

The Good Word

PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 28, 2014

65 Public Square
Brecksville, Ohio 44141
440-526-8938



Open Doors. Honest Worship. Determined Service.

The Journey of Lent

The journey of Lent is about to begin. During this season of reflection and penitence, we will come together as a church family and watch for The Awakening of Hope! Know that the staff are walking with you and praying for you during this important season. We want to help you along the way and encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities for worship and education:

Ash Wednesday Worship, 7:30 pm March 5

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This is a season of purification and drawing closer to God. You are invited to begin that journey with worship on Ash Wednesday. The service includes scripture, reflection, and imposition of ashes and will be held at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

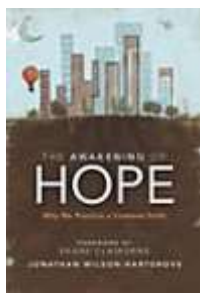


Walk the Labyrinth through Lent

A labyrinth is an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness. It combines the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a meandering but purposeful path. The Labyrinth represents a journey to our own center and back again out into the world. As we



place our focus on Christian traditions this Lent take time to be part of this mystic practice that dates back thousands of years. The BUMC Labyrinth is a similar shape to the Chartres Labyrinth, laid in the floor of Chartres Cathedral in France around 1220. Take the opportunity to walk the Labyrinth this Lent to meditate, pray and reflect. Starting March 5, it will be available each week: Wednesdays, 11:45 am - 9 pm; Thursdays, 8:30 am - 9pm; and Fridays, 8:30 am - noon. All are welcome to experience this ancient tool for meditation, healing and drawing closer to God.



Book Study: *The Awakening of Hope: Why We Practice a Common Faith*

The Awakening of Hope explores our Christian faith by looking at stories of faithful witness and asking, Why? Why do Christians eat together? Why do we fast? Why do we make promises?

These are the questions that help us see why creation and the fall, covenant and community, ethics and evangelism matter. This book is a beautifully written contemporary catechism, celebrating lives and stories of people who faithfully share the good news of Jesus and enjoy the way of life that he makes possible. Author Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove digs into the historic practices of the Christian faith and invites readers to truly live out the common convictions and truths that have marked Christians through generations. Wilson-Hartgrove states, "This book is for people who have a hunch, whether you like the language of revival or not, that God is stirring a new movement in our world today...if God's vision of peace and justice burns in your bones...if you've longed to see the love we were made for lived out in community--this book is for you." Books are for sale during the week in the office and on Sunday mornings for \$10.

Lenten Worship

Sundays, March 9, 16, 23 & 30, April 6 at 8:45 and 11:15am

Make it a priority to be in worship during this season of Lent. In order to deeply appreciate and understand the celebration of Easter, it is important that we each make a decision to walk the road with Jesus. Make an effort to attend worship each week as a family or with friends.



Read the next issue of The Good Word, the bulletin, the church website, and our Facebook page for information about April Lenten events.



Sunday Mornings
8:45 Contemporary
Worship
10 Education Hour
11:15 Traditional Worship

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Baiting Hooks

A friend took his little six year old boy fishing with him one day. They put out the line and then went back up to the cabin. After an hour, they went back down to the river to see if they had caught anything.

Sure enough, there were fish on the line. The boy said, "I knew there would be , Daddy."

The father asked, "How did you know?"

He replied, "Because I prayed about it."

So they baited the hooks again and put out the line and went back to the cabin for supper.

Afterward, they went back to the river; again, there were fish on the line. The boy said, "I knew it."

The father said, "How?"

"I prayed again."

So they put the line back in the river and went to the cabin. Before bedtime, they went down again. This time there were no fish.

The child said, "I knew there wouldn't be," and the father asked, "How did you know?"

The boy said, "I didn't pray this time."

The father asked, "And why didn't you pray?"

And the boy said, "Because I remembered that we forgot to bait the hooks."

We will spend the entire month of March in our Lenten observance. It is a wonderful time. If we do all of the proper preparation, if we truly bait our hooks, we will set ourselves up for God's surprise of Easter firmly in the Spring of the New Year. It is up to us to prepare ourselves. I pray for a faithful observance of Lent. I can sense that God is doing a new thing. I pledge to do my best to prepare for it.

Baiting hooks,

Pastor Clark

OLD CELL PHONES WANTED



Have an old cell phone collecting dust and using up space in your junk drawer? Recycle it! Bring your old phone to the coat room collection bin for safe recycling, and earn money for our church Missions Fund!



Fellowship Hour
Hosts for March
TRUSTEES
Thank you!



News from the Brecksville United Methodist Women

Christi Grozny Nelson, of the America Heart Association, will share her experience of 62 minutes without a heartbeat with a presentation titled “Miracle” at the The March 6 UMW meeting. Come enjoy fellowship and a continental breakfast at 9:30 am, the program starts at 10:00. Everyone is welcome!

Creekside Fundraiser supports UMW Missions! Plan to treat yourself, friends and family to lunch (and/or dinner!) at Creekside Restaurant on Tuesday, April 8. 20% of your bill (excluding alcoholic beverages) will benefit the UMW Mission Fund. Coupons will be available in the next issue of The Good Word, online, and at church. Treat yourself and feel good about supporting the UMW and this local business!

Brookside Center

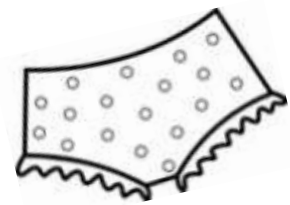
Food is a basic need. Our church has long supported Brookside Center, a food pantry operated by WSEM (West Side Ecumenical Ministries). The center is located on Pearl Road in Cleveland, and its mission is to help needy families and individuals in our community who are struggling to put food on the table have access to food and to the right opportunities, relationships, resources and networks to build a better future for themselves and their families.

On the third Friday of each month, a group of Brecksville United Methodist Women volunteer at the center. On that day, they deliver the items which have been collected in our coat room bins throughout the month. In addition to food, we collect much needed items which cannot be purchased with food stamps: paper products, laundry detergent, personal hygiene items, diapers, and the like. Would you like to help?

- Donations – Non-perishable food (check the expiration date!), diapers and personal hygiene products are collected in the coat room year round. They’re taken to Brookside on the third Friday of each month.
- Financial Contributions – Monetary donations are another way to help. The Cleveland Food Bank supplies most of the food that Brookside distributes, but Brookside has to order and pay for these pallets of food. The Food Bank is able to stretch that dollar by omitting the middleman. Make your check out to the church, with “Brookside Hunger Fund” in the memo line.

Funding at food pantries has been cut and the number of people served continues to grow. Let’s see what BUMC can do in the coming months with donations to Brookside!

We are very grateful for your recent generous donations to the BUMC Soup Drive. What better time than cold, snowy February for a soup drive?



Bloomers!

During the month of March, UMW will be collecting donations of underwear, bras, and socks for the Westside Community House West Side Sisterhood. The items are for girls age 10 to 18. There will be a box in the coat room for your donations. Need more info? Contact Gretchen Mates: 440-526-6481.

West Side Sisterhood is an after-school and summer arts program that prepares girls ages 10 - 18 from Cleveland’s west side for womanhood and their life beyond. Sisterhood fosters a belief in girls’ self-worth based on their skills, unique talents, and spirituality rather than on appearance, popularity, sexuality or negative gender and racial stereotypes. Sisterhood encourages and challenges young women to be strong and independent, to exercise self-discipline, to respect themselves and one another, to value education, and to know when and how to give help and receive it.



Daylight
Saving Time
Begins
March 9



OPEN DOORS:

welcoming ALL of God's children. no matter what.

What does it mean to become a "Reconciling Church?"

We hope that you have learned and had your perspective broadened by our speaker series over the past few weeks. But perhaps you still have questions about what it really means to become a Reconciling Church. We will hear from our final speakers on Sunday, March 2, during the education hour. Rev. Jared Littleton (United Methodist) and Rev. Shaundra Cunningham (Baptist) will address the reconciling process and why they believe it so important for churches today. They will also address the questions that have been received in the question box over the past several weeks. *If you would like a DVD of any of these presentations, please contact the church office.*

The Reconciling Task Force (RTF) has two upcoming meetings: *Sunday, March 2 and Sunday, March 16*. Both meetings will take place immediately after the conclusion of 2nd worship, in the Parlor. As always, anyone is welcome to attend an RTF meeting. This is a small but inclusive group, and if you still have questions about the reconciling process, attending one of the meetings would give you a great opportunity to ask!

The Reconciling Task Force is proud to share their proposed welcoming statement for BUMC. We believe this captures the heart of our church as a place of welcome for all people!

Peace on the Journey, *Your Reconciling Task Force*

Karen Schroedel, Chair. Penny Burns, Liz Fredrick, Bridget Gee, George Gee, Jenny Gee, Claire Hayes, Ric Lesinski, Sarah Lundholm, Gretchen Mates, Joy Parker, Amy Piorkowski, Elinor Rowan, Jenna Schroedel, Rev. Clark Stein, Marisol Wylie, and others.

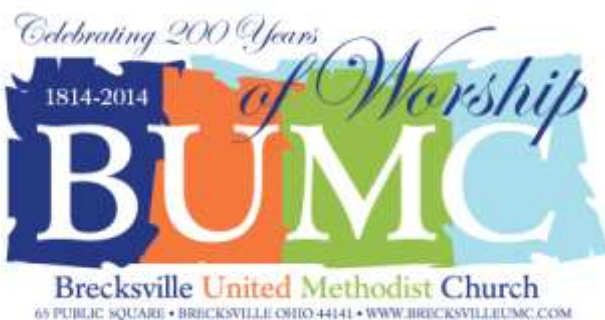
Brecksville United Methodist Church Welcoming Statement

Brecksville United Methodist Church is called to the ministry of reconciliation. We embrace diversity as a gift. We celebrate our human family's diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, faith history, economic status, marital status, physical and mental ability, and education.

We affirm that all people are created in the image of God and as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Brecksville United Methodist Church as we journey toward reconciliation through Christ.

We recognize that there are differences among us, but believe that we can love alike even though we might not think alike. We proclaim this statement of welcome to all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the church and in society.

We commit to model a community of faith and spirit that works toward openness and understanding, offering justice, healing and wholeness of life for all people. We invite all people to join us in our faith journey toward greater love, understanding and mutual respect. We believe that through our diversity, all can grow and practice a unity of faith that transcends our differences.



It has been 200 years since the very first recorded worship service was held in Brecksville. It was in the home of Lemuel and Delia Bourne, 2 of the earliest settlers to the area. The Bournes went on to be founding members of the Brecksville Methodist Society in 1823 and helped build the first little Methodist church on the square back in 1832. To celebrate "worshipping in Brecksville for 200 years" we will be holding a celebration on the weekend of September 20 and 21. Starting next month, the *Good Word* will feature a history nugget each issue. Have something you'd like to see featured? Contact [Melanie!](#)

Small Groups

Meeting God, One Another, and the World

“It is not good for the human being to be alone.” (Genesis 2:18)

During a recent Sunday morning round table discussion we identified that the formation of small groups as a vital next step in helping our church family deepen and further develop their faith. God created us to live in community: to be known, cared for and challenged—and to discover how God is calling us into deeper relationship with God, each other, and the world. Small groups are a great way to make new friends, grow in faith, and serve the world.

Wesley understood that Christian formation does not happen by accident, but by intention and with discipline. Wesley said there was no holiness but social holiness; our faith cannot be lived out in isolation. A systematic structure for small groups was developed by Wesley to help believers come to strengthen and receive the gift of faith.

Please take a moment to let us know what you think about small groups. Where do your interests lie? Return this questionnaire to the church office. You can also access the survey online from the link on our website:

www.brecksvilleumc.com. Questions? Contact Jenny Gee! 440-526-8938 ext 230 or education@brecksvilleumc.com

Check all that apply. Please return the completed form to the church office, attention Jenny Gee.

What types of small group interest you?

- Special interest groups
 - Young Adult
 - Divorce Recovery
 - Overcoming Grief
 - Other: _____
- Family groups
 - Parents & children to attend together
 - Children can play safely nearby while parents meet
- Parent meetings
 - New parents
 - Parents of elementary children
 - Parents of teens
 - Empty nesters

Prayer group

Bible study groups

DVD or book study

Where would you like to meet?

What is your name? _____

How can we contact you? Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Comments:

- At church
- In someone's home
- Other: _____

When would you like to meet?

- Sunday morning 10 o'clock education hour
- Sunday evening I'm an early bird
- Weekday morning I'm a night owl
- Weekday afternoon
- Weekday evening
- Friday evening
- Saturday

Who would you like to meet with?

- Men only Women only
- Couples Singles
- Divorced Mixed ages
- With my age peers: _____

Would you be interested in facilitating a small group? _____

I'm not interested in small groups.

Over fifty times in the New Testament the phrase "one another" is used to describe our relationship to other believers. We are instructed to love one another, encourage one another, pray for one another, accept one another, bear one another's burdens, and build up one another. What better way for you to fulfill these commands than in a small group! We really do need each other.

God never meant for you to go at this Christian life alone.

Play a Pipe Organ!



The Cleveland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and the Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music Outreach Department are presenting a program to introduce young people to the organ. This free program is called "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza" and is designed for middle and high school age students. Presentations include a demonstration of the pipe organ, an opportunity for students to see the inside of an organ, and a chance to play one of their piano pieces on it. The students will be provided a lunch of pizza and will view a fun and informative video about pipe organs. Parents and teachers are also welcome to attend.

"Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza" will be held at the Baldwin Wallace University Chapel, 56 Seminary St. in Berea on Saturday, March 8th from 10 am to 2 pm. Registration will begin at 9:45 am.

If you would like further information, please contact Nicole Keller, Baldwin Wallace University, at 216-310-1694 or nkeller@bw.edu.

www.brecksvilleumc.com

Student Recital & Scholarship Program

The Music Department is proud to announce the 2nd Annual Music Department Scholarship that will be awarded to deserving High School Seniors who have participated in the music program during their time at BUMC and intend to continue as active musicians and worshipers as they pursue additional education. *Students may attend a 2-year, 4-year or non-traditional post-secondary institution; they need not major in music.*

Student Recital, Saturday, March 8 @ 7:30pm

BUMC children and youth of all ages will share their musical talent! The congregation is invited to attend this wonderful evening of music – free and open to the public!

Scholarship winners will be announced at the Student Recital.

Organist Chris Toth in Recital

On Tuesday, March 18, at 12:10 pm, Chris will present an organ recital of music by Bach, Orff, Howells and Wills on the pipe organ at Messiah Lutheran Church, 21485 Lorain Rd, Fairview Park. Free will offering. Bring lunch if you like; coffee, tea and cookies provided.

The Beat Goes On

A Benefit Concert at the Cleveland Institute of Music

On Sunday, March 9, at 7 pm, the CIM Alumni Association (Chris Toth, vice president) will present a concert of upbeat percussion music to benefit the work of the Alumni Association. Works to be performed include ŽIVKOVIĆ, *Trio per Uno for Percussion Trio*; SCHOENFIELD, *Café Music*; SIEGEL, *42nd Street Rondo*; GREEN, *A Ragtime Roulette*; PIAZZOLLA, *Spring and Autumn* from *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* and *Libertango*. A dessert reception sponsored by Great Lakes Brewing Company will follow the concert. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for kids under 12. Tickets can be purchased online at cimalumni-benefit2014.bpt.me; at the door; or by sending a check to CIM Alumni Association, 11021 East Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44106. For more information, contact alumni@cim.edu or call 216-795-3169.

Brecksville United Methodist Church 2nd Annual
Scholarship Golf Outing and Dinner

6.14.2014
**SAVE
THE DATE!**



Two *Incredible* Nights of Music...

On January 25, intrepid concert-goers braved the snowy weather and were rewarded with a wonderful evening of jazz music, brought to us by trumpet player, Josh Rzepka, and pianist, Jackie Warren. Josh and Jackie are quickly becoming an annual “staple” in the BUMC Concert Series, and we look forward to having them back again next year. If you have missed hearing them, you’re missing a fabulous evening of music!

Many of you joined us for The Steel Wheels on February 6. What an awesome concert! We received a nice note from Trent, Jay, Brian and Eric, saying “We had a great time and want to thank you so much for making it a wonderful show. Looking forward to playing for you again in the future!” A big thank you to everyone who helped with sound, setup, reception, tickets, ushering, greeting, parking lot, and cleanup to make the concert such a huge success! Special thanks to Melanie Smith for all her extra work on posters, tickets and publicity!

Our next concerts? Mark your calendars...

- ◆ Brecksville UMC Student Recital, Saturday, March 8 at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary. We will be presenting 2nd annual BUMC Music Department Scholarships!
- ◆ Brecksville Community Chorus Spring Concert, Sunday, April 6 at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary. This afternoon of beautiful choral music will be followed by a benefit spaghetti dinner to raise funds for our upcoming YSP trip. Check out the April Good Word and your weekly email blast for more details as the date approaches!

See you in worship, and, we hope, at our next concert! Soli Deo Gloria,
~Joy Parker, Director of Music

Children’s Ministry Workshop

Are you a Sunday School teacher or have you been thinking about becoming one? Have you been finding it difficult to ignite the creative spark needed to enhance a prepared lesson? Do you struggle to find the right words when you want to offer corrections to a child? Do you just need to recharge your batteries to get both your ideas and your faith flowing? Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 12 and join Jenny as she travels to Dublin (Ohio that is) to take part in a great children’s ministry workshop. They promise us we will walk away with the ideas, the skills, and the passion to teach like never before! RSVP to Jenny by April 1: education@brecksvilleumc.com or 440-526-8938 ext. 230

Calling All Creative Middle and High School Students



Get ready! May 4 will mark our first ever youth craft fair for mission. The products that we sell will be made by you with our church family doing the shopping. Are you talented in making jewelry? Knitting scarves? Creating wallets? Crafting homemade soap? Whatever your skill, whatever your passion - get busy creating! All profits from this sale will go to our Sunday School mission fund to benefit Smile Train as they work to eradicate clefts around the world.

Call Jenny to reserve a table space: 440-526-8938 ext. 230



Thank you to the Hastings family for the lovely winter floral arrangement for the altar. We now have arrangements for each season to use when fresh flowers have not been ordered! If you would like to share a special occasion with the congregation with altar flowers, contact Cec to order: 440-526-8938. A standard sized arrangement is \$40 (special arrangements are available at additional cost) and are provided by Vince DiCillo of Forest Woods. Take your arrangement home to enjoy after second service!



Troops Thank You

Captain Nicole Fredrick dedicated a flag flown in Afghanistan to Brecksville United Methodist Church. The framed flag is now hung on the wall by room 201 (not far from the water fountain on the main floor of the church.) As part of our Veterans Day observance this year, we sent stockings to Captain Fredrick’s unit in Afghanistan. The unit was appreciative of the gifts sent!



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

Congratulations to Joshua Dietrich (and four of his classmates from the class of 2014 at Brecksville Broadview Heights High School) who has advanced from the status of National Merit Semifinalists to National Merit Finalist for 2014! Of 50,000 students who are high-scoring applicants, 16,000 are chosen to be National Merit Semifinalists and, of these, 15,000 advance to National Merit Finalist status. Way to go, Josh!

Congratulations to Shelly Meek on the birth of her grandson, Floyd Theodore.

Rev. Adriel Thrash, pastor here from 1996-98, died February 17. Condolences may be sent to Mrs. Avis Thrash, 1372 Alexandria Parkway SE, North Canton, OH 44720.

Prayers of comfort are sent to Pat Gordon and family on the loss of **Pat's mother who died February 21** in Kansas.

Our church lost longtime member, Gladys Doherty on Feb. 19. Gladys joined our church in 1962 and was a member of the United Methodist Women. In recent years, she lived in Barberton, near family.

Terri Guillments said, "The color of springtime is in the flowers. The color of winter is in the imagination." We've been using our imaginations a lot this year. Think spring!



Middle School Youth Group – Youth in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades have been meeting right after school on Wednesdays and having a BLAST!! We get together around 3:00 in the youth room for games, fellowship, snacks and great discussion. We are “walking through the Bible” in 2014; so far we have learned about the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy), and we’ve begun to learn about the History books (Joshua and Judges so far). Test your Middle School student... you might be surprised how much they know! Hope to see you soon on a Wednesday afternoon!

Middle Schoolers, watch the calendar for a great laser tag event coming in April!

High School Youth Group – Youth in 9th through 12th grades gather in the Youth Room at 4:00pm on Sunday evenings for food, fellowship, discussion as we read through the Gospel of Mark together. We are through Mark, chapter 5, and have made many surprising discoveries about Jesus’ life and ministry.

We have some special events in March!

- ◆ Sunday, March 2: Normal Youth Group – We’ll meet 4-6pm in the youth room for our usual time of games, snacks, fellowship and Bible study (Mark, chapter 6).
- ◆ Sunday, March 9: Indoor Rock Climbing – We’re hitting the rock walls from 10:00am – 2:00pm at Kendall Cliffs. Cost is only \$20/person and includes lunch. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at 10:00am (no Sunday school this week!) and plan to return by 2:00. *This trip is open to High School youth only, and it will take the place of youth group for that day.*
- ◆ Sunday, March 16: Normal Youth Group – We’ll meet 4-6pm in the youth room for our usual time of games, snacks, fellowship and Bible study (Mark, chapter 7).
- ◆ Sunday, March 23 & 30: Spring Break (No youth group!) – We will take some time off as BBH goes on Spring Break. Watch your cell phones for some impromptu youth activities for those who are in town. (Movie night, anyone?!!)



High School Sunday School in March... we have some unique opportunities in March...

- ◆ March 2: High School youth are invited to hear the last installment of our guest speaker series in Fellowship Hall: Rev. Jared Littleton and Rev. Shaundra Cunningham will speak.
- ◆ March 9: Indoor Rock Climbing (see announcement) from 10:00am – 2:00pm
- ◆ March 16: Church visit to Brecksville United Church of Christ. The service begins at 10, so we will leave our church together at 8:45 am. It’s right across the square, so no drivers are needed this time!



Brianna	Diver	03/01	Lisa	Sibits	03/14
John	Falko	03/01	Lindsay	Dorman	03/15
Edith	Coman	03/02	Daniel	Dubin	03/15
Mary	Kotnik	03/02	Lee	Derry	03/16
Eileen	Yates	03/02	Samuel	Eberhardt	03/16
Lillian	Johnson	03/03	Joann	Fox	03/17
Susan	Dietrich	03/04	Carly	Johnson	03/17
Emily	Schultz	03/04	Robert	Hudacek	03/18
Tiffany	Jacob	03/05	David	Sibits	03/18
Phyllis	Phillips	03/05	Jack	Monnin	03/19
Kurt	Campbell	03/06	Seth	Johnson	03/20
Caitlin	Drescher	03/06	Kristen	Kubek	03/20
Donald	Burkle	03/07	David	Podolny	03/24
Megan	White	03/07	Philip	Storey	03/24
Ruth Ann	Bilek	03/08	Elizabeth	Fredrick	03/25
Kaleb	Dumot	03/08	Stacie	Memmer	03/25
Matthew	Auble	03/09	Mallory	Krolikowski	03/26
Clifford	Thielman	03/09	Robin	Wilson	03/26
George	Gee	03/10	Joseph	Holmes	03/27
Michael	Kubek	03/10	Carol	Kubicek	03/27
Robert	Bloch	03/11	Kaia	Mack	03/30
Janet	James	03/12	Kimberly	Rybak	03/30
Tyler	Hulten	03/13	Hannah	Shively	03/30
Sydney	Hudacek	03/14	Madeline	Piorkowski	03/31



The Brecksville/Broadview Heights Regional Clergy Fellowship Group has published a list of worship opportunities at area churches during the season of Lent. Pick up your copy at church or on our church website:

www.brecksvilleumc.com



Karen Pace is going on a medical mission trip again this year to the Dominican Republic with the Cleveland State University School of Nursing. They are in need of unopened vitamins and over the counter medicines which will help provide medical treatment to the impoverished people of the region. If you are moved to help, please bring your donations to the bin in our coat room by April 29. Aspirin, Tylenol, anti-biotic ointments, and more are needed. Karen says: *The people we see may not see a doctor for 12 - 18 months. In a week, we are able to see 600 patients. Last year, the church was very generous with donations to this cause, and we hope that you will be again. The medications make a BIG difference. Thanks in advance!* For more information, contact Karen at 216-802-3051.



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 Nell Taylor and Cindy Winkler, who gave moving and meaningful talks during our education hour in February; Allie Kenney who put her skills

and talents to use with purpose, raising much needed money for Smile Train with the dodge ball fundraiser; Brenda Calovini, who brought gorgeous flute music to our worship; Don Krolikowski whose technical expertise is a true blessing; and our Youth Committee who served as coffee hour hosts in February. Thank you all for all you do!

MARCH 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Chuck & Becky Gezze						1 BUMC hosts the High School Flute Festival!
2 Communion Sunday 8:45 Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 12:30 Reconciling Task Force 4 High School Youth Grp	3 4:30 BCA Chorus 7 Bible Study	4 10 Staff Mtg 7 Gifts & Memorials 7 Evangelism	5 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 6:30 Dawnbreaker 3 MS Youth Group 7:30 <i>Worship Service</i>	 6 9:30 UMW 4 Wo Emma 5 Child. Choir 5 Men's Grp 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	7 World Day of Prayer 7 Emmaus Re	8 6:15 Chapel Service at Chippewa Place 7:30 BUMC Student Recital
Walk the Labyrinth: 11:45 am Wed—12 pm Fri						
9 Daylight Saving Time Begins <i>First Sunday in Lent</i> Girl Scout Sunday 8:45 Worship 8:45 Communion Workshop 10 Education Hour (No HS) 11:15 Worship 12:30 Music & Worship Bd 10 High School Rock Climb-	10 4:30 BCA Chorus 7 Bible Study	11 11 Staff Mtg 7 COM 8 Missions	12 6:30 Dawnbreaker 3 MS Youth Group	13 9:30 Asbury 4 Wo Emma 5 Child. Choir 5 Men's Grp 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	14 7 Emmaus Re 3:15 Young Adult Choir	15
Walk the Labyrinth: 11:45 am Wed – 12 pm Fri						
16 <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> 8:45 Worship 8:45 Communion Workshop 10 Education Hour 10 Special Church Visit 11:15 Worship 12:30 Reconciling Task Force 12:30 Pizza with the Pastor 4 High School Youth Grp	17 4:30 BCA Chorus 7 Bible Study 7 SPRC 8 COE 	18 10 Staff Mtg 10 Stitch'n time 12:00 Organ Concert, Messiah Lutheran 7 Finance 7:30 Trustees	19 6:30 Dawnbreaker 3 MS Youth Group	 20 10 History club 4 Wo Emma 5 Child. Choir 5 Men's Grp 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	21 No School 7 Emmaus Re 	 22 Brecksville Broadview Heights Schools Spring Break March 24—28
Walk the Labyrinth: 11:45 am Wed - 12 pm Fri						
23 <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> 8:45 Worship 8:45 Communion Workshop 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship	24 7 Bible Study	25 10 Staff Mtg 7 Knitting	26 6:30 Dawnbreaker	27 4 WoEmma 5 Men's Grp 6:15 Bells 7:20 Men Ensm 8 Choir	28 7 Emmaus Re	29 8 Cleveland Food Bank
Walk the Labyrinth: 11:45 am Wed - 12 pm Fri						
30 <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> One Great Hour of Sharing 8:45 Worship 8:45 Communion Workshop 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 3 Pearl Road Soup Kitchen	31 4:30 BCA Chorus 7 Bible Study	THE SUNDAY BLAST A weekly e-mail Newsletter from BUMC featuring: <i>Sunday Song Titles, Scripture Readings, Announcements, Opportunities to Serve, Upcoming Events and More</i> To subscribe, e-mail office@brecksvilleumc.com				

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

Consider adding the following to your prayer list...

- That those undertaking the journey of Lent will find meaning and fellowship on their walk of faith. As Pastor Clark says, “If we do all of the proper preparation...we will set ourselves up for God’s surprise of Easter firmly in the Spring of the New Year. It is up to us to prepare ourselves. I pray for a faithful observance of Lent.”
- Prayers for Janet Kleckner and other volunteers in mission to Camphor Mission in Liberia.
- Traveling mercies for those traveling for spring break.
- Summer is coming! Pray for the youth and volunteers participating in our service trips this summer.
- Continued prayers for those among us dealing with chronic illnesses.
- Pray for a friend who lifted you up when you were down. What kind of difference did it make in your life? Pray that you can be that kind of help to others.
- Pray for our church. As we take our faith deeper, pray for one another!

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
Feb 2	\$17,351
Feb 9	\$9453
Feb 16	\$10,040
Feb 23	\$6,835

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

Date	8:30	Sunday School	10:00	Difference
Feb. 2	129	100	85	-86
Feb. 9	115	90	87	-98
Feb. 16	118	142	80	-102
Feb. 23	145	161	74	-81

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:

- Contribute to the UMW’s underwear drive for girls ages 10—18. It’s the first thing they put on in the morning. Let’s help them start the day out right!
- Consider facilitating a small group. Group leaders are needed.
- Donate over the counter medications to the medical mission trip to the Dominican Republic.
- Recycle your paper! Every ton of paper recycled in our bins earns money for our hunger ministry.
- Volunteer to help at the Cleveland Food Bank or Pearl Road Soup kitchen. Signs ups at church the first Sunday of the month or contact the Missions Committee.

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

United Methodist News

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

“We have two U.S. citizen daughters who ask every night, ‘When will our father be home?’” – Pilar Molina, whose husband is in a detention facility.

Devastation of deportations must end
WASHINGTON (UMNS) – Members of the United Methodist Immigration Task Force sent a letter to President Obama Feb. 25 stating the policy of mass deportations is “morally reprehensible and must end.” The letter follows an act of civil disobedience by 32 faith leaders who were arrested in front of the White House on Feb. 17.

Faith partnership to anchor poor neighborhood
WICHITA, Kan. (UMNS) – United Methodist churches are working with Lutherans and Episcopalians in a project called Partners Church, which is trying to make a difference in one of the poorest neighborhoods of the state. The Wichita Eagle explains how Partners Church, which is housed in Brookside United Methodist Church, plans to help provide education and job opportunities for adults and soccer for kids in the predominantly Hispanic neighborhood.

Nebraska church's glory returning after fire
FRIEND, Neb. (UMNS) – The first rush of grief is past and now the congregants at the United Methodist Church are eagerly watching their new structure rise from the rubble of a Dec. 4, 2012, fire that gutted the historic building. The Lincoln Journal Star tells how a piece of religious history is being lovingly restored.

Announcement March 10 in Ogletree case
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (UMNS) – The Rev. William S. Shillady, secretary of the trial court in the case of the Rev. Thomas Ogletree, said Feb. 24 that there will be a news conference March 10 to announce the resolution of the case. Ogletree's trial for officiating at a same-sex wedding was scheduled to begin March 10 but was postponed March 10.



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Human rights task force updates agencies
GLENVIEW, Ill. (UMNS) – Two United Methodist general agencies – Pension and Health Benefits and Global Ministries – updated the Human Rights and Investment Ethics Task Force on the effort “to identify resources, principles, and procedures that express our commitment to human rights, taking into account fiduciary responsibility and ministry priorities, consistent with the global mission of The United Methodist Church.”

Strength for Service becomes non-denominational
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) – United Methodist Men announced that the Internal Revenue Service officially granted Strength for Service Inc. status as a 501(c) (3) public charity. “Strength for Service to God and Country” which began as a pocket-sized book of daily devotions distributed to more than a million military troops before it went out of print after the 1953 Korean armistice, has evolved under United Methodist Men's leadership into devotions for first responders as well as military.

Church leaders urge better U.S.-Cuba relations
WASHINGTON (UMNS) – The Rev. John McCullough, a United Methodist pastor and top executive for Church World Service, is urging the U.S. faith community to action around improved relations with Cuba as a delegation from the Cuban Council of Churches prepares to meet with Obama administration officials and members of Congress during a Feb. 26-27 visit. “This is a particularly important time for congregational activism; for people to tune in to this issue and to make their voices heard to members of Congress,” McCullough said.

Taking Lent outside of church
NOVI, Mich. (UMNS) – The Rev. June M. Marshall Smith of Novi United Methodist Church explains her reasons for offering “Drive Thru Ashes” on Ash Wednesday and offers examples of how it can be an effective outreach. [Read commentary](#)