



# Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 27, NO. 4

October, 2016

## Worshipping with Justice

### *"Put Love First"*

- October 2**      **World Communion Sunday**  
"Be Reconciled"      Matthew 5:23-24
- October 9**      Minister Moreland preaching  
"Walk in the Light"      1 John 2:1-11
- October 16**      "Welcoming the Stranger"      Luke 17:11-19
- October 23**      **Children's Sabbath**  
"With Kind Regards"      Luke 18:9-14
- October 30**      **All Saints Sunday** (and Family Fifth Sunday)

### 2nd Hour Adult Studies

#### *Bible Study with Joe*



Everyone is invited to join Joe LaGuardia for Bible Study. This year Joe will choose a reading from Scripture for each Sunday while at the same time working through Marcus Borg's book "Reading the Bible Again for the First Time." The book is available from Amazon as a paperback or a Kindle e-book version. BUT: you don't need to buy the book. Joe will summarize each chapter for those who attend. All are welcome to share their own interpretations for a lively discussion each week.

#### Adult Topic Study

##### *"Living the Questions"*



We know that at its core, Christianity has something good to offer humanity. At the same time, we sometimes have a sense that we are alone in being a "thinking" Christian. This ongoing conversation, featuring premier religion voices of our day, is for those who are convinced that Christianity still has relevance in the 21st Century.

Calling ALL Youth + Young Adults  
to Join Us on

OPEN  
MIC NIGHT  
OPEN  
MIC NIGHT



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

7:00 — 8:30 p.m.

Here at Heights Christian Church

Bring your Song, Comedy/Improv  
or Poetry/Spoken Word

Need more information? Want to help?

Contact Kate Gillooly

216-561-4800 ext. 104

or [katehcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:katehcc@sbcglobal.net)

Let Your Voice be HEARD!

Beverages/Snacks Provided

# Along The Path . . .



We all know what home is. Whether it is a remembered place from our childhood, our current living situation, or something in between, home is that place where we feel safe, where we are cared for, where we can be ourselves. It is not a perfect place, there are still chores to be done, challenges to face, and interactions with less than perfect people, but on the whole, there is no place we'd rather be than home.

And home is at least a part of what it means to be church. It is not all, for we also have a God given mission of outreach and service, but being home is an important part.

So after 10 years of ministry with you I'd like to say thanks for making HCC home for me. For those who were already here when I came, thank you for welcoming Debbie and me into your home, for putting up with my imperfectness, and for being willing to change and grow. For those who have come after I arrived, I hope that you too feel a sense of homecoming, of having found a place where you are truly cared for even as you may be challenged to develop and, perhaps, even be transformed.

10 years is a milestone, but it is not a time to get comfortable. There is more to be done, more challenges to face, and many more people to seek out and welcome into this home we call Heights Christian Church. May we do it joyfully knowing that in the seeking, welcoming, serving, and caring, we are strengthened and loved by the God who seeks, welcomes, and cares for us.

## ...from your Prayer Ministry



I was visiting with another member of the Prayer Ministry a few weeks ago, sharing our own personal and family concerns, speaking of the increasing chaos in our world as well as the unrest in our own country, and then we just sat for a minute. I asked this very wise woman how she carried all of the serious family concerns that she has, but remained calm and peaceful in her demeanor. She showed me a booklet of daily inspirational thoughts on the table next to her and turned to that day's page that held this message (God is

speaking): Welcome the challenging times as an opportunity to trust me especially when you know the circumstances are too much for you to handle yourself... When the path before you is dotted with apparent insurmountable difficulties because you are measuring your strength alone against those challenges and you can tell that you wouldn't make it over the first hurdle, know that I can keep you in perfect peace if you will stay close to me.

My friend looked at me and smiled. No other words were necessary.

*...until next time, let us remember to ask for the grace to trust we are not alone.*

### BECAUSE YOU CARE

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

## MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want... You prepare a table before me...  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Psalms 23: 1,5.*

The 23<sup>rd</sup> psalm is one of my very favorite passages of scripture. Partly that is because it is inextricably linked to my grandmother who lived with us and taught me the very foundations of faith in my formative years. She taught me to know this psalm by heart and we recited it together daily. She was a woman of deep faith and a wonderful role model for an emerging Christian girl. The psalm reminds me of her love, but it also reminds me of the great goodness of our God.



As we have emphasized our responsibility to care for God's creation during the month of September, I have reflected often on the abundance given to us by our Creator God. In a month in which we have celebrated the ministry of Pastor Roger and Debbie Osgood, I have been grateful for the abundant love and leadership that they have given to this congregation during the past ten years. As we enjoyed a 100 Mile Potluck, I have been grateful for the abundance of food and fellowship that are always present when we gather together. As I have experienced the outpouring of love and prayer that this congregation provides for the many who have been ill and injured, I have been grateful to be a part of a worshipping community solidly grounded in God's healing presence. My cup truly overflows in joy, praise and prayer!

God has richly blessed us, individually and collectively here at Heights Christian Church. The opportunities to worship, learn, help and serve abound. In response to such generosity we are encouraged to give of ourselves from a perspective of abundance rather than from the fear of scarcity. October and November will begin our annual focus on stewardship. As we contemplate the plethora of opportunities provided through our church, may we all respond in gratitude, giving generously of ourselves and our resources to further God's mission in this time and place. God assures us that we shall not want. Our cups will run over!

*Jane*

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## OUTREACH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Heights Christian Church has long been a congregation that serves our community. Numerous members volunteer their time and energy outside the walls of the church to many different agencies and organizations in Greater Cleveland. The Outreach Committee would like to share those opportunities for service with the rest of the congregation. So we are asking and inviting each of you to send information about any community service ideas that you participate in (or know about) to the church office. These will then be published in the Reaching Heights. An email or written note is preferred with the following information: name of organization, contact name and phone number or email address, and a short sentence about the kind of help needed (tutoring, serving a meal, office help, etc). Email should be sent to [heightschristian@sbcglobal.net](mailto:heightschristian@sbcglobal.net). A note can be mailed or dropped off in the church office.

The Outreach Committee will also continue to sponsor particular opportunities that we can all participate in. To begin our program year, we are launching an ongoing year's project for homeless young mothers/families residing at various Family Promise facilities. We will put together items donated by our congregation for what are called "Move Out" bags. These bags will be given when families are moving out of Family Promise into their own residence. Outreach will donate bags throughout the year as items to fill them are collected.

toilet paper

all purpose cleaners

Sponges

laundry soap

large plastic Marc's tote bags or others

paper towels

shower curtains

shower curtain rings

dish soap



**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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**HCC'S 3rd Annual *100 MILE POTLUCK***  
**Held on Sunday, September 25th**  
**Hosted by the**  
**Green Chalice Creation Care Team**

