

THE CHIMES

JANUARY 2017



CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR

United Methodist



ALONG *the* WAY...

Long and faithful service to an employer has become a rare commodity. Long and faithful service to an employer that has also been in service to God is even more rare and precious. For more than two decades, Judith Higbee has been in service to God as Director of Music Ministries for Church of the Saviour. With heartfelt appreciation for her years of dedication to the mission of our church, the Staff Parish Relations Committee and Judith have mutually agreed to conclude her ministry on staff at the end of 2016.

While this may seem sudden, please know that all parties involved undertook this matter with prayerful consideration. We hope that you will understand the decision to not formally announce this information until after the Advent season and Christmas, so as not to shift any of our focus from the worshipful spirit of the season, including that of the wonderful Festival of Lessons and Carols directed by Judith. Change is seldom easy, yet it can bring time to cherish past accomplishments and build excitement for new opportunities. Judith has meant so much to the life of this church and we expect God's best for her as she enters a new chapter.

On Sunday, January 22, during 11:00 worship and in a reception following, we, as a congregation, will honor Judith for her faithful service among us. Those who wish to may contribute to a love offering by submitting gifts to the church office.

Please know that the entire church and staff are uniquely blessed by quality music. The SPRC, in collaboration with others, will be thoughtfully and prayerfully considering future staffing of our music ministries. We are grateful that the members of COTS provide the strength of our music program. This allows us the opportunity to move forward deliberately, confident that the quality programs will continue over the next months with interim and lay leadership while a more long term plan is developed. In the short-term, Bob Day has graciously agreed to lead the Chancel Choir. Leaders, members and parents of the other choirs will meet shortly after the first of the year at regularly scheduled rehearsal times.

As at Christmas we are invited to welcome God-with-us anew, may we all join in prayer for Judith, and for the music ministry of Church of the Saviour and its many faithful participants, as we anticipate new opportunities to respond to God's call.

Daran Kiefer
Chair,
Staff Parish Relations Committee

Judy Wismar Claycomb
Lead Pastor

Ele Richardson Leading Tours & Talks in January



Church of the Saviour's own Ele Richardson will be leading a series of tours and talks about the history, design and symbolism of our sanctuary and Chapel beginning January 15. This series will give you a chance to hear all the details that Ele finds fascinating, not just the ones she can cover in an hour's tour.

You can attend the entire series or just the dates you are able to or are most interested in. The eight week series will take place on Sunday afternoons from 3:30 to 5 p.m. For more information or to sign up, contact Cris Hicks in the church office.

Worship Schedule

JANUARY 1

Worship at 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault; 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary, Rev. Judy Wismar Claycomb preaching. "Already One" (John 17:1, 20-26) Holy Communion. Wesleyan Covenant Service.

JANUARY 8

Worship at 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Rev. Andy Call preaching. "Your Light Has Come" (Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 3:13-17) Catalyst topic: Hosea - God's pursuit of Israel, at 6:30 p.m., Great Hall.

JANUARY 15

Worship at 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Lorenzo Smart preaching. "A Call to Love!" (1 Corinthians 12:12-25) Catalyst topic: Hosea - God's pursuit of us, at 6:30 p.m., Great Hall. Human Relations Sunday.

JANUARY 22

Worship at 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Rev. Judy Wismar Claycomb preaching. "Bottle This" (Psalm 27: 1, 4-9; Matthew 4:18-23) Catalyst topic: Hosea - God's pursuit of accuser, at 6:30 p.m., Great Hall. Recognition for Music Ministry of Judith Higbee at 11 a.m. service, reception following.

JANUARY 29

Worship at 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault preaching. "As if..." (Matthew 5:1-12) Catalyst topic: Hosea - God is all truth, at 6:30 p.m., Great Hall.

New for 2017: COTS Praise Team Restart!

Merry Christmas and a Happy and highly anticipated 2017 to you! As I continue to cultivate meaningful relationships at Church of the Saviour, and become better acclimated with its culture and its gifts, a question persistently challenges me: "what does God have next for Church of the Saviour?" For both myself, as the Director of 'New' (or, more appropriately, 'Emerging') Ministries, and you as Christians and its members, I am certain that this question is ever before us, as we collectively strive to serve God obediently and faithfully. Well, take heart my friends! God is faithful and indeed speaks to our longings (see Acts 2:17).

One such vision for COTS has arisen: a re-launch of the "Lifesong" Praise Team! I have been granted a great opportunity to "dream a big dream" in leading the 9:30 AM contemporary worship service, beginning January 8, 2017!

The Praise Team under the direction of Jonathan Short has been a great blessing to COTS, faithfully leading that service each Sunday. I believe that the "Lifesong" service can continue to "push the envelope" in our understanding of "corporate (meaning 'unified') worship" by drawing the attendees into a deeper sense of God's presence among us, creating a space for people from all walks of life (across socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, class, and gender lines; even the "churched" and "un-/de-churched") within the Cleveland Heights community and beyond, and unifying such a diverse group of people by focusing on the powerful, merciful, bountiful, saving blood of Jesus Christ. Since Christ is our peace, having broken down the walls between Jews and Gentiles, I know He can do that for us at COTS! I (with a few others mixed in) will lead the first few services initially, with the anticipation of the formation of a new Lead Worship Team with formal praise team training offered some time in March. The goal is to assist COTS in both adopting and reflecting a true "Kingdom of heaven" perspective, where discipleship-making is at the forefront, where freedom in worship is available, and there is truly "neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Soli Deo Gloria!

Brian C. Smart
Director of Emerging Ministries

Human Relations Sunday - January 15th

"For it is God who works in you, both to will and to do of His good pleasure!" **Philippians 2:13**

Sunday, January 15, 2016 Church of the Saviour will observe Human Relations Day, when United Methodists across our connection focus on the right of all God's children to realize their potential. 100% of the "second mile giving" of Sunday's special offering provides direct benefits to Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services and Youth Offender Rehabilitation programs.

Human Relations Sunday is scheduled to coincide with our national celebration of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. Lorenzo Smart, will be our preacher in morning worship services. Mr. Smart has been married to Wanda Smart for 45 years and is the father of 5 and grandfather of 8. Lorenzo Smart has served as Local Pastor of Rust United Methodist Church in Oberlin, as consultant to Akron Centenary and Holy Trinity United Methodist Churches and continues as "pulpit supply" for several local churches. In addition to his service to the Church, Lorenzo is retired from Cleveland State University where he spent 25 years as an Associate, Human Resources Generalist. Mr. Smart's text for preaching on Human Relations Sunday will be Ephesians 4:1-6, titled, "A Call to Love!"

God Calls Us: Purpose Practice Presence

Del Vargon
Emanuel – God with us



Is God really calling me through basketball? How can this be? The upcoming season will be the eighth year for Upward Basketball and I have been involved with it every year. God has been calling me ever since the first game of the first year in 2010. My involvement has been with the concession stand because I really don't know much about basketball. I guess you could say that has changed a lot since the beginning! I have watched the youngest become the oldest and now instead of players, they are coaches and referees. I have been a part of seeing non-believers become believers. I have given many tours and shared literature and answered many questions. I can't wait to see what awaits me in the new season of Upward. This has probably been one of the most important things in my journey and I know there will be many new experiences for me as I continue to be called by God.

Join the Upward Concessions Team

If you are looking for a fun way to support the one of the ministries of our church this winter, come join the Upward Concessions Team. This season we will be hosting the families and friends of over 300 participants! There is no need to be available every week and there a variety of shifts to choose from to suit your schedule. If you are interested, or for more information, contact Beth Bailey at eb376197@ohio.edu



Volunteers are needed to greet and supervise in the desk during Upward Basketball practices and games.



For more information or to volunteer, contact Kathleen Szabo at 216-751-1957 or by email at gslibrary@churchsaviour.org .

New Members Class

The next New Members orientation class will begin on Sunday, January 22 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Parlor. The orientation class will meet for three Sunday. Please contact the office for more information or if you are planning to attend.

Invitation to Join Collage Class

Looking to begin the new year by joining a class at COTS? We are the Collage Class and we invite you to join us at 9:30 upstairs in room 225. We are starting to read "Red Letter Revolution". Each chapter starts with a "Red Letter" verse and then a dialog between Tony Compolo and Shane Claiborne. We promise lively thoughtful discussion from many perspectives. See you Sunday!

Confirmation Classes Begin January 13

The first meeting for the 2017 Confirmation Class will be for youth and parents on January 13. The youth will then meet each week for dinner and conversation before youth group on Friday nights and again during the Sunday school hour through May 15. The confirmands will learn about our Christian faith, the Church sacraments, and the history, organization, and teaching of the United Methodist Church. Confirmands will be welcomed into full membership during a combined worship service on Sunday, May 15.

Conversation on Race and Diversity

Mr. Brian Smart, Director of Emerging Ministries, and Pastor Dianne Tobey Covault invite the congregation to the Great Hall for the next conversations on race and diversity on Sunday, January 15 from 12:15 to 2:00 p.m. We would like to continue the conversation started last August with a time for us to listen to one another's feelings and work toward a better understanding of what it means to be a multicultural and multiethnic church. There will be a complementary program offered for children during the conversation. All are welcome and all will be heard. Lunch will be provided. So that we have enough food for all, please let us know that you will be attending by calling or emailing the church office at 216-321-8880 or office@chsaviour.org.

Breathe Respite Night Friday, January 27, 6-8:30 p.m.

Our next Breathe Respite night for families of children with special needs will happen on Friday, January 27, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. (volunteers to report at 5:15 for dinner). Registration is open on the church website. Breathe requires many volunteers in a variety of roles, from connecting with a child to serving food. The only requirement, if you have not participated before, is an hour-long training session on Sunday, January 22, at 12:30 in the Great Hall conference room (Room 161). Lunch will be served at the training, please reserve a spot by contacting Renee Leonard at rleonard@chsaviour.org or 216-321-8880. If you cannot make this training time, contact Renee for an alternate time. We invite you to this wonderful mission!

Staff Party for COTS Staff at Natural History Museum

This year the clergy hosted COTS' annual Staff Christmas Party at the Natural History Museum in University Circle. Following a reception with delicious hors d'oeuvres, the staff, guests and clergy broke into teams to roam the museum after closing for a fun and challenging scavenger hunt organized by Andy Call. Once the clues were all solved, everyone gathered again for deserts and prizes. With such a dedicated staff, it should come as no surprise that every team completed the challenge!



Happy scavenger hunters Rick Bowler, Robert Campbell, Curt Campbell, Jenn Call, Joe Hicks & Mike Claycomb



Bible Bookworm Is Coming to Our Library in January

All children who are in pre-school through fifth grade are invited to participate by reading at least 10 books over the course of 6 weeks starting Jan. 22nd. Registration starts Jan. 1st in the library.



Friday, January 13, 6 - 9 p.m.

Kid's Club Swimming at Downtown YMCA

Parent Conversation: Online World, 6-8:30 p.m. Movie Night for Children

Sunday, January 22, 12:15 p.m.

Breathe Training

Friday, January 27, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

(5:15-9:00 p.m. for volunteers)

Breathe Respite Night for Families of Kids with Special Needs.



Friday, January 6,

Jr. & Sr. Youth:

Sky Zone (Boston Hts.) 7-11 p.m.

Friday, January 13,

Jr. & Sr. Youth: Confirmation Classes begin for 8th graders & older with dinner for youth and parents, 5:30-7:00 p.m. (Weekly, Fri. & Sun.)

Jr. Youth: Karaoke & Make Your Own Pizza, 7 to 9 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 14-Monday, Jan. 16,

Sr. Youth: Boys' Chrysalis Flight at Camp Asbury (for 10th-12th graders)

Friday, January 20,

Jr. Youth: Hide & Seek at COTS 7 to 9 p.m.

Sr Youth: Super Duper, 7 to 11 p.m.

Parent Conversation: Online World, 6-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 27

Jr. & Sr. Youth: Breathe Respite Night for Families of Kids with Special Needs 5:15-9:00 p.m.

Theology in Film

Friday, January 6, 7 - 9 in the Parlor
Please join us for "Five Easy Pieces" starring Jack Nicholson.

Website and Podcasting
www.chsaviour.org

Ministry Team

Judy Wismar Claycomb, Lead Pastor
Andy Call, Pastor
Dianne Tobey Covault, Pastor
Lois Annich, Pastoral Counselor
Robert Day, Organist
Curt Campbell, Director of Youth Ministries
Renee Leonard, Director of Children's Ministries
Brian Smart, Director of Emerging Ministries
Penny Neisen, Properties Manager
Cris Hicks, Administrative Assistant
Deborah Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Jill Barr, Newsletter Editor
Leslie Myers, Wedding Coordinator
Loretta Dahlstrom, Business Administrator



The **Chimes**
Church of the Saviour

United Methodist
2537 Lee Road
Cleveland, OH 44118-4136
(216)321-8880 FAX(216)321-3019

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**OUR CHURCH FAMILY'S
BULLETIN BOARD**

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of **Carl Gregory** who passed away on November 20 and also to **Paul Schroeder** and **Rosemary Palmer** on the recent passing of their daughter, to **Stanley Nahigian** on the death of his brother and to **Rosa Brindle** and **Mindy Carter** on the recent passing of their fathers.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Monday, January 10
Mid-Month digital reminder page

Monday, January 16
February Chimes newsletter

Send all information to chimes@chsaviour.org

Notes of Appreciation

Many thanks to the donors and church youth who generously contributed to the success of the Thanksgiving Food Drive organized by Spencer Short (COTS representative to North Coast District Youth Council). We collected 20 boxes of stuffing, 100 cans of food, 20 foil pans, 5 turkeys, some fresh vegetables and other items including 25 coloring books. We were also able to donate \$190 to give to Nehemiah Mission.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this year's Advent Festival including those who volunteered with any of the activities and/or donated to the Silent Auction. Because of YOU, more than \$5000 was raised for missions including Fairfield Children's Home in Zimbabwe, Youth Programs & Missions, and the West Side Community House. What a great way to continue the Advent Season with purpose, practice, and presence!

