

August 2017

Tower Tidings

First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland



Introducing to First Baptist Church...

CLEVELAND LIFE INSTITUTE

Become a Leader in Your Community!

- Learn Real World Leadership Skills
- Get Classroom and Field Experience
- Learn How to Motivate Others
- Gain Important Negotiation Skills
- Make a Difference in Your World!

Graphic Design by Greg Beckner

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When first arriving at FBCGC, Christian Education was presented as the highest priority and the key element necessary for future growth of the church.

During my first year's assessment, three initiatives have been laid out to established this goal. They are: 1) creation of a comprehensive plan of Christian Education, 2) hiring of a director of Christian Education, and 3) creation of leadership training programs.

Last spring we hired Dr. Mary Jo Odom Dull who has been busy forming our comprehensive plan. She conducted her own assessment, initiated policy statements and created a strategy for growth. We look forward to activities and events this fall, including training classes, a new and improved Hero Headquarters, new technology, and exciting discipleship classes. Our Deacon (gender neutral) ministry will provide in-house leadership training for our congregation which is being led by Evon Gocan and Theo Fielding. These training sessions will begin soon.

Last summer during prayer, I believe that God began to work within to start a new work for First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland to provide adult leadership training to our church and beyond. Our congregation is blessed with wonderful leaders of faith in a wide range of professions, education, and backgrounds with passion for social responsibility.

This has led me to establish the Cleveland Life Institute. A self-sustaining organization of FBCGC following a semester classroom structure with the faculty composed of a series of guest lecturers representing various aspects of our community; education, religion, business, health, government, law, community service. The program is designed for completion in a single academic year (fall and spring semesters.) Each year's focus will change in order to reflect various aspects of interests and community needs. It is our goal to raise up and train leaders who will be social entrepreneurs within our community.

Adult education programs are usually related to colleges, graduate school, seminaries or single day/ weekend seminars.

The concept of an ongoing life institute is to provide a continuous adult educational environment that will offer students real world experience within the context of our own community environment.

By combining local leaders, we will provide mentoring opportunities for our students and a bonding experiences and a partnership within our community. Our commitment as followers of Christ calls for us to make disciples which is a lifetime process of learning. The Cleveland Life Institute takes this mission beyond the walls of our beautiful sanctuary to engage our world struggling with fear, violence, poverty and injustice in order to be an agent of change.

The program will contain three key components. **First**, each class will have the opportunity to bond over the course of the year together. This process of interaction is an important part of building community and something often missed in adult educational experiences. **Second**, each class will partner with a community goal and organization addressing a need or concern, in order to become involved with social concerns within our community. This allows for practical application of the course work and ability to interact with others outside of the classroom. And **Third**, the variety of guest lecturers provides opportunities to be exposed to various aspects of the community and leading members of our community. This relationship building/mentoring is an important part of making a lasting impact on both the class larger community.

The goal is to bring together a network of leaders from a broad section of our community to provide a partnership in teaching, training and mentoring in order to raise up and identify leaders for our congregation and our larger community. Our Christian faith shall serve as the foundation of our instruction based upon the high precepts of responsibility, justice, respect, and integrity.

Our social concern for our first year will be the issue of Cleveland's abandoned houses in partnership with the work of the Western Reserve Land Conservatory and Cuyahoga Land Bank. Our students will work in groups to hear about the issues involved, examine resources and create feasibility studies in order to present a proposal to address this concern at the end of our first semester. The second semester moves the proposal toward being implemented into work solutions. This moves the theoretical, shares the experiential, to create a practical solution whereas our faith becomes reality. *Cont. next page*

Already having received endorsements from a number of significant leaders, we are excited for what God has in store for us. We are passion for change with a dedication to make a difference, motivated by our love. We need your help to make The Cleveland Life Institute a progressive, experiential, educational agent to transform our world, impact lives and allow our light to shine. Sign up today! Our classes will begin in January, 2018. Please see more information at our web page: www.clelife.org

Sincerely,



**JANUARY 2018
ENROLLMENT
OPEN NOW**



Love the Skin You're In



All types of skin can be at risk for harmful effects associated with sun exposure, with light skin tones being at higher risk. Skin cancer and premature aging are accelerated by exposure to the sun's two types of radiation; UVA and UVB.

Even on those cloudy or overcast days, 40%-80% of these rays reach the Earth and are potentially hazardous to our protective outer layers of skin. UVA rays can penetrate deep into the layers of our skin to cause wrinkles and the appearance of premature aging; and are linked to skin cancer.

UVB rays cause skin redness which we know as Sunburn and can also lead to skin cancer.

Sunscreens work on UVA and UVB rays in two ways: They scatter the sunlight and reflect it away from the body. They absorb the UV rays before they can reach our skin.

Choose UVB protection by determining the SPF (skin protection factor) number that is right for your skin. A number of 15 or greater is sufficient for most skin types. A higher factor may be beneficial for those with a history of skin cancer. Choose UVA skin protection by searching for ingredients such as ecamsule, avobenzone, oxybenzone, avobenzone, oxybenzone,

titanium oxide, sulizabenzoin and zinc oxide.

There are products available for children and those with sensitive or allergic skin issues. These tend to be free of chemical such as PABA and the "benzones". Many personal care products such as shaving lotions, make up and lotions now come with SPF protection.

Apply one full ounce of sunscreen to all exposed skin areas at least 20-30 minutes before exposure. Using less than recommended will decrease the amount of protection that you receive from the product. You should reapply after each two hours outdoors; and immediately after drying off from swimming or sweating. Don't forget your easily overlooked areas like the back of your legs, tips of your ears and your eyelids. Use SPF lip balm on your lips.

Some other sensible ways to protect yourself from sun exposure are to wear sunglasses, a floppy brimmed hat, wear dark, tightly woven clothing or garments marked "UVP" (ultraviolet protection) on the label. You can also avoid being outside for extended periods during the times when UV radiation are the highest: between 10 am and 4 pm (in the U.S.). A working knowledge of these active sun protection measures can help to decrease skin discomfort and any long term damage associated with the summer sun. Have a great summer season!

“Together in Worship”

The Music and Fine Arts Cluster has worked diligently to make your summer worship experience special. While including all of the regular elements of a truly spiritual service, the Cluster has added some new elements to enhance your worship experience.

The 10 AM service time lets the school-free youngsters, and their parents, get a little extra sleep, and the 11 am completion time sets everyone free a bit earlier to enjoy the great outdoors. Music selections that highlight the unique capabilities of both the Chancel Choir and the Praise Team, individually and in collaboration, have opened up new ways to praise God with our voices.

Finally, weekly themes such as Wacky-Tacky Tie Day and Red, White and Blue Day have given us an opportunity to honor important influences in our lives as we continue to worship Jesus Christ. Don't forget, coffee and goodies available at 9:30 am each Sunday.

There are eight Sundays left in our summer schedule and the following themes have been selected. Participation is always optional, but we hope you will be motivated to embrace and enjoy each one.

July 16	Change Your Seat Day	Do you always sit in the same place each Sunday? Move across the aisle or switch front to back and maybe meet new people.
July 23	Christmas in July	Why sing beautiful Christmas music only once a year! Let's experience the joy of Jesus' birth by singing some of our Christmas favorites.
July 30	School Days	On Graduation Recognition Sunday, plan to wear a sweatshirt, hat, etc. from your favorite school, primary, middle or high school or college.
August 6	Superhero Sunday	"Heroes of Mega City" is this years theme for VBS starting the next day. So wear your cape, costume, or other sign that you are a HERO!
August 13	Hawaiian Luau Sunday	We know you have an outrageously beautiful flowered shirt some where in your closet. Wear it and brighten up the worship service.
August 20	Dress Up for Church	Shirt and tie, women's hats, gloves and purses. That's the way church used to be. Let's bring that back for one Sunday of nostalgia.
August 27	Around the World	Celebrate Mission Sunday by bringing a can of food or article of clothing to share with our less fortunate brothers and sisters. If you have ethnic or cultural dress, or food, feel free to bring it to the service.
September 3	Labor Day Focus	Wear outfits that you would wear in your chosen employment. Encourage your kids to dress in clothes that reflect their career choices.



Our theme for the months of July and August is, "Come Alive (Dry Bones) Victory is Yours". Each of us is given a gift and talent "A superpower". Or as Apostle Paul would say, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." We are exploring and discovering our Superpower (gifts and talents). We are sent by the owner of the harvest and given the authority to be fishers of men, however, we will need to use our superpower. As we continue to grow in spiritual maturity, we will continue to encourage our children to walk with God confidence knowing in Christ Jesus they have the Victory!

Bible Reading: Stories of Biblical Heroes

August 6—Daniel 6—*Daniel in the Den of Lions*

August 13—1 Samuel 17—*David Slays Goliath*

August 20—Joshua 6-7—*Walls of Jericho Falling*

August 27—Esther—*Story of Queen Esther*

Vacation Bible School (Hero Headquarters!)— August 7, 2017 – August 11, 2017

At Hero Headquarters, kids will discover five unnamed heroes who were not super or powerful, yet their small acts were used by God to do wonderful things! What they had was a willingness to be used by God right where they lived. At Hero Headquarter, your kids will be challenged to be heroes and...

Take action!

Step out on faith!

Stand for truth!

YOU can make a difference in the lives around you! YOU can impact others for Christ!

Our monthly challenge encourages the following action items:

Dream through the possibilities of God.

God's word is powerful and it produces victory, so walk with boldness.

Pray every day! *The greatest tragedy in life is the prayers that go unanswered because they go unasked!*

August 4, 2017 -Family Movie and Camp Out- 7PM—10PM

Youth Page

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Our skating outing at Chagrin Valley Skating Rink on July 7 was well attended and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves! Thanks to all who attended!

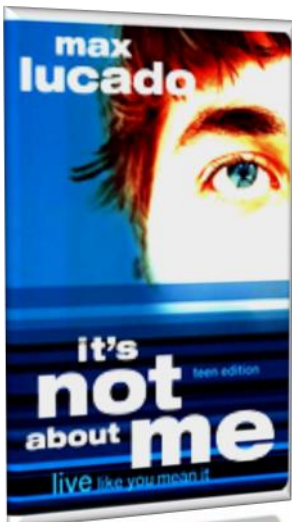
be in the know!



Heads Up Basketball has finally started at Church of the Saviour (Monday nights 6—9pm) Open to Middle and High School students

August 12 is set for our outing to Cedar Point

Get ready for our Back to School Talent Show



SUMMER READING

Our 7th-12th graders are reading Max Lucado "It's Not about Me" during the summer break

When my successes, my struggles, my message, my salvation, even my body, are not about me but about Him, life take on a "holy" different meaning. Live life like you mean it. Your discovery starts here.



Our theme for Sunday, July 9, was Hats Off!



**FBC Red Hots Sponsored
by Señor Tequila**

**Cheer on the team at
Forest Hill Park!**

**August 6—8:30 pm
Field 7**

**August 13—
Playoffs TBA**

August Birthdays!

- 1st Martha Stromann
- 2nd Debbie Cornelius
- 4th Mary Wild
- 6th Gilbert True
- 7th Chris Wright
- 8th Anita Hamdan
- 9th Jane Smith
- 12th Middy Crellin
- 12th David Cumming
- 13th Monica Sturgis
- 15th Tracey Long
- 17th Darryl Robison
- 18th Christopher Tillman
- 19th Don Crellin
- 22nd Sylvia Workman
- 24th Barbara Hise
- 24th Mari Schroder-Jenkins
- 26th Emma Melton
- 29th Tammy Gordon
- 30th Joseph Belhobek

Happy Birthday



Life can be challenging, but you don't have to go it alone. FBC's Stephen Ministers are available to help you or someone you know through the tough times. For those who don't know, Stephen Ministry is a confidential Christian program designed to offer support when times get tough. If you could use this unique service, contact Mari Schroeder-Jenkins at 226.543.1830. For more info go to www.firstbaptistcleveland.org










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The First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland
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-  **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**

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- Betty Meyers, Associate Director of Music
- Dr. Mary Jo Odom-Dull, Director of Christian Education
- Minister Jae Williams, Director of Youth Ministries
- Jane Pernicone, Director of Children's Center
- Star Knuckles, Executive Assistant/Office Administrator
- Greg Beckner, Graphic Designer
- Margo Jerome, Accountant

Tower Tidings Staff

- Editors:** Star Knuckles, Kregg Burris

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

The Next Tower Tidings Deadline: AUGUST 15

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Please submit articles or news via e-mail to Star Knuckles:

sknuckles@firstbaptistcleveland.org

