

# Hot Off the Press! 1/11/15

## A Long Obedience in the Same Direction \*

Isaiah 2.8 – He'll show us the way He works so we can live the way we're made. The Message

*For a very long time God has been at work making CHPC 'a church without walls that reflects His Glory.' He uses the witness of His people to show us the way He works.*

In the twilight of World War II as Allied Armies converged on Nazi Germany, a woman of faith undertook her own pilgrimage of over 5500 miles. Vilhelmine Brakmanis and her three daughters - a toddler and two school-aged girls - traveled more than 1000 miles fleeing the advancing Russian army. She searched for her husband Zigfrids and her brother, Bruno, Latvians who had been conscripted by the Nazis to serve in their Army.

From Latvia to the *American-occupied zone* in Munich Germany, Vilhelmine and the girls traveled mostly at night with few possessions. They searched hundreds of Red Cross lists of captured and dead soldiers. Miraculously, they located both men in the *British-occupied zone* in Lubeck, northern Germany. The whole family participated in the men's escape into the *American-occupied zone*, a story in itself. They spent nearly 3 years in refugee camps.

Among the family's cherished possessions is the Air Passenger Manifest for their flight in 1949 from Munich to New York City. It listed 1545 Teakwood Ave as their new address. Vilhelmine's favorite was the baptism photo on the opposite page.

Gunta, who wrote the letter to CHPC for her family, said, "My hunger for the Word of God began at CHPC." Over the years she has been involved in many Bible studies including *Precepts* and taught children. [She also baby sat for Ted Salt. No wonder he's a gifted Bible teacher.] Her son became a Lay-Pastor/ Preacher in Texas. What a testimony to a family and a church with "a long obedience in the same direction."

Story by Sharlyn Stare starecvg@aol.com  
\* Title: *Long Obedience in the Same Direction* by Eugene Peterson (IV Press).

Monday, December 22, 2014 3:13 PM

Dear Reverend Smith: To all the dear members of College Hill Presbyterian Church, grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ! You may be wondering who am I — well, to make a very long story short, 65 years ago on December 21st, 1949 our family arrived in Cincinnati, sponsored and brought to the United States by members of the College Hill Presbyterian Church. Our family fled our beloved country of Latvia when the Soviet troops were at our doors again for the second time — first occupying Latvia in 1939, then the German armies, and again Soviets closing in. Our Father, serving in the Latvian army but conscripted into the German army upon their occupation, for all practical reasons was missing in action. So Mother with her three daughters, Dzintra, Gunta and baby Aija boarded a German hospital/troupe ship and crossed the Baltic Sea. From there, we spent time in various internment camps in Poland, Czechoslovakia and finally West Germany. After the war ended, IRO [Int'l Refugee Organization] and later UNRA [United Nation's Refugee Organization] set up refugee camps and started finding new homelands for those thousands of people who could not return to their native lands.

Members of the College Hill Presbyterian church, namely, Mr. and Mrs. John Olmstead, president of the World Council of Churches and a member of CHPC; the Klein family and their daughter and son-in-law Margaret and Fred Reis; and Frank and Etta Showhan were instrumental in sponsoring our family to the United States. At the time there were six in the Zigfrids and Vilhelmine Brakmanis family, daughters Dzintra (Ruth), Gunta (Mary), Aija (Jeanne) and Vija (Susan) with another baby on the way. [Upon her birth, the baby was named after new *aunties* Margaret Reis and Etta Showhan.] I recall with love so many of those dear ones — Rev. John Lamy, our organist and choir director, Mrs. Lucille Meyer, later the Dwight and Edna Mae Salts (like my second parents), the Pansings and Drostes.

Our family has been reminiscing and giving praise to Jesus Christ for the open hearts of the Church — these have been challenging, difficult and above all, wonderful years for us all. Our extended family now includes a brother and sister who served in the U.S. Air Force, a Navy SEAL and a nationally awarded operating nurse (that would be the baby born shortly upon our arrival in Cincinnati), an attorney, numerous teachers - both music and Special Education, a chemist, one pastor, two adopted granddaughters from Cambodia, and a couple of foster children. There have been several short-term missions trips to Russia rebuilding a church; one to Haiti with a medical group and a couple of trips to Mexico with youth ministries. My first husband, who is with the Lord now, was a sculptor and painter and I have a son-in-law, who is a painter of murals, etc.

Our Mom and Dad have passed away, but their legacy continues on — and all of it is thanks to the generosity and shared love from our first church in America. By trade, our Dad was a wood carver and sculptor in Latvia, and when the new addition to CHPC was built (1951 - 1953), he contributed by carving the square wooden Christian symbols which can be seen as you stand with your back to the organ and face the front entrance to the Sanctuary.

Once again, greetings from the grateful Brakmanis family and we wish many years of continued service in the Lord's work.

In Christ, Gunta Brakmanis Emmons, Spokane WA  
for Dzintra Brakmanis Platadis, Aija Brakmanis Potapous, Vija Brakmanis Navarro, Gretchen (Marg/Etta) Brakmanis, Edward Brakmanis, Stephen Zigfrids Brakmanis (deceased).



The first Brakmanis child born in the US, Gretchen (being held) was baptized April 2, 1950 by CHPC Pastor Dr Lamy. [L to R] - Gunta, Aija, Vija, Father Zigfrids, Mother Vilhelmine and Dzintra.

2013 Photo of the Brakmanis sister's yearly reunion — [L to R] Gretchen, Dzintra, Gunta (the writer), Aija, & Vija.



May 14, 2015, they plan to visit relatives in Cincy, their parent's graves in Arlington Memorial Gardens in Mt. Healthy and stop in at CHPC.

## MEET CORRIE TEN BOOM

Corrie Ten Boom lived through the horror of World War II when her native Holland was occupied by Nazi Germany. She and her family protected and saved the lives of many Jewish families who would have otherwise died in concentration camps and forced-labor camps. In her book, "The Hiding Place," Corrie tells about the secret room where her family hid those who came to them for help. She and her family were betrayed by an informant and put into prison where her father and sister died.

She was released from prison due to a clerical error one week before all the women her age were killed. Her main message is "forgiveness." She said she never knew the love of God as clearly as the day she shook hands with a former guard and said, "I forgive you." Wouldn't you love to meet a woman like that?

Vickie Gaynier, actress, and storyteller, uses her drama training from CCM to perform dramatic presentations. She will appear as Corrie Ten Boom at Supper Club and give testimony of her life. Vickie lives in Cincinnati, is married to Mike Gaynier, a physician who teaches at U.C., and has four grown children. Through this ministry of drama the Lord has given her an opportunity to share the gospel and encourage Christians.

That's Supper Club! Monday, January 26! At 6 o'clock in Fellowship Hall! Make your reservations by calling Sally Auble, 741-3125 by Thursday, January 22. The cost for a catered dinner and the program is \$10.00 at the door.

## Children & Youth Helpers in Worship

Children ages Kindergarten through third grade are invited to a Children's Worship service each week. Start off with your families in both the 9am and 11:15am service, then listen for the announcement dismissing the kids to their special service. Just before the sermon, children will be dismissed to their special study and worship time.

This week's helpers are:  
9:00am Sarah & Jared Lowe  
11:15am Nathan & Sarah Lowe

Next week's helpers are:  
9:00am Ian & Joshua Scheid  
11:15am Michael & Marissa Fox

# January 11 - January 17 calendar

## 11. sunday

8:00am	Morning Prayer	Prayer Room
9:00am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:10am	Foundation Hour	
	• Children's Classes	Barnabas Ctr
	• Jr. High	BC 204
	• High School	BC 205-206
	• Adult Spirit Foundation	Fellowship Hall
11:15am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
1:30pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics	Clubroom
2:00pm	Ramsey Visitation	Fireside Room
3:00pm	Ramsey Service	Sanctuary
6:30pm	CRASH	BC 205 & 206

## 12. monday

6:30pm	Karate	Fellowship Hall
	AHG Troop Meeting	Great Hall
7:00pm	Deacon Meeting	BC 201 & 202

## 13. tuesday

9:30am	Tuesday AM Bible Study	Parlor
6:30pm	Super Choir	Fellowship Hall
	MEGA BLAST	Great Hall

## 14. wednesday

9:30am	Library Work Day	BC 103
	Strategy For Mothers Planning	Fireside Room
5:30pm	Webelos/Scouts Den Mtg.	Clubroom
7:00pm	Listening To One Another	Fellowship Hall
	Bi-Polar Support Group	Great Hall
	Writers' Meeting	Fireside Room
	Kindling Prayer Group	White House
	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30pm	College/Young Adult Gath.	Off Campus

## 15. thursday

8:30am	Prayer - Church & Community	Prayer Room
10:00am	Knitting Group	Atrium
6:30pm	Karate	Fellowship Hall
7:00pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics	MC Club Room
7:30pm	AI-Anon	BC 201 & 202

## 16. friday

## 17. saturday

2:00pm	Praise Dancers	BC Lobby
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"LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION" POLICY  
When parking, remember to keep your valuables and all parcels out of sight safely locked in your trunk. Thieves can even see through dark tinted glass. Don't tempt!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Undecking the Halls** Due to Dorothy Ramsey's Memorial Service this Sunday afternoon, the Sanctuary decorations will be taken down January 18th after 2nd Service. We definitely will need lots of help on the 18th.

**Writers' Meeting** will be Wednesday, 1/14 at 7pm, in the Fireside Room. As always, all are invited.

**Listening To One Another.** Wednesday night January 14, at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. Let's keep learning how to connect in Jesus no matter our differences. We gather at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall to talk about race. It's a safe place to talk about a controversial subject. The Enemy seeks to divide but the Spirit will bring unity. We don't try to convince we try to understand. Come join us and learn from one another.

**For January only** the men's Bible fellowship group, **Band of Brothers**, will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 6:15am in the Fireside Room (instead of the typical 1st and 3rd Thursdays). We are studying the Book of Acts. New attendees are always welcome!

**Everyone invited to Lunch Bunch** next Sunday, January 18 after second service at Panera on Winton Road. Each person responsible for his/her lunch. Questions: Contact Jeanne Schneider 541-5676, 1160.

**College Hill Martin Luther King, Jr. Service** Please consider joining others from CHPC in this special opportunity to sing and worship the Lord in unity in our community. Sunday, January 18 at 7pm the College Hill Ministerium will be hosting the annual College Hill Martin Luther King, Jr. Service. This year Bishop Todd O'Neal will be leading a community choir. There will be two rehearsals. One will be Sat., Jan. 10 at noon at House of Joy on Hamilton Ave. and the other Sat., Jan. 17 at noon at First UCC 5808 Glenview in College Hill. Come to both rehearsals if possible.

**A new season for SINGERS in Choir** begins on Thursday, Jan 22, 7-8:45pm. Please consider joining in the praise and fellowship of these singers. Easter is April 5 and preparations are being made for a special season of Holy Week. Please consider getting involved in preparations for these services as well as our regular worship services. For more information or questions, contact Brian Donaldson, at bdonaldson@chpc.org or 513-824-5255.

**INSTRUMENTALISTS needed** If you play an orchestral and/or band instrument at an intermediate to advanced level of proficiency, please let your ability be known! We are looking to utilize various instrumentalists and combinations in various services as this year progresses. Please let us know if you or if you know of others that may have the ability to share. For more information or questions, contact Brian Donaldson.

**City Wide Healing Service - The Well** A place to encounter and experience God's love in the deepest places. Tuesday, January 13 at 7 PM at Faith Church in Milford - 5910 Price Road, Milford, OH 45150. Questions: Contact Jeanne Schneider 541-5676, 1160 or jschneider@chpc.org

**Sign Up for Marriage Conference** Family Life Week End to Remember at the Hyatt Regency Cincinnati March 13-15. Special Rate until January 26 of \$149.99/couple. Register at <http://shop.familylife.com/p-3686-cincinnati.aspx> and use code CHPC. Brochures located in information rack in atrium. Questions: Contact Jeanne Schneider 541-5676, 1160 or jschneider@chpc.org

**Does your small group have openings?** If so, please provide the contact person and specifics about your group to Jeanne Schneider at 541-5676, x1160.

**Do you enjoy meeting and welcoming new people?** Someone is needed to host the 5 Minute Party table on the third Sunday of each month. If you are interested in finding out more, please stop by the table after either service and speak with this week's table host for more details.

**Martin Luther King Jr. College Hill Community Service** Sun., Jan. 18 at 7pm, First United Church of Christ, 5808 Glenview Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45223 (513) 541-7302

**CHPC Campus Closed** Monday, Jan. 19, Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

**Lectionary Readings for 2015** are in the information rack in the Atrium.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**CRASH is back on tonight 6:30-8:30pm.** We'll be starting a new series for 7-9th grade, and huddles will startup again for 10-12th grade. If you haven't joined a huddle yet, this would be the perfect time to start.

**MEGABLAST for 4th-6th graders** There will be a 4th-6th grade family meeting today from 12:30-1:30. MEGABLAST will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, 6:30-8pm, starting January 13th. Questions? Contact Robyn Hubbuch, Interim Director of Ministry to Children & Families, rhubbuch@chpc.org or 513-541-5676 ext 1112.

**Calling all Storytellers!** Come tell a Bible story to 1st-3rd graders at Sunday morning BLAST (during the 10:10 Foundation hour)! We are looking for adults to commit to telling the Bible story in a creative, engaging way just once a quarter. A script or outline from our curriculum will be provided to guide you. Please contact Robyn Hubbuch if you are interested! rhubbuch@chpc.org or 513-541-5676 ext 1112

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY

**CHPC is supporting IHN** by helping families who will be staying at UCC the week of Jan. 18th. We need *YOUR* help for Sunday, June 18th. Please contact Bonnie Mack (513-931-3564; email: tandbmack@yahoo.com) if you can help with dinner preparation and/or being a dinner host. Please contact Eileen Boyle (tel: 513-541-2911; email: boyle.em@pg.com) if you can organize children's activities or be an overnight host for that Sunday.

**Treehouse Mentoring & Tutoring** needs more women and men to work with a child grade 4-6 at Pleasant Hill Academy, 5pm to 6pm Tuesdays. We have a waiting list of kids who want to get in! Contact Colleen Scheid 513-505-9826 or scheidison@gmail.com.

## THANK YOU

**On behalf of Staff Support Team and the staff at CHPC we would like to thank Janis McLemore for her 10 year anniversary this month. Please take a moment to thank her for her hard work and dedication to all of us at College Hill Presbyterian Church.**

## Prayer Page

*"... without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers,"*  
Romans 1:9

## CHPC Community

Pauline Bacon	Barbara Barber
Sue Baker	Frank Baker
Erin Bartsch	John Bartsch
Robin Bechtel	Rob Bechtel

## Staff

Alan McKinney - Sound Team Leader

## Officers/Leadership

Becky Warren - Deacon

## Home Bound/Health Center

Ethel Siefert

## Ministries

Band of Brothers

## Global Workers

## In the Military

Adam Steveley US Army	Chris Jaeger USMC
Cary Jaeger USMC	Kirk Kalmbacher US Coast Guard
Zach Scharf Army National Guard	Nyjoel Baker Eielson AFB, AK
Danny Holian US Navy Pilot	Will Connor US Army
Joey Nieberding US Army	Peter & Amanda Leugers US Navy

## College/Career Students

Rebecca Snyder Rachel Smith

## Children and Youth

Humility: "God, please cultivate in my children the ability to show true humility toward all." (Titus 3:2)

## Hamilton County JFS Featured Child for Adoption

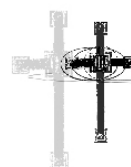
Brian, Age 9 - Contact Alex Grote 513-946-1931

## Condolences

Christian love and sympathy to the family of Edmund M Blanken Jr., who died January 1st.

Christian love and sympathy to the family of Dorothy Ramsey. Visitation will be held here at 2pm today with a service immediately following at 3pm.

Christian love and sympathy to the family of Jerry and Tina Dwyer on the death of Tina's mother, Shirley Neumann. Condolences may be sent to: Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Dwyer 5368 Maylee Place Cincinnati, OH 45238 - Arrangements pending



college hill presbyterian church

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5742 Hamilton Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45224  
(513)541-5676 . www.chpc.org



**January 11, 2015**  
**Got Any Good News?**  
**God Is Good News**  
**Preaching: Rev. Drew Smith**

## Welcome to College Hill Presbyterian Church

Thank you for worshiping with us today. Single, married, with children or not, there are many opportunities for knowing Christ, worshiping, personal growth and discipleship, service and ministry within the church and beyond the walls.

Visitors - stop by the 5-Minute Party Table or the desk in the Atrium to find out more about College Hill Presbyterian. Return and become part of this dynamic Church Family. Please let the ushers know if you have any special needs.

## Upcoming Services

January 18 Got Any Good News?  
*Jesus Is Good News*  
January 25 Got Any Good News?  
*Lead Questionable Lives*

## Today's Order of Worship

Prelude  
Call To Worship & Opening Prayer  
Songs of Praise  
Time of Confession & Forgiveness  
Song of Response  
Passing of the Peace  
Scripture & Sermon  
Ordination & Installation of Officers  
Pastoral Prayer  
Offering / Closing Song  
Announcements  
Charge and Blessing  
Postlude

## Available Help

Ushers have copies of the song lyrics for the 9am service. Ushers can provide help with wheelchairs and equipment for hearing assistance. Handicapped accessible restrooms are located off the exit hallway to the right side of the main platform. The exit also leads to handicapped parking spaces.



Committed to growing and  
planting flourishing churches that  
make disciples of Jesus Christ

A COVENANT ORDER OF EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIANS