



The Outlook

University Circle United Methodist Church

All are welcome. All the time.

April 2017

Palms Wave a Welcome!

Palm Sunday
April 9—11am

Hosannas will fill our majestic sanctuary as children and adults alike wave palms of praise in celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem centuries ago. Portraying this joyous event in the life of Christ recalls how crowds were drawn to his message of justice, faith and love.

Joining in this service is the Chancel Ringers bell choir, the Gospel and Chancel Choirs and our Liturgical Dancers.

Be a part of this start to Holy Week events leading to Easter's resurrection celebration!

The Supper and Betrayal

Maundy Thursday
April 13—7pm

We gather at this somber service to remember Jesus' last night before his betrayal by a disciple and his arrest by the ruling government.

That night, Jesus' caring examples of washing his disciples' feet or offering the love-one-another commandment or communing with his disciples at the Last Supper are all recalled in this moving service, supported musically by our Chancel Choir.



Where You There?

Good Friday
April 14—7pm

Described by some as a day when wrath and mercy converge at the cross, Good Friday is remembered during this service as a day when Jesus gave his life as the ultimate penitence for



Celebrate Holy Week and Easter with Us

our sins. Several soloists and our Gospel Choir set the tone for this pensive service.

He Is Risen!

Easter Sunday
April 16—8:30am
"Sunrise" Service;
11am Celebration Service



With the celebratory sounds of brass instruments and joyous voices in song, our Sanctuary reverberates with praise as we welcome Jesus' resurrection during our 11am service. Our Gospel, Bell and Chancel Choirs are joined by a brass quintet, the Children Dancers and the Liturgical Dancers in a grand tribute to God's gift of a risen Lord Jesus.

Our earlier Sunrise service's more intimate celebration of Jesus' "life after death" makes Easter even more meaningful.

Arrive early for these uplifting services. (Park in our lot, the Judson lot, the Library lot, and along MLK Blvd., Park Lane and E. 107 St.)



Experience a very special Lenten Cantata

- *Mass in G Major* composed in 1815 by Franz Schubert
- Sunday, April 2, during our 11am communion service
- Presented by our Chancel Choir, with soloists Lydia Hall, soprano; Rick Schmid, tenor; James Binion, bass
- String orchestra features students from the Cleveland Institute of Music, including Carrie Jones, a member of our faith family

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chalk talk



BY DR. KENNETH W. CHALKER

Isabella Baumfree was born into slavery in 1799. The treatment that she experienced from her various white owners—treatment that included sexual, physical and psychological abuse—never enslaved her mind or spirit. Today, history knows Isabella Baumfree by the name of Sojourner Truth—a name she gave to herself after gaining her freedom and experiencing a life-changing spiritual encounter with God.

Sojourner Truth, whose picture will soon appear on a redesigned US \$10 bill, is recognized today by many historians as one of the 100 most influential Americans of all time. She became a fervent abolitionist, fighter for women's rights and a dynamic preacher of the Gospel. Her life helped defeat injustice and, eventually, slavery.

On many occasions, Sojourner Truth's speeches drew hecklers and mobs of young, white men who would challenge her politics, her views on women's rights, gender, race and vibrant belief in God. In one encounter, it was recorded that detractors shouted the question at her, "If you were to discover that there is no heaven, no eternal Kingdom for you to inherit, what will you think then of how you have lived your life?"

The story goes that Sojourner Truth immediately shouted back, "I will think that I have had a good time believing that I would."

I find that affirmation of hope, which enlivened and encouraged the life of Sojourner Truth, to be compelling. I just cannot imagine how it would have been possible for her to accomplish all that she accomplished had she not had such a great hope, grounded in a great reality of experience with God through the risen Christ.

It is impossible for me to understand the hecklers in every generation who ridicule or dismiss, often with an arrogant disdain, the message of Easter: that, like Christ, we rise—that our spirits are eternal, that we are inspired in this life to accomplish sometimes extraordinary

► 'chalk talk' continued on page 6



~ A note from Rev. Jared Gadomski Littleton

I am so proud of University Circle UMC for being a part of Greater Cleveland Congregations. There is no better place for us to put our faith into action.

If you'd like to be part of a conversation regarding UCUMC and justice, please mark your calendar for the **next GCC Education Team meeting,**

Thursday, April 6, 6:30–8pm at Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave.

Please be in touch with me at 440-503-9435 or go to info@greaterclevelandcongregations.org for more information.

We look forward to coming together to seek justice, show mercy and walk humbly together with our Lord.

Social Justice Needs YOU!



An October 6, 1774, entry in his *Journal* has John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, offering the following advice about voting:

1. To vote, without fee or reward, for the person they judged most worthy
 2. To speak no evil of the person they voted against, and
 3. To take care their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side."
- John Wesley, *The Journal of John Wesley*

Marlene Harmon of our congregation suggests that one of the best ways to be involved in our country's political process is to call our representatives to share our beliefs and stands. "Phoning takes just a few moments."

She also suggests sending them emails. "Use your preferred search engine (i.e., Google, Yahoo, Firefox, etc.). In the Search field, type in: "Contact" followed by the name of the specific politician you wish to reach. After you press "Enter,"

choices will enable you to contact/email the politician. Don't give up. The more you do it, the easier it becomes."

Marlene's lists of current office holders and their contact information are available at an information table in the Narthex or the church office. And member Glen Nekvasil has provided lists as well.

Marlene concludes by reminding us of the saying, "Democracy is not a spectator sport," adding, "Let your social justice thoughts be known."

President

To email: type in the Search area, Contact President Trump. Email option will appear.
Phone: 202-456-1111; 202-456-1414

U.S. Senators

Sherrod Brown
To email: type in the Search area, Contact brown.senate.gov
Phone: 216-522-7272
DC Phone: 202-224-2315

Rob Portman

To email: type in the Search area, Contact portman.senate.gov
Phone: 216-522-7095
DC Phone: 202-224-3353

U.S. Representatives

To email any Representative, type in the Search area, Contact [last name].house.gov

DISTRICT 9: Mary Kaptur
Phone: 216-767-5933
DC Phone: 202-225-4146

DISTRICT 11: Marcia Fudge
Phone: 216-522-4900
DC Phone: 202-225-7032

DISTRICT 14: David Joyce
Phone: 440-352-3939
DC Phone: 202-225-5731

DISTRICT 16: Jim Renacci
Phone: 440-882-6779
DC Phone 202-225-3876

Governor John Kasich

Email: type in the Search area, Contact Governor John Kasich
Phone: 614-466-3555

Ohio Senate

To email any senator: type in the Search area, Contact name.ohiosenate.gov

DISTRICT 18: John Eklund

614-644-7718

DISTRICT 21: Sandra R. William

614-466-4857

DISTRICT 23: Michael Skindell

614-466-5123

DISTRICT 24: Matt Dolan

614-466-8056

DISTRICT 25: Kenny Yuko

614-466-4583

District 27: Frank LaRose

614-466-4823



Assistant Director of Music and Organist Lavert Stuart received the news that he will serve as organist for the United Methodist East Ohio Annual Conference held during the third week of June at Lakeside, Ohio. Over 1,000 clergy and volunteers will attend this yearly gathering to address procedural, social, personnel and faith-based concerns. Lavert's presence is certain to introduce both a celebratory and a calming effect whenever needed. Our congratulations to him for his selection to fill this prestigious position.

MarketingMatters

~Aaron Collier, Director of Public Relations

Our marketing actions have reached out to people here and around the world:

Website Analytics:

16,075 Unique Visitors (last 3 months) viewed **74,018** pages of data on our site.

Unique Website Visitors to churchinthecircle.com, to date, this year: 46, 564! It's a 16,000-visitor increase to churchinthecircle.com over the same time last year.

UMCOM Digital Grant

Under the guidance of Donyah Perine, we applied for and won a 2016 United Methodist Communications (UMCOM) Digital Advertising Grant that gave us FREE digital advertising during Advent on several local platforms, including WKYC and Cleveland.com.

This cost-effective grant allowed us to partner with the national UMC office and further validate our identity, brand, location and worship experience on several prominent news and informational websites in the city. This important first step for our church lets us explore an ever-changing digital space and discover where our church fits best in that world.

Rental Page

Our website's Rental & Wedding Page features us as an ideal picturesque wedding and meeting location, promoting our space to individuals and organizations in a way that builds revenue and creates community intersectionality. So, as you encourage friends, family and colleagues to find out about renting our space, direct them to www.churchinthecircle.com and the "Space Rental" tab.

Support your church when you shop, using AmazonSmile!

If you shop on Amazon, you can support our church by going to their smile.amazon.com link and setting up your church as your preferred charity. You'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that .05% of your purchases goes to UCUMC! It's THAT easy. And you may want to add a bookmark in your browser for smile.amazon.com, to make it convenient for you to return to AmazonSmile.



Think Summer Camp!



East Ohio Church Camps offer wonderful opportunities for children and youth to enjoy nature and adventure in settings that encourage community and powerful, lifechanging experiences.

There are week-long overnight camps for every age and interest, including arts and drama, horseback riding, swimming, outdoor survival, rock climbing, cooking and hiking. There are day camps for younger children (grades 1-4) and family camp weekends, too! See www.EOCsummercamps.org.

A generous contribution from our United Methodist Women group provides funds to help families afford the cost of camp. Please contact Amy Wheatley at 4wheatleys@sbcglobal.net or see her at church for more info. Deadline for registering is May 1st.



CHURCH IN THE CIRCLE NAMES & DATES



Stay up-to-date with member birthdays and church events!

~ The Birthday Bunch ~

Why not take a moment to wish those you know a happy day!

April		May	
Doris Mosley	1	Marvin Burge	1
Ruth Marrone	3	Carol Dodd	1
Jeff Adamson	5	David Hughes	2
Dorothy Adams	6	Barbara White	3
Elizabeth Okwudi	6	Anne Billington	7
Bob Adamson	10	Carolyn Hufford	7
Les Fox	12	Josephine Lautzenhiser	7
Jeff Day	13	Victoria Ross	7
Fred McElrath Jr	13	Diambu Smith	10
Christine O'Malley	14	Caroline Urban	11
Sue Laycock	15	Philip Long	15
Amy Wheatley	15	Kay Konicek	18
Aaron Collier	18	Betty Davis	20
Marissa Taylor	18	Barbara Cox	21
Tim Richards	19	Heather Howard	21
Carrie Jones	22	Willa Hunter	21
Vivian Harris	23	Ralph Shurtleff	21
Megan Blank	24	Gertrude Wilson	21
Bernard Rassat	24	Jennifer Johnson	22
Kermit Greeneisen	27	Bob Lawther	23
Bashira Ivy	27	Marina Grant	28
Alexis Kim	27	Nancy West	30
Susan Achberger	28	Bea Thompson	31
Mary Soirefman	29		
Margaret Misch	30		

~ Church Calendar ~

April

2	Easter Cantata and Communion	16	Easter "Sunrise", 8:30am Easter Celebration, 11am
4	Healing Services, noon and 7pm	18	SPPRC, 6pm, Yoder Room
9	Palm Sunday Worship, 11am Second Sunday Lunch, 1pm	22	Memorial Service for Marilyn Sutton, 10am
11	Finance, 6pm, Reception Room	23	Administrative Council Meeting
12	Trustees, 6pm, Reception Room	25	Ladies' Lunch Bunch/Book Discussion, noon
13	Holy Thursday Service, 7pm	30	Worship, 11am Neighborhood Lunch, 1:30pm
14	Good Friday Service, 7pm		

Our UM North Coast District's 2017 Spring Conference happens Saturday, April 29, at Ridgewood UMC, 6330 Ridge Road in Parma, 10:00-11:30am.

May

6	UMW Brunch, 10am		Second Sunday Lunch, 1pm
7	Worship and Communion, 11am	16	SPPRC, 6pm, Yoder Room
9	Finance, 6pm, Reception Room	21	Worship, 11am
10	Trustees, 6pm, Reception Room	28	Worship, 11am Neighborhood Lunch, 1:30pm
14	Mothers' Day Worship, 11am	29	Memorial Day holiday
		30	Ladies' Lunch Bunch/Book Discussion, noon

University Circle UMC Joins ‘Parade the Circle’

~ **Cathy and Jeff Day**,
Co-Lay Leaders
Save Saturday, June 10,
to participate in this
year’s “Parade the
Circle” celebration!

For 28 years, the
Cleveland Museum of
Art has brought this free
signature summer event
to Cleveland’s University
Circle, which comes
alive with color,
costumes, music and art
for all ages.

Part of this festive
celebration is Circle
Village, featuring
activities, entertainment
and food sponsored by
University Circle Inc.



This year, our church has a tent in Circle Village, offering an activity called, “Postcards for Loved Ones.” This design project includes a blank postcard and various media that let people convey a colorful message to someone special.

With about 80,000 people partaking in the festivities throughout the day, you may want to be a part of it all and help our UCUMC activity succeed. The event lasts from 9am to 4:00pm; choose when you can be there by being in touch with Jeff Day, Chiq Montgomery or Aaron Collier to offer your help.

Dr. Chalker plans to walk in the noon parade in gala colors, and we hope to see you there, too, as part of our “Church in the Circle” participation. Add this fun event to your calendar...today!

MENS Group Speaker Forum News

Mark your calendar NOW, reserving Sunday, April 30, at 9:30am to hear **Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson** speak about moving Cleveland forward to becoming a Great City again—a city that cares for citizens most in need. A Q&A session will follow.



Previous MENS Group speakers

ABOVE LEFT: March 12: Chris Ronayne, President and CEO, University Circle Inc. (2nd from rt.), with (l-r) Dr. Chalker, Ed Dickson and Dave Hundertmark

ABOVE RIGHT: March 19: Valarie McCall (center), Chief of Government & International Affairs, Mayor’s Office, Cleveland, with (l-r) Ed Dickson, Dr. Chalker, Dave Hundertmark and Aaron Collier

RIGHT: February 26: Merle Gordon, Director of Public Health, Cleveland, with Dr. Chalker



Dining Opportunities

Second Sunday Lunch (SSL)
April 9, 2017



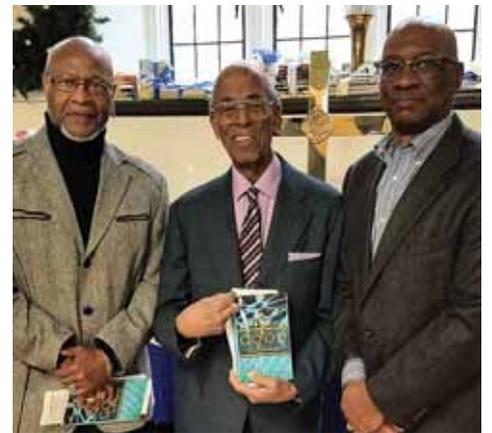
Be a part of this April’s SSL at the Siam Café Seafood Restaurant, 3951 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland. Join lots of other Church in the Circle folks after Sunday worship as we enjoy not only a vast array of food choices but a fellowship that brightens the week ahead.

Siam Café is on the northwest corner of St. Clair and E. 40th Street and has plenty of parking available.

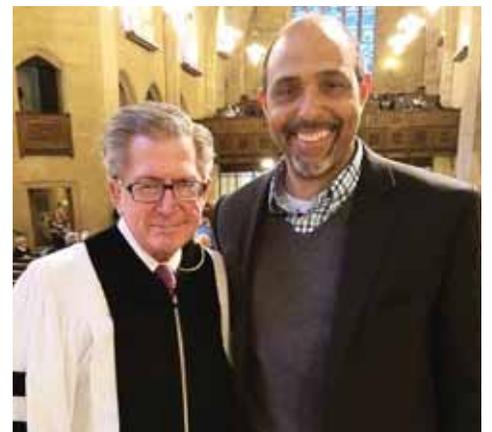
RSVP to Betz Richards at chefbetz1@aol.com or (440) 235-9343 by Tuesday, April 4.

Welcome our NEW MEMBERS!

Take time to welcome these newest members of our church family. They’ll appreciate getting to know you, too.



(L-R) Humphrey Caswell, South Euclid; Henry Best, Euclid; and Bobby Jenkins, Cleveland Hts.



Christopher Nance, Cleveland, with Dr. Chalker

Fire Brings Unanticipated Gifts

Thanks to the conscientious direction provided by Executive Director Donyah Perine, recovery from the Yoder Room fire we experienced November 20th of last year has often appeared to be a virtually flawless process.

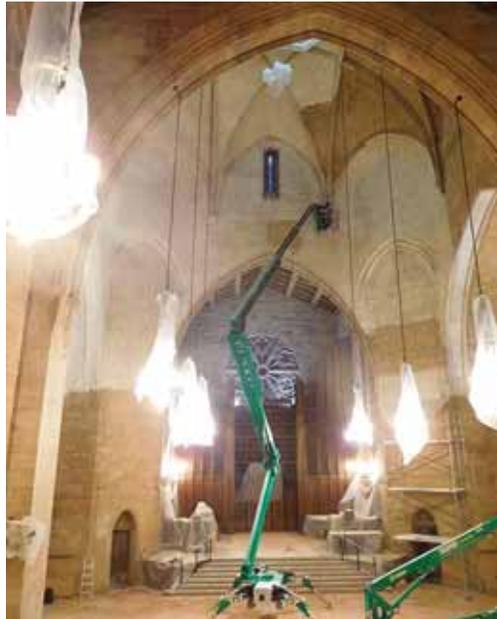
Smoke and soot billowed into the office and Parlor hallways, working their way into offices, meeting rooms, the Sanctuary, Chapel and beyond, resulting in acidic deposits on every surface imaginable. With fumes and residue everywhere on the main floor, our congregation moved Sunday services and most other activities to the lower-level Great Hall and adjoining areas.

The introduction of the Paul Davis Restoration Company brought a miraculous turn-around in the “health” of the Sanctuary and other affected main floor rooms.

During the early-December restoration process, Office Coordinator Heather Howard commented, “Some of the work groups are fascinating—hauling out cartons of inventoried artwork, books and textiles. They are cleaning computers and clocks. Air ionizers are doing their thing...They are still planning to remove the pews and bring in lifts to clean walls, lights and ceiling—seems unbelievable. And, it will take several weeks to get the Sanctuary cleared (of soot and other residue).”

Using a process similar to a “face peel,” technicians applied an adhesive that dried as it absorbed soot, dirt and deposits from the Sanctuary and Chapel stone walls. Each time it was applied, 24 hours later a dried sheet was peeled away to reveal a nearly original surface.

Regular attendees are aware that much had already accumulated on those walls since 1928. And, of course, such a cleaning would not have been financially feasible for our faith family to underwrite. But, leaving the acidic soot on the church’s stone, wood and metal surfaces would have resulted in accelerated deterioration—something our insurance company elected to prevent. As a result, we



Cleaning empty sanctuary

experienced the fire’s serendipity of renewed surfaces, cleaned pews and windows, new carpeting and paint in halls and rooms, and even the cleaning of over 4,000 organ pipes by organ builder and caretaker Charles Kegg.

An anonymous donor covered our church’s \$5,000 deductible, for which every member can be thankful. Yet, it pales in comparison to the seven-figure expense incurred by our insurer.

“We had an excellent experience with Paul Davis Restoration in a challenging situation after the fire in the Yoder Room,” Donyah offered. “(They were) clean, efficient, and they stayed on schedule! The staff (was) extremely professional and they made a difficult situation a little bit better.”

As a faith family, we can certainly count our blessings, not only that the fire itself was relatively contained but that so much care and quality work went into restoring our facility...and our spirits. Thanks be to God for watching over us.

~ The Editor



UCUMW Lunch Bunch Update!

The Tuesday Lunch Bunch ladies have embarked on a book study! We have chosen *Strong Was Her Faith* by J. Ellsworth Kalas for our first study book. We had a discussion of the first chapter on Tuesday, March 28, so you are not too late to join in. The book is still available. Call Marilou Abele (216-229-4772) so you can join the next noon Lunch Bunch meeting on Tuesday, April 25, when we are scheduled to discuss the second chapter about Anna (Luke 2:36–38). Bring a brown bag lunch (coffee and tea are available in the kitchen), and enjoy the camaraderie and interesting discussion of these women of the Bible.

UCUMW 3rd Annual Spring Brunch, Saturday, May 6

The United Methodist Women of University Circle UMC are once again hosting a free spring brunch for all women of University Circle UMC. We will share food, fellowship and fun! We gather upstairs at 10:00am in the Yoder Room for a special presentation by Duffy/Lit Studio dancers and then proceed to the Reception Room for a delicious buffet brunch until noon. Please plan on joining us for this informational and delightful event! Look for more details in the near future.

University Circle UMW Offers Educational Scholarships

The UCUMW Leadership Team is pleased to announce that, starting this year, money has been budgeted for two \$500 scholarships for graduating high school seniors of our church. These scholarships will be given to graduates who are active participants in our church school and/or worship services. A UCUMW committee will decide who will receive the scholarships. Applications are available in the church office and must be completed and returned to the office by April 25, 2017.



LEFT: Organ pipes removed for cleaning; RIGHT: Cleaned, with pews returned for Christmas Eve services

chalk talk

► *continued from page 2*

things, and that physical death is not the end.

What is compelling or uplifting in thinking otherwise?! Even if one takes the matter of spirituality out of it, where is the value in believing nothing—that there is no God, no ultimate purpose to creation or to each of us? What lasting strength is there in living life thinking that when life is over, it is just...OVER?

I do not understand people who announce that they are atheist. And, I cannot grasp the motivation to ADVOCATE for belief in nothing.

What is so attractive in thinking that the spirit, talent and uniqueness of our lives just ends when our physical lives stop? Where is any lasting, motivating joy for life in thinking that our personalities are just the result of genes and breeding?

What is engaging or encouraging in thinking that our personalities, honed and trained by our experiences and our studies to make discoveries, contributions, advances in social life and knowledge, just come to an end? What is exciting about thinking that the intellect, personality and spirit of a Jonas Salk or Isaac Newton or Wolfgang Mozart or Leonard Bernstein or Maya Angelo or your mom and dad or your own self...just ends?

What are human development, human relationships and achievements in technology, science, medicine, the arts...advances of all kinds...what are they all ultimately for if they're not going anywhere or serving as a part of one dynamic, great, PURPOSE?

There have always been hecklers and disbelievers. They do not accomplish very much. They may garner fleeting attention because of their disruptive noise. But, the *ultimate* response to their dismissive challenges which suggest that believing in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and, as a result, that one *would* someday enter the Kingdom of God, is a total waste of time—the *ultimate* response really *does* lie in Sojourner Truth's affirmation: "I have had a good time believing that I would."

In that spirit, let us unite this Easter in affirming, "Jesus Christ has risen! He has risen, indeed!"



'Count Me In' Underway

At the potluck following worship on March 5, Finance Chairperson Suzanne Seifert led a Q&A time about the financial challenges facing our church.

One topic addressed the fact that, this June, the lease of our E. 30th Street property by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District's International Baccalaureate School is scheduled to end. The subsequent loss of income, coupled with a shortage of pledges to our operating campaign, has created an income deficit of 20% (\$117,000) in our 2017 budget.

Suzanne explained that the Finance and Staff-Parish Relations Committees, along with church staff, had greatly reduced the operating expenses. And as a result, we need to focus our efforts on generating income beyond individual giving.

Participants were invited to share their thoughts and to complete a questionnaire indicating specific ways they wanted to be "counted in" to help find solutions.

As a result of this after-church meeting, a "Count Me In" approach, headed by Kay Hogg, was established to address these and related concerns. And now, we have three significant efforts underway:

1. A Property Task Force of highly-skilled members is working with commercial real estate firm Colliers International to identify potential users, developers and buyers for our E. 30th property. Members include:

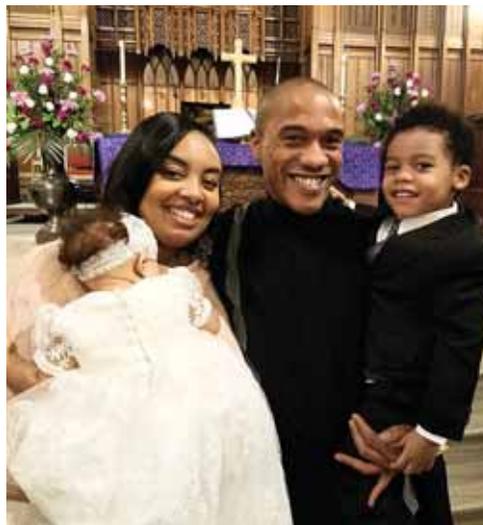
- Andrew Cox, administrator at Cuyahoga Community College
- Les Fox, retired Henkel Corporation employee and Board of Trustees member
- Jim Hogg, retired American Greetings writer/editor historically imaginative about the "First Church" property's future
- Chris Nance, real estate and business development consultant for the Greater Cleveland Partnership (Cleveland's "Chamber of Commerce")
- Kip Reader, managing partner of Ulmer & Berne, LLP
- Mary Soirefman, with direct involvement in the sale of several United Methodist churches

2. Monthly Prayer Power

Beginning Sunday, April 30, Heidi Denman leads a brief prayer session in the Chapel following worship. Those seeking God's guidance to enable our church to not just survive but thrive are invited to attend a time of prayer on the 4th Sunday of every month,

3. Income-Generating Opportunities

A March All-Church potluck and, subsequently, a member brain-storm session offered many exciting ideas for bringing in additional support. At our May 7th All-Church Potluck, you will hear about the "top" suggestions and learn of ways you can get involved.



On Sunday, March 19, Doneisha Taylor and Tor Smith, along with son Case, supported the baptism of daughter Taylor Crystal Ann Smith. Tor is the son of members Pete Smith and Barbara McEachern.

Desmond Clark Celebrated

On January 26th of this year, our faith family lost one of our most dedicated building caregivers and a great friend, Desmond James Clark, to a long battle with cancer. A celebration of Desmond's life was held February 4th in our church Sanctuary—a place he knew very well.

Clergy, family and friends alike offered wonderful affirmations of Desmond's caring and unselfish spirit, and Dr. Chalker's eulogy captured countless persons' affection and appreciation for this self-made man and child of God. You're already missed, Desmond.



Spiritual Formation

~ Amy Wheatley, Ph.D., *Director of Education*

Our Sunday morning opportunities help re-focus and enrich your spiritual beliefs and those of the children in your life. Our programming informs, engages and inspires people to follow in the way of Jesus and to see themselves as part of God's ongoing story. Programming includes:

- **“Exploring Church Doctrine While Celebrating More Important Things”**

9:30–10:30am (Yoder Room)—Senior Pastor Dr. Ken Chalker uses the morning's scripture as the basis for this class, with lively discussion about the life and times of Jesus and what that means for the lives we lead today.

- **“Invitation to Journey”**

9:00am–10:00am (Parlor)—Heidi Denman McDougall, M.Div., Minister of Pastoral Care, uses a variety of books and video series to explore faith, prayer and the Bible's direction for our time, while encouraging discussion and personal reflection.

- **Wiggle Room** (Infants, Toddlers and Parents)

10:45am–12:30pm (adjacent to the Sanctuary)—A space for families with young children during the worship service, this room offers a variety of books and toys to engage young children; an video feed of the worship service is available for adults.

- **Child Care Before Worship** (Preschool through 5th grade)

9:30–10:45am (mezzanine-level classroom, lower 107th St. entrance)—Supervised play for children whose family members are participating in adult classes or activities before worship.

- **Sunday School** (Preschool–5th grade)—Leaders: Amy Wheatley, Cynthia Burge, Karl Wheatley

11:15am–12:30 pm (mezzanine-level classroom, lower 107th St. entrance)—Children begin the morning in worship with their families, then join their adult leaders to go to Sunday School where we encourage caring relationships as we eat breakfast, play, sing, learn and pray together. We explore Jesus' life and teachings through art, games, cooking, drama, music, science and stories.



- **Youth Group** (Grades 6–12)—Leader: Dawn McElrath

10:30am–12:30pm (Youth Room, second floor)—Youth explore faith and current events through discussions, games, videos, service projects and occasional guest speakers. They attend worship on the first Sunday of the month and serve as greeters, communion servers and liturgy readers.

Young adults and their kids met in our Reception Room for an informal breakfast before the worship service, March 26th.

Parents include (l-r) Laura Chalker, Alison and Dom Bellone, Megan and Doug Blank, Nicole and Zack Lewis, Rev. Malcolm Himschoot, Shawn and Megan Hufendick (seated), Danielle and Rev. Jared Gadomski Littleton.



OUTREACH

ORNER

~ Doug Blank, *Outreach Chair*

Don't forget...our weekly canned food collection for the **Cory UMC Food Pantry**. Hunger and nutrition are significant issues in our community, and each can of food we supply represents a meal for at least one Cleveland-area resident in need of food. Just pick up an extra can or dry-goods box each week at the grocery store, bring it to church and drop it in the “big blue bin.” THANK YOU!



Neighborhood Lunch is held the last Sunday of *every* month at 1pm in the Great Hall, providing a full meal to hungry folks in our neighborhood and beyond.

The sign-up sheet on the red bulletin board in the office hallway helps you sign up to contribute specific food items. You can also make a cash donation or stay after worship to greet and serve our guests. Contact Jennifer Bier for more information, and thank you for your support!

The latest about our Mary B. Martin School Partnership

~ Reading Tutor Program Needs You!

Currently, over 90% of the students are reading below their grade levels. Please consider making a weekly one-hour commitment to watch the world open up to a student as he or she discovers that reading can be fun and worthwhile. MBM scholars at all grade levels need help to improve their reading levels. A school ID is needed, and we can help you get one.



~ Box Tops for Education

Now, UCUMC friends can join MBM parents in helping sustain the school's needs by collecting the pink “Box Tops for Education” rectangles on General Mills' cereal and other boxes and depositing them in the container located on the Outreach table in the Narthex.

Our church family has done so much to reach out to our neighborhood school, and there are no words to express our gratitude for your continued support. Thank you!

~ Mary Soirefman; 440-740-0302; mary.soirefman@gmail.com

~ Elaine Myers; 440-243-7322; emyers34@aol.com

UCUMC OUTLOOK

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**University Circle
United Methodist Church**
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Cleveland, OH 44106

A Time for Healing and Coming Together

Tuesday, April 4
12:00 noon & 7:00pm

Already, 2017 has been a challenging year, in so many ways—so much shouting, so many voices lifted in heated disagreement. Remember when we used to know how to “play nicely” and get along with those whose ways were not quite like our ways? All this rage hurts our heart. All this noise drowns out the voice of God.

But, God is still speaking. *Listen*, and hear the whispered invitation of the Christ:

***Come, seek me again
with your whole heart.
I am waiting.
I miss you.***

Join us for a time of restful quiet, apart from the messiness of our everyday lives. Seek what’s missing in your life. Take a break. Feel the Light and Warmth of God’s Love.

Celebrate Easter with Us

Easter Sunday Services
April 16, 8:30 and 11:00am

Free parking in area lots
and along streets

We’re the Church in the Circle.

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