

THE CHIMES

JANUARY 2019



CHURCH of
the SAVIOUR

FROM THE LEAD PASTOR

Experienced gardeners who work with perennials know the adage sleep, creep, and leap. Plants that grow year after year are typically slow in developing. The first year, they sleep – seemingly doing very little. The second year, they creep – not always showing signs of thriving, but growing their roots and support systems. The third year, they leap – that is, when you finally know if you have a healthy plant.



We are in our second year together. There have been some encouraging signs of growth and success, but there are also times when it seems we are only creeping. I am not always patient with slow progress; a trait in which I know I am not alone.

As we start a new calendar year, I want to share some observations about the past year and some sense of where I see God calling us in the year ahead.

2018 – Successes and Challenges

Completed a focus of spiritual formation through small groups and began a focus on outward mission. We need to remain faithful in discipleship while reaching outward.

Big steps forward in communication, live streaming, and website. More work to do.

Established strong leadership and a clear identity in 9:30 worship. It's time to grow.

2019 – What is before us

Live into the five practices of discipleship: worship, grow, serve, give, and invite.

Strengthen a culture of serving, both internally and externally, to invite more people into a relationship with Christ.

Rev. Andy Call



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Jan. 6: "Search and Find"

Isaiah 60:1-6 and Matthew 2:1-12

Jan. 13: "You Are Beloved"

Isaiah 43:1-7 and Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Jan. 20: "Gifted for Others"

1 Corinthians 12:1-13

Jan. 27: "The Greatest Gift"

1 Corinthians 12:27 - 13:13

Worship at 8:30 a.m. in Myers Chapel, 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall, 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

SENIOR YOUTH WINTER RETREAT

Time together with friends in a cozy cabin near Hocking Hills. Meals prepared by us and our cooking team. Conversations about putting our faith into action. All shaped and led by our youth planning team. For youth grades 9th to 12th. Friends are welcome to join. The retreat begins at 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, and ends at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13. The cost is \$45, and assistance is available. Find more details and register online (by Sunday, Jan. 6) at tinyurl.com/COTSYouthWinter.

Curt Campbell, Youth Director

BUILDING IN MEMORY OF RICH HILES

Rich Hiles was a dedicated volunteer for Habitat for Humanity in Cleveland for many years, working on several projects and properties. Rich also was an active, long-time member of Church of the Saviour, leading the Disciple Bible Study series, teaching and mentoring Confirmation class, and participating in youth mission trips.

When you support the Rich A. Hiles Memorial Habitat for Humanity House, you are making a loving investment that not only impacts the lives of Habitat homeowners, but also has a lasting impact on an entire community by helping to provide affordable, decent housing to low-income families.

Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity has agreed to share the costs of building a new house with Church of the Saviour. Our portion will cost \$70,000. The house is planned for Grandview Ave. (between Woodland Ave. and Shaker Blvd.), between East 110th St. and Woodhill Rd. We hope to begin construction in March 2019.

There are several ways you can donate toward the Rich Hiles Memorial Habitat for Humanity House:



Workplace giving: Greater Cleveland Community Shares, Combined Federal Campaign (federal employees) and Ohio Combined Charitable Campaign (state employees) are options. Contact Pete Evangelista at pizonpete@aol.com for additional details. Please notify COTS if you donate through work so we can make sure that Cleveland Habitat for Humanity designates those funds toward the Rich Hiles house.

Donate online: clevelandhabitat.org/cotsumc. Please share this web link with your friends and family via social media.

Donate in the COTS office: Write a check to Church of the Saviour and include "Habitat House" on the memo line. You will receive a "Building Hope" certificate. While you may donate any amount, you could purchase a square foot for \$25 or a square yard for \$225.

Donate your spare change: Give your pocket change to the "Well of Hope," a large, clear jug, which will be located at each church service.

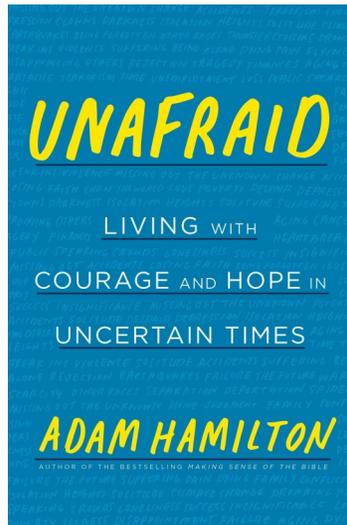
Once construction begins on the house (expected in early March), you can volunteer your time on the crew. Youth who are 16 and older may work on the construction site with adult supervision. Youth younger than 16, with the help of their Sunday School class, can help put together housewarming gifts for the new homeowners, which will include a tool box, cleaning supplies, yard tools or a starter library containing books for every member of the homeowner's family.

We're excited about embarking on this challenge to sponsor a Habitat for Humanity House in memory of Rich Hiles. If you knew Rich, you know he would be thrilled that our church congregation is helping one of his most cherished ministries. Even if you didn't know Rich, this is a wonderful opportunity to give back to your community. If you have further questions, contact Pete Evangelista at pizonpete@aol.com.

If you have any news you'd like us to consider for publication, please send a note to chimes@chsaviour.org.

ROUND TABLE

Join me this year in growing in our faith and knowledge. Each month, we will discover a new book that explores a topic relevant to our lives and to the lives of countless others. In January, we will read *Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times* by United Methodist Pastor Adam Hamilton. Below you'll find a brief description of the book.



Join me as we learn to live unafraid, with courage and with hope. We will gather at 7 p.m. Jan. 23 in Room 100 with special guest, the Rev. Dianne Tobey Covault, pastor at Christ United Methodist - West Park and former associate pastor at Church of the Saviour. Dianne signs every email with "fear not." A central tenet of her ministry is the reminder from scripture to not be afraid.

"You'd be hard-pressed to overstate the extent to which fear, anxiety and worry permeate our lives today. Fear wreaks havoc on our relationships and communities. It leads us into making bad decisions. It holds us back from the very pursuits that promise fulfillment and joy.

Drawing on recent research, inspiring real-life examples and fresh biblical insight, Hamilton shows how to untangle the knots we feel about disappointing others, failure, financial insecurity, loneliness, insignificance and aging. Then, he helps readers understand and counter fears related to such outside perils as terrorism, death and the apocalypse." – cokesbury.com

The Rev. Gregory E. Kendrick, Jr.
Pastor of Connections

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: UPWARD BASKETBALL



The Great Hall will once again be ringing with the sounds of basketballs, coaches and players as our 10th season of Upward Basketball begins Jan. 7.

One might wonder what a children's basketball league has to do with our mission to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. In fact, that mission is the heart of Upward. Our Upward program is in high demand in the Heights community because we build our players mentally, athletically, socially and spiritually.

Through sport, we teach players life lessons that promote making wise decisions on and off the court. We also help each player improve their physical ability. Since part of growing as an athlete is connecting with teammates and building healthy relationships, we help develop those relationship skills as well.

Although these are worthwhile goals, it is the final goal of spiritual growth that makes our league missional. Upward basketball promotes the discovery of Jesus through sports. Throughout the season, our coaches lead weekly mid-practice devotional times and introduce life's true purpose through intentional character lessons, which provide an introduction to the gospel in a relaxed setting. These character lessons are reinforced by all of our volunteers, whether serving as referees, game day announcers, concession stand helpers or library ambassadors.

Nearly one-third of the 286 players registered this season do not have a church home. For those players and their families, it is our privilege to be the welcoming hands and faces of Christ. When we show love and respect to those who may not yet know God's love, we are truly living out our call. If you would like to know more about Upward or have an interest in joining this ministry, please join the game.

To find out more or to sign up to support the league, contact Cedric Marshall at upward-admin@chsaviour.org.

UMW SPIRITUAL GROWTH STUDY

The 2019 study book for United Methodist Women (UMW) Spiritual Growth is *Embracing Wholeness: An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living* by Jessica Stonecypher. The four weekly sessions begin at 10 a.m. Jan. 10 in the church Parlor and will be facilitated by Irene Beville, past UMW president at Mount Pleasant UMC and a retired educator. The study explores the ways God has called us to live in covenantal relationship with all of creation and challenges readers to work toward stronger and healthier relationships with creation, their communities, themselves and God. Books are available for purchase at umwmissionresources.org for \$10 or via Amazon Kindle.

Stonecypher, who lives in Zanesville, Ohio, is a United Methodist Deacon and founding member of the Wesleyan Order of Saint Francis. More information available at wesleyanosf.com.

WEBSITE AND PODCASTING: COTSumc.org

MINISTRY TEAM

- Andy Call, Lead Pastor
- Gregory Kendrick, Jr., Pastor of Connections
- Lois Annich, Pastoral Counselor
- David Gilson, Director of Music
- Robert Day, Organist
- Charles Cotton, Creative Director, 9:30 Worship Experience
- Jill Phillips, Worship Leader, 9:30 Worship Experience
- Graham Rosen, Production Team Leader
- Brian Smart, Director of Emerging Ministries
- Curt Campbell, Director of Youth Ministries
- Lydia Stephens, Director of Children's Ministries
- Penny Neisen, Properties Manager
- Loretta Dahlstrom, Business Administrator
- Cris Hicks, Administrative Assistant
- Debbie Johnson, Administrative Assistant
- Angela Chambers, Newsletter Editor
- Leslie Myers, Wedding Coordinator



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Our CHURCH family

Heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of church member **David Phillips** (died Dec. 4), who lived in TN; and to **Darling Watson** (died Nov. 26), who used to work at Church of the Saviour and the Early Learning Center.

Our sympathy to **Deserie Miller** on the death of her mother.

Congratulations on the birth of **Ian Alexander Schaner**, who was born Dec. 10. Parents are Owen and Brittney Schaner and grandmother is Kevin Louise Schaner.

On December 23, we celebrated the baptism of Oliver Lee Adams, son of April and Joshua Adams and brother of Brooke and Aidan.



JOYFUL SINGING

41 carolers from Church of the Saviour, age 4 to 80+, spent a Friday evening in December with retirement home residents of Cedarwood Plaza, Forest Hills Place, McGregor at Overlook, and McGregor main campus. Included in the group

were a dozen kids and parents from Cub Scout Pack 11, which calls COTS home. Curt Campbell shared, "It's SO cool to see how God multiplies this simple, easy gift of voice and time into such joy for the residents." Said one 7th grader, "That was good."

PREPARING FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE As the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference draws near, the Kingsley Class invites church members and visitors to a presentation by Stephen Levine, MD, a Cleveland-based, nationally recognized medical expert in human sexuality. He will speak and provide a time for questions at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 20 in Calvary Hall. We hope this talk will give us additional insight into the issues surrounding the Conference, scheduled from Feb. 23 to 26 in St. Louis. For more information on the Special Session, visit umc.org.

- Paul Omelsky, Kingsley Class

