



Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 28, NO. 1

July, 2016

Summer Worship – Jesus Stories

July 3	<i>“The Laborers Are Few”</i>	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 10	<i>“Go And Do Likewise”</i>	Luke 10:25-37
July 17	<i>“The Better Part”</i>	Luke 10:38-42
July 24	<i>“He Was Praying”</i>	Luke 11:1-13
July 31	<i>Family Fifth Sunday</i>	



HCC 2015-2016 LEADERSHIP

Beginning July 1, 2016

Officers

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

Ministry Teams

Mission
Education
Worship
Fellowship
Administration
Endowment

Team Leader

<i>Cindy Maxey</i>
<i>Lynda Ackerman</i>
<i>Larry Watson</i>
<i>Bobbi Phelps</i>
<i>Scott Phelps</i>
<i>Bill Dunn</i>

Assistant Team Leader

<i>Joe LaGuardia</i>
<i>Connee Choi</i>
<i>Rosalind Powell</i>
<i>Joan Fronck</i>
<i>Carl Cormany</i>

Endowment

2019 <i>Nancy Carpenter</i>	2018 <i>Larry Watson</i>	2017 <i>Karen McKeehan</i>
2019 <i>Connee Choi</i>	2018 <i>Bill Dunn</i>	2017 <i>Shirley Blackwell</i>

Elder Chair

Donita Singerman

Along The Path . . .



“God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.”
(Gen. 1:31a – NRSV)

We have been blessed with beautiful weather for the month of June. Lots of sunny, blue sky days, some hot days, some cooler days, some rainy nights, few rainy days. It has been about the prettiest June that I can remember in recent history. Here in Cleveland we can truly say with the writer of Genesis that creation is “very good.”

But the news reminds us that the beautiful weather in Cleveland is not the norm. Devastating floods in West Virginia and ongoing wild fires in California are just the latest stories in the barrage of unusual environmental occurrences that have made headlines in the past few years.

And the overwhelming evidence indicates that this is not part of God’s original creation, but rather the result of humanity’s pride and greed. We have, in many ways, desecrated the land, seas, and air and caused stress and extinction for many of the creatures with which we share this earth. Images of strip mines, floating islands of plastic in the ocean, smoke belching from coal fired power plants, and birds covered in oil attest to the many ways that we have turned this very good earth, very bad.

But there is still hope even as we move rapidly towards the precipice of possible ecological disaster. As God’s good stewards of this creation we can make changes in our own lives and push for changes in our institutions and businesses so that the beauty of our world can be saved for our children and grandchildren. It calls for responsibility and sacrifice, and a willingness to risk personal and institutional gain and comfort for a greater good.

Jesus didn’t call his disciples to be wealthy. He called them to be servants of each other and, by extension, servants of creation. Individually and collectively we have the power and responsibility to do just that.



HCC Welcomes...

Our newest member, **Winifred Senadenos**, who joined HCC on Sunday, June 26th. Winifred is a new resident at the Campbell Court apartments and has visited with HCC many times.



...and our newest staff member, **Kate Gillooly**



At the June board meeting the Trustees finalized the hiring of Kate Gillooly as part-time Director of Congregational Development.

Kate has extensive experience working with children, youth, and adults in spiritual formation and leadership development and is currently working on a doctorate in Congregational Development. Kate officially started June 15 and will be spending her first couple of weeks getting to know HCC and has said that she already feels warmly welcomed! Look for more about Kate in the August newsletter.

Please be sure to introduce yourself when you see both Winifred and Kate. Welcome to the HCC family!

Moderator's Musings

It is hard for me to believe that my first year as Moderator is drawing to a close. It has been an incredibly busy, and, I hope, productive year for our congregation. We have begun to discern some mission objectives for the congregation and are moving into action steps, both to make our facility more mission ready and to proceed with program initiatives that will engage us in mission in our community. We have shared some programs and events with other congregations, notable our sister church, Disciples Christian Church. We have increased staff as needed and look forward to exciting times ahead with Assistant Minister Michele Moreland, Director of Music Ministries Ben Malkevitch and Director of Congregational Development Kate Gillooly. Exciting times lie ahead!

It is not possible to adequately express my appreciation for the hard work and outstanding effort put forth by the members of this congregation. Whenever asked to tackle something, this congregation steps to the plate and does so above and beyond what is expected. The depth of caring for one another and the depth of faith among our members is so special and makes the work of the staff, officers and Board of Trustees possible.

Several people who are moving out of Team Ministry Leader positions are especially deserving of our thanks. When you see these people, please share your appreciation with them. Our outgoing Team Leaders are Lloyd Ackerman (Education), Joe LaGuardia (Worship), Andrena Sharp (Mission), Joan Fronck (Fellowship), Larry Watson (Endowment) and Carl Cormany (Administration). In addition, Neil Chase is "retiring" as Treasurer after years of devoted service. He will remain as an Assistant Treasurer, helping Mike Singerman to learn the ropes as church Treasurer.

As we move forward into the new program year, please pray for all of our church leadership. Assuming the roles of Ministry Team Leaders are Lynda Ackerman (Education), Larry Watson (Worship), Cindy Maxey (Mission), Bobbi Phelps (Fellowship), Bill Dunn (Endowment) and Scott Phelps (Administration). Please support these leaders and all of our staff with your ideas, energy and prayers. Together we can all accomplish so much as the hands and hearts of Christ in our time and place!

Yours in Christ,



Missions Ministries

Summer is finally here. May we express gratitude for the blessings of God's seasons!

- Outreach - as we vacation across the globe let's not forget that there are those who are still in need of our giving. Our cleaning supplies drive for Family Promise continues through July 17th. Give as God has blessed you.
- Gardens - Our youth have planted their garden. They did a great job. Thank you Clare, Madison, and Thomas. The Congregation is invited to check it out along with all of the other gardens. Thank you Susan Budenbaum for all of your guidance. And a Big thank you to Willie Dickerson, a Campbell Court resident who voluntarily helps out with care of the gardens. If you didn't know, food items from the beautiful garden behind the church (completely done by Willie) is HCC's donation to the community.
- Peace and Justice - Don't forget to purchase your copy of the Anthology. Contact Val McMillan or Kathie McWilliams.
- Green Chalice - watch for information about upcoming events.
- CWF - the Elegant Flea is open year round. See the monthly schedule in the Reaching Heights newsletter.



