

# The Good Word



## Southern Hills CROP WALK September 30

### CHANGE A LIFE

You can help end the curse of hunger by supporting our CROP Hunger Walk, which brings the whole community together in a common mission: Helping hungry people at home and around the world.

- Yes! I want to walk! Sign me up!
- I can't be a part of the walk, but I'd like to offer financial support. Enclosed is my tax deductible donation, made out to BUMC, memo CROP Walk.
- I'd like a t-shirt: \$6.40

- Youth \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladies \_\_\_\_\_
- Sm \_\_\_\_\_
- Med \_\_\_\_\_
- Large \_\_\_\_\_
- XL \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Several companies offer corporate and matching gift support to Church World Service. A list can be found at [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org).

Mark your calendars for September 30 when the 30th Annual CROP Walk will kick off at the Brecksville Train Station at 1:30pm (with registration at 1pm). Walkers from Bath, Brecksville, Independence, and greater Cleveland will be coming together to help fight hunger here at home and around the world.

Enjoy Cuyahoga Valley National Park as you stroll a 2 mile route along the towpath trail. The trail makes for delightful outing for people of all ages and abilities. Signups will be in the Parlor beginning September 9. We will be collecting donations to be turned in the day of the walk. Together we can put an end to hunger, one step at a time. For additional information contact the church office or [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org).

### Strength in Numbers

Elvius says it was hard to feed his family even before Haiti's devastating 2010 earthquake made food more scarce—that is, until our congregation helped expand a food cooperative near his family home.

That's right, our congregation helped feed hungry people in Haiti and around the world. When we walk in our CROP Hunger Walk, Sunday, September 30 at 1:30 pm (registration starts at 1 pm), we're helping families have enough to eat—not just tomorrow but for a lifetime.

Elvius says the food co-op helps his family eat, no matter what other struggles they might face. "We're not dependent on the government," Elvius says. "It's good to be self-reliant."

Remember the old saying about teaching someone to fish? Our CROP hunger walk is our chance to help tackle the root causes of hunger, here in our community and around the world.

We will change lives with our CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, September 30 at 1:30 pm. Your choice to join us in the first step in making sure families here, in Haiti and around the world eat today, tomorrow and in the days to come.





Sept. 2: 8:30 Outdoor Worship  
 10:00 Worship, Sanctuary  
**New Worship Hours 9/9**  
 8:45 Contemporary Worship  
 11:15 Traditional Worship

### Our Staff

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# Sing the Lord's Song

*Comments from Rev. Clark Stein*

Psalm 137:1-4

Many of us have come to equate the arrival of September with busyness. We can't ignore the facts: children resume their schooling, meeting schedules kick in, vacations are accomplished, football begins in earnest, and the fun associated with summer play makes a quick and rather abrupt exit. Replacing the carefree casualness of summer is a businesslike, closely scheduled, hectic pace of autumn. Some things just happen, and we all know it is time to get back to work. It is a part of the cycle of life. We do the same things year after year after year. The change is normal, and we welcome it in ways and settle on into it.

As we become busier, it is easier to fall into line with what our culture expects of us. We are once again bombarded, (subliminally to a greater degree as our pace quickens) with messages from Wall Street and Madison Avenue. Are you driving a Mercedes? Do you wear designer jeans? Are you as successful as you could be? Do you drink the right soda? Are you "politically correct"? Be alert to the new campaigns, the new visions that are sleekly packaged and will fly at you left and right, expecting you to conform through the investment of your purchasing power and time commitments.

September also marks the beginning of our regular church schedule. We also ask for more of your time as you become involved in meetings and an extra hour (if you so choose) of our church school offerings. We are also asking more of you in direct opposition to other areas of society that compete for your time and your money. We are all faced with choices.

As we begin yet another run at our busyness, as we sort through the maze of messages and expectations, perhaps we, too, should pose the question, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" Much of what holds an attraction for us is based increasingly on greed and selfishness. As society continues to grant us license to think only of ourselves, the Gospel continues to call us to accountability. It is an uncomfortable tension. We need to discuss how we will sing the Lord's song in the middle of madness. Perhaps our harps have hung in the trees too long, and our singing has been reduced to hums heard only in our own heads. I believe that the time has come to join together and raise our voices. Maybe we have spent far too much time worried about who will hear us, rather than thinking about the importance of the gathering and the singing and the doing. I hope you choose to commit to joining us in worship and in church school. We really do need your voice. No one else can sing your part.

Blessings,

*Pastor Clark*

*Pop Tops for Ronald McDonald House:*

Why throw them away?

Turn your pop tops into

cash for Ronald McDonald House.

There's a collection bin in the cloak room. Thank you for your help!



### Fellowship Hour Hosts

September: Missions

October: UMW

November:

Staff Parish Relations

December: Education



BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRESENTS

# Music!

## 2012-13 CONCERT SERIES

Everyone is welcome! Come enjoy FREE music at  
Brecksville United Methodist Church.

MICHAEL NIGRO, GUITAR SOLOIST

Saturday, September 22, 2012 ~ 7:30pm

*A Journey Through Latin America, in Classical Guitar*



STAFF & FRIENDS CONCERT

Saturday, November 3, 2012 ~ 7:30 pm

*Join Joy Fenton, Chris Toth and Guests for a Musical Evening*



CANTORES CLEVELAND

Saturday, December 1, 2012 ~ 7:30pm

*Vocal music of the late Medieval and Renaissance eras*



BRECKSVILLE CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
COMMUNITY CHORUS AND YOUTH CHORUS  
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 16, 2012 ~ 4:00 pm

AN EVENING OF JAZZ:  
JOSH RZEPKA AND JACKIE WARREN

Saturday, January 26, 2013 ~ 7:30pm

*An evening of jazz trumpet and piano*



CHORISTER'S GUILD FESTIVAL CONCERT

Saturday, March 2, 2013 ~ 3:00pm

BRECKSVILLE CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
COMMUNITY CHORUS AND YOUTH CHORUS  
SPRING CONCERT

Sunday, April 21, 2013 ~ 4:00pm

BRECKSVILLE UMC STUDENT RECITAL

*Benefitting the music department scholarship*

Saturday, May 18, 2013 ~ 7:30pm



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BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

65 PUBLIC SQUARE • BRECKSVILLE OHIO 44111

440•526•8938 WWW.BRECKSVILLUMC.COM



# MILESTONES

*News of the Fellowship*

Do you have news to share? Contact Melanie!  
office@brecksvilleumc.com or 440-526-8938

On August 12 we celebrated the sacrament of Baptism with Taylor Cathryn Heisler, the daughter of Tim and Jamie Heisler.

Dave and Cec Podolny have a new grandson! On Thursday, August 9, proud parents Derek and Meghan Podolny welcomed Daniel Jameson Podolny to the world.



*When a mountain is in your path, do not sit at its foot and cry. Get up and climb it.*  
- African proverb

Dear Brecksville UMC,  
We appreciate the generous donation of 49 School Kits and Baby Kits for our Church World Service programs. This card is one of the craft items being produced by young people in Rwanda as a way to generate income and move toward being self-sufficient. Through the Giving Hope program, CWS is working to support the self-empowerment of more than 30,000 orphans in youth-headed households in five countries in East Africa. We are only able to do our work because of supportive congregations like yours. Many thanks,

Matthew Stephens,  
Church World Service  
Regional Director

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Greg Eberhardt	09/01	Kathleen Bartholomew	09/17
Alan Jones	09/01	Jacob Root	09/17
Mary Kate Kaminski	09/01	Charles Wilson	09/18
David Hurder	09/02	Becky Gezze	09/20
Ann Rittman	09/03	Mitchell Hlay	09/20
Luke Dorman	09/04	Claire Kenney	09/20
Marilyn Huber	09/04	James Patrick	09/20
L. Neil Johnson	09/04	Fred Priest	09/20
Timothy Miller	09/04	Jonathan Wise	09/20
Celeste Olenik	09/04	Donna Box	09/21
Harry Wilson	09/05	Kara Storey	09/22
Matthew Georgevich	09/07	Les Buttolph	09/23
Quinn Slifcak	09/08	Emma Sak	09/23
Megan Burns	09/09	Donald Yates	09/23
Joseph Hurst	09/09	Anne Rosenthal	09/24
Ellie Ritterbusch	09/09	Hannah Stanley	09/24
Sandy Whitton	09/09	John Faulk	09/25
Tonya Boldt	09/10	Daniel Hulten	09/25
Mona Carlisle	09/10	Brett Hubert	09/26
Abbey McLuckie	09/10	Jeffrey Schillo	09/26
Jinho Lee	09/11	Hannah Buttolph	09/27
Samuel McLuckie	09/11	Kathy Holmes	09/27
Madeline Hamilton	09/12	Annie Madaus	09/27
Abigail Jaite	09/12	Jeannie McBride	09/27
Ruth Georgevich	09/13	Matt Harper	09/28
Giovanna Figer	09/14	Mary Jane Matts Slifcak	09/28
Douglas Huth	09/14	Matthew Harper	09/29
Monica Klipfell	09/14	Kaiya Crouch	09/30
Barbara Diver	09/15	Craig Kotnik	09/30
Loren Guell	09/15		
Claire Hayes	09/16		



As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly Staff Meetings, we have recently lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others: Look around BUMC and you may see Cliff Theilman ably filling in for Jeff and Scott during their recent vacation; The Schroedel Family opening their home in the spirit of fellowship for the Music Department summer picnic; and The Schneider Family serving as ushers and assisting with communion. We are thankful for each of you!



Faith. Fellowship. Fun!

# Join an Agape Group!

Ready to have an enjoyable meal with new friendships? Then an Agape\* Group is just for you! Agape is an opportunity to socialize and get better acquainted in small groups of 6—8 people at least four times throughout a year in member homes, usually as a pot luck. Each group determines the times and dates. Some groups may decide to tour restaurants. We will put the groups together, but we need to know your preference. Don't delay! Send in this form NOW to the church office!

Questions? Call Jane Petrie for Evangelism Committee 440-526-1725

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Time Preferences: What works best for you? Circle your choice(s)

- 1. Weekend evening
- 2. Weekday evening
- 3. Lunch time
- 4. Restaurants

*\*Agapé is Greek for love feast*



## Organ Update

As of Sunday, August 20 over \$29,000 has been raised toward our total goal of \$35,000 for organ repairs and improvements.

Thank you to all who have contributed toward this project. We hope to meet our goal by September 15 in order to complete the renovations by Advent.

If you are still interested in giving, please contact Joy or the main office!

440.526.8938

music@brecksvilleumc.com



## Tailgate Party October 21

Worship Committee is teaming up with Music Board to bring you our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Tailgate Party! This year, all funds raised will go to support our organ renovation project!

Join us on Sunday, October 21 at 1:00 to see the Browns defeat the Indianapolis Colts (sorry Joy!) Enjoy popcorn, cotton candy, sno-cones and carnival games!

**We'll fire up the grills** and enjoy a time of fellowship and fun as we raise money for our organ! If you'd like to help, contact Joy today.



## Ice Cream Social September 9

Like to make home **made ice cream**? It's good to share! Bring a **batch to this year's ice cream social**, Sunday, Sept. 9!

Our chili cook off is in January—our **"ice cream freeze off"** will be a warm weather alternative! Bring a batch of home made ice cream to share, or just bring your appetite, as we enjoy a late summer afternoon together. Hope to see you there! Questions?

Call Jenny at: 440.526.8938 or e-mail education@brecksvilleumc.com



## Young Disciples Picnic September 16

Attention all Middle Schoolers and their families: Join us for the Young Disciples Picnic Sept. 16 from 4 pm to 6 pm. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share. We will spend some time together talking, eating and playing games while you find out about some of the youth events coming up this year. Meet at the Rybak home 1100 Hamilton Drive in Broadview Heights. Contact Jenny if you have questions.

## Disaster Relief Needed

Dear BUMC:

This past Friday I visited a house in Howard, Ohio, just east of Mt. Vernon. In early July, a huge tree fell on the house during the violent storms. Although a contractor came and tarped the smashed roof, another storm blew the tarps off and further water damage occurred. Ruth is the home owner, an 80-year old woman raising her 8-year old grandson (great?) Dakota. She is already on welfare, though she also works part time helping in the local kindergarten classes. She had insurance on the house, but only about \$17,000 cash value, which they are having trouble getting a payment on.

There is a little United Methodist Church in Howard served by Pastor Lee Cubie. He is a local pastor, but also works full time as a contractor (obviously a God thing). The church and district—Three Rivers, the next district over from me—have been working on the house, with the help of teams from churches in some other districts. However, they have now come to the end of teams available to help, the pastor needs to get some of his own work done, as does the disaster response coordinator from the district, Rich Frazier, who has been helping there a lot. The church has been wonderful, taking care of Ruth and Dakota, and feeding all who have come to volunteer.

What I am working around to is whether there would be some folks from Brecksville who might consider spending some time in Howard to help Ruth and in this project. They are getting to a point where they will need drywall hung and some other finishing jobs. When they are ready for painting, I know that Jeff Fesler is a whiz!

If you have any thoughts or calling about this, the person to contact would be Pastor Lee Cubie, at 740-504-8601. Blessings to you!

- Rev. Karen Oehl



## **Cross International at BUMC Sept. 11**

In Jan 2010, an earthquake of magnitude of 7.0 hit Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti. Initially it was reported 61 people were killed, and 180 were missing. Despite aid from numbers of countries to this country, already the poorest in the Western Hemisphere, 200,000 have died as a result of the earthquake, and 2 million people are still homeless. Schools have only been partially rebuilt, and many classrooms are still being held outside.

Cross International is one of the agencies that came to Haiti's aid and is still active. Virtually all of the donations to Cross International go to on site needs.

In fact, a \$2000 donation can provide meals and school to *18 children for one year!* The meals, despite the low cost, are not just a few grains of rice. Pam

Leer, an executive of Cross International, explained these meals have brought many of the children from near starvation to completely healthy in a relatively short time.

On September 11, two representatives from Cross International will be at the Brecksville United Church to provide an update of the needs of Haiti, what they are doing now, and what the continuing needs are. They are even willing to provide information about mission trips to Haiti for volunteers or those who would just like to see the needs of this country for themselves. This free presentation will begin at 7:30 PM and is open to the public. *We hope you will join us for this very informative evening.*



## Michael Nigro in Concert: A Journey Through Latin America



"Nigro is an excellent guitarist, drawing a multitude of tone colors from his instrument and displaying great technical dexterity. He has a wide dynamic range, a very pretty sound, and an ability to vary his articulation for expressive purposes."  
*Long Beach Gazette*

**Saturday, September 22 @ 7:30pm**  
**Brecksville United Methodist Church**  
**65 Public Square**  
**Brecksville, OH 44141**  
**(440) 526-8938**

[www.nigroclassicalguitar.com](http://www.nigroclassicalguitar.com)



## Building Hope in the City, Sept. 6

UMW hopes that everyone had a wonderful summer. We would like to have you start the fall with us at our Thursday, September 6 meeting. It starts at 9:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast and fellowship. A very interesting program, Building Hope in the City, will begin at 10:00 a.m. The featured speaker is Nadia Abuamsha who is a missionary in the greater Cleveland area. She was born and raised in Bethlehem as a Christian. She was not able to freely share the Good News of the Gospel with Muslim women until she came to America. She will tell us about the various out reach programs of Building Hope in the City. Plan to join us in the Chapel.



Explore what it means to be a United Methodist—be a part of our New Member Class. Sundays, September 16, 23, 30. Sign up by contacting the church office by phone (440-526-8938) or e-mail: [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)

## You're Invited...

Ladies of the church, please join Asbury Bremeth Circle on the second Thursday of each month in the parlor at 9:30 am. Our meetings include a light continental breakfast, an opening thought and prayer, approximately thirty minutes of good talk and fellowship, and a lesson that combines our real lives with God's plans for us. Our wonderful Christian Education Director, Jenny Gee, will be our facilitator, so look forward to exciting lessons! We are starting our new spiritual season on Thursday, September 13. For more information call Nancy at 440-838-4341. *See you September 13!*



*This Month* we'll move the hike from its usual first Sunday to the second Sunday of Sept. Meet at the Brandywine Falls parking lot at 2 p.m. Sept. 9,

and walk the trail down to the Stanford House and back, a round trip of a little over 4 miles. See you there! Need more info? Contact Carole Brachna for details! 330-908-2031

## The Abbey of Genesee November 2 - 4

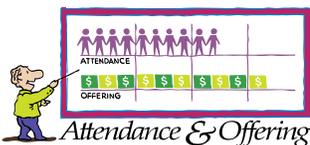


A weekend at the monastery. Interested in learning more? Talk to Craig Czarnota or Kendall Lancaster or check out the Abbey Website at [www.geneseeabbey.org](http://www.geneseeabbey.org).

Call the church office to be put on the reservation list (440) 526-8938. Suggested donation to the Abbey is \$50 per person – this includes two nights private room and all meals.

### Evening Knitting Group Returns

WANTED: Women who want to be a part of our yarn ministry! There are no qualifications to be a member! Any age! Come and learn to knit/crochet for FREE! Bring a project to work on or help with one of several charity projects. We can help you read a pattern and we even take donations of yarn and crochet supplies. Good people, good friends, and good conversation! We have worked on prayer shawls for shut-ins and baby items for Providence House. Currently we are working on caps, mittens and scarves for the Christmas Mitten Tree. We welcome any suggestions for charity projects. We meet the FIRST and THIRD Tuesday of each month, starting September 18, through March from 7pm-8pm in the Youth Room (4th Floor, next to the elevator.)



Can we make our numbers grow? Why not bring a friend to church or Sunday School?

Date	1st Service Attendance	2nd Service Attendance	Offering
July 29	92	109	\$4,404
August 5	83	87	\$8,261.50
August 12	65	128	\$7,119
August 19	93	121	\$8,913

Thank You!  
THANK YOU!

We're so thankful to the following folks who have offered to help with pictures for our church photo directory!

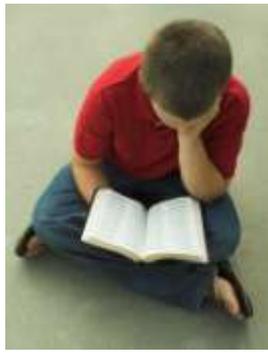
Cathy Buttolph, Phil Hines  
Al & Barb Harper  
Herb & Nancy Einheit  
Bob & Lue Andree  
Bob & Pat Butler  
Mary Jane & Carl Opatrny  
Elinor Rowan, Phyllis Phillips  
Doris & Tony Cipolla  
Kathy Goebel, Karen Thielman  
Joe & Ruth Holmes  
Stan & Marilyn Demorr  
Doug & Gail Huth  
Nancy Kroenke, Marge Webb  
Sylvia Fowler, Gretchen Mates  
Faith McAllister

**We can't do it without you!**

Have you scheduled your pictures yet? Don't forget, we are given one directory for each appointment scheduled and you get a free 8 x 10. Don't be left out! Schedule your appointment today!

Call the church office  
440-526-8938  
or see the Church Directory page later in this newsletter for instructions about signing up on line.

**YOUTH  
WORSHIP  
WEDNESDAYS  
6:30 - 9 PM**



## Third Grade Bible Sunday

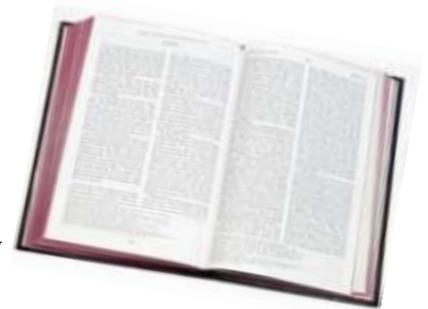
A rite of passage in our church is awarding Bibles to third-graders. This year Third Grade Bible Sunday will be held on September 30 during the 8:45 worship service. Plan to join the children in Fellowship Hall for a cake and punch reception following the 8:45 service. *If your third grader did not receive a letter in their Sunday School class, call Jenny as soon as possible.*

It's a wonderful day when the third-graders receive their Bibles. Names are inscribed inside. The books smell of fresh ink and have that delicious creak when the children open them. Then what? Here are six tips to consider to make the event an important part of a child's faith journey.

1. Tell the story of your Bible. Many of us carry New Testaments or entire Bibles that belonged to relatives. Others use Bibles with notes and explanations. Let the third-graders understand the important role your Bible plays in your life. Let them see you carry it, mark it and write in it. We "grown ups" can talk to the third-graders about our own special Bibles.

2. In Sunday School, our third-graders will learn how to use their new Bibles. Third Grade Bible Sunday is the culmination of a four week Bible unit that the children in Grades 1 through 5 will complete on September 30. This year they are studying the parables of Jesus and the lessons behind the stories. Over the next two weeks these young people will be planning and practicing to lead worship on October 21.

3. Play memory games to learn the books of the Bible. Start with the New Testament. Make an index card for each New Testament book. Then scramble the cards and ask the children to put the cards in order. Or play a card game. Have a set of cards for each child. Shuffle and deal them. Play a game (call it "New Testament Rummy") where children can discard only if they have the next book in order. Whoever discards all their cards first wins.



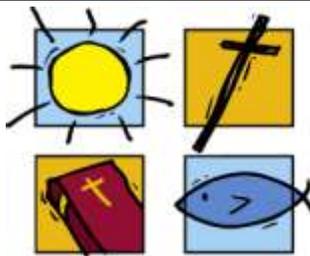
4. Read beloved stories together. Most children's Bibles have indexes of famous stories and parables. Show your third-graders how to use this index to choose a different story each Sunday. Reserve time for children to find stories that are familiar or that sound interesting to them. Ask the children to take turns reading the Scripture. Although you may need to help them with some words, third-graders often love to be asked to read. It is also important to recognize not every child learns in the same way. Some children need someone to read to them.

5. Invite children to highlight Scripture or passages. The most precious Bibles are those that are used. Encourage students to highlight verses or stories they read in their Bibles. Let them write notes or questions in the margins. These markings will not deface the children's Bibles. Rather, they will stand as precious reminders of their childhood thoughts as they age.

Third-grade minds are like sponges — open to new words and ideas. What a perfect time for the Bible to come into their lives. With your help, that new Bible will make an imprint on their hearts — rather than their bookshelves.

*Adapted and reprinted with permission from United Methodist Communications.*

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



## Classes for everyone!

### Rally Days

*Rally Days are August 26 and September 2. Look for us at the table in the lobby and update your child's contact information. We have made it so easy. Even if your information has not changed please stop by the table and let us know. Remember Sunday School for all ages begins on September 9!*



### Sprouts

*Ages 3 and up, meets after the Children's Moment during worship.*

Sprouts incorporates Bible stories, activities, crafts, visual media, and games into a full faith experience for children. At Sprouts children develop the skills to unlock the Bible message and grow their faith by leaps and bounds. Our goal with the Sprouts program is to help the children learn Jesus' clear message to us about loving our neighbors. We want to see our young people living out their faith as they grow.

### Crib and Toddler Room

*Open to all our babies and children*

Our nursery is staffed by loving and skilled workers to care for your children. Nursery care, child care, and children's fellowship is available Sunday mornings during both worship services and the Sunday School hour.

### Godly Play

*Preschoolers and Kindergarteners*

Godly Play is a Montessori-inspired method for teaching Christian education through storytelling, reflection, art, writing, singing and/or creative play. Children and the teacher/storyteller wonder together about the message and meaning of selected Bible stories, and then respond to the words they hear. The children also share a simple feast, which is a great time to share joys and concerns, and a blessing with each other.

### Rotation

*1st through 5th graders*

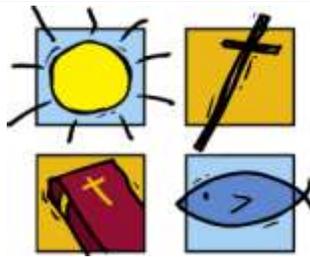
Rotation Sunday school is a way to teach major Bible stories and concepts through child-friendly, creative and interactive workshops. Children rotate through Art, Drama, Cooking, Music, Movie, Science and Games over the course of 5-6 weeks. During each unit of time the children focus on just one scripture based story or theme.

- ◇ In Rotation Sunday School, each age group has a "shepherd" that goes with them every Sunday. We are blessed to have a wonderful team of shepherds that have committed to spending the entire year getting to know your child better. The children can find out where they will be each Sunday on the sign posted in the narthex.
- ◇ Rotation Sunday school concentrates on the major stories of the Bible and central themes of Christianity and United Methodist Beliefs. The model's philosophy recognizes that kids not only love repetition, but also they need it to develop a lasting memory and understanding of content. This "multi-intelligences" approach recognizes that we (children and adult alike) learn differently and use all our senses--as hearing, seeing, touching, and doing). This model has been developed to take advantage of our children's God-given thirst for learning and engage kids so that learning is fun as well as effective.

### Sixth and Seventh Grade

This year we will delve deeply into the Old Testament and hear the familiar stories in a different way. We will focus on seeing the connection between these Old Testament writings and some familiar passages in the New Testament. Mostly though we will ask the question, "What does this story mean in my life and what am I to learn from it?" Youth will be challenged to delve more deeply into the sacred scripture and will explore their messages through art, skits, games and short video presentations.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



# Classes for everyone!

## Eighth Grade

Explore and discuss the tough questions that make even those most secure in their faith feel tongue tied. Consider some great "thinking points" as a great foundation for feeling secure in future faith discussions you may have. During the 8th grade year, and Confirmation preparation, we want you to have as many experiences as possible that will help you decide if now is the right time to confirm your faith. Each 8th grader will be set up with a mentor, a non-related adult who will meet with you throughout the school year to share their own faith questions and faith journey. Confirmation students will be expected to put their faith into action by completing a certain number of service hours in the community, either on their own or through opportunities provided by the church. Membership in the greater church is part of the confirmation year and students will be required to attend 3 membership classes/confirmation planning sessions on April 28, May 12 and May 19. Confirmation this year is on June 2.



## High School

### *The Me I Want to Be*

There are a lot of pressures and interests competing for our time, energy, money, and hearts. In high school and beyond, there are many forces shaping **who we are and who we'll become and a lot of people** telling us who we should be and what we should even think is cool. Well God has the definitive picture of who we are and who we should become in His image. You know He called us His work of art, a masterpiece? Through interactive lessons, discussions, videos, skits, and readings, we'll discover what that means **and who God designed each of us to be. We'll celebrate the unique gifts, passions, and plans God has for you while we go deeper into our faith and prepare for our futures in high school and college. We'll unpack words like grace, prayer, worship, relationship, and learn to be real with ourselves in front of God and each other. Come find the you God designed you to be.**

## Classes for Adults

*Faith and American Politics, one of our adult education options in the fall, will delay its start until Sunday, September 23, when Joy returns to town. Those enrolled in the class are encouraged to attend the Sanctuary drop-in class with Pastor Clark on September 9 & 16.*

### *Sanctuary Drop In Class* **HASHING IT OUT**

*Facilitated by Pastor Clark Stein*



Join Pastor Clark in the sanctuary for the drop in Sunday School class. This experience is a video based curriculum in a discussion format dealing with some of the hottest topics facing the church today. These lessons are thought provoking and challenging as Steve Brown and Tony Campolo seem to disagree on just about everything. Tony Campolo is a Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Eastern University. Steve Brown is a Radio Broadcaster, Seminary Professor and Author. Make it when you can!

## FAITH AND AMERICAN POLITICS

*Facilitated by Joy Fenton*

Are you tired of attack ads?  
Do you avoid touchy political subjects?  
Do you struggle with the relationship between God and politics?



**THEN THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!!!**

**Get ready to...**

- ▶ grow and be stretched in the way you think about your own faith and your own politics.
- ▶ discipline yourself to listen to the personal and spiritual journeys that have brought people to their worldviews.
- ▶ learn to effectively and graciously express spiritual principles that are important to you.

In this time of harsh electoral politics, our goal above all else will be to *love each other*. If you're ready to take the challenge, join this class on Sundays beginning September 23. Want to learn more? Contact Joy or go to [www.faithandamericanpolitics.com](http://www.faithandamericanpolitics.com). Sign up by contacting the main office, or after church on Sunday!

# Dear church *family,*

We need *YOU* to be a part of this year's pictorial directory!

Schedule your appointment right now on line  
(directions below) or call the church office!



We are excited to announce that we will soon begin the process of producing our new pictorial church directory with Universal Church Directories. This directory is to help us put names and faces together, introduce our church to the community, preserve this time in our church's history and tell our story to new church families. In order to achieve these goals we need your help to make the new directory a complete representation of our church family.



## Photography Dates: Tuesday, September 4— Saturday, September 8.

- ◇ Tuesday, 9/4: 2 pm—8:30 pm
- ◇ Wednesday, 9/5: 2 pm—8:30 pm
- ◇ Thursday, 9/6: 2 pm—8:30 pm
- ◇ Friday, 9/7: 2 pm—8:30 pm
- ◇ Saturday, 9/8: 10:30 am—5 pm

- All photography will take place at our church for your convenience. Immediately following photography, you will view your images electronically and select a pose for the directory.
- Each family that is photographed and selects a directory pose will receive a *complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory*. You will have the opportunity to purchase additional professional portraits to share with family and loved ones.
- Universal offers a complete professional portrait studio including a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finishes and frames.

Please join us in celebrating this time in the life of our church.

*Church Directory Committee*

## Online Scheduling Available!

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to the Universal website, [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com), and click on schedule your photography session on the right side, enter **OH1338** in the Church Code field and enter **brecksville** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. To set appointment by phone call **(888)-742-5823**. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**

# SEPTEMBER 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Janine and Emily Telischak  <b>2 Rally Day 2</b> <b>8:30 Worship on the Lawn</b> <b>10 Worship</b> 2 Fenton/Parker Wedding 2 Hiking Club	<b>3 Labor Day</b>  Church Offices Closed	<b>CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY DATES. Have you scheduled yours?</b>				<b>1</b>
<b>9</b> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Ed Hour <b>11:15 Worship with Baptism</b> 2 Hiking Club 2 Ice Cream Social 	<b>10</b> 7p Bible Study	<b>11</b> 11 Staff Mtg <b>Super Tues!</b> 7 COM 8 Committee Meetings	<b>12</b> 6:30 Dawnbrk 6:15 Wed Wheels <b>6:30 Youth Worship</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30 Asbury <b>4 Women's</b> Emmaus 5 Thursday <b>Men's Group</b> 6:15 Bells 7 Men's Ensm	<b>14</b> 7 Emmaus Reunion <b>9 Men's Bible Study</b>	<b>8</b> <b>10:30–5pm Pictures</b> 
<b>16</b> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Ed Hour <b>11:15 Worship</b> 12 New Member Class 4 Young Disciples Picnic 	<b>17</b> 7p Bible Study	<b>18</b> 9:30 Staff Mtg 10 <b>Stitch'n'Time</b> 7 Knitting Grp 7:30 Finance 7:30 Trustees	<b>19</b> 6:30 Dawnbrk 6:15 Wed Wheels <b>6:30 Youth Worship</b> 7:30 SPR	<b>20</b> <b>4 Women's</b> Emmaus 5 Thursday <b>Men's Group</b> 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	<b>21</b> 7 Emmaus Reunion <b>9 Men's Bible Study</b> 	<b>22</b>  7:30 Concert Series Michael Nigro Guitar
<b>23</b> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Ed Hour <b>11:15 Worship</b> 12 New Member Class	<b>24</b> 7p Bible Study  7p <b>The Innovators</b> rehearse with the BCA Chorus	<b>25</b> 9:30 Staff Mtg	<b>26</b> 6:30 Dawnbrk 6:15 Wed Wheels <b>6:30 Youth Worship</b>	<b>27</b> <b>4 Women's</b> Emmaus 5 Thursday <b>Men's Group</b> 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	<b>28</b> 7 Emmaus Reunion <b>9 Men's Bible Study</b> 9:30 UMW Board Mtg	<b>29</b> 9 am–12 
<b>30</b> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Ed Hour <b>11:15 Worship</b> 12 New Member Class 1 CROP Walk		The Innovators, a Zimbabwean gospel group, are coming to Brecksville! We will host these dynamic young men for the day on Monday, September 24. Want to join us for some local sightseeing and a time of learning from our brothers in the faith community? Contact Joy ASAP!				<b>\$1 Week Campaign</b>  As of August 19, we have collected \$1,808 for our Liberia School fund. Our goal is \$24,000.

**This Month's Scripture Focus:** Find this month's scriptures on the home page of the church website: [www.brecksvilleumc.com](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com)

Learn more: [www.brecksvilleumc.com](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com)

# United Methodist News

*“News in the Pews” from the United Methodist News Service*

Liberian center for the deaf dedicated  
MONROVIA, Liberia — The Hope for the Deaf Ministry of the United Methodist Church in Liberia has dedicated a modern skills training center for deaf students. The dedication of the three-classroom building was presided over July 11 by Bishop John G. Innis of the Liberia Area. Construction of the Modern Skills Training Center was made possible through donations from the Middletown United Methodist Church in Middletown, Md.

Ghana president cited Methodism  
ACCRA, Ghana — Ghana is mourning the death of its president, Professor John Evans Atta Mills, who died July 24. Mills, 68, had been a Methodist. “I am the biggest beneficiary of the Methodist Church’s autonomy because I owe my education to the Methodist Church and my childhood training that was given me by the Methodist Church,” he once said.

Turning faith into a verb  
CHICAGO — The Rev. Robert Biekman’s approach to ministry is simple: “If you think about the world as our parish, then we need to begin in the neighborhood.” Southlawn United Methodist Church is busy turning faith into a verb. With the help of a \$6,000 Ethnic Local Church grant from the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, the church has begun a Neighborhood Intern Project that uses youth to survey the community and recommend remedies.

UMCOR aids flood survivors  
MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines office of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the denomination’s relief agency, is responding to the needs of survivors of heavy flooding in and around the Filipino capital, Manila, brought on by a confluence of storms and steady rain that began Aug. 1.

United Methodists at the Olympics  
LONDON — Not all the Olympic action was on the track or in the pool or even at the gymnasium. In a nation where only 6.5 percent of the population attends church regularly, Christians in Great Britain have seized upon the opportunity to offer a positive image to the public. British Methodists are among 300 volunteer “games pastors” in powder-blue uniforms interacting with Olympic visitors. A partnership between Westminster Abbey, Methodist Central Hall and St. Margaret’s Church has brought Christian musicians, dancers and visual artists from 30 countries to perform daily on the Abbey Green and the Methodist chapel in central London. Methodist Central Hall also offered lunchtime services.

Bishop reaches out after Sikh attack  
OAK CREEK, Wis. — Wisconsin Area Bishop Linda Lee called for Sunday, Aug. 12, to be a day of prayer by United Methodists for those affected by a gunman’s attack on a Sikh temple Aug. 5. The attack on the temple in suburban Milwaukee left seven people dead, including the shooter. Bishop Lee said she also hopes this tragedy will be an occasion for Christians to learn more about the Sikh religion. Here’s a start: Founded 500 years ago in a region now split between India and Pakistan, Sikhism now has 20 million followers; a central tenet is there is one God who is the same for all religions.

Indiana volunteers take VBS on the road  
HENRYVILLE, Ind. — One hundred days after the March 2 tornado that claimed six lives and destroyed 200 homes in Indiana, more than 100 children, ages 4 to 12, from Henryville and Edwardsville gathered for a weeklong vacation Bible school at the Henryville United Methodist Church. “The community members are tired and weary,” said the Rev. Beverly Perry, pastor at Edwardsville United Methodist Church. “The children and parents could use a little encouragement, and God has provided.” See the full story at <http://goo.gl/1L2Z6>.

## Get in the ‘spirit’

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Got spirit? No, not that one; the back-to-school spirit. It’s that time of year to bless backpacks, fashion a sermon around them. Throw a back-to-school bash. The United Methodist Church offers a chalkboard full of ways churches can support their students and their schools. Go to [umc.org/schools](http://umc.org/schools).



Working to keep you connected

<http://umns.umc.org>