



# Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 22, NO. 9

March 31, 2011

## HOLY WEEK



**April 17th**

**Palm Sunday**

**Worship 10:00 a.m.**

Come be a part of the crowds shouting Hosanna as we enter waving palm branches. Along with the people of Jerusalem we'll ask, "Who is this?" as we prepare for this most holy of weeks.

**April 21st**

**Maundy Thursday**

**Dinner 6:30, Worship 7:30 p.m.**

We'll gather as the disciples did for a simple meal and then worship with prayer, music and a celebration of that last supper.



**April 23rd**

**The Annual Easter Hunt**

**Saturday 11:00 a.m.**

Come join the fun! Details inside.

**April 24th**

**Easter Sunday**

**Worship 10:00 a.m.**

Celebrate Christ's resurrection with family and friends as we joyfully gather to join in song, word and prayer. Add your voice to the chorus of "He is risen, He is risen indeed."



## Other Events in April

**April 9th**

**GIANT Garage Sale**

**Details inside**

**April 30th**

**Music Concert**

**Details on back**



## REACHING HEIGHTS GOING GREEN



In an effort to reduce costs (by saving some green) and be ecologically friendly we are going to begin sending out the newsletter via email. We will continue to print some copies that will be available to pick up at church as well as some to be given to visitors. **We will also mail out copies if you make that request to the church office (216-561-4800).** Donations to cover the cost of postage will be appreciated. Reaching Heights will continue to be available on the church website (including past issues) at [www.heightschristianchurch.org](http://www.heightschristianchurch.org).

We are currently checking our records to ensure that we have up to date email addresses for all church members and friends. If you have a new email address or would prefer to have the newsletter sent to a different address than what we currently have on file please send that information to Kese Webb at [kese.hcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kese.hcc@sbcglobal.net).

# Along The Path...



This past week Debbie and I watched 9 films over the course of three days down at the Cleveland International Film Festival. There were many movies that we loved but one of my favorites was called "Holy Wars," a documentary which followed two religious fundamentalists, one Christian and one Muslim over the course of several years.

At one point during filming the filmmaker was able to bring the two men together for a discussion (debate?) about their religious beliefs. After the discussion one of the two men's core beliefs seemed to become even more hardened and fundamental, while the other began to rethink and modify his faith.

It seems to me that part of the message of Easter is the importance of being open to new insights and being willing to let go of long cherished doctrines when our eyes are opened to new understandings. Many of us have confronted events or people that challenged our understanding of God, our faith, or our perception of ourselves, and I see God at work in those encounters that often allow God's transforming power to work in us and through us, forcing us to give up our old, safe lives and be "born again." As Christ said, "those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

## BECAUSE YOU CARE Illness-Surgery-Hospitalization

Jane Campbell	Jim Donald
Jesse Hall	Georgia Bibb
Paul Hummel	James Faust
Bob McWilliams	Betty Klecka
Eugene Blackwell	Scott Lemmon
Leslie Wanner	Radia Longworth
Candace Hetterle	Dorothy Mathis

### Deaths

Glenn Roderick—March 4th

## ZUMBA CLASSES AT HCC



**ZUMBA**  
FITNESS

Zumba is an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness class. Led by Tricilla Atwood of Endurance Wellness and Fitness Studio, the classes meet Monday to Thursday evenings at 7:15 pm and Saturday mornings at 9:15 am.

There is a \$5 drop in fee for one class. Taking classes 2 days a week is \$25 a month and unlimited classes are \$40 a month (\$5 off the regular price). Church members can take their first class free.

## IN OUR PRAYERS



The heart of the Lenten season is generous LOVE; the love of God for humanity, the love of Jesus for his Father and for us. Thomas Merton reflects on that with these words: "Even though one may be a learned man and may have profound knowledge of many subjects, and many "words," this is of no value; it has no central meaning, if the One Word, LOVE, has not been heard. That One Word is heard only in the silence and solitude of an empty heart, the selfless, undivided heart; the heart that is at peace, detached, free, without care. In the language of Christianity, this freedom is the realm of faith, and hope, but above all, Love. *"If I have perfect faith ... but no Love, I am nothing. (1 Cor: 13:2)*

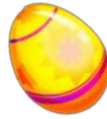
Let us pray for an understanding of the generous, ever-present love that our amazing God offers us every day. Let us join together in that prayer, especially on Wednesday's when we pray for the Spirit's guidance for our community of Heights Christian Church.

UNTIL NEXT MONTH,  
WE'LL KEEP YOU IN OUR PRAYERS

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH CORNER

We're EGG-cited to announce our  
**Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

**When:** Saturday, April 23rd  
**Where:** Heights Christian Church  
**Time:** 11:00 a.m.—12 Noon  
**Who:** Children from Pre-K to Grade 3



Fourth graders and older children are asked to help hide eggs starting at 10:30 a.m. and help younger children find eggs during the hunt.

So, bring your sisters, brothers, cousins, neighbors, and friends. Neighborhood community is also invited.



The Children and Youth Education Committee is seeking adult volunteers on the day of hunt and 2 dozen plastic filled eggs. We want to be sure that each child leaves with at least 1 dozen eggs.

## SUMMER CAMPS

**Junior Camps: Grades: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup>**  
Otter June 19 – 25<sup>th</sup> Camp Christian



Badger & Beaver Camps are no longer being offered through the United Church of Christ.

For other Camping options at  
Templed or Pilgrim Hills camps go to :  
[http://www.ocucc.org/outdoormin/  
OutdoorMinistries.htm](http://www.ocucc.org/outdoormin/OutdoorMinistries.htm)

**Chi Rho Camp Grades: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Portahoga July 10 – 16<sup>th</sup>

**CYF Conference: Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Hiram June 26 – July 2<sup>nd</sup>

### The registration fees for all Camps will be:

- \$300 Early Bird  
postmarked/paid by May 1st
- \$330 Regular  
postmarked/paid May 30th
- \$350 Late/onsite  
postmarked/paid after May 30th

## GIANT GARAGE SALE



We are anticipating a big turnout for our annual sale and count on you to help us get the word out to your neighbors and friends. Tables are still available for \$25.00 each. Call the church

(561-4800) or Kathie McWilliams (921-9210) with any questions. Set up for the sale will be Friday, 3:00 - 9:00 P.M. and the Saturday sale will be 9:00 - 4:00. All hands are needed... and we encourage you to sign up for two or three slots to help. Take fliers to your neighborhood. Remember...This is our one big Fundraiser!

Also . . .

Thrift Shop volunteers are needed on Thursdays and Saturdays as we make a spring push for more customers and the Garage Sale.

Call Liz Perdue and offer your help for a few hours each week. Remember all proceeds go for the work of our church. We have no paid staff. Tell your friends and family to come in and find a treasure. Buy one item....and you've helped. Buy two items or more and you are an angel. And the Price is right so you save money. What a deal!

## CWF'S SPRING ROAD TRIP WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>



We will travel to Stan Hywett Hall in Akron to tour the one of a kind Tudor Mansion, have lunch and then tour the gardens and gift shop. Meet at the church promptly at 9:30 a.m. where we will car pool, Cost for the guided tour is \$14.25 plus lunch in their café. Reservations are a must. Call the church office at 561-4800 by April 22nd to let us know who will be attending.

## HCC's ANNUAL PEACE AWARD



Heights Christian Church is a "Shalom Congregation" dedicated to teaching, working and witnessing to 'peace with justice.' As an expression of this core value, HCC each year gives a "Peace Award" along with a \$500 education stipend to a Shaker Heights High School Junior or Senior student that demonstrates the qualities of peace-making. If you are interested in applying or nominating a student, please contact the Shaker Heights High School Counselor's office.

**The deadline is April 29, 2011**



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PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

**Please deliver before April 1 to:**

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## **BOOKS AND BRICKS FOR BRISAS: Music to Help Honduras**

On April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm the HCC band along with Jani and Doug McWilliams (and others) will present a concert to raise money to help finish and stock a library in the small town of Brasas Honduras.

Our own Lena Newman shared the story of her work with us last year and is currently back in Honduras to bring this project to completion. Come out on the 30<sup>th</sup> for some great music and the chance to bring hope and opportunity to this community of indigenous people.

Admission is free but a freewill offering will be collected.



**The library is the building on the left.  
The almost-finished school is on the right.**