



# Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

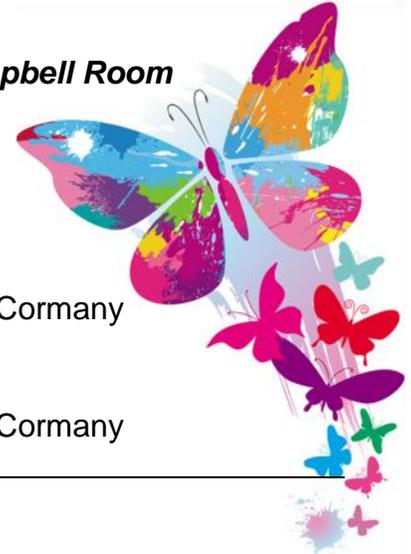
VOLUME 28, NO. 11

June, 2017

## June Worship and Elder Care

*Beginning June 11 worship moves into the Campbell Room*

- June 11**      **Eileen Vizcaino, preaching**  
Elders: Jim Donald, Larry Watson
- June 18**      **Min. Michele Moreland, preaching**  
Elders: Andrena Jones-Sharp, Carl Cormany
- June 25**      **Rev. Kris Eggert, preaching**  
Elders: Andrena Jones-Sharp, Carl Cormany



## June Happenings!

June 7 bring our first Open Mic Night of the summer season, and we are looking forward to seeing and hearing our regular teen participants from the community. These monthly events began in October and have served as opportunities to hear poems, songs and stories and build community among the youth.

June 11 is the first Sunday of the season for sending our youth to Camp Christian. Seven youth are ready to go for a week of fun, fellowship and Christian nurture. We will keep them in our prayers and hope they make lasting memories.

- |         |                      |   |
|---------|----------------------|---|
| June 11 | CYF Conference #1    | Billy Dunn, Avery Dunn                                  |
| June 25 | CYF Conference #2    | Alicia Benson   |
| July 9  | Chi Rho Camp Corinth | Madison Durham, Claire Dunn<br>Tommy Dunn, Amora Glover |

Community Gardens are being planted, carpets are being cleaned, and summer worship is being planned for the Campbell Room. We are grateful for all of you who continue to labor in the Lord's house and in the community, hosting, listening, networking, cleaning, preparing, worshipping and serving in God's name.

## Be a HCC Neighbor at your friendly neighborhood Van Aken Beer Garden Friday, June 16 from 6-10 pm

The popular Van Aken Beer Garden is back for its third summer, but moves to the parking lot of the plaza anchored by Walgreens (20200 Van Aken Blvd.), while construction of Shaker's new downtown continues. Enjoy food trucks, live entertainment, beer, wine, cocktails, kids activities, and an evening with your friends and neighbors.

A portion of the beer and wine sale proceeds benefit Shaker-based non-profits. Admission is free and the monthly event is bike- and pet-friendly. Additional Beer Garden events are scheduled for Friday, July 21 and Friday, August 18.



## ...from your Prayer Ministry

As we each find our own spiritual compass, we turn for guidance to scripture scholars, theologians, excellent writers, based upon our experience of their wisdom and consistent thought processes. I think most of us would agree that Pope Francis meets these requirements. I would like to share some of the thoughts from his recent TED talk.

Pope Francis spoke: "I would like to share with you that (what we need today is) a revolution; a revolution of tenderness. Tenderness is the movement that starts from our heart and reaches the eyes, the ears and the hands. Tenderness means to use our eyes to see the other, our ears to hear the other, to listen to the children, the poor, those who are afraid of the future and also to listen to the silent cry of our common home, of our sick and polluted earth. Tenderness means to use our hands and our heart to comfort the other, to take care of those in need. Tenderness is being on the same level as the other. God himself descended into Jesus to be on our level. This is the same path the Good Samaritan took. This is the path Jesus himself took. He lowered himself, he lived his entire human existence practicing the real, concrete language of love.



Yes, tenderness is the path of choice for the strongest, most courageous men and women. Tenderness is not weakness; it is fortitude. It is the path of humility. The more powerful you are, the more your actions will have an impact on people, the more responsible you are to act humbly. If you don't, your power will hurt you and those around you. Through humility and concrete love, on the other hand, power...becomes a service, a force for good.

The future is, most of all, in the hands of those people who recognize the other as a "you" and themselves as part of an "us". We all need each other. And so please think of me as well with tenderness, so that I can fulfill the task I have been given for the good of the other, of each and every one, of all of you, of all of us. Thank you."

***'til next time, may we learn and practice the gift of tenderness.***

### BECAUSE YOU CARE Illness-Surgery-Hospitalization

|                    |                     |                   |                     |                |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Grace Loudenstein  | Jim Donald          | Joan Campbell     | Ray Everett         | Liz Perdue     |
| Elizabeth Newman   | C.D./Lois Clark     | Shirley Reading   | Lisa Peabody        | JoAnn Brown    |
| Mary Rogers        | Joe Feudi           | Janelle Eccleston | Patty Monroe        | Alma G. Jones  |
| "Cas" Castleberry  | Henry Sharpley      | Nancy Wilson      | Peggy Yeager        | Natalie Eichar |
| Joe/Barbara Tolley | Sidney Mallory, Jr. | Kate Backe        | Paul/Shirley Hummel |                |

#### Birth

May 17 — *James Alfred Sharp, V*  
8 lbs. 12 oz.  
Jamie and Rhian Sharp, proud parents

#### Deaths

Former member, Anthony Rushin  
Roger Careaga's cousin, Duane France



A **heartfelt** thank you to my HCC friends for your prayers, visits, calls, cards and flowers during my brief unexpected hospital stay and time off. A special thanks to Ben, Kate, Jane and Val who kept the office running until my return. YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!

Kese Webb

## Moderator's Musings

It is hard for me to believe that it has been two years! I have been privileged to serve as Moderator of this very special congregation known as Heights Christian Church. Working closely with Pastor Roger, Kese and Mike, Kate, Minister Michele and Ben has been a joy. They are truly blessings to this church. The Board of Trustees, its officers, the Ministry Team leaders and Assistant Ministry Team leaders, the Elders and Diaconate all serve so selflessly and give so generously of their time and talents in moving the work of the church forward. Each member of the congregation provides support, financial, moral and spiritual, as part of our life together. It has been a wonderful experience working with each and every one of you and I sincerely thank you for the opportunity.

I remember during the time before we called Pastor Roger when we were uncertain about the very continuation of our congregation, our interim minister, Jane Ryan Kuroiwa, helped us find our way. She frequently included the hymn, *We've Come This Far by Faith*, as part of our worship together. I'd like us to recall the words of the hymn:



*We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord,  
Trusting in his holy word, he's never failed me yet.  
O, can't turn around, we've come this far by faith.*

I'd like to believe that during the past two years, we have made significant steps forward in discerning how our church will join with God in serving our neighbors in this time and in this place. We have clearly followed our denomination's focus in putting "Mission First". Our building is busy supporting our mission with many, varied groups renting and using space. We have improved the physical plant through many projects such as replacing and upgrading electrical panels and lighting, redecorating the Campbell Room and upstairs bathrooms, installing solar panels (coming soon!) and providing a water supply for the Community Gardens. We've done this acting out of faith!

We have supported peace and justice concerns, outreach efforts, Christian education and camp experiences, helping many of "the least of these" as Christ instructs us to do. We have invited the community in to our space. We have moved out into the community. So many efforts! So many meetings! So much still to be accomplished! We've come this far by faith. I know that as Val McMillan moves into leadership as the new Moderator, God will be there for her to lean on, just as I have leaned on God for the past two years. He never fails us. Can't turn around! We've come this far by faith!

*Jane*



### 2017 Peace Award Rebecca Shankman

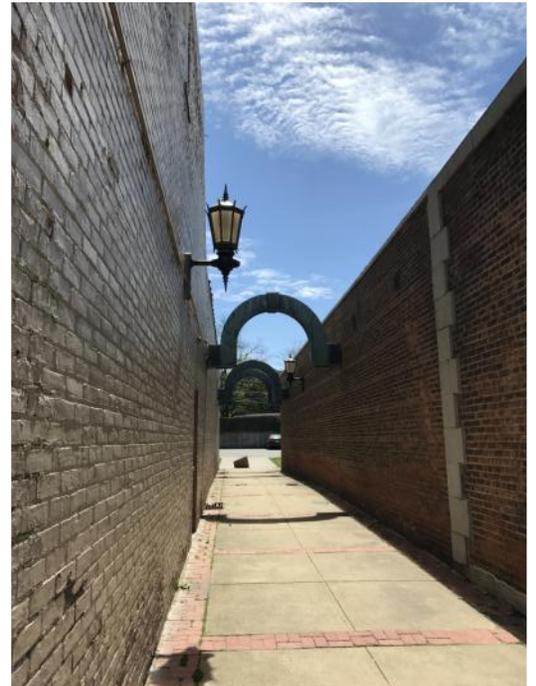
Rebecca an outstanding junior at Shaker Heights High School. She served as

the Regional President of NFTY (North East Lakes Region of the North American Federation of Temple Youth)

In this role she had to find ways to unite many Jews with different beliefs. She also lead two regional events focused on social justice one in Canada and one in our area. New large Peace Award plaques for the church and high school have been purchased and hung for your viewing. Rebecca is our 13th Peace Award Winner. (Rebecca is pictured with her mother and grandmother).



Taken when "Walking the Neighborhood". Can you guess where in our neighborhood this picture was taken? Submit your answers to The church office to see if you are correct.



## Pentecost Sunday

### 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> |

TELEPHONE: 216.561.4800

### EMAILS:

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|--|--|
| <a href="http://www.heightscc.org">www.heightscc.org</a>           | <a href="mailto:roger.hcc@sbcglobal.net">roger.hcc@sbcglobal.net</a> |
| <a href="mailto:kese.hcc@sbcglobal.net">kese.hcc@sbcglobal.net</a> | <a href="mailto:katehcc@sbcglobal.net">katehcc@sbcglobal.net</a>     |
| <a href="mailto:musichcc@sbcglobal.net">musichcc@sbcglobal.net</a> | <a href="mailto:mike.hcc@sbcglobal.net">mike.hcc@sbcglobal.net</a>   |



Flautist, *Maddi Lucas* and *Ben Malkevitch*



## Annual Meeting