



Franklin Circle Christian Church

# The Messenger

March 2011

## Ash Wednesday Begins Lenten Mini-Concert Series

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Wednesday, **March 9 at 7 p.m.** our congregation and community will gather for our annual **Ash Wednesday Service**. Ash Wednesday, the day after Mardi Gras or "Fat Tuesday," is the first day of the liturgical season of Lent. Lent is 46 days long (40 days, plus the Sundays of Lent). Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of worshipers as a sign of repentance (Psalm 51). The ashes used are typically gathered after the Palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday are burned. This service will begin a deeply spiritual season, which focuses on self-examination, confession and repentance, service, prayer, study, and almsgiving.

Then each week our congregation and community will be invited to join together for **five weekly "Lenten Mini-Concerts"** by musicians in our congregation, including Jim Robinson (organ) and Tracey Evans (voice). The concerts will alternate between mid-day and evening and will only be 30 minutes long. NOTE: Mid-Week Bible Study will start 30 minutes later on the two Wednesday evenings that have mini-concerts. The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, March 9, 7 p.m. – Ash Wednesday Service  
 Wednesday, March 16, 12 noon – Lenten Mini-Concert  
 Wednesday, March 23, 7 p.m. – Lenten Mini-Concert  
 Wednesday, March 30, 12 noon – Lenten Mini-Concert  
 Wednesday, April 6, 7 p.m. – Lenten Mini-Concert  
 Wednesday, April 13, 12 noon – Lenten Mini-Concert

The final events of Lent will include a Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday, April 21 at 7 p.m., a Community Good Friday Service (TBD), and culminate in Easter Sunday Celebration at 10:30 a.m. on April 24.

**Please check the back page for upcoming summer hours!  
 Earlier services mean more summer sun on Sunday!**

## “The Warmth Of God’s Love: Blankets+” To Be Theme For Lent 2011



Blankets+ is a special mission and worship opportunity in which Franklin Circle Christian Church will engage throughout the season of Lent. Some 8,000 congregations and groups across the U.S. hold Church World Service Blankets+ events, providing funds to help people in need around the world, including the U.S. FCCC will spend the entire season of Lent (March 9 through April 23) exploring themes around the warmth of God’s love in worship and in raising money for blankets (plus!) to be sent around the world on our behalf following natural disasters and to help developing nations become more stable and prosperous.

For over 60 years, Church World Service (one of the agencies our own Week of Compassion office works through for much of our overseas work) has worked in partnership with local communities to identify their needs and access the resources they need to build the foundation for a more viable future, including:

**Blankets, tents, food** and other emergency supplies in the wake of a disaster

**Tools and seeds** for refugees returning home to replant their fields

**Wells** for families living in drought prone areas to provide clean, safe water to drink and to irrigate crops and gardens

**Literacy training and microcredit** for women struggling to realize their potential.

The most visual aspect of this Lenten theme will be a grey blanket, an actual disaster relief blanket like the very ones CWS sends following earthquakes, tsunamis, and hurricanes, which will hang in our worship space. Throughout the season you will have the opportunity to “purchase” a blanket for \$5. Each purchase will add a square purple cloth to the grey CWS blanket. Our hope is to raise enough funds by Good Friday to completely cover the blanket.

Watch for other creative ways in which our Worship Team will help explore the ways in which God’s love brings warmth – healing, hope, cleansing, comfort, assurance, and empowerment – to each of us individually and to our global community.



Your Pastor,  
Allen

## Member's 411

**Michael Belsito** was named one of the "Top 25 under 35 Movers and Shakers in Northeast Ohio" at a celebration on January 29<sup>th</sup>! And if that wasn't enough, aside from being Innovation Manager at Playaway and Co-Inventor of the Appstand, he's now Director of Ideation of StartupLakewood.com! Congrats, Mike!



Thanks to **Stephen A. Ripepi** from A. Ripepi Funeral Home at 3202 Fulton Rd. and our own member, **Rick Boley**, who works there, for the **beautiful** 2011 calendars they provided for members of our church. What a nice gift for the new year!

We received a Christmas letter and poem from the **Rev. Neil and Kay Deupree**. If you would like a copy, please contact the church office or check the bulletin board at church.

### New Address!

Linda Bryant (and Tiejon "T.J. Bryant): 3432 W. 31<sup>st</sup> St. #1, Cleveland, OH 44113; Phone: 216-961-6653

### Blast From The Past!

We received a very nice e-mail from former FCCC Associate Pastor the Rev. Manuel Tomayo. He wrote:

"I was Associate Pastor at Franklin Circle Church in the late 60's with Rev. Gorden Hagberg. Actually, I was employed by the Region and was also Chaplain of Cleveland Christian Home where I did a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education with Emotionally Disturbed Children. One of my dear friends at that time was Dennis Kucinich. I also remember UCC Pastor Nada Such. Several Disciple Pastors worked at Cleveland Children's Home. Some of them were Ken Coy, Pete Smith, and other pastors in the Cleveland Area including John Humbert, who later became General Minister and President. They served us a scrumptious meal every Thursday before we had class with classes of children at the home."

"I am anxious to see what future developments take place at Franklin Circle. One of my interests in my retirement, but still active years, is to read and study several books on the Emergent Church. I currently am involved with a congregation that is geared and oriented toward senior citizens dealing with aging issues."

"May you be blessed with your mission and ministry there! I knew Rev. Neil Dupree. He lived near the Church for a number of years. We looked for a place close by but found none. So we lived out on Lorain Avenue near the Children's Home. That was my first ministry out of Seminary."



### National Railroad Day meeting

Saturday, March 12th, 2011 -- 10:00 am to noon

The **All Aboard Ohio** railroad transportation interest group will be meeting at Franklin Circle Christian Church. The featured speaker will be **Ken Prendergast**, Executive Director of **All Aboard Ohio**. The topic of the discussion will be **National Railroad Day** in Cleveland, Ohio in 2011. Coffee and doughnuts will be served. For more information, contact Steven Rubin at (216) 466-2284 and leave a message.





**Community Hour**

March 6th	Carrie Kocian/Dave Boyer
March 13th	Peter Jimoh
March 20th	Third Sunday Community Meal
March 27	Circle Sabbath Sunday

**Elders  
And  
Deacons**

<b>Worship Leader</b>	Patty Groetsch
<b>Presiding Elder</b>	Michelle Brown
<b>Table Elders</b>	Janelle Eccleston T B A
<b>Communion Set-up</b>	Nim Bryant/Lilly Conn
<b>Diaconate</b>	Michael Reed David Taylor Marcello Alicea Michael and Hanna Belsito

**READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!**

The newsletter is soon to be more environmentally friendly. Starting **NEXT MONTH**, it will be distributed via email, in PDF form, to those that have home computers. It will also be printed and available for pick-up at the church. For those that absolutely **MUST** have it mailed (at a cost of approx. \$6.00 a year to the church), it will arrive in your regular mail box. If you have not already told us how you would like to receive it, **THIS MONTH WILL BE THE LAST MONTH you will receive it in the mail.** This change will allow us to save hundreds of sheets of paper and the associated toner used to print them. The church will also reduce the postage used to mail these copies that will be sent out electronically. Lastly, the time it takes to print, fold, crease, label, tab, and sort more 150 individual newsletters can be used elsewhere in the church. Please make sure that Bev or Cheryl in the church office have a valid email for you so that we can start enjoying all of these savings as soon as possible. Those with computers will still receive The Messenger in their mail and copies will still be available for pick-up near the entrances to the church.



**Church Picnic**

There will be TWO church picnics this summer. The first will be at the church on June 12th at 9:30am with a potluck meal to follow at 11:00am. If the weather cooperates, it will be an outdoor service. New this year is the Pooch Parade and blessing of our furry friends, so plan on bringing them (as long as they promise to behave). The second will be on August 14th at the upper pavilion at Edgewater Park and will be the same as the first (including the times and the Pooch Parade).

Date	Church	Worship and Wonder	Youth	Other	Total
January 16th	67	5	10		72
January 23rd	63	15			78
January 30th	70	3			73
February 6th	65	10			75



**ATTENDANCE**

## Save The Date



Help Cleveland Christian Home combat child abuse and neglect by participating in the **5K Walk/Run at the Cleveland MetroParks Zoo** on Saturday, April 23rd, 2011. Walkers, runners, families, seniors, youth/church groups — everyone is welcome. Visit [www.cchome.org](http://www.cchome.org) or call (216) 276-0333 to register or for more information. There will be a **drawing for an iPad** for all participants who collect over \$200 in sponsors!

**Pastor Allen now has a blog! (Yes... it took a while, but he finally came around!) Go to it at: <http://nearwestclevpastor.wordpress.com/> You can subscribe to it and get it in your e-mail box. Just put your e-mail into the box on the right and click the “Sign Me Up” button.**



Coming Soon to Franklin Circle Christian Church

The **Christian Children's Fellowship** is almost here. This group is for children in the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades. They also are known through camp as the “Partnership.” I have worked with Pastor Allen and the archives are now out of the room. I will be working with Cody to get out the other stuff. We will be planning our own activities and working with other district churches, as the Christian Church in Ohio has nothing for this group except for Camp. If you have any ideas, please let me know. I would love for you to come by and share your story with us. We will get more into that when the room is ready. Start thinking now about whether you would be interested in sharing with us.

Already running is the Children's Worship & Wonder. It is a wonderful worship time for children from 3 yrs old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. They not only hear stories from the Bible, but they get time to spend with God. I have asked for story tellers and greeters to volunteer their time to this area of worship. If you are interested, I invite you to join me on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Chapel. I am hosting a get together then. I will have materials for both story tellers and greeters: a CD and song book for the music we sing every Sunday.



Children's Worship & Wonder raised \$200.00 at the bake sale the day of the sub sale for camp. Yes, it is only March and we are talking camp! It will be here before we know it. This year there are only two or three going to camp. The campers are Kiaira Woods, Kiasia Woods, and, hopefully, Robert Bryant.

We are planning a Movie Night and Italian Dinner. Check your Sunday Bulletins and Messengers for more details.

Blessings to all,

Michelle Brown

# Prayers for Our Congregation



Prayers for  
Healing and  
Wholeness

Elena Wurm (Bev's granddaughter), Billie Jean Kasten, Maddison (Barb Jenkins' great granddaughter), Larry Crell, Rick Smith, Bill Henderson (Barb Jenkins' nephew), Joe Kassimer and Ted Yurcak (Cheryl's uncles), Michael (Jake Pruitt's cousin's friend), Peggy (Cody Corrigan's aunt), Gabriella Reitz (Lilly Conn's sister), Burt Blaine (Virginia Collins' friend), Jim Lucas (Kevin Kurth's friend), Georgia Johnson (Caroline Rubin's daughter-in-law), Sharon Thomas, Ralph Eyring, Gussie Mae Dade (Cynthia Harris' friend), Chrissy (Caroline Rubin's sister-in-law), Marilyn Reis (Monique Lowther's mom), Russell Kostelnick (Romain Deever's father and Tammy & Fay Ball's neighbor), Eleanor Eyring, Carole Sauer, Al Betts, Anthony Eddie (Brenda Torry's grandson); Shelly Lusk (Cliff Porter's friend); Markeysha Harris (Carmalita Brent's cousin); Dave Hill (Nim Bryant's tenant); Neil Copeland (FCCC Friend).

The family and friends of Billy Ray Holbrook (Al Holbrook's brother, Mary Holbrook's son), who died on January 29; The family and friends of Cherry L. Morman (cousin of Al Betts) who died on February 11; The family and friends of Michael Schmyndryk (Ruth Kroll's friend) who died on February 11; For the Goolsby family (friends of Diane Howard), on the passing of a family member; Wayne Reed (Michael's uncle) died last week following a struggling with colon cancer; The family and friends of Jerry Joseph Dolzine (Brian's Father), age 69, of Dover, who died Friday, February 4; The family and friends of Betty Kassimer (Cheryl Yurcak's aunt) who died February 8. Following the death of Pede (family dog of Tara, Joey, Terry & Ray Bobak) on Monday, January 24.



Prayers of

Sorrow and Comfort



Prayers of

## Support and Encouragement

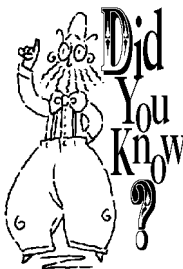
Patricia Cazier; Ralph, Walter, Nate, and Deena (family of Diane Howard); Linda Bryant and T.J. Bryant; Martin King (Brenda Torrey's grandson); Eric Jones; Terri Bobak; Nicole and Cris Price (Jessie Bryant's brother and sister-in-law); People With AIDS; Randy Knapp's mother; Wilfredo Santos; the Brent family; Mrs. Booker, Andrea, Andre Jr. and Linda (via Andre Tompkins); Eddie & Monique Lowther; Eleanor Eyring, Madeline Newcomer; Destiny Ganss, and Family, Stacy Aldridge, Christy Jackson and Family (Eric Nesby's friends) and for David J. Flowers (Eric's brother); Don Hudson, Lilly Conn, Andre Tompkins, Bev Wurm, Alexander Young, David Edsall, Hope Manuelle, Jimmy Watson, Jake Pruitt, and others who are all looking for work; our troops at home and abroad.

## Celebration and Thanksgiving



On the wedding of Kathryn "Kat" Ladrach and Andrew "Drew" Voller, on Friday, January 21 here in our sanctuary; As Jessica Bryant and Tori Scheeff attend the United Nations Seminar in New York City and Washington, DC in late February with other youth from around the Region of Ohio; Keith D. Harris (Cynthia's son) who has a new job at Red Lobster in Strongsville! On the birth of a new grandson to Beverly Wurm, named Braydin J. Wurm, to Bev's son, Brad, and his girlfriend, Mindy; For Patricia Cendrowski, who found full-time employment last week, and for her daughter, Brenda, who also found employment; On the wedding of R.C. and Georgia Johnson (Caroline Rubin's son & daughter-in-law) on January 19 in North Carolina.

**NOTE: Prayers are being posted in the Diaconate/Leadership room AND NOW ON THE BULLETIN BOARD NEAR THE COFFEE/TEA AREA just prior to worship for that day. Also, If you would like to be included on the weekly e-mail Prayer List that is based on the prayers from Sunday Worship Service, please e-mail PastorAllen@FranklinCircleChurch.org and request to be added.**



Did you know that Franklin Circle Christian Church is part of the iAlert system? When bad weather is upon us, and you are unsure about whether or not church activities are cancelled, watch WKYC Channel 3 and see if "Franklin Circle Christian Church" is listed. You can also call the church's voicemail or go to the home page of the church's website to check to see if we are open.

“Let brotherly love continue. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.” Hebrews 13:1-2 NKJV

**Anti-racism**



**Team**

The Ant-Racism Team at Franklin Circle Christian Church has a lot of exciting events coming up in the next few months! As a team we are committed to promoting cultural diversity and healthy race relations in our church and the communities around us. In biblical times people not only opened their homes to their friends, but also opened their doors to strangers. Let us all continue to exhibit the message of the FCCC Mission Statement by attending and participating in the programs specifically geared toward the attainment of equality for all.

On March 13<sup>th</sup> 2011, directly after worship service we will be having a Taco Dinner in the gym; “Mi Familia Fiesta.” The dinner will be geared toward welcoming our Latino members and the Hispanic Community, as well as all of our neighbors. Everyone who attends can look forward to a delicious Sunday dinner while learning more about the various Latino cultures.

Dinners will be available at the suggested donation of six dollars per dinner, but any amount will be accepted at the door and no one will be turned away as long as food is available. Dinners will consist of a hard and soft taco shell filled with taco meat, a side of rice and beans, and tortilla chips and salsa. After picking up your plate at the kitchen window, diners will move down a line to a “Taco Bar” where you can add the toppings and fillings as desired. Coffee, tea and cold drinks will be available as in regular community hour.

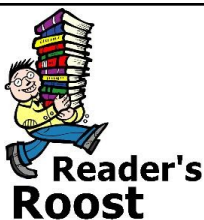
Latin music and a festive Latin atmosphere will be provided, as well as a piñata for the children. Be on the look out for posters and advertisements with further details.

The June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Worship Service will be held outside for the ARC sponsored “Pooch Parade and Picnic” giving members a chance to honor “man’s best friend” (besides Jesus, of course!) Worshippers will be able to bring their well-behaved dogs, with surprise events to be announced! Remember new summer Sunday hours — service begins at 9:30am. We are all sure to have a doggone good time! Grilled meats will be provided and everyone will be asked to bring a dish that reflects their heritage.

The ways people look, act, and live may be very diverse, but each one has the same value in God’s eyes! Franklin Circle Christian Church is invited to join in a personal covenant of racial reconciliation in Christ by supporting our ARC team with your time and attendance to our activities!



Can you spare a half hour on March 8 to join members and friends of Franklin Circle Christian Church in the 24-hour prayer vigil? This is a yearly occasion with everyone welcome to participate. It starts at 7:00pm on March 8, and continues until 7:00pm on March 9, Ash Wednesday, with a special service at FCCC. We have a chart marked off in ½-hour blocks for the 24 hours. You can sign up at church or, if you are not able, you can call the church office Monday through Thursday and schedule a ½-hour that is convenient for you. This is a special time to read, pray, listen to music, or simply be at peace with God. Won’t you please join the congregation in this quiet prayer time?



**Book Sale** June 5<sup>th</sup> in the gym. Start saving your gently read books. Also, check out the two new books by Bishop Desmond Tutu in the Lending Library: “Children of God Bible Story Book” and “God’s Dream”. Even if you think you are beyond picture books, please take a minute and look at these.

## Sound System Updates:



Many of you have given recently to a new fund to help upgrade our sound system, and we are **deeply** grateful for your generosity. In addition to some significant special gifts from individuals, we also raised \$208 at our December 22 Christmas Concert! Thank you all! Understandably, many of you have wondered what the status is regarding the sound system. We do apologize for not updating you more frequently.

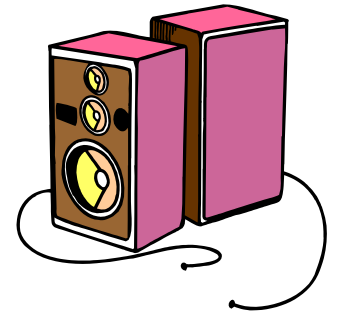
Both the Worship Team and the Officers of the church have discussed our options, and the current thinking is that we need to address the sanctuary sound system problems quickly and directly, and then to take two approaches regarding upgrading our sound system for music simultaneously. In regards to the former problems, technicians from Empirical Sound have been on site with several visits, and we believe we have the voice-related sound issues solved.

The first approach for upgrading our system, which will address our immediate needs as well as be affordable, is to purchase a sound system that will be smaller and more portable to use primarily for our choir, but also at special events around the facilities (gym, chapel, parking lot), and elsewhere. This system will be able to be fully integrated with contemporary music needs, including connecting with musical instruments (electric keyboards, guitars, etc.) as well as with recorded music (MP3, etc.). This system would most likely stay in the sanctuary more often than not, but can be easily moved elsewhere. We probably have enough money in our fund, or are close to having enough, to do this immediately.

The second approach, which will be farther in the future, would most likely be a larger and more comprehensive upgrade in tandem with other multimedia installations (such as digital projection and sound/video recording capabilities). **This will necessarily follow much planning, and its priority will be related to the Visioning Process in which our congregation is currently engaged.** It will have to be overseen and approved by the Trustees, and will include intensive research, site visits, bids, and **much** congregational input.

We will keep the congregation updated as often as possible on the progress of these upgrades. Again, thank you for your support.

~ Pastor Allen



### Grief Recovery Group Begins March 8<sup>th</sup> at Lutheran Hospital

One of the least acknowledged and least addressed concerns in our society is grief, the normal and natural reaction to loss. Whether our loss is from death of a loved one, divorce, loss of a career, of dreams, of health, or trust, grief will continue to affect our lives and the lives of those around us adversely until we resolve our loss issues and move beyond our grief to a richer quality of life.

Several members of Franklin Circle Christian Church have participated in the Grief Recovery Outreach Work Groups in the past and found them very helpful. This **10-week group** is conducted by certified Grief Recovery specialists and is open to **all** interested persons. **The Spring Group will be on Tuesdays and begins March 8th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Chapel at Lutheran Hospital (1730 W. 25<sup>th</sup> St., First Floor). There is a cost of \$25**, which includes the book and all materials. Both FCCC and Lutheran Hospital have scholarship funds if the cost is a barrier.

For more information, or to register, please contact the Pastoral Care Department at Lutheran Hospital at 216-363-2158. Flyers are available at the church.

Key: **CH**-Chapel: **CMC**-Chapel Media Center: **COM**-Computer Room: **FR**-Friendship Room: **G**-Gym: **K**-Kitchen:  
**P**-Parlor: **S**-Sanctuary; **Y**-Youth Room

**Sunday Class and Service Schedule:**  
 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. \* Inquirer’s Class    9:30-10:30 a.m. \* Adult Class    10:30 am \* Worship  
 10:50 a.m. \* Children’s Worship & Wonder/Nursery    12:15 p.m. \*Choir

March 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  Pastor Allen away to Congress on Urban Ministry March 1-5  6:30 pm Elders Mtg./P	2  6:00 pm Yoga/P  7:00 pm Bible Study/CH  7:15 pm Band/G	3  10:00 a.m. Trustees Mtg./P  4:30 pm Anti-Racism Mtg./CH  6:30 pm InterAct/P	4  9:00 am World Day of Prayer Mtg./ CMC 	5  2-5 Community Youth/G&COM  5:30 pm CCF Movie/CMC  6:00 pm West Side boxing Event
		6  12:30 pm Mission Council  2-5 Community Youth Program/G& COM  7:30 pm NA Mtg./G	7  9:30 am Staff Meeting/FR  5:30 pm Yoga/P  6:30 pm Youth/Y	8  7:00 pm Out on Franklin/FR 	9  ASH WEDNESDAY  10:00 am District 2 Clergy Mtg./P  6:00 pm Yoga/P 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service/S 7:15 pm Band/G	10  6:30 pm New Worship Mtg./CH.
13  12-2 pm Mi Familia Fiesta! (Taco Dinner)  2-5 Community Youth Program/G& COM  7:30 pm NA Mtg./G	14  9:30 am Staff Meeting/FR  5:30 pm Yoga/P  6:30 pm Youth/Y  6:30 pm Evangelism & Pub Mtg./CH	15  6:30 pm InterAct/CH  7:00 pm Ideals Class/P	16  12-12:30 pm Lenten Mini-Concert/S  6:00 pm Yoga/P  7:00 pm Bible Study/CH  7:15 pm Band/G	17  ST. PATRICK’S DAY   7:00 pm Widening the Circle Forum/CMC	18  9:00 am Church Women United/CH	19  2-5 Community Youth Program/G&COM
20  11:30 am – 1:30 pm “FCCC & Friends” Third Sunday Meal/G  2-5 Community Youth Program/G& COM  7:30 pm NA Mtg./G	21  9:30 am Staff Meeting/FR  5:30 pm Yoga/P  6:30 pm Youth/Y	22  6:30 pm Christian Ed. Mtg./CH  6:30 pm Const. & Bylaw Mtg./P  7:00 pm Out on Franklin/FR	23  6:00 pm Yoga/P  7-7:30 pm Lenten Mini-Concert/S  7:30 pm Bible Study/CH  7:15 pm Band/G	24  6:30 pm New Worship Initiative Team Mtg./CH	25  2-5 Community Youth Program/G&COM	26  2-5 Community Youth Program/G&COM
27  2-5 Community Youth Program/G& COM  7:30 pm NA Mtg./G	28  9:30 am Staff Meeting/FR  5:30 pm Yoga/P  6:30 pm Youth/Y	29  2-5 Community Youth Program/G& COM  7:30 pm NA Mtg./G	30  12-12:30 pm Lenten Mini-Concert/S  6:00 pm Yoga/P  7:00 pm Bible Study/CH  7:15 pm Band/G	31  		

# Happy March 2011 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
		1  Tara Bobak	2  Xena Lowther Mick Wooley	3	4	5			
		6	7  Jessica Podmore	8  Cari Monhart	9  Lucy Chamberlain	10  Rachel McFadden	11  Nadine Brown		
12			13  David Forst	14  	15  Doe Collier Cheryl Yurcak	16  Ciarra Taylor	17	18  Ulysses Hudson	19  Carmeron Deevers Imani Jones Colleen Munley Steven Rubin
20  	21	22	23  Lily Conn Richard Hinkelman	24  David Heym Gary Wassil	25 Diane McFadden Amanda Mohney  *Tracy & Kevin Coulter *Carita & Juan Arriaga	26			
27  Melissa Bryant	28	29  Carl Cucuzza Cheryl Forst	30	31  					

## Welcome New Administrative Secretaries Beverly Wurm and Cheryl Yurcak!

In January we welcomed two new faces to our church office, though familiar to our church life: Beverly Wurm and Cheryl Yurcak. While they will be sharing the general responsibilities of the church office, each will have specific duties.



>>**Beverly Wurm is the Administrative Secretary for Facilities, Purchasing, and Community Outreach. She will be in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Beverly's e-mail for church is: [wurm\\_beverly@yahoo.com](mailto:wurm_beverly@yahoo.com)**

In addition to regular secretarial responsibilities (reception, phone, e-mail, mail, correspondence, etc.), Bev will also specifically be responsible for:

- **Scheduling & Approving Building Use** including for team meetings and events, outside groups and groups sharing our building, weddings, commitment ceremonies, & funerals; as well as keeping a master calendar of building use events.

- **Oversees All Church Purchasing**, working with the pastor, staff, and lay leaders to purchase supplies needed, focusing on cost savings by buying in bulk and in advance of needs.

- **Assisting Neighbors, Visitors, And Church Participants With Access And Information Regarding Social Services And Community Resources**, including providing referrals to our Community Meal, Disciples Closet, Food Bag Ministry, and other neighborhood services.



>>**Cheryl Yurcak is the Administrative Secretary for Publications and Database Management. She will be in the office on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cheryl's e-mail is: [cyrca@netzero.com](mailto:cyrca@netzero.com)**

In addition to regular secretarial responsibilities (reception, phone, e-mail, mail, correspondence, etc.), Cheryl will also specifically be responsible for:

- **Creating and printing church documents and publications as requested by the Pastor and Lay Leaders.** This includes gathering, formatting, and printing the weekly church worship bulletin and insert, the monthly events and anniversary/ birthday calendar for the newsletter, and regular mailings for the Pastor and Official Church Board.

- **Managing church database, records, and archives** including maintaining the computer membership database, especially the mailing list, producing a church directory, running labels and envelopes for team and board mailings, and maintaining the office files and archives.

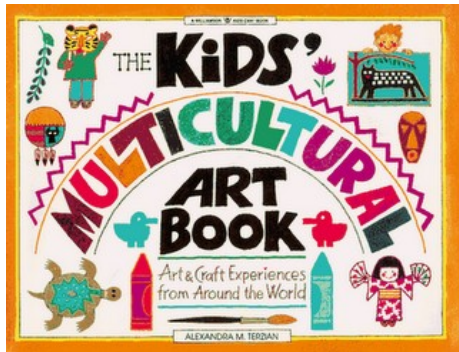
If you have any question as to whom you should direct a request or give information, just call either Cheryl OR Bev, and they will be glad to connect you to the right person!



**Volunteer opportunity:** The weekend Community Youth Program needs your help! We are looking for volunteers to oversee activities. This does not need to be a full-time commitment. If you are available for one month, or one Saturday or Sunday a month, we would appreciate it. Activities include, but are not limited to, computer lab, cooking, crafts, and playing basketball. We hope to offer dance classes and chef demonstrations soon. Also, Bev Wurm will be leading a gardening program. Please see Colleen Munley if you are interested.

## March Forum Designed For Kids AND Adults

### Multicultural Crafts And Discussion



The Widening The Circle Forum on Thursday, March 17th at Franklin Circle Christian Church, will begin earlier than usual, at 6:30 p.m., in order to make it more accessible to children, youth, and adults alike. The theme, **“What Does It Mean To Be Multicultural,”** will be explored in several different ways. For the younger amongst us (which includes the “young-at-heart,” i.e. **everybody!**) we will make crafts from the book, **The Kids’ Multicultural Art Book**. After the craft projects have been started, the adults will engage in a conversation about what it means to be “multi-cultural,” and how is that the same as or different from being “Anti-Racist,” “pluralistic,” “inclusive,” “inter- or multi-racial” or “ethnically-diverse.”

Because there are so many terms being used for congregations, schools, businesses, and community groups who wish to address issues of prejudice and equality, confusion abounds. This evening, with both its hands-on approach as well as its serious discussion about the deeper meanings of our words (and thus our intentions and actions) will be at least a start to the broader discussion.

There is no charge for this event, and all materials will be provided. However, participants will be encouraged to R.S.V.P. in order to have enough materials for everyone AND some readings will be offered ahead of time to help stimulate the discussion. Call the church at 216-781-8232 or e-mail [info@FranklinCircleChurch.org](mailto:info@FranklinCircleChurch.org) to make reservations.

Our Widening The Circle Forums are a means for our congregation, neighborhood, and broader community to explore in a creative manner critical issues of diversity, hospitality, and inclusiveness. This is part of our commitment to be an Open & Affirming, Anti-Racist/Pro-Reconciling, and Accessible Congregation.

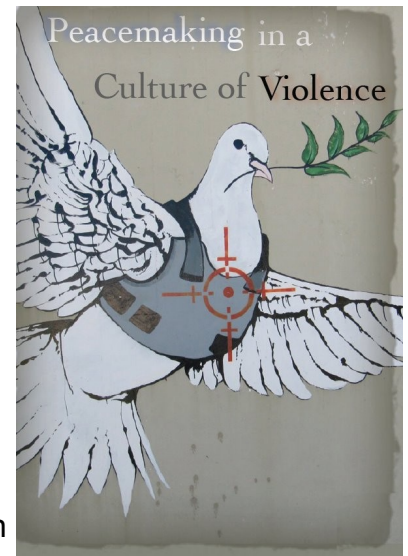
The Widening The Circle Forums are usually planned on a monthly basis and include a creative or interactive element (film, speaker, interactive exercises, etc.) ample time for discussion, and refreshments. There is never a charge and suggestions for future topics, speakers, and films are always encouraged.

### One Blanket—One Life

The river rose so quickly! The waters rampaged through our town, and took my home. All the things I need and loved were gone. I could only save a pan, a picture of my family, and my medications. I was a refugee in my own hometown. Then a person handed me a blanket. Large, warm, and MINE! That blanket became my coat and then my bed. I needed to go to a safer location, so I wrapped my few remaining bits of my life in my blanket, and it made a carry sack. Later, it became the roof of the tent I fashioned in the wooded hills. It then became the safety zone for some infants who needed a safe place to sleep and play. A simple wool or cotton piece of cloth had become a necessity of my life. I used it for so many things. Thank you for giving me a blanket.



## Pastor Allen To Fulfill Continuing Education Time At 2011 Congress On Urban Ministry In Chicago



On March 1-4 of 2011, church and community leaders involved in what it means to live in and care for the city will gather in Chicago, IL for the Congress on Urban Ministry. Pastor Allen will be among them. We will gather to collaborate and conspire towards a new vision for the city by tackling the toughest urban issues with context-driven theology and cutting-edge theory.

The Congress on Urban Ministry is a biennial event organized by the Seminary Consortium on Urban Pastoral Education (SCUPE) in partnership with organizations, agencies, and denominations doing urban ministry. The Congress has proven itself as a premier, international gathering of hundreds of pastors, practitioners, academicians, students and people with a passion for social justice who come together to take part in educating, celebrating, and collaborating towards God's reign in our cities. This diverse group of participants is committed to finding creative ways to prepare and resource individuals so that their ministries may better confront the issues and needs of their communities.

Building upon a 30+ year history of addressing social ills in solidarity with "the least of these," the 2011 Congress will tackle the all-too-timely issue of **violence** from a cultural perspective. We believe that our collaboration at the gathering this coming March can create a flash-point of change in our society as we confess the violence in our own culture and engage with the freedom that comes from peacemaking.

There will be over 50 workshops and seminars on topics ranging from empowering communities out of poverty, confronting racism, faith-based community development, challenges of changing communities, immigration, gang violence, spoken word ministry, preaching peace, and inspiring your congregation to advocate for good public policy. Keynote speakers include the Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Renita Weems, Walter Brueggemann, Shane Claiborne, Obery Hendricks, Mary Gonzales, Otis Moss III, and others.

Please pray for Pastor Allen as he seeks to grow and be nurtured for his ministry in this diverse and vibrant urban congregation known as Franklin Circle Christian Church. To follow the conference, find them on Facebook at Congress-on-Urban-Ministry-SCUPE or go online to: <http://congressonurbanministry.org/>



The 3rd Sunday food and friendship meal on January 16th found our Gym filled with friends eating lunch, visiting friends new and old, having coffee and dessert, speaking with the Care Alliance Nurse, and visiting the clothing room. How wonderfully blessed we are to have so much activity going on. Those enjoying lunch received delicious tomato basil soup made by Patty Groetsch, sloppy Toms (made with ground turkey), desserts, coffee, and juice. We wish to thank everyone who made the day possible with supplies, preparation, serving, set up, or clean up. It takes everyone to make a meal come together!

**March 2011**

**Franklin Circle Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)  
1688 Fulton Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-3096



*For ALL God's Children*

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Sunday Worship - 10:30 am (9:30 am Jun - Aug)

Adult Sunday School - 9:00 am & 9:30 am Sun. (Sept - May)

Sunday School "Lite" - 9:30 am Sun. (Sept - May)

Children's Worship & Wonder - 10:50 am Sun. (9:50 am Jun -Aug)

Mid-Week. Bible Study - 7:00 pm Wed.

Youth Group (Middle and High School) - 6:30 pm Mon.

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Visit us on the web at: [www.FranklinCircleChurch.org](http://www.FranklinCircleChurch.org)

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### ***Mission Statement***

***Our mission is to empower disciples to serve and glorify God. We care for the spiritual needs of a culturally diverse community, encourage creativity, and awaken people to the joys of life with Jesus Christ. We are open to and affirming of all people, regardless of gender, race, age, culture, ethnic background, sexual orientation, economic circumstance, or difference in ability as we continue to embody our vision of God's peace and justice.***