

March 2017

Tower Tidings

First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland



A TALE AS OLD AS TIME



PRESENTED BY

**THE HAPPY ENDING LYRIC
PLAYERS**

PERFORMANCES MARCH 24 - APRIL 2
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTCLEVELAND.ORG

This Issue at a Glance ~

2 Pastor's Page

3 Wednesday Dinner; Congregational Health

4 Bell Ringers Needed; Bob Schneider Sabbatical

5 Memorial Garden; MLK Day

6 Youth Page

7 Announcements; Events; February Birthdays

Pastor's Page



After a long process of planning, preparation and prayer, the First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland would like to present Dr. Mary Jo Odom-Dull as our selection for the position of Christian Education Director. This process

began with a recommendation from the Long Range Planning Committee in conjunction with Property and Finance and the blessing of Council over the past eight months. This will be a significant step to improve the overall quality of discipleship programs of our congregation. I am very excited about this new addition to our staff and congregation. She is an accomplished, strong woman of faith who has been a leader in the area of diversity studies both in ecclesiastical and corporate settings.

Dr. Mary Jo Odom-Dull is a former CEO. She is a Chairwoman, Chief Training Officer, Global humanitarian and Missionary. Creator of the first training multicultural learning theory, Dr. Odom-Dull's V.E.S.I.C.L.E (Valuing Ethno-Cultural Strategies Includes Learning Enhancements) learning approach theory, has opened doors to learning within multicultural learning environments. As a strategic visionary, whose distinguished efforts focuses in the areas of education, diversity, human performance and quality improvement, Dr. Odom-Dull's various accomplishments within the Christian community and business can be seen, as she is renowned for turning around failing multi-million dollar corporations and creating multicultural Christian environments. In addition, she is a Wisconsin Forward Quality Award Examiner, Peer Reviewer for Universities such as John Hopkins University and others, and this is just a small part of her commitment to life-long learning.

As a Christian University Professor for over 12 years, Dr. Odom-Dull wrote the first Christian diversity strategic workbook "Heaven Is Not Segregated". In addition, she wrote the first Christian Superhero Comic book, read at the National Library. This was the first time an author has read a Christian Superhero comic book to children and adults globally. She also created the first and only online Christian Diversity course that included leadership and congregations working together to explore diversity and creating multicultural

abused and battered individual's. Her missionary work, led her to being the first person to create a global letter writing campaign to encourage children in orphanages to remember there is a plan for their life (The Jeremiah plan).

As a Subject Matter Expert, Business and Christian Consultant, she continues to promote quality improvement. Furthermore, she is an author, and has written many journal articles, a notable quality improvement and motivational speaker; she sits on several organizations Boards of Directors and hosted the Tower of Grace and Compassion global radio show, with an audience of 25,000 global listeners. A University professor recognized and awarded in the areas of business, education, and volunteerism. Awarded as a Woman in History Making a Societal Difference and International Woman in Leadership. As a pioneer, Dr. Odom-Dull continues to make strides in her Christian humanitarian accomplishments.

A PhD in Training and Performance Improvement with specialization in Globalization, Post-Doctoral Certification and work from Northwestern University in Professional Program Development and Grant Communication, additional Post-Doctoral Certifications in Counseling, Biblical Studies and Global Studies. Master's in Elementary Education, Graduate Certifications in Leadership, Human Resource Management and Diversity Studies, BSBA in Business Management and BSBA in Human Resource Management are just a few of her educational accomplishments, in addition, she is a Six Sigma Black and Lean/DFSS Belt, certification in Children Stories Writing, and over 23 certifications from the Department of Justice related to victims of violence, trafficking and abuse.

Passionate about serving the Christian community, the daily asked and answered question of her life is: "What role can I play in contributing to the greatness of this individual?" Dr. Odom-Dull states, "I am grateful that God still allows me the opportunity to serve. I am a work in progress and the Master Potter is still molding and fixing me. I am working towards running the race assigned to me and my most challenging goals includes, always putting God first, in everything give thanks, always being a light with a message of hope and staying humble despite achievements. God has blessed me and His unfailing love for me never ceases to amaze me". She is a mother of two sons, Josephus and Charles Jr. She relocated back to our area two years ago from Naperville, Illinois (Chicago suburb) and currently lives in Solon, Ohio. We greatly look forward for you to get to know her. We welcome her to our congregation of First Baptist Greater Cleveland.



The Happy Ending Lyric Players
Proudly Present
Beauty and the Beast

FBC's resident theatre troupe will be raising the curtain on their 41st season with the Disney smash hit, Beauty and the Beast.

The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

This show is fun for the whole family whether they are on stage or enjoying the production from the audience!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter H. H. H." with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

MISSIONS & SOCIAL CONCERN

Thank you for being a part of how God is working through FBCGC to impact our local, national, and international communities!



to Remember

MARCH 5	Help bake cookies to take to Kairos OR turn in your already baked and packaged cookies
MARCH 24	Serving Hot Meals @ New Life Calvary
JUNE 22— JULY 2	2017 Nicaragua Mission Trip— Contact Luis Martinez for details and to join.

CALVARY NEWS

by Tina Marr

Fifty guests were served at New Life at Calvary in January with the help of seven awesome volunteers.

Working at Calvary is a meaningful way to help others, and there are jobs for children and adults alike. The total time we spend there is from 4:00 to 6:30, and in that time we wrap silverware in cloth napkins, heat food, set up the serving tables, serve food, and clean up afterwards. If you would like to help in some way but are unable to physically attend, we would welcome a food donation. In the days leading up to the fourth Friday of the month, you will find a signup sheet on an easel in Swasey Tower that will let you know exactly what food items we need. Thanks to all of you who help with this ministry.

THE AMAZING FIVE!

by Fran Leanza

QUESTION: What do Rachel Ankenbrandt, Kaitlyn Gocan, Austin Hise, Jordan Stevens and P.J. Turner all have in common?

ANSWER: They are all serving as youth assistants in the East Side Ministry program. They are all a vital part of our teaching staff. They rotate Sundays so that one of them is always on hand to assist the lead teacher. All of the teachers depend on the help from these youth assistants and the students really enjoy having them as part of the class. Some of these young people have been helping for two years others for four or five. P.J. Turner has broken the record for our longest serving youth assistant - ever. He started when he was in the 8th grade and was with the program until he was graduated from high school then after a year of college can back and helped out again this fall when he was taking a semester off from school!

Not only has the East Side Ministry program been helped by the contributions of teen assistants for the past forty-two years the teens have gained invaluable experience in working with developmentally disabled people. This experience will be a part of their background in whatever life situations they face or vocation they pursue.

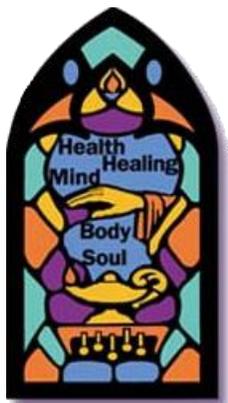
QUESTION: How many teens have been impacted by this experience?

ANSWER: The answer is unknown but between four churches in forty-two years the number is in the hundreds!

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING

by Judy Donley

This year's theme is: Cultivating Leaders, Equipping Disciples, Healing Communities. Your America for Christ offering is making life-changing impact through ministries and resources that vitalize our congregations and communities across the United States and Puerto Rico with the hope of Jesus Christ. Look for the special envelope in your bulletin on a Sunday in March.



by Nurse Debbie

Congregational Health Corner

Demystifying Flu Season

The CDC recommends that all who are at least 6 months of age, unless otherwise contraindicated, receive a yearly influenza immunization. It is strongly recommended for persons with an increased risk of complications, healthcare personnel who risk workplace exposure, and teachers and students who could be exposed the flu virus from outside sources. Caregivers and families should also consider taking flu shots for recurring illness, passed through the family.

Some special considerations include a vaccine for those with egg allergies (the viruses are grown in eggs) and those who have had severe reactions to the vaccine. Vaccines have also been personalized for children, adults and the elderly. For children, a two-step immunization procedure has been developed, as their immune system has generally not had much exposure.

Flu vaccines come in nasal spray, intramuscular and intradermal injections. The method is determined by the type of vaccine. Doctors generally recommend that immunizations be given between October and December. They will be effective through March and sometimes until May, encompassing the majority of the flu season.

The body will take approximately two weeks to form antigens. The vaccines help to prevent the flu by encouraging our bodies to form antigens similar to the specific illness. This does not cause the actual disease but can bring on some minor symptoms, such as a fever. Redness and swelling at the injection site is a common reaction, but will subside quickly in most people.

Some of us might wonder how these vaccines are developed. The World Health Organization (WHO) conducts surveillance in the North and South Hemispheres of the world to identify which virus (es) are prevalent. Once identified, each country is informed of the clinical study data for their region. They will decide which viruses will be reflected in their vaccine.

There may be an occasional virus that is not identified in time to be added to the vaccine. This could possibly explain those times when the vaccine seems to be inadequate or a particular flu virus will seem to be spread unchecked.

So, let's all be good to ourselves and others that we may be surrounded by. Flu vaccines are usually plentiful and are covered by most healthcare plans.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention...
www.cdc.gov

Youth Page

ignite

YOUTH
wednesday
night **LIVE!**
ignite

be in the
know!

Famous FBC Women's Retreat



**SAVE THE DATE - BE PART OF THE
MAY 12 & 13, Friday Evening & Saturday**

COME AND JOIN US FOR:
MUSIC, FOOD, SMALL GROUPS, CAMPFIRE,
FELLOWSHIP, DEVOTIONS, AND LOTS OF FUN
COST: \$45

CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS:
Jen Bopple
Fran Lanza
Kelley Pernicone
Laura Preston
Helena Safarova

March Birthdays!

- 3rd G. Michael Skerritt
- 3rd David Parajon
- 4th Joyce Berry
- 7th Alwin Miller
- 7th Diamond Miller
- 9th Cynthia Burke
- 11th Robert Gill
- 12th Elle Frey
- 12th Cynthia Gill
- 15th Mona Robinson
- 20th Wilma Hall
- 21th Kyle Davis
- 23rd Jacquelyn Berry
- 27th Faith Arnold
- 28th Charie Babcock
- 31st Carolyn Lang

Happy Birthday

Interfaith Fellowship Day





Tower Tidings

The First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland
3630 Fairmount Blvd.
Shaker Heights, OH 44118

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, OH
Permit 4026

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material: March 2, 2017
Thanks for prompt delivery!

-  **Office: 216.932.7480**
-  **Fax: 216.932.8554**
-  **Children's Center: 216.371.9394**
-  **firstbaptistcleveland.org**
-  **sknuckles@firstbaptistcleveland.org**
-  **First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland**
-  **First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland**

2017 FBC Lay Leadership

- Moderator:** Victor Bull
- Vice Moderator:** Kim Kidd-Collins
- Treasurer:** Ralph Hise
- Clerk:** Lynne Liu
- Children's Center:** Martha Lant
- Communication & Outreach:** Angela Fielding
*Greeters, Welcome Center,
Marketing, Communications*
- Discipleship:** Suzanne Blum
*Discipleship Classes, PrimeTime,
Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry,
Covenant Groups*
- Fellowship and Nurture:** Tina DeBlaey-Cicco
*Stephen Ministry, Deacons,
New Member Orientation*
- Missions & Social Concerns:** Jessica Chapman
Martinez
- Stewardship:** Tony Peebles
*Property and Finance, Stewardship
Campaign, Endowment and Audit*
- Worship and Fine Arts:** G. Michael Skerritt

FBC Church Office Staff

- Rev. Dr. Kregg F. Burris, Senior Pastor
- Rev. Jeff Gordon, Associate Pastor/Church Administrator
- Minister Jae Williams, Director of Youth Ministries
- Dr. Robert Schneider, Director of Music and Organist
- Betty Meyers, Associate Director of Music
- Jane Pernicone, Director of Children's Center
- Jeff Chaney, Director of Children's Ministries
- Margo Jerome, Accountant
- Star Knuckles, Executive Assistant/Office Administrator
- Greg Beckner, Graphic Designer
- Afi Scruggs, Social Media and Communications

Tower Tidings Staff

- Editors:** Star Knuckles, Kregg Burris
- Proof Readers:** Star Knuckles, Afi Scruggs, Kregg Burris

Thank You! to the many volunteers who help assemble the Tower Tidings mailing each month!

The Next Tower Tidings Deadline: MARCH 15

The next issue will be mailed: March 23, 2017
Please submit articles or news via e-mail to Star Knuckles:

sknuckles@firstbaptistcleveland.org

