



The monthly
newsletter of
FAIRMOUNT
Presbyterian Church

FAIRMOUNT Flyer

2012
February

Our Mission

To worship God, to seek the way of Christ, to grow as an inviting, caring, and challenging community of adults, youth, and children, in response to God's unconditional love that transcends all human distinctions and summons us to make a difference in the World.

Our Diversity Statement

As beloved children of God, we welcome all persons to join our family of faith as full participants, regardless of age, race or ethnicity, national origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, mental or physical ability, economic status, differences of thought and expression, or any other human condition. We celebrate and find strength in our diversity.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The hours of church operation are:

Sunday: 8:00 – 2:00pm
(approximately, and adjusted as scheduled)

Monday: 8:30am - 5:00pm

Tues – Thurs: 8:30 - 9:00pm
(later on Thursdays for choir)

Friday: 8:30am - 4:00pm

Saturday: by arrangement.



highlights

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Dear Fairmount Friends:

Those of you who know me at all know that I love music. I am one of billions who honestly say that "Music Feeds My Soul." To me that means that music drives deep into who I am, and messes with it, always for the good, but sometimes with more than a little discomfort. For example, a hymn that lifts my soul might do so by first reminding me how small and insignificant I am in the big picture, and I don't much like that reminder.

Music changes lives, and it changes history. That can be true of any art, but my "art" is music, and I both love and respect music's power. When Civil Rights folks stood and sang "We Shall Overcome" in the 1960's, they knew, they absolutely knew, they would overcome. Music emboldened them to keep up a long struggle. No wonder oppressive regimes focus attention on music that threatens them, and try to control it, as the Soviet leaders did and as many try to do today. In this sense the exhibits at the Rock Hall about how rock was feared in its early years are absolutely right: traditional society knew a threat when it saw it.

Different kinds of music often divide people, because we tend to feel passionately about music we like. Music has been the weapon of choice in the "worship wars" that have beset the church the last two or three decades. "Don't you mess with the music that messes with my soul!"

I am a traditionalist when it comes to most music. But despite my own preferences, it is clear that churches have to be willing in our times to consider, maybe even try, options that don't come easily or naturally to them.

As a church leader, I have to keep an open mind, and every church is a different situation. We are blessed at Fairmount with outstanding musicians who lead us with first-rate music. And yet we need to be willing and able to ask ourselves is this all we can do...is this all we need to offer to share the gospel with our neighbors? We've tried some alternatives in the recent past that didn't really stick. Why, I am not sure. When we used Taize songs in a recent 8:30 service, those there said they loved it. But the regular Taize service died for lack of attendance. Do we need to look at that again?

How does music touch you? In particular, how does music at Fairmount touch you? And what about our music could we improve or change? These are always important issues for churches, and as with so much else, especially important in a time of transition.

Beyond all that...thank God for music and musicians! Who would we be without their gifts and their dedication?

Staff Note: While Music Director **Bob Moncrief** continues recovery following rotator cuff surgery, we are very fortunate to be led in worship by Organ Intern **Jarred Sorauf** (8:30 service) and by members **Jerry Mason** (11:00 organist) and **Lisa Litteral** (directing the Fairmount Choir). We look forward to Bob's return soon, but in the meantime we are very blessed that these fine musicians are in our Fairmount family.

Alleluia!
Interim Pastor Dean

Birthdays*

February 2012

- 2/01 Sarah Robecheck
- 2/02 Gale Flament
- 2/04 John Murphy
Joseph Swartz
Pris Luce
- 2/05 Elizabeth Ball
Sally Mortimer
- 2/06 Ann Gerhart
- 2/07 Harriet Hoover
Ruby Williams
Corky Carl
Jim Long
- 2/09 Jenny Olson
- 2/10 Ginny Bruch
Ann Jackson
Chuck Skinner
- 2/11 Bob Wright
Rosemary Paul
Richard Schreck
- 2/12 Natalie Kittredge
Patricia Silverthorne
Elinore Evans
- 2/13 Bryan Seekely
- 2/15 Sally Frost
- 2/16 Richard Covington
- 2/18 Barbara Mixon
- 2/19 Jud Smith
- 2/20 Leann Rayburn
- 2/23 Cara Stirn
- 2/24 Janet Whitney
- 2/27 Ethel Brundage
Mary Carey
- 2/28 Don Gype
Washburn Hawley
Karen Klockner

Anniversaries*

2/05 Jim and Sally Bonebrake (67 years)



***Anniversaries** are listed every five years until the 50th, when they are listed every year.

***Birthdays** are listed every five years, beginning with the 40th, and then every year, beginning with the 70th.

“Don’t wait for it to be done. Give your dreams, your energies, and your talents to the amazing promise of God’s work at Fairmount.”

one fairmount day.

Sunday, February 26

Beginning at 9:30 am

To the Fairmount congregation from the Pastor Nominating Committee:

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been elected by the congregation and has met three times. Hedy Westra and Amy Carlson co-chair the group. We have promised to implement our CIC regarding congregational awareness. We want you to feel: **Confident, Informed, and Comfortable (CIC)** with our work and the process.

Our first task is to complete a **Church Information Form (CIF)**. This will be used by candidates to learn about our church, our history, our present state, and our vision for the future. We intend to work closely with the Self-Study group led by **Peter Gerhart**. They will survey the congregation using numerous means, including mailed surveys, on line using Survey Monkey, and a “what do you wish for Fairmount” day aka “Visioning Day” on **Sunday, February 26** at 9:30 am designed specifically for members to share their vision for FPC and inform the PNC of their thoughts, ideas, and where they feel God is calling us as a church. So, it’s kind of a **PNC Sunday... PNC: Plea... Need your Contribution**

Which leads us to how this works. Our job as a PNC, and individually members of it, is to work and pray hard to discern God’s calling for our church. None of us has the answers without God’s input, and that comes from a variety of sources. The Spirit works in mysterious ways... through us, through each congregational member, through Presbytery folks, through future pastor candidates. We will be open to God’s wisdom and will from all. We’ll be in regular touch. The FPC PNC

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Fairmount Presbyterian Church

FAIRMOUNT COMMUNICATION DEADLINES

FLYER ARTICLES: The 12th of
EACH month

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:
NOON on Wednesday of every week

TOWER VIEWS (e-mail)

ARTICLES: NOON on Wednesday
of every week

Phone: 216.321.5800

Fax: 216.321.1044

E-Mail: flyer@Fairmountchurch.org

Web: <http://fairmountchurch.org>

Program & Support Staff

Every Member—Minister

Rev. Dr. Dean Myers—Interim Senior Pastor & Head of Staff

Rev. Eric R. Dillenbeck – Associate Pastor for Congregational Life and Faith Formation

Rev. Martha (Missy) Shiverick – Congregational Care and Outreach

Betsy Wooster – Director of Children’s and Family Ministries

Anthony Sorace - Interim Director of Youth & 20s/30s Ministries

Robert L. Moncrief – Minister of Music

Maribeth Crawford – Angel Choir Director

Amy Carlson – Handbell Director

Jarred Sarouf - Music Intern

Nancy Cochrane – Church Administrator

Susanne Knauer – Financial Secretary

Christine Winters - Interim Office Manager

Michael Ervin, Leeron Hines, Antonio Bohannon – Custodians

Sharon Gay – Housekeeping

Elisha Hooks and Magella Roserie - Toddler and Infant Care

Shawn Miller – Technical & Creative Services

Worship: The Heart of Our Mission

Sunday, February 5: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Communion at both services
Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147
Mark 1:29-39
In Service of the Servant
Angel and Fairmount Choirs

Sunday, February 12: Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

New Members welcomed
2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
Mark 1:40-45
A Simple Thing
Cantate and Fairmount Choirs

Sunday, February 19: Transfiguration of the Lord

Eric Dillenbeck preaching
Fairmount Choir

Wednesday, February 22: Ash Wednesday

at 7:00 pm.

Join us for Ash Wednesday worship in the sanctuary with the imposition of ashes. Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). What most people notice on Ash Wednesday is that an awful lot of Christians are running around with ashes smudged on their foreheads. You might be wondering what is the significance of the ashes. In biblical times ashes and sackcloth were symbols of repentance and as we enter Lent, a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline, we are marked by our desire to repent of those things that separate us from God and neighbor as we prepare to welcome the joy of Easter morning.

Sunday, February 26: First Sunday in Lent

Fairmount Visioning Day: Worship and Visioning Activities from 9:30 through lunch

Faith Formation

Adult Education:

Our Adult Education Classes are amazing this semester. There is space in our classes for you! Just choose one and drop in!

Who We Were, Who We Are:

The Church from Judeo-Christian Times until the Reformation. Upper Room

Why do we have something called the Nicene Creed? How exactly did Martin Luther stir up so much trouble in the sixteenth century? Where do Methodists come from? Get answers to these questions and others while we explore the history and struggles of our Christian Ancestors. Discover how their faith journeys can guide our own in the present day.

Digging Into Scripture:

Ganson Room

Living the Questions

Where is Christianity and the church headed in this postmodern world in which we live. Each week we will use a video segment from one of the leading voices of faith to peak our curiosity and invite us into deeper conversation with one another. We would love to have you join us.

Women of Spirit

Chilcote North

This is a diverse group open to women of all ages. We are using *Soul Feast* by Marjorie Thompson to guide our conversations and practices of faith. We hope you will join us as we share and explore our faith.

February 26th

Please see the Fairmount Visioning Day news for more information about this special day in the life of our Church.

UPCOMING CLASS:

In March the Fairmount Community will be preparing to welcome Jim Wallis to as our William Birkett Williams lecturer. He will be discussing his most recent book, *Rediscovering Values, On Wall Street, Main Street, and Your Street. A Moral Compass for the New Economy.* If you would like to order a copy of this book please call the church office by **February 12th** so we can place the order in time.

Midweek Lenten Educational Experience:

Wednesday Night Lenten Discussion Series (Feb. 29th, March 7th and 14th)

“Talking the Walk”

Upper Room at 6:30 pm

Since the beginning the church has tried to practice what we preach, to “walk the walk” if you will. But when Jesus commissioned the disciples there was a clear call to teach, to share the faith they held, to “talk the walk.” But talking about our faith makes most mainline Christians nervous.

What we forget is that we are good at talking. From the time we wake up in the morning until we turn out the lights at night, we are talking. We talk on the phone, in classrooms, across the office, and over meals. We talk to ourselves, to friends, and to strangers. But what are we talking about?

Join us this Lenten season as we practice “Talking the Walk,” sharing our faith by sharing our stories of God’s presence in our life. Using *Testimony: Talking Ourselves into Being Christian* as our guide we will explore this ancient practice and how it can help us bring our faith to speech in the everyday occurrences of life.

Stated Clerk of Session: Ruling Elder Liz Lehfeldt

There is no such thing as done; or in other words, nothing is ever completely, definitively finished. I was reminded of this recently when I went to see the surgeon who did my reconstructive surgery over a year ago. Before this visit I was feeling quite accomplished. I've been cancer-free for eighteen months and had just finished physical therapy for some surgery-related problems with my shoulder. I was getting ready to start doing yoga again after a two-year hiatus. And then he told me that I needed another surgery (not cancer-related, thankfully) due to a minor complication. I was so angry. And frustrated. I had thought I was done. The prospect of another surgery—no matter how minor—after everything I had already been through was almost more than I could imagine. But as the news sunk in, I began to wrap my head around it and realize that imagining that things would ever be completely done was an exercise that would continually frustrate me. Certainly, I will put this surgery behind me and breathe a sigh of relief when I do. But I'm sure there are additional hurdles in my future. So, I have come to realize, there is no such thing as done.

So what does any of this have to do with Fairmount and why am I talking about it in the Clerk's Corner? Because, friends, the work of the church is also never done. We are in an interim time right now and the temptation might be to sit back and wait to see what happens first. To wait until there's a new senior pastor

in place before you get involved. To wait until this unsettled and more anxious phase is over and done. I hope that you won't do that and I know, in fact, that many of you aren't. There is tremendous energy and enthusiasm everywhere I turn at Fairmount—from the enormously successful Heifer fair in December to the glorious Messiah performance to our weekly shared worship. Fairmount isn't waiting for the future, it's living in the present, and as a consequence, we can see and experience God's grace and love everywhere we turn in this congregation.

And there is yet another opportunity to make your voice heard and to get involved. Please join us on **Sunday, February 26** for a day of visioning for Fairmount's future. This special day will give us the opportunity to play a vital role in assisting in the work of the Pastor Nominating Committee. The Self-Study Committee, your staff, and the church's leadership have set aside this day as a time to share with one another our hopes and aspirations for Fairmount's future. On this day we will come together as a community to worship and meet in small groups. Please plan to be here on February 26 so that your voice will be part of the conversation. ***Don't wait for it to be done. Give your dreams, your energies, and your talents to the amazing promise of God's work at Fairmount.***

Yours in Christ, Liz Lehfeldt

Your Self-Study Committee Wants Every Member's Voice

Peter Gerhart, Chair, Self-Study Committee

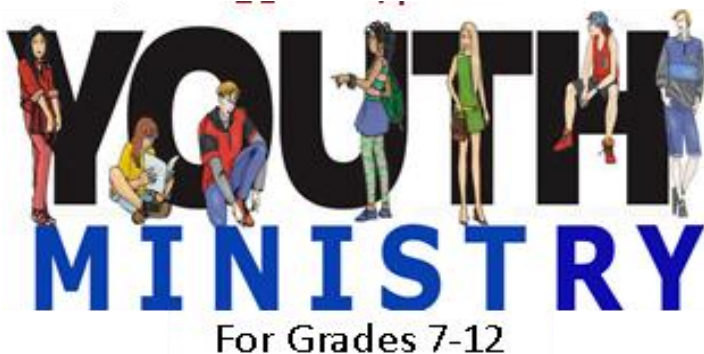
As of this writing, in the middle of January, we have received over 200 questionnaires from members who want to help us understand where God is calling Fairmount. That is a phenomenal return, and does not reflect the marketing campaign we will implement to ensure wide and representative participation. This spontaneous response shows how much this congregation cares about its church and our future together. It is too soon to report results, but I can tell you what you already know: This is a **very diverse congregation** in all aspects of its expectations for Fairmount. We will try in the next couple of weeks to increase the number of returned questionnaires by a large percentage – especially among groups that thus far are underrepresented.

In recognition of our diversity, we have chosen the theme **One Fairmount** for the congregational conversations the Study Committee is hosting on **February 26th, 2012**. We will meet as a single congregation; we will worship together starting at 9:30 a.m. (**no 8:30 or 11:00 service**); we will break into small groups to discuss issues about our future; including those raised by the questionnaire; we will continue together in worship; we will come together to

hear reports from small groups; and we will decide on next steps for our congregation. Supervised children's activities will be offered throughout the morning. The details will be mailed to you closer to the event, but if you have not signed up for One Fairmount Day please do.

Here is why: only by facing our diverse perspectives on church and theology can we find unity, and this can be done only by starting a congregational conversation that transcends our diversity. And only by finding unity within our diversity can we attract the strong yet flexible leader who will keep these conversations going. Members of the Pastor Nominating Committee will be present to listen, and when One Fairmount Day is over, the Self-Study Committee will file its report and the PNC can begin interviewing candidates.

Please engage and discern with us.
Members: Peter Gerhart, pmg2@case.edu;
Margret Beekel, margret.beekel@gmail.com;
Meredith Hellmer, meredithhellmer@hotmail.com;
Joy Jones, joyhockjones@yahoo.com;
Ann Kieger, Annkieger@gmail.com;
Lisa Mortimer, wcem@aol.com;
Bob Pfeifer, rpfe104675@aol.com.;
and Hallie Stewart, halliestewart@mac.com.



Sunday Morning Faith Formation Options:

9:45 – 10:45 every Sunday morning

We'll provide some light food (donuts and the like) and drinks in the Youth Room, so stop by before class gets started and pick something up.

There won't be any of the regularly scheduled class on February 26th, since the church will be having a church-wide event (and, for Senior High, that's the ski trip weekend).

Breakfast Club (7th and 8th Grades)

Join us in Room 207 for conversations about our faith and the stories in scripture.

SHiFT (Senior High Faith Talk)

Meet in the Youth Room for discussion of how faith impacts our lives today. This month we'll be mixing in some lessons from other sources with our existing series working from popular film and music.

Super Bowl Sub Sale

Sunday, February 5, 8:30am-2pm

This is a big fund-raiser for the Dominican Republic trip and a fun event for the church overall. We're making and selling subs for folks to take home and enjoy while the Super Bowl is going on. We'll need help from about 8:30 through about 2pm (probably earlier). If you've worked any of our food-based events before, you know how this goes: we'll have different jobs at different times so everyone has a chance to participate. Let Anthony know you're coming and whether you'd like to help make subs, clean up, or handle orders or money. We really hope to see most of our Dominican Republic participants there.

Bethany Community Meal (Junior & Senior High)

Friday, February 10, 4:45pm

Join us as we head to Bethany Church on the west side to help them prepare and serve a meal to members of the community in need. We meet at church at 4:45, head over in the van, help with last-minute preparations (the food's mostly already taken care of), serve, and clean up. It's a great project and the folks

we're serving are very appreciative. We'll be back to church by about 7:45.

We head to Bethany on the second Friday of each month.

Friday Night Fun (Junior & Senior High)

Friday, February 10, 7:45pm

After we get back from Bethany, we'll grab some dinner nearby (bring a few bucks) and then hang out at church until about 10pm.

If you can't make Bethany, don't let that keep you from meeting up with us at 7:45 for the fun at church, just let Anthony (anthony@fairmountchurch.org, +1 216 236 8370) know you'll be coming (in case we get dinner farther from home or are running late getting back from Bethany).

Ski Retreat

February 24-26

We'll be headed east for our annual winter retreat. We'll leave Friday night, ski all day Saturday (or until people get tired), and head back Sunday morning. We'll be on either Holiday Valley or Peak'n Peak (group's choice). Exact departure and return times are still to be determined, so watch your email.

20s/30s Ministries

For those in their 20s or 30s (give or take)

20s/30s Sunday Brunch

Sunday, February 12, Andersen Hall

For this month's installation of our Sporadic Sunday Brunch, we'll be staying local - very local! The church is hosting the Almeda Trio shortly after service, and they're putting on a brunch beforehand. We'll claim a table at the brunch, and hopefully you stick around for the music afterwards.

Theology on Tap

Wednesday, February 15, 7:30pm, The Tavern Company

Come by The Tavern Company (2260 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights) as we enjoy the very good food (and decent beer selection) they provide, and the company and conversation we all provide. Anthony will bring something each week to start off discussion and we can see where it goes from there. The discussion starter will be sent out by email a few days ahead of time so people can review it if they like, but I'll always have copies on hand.

Theology on Tap happens on the third Wednesday of each month. If you've got suggestions or ideas for discussion, please let Anthony know at anthony@fairmountchurch.org.

The Mystery of Easter Workshop

A Godly Play Lenten Experience for Children ages 3-12

Wednesday, February 29

- ⊕ 6:00 p.m. – Family dinner in church dining room
- ⊕ 6:30-7:45 pm
 - ⊕ Graded Godly Play Lenten Workshop for Children
 - ⊕ Talking the Walk Discussion for Adults

We know that raising your children in this fast paced culture can be an exhausting experience. There are many demands on your time and often your children's schedules take on a life of their own. The tension between meeting those needs and making religious meaning in your family's life can feel overwhelming.

With this mind, we offer this one special program night, early in the Season of Lent, especially for you and your children. The night begins with a family dinner at 6:00 p.m., with programs to follow. As a parent, you can choose to enter into the Godly Play Lenten Workshop with your child, or join an adult discussion with Pastor Eric Dillenbeck on Fairmount's Lenten theme, Talking the Walk. (Talking the Walk for adults continues for the next two Wednesday nights, while the children's program is on February 29 only.)

Children need deeply respectful experiences with scripture if they are to fully enter into its power. Our Godly Play leaders will guide children (and adults if you so choose) into the journey of Lent through Godly Play story and response materials. Our setting seeks to be a safe place in which a creative encounter with God can flourish. The Mystery of Easter Workshop will be led by **Betsy Wooster**, Director of Children and Family Ministries, and several of Fairmount's Godly Play teaching staff, including **Bonnie Lindberg**, **Leslie Richer**, **Melissa Hensel**, **Krissa Spence**, **Ann Zimmerman** and **Steph Washlock**. We hope to see you and your children on Wednesday evening, February 29. Come as you are. No reservations necessary.

CLUB 426

Sunday, February 12 at 12:15 pm.

Our Monthly Youth Group type experience for our 4th, 5th, & 6th graders!

Upcoming Dates:

March 11th

April 16th (This is a change from our regular 2nd Sunday due to Easter)

May 20th (This is a change from our regular 2nd Sunday due to Mother's Day)



BOOMERS± February - Whirlyball Classic



When: **Saturday February 11th** 6:40pm SHARP through 9:00pm.

Where: Whirlyball 5055 Richmond Rd. Bedford Hts, Ohio just south of Miles road behind the "The Pearl Rug Co.."

TIME: Watch a training video if you arrive by 6:40pm!
Court times 7-9

Cost: \$15-18/person

Dinner @ Winking Lizard
25200 Miles Rd. Bedford Heights, Ohio after Wirlyball.

RSVP to **Bryan Seekely**
Phone: 440-461-4264
or Email: bseek57@aol.com



ONE Fairmount Day

Bring Your Voices, Hopes and Dreams!

Sunday, February 26, One Worship Service Only, Beginning at 9:30 a.m.

A day of Worship and Conversations hosted by the Self Study Committee

⊕ 9:30 a.m. – Noon: Worship, Dreaming and Discussion*

⊕ 12:15 p.m.: Family Lunch & Fellowship

*Supervised Children's Activities Throughout the Morning

Mission—Demonstrating the Love of Jesus

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries/ North Church Capital Campaign update

Good news! As 2011 drew to a close, the LMM/North Church capital campaign reached a total of \$4.4 million towards its goal of \$5.5 million! Major grants from the Cleveland Foundation (\$500,000) and the St. Luke's Foundation (\$250,000) along with additional support from individuals and congregations accounted for the success. A gift from the locally based David and Inez Myers Foundation also added a wonderful ecumenical dimension to the total.

Not only has the building on Superior been acquired, but the reconstruction process has begun. The Superior

Avenue facade has been removed, a temporary wall has been put in its place and the contractors have begun to refurbish the interior space. Assuming all goes well, it is likely that LMM and North Church will be able to move in this summer.

The enthusiasm generated by the remarkable progress made to date is tempered only by the fact that an additional \$1.1 million must still be raised. It is especially exciting that a number of Fairmounters have made significant contributions to the effort. Hopefully every member who recognizes the importance of this ministry will want to contribute in 2012. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Hank Doll

Fellowship & Growth Group News

Faithful Lives Film Series

A monthly gathering to watch movies and discuss contemporary themes. Open for all to attend.

Second Friday's, January - May.

This years theme is:

Courage in the Face of Hardship



Documentary *Facing Forward* coming to Fairmount!

Facing Forward is the documentary about the early years of E Prep School and focuses on a particular student and his family. It premiered in front of packed audiences at the Cleveland Film Festival in March and was a runner up for the Audience Choice Award for Best Film. In October, it received a "Crystal Heart Award" for Best Documentary at the Heartland Film Festival in Indianapolis. Read more about it at www.facingforwardfilm.com

There will be an additional screening in Cleveland on:

Feb 10 - 6:30 PM

Fairmount Presbyterian Church - Chapel

Free will offering for the benefit of the documentary

Limited seating - first 100 replies to

john.zitzner@breakthroughcleveland.org get a seat

Fairmount Guild



of Presbyterian Women

February 7

- 9:30 Coordinating Team Meeting
- 11:30 Bible Study #4 led by The Rev. Susan Holderness
"Peter and Cornelius"
- 12:30 Luncheon

February 14

- 11:30 Fieldtrip - Cleveland Skating Club for a Valentine's Day Luncheon

February 21

- 10:00 Fellowship Workshop
- 11:30 Meet for Lunch at "Yours Truly"

February 28

- Guild Break - Join us on Friday, March 2nd for "World Day of Prayer" (Location to be Determined)

March 6

- 9:30 Coordinating Team Meeting
- 11:30 Bible Study #5 led by The Rev. Susan Holderness "Jerusalem Council"
- 12:30 Luncheon



FAIRMOUNT MUSIC SERIES
2011 - 2012



Sunday, February 12 – 1:15 PM - Brunch and “Tangos and More!”

The Fairmount Music Series presents the **Almeda Trio—Robert Cassidy, piano; Cara Tweed, violin; and Ida Mercer, cello**—in a brunch concert on **Sunday, February 12, at 1:15 PM**. They will play Mozart’s Trio in C Major, Astor Piazzolla’s Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas, and Paul Ferguson’s Solstice Suite. Admission to the concert is by free-will offering. **Brunch will also be available in Andersen Hall at 12:15**—after morning worship-- with a \$5 suggested donation.

Since its debut in 2008, the Almeda Trio has quickly gained positive critical attention and enthusiastic audience response in the greater Cleveland area and beyond. As trio-in-residence at The Music Settlement in University Circle, the ensemble has dedicated itself to the three missions of performance, education, and outreach. Its members are all accomplished performers and on the faculty at The Music School Settlement, as well as at the Aurora School of Music (Tweed), Case Western Reserve University (Mercer) and Cleveland State University (Cassidy and Tweed).

In terms of critical review, “impressive maturity, not to mention a terrific degree of togetherness...” was the summation of the Almeda expressed by CoolCleveland.com in its review of the trio’s 2009 debut CD of works by Haydn, Brahms, and Shostakovich. As for musical scope, while possessing full command of the traditional repertoire, the Almeda Trio also offers insightful and energetic performances of a wide range of genres including contemporary, folk, and jazz. Further, throughout all its work, the Almeda has won acclaim with its refreshing practice of creating a tangible relationship with audiences through engaging on-stage commentary on the programs.

The ensemble takes its name from the early 20th century social activist, who was both the first blind graduate of an American music conservatory, and the founder of the Music Settlement, Almeda Adams. For more information on the trio, please visit www.almedatrio.com.

For Brunch reservations, please call the church office at 216.321.5800.