



Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 27, NO. 8

February, 2017

February Worship



Sunday, February 5th

"Salt & Light"

Matthew 5:13-16

HCC Souper Bowl — No, this isn't a \$5 million dollar ad for 30 seconds of your time. It's for giving to our local food bank for people in our area who are hungry. On Sunday, February 5th, the children will be passing soup kettles during worship. Your generosity will go a long way to help those around us who are in need.

Second Hour:

Bible Study with Joe continues throughout the month

Topic Study: Feb. 5 – Conversations on Racial Injustice, part 2



Sunday, February 12th

"You Have Heard It Said"

Matthew 5:21-26

Second Hour - Feb. 12-26 – *Living the Questions*

Sunday, February 19th

"Love Your Enemies"

Matthew 5:43-48

Rev. Kris Eggert preaching



Sunday, February 26

"Transfigure Us"

Matthew 17:1-9



SAVE THE DATE

Ash Wednesday, March 1st

Dinner and Service will be held at
Disciples Christian Church
3663 Mayfield Rd. – Cleveland Heights



SOLAR POWER PROJECT APPROVED



At the Board meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2017, The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the installation of solar panels on the church flat roof area. Following the Green Chalice initiative to "walk gently upon the earth" and reduce the carbon footprint of the congregation, use of solar panels will allow the church to reduce its electric bill significantly. These savings will be used to help lessen the annual budget draw on the Endowment Fund. In addition, some needed replacements of electrical panels inside the church will also be done. Look for installation to be done in the spring or summer.

Last Hoorah for Giant Garage Sale(GGS)

For over twenty seven years, Heights Christian Church has hosted its Giant Garage Sale in the Spring of the year. It was started by Kathie McWilliams who was chair until the last two years. A special shout out goes to Kathie for all of her work resulting in funds which added significantly to the church budget. Not enough can be said for her skills and contacts which have been used by those carrying her legacy forward. **April 29, 2017** will be the last GGS at Heights Christian Church. Please stay tuned for information about how you can participate (volunteering to help at a church table, purchase a table to sell your goods, pass out flyers etc). There will be more information to come as plans become more finalized.



Along The Path . . .



January and its New Years resolutions are behind us. Maybe you've stuck to yours, maybe you haven't. Maybe you're like me and stopped making them years ago. But resolutions are good things when they help us engage in positive behaviors (or stop doing negative ones).

So maybe it's time to make a February or March resolution. Like stay for 2nd hour four Sundays in a row. Or come to worship **every** Sunday in Lent. The more we come together as a people of faith, the more we are strengthened and sustained for service as God's people in the community around us.

...from your Prayer Ministry

In the book of Micah, (6:8), we are told what behavior required of us if we are to please God. We don't need to present burnt offerings, "rivers of oil", or our first born. We are told simply that "What the Lord requires of [us] is to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God."

Acting to adopt that way of being and living, about 4 years ago, HCC elders presented to the Board, a request that HCC sign on with the newly formed Charter of Compassion, designating that we are a church that takes those qualities of standing for justice, kindness and humility seriously enough to formally become a Church of Compassion. Being signed members of the Charter for Compassion, we agreed to the beliefs of the Charter: "Compassion and kindness are free and wonderful gifts. Both can energize and console you." Kindness begets kindness, in you and in others. It is a resource within you that you can naturally draw upon. Compassion is energy and energy is never destroyed; it can only be transformed.

Your kindness and compassion will ripple. They will ripple through the person to whom you offered them and further into the world. "These words are taken from an outgrowth of the Charter: *The Charter for Compassion Education Institute* (CEI). This Institute is beginning an on-line course beginning Monday, Jan 30th entitled "How to Bring Balance and Compassion to Life." You might consider looking up this Institute on the WEB for ideas of how you as an individual can bring balance and compassion to our deeply troubled world.



Until next time, may we all find ways in which we can bring kindness and compassion into our own lives, our families' lives, our neighborhoods, and even the world.

BECAUSE YOU CARE *Illness—Surgery—Hospitalization*

Paul Campbell	Liz Perdue	Lisa Peabody
Grace Loudenstein	Natalie Eichar	C.D./Lois Clark
Elizabeth Newman	Shirley Reading	Patty Monroe
Janelle Eccleston	Joe Feudi	Henry Sharpley
"Cas" Castleberry	Alma G. Jones	Nancy Wilson
JoAnn Brown	Merle Passell	Peggy Yeager
Sidney Mallory, Jr.	Paul/Shirley Hummel	
Bernadette LaGuardia	Joe/Barbara Tolley	

Death

January 10 — Dr. Stanley Kimball

Thank You

January, 2017

Dear Members of Heights Christian Church, my family and I are grateful to all of you who shared condolences as we have coped with the loss of our father Dr. Stanley Kimball. I am sending a copy of the obituary which appeared in his hometown newspaper in Canaan, NH. [Posted on the bulletin board by the church office.] We all appreciate your expressions of sympathy.

Margaret K Long
Daughter

MODERATOR MUSINGS

The New Year is off and running! At our January meeting of the Board of Trustees, we approved an operating budget for 2017, passed a motion to proceed with the proposed solar panel project and addressed upcoming congregational events and concerns. It occurs to me that although it is only the start of February, spring is coming very quickly. Before we know it we will be entering the season of Lent and moving toward a glorious celebration of Easter. Then we quickly move into a final Giant Garage Sale, both celebrating its history as a major congregational fund raising event and giving a final "Hurrah!" as we work hard to make this last sale the best ever. Put your collective brains to work generating new and exciting ideas for fund raising in our future. We clearly need some fun and profitable activities to help us balance our church budget in ways that also further God's mission for us and provide opportunities for HCC to reach out in service to our neighbors.



As I contemplate the coming months, I am both delighted and challenged by the upcoming sabbatical that Pastor Roger will embark upon in May. There is absolutely no one who works harder on behalf of this congregation than Pastor Roger. I am genuinely pleased that he, and Debbie, will have some time for rest, relaxation and recharging of their batteries! He will be gone from May through the end of July, a period which will see us close out the current program year, end the terms of the current church officers (mine included!) and transfer the operation of HCC into the capable hands of Val McMillan and new officers and Ministry Team Leaders who have yet to be identified and elected. A planning team is already at work to see that this all proceeds in a smooth and effective manner.

It is not possible for any of us to fill Pastor Roger's shoes while he is gone, but it is necessary for every one of us to step up and do whatever is within our skill set to care responsibly and reliably for one another and the church as a whole in his absence. Please let Val and me know what you are willing to do to help in this effort. It is an important opportunity for us to provide for Pastor Roger. Hop on board and help us make it a good time for him and a good time for HCC!

Jane



Outreach Committee

Kese Webb, our office coordinator, has done an excellent job of putting ongoing Outreach activities/ events in our Sunday bulletin. These are also shown on the screens in our sanctuary on Sunday mornings. "Move Out Bags" and "Gleaning" donations are being collected throughout this church year which ends June 2017.

Family Promise provides shelter for homeless families. For approximately fourteen years, Heights Christian Church participated in the congregation's weekly rotation of housing for families. This included providing a place to stay from 5:30pm-7:30am daily for seven days. During the day parents would work with social workers at the central facility while children were taken to their home schools. Upon their return at 5:30pm the host congregation provided meals, help with homework/games/activities, and provided volunteers to sleepover. Many of you reading this did some or all of these. In the Fall of 2014, a more family friendly program began. Families now are located in one place and don't have to rotate from one congregation to another weekly. Before or by the end of this year, it is expected that all of the families will be in their own apartment in the building being renovated formerly known as New Life located at Kinsman and 152nd street very close to HC C.



Until then, meals are still needed especially for the families who are located at the Elizabeth Baptist Church. Volunteers are needed to prepare meals to be taken to the families. This Family Promise outreach need is designed so that congregations coordinate this activity with its members. Several congregations have been and continue to do this often-some on a monthly bases. From the blessings of God, HCC will do what we can based on volunteers. If you are interested in participating in a group of 3-4 for a chosen date(s)* to provide food, please let the office know.

*TBD based on volunteer availability and available/needed slots to cover



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. **Worship Service**
 11:15 a.m. **Coffee Fellowship**
 (Nursery & Preschool care provided)

STAFF

Minister	<i>Rev. Roger D. Osgood</i>
Assistant Minister	<i>Min. Michele Moreland</i>
Minister of Outreach	<i>Rev. Joan Brown Campbell</i>
Director of Music	<i>Ben Malkevitch</i>
Director of Congregational Development	<i>Kate Gillooly</i>
Office Administrator	<i>Kese Webb</i>
Facilities Coordinator	<i>Mike Faust</i>
Childcare	<i>Rosie Scott</i>

OFFICERS

Moderator	<i>Jane Troha</i>
Vice Moderator	<i>Valencia McMillan</i>
Secretary	<i>Grace Loudenstein</i>
Treasurer	<i>Mike Singerman</i>
Assistant Treasurers	<i>Neil Chase, Jim Donald</i>

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Spiritual Rx: Take Some Proverbs Every Morning This Month!

Get your Bibles out! Turn to **Proverbs 16!** Let's read it and converse together this month!



Bible Study is part of worship. Let's continue our worship with daily Bible Study, together. We'll start with **Proverbs 16**, but feel free to read the whole book. This Chapter is full of wisdom about many slices of life and thought. Proverbs is one of the "Wisdom Books" of the Bible.

Start early, every morning.



- ◆ Try this method (or any better method you devise) for one new verse in Proverbs 16:
- ◆ Read the verse, with the goal to memorize it. Interpret it.
- ◆ Share the verse with others.
- ◆ Recite it when applicable throughout your day.
- ◆ Re-read **Proverbs 16** or other chapters when possible during the day.
- ◆ Definitely, re-read **Proverbs 16** before you go to sleep each night. Stay blessed.

A Bit About the Book: *Proverbs* gives positive and negative principles for successful living, no matter the situation. The book applies to everyday life: the great commandments to love God and to love one's neighbors as oneself (Dt. 6:5). Enjoy!

A Visit from Stagecoach Mary Presented by Vernice Jackson of Women in History

Mary Fields was an African-American entrepreneur, stage coach driver, and pioneer who lived from 1832-1914.

Sunday, January 29th Intergenerational Second Hour

