than the sharing of our mutual "Belovedness." ? What would happen to our world if there were a movement to begin looking at each other with eyes that seek out the "Beloved" nature of each person, regardless of their cultural background, education, personality, sexual preference, physical appearance, capability, etc.?

Let's use the month of May to begin thinking of each other—and ourselves, by the way,—as being the Beloved. Try it on—see how it feels—but begin with yourself and then turn to others with this gift.

... 'Til next time, let's together pray for this insight

BECAUSE YOU CARE **Illness-Surgery-Hospitalization**

Jesse Hall	Shirley Reading	C.D./Lois Clark	Paul/Shirley Hummel
Mary Rogers	Henry Sharpley	Grace Loudenstein	Liz Perdue
Lyubov Nikolenko	Lisa Peabody	Jim/Sue Millward	Rita Brady
Leo/Chris Ramirez	Alma G. Jones	Nancy Wilson	Scott Lemmon
Cas Castleberry	Patty Monroe	Samarra States	Joe Freudi
Joe/Barbara Tolley	Dorothy Mathis	Janelle Eccleston	

Children's Corner

CHURCH CAMPS AT CAMP CHRISTIAN

Ribbit Camp: Grades: 2, 3, 4

June 7-June 10

For parents who want a shorter camp experience for their children. You Pay \$140 + HCC scholarship \$65 = Total \$200

Otter Camp Grades: 3, 4, 5

June 21-27

Chi Rho Camps Grades: 6, 7, 8

June 7-13 June 28-July 4 July 24-18

CYF Conference: Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

June 14-20 July 5-11 July 26-Aug. 1

Otter, Chi Rho & CYF Conference: You Pay \$250 + HCC scholarship \$120 = Total \$370

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.

ATTENTION GRADUATES!



If you are graduating from high school or college, please take a moment to let the church office know your name, major, and future plans.

Please call the office or email us at kese.hcc@sbcglobal.net.

COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS

The HCC community Garden has a limited number of plots available for this growing season. If you'd like to grow your own fresh vegetables (or know someone who would) contact the church office or go online at www.heightscc.org/index.php/outreach/daleford_community_garden (where forms are available).



MODERATORS MEMO MAY, 2015



WOW! We made it through another garage sale with the help of the "volunteering congregation of the year" – YOU!

Every time I turn around, the outpouring of effort from the members of HCC astounds me. All you need is a clear purpose and you are off and running.

And sorry for any roadblocks that get in your way – you go through, around or over/under obstacles as if they did not exist. Congrats to your garage sale leaders – Andrena, Scott and Donita.

It is this CAN DO attitude that has kept this church going. In spite of problems, like an aging and reduced membership, you operate as if you were many members more.

Yet, truth be told, we are changing. We have new responsibilities with the Campbell Court bequest at the same time that our existing endowment is being used up supporting expenses. Campbell Court funds are for new efforts, not current operating expenses. Balancing these conflicting needs requires new ideas. The change in organizational structure Jane will lead you with next year is an important step in keeping mission ahead of meetings.

Look for HCC to lead the pack in trying new things. We are advocating building community and have set up a structure to handle investments, mission funding and mission advocacy. We have new ideas started (like the community choir) and in the pipeline (like Time Banking). Our existing missions still need you support, and our giving needs to continue to grow to replace endowment spending.

Time and time again you have proven to be the CAN DO community. A focused HCC will continue to overcome obstacles and the greater community will be better for your efforts.

Yours in Christ,
Mike S.

T-SHIRT WEATHER IS HERE!

Did you notice? Blue short sleeve tees were visible at the garage sale. And they had an HCC logo. Did you wear yours? Do you have one?

Well let's fix that and make you are one of the HCC T-Shirt people. For a small donation of \$15 (\$14 for children) you can add this collector's item to your wardrobe. Just see me next Sunday with your check and I'll fix you up.

Yours in HCC-wear - Mike S

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*
Minister of Outreach *Rev. Joan Brow Campbell*
Director of Music *Dale Hukill*
Director of Gospel Music *Willie J. Wright, Jr.*
Office Administrator *Kese Webb*
Facilities Coordinator *Mike Faust*
Childcare *Rosie Scott*

OFFICERS

Moderator *Mike Singerman*
Vice Moderator *Jane Troha*
Secretary *Grace Loudenstein*
Asst. Secretary *Karen McKeehan*
Treasurer *Neil Chase*
Assistant Treasurers *Jim Donald*
 Shirley Reading

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IN CELEBRATION OF HCC'S 85TH ANNIVERSARY



DID YOU KNOW.....that the Elegant Flea Thrift Shop housed at our church began 35 years ago in 1985. It was the idea of Frannie Millward who was our Youth Minister at that time. She had started thrift shops in other churches where she had worked as a way to increase outreach giving for the church. The goals she established were three fold:

- ◆ It enabled the recycling of usable goods.
- ◆ The money raised went for designated outreach causes and youth programming.
- ◆ It enabled the church to give material goods to the poor as situations and needs were presented.

A contest was held to name the shop. Sally Donald sent in the winning name, "The Elegant Flea." A part of the Youth Center was petitioned off to make a room for the shop with easy access right by the middle door on the circular drive in back of the church. Men of the church helped to construct shelves and tables to hold goods. Sylvia Farley and others found clothing racks which we purchased from stores going out of business. Members of CWF volunteered to work at the shop and CWF manages it. Shirley and Paul Hummel were the first volunteer managers. Then Elizabeth Perdue became the chief volunteer manager and with her love of fashion would organize style shows periodically to display the clothing and encourage church members to shop. The amazing thing is that over the 35 years, the shop has been run successfully with only dedicated volunteers. No "paid" staff, only loyal volunteers that believe in the mission of The Elegant Flea; that all the money raised through the sale of recycled goods is to be spent on Outreach causes, youth programming and church projects to enrich the ministry of Heights Christian Church.

Three cheers to Jim and Liz Perdue and all the volunteers that have dedicated their time and effort to a very worthy cause over the years. There will not be an Community Event in May due to busy schedules. The next event will be held on Sunday, June 28th to the Flying Crane Restaurant on Larchmere. More details to follow.

CWF FINAL LUNCHEON

Wednesday, May 27—12:30 p.m.

 There will be an open CWF luncheon meeting, with Guest Speaker, Katie Campbell Morrison who will speak on her experience of working in a village in the mountains of Peru. She was our first recipient of our Peace Award at SHHS. Please contact the church office with your reservation.

"IT TOOK A CONGREGATION"

My friend Joan said something like this: "The ideal day for a successful garage sale would be to have a little drizzle and/or partly cloudiness. And of course not to have any other nearby garage sales competitors". Even without the ideal, God was good to us on our GGS day. Periodic check in with vendors about how they were doing yielded this statement, "I'm doing ok", or "I did alright".



A great big thanks to all of you who helped on Friday set up day and/or Saturday GGS day as well as to the bakers and furniture helpers before Saturday.

A very special thanks go to the team of folks who performed various tasks **several weeks before** and up to sale day to make it successful: Jack Bigham, Neil Chase, C.D. Clark, Martha Cubberly, Jim Donald, Mike Faust, Ratt Ford, Joan Fronck, Michelle Glover, Nancy Hayward, Kathie McWilliams, Debbie Osgood, Roger Osgood, Elizabeth Perdue, Bobbi Phelps, Scott Phelps, Shirley Reading, Andrena Sharp, Donita Singerman, Mike Singerman, Kese Webb. Kudos to our youth who passed out flyers and those who helped on Saturday. **Breathe! See you next year.**