

The Newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church

# The Good Word



NOVEMBER ISSUE

PUBLISHED OCTOBER 25, 2013

65 Public Square  
Brecksville, Ohio 44141

440-526-8938

*Open Doors. Honest Worship. Determined Service.*

*Our faith, lives and ministries take on new life when they are shared!*

You have a story to tell. The Spirit can use our everyday life experiences to touch hearts in ways you cannot imagine. How has God been active in your life? How have you been blessed? What experience have you had that reminded you of God's grace and Extravagant Generosity? How have you shared that gift with others? We are always encouraged to hear about how God is moving in your family, personal life, workplace, and in every way. Blessings come in many forms. What are some of yours?

Please take a few moments to share and give God the glory for the great things God has accomplished in your life!

E-mail Joy at  
music@brecksvilleumc.com

or

Write it down and drop it by  
the church office

or

Call the church to leave a  
voicemail:  
440-526-8938

# Imagine growth.

## *Imagine transformation.*

# IMAGINE CHANGING THE WORLD



# November 2013

*Generosity* describes our unselfish willingness to give in order to make a positive difference for the purposes of Christ. In November, we'll learn more about the practice of *Extravagant Generosity* and how our ministries address our spiritual need to give in ways that exceed all expectations and extend to unexpected measures. Fruitful congregations thrive because of extraordinary sharing, willing sacrifice, and joyous giving out of love for God and neighbor. Read more about our plans inside!

You should be receiving your devotional booklet *Practicing Extravagant Generosity: Daily Readings on the Grace of Giving* soon. Additional copies are available—please contact the church office for a copy!



Sunday Mornings  
8:45 Contemporary  
Worship

10 Education Hour  
11:15 Traditional Worship

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# Celebrate God All Day

*Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, revel in him! Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you're on their side, working with them and not against them. Help them see that the Master is about to arrive. He could show up any minute!*

*Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.—Philippians 4:4-7*

Dr. Hugh McKean of Chiangmai, Thailand, tells of a church of four hundred members where every member tithes. They receive a weekly wage of forty stangs (less than twenty cents) and their rice. Of this meager existence, each gives a tenth every week. Because of this, they have done more for Christ in Thailand than perhaps any other church. They pay their own preacher and have sent two missionary families to spread the gospel in a community cut off from the outside world. They are keenly interested in all forms of Christian work, especially work for unfortunates of every kind; and their gifts for this kind of work are large. They have not only accepted Christ, but, having found Him good, they are making Him known to others. Oh, by the way, this church of all tithers is also a church of all lepers—every person has leprosy.

We come to November, a month that holds much celebration for us. We will engage in our all church stewardship campaign, culminating with a special Commitment Sunday. Then we move into Thanksgiving and the beginning of our Advent and Christmas celebrations. We have so much for which to be thankful. It has always been my experience that those who have little seem to be able to share just about everything that they have. As blessings grow, we often get confused into believing that they came our way through our own efforts and are uniquely ours to enjoy. My prayer for all of us in this wonderful month of thanks, is that we will remain humbled and grateful for all God has given. So much so, that we will be moved to share more of what we have that others might come to know Jesus, and experience His love for them through our generosity.

I thank God for all of you, and for this incredible journey we share. May we respond according to the many ways we have been blessed.

With a thankful heart...

Pastor Clark

### Old Stamps = Tools!

The UMW collects cancelled postage stamps (except the "regular" Forever stamp [theme Forever stamps ARE accepted] and postcard stamps) for National Church Women United. **The stamps help "Tools for Hope" provide tools in developing countries world wide. Bring your stamps to the box in the cloak room. It's an easy, cost free way to help others!**



Fellowship Hour  
Hosts for  
November:  
**EVANGELISM**  
*Thank you!*



*Take a spiritual journey with us in November... make sure you're in worship as we discover Extravagant Generosity together!*

### November 3 – All Saint's Sunday

EKG – Ministry Flows from the Heart

Each year, we take the opportunity in worship to remember the women and men of God who have gone before us. Indeed, their heart for ministry inspires the next generation of worshippers to continue in their footsteps. Focus: *Sharing and good deeds result in caring ministries.* Join us for this special Sunday of remembrance and inspiration for the future!

### November 10 – Veteran's Sunday

The Art of Love – Relationships are Matters of the Heart

Many of us have dear friends and family members who have given of themselves in service to our nation. Our veterans remind us that when God's love extends through us to those around us, we are motivated to act and serve on their behalf. It is relationships that truly call us into service. Focus: *Your relationships with others prove you know God.* Don't miss this important Sunday of honoring our service men and women.

### November 17 – Leadership Sunday

Bucket Lists – Vision and Hope are Inspirations of the Heart

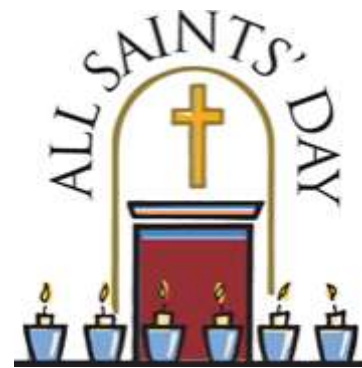
The leadership of Brecksville United Methodist Church is made up of ordinary women and men who have expressed a willingness to give of their time and energy in pursuit of what they believe to be God's vision for our church and our world. Focus: *God's vision requires faith and stepping out of your comfort zone.* Each of you is invited to see yourself as a leader and a role model on the journey of faith we walk together.

### November 24: Thanksgiving and Commitment Sunday

Declarations of Your Heart –

Extravagant Generosity is an Expression of Your Heart

Extravagant generosity is our natural response to God's incredible gifts of grace and mercy to us. In the very deepest sense, every one of us benefits daily from gifts of nature and community and family that we have done nothing to deserve. Focus: *Well done, good and faithful servant.* We ask that you make every effort to be present and present your gift of extravagant generosity in person. We will lay our gifts on the altar and ask God to bless and multiply them, so that they might edify this community and truly change the world!



Sunday, November 3 is All Saints' Sunday. During both worship services we will read the names of the saints of the church who have died since last November. If you have lost a loved one in the last year, you are invited to submit a name to be read during worship on that day. Contact Cec or Melanie in the church office before October 30 to have the information included in the service. 440-526-8938 or

[office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)



During worship services on November 10, we will recognize members of our congregation who have served in the United States Military. Veterans are encouraged to participate—contact the church office for details! This is also the perfect time for our congregation to engage in ministry with active troops and the families left behind. Stop by the Parlor that morning to sign a holiday card to be sent to service members at Walter Reed Medical Center.



A Community Thanksgiving Service is planned for Sunday, November 24 at 7 pm. We we don't know yet where it will be, but save the date!

The Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service is a special time for members of many faiths to come together in a spirit of thanksgiving and community. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Why should you participate in a Thanksgiving Service? Through gratefulness, we say yes to life. We say yes to God. We fully respond to each given moment and all its simple and complex blessings: the red apple, the hot coffee, the favorite sweater; the car that starts, the friend that calls, the sun that shines. We make a choice to focus on what it is that we love about life. Even, and especially, when times are tough.

The event is hosted by the Brecksville - Broadview Heights Ministerial Association. If you would like to be added to a list to receive updates about the event, contact the church office.

Fair Trade Fair and Boutique  
St. Basil The Great  
Catholic Church  
Sunday, November 10  
8 am—2 pm  
*Support Fair Trade!*

## NOVEMBER 10 ORGAN AND TISSUE DONOR AWARENESS SUNDAY

***“Jesus died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with him. So continue encouraging each other and building each other up, just like you are already doing.”***  
— 1 Thessalonians 5:10-11, Common English Bible

When United Methodist pastor the Rev. David Lord's pager went off after church on Mother's Day, he and his wife Kathryn assumed a parishioner wanted to talk to him. When he took the call, however, what he learned was far worse.

His son, Ray, 21, had been in a car accident. Tragically, Ray was declared brain dead soon afterward. As the young man's parents processed the news, they asked about organ donation.

Ray Lord died shortly before midnight on that Mother's Day, but doctors harvested his organs so others would have a chance to live.

“As we were leaving the hospital,” Kathryn Lord said, “I couldn't help but think about Ray's reply any time he was asked how he was doing. He always said, ‘My heart's still beating.’ That night as I walked out of his room, his heart was beating only because he was on life support until his organs and tissues could be recovered.”

Although David and Kathryn Lord lost their son, others gained life — or a better quality of life because because of the gift the Longs gave in their tragedy.

Today, United Methodists observe Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday, celebrating and thanking God for the gift of life and encouraging people to consider organ and tissue donation.

On Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday, let us remember the gift of donors. Each day, about 77 people receive organ transplants, and 18 people die waiting for them. People of all ages and conditions can be organ donors.

“I would not want anyone to go through what we did with Ray,” said Kathryn Lord after her son, 21, died tragically and his parents donated his organs. “However, I would like to be able to educate others on the facts about organ and tissue donation. Please don't be afraid to talk about it. You never know when you may be faced with having to make a life-giving decision.”

The week after Ray died, Kathryn said, “I could not help but wonder if we should have kept Ray on life support longer. Then we got our first letter from Tennessee Donor Services, and in that letter was ‘To Remember Me’ by Robert N. Test. After reading the letter and the poem, I knew we had done the right thing.” --Adapted from [dcids.org](http://dcids.org) and [womenshealth.gov](http://womenshealth.gov)

Any age is the right age to share the gift of life! 100 million Americans are registered organ, eye and tissue donors. Many are in their 50s, 60s, 70s and beyond. More than 114,000 people of all ages are waiting for a donor. Go to [organdonor.gov](http://organdonor.gov) to learn more!



# Stewardship & Worship



A huge part of our stewardship campaign, *Extravagant Generosity*, is about celebrating the blessings we share as a congregation. In response to God's graciousness toward us, we want to be outstanding stewards of all our resources: staff, facilities, volunteers, and energy.

Sunday morning worship is one of the primary times when we come together as a community. First and foremost, we want it to be a time of *vibrant worship*. But almost as important, it must be a time when everyone, from the veteran member to the first-time visitor, feels *welcome* and *comfortable*.

You are invited to be part of this ongoing conversation. You have two opportunities to join us!

## Tuesday, November 12 at 7:00pm

*Council on Ministries (COM) Meeting*

COM will be opened to anyone who wishes to be a part of this conversation; church leadership is especially encouraged to attend. 20-30 minutes of the meeting will be devoted to discussion about worship.

## Saturday, November 23 at 10:00am

*Worship Round Table*

This meeting is for everyone. If you value the worship life of this church (and that should be you!), we would love to see you at this meeting. Seasonal breads, coffee and juice will be provided.

Come prepared to consider...

- ▶ What is going so well in our worship ministry that you'd like us not to touch it?
- ▶ What is broken and either needs to be fixed or needs to be shut down?
- ▶ What are things we are not yet doing that we ought to consider for our future?

We look forward to honest and courageous conversation!

Pastor Clark, Jenny, Joy & Kyle

# What Do You Believe?

## *BUMC's Advent Devotional 2013*

We want YOU to be a part of this year's Advent Devotional! This year's theme is "This I Believe" based on the popular 1950's radio series of the same name hosted by Edward R. Murrow. Together, we'll explore and share our core beliefs about Christmas.

What do you believe? It's a challenging question. To help guide you through the writing process, we put together some writing prompts, available on the next page.

Essays must be received by November 18—but early submissions are appreciated! We need 25 writers to make this gift to the congregation happen. Can you be one of them? Contact the office to sign up! 440-526-8938 or [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)



# 2013 Advent Devotional: *This I Believe....*

In this advent season, what are the truths that you hold most dear? Reflections may include personal memories, meaningful stories, truths you have learned along your personal journey, and/or a look at a passage of the Bible. Consider...

*What stands in the way of hope? For what should we hope?  
What cuts people off from a sense of joy? Where do you find your joy renewed?  
When have you witnessed the absence of love? When are you most aware of love?  
What stands in the way of peace? Who inspires you to keep dreaming of peace?*

A great outline for your devotional:  
Scripture Passage  
Thoughts/reflections (150-250 words)  
Closing Prayer

Below, you will find a selection of Scriptures to get you thinking. It is always a great idea to read the entire chapter, even if you will only be using a small portion. You might also want to find out a little more about the book of the Bible. Who wrote it? When was it written? What was going on when it was written? Remember that any member of program staff would be more than happy to help guide you in your study and writing!

Hope  
Job 5:6-16  
Psalm 71:1-5 or 147:7-11  
Lamentations 3:21-36  
Romans 5:1-5 or 8:22-25 or 15:13

Love  
I Chronicles 16:31-34  
Psalm 13 or 36:5-10  
Song of Solomon 8:6-7  
Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Matthew 22:36-40  
Luke 6:31-36  
John 13:34-35 or 15:9-13  
Romans 12:9-12 (whole chapter is awesome!)  
I Corinthians 16:13-14  
Galatians 5:13-14 or 22-26  
I John 4:17-21

Joy  
Psalm 5:11-12 or 47:1-2 or 96:10-12  
Isaiah 12  
Luke 19:36-40  
Colossians 1:9-12  
Hebrews 12:1-2  
James 1:2-4  
I Peter 1:6-9

Peace  
Psalm 34:9-14  
Jeremiah 6:11-14  
Matthew 5:4-9  
John 14:25-27  
Ephesians 4:1-3  
Philippians 4:8-9  
Hebrews 12:11-14  
James 3:13-18

## Tips:

Your devotional doesn't all have to be "happy!" Sometimes great wisdom is gained in tough situations. Write from "back to front." Start with your conclusion or culminating thought and work backward. Take your time! Write something down today, and then let it "settle" for a few days. Be careful about internet searches... not all information is good information.

*Devotionals are due on November 18.*



# News from the Brecksville United Methodist Women

Grab your scissors and your fabric glue, and join the UMW in the Parlor on November 7 for some crafting! We'll be making holiday gifts for Head Start kids!

We'll also be participating in the World Thank Offering, one of the ways that United Methodist Women support work with women, children, and youth in the United States and around the world.

The UMW needs your help to Fill the Bin for Brookside. There is a serious need for: personal toiletries, paper products, paper towels, cleaning supplies, soap products and diapers. Can you help fill this need? There is a bin in the coat room labeled "Brookside".

UMW also continues to collect used eyeglasses to be donated to those in need. Do you have an old pair laying around? Put it to good use by dropping them off in the coatroom collection cubbie marked "eyeglasses". If you have questions, please contact Gretchen Mates at 440.526.6481.



*By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.* - John 13:35

BUMC Youth, grades 6-12, are invited to attend a special overnight event in Columbus. The East Ohio Conference is promoting Methodist youth community and Christian growth with Christ-centered worship, a concert, and learning. It's going to be a great retreat for our youth. Come get to know each other better, grow closer as a group, and learn more about the God we serve through youth-oriented worship, speakers, and activities. We encourage all youth to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. WHEN: NOVEMBER 16-17

- ▶ WHAT: Methodist Youth retreat focusing on worship, Christian pop music concerts, small group discussion, and fun. More online here: [www.eocumc.com/project1335/index.html](http://www.eocumc.com/project1335/index.html). We will head down Saturday morning (around 7:30am) and return Sunday afternoon (around 1pm), staying at the hotel Saturday night.

- ▶ WHERE: The Ramada Plaza 4900 Sinclair Road, Columbus, OH 43229

COST: \$40 (includes registration and hotel) plus food costs for Saturday lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER WAS October 24 (*But Kyle's taking late registrations. Act now before it's too late!*) CONTACT: Kyle Allen - [youth@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@brecksvilleumc.com) or (440) 526-8938.

FORMS: Two forms must be completed with your registration

- 1) Project 1335 Health/Video Release form. Download here: [www.eocumc.com/project1335/pdf/Project1335MedicalForm.pdf](http://www.eocumc.com/project1335/pdf/Project1335MedicalForm.pdf)
- 2) BUMC Medical Release Form (previous forms expired in August 2013). Download here: [www.brecksvilleumc.com/root/bumconline/forms](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com/root/bumconline/forms)



## Middle School Game Night

Friday November 22nd

6 pm -9 pm

The Louttit's house

4825 Valleybrook Dr.  
Brecksville OH 44141

Please let us know if you plan to attend!

RSVP by November 18th

to Kyle at

[youth@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@brecksvilleumc.com)

440.526.8938 x 227



*We are pleased to host this district youth event!*

North Coast District  
Youth Gatherings

*Christ Centered Opportunities to Grow in Faith, Leadership, and Commitment to love and serve Jesus*

Mission Movie Night

Sunday, November 3, 2013  
3:00-6:00 at Brecksville UMC. "Last Flight Out" is an adventure movie and a good discussion starter about how we live Jesus' love. Also fun & pizza!





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

Mark and Donna Sibits have welcomed a new grandson, Carter Allen, to their family. Carter was welcomed into the world by proud parents Scott and Lisa Sibits (and his big sister and brother) on October 2. Congratulations, Sibits family!

Donald and Gloria Southam have asked us to share their new address with everyone: Breckenridge Village North, 36500 Euclid Avenue, Apt A-260, Willoughby, OH 44094

More congratulations are in order:

Congratulations to Independence High School Homecoming King Darren Krolkowski!

Congratulations to Josh Dietrich, who has been named a National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalist.

Welcome New Members! Sarah Lundholm, Matthew Manocchio, Daren Krolkowski, John Zawada, Bridget & Aleya Gee, Nick Orr, Stephanie Holmes, Derek Brinkman, Michael Lee, Michael Pace and Joshua Dietrich.

***You're Invited to an***

Informational Meeting

*Russia Volunteer in Mission Trip*

(Traveling to Russia 6/26/14)

Learn more

Sunday, November 17

1 pm in room 201

*Contact Bruce McCrodden  
for more information!*

Nancy	Einheit	11/01
Karl	Riccardi	11/01
Joyce	Wuerth	11/01
James	McBride	11/02
Hayden	Vincent	11/02
Anthony	Cipolla	11/03
James	Houston	11/03
Ruth	McKenzie	11/03
Alyssa	Whitton	11/03
Elaine	Geringer	11/05
Ella	Nelson	11/05
Melissa	Schillo	11/05
Brandon	Calovini	11/06
Raymond	Koloda	11/06
Karl	Robie	11/06
Sean	Lundholm	11/07
Ardyn	Olszko	11/07
Cathy	Drescher	11/08
Thomas	Ellis	11/08
Brandon	Fisher	11/08
Darell	Fisher	11/08
Charlotte	Hocutt	11/08
Connor	Hogan	11/08
Allan	Filips	11/09
Michele	Mihalich	11/10
Bryan	Miller	11/10
Michael	Basen	11/11
Terry	Bennett	11/11
Jan	Kaminski	11/11
Judith	McBride	11/11
Laddie	Papp	11/11
Ryan	Hulten	11/12
Kevin	Vastartis	11/12
Kelsey	Hogan	11/13
In Hye	Jung Allen	11/13
James	Mueller	11/14
Gregory	Warth	11/14
Brian	Wygonski	11/14

# Happy Birthday!

Ryan	Burrows	11/16
Sandra	Crist	11/16
Edward	Schroedel	11/16
Michael	Gezze	11/17
Zachary	Johnson	11/17
Shirley	Hill	11/19
Brandon	Klipfell	11/19
Donald	Raybuck	11/19
Diana	Wise	11/19
Carole	Brachna	11/20
Kyle	Holmok	11/20
Lucy	Lodge	11/20
Matthew	Havranek	11/21
Richard	Ling	11/21
Ian	Roberts	11/21
Doug	Robie	11/21
Kimberly	Campbell	11/22
Rebecca	Paroda	11/22
Alan	Phillips	11/22
Martha	Rosenthal	11/22
Jennifer	Sendrey	11/22
David	James	11/25
Deborah	Scheufler	11/25
Douglas	Farling	11/26
Kelly	Meyer	11/26
Evan	Davis	11/27
Adam	Archacki	11/28
Henry	James	11/28
Dee	Lancaster	11/28
Kimberly	Ling	11/28
Nicholas	Rajkovich	11/28
Janet	Biggs	11/29
Kourtney	Ellis	11/29
Kaitlyn	Hazelton	11/29



As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly Staff Meetings, we recently lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others. Folks like Kate White, who shares her lovely singing with us during Sunday worship; Stephanie and Emma Sak, who stepped in at the last minute to care for kids in the nursery; Jeff Fesler, whose skills with a paintbrush are legendary; and Michael Lee, liturgist and musician extraordinaire. Thank you!



*Join us for an evening of  
wonderful music  
with organist  
Nicole Keller  
on our newly-renovated  
Casavant-Frères organ.*

Nicole Keller is an active solo and chamber music recitalist and clinician in the United States and abroad. She enjoys exploring all aspects of organ repertoire, especially pairing new music for the instrument with the staples of the repertoire. Recent solo performances include concerts in New York, St. Louis, Kansas, Germany, France, and Kazakhstan. Ms. Keller performs regularly as a solo and collaborative artist on the organ, piano and harpsichord. She is on faculty at the Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Music in Berea, OH and serves as the Director of Music at The Community of Saint John in Hudson, OH.

In August of 2010 Ms. Keller was an instructor in the Internationale Orgelakademie at Dom St. Stephan in Passau, Germany. The course focused on American and English organ music and included students from several countries in Europe. In conjunction with the course, she played a recital at Dom St. Stephan and at Stadtkirche St. Peter und Paul in Waldkirchen with Dr. Horst Buchholz, Director of Music at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. In April of 2011 Ms. Keller won first prize in the North American round of the Michael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition, earning a place in the second round in Kaliningrad, Russia. In Kaliningrad she was awarded the Special Shabyt Prize from the Kazakh National University of Arts in Astana, Kazakhstan for "the most promising organist for inspiration and luck" and performed a recital in Astana in May of 2012.



Ms. Keller received the Performer's Certificate and the Master of Music Degree in Organ Performance and Literature at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York under the tutelage of David Higgs. While at Eastman, she studied continuo with Arthur Haas and improvisation with Dr. Gerre Hancock. She received the Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance from the Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music in Berea, Ohio, studying piano with George Cherry and Jean Stell and organ with Margaret Scharf.

*Saturday, November 16, at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary*

*Program to include works by Buxtehude, Mendelssohn, Vierne, and Messiaen.*

*This concert is free and open to the public. All are welcome!*

*Also coming up... Brecksville Community Chorus & Youth Chorus*

*Sunday, December 8, at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary*

*Concert includes Daniel Pinkham's Christmas Cantata with brass quartet and organ!*

## Special Sunday Church Visits



Our youth will have some amazing opportunities this year to experience several different styles of Christian wor-

ship services as we will head out as a group to visit and join in worship with two Protestant denominations as well as Roman Catholic and Coptic congregations. Our youth Sunday school classes for grades 6 through 12 will attend these special Sundays in lieu of our education hour classes.

We are in need of chaperones to help drive youth on these Sundays. Contact Jenny Gee or Kyle Allen if you can assist. Participating youth will need to make sure they have turned in a 2013/2014 Medical Release Form, which is available on the church website at:

[www.brecksvilleumc.com/  
root/bumconline/forms](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com/root/bumconline/forms)

Please mark your calendars for dates and times of our visits as we will meet at BUMC and then leave as a group.

- ▶ November 24: St. Basil's Catholic Church (meet at 10 am at BUMC)
- ▶ January 19: The Friends Church (meet at 10 am at BUMC)
- ▶ March 16: St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church of Cleveland (meet at 8:30 am at BUMC)

If you would like more information, or if you have questions, please contact Kyle at

[youth@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@brecksvilleumc.com)

or

440-526-8938 x 227

### THE SUNDAY BLAST

a weekly e-mail

Newsletter from BUMC.

Featuring:

*Sunday Song Titles, Scripture Readings  
Announcements, Upcoming Events  
and More*

To subscribe, e-mail

[office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)

# NOVEMBER 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		 Chuck & Becky Gezze			1 7 Emmaus 9:30 Church Women United	2 6:30 Chapel Service at Chippewa Place
3 <i>All Saints Sunday</i> <i>Communion Sunday</i> 8:45 <b>Worship</b> 10 Education Hr 11:15 <b>Worship</b> 3 North Coast District Youth Gathering	4 7 Bible Study	5 8:30 CAPA 10 Staff Mtg 5 <b>Children's</b> Choir 7 Evangelism 7:30 Liberia VIM Event	6 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 5:30 Youth Worship 6 <b>Men's</b> Ensemble	7 9:30 UMW 4 <b>Women's</b> Emmaus 5 Wedding Rehearsal 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	8 7 Emmaus 3 HS Choir 4 Church Wedding	9 9 Fall Yard Clean Up 6:30 Chapel Service at Chippewa Place
10 <i>Veterans Sunday</i> <i>Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday</i> 8:45 <b>Worship</b> 10 Education Hr 11:15 <b>Worship</b>	 <i>Veterans' Day</i> 7 Bible Study 8 COE	12 11 Staff Mtg 5 <b>Children's</b> Choir 7 COM 8 Super Tuesday Committee Meetings	13 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 5:30 Youth Worship	14 9:30 Asbury Bremeth 4 <b>Women's</b> Emmaus 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 	15 7 Emmaus 3 HS Choir <i>America Recycles Day!</i> 	16 7:30 Nicole Keller Organ Concert  Youth Trip, Project 13:35
17 <i>Leader Sunday</i> 8:45 <b>Worship</b>  10 Education Hr 11:15 <b>Worship</b> 1 Russia VIM Mtg 12:15 Youth Board 12:30 Pizza with the Pastor 5 Pearl Rd Dinner	18 7 Staff Parish Relations 7 Bible Study  <i>Advent Devotional Submissions Due</i>	19 10 Staff Mtg 10 <b>Stitch'n Time</b> 5 <b>Children's</b> Choir 7 Church & Society 7:30 Finance 7:30 Trustees	20 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 5:30 Youth Worship 6:30 YSP Info Meeting, Nehemiah Mission	21 10 History Club 4 <b>Women's</b> Emmaus 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	22 7 Emmaus 9:30 UMW Board Meeting 3 HS Choir 6 Middle School Game Night! 	23 10 Worship Roundtable 
24 <i>Thanksgiving and Commitment Sunday</i> <i>United Methodist Student Day</i> 8:45 <b>Worship</b> 10 Education Hr 10 Youth Church Visit, St. Basil 11:15 <b>Worship</b> 7 pm Community Thanksgiving Svc.	25 7 Bible Study	26 10 Staff Mtg 5 <b>Children's</b> Choir 7 Evening Knitting Group	27 6:30 a Dawnbreakers No Youth Worship This Week  <i>BBHCSD Thanksgiving Break Begins</i>		29 	30 
Church Offices Closed						

When we join The United Methodist Church, we vow to support it with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. But sometimes, our good intentions get lost in the day-to-day hustle and bustle of life. As a church, how are we doing with our promises? Can you help fill in the blanks?

# PRAYERS

God is honored when we pray.

Pray each day at noon for our church while we focus our minds and hearts on ways we can express our love for God, and ways we can become more faithful and generous.

Our noon prayer: *God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus, and in the never ending gift of the Holy Spirit! May we live surrounded by God's mercy, inspired by the Spirit, open to the joy of God's presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward the world. Amen.*

Pray for our service members. They give up comforts so we can live in freedom. They leave their families behind to protect ours. They return changed by their experiences, and they are in need of our love and support. Pray for their families, too.

Pray for organ and tissue donors and for the patients and families who benefit from their selflessness.

For prayer resources from the United Methodist Church, visit <http://tinyurl.com/aqrsa8e>

# GIFTS

If you have made a pledge or a contribution, you will receive a giving statement (either electronically or on the other side of this page with your mailed Good Word) which outlines your gifts to date this year. If you need additional information, or if you have not received your statement, please contact the church office.

This table outlines the offering received each Sunday since the publication of the last *Good Word*.

Date	Offering
Sept 29	\$8,513
Oct 6	\$12,370
Oct 13	\$4,790
Oct 20	\$14,722

# PRESENCE

**We've set a goal of bringing 300 people together** for worship on Sunday mornings. We fell short of this goal again this month. What's keeping you from church on Sunday?

Date	8:30	Sunday School	10:00	Difference
Sept 29	137	120	85	-78
Oct 6	144	106	72	-84
Oct 13	130	126	68	-102
Oct 20	171		87	-42

What are some other ways you can be present in the life of the church this month?

# SERVICE

Some ways you can be of service to others this month:

- Donate to the UMW's "Fill the Bin for Brookside" campaign. Details in the Good Word!
- Volunteer to serve a meal through the Missions Committee. Contact Alan Scheufler: 440-526-1335
- Please consider taking a turn in the crib and toddler room. Volunteers are especially needed during the 11:15 worship service. This is an important ministry, and one way that our church family shows care for one another. If you can help, or need more information, please contact Jenny Gee: 440-526-8938.
- Do you have a ready smile? Do you like to make people feel welcome? Do you like to help others? Put your gifts for hospitality to good use—become an usher! Contact Cec in the church office to learn more!

Thank you! Other opportunities are listed on the church website!



# United Methodist News

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

South Dakota church among fastest-growing  
SIOUX FALLS, S.D. — Embrace Church is listed as the 40th fastest-growing church in America in an Outreach Magazine survey. Embrace is a 6-year-old church in the Dakotas Annual (regional) Conference that has grown to more than 1,300 in weekly attendance. Visit the church’s website at [iamembrace.com](http://iamembrace.com).

Churches 'star' in movies, TV shows  
PLANO, Ill. — The picturesque structures of United Methodist churches have been featured in dozens of films including such notable ones as “The Graduate,” “Back to the Future,” “Home Alone” and “The Godfather.” Three United Methodist churches were featured in three movies and a television show that premiered in 2013. United Methodist Church of Plano, Ill., was featured in “Man of Steel,” Trinity United Methodist Church in Southport, N.C., was in the HBO movie “Mary and Martha” and the CBS series “Under the Dome;” and New Haven and West Tulsa United Methodist churches in Oklahoma were the setting for the inspirational film “Home Run.” The Methodist roots of Jackie Robinson and Branch Rickey also earned a mention in the film “42.” When learning that Robinson risked military court-martial for refusing to sit in the back of the bus, Rickey in the movie states, “If he were white, we’d call that spirit. Robinson’s a Methodist. I’m a Methodist. God’s a Methodist! We can’t go wrong.”

‘Mother church’ of U.S. Methodism reborn  
FREDERICA, Del. — Barratt’s Chapel, which dates to 1780 and is the oldest existing Methodist house of worship in America, is showing new signs of life. The first regular worship services in decades occurred there this summer. Attendance grew during the 10 weeks, persuading Peninsula-Delaware Annual (regional) Conference officials to commit to a repeat next year, with a season twice as long. The nearly square, brick structure of about 2,100 square feet was the scene of the first meeting between Methodism pioneers Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke.

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

Fla. United Methodists join in SundayServe  
ORMOND BEACH, Fla. — Thousands of United Methodists across five Florida counties packed meals, sorted through donated shoes, beautified school buildings and joined in other projects on Sept. 29 rather than have their usual Sunday morning services. The Daytona News-Journal covered the day of United Methodists rolling up their sleeves and being the church outside church walls. “I think Jesus wanted the church to be out among the people, not in a building,” said Janet Kelley, a member of First United in Ormond Beach. “

Pianist serves Missouri church for 70 years  
WHITEWATER, Mo. — For 70 years, Mildred Reynolds has put her hands on the piano keyboards to make the music that leads the Whitewater United Methodist Church in its worship. “I hope God will grant us many more years together,” Reynolds told the Southeast Missourian.

A call for prayer for Bishop Swanson  
JACKSON, Miss. — Bishop James E. Swanson Sr., who leads the Mississippi Annual (regional) Conference and is the president of the Commission on United Methodist Men, is asking for prayer following his recent diagnosis of prostate cancer. He is scheduled for surgery Nov. 12.

Resources for Laity Sunday  
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Lay people make all the difference in The United Methodist Church, which is why the denomination celebrates Laity Sunday each year. This year’s celebration is Sunday, Oct. 20. United Methodist Board of Discipleship offers resources to celebrate and cultivate lay leaders. To learn more, go to [gbod.org/planning-calendar/laity-sunday](http://gbod.org/planning-calendar/laity-sunday)

Revised ‘Christian as Minister’ available  
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A revised and updated edition of “The Christian as Minister: An Exploration Into the Meaning of God’s Call” is an introductory book for people considering God’s call to ministry. The book, published by the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry, also presents an overview of the avenues for ministry in The United Methodist Church. For more information, go to [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org)