



Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 22, NO. 7

January 27, 2011

FEBRUARY'S WORSHIP AND EDUCATION HOUR

February 6

- 10:00 a.m. *"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice..."*
"Women in History," portraying two women from the Civil War will be a part of our worship experience as we explore this passage from Isaiah 58. We will continue to hear from these two important figures during the 2nd hour adult forum.
- 11:30 a.m. "Bible Study with Joe" *every Sunday in the Library*
Adult Forum *every Sunday in the Chapel (additional topics listed below)*

February 13

- 10:00 a.m. The Words of Jesus: "You have heard it said..." - Matthew 5:21-37
- 11:30 a.m. Race Relations Sunday
What are the challenges facing our community today and how can we, as Christians, address them?

February 17

- 7:00 p.m. Taize Worship
End your busy day with candlelight, meditative music, and scripture reading. Taize services also include times of silence... and we all know that silence can be very hard to find in our everyday lives. This service will give you time to catch your breath, pray and relax your mind.

February 20

- 10:00 a.m. The Words of Jesus: "But I Say..." - Matthew 5:38-48
- 11:30 a.m. Ways to Leave Your Legacy
Ron Holman with HCC's Stewardship Committee

February 27

- 10:00 a.m. The Words of Jesus: "Therefore, I Tell You..." - Matthew 6:24-34
- 11:30 a.m. "Giving Voice to Peace" Kent State WICK Poetry Center
Traveling Stanzas—Community Arts Project

NEW CLASSES AT HCC



Beginning February 1st we will be providing space for GED/Transition classes through the Cleveland Heights-University Heights ABLE program. ABLE (Adult Basic and Literacy Education) will be holding classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. They are also providing classes at the Shaker Heights Library during the day. These classes will be running through the end of May. We are pleased to have this program using our building.

Committees and other groups who meet in the church on those evenings: the ABLE teachers will post a note by the alarm keypad to let you know that they are in the building. Please be sure that they are gone before setting the alarm.

For more information about the ABLE program call 216-371-7138 or visit their website at www.chuhable.com.

Along The Path...



I am reading a book called “The People’s History of the United States.” It was on the recommended reading list from my anti-racism training and recommended by a couple folks on the commission.

One of the basic premises of the book is that when we look at or write about his story we usually concentrate on famous (or infamous) people and big events. The author suggests that there is another side of history that revolves around ordinary, every day people. It is an interesting thought and an interesting read.

Of course it got me thinking about the history of Christianity and the church. When I studied church history in seminary most of the time was spent on major figures and events: people like Constantine, Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Martin Luther, and John Calvin; events like the ecumenical councils, the reformation, and the enlightenment. Little time or text was spent on all of the ordinary people like you and I that have kept the church going through 2,000 years of history.

And the truth is that it is people like you and I that keep the church alive, active and vital (with the help of the Holy Spirit, of course). So thank you for all you are doing to keep HCC a wonderful place to worship, learn and serve. See you Sunday...

Roger

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

Roger Careaga Paul Hummel
Betty Klecka Georgia Bibb
Eugene Blackwell James Faust
Brady Macosko Dorothy Mathis
Bob McWilliams Beverly Coats
Scott Lemmon

Serving in the Iraq War

Ilya Petrenko

Deaths

Carol Green—December 24, 2010
Kitty Cardwell—January 24, 2011



IN OUR PRAYERS

The Prayer Team invites you to join them in prayer over the next couple of months directed toward recognizing the presence of God among us as we work to grow our congregation in size and commitment to our mission. The Adult Forum will have us discussing the book, A New Kind of Christianity by Brian McLaren. In speaking of the revelation of God, McLaren directs us to focus not only on the words of the scripture but on “the conversations themselves between people and God.” He suggests that the revelation of God can continue if we enter the text together, participating in the action of the text. God’s self revelation *continues* to happen to us; it is dynamic. McLaren’s suggests that, as we listen and enter into conversation with each other, we may “enter into and abide in the presence, love, and reverence of the living God...all the days of our loves, day by day, moment by moment. Even now.” Will you join us?

Until next time, we’ll keep you in our prayers.

WE THANK YOU SO MUCH!



Roger, Dale, Mike, Rosie and Kese want to express their gratitude for the kind and generous expressions of affection and appreciation from the congregation. Thanks for an assortment of greeting and gifts from the congregation and Elders. It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to serve the members of Heights Christian Church.

Many thanks to the following members who helped take down and pack away holiday decorations at church on January 8th: Lynda & Lloyd Ackerman, Connee Choi, Andrena Jones-Sharp, Bernadette LaGuardia, Jim Nicks, Liz & Jim Perdue, Bobbi & Scott Phelps, Donita & Mike Singerman, Jane & Don Troha and Anita & Larry Watson. So many willing hands made the task manageable.

WORSHIP WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 12th—9:30-12:30 p.m.

How can we make Worship more inclusive and experiential? By incorporating the Four Doorways to Deepening Worship. Heights Christian Church will host a seminar by Adam Kukuk on to explore this concept.

We will need volunteers to assist in registration, bake and serve snacks for two breaks. We will also need help with a luncheon for HCC team members before a private afternoon session. If interested or can help please talk with Donita Singerman or Bernadette LaGuardia.

CWF LUNCHEON

Wednesday, February 23—12 Noon



Join us in the Campbell Room for a luncheon to learn and share your faith journey. This month we will be discussing passages from "Unbinding Your Soul" - titled, *Faith Sharing*.

Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship. Please call the church office to make your reservation for February's luncheon.

PASTOR'S CLASS

Children and youth grades 5 and higher who wish to join HCC and/or be baptized are invited to attend Pastor's Class during Lent. Contact Pastor Roger if you are interested.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CORNER



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH More than 20 years ago, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group in South Carolina:

"Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat."

So, as you cheer for your favorite team to win the Super Bowl this year, the children and youth ministries is asking that you make a monetary donation on Sunday, February 6th, and /or a food donation in containers that will be at all of the entrances of our sanctuary. Our children will take up the monetary donations during service. We know that this comes on the heels of all your giving for the past two months, (Thanksgiving/Christmas). If those young people so long ago were caring/thoughtful of others at a time when most are eating/drinking (pizza, chips, popcorn, soda and beer), we believe you will like them and do whatever you can. The food and monetary donations will go to a local food bank.

OFFERING ENVELOPES STILL AVAILABLE

They are perfect for helping you keep track of your 2011 pledge and can be dropped in the mail if you are not able to bring it on Sunday mornings. Just simply put your name and a stamp on it. Call the church office if you would like to receive a pack of HCC offering envelopes.



GIANT GARAGE SALE April 8th and 9th

It's not too early to sign up for a table. Cost is \$25.00 each. Please call the Church Office at 561-4800 to reserve a table. Remember this is one of our major fundraisers for the year, so let's try to make this Garage Sale the biggest ever. It takes everyone to make it a success! Questions, call Kathie McWilliams at 921-9210.



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PERIODICALS
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WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING WEEK February 20-27, 2011

Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. We seek to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian aid, sustainable development and the promotion of mission opportunities.

As a result of God's love for us, we want nothing more than to pass on that love to a world in need. Following in Jesus' footsteps, we give our hard-earned resources through Week of Compassion to help:

- ♥ build homes, schools, medical clinics, and clean water and sewage facilities in villages devastated by earthquakes, floods, and poverty;
- ♥ bring safety, shelter, and food to refugees after often violent circumstances have made their hometowns uninhabitable;
- ♥ nurture stronger futures and self-sufficiency through health care, education, job training, and tools for livelihoods.

Sharing invites God more fully into our lives. As we reach out in love, we open the way for God to reach more deeply into us. Sharing will joyfully transform you as you help transform the world. Week of Compassion: sharing resources, changing lives, bringing joy.