



The Good Word

Open Doors.

Honest Worship. Determined Service.

PUBLISHED OCTOBER 24, 2014
65 Public Square, Brecksville, OH
440-526-8938
www.brecksvilleumc.com

November Concerts at BUMC

At Brecksville UMC, our concert series is one of the ways in which we open our doors to the community and seek to glorify God through music. All concerts are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted; a freewill offering is usually collected during intermission.

Erie Waters:

the flute choir of the Greater Cleveland Flute Society
Saturday, November 1 @ 7:30pm

The opening concert of our 2014-2015 concert series is the first of November! Under the direction of Kelly Mollnow Wilson and Becky Chen, the concert will feature Works by Handel, Bizet, Ian Clarke, Offermans, Dubois and more. The flute choir includes piccolo, alto, bass and c flutes, an array of extended flute techniques, and a lively rhythm section of bottles and a bird whistle (for Offermans' *Jungle Dance*). All are welcome!



*Sonatas for Cello & Piano: A Benefit Concert**
Saturday, November 22 @ 7:30pm



Cellist Robert Anastos and pianist Joy Parker are collaborating to bring you a selection of duet sonatas that span a range of time periods and stylistic characteristics. The program will include *Sonata F Major (Op. 5, No. 1)* by Ludwig van Beethoven, *Sonata in Bb Major (Op. 45, No. 1)* by Felix Mendelssohn, and *Sonata for Cello and Piano (Op. 32, No. 1)* by Camille Saint-Saëns. This concert will be followed by an informal reception in the Parlor.

*This concert will be a **benefit event**. The artists will not be paid for the performance, and all proceeds from the free will offering will be divided evenly between St. Herman's House in Cleveland, an Orthodox organization that serves the local homeless and needy population, and Ebola Relief in West Africa through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).



8:45 Contemporary Worship

10 Education Hour

11:15 Traditional Worship

Bring a friend!



Be The Fragrance

“But thanks be to God, who in Christ leads us in triumph, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things?” II Corinthians 2:14-16

One of the exciting realities of heading into the holidays is the presence of smells. Think about it for a minute. I can already sense the satisfaction that accompanies the smell of Thanksgiving dinner roasting in the oven. The smell of pumpkin and apple pies, and turkey and dressing, and gravy and cranberries, and I could go on and on.

Of course, the Christmas season also brings along its share of exciting fragrances: pine trees, bayberry candles, peppermint, the smell of fireplaces and of cold winter days. The holidays bombard our senses with many pleasurable pieces of information, and I believe that this helps our tremendous sense of satisfaction and enjoyment. We allow that information to wash over us.

Take the time to breathe in deeply, savor the moment. All of this willingness to participate contributes to good memories. Memories so good that by merely recalling the setting, we can often then smell the smells of the day. It is almost as if we have captured the moment in our senses.

It is into this awareness that Paul’s words hit me recently. We are to be the fragrance of Christ everywhere we go. People are to be able to breathe deeply in our presence, and detect that there is something about us, something Jesus-like. Remember that the perceptions of our “smell”, much like our perceptions of moments past, also will stick with the people who cross our paths. This fragrance that we carry with us is the fragrance of responsibility. How strong is your smell?

As we move on into joyous times of sounds and sights and touches and tastes and smells, may we all be concerned about the aroma we carry along with us. May it be the scent God desires for us to waft around. In a world full of people who long to hear good news, might we leave a strong enough scent trail, that some of those folks might accompany us through the holidays and eventually wind up in the presence of God. Paul reminds us that like it or not we are...

Wafting Away,

Our Staff

Phone: 440-526-8938

Pastor:

Rev. Clark Stein

pastor@brecksvilleumc.com

Associate Pastor, Visitation:

Rev. Barbara Bartholomew

associatepastor@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Music & Worship:

Joy E. Parker

music@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Christian Education:

Jenny Gee

education@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Youth Ministry:

Courtney Drescher

youth@brecksvilleumc.com

Business Manager: Mike Memmer

finance@brecksvilleumc.com

Office Manager: Melanie Smith

office@brecksvilleumc.com

Administrative Assistant:

Cec Podolny

cecp@brecksvilleumc.com

Church School Registrar:

Joan Olszko

Facility Managers:

Jeff and Scott Hastings

facilities@brecksvilleumc.com

Organist: Chris Toth

tothchristopher@att.net

Published monthly by

Brecksville United Methodist Church

65 Public Square,

Brecksville, OH 44141

Next deadline: November 19

Editor, Melanie Smith

office@brecksvilleumc.com

New Life for Old Glasses



Bring your old glasses to the coat room collection bin (near Fellowship

Hall). Our UMW delivers them to eye doctors who recycle them for those in need!



Special Thanks to
Gifts and Memorials for hosting
Coffee Hour in October!
Her November hosts will be
Evangelism Committee.

An Invitation to Explore the Old Testament

Short Term Monday Evening Bible Study Begins October 27



A short-term Disciple Bible Study **“Invitation to the Old Testament”** will be offered Monday evenings beginning on October 27 at 7:00 p.m. This 8 week study is open to all: members and non-members, those who make reading their Bible part of their daily habit and those who haven’t opened it lately.

We will delve into the study of Old Testament Scriptures by inviting participants to hear the story of God and God’s call to the people of Israel through the many “voices” of the biblical text. Narrative, poem, history, and prophetic utterance all have their own distinctive characteristics and purpose, arising out of a particular historical, social, and cultural setting. To understand fully the story of God’s covenantal relationship with Israel calls for listening to these various ways the story is told throughout the Old Testament.

What does it mean to be God’s chosen people? And how does the story of Israel’s covenant with God teach us about our own identity as heirs of that covenant? Through this study, participants will be invited to be witnesses to the Old Testament scripture and to hear God’s call and purpose for their own lives.

Study Contents

1. The Making of the Hebrew Bible
2. The Creation Story of Israel
3. Out of Bondage
4. Promise and Problem in the Land
5. Israel Has a King
6. Division and the Rise of Prophecy
7. Exile and Response
8. Restoration and Renewal

Daily reading of scripture is a must for this study. If you are interested in participating books will be for sale during the Sunday School hour for \$10. With the book you will get a list of the scriptures to read before our first meeting.

If you have not taken part in a Disciple Bible study this is a great way to start.

What can you expect to gain? You will develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Old Testament as an integral part of the Christian Bible and a renewed discovery of our identity in God and God’s vision for us.

Questions? Contact [Jenny](mailto:jenny@brecksvilleumc.com): 440-526-8938 ext. 230.



Vacation and Weekend Help Needed

Staff Parish is looking for vacation and additional part-time back up coverage to cover our Facilities Managers (Jeff & Scott Hastings) and part-time back up (Cliff Thielman). BUMC has been very fortunate to have a long tradition of back up coverage for our facilities staff that have come from our own congregation! Please contact the Church Office or [Jeff Hastings](mailto:jeff@brecksvilleumc.com) to learn more.

Want to read more? Go to www.brecksvilleumc.com

Thanksgiving Service

Brecksville UMC Hosts Community Thanksgiving Service

The most natural time of year to come together as people of many faith traditions is for Thanksgiving. Thanking God is simply what we do in worship, prayer, and in our daily lives.

The Interfaith Fellowship of Brecksville, Broadview Heights, and Independence sponsors a Thanksgiving service each year to which people of all faiths are invited. This year we are hosting this event at our church on Sunday, November 23, at 7:00 pm.

The service will include music, time to reflect on shared blessings, and time to be side by side with our neighbors and brothers and sisters in faith.

Come be present at this unique event that focuses our hearts and minds on the giver of all good things and encourages us to share abundance with others.



Volunteers are needed to help serve dinner for those in need at Pearl Road Methodist Church on Sunday, November 30. We serve a dinner with volunteers from Ridge Road UCC Church. Can you help? Sign up on Sunday, or contact the church office to volunteer: 440-526-8938.

Musical Happenings

It has been a busy fall in the Music Department.

The 2014 fiscal year saw an increase in the music budget that has allowed us to have some much needed maintenance done on our handbells and Sanctuary piano. You may have noticed that the piano was not used in worship for much of October. Kevin Leary, of Leary Piano Tuning, has had the “action” (moving parts) of the piano in his workshop for about two weeks to do a process that is called “regulation.” When the piano is reassembled at the end of October, each key will respond to the same pressure and each hammer will hit the strings with the same force. This creates a beautiful and uniform sound!

Also at the end of October, our 5 octaves of Schulmerich handbells received a complete (or combination) servicing. Mark Bond came all the way from Texas in his “MoBell Shop” to see that our bells were properly repaired, springs and clappers tightened, and surfaces machine polished. With this important work done, you will see (and hear) the bells return to worship in November!

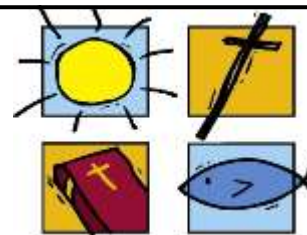
Have you been thinking about getting involved? Now is a great time! With so much going on, some of our ensembles (like handbells) are getting a late start, so there is still plenty of time for you to participate during the holiday season. We also have some short term singing opportunities on the horizon: our Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Chorus (November) and our annual Christmas Festival Choir (December). Each of these represents a great chance to get involved for about a month! You can reach me at music@brecksvilleumc.com or 440.526.8938, ext. 231 for more information.

As always, hope to see you around the Music Department!

Peace, Joy Parker, Director of Music

EDUCATION HOUR

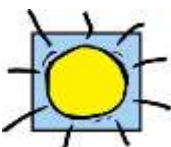
ALL AGES
Sunday at 10



In November, adult Sunday School change focus to a study on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, in conjunction with our Stewardship Campaign. The kids and youth will continue to further explore the readings that they will hear in worship so you can still discuss them with each other at home.

Here is a sneak peak at what to listen for and think about in November:

November 2: ([Matthew 23: 1-12](#)) Jesus urges his followers to be in humble service to one another. He accuses the scribes and Pharisees of not practicing what they preach and suggests to the people that they do as the Pharisees teach but do not behave the way that they behave. Jesus teaches we are truly his disciples when we offer ourselves in service to others.



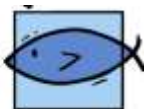
▶ *Who do you know who quietly serves others as Jesus asks?*

November 9: ([Matthew 25:1-13](#)) Today's lesson is the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. The wise bridesmaids have spent time getting to know and building a relationship with the groom (Jesus), whereas the foolish bridesmaids have never given the relationship a thought. Jesus warns us to prepare ourselves for the coming of God's kingdom – which means striving every day to make God's way of being in community with each other a reality.



▶ *What can we do to make God's kingdom on earth a reality?*

November 16: ([Matthew 25: 14-30](#)) Today's we hear that God asks us to make appropriate use of our gifts and talents. The parable of the talents helps us understand that the gifts and talents we are given are either nurtured so that they grow or wither with disuse. God expects us to take risks and step out of our comfort zone as we use our gifts and talents to bring God's kingdom to earth. The reward for such faithfulness is further responsibility.



▶ *What gifts and talents do you have and how can you use them to glorify God?*

November 23: ([Matthew 25: 31-46](#)) Our first week of Sunday school this September we heard the message that it is our actions not our words or intentions that are most important. We revisit that theme today. Jesus tells us that we are judged by our deeds of compassion. Jesus associates himself closely with the hungry, thirsty, lonely, sick, naked and imprisoned and blesses those who minister to the suffering. It is not enough to say we will help, it is our actions that count.



▶ *How do we help each other every day? How can we help when there is a special need?*



PLEASE NOTE

The December Good Word deadline is Wednesday, November 19, so we can get it in the mail to you before Thanksgiving.

Thank you!



Watch your mail for information about our winter retreat January 23 – 25!

High School Youth News

Sunday School – Haven't been to Sunday school this year? No worries! We're starting a new stewardship curriculum in November, so it's the perfect time to jump in as we start fresh. We'll take a look at the book, *Treasure*, written by Jacob Armstrong, and discuss what Jesus meant when he told his disciples, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Money, time, talents, love...all of these things are our treasures. Come join us as we talk about how these treasures show the true priorities of our hearts!

Youth Group – Ever wish you knew more about the Bible? Whether you grew up in the church and think you know this awesome book, or feel like everyone seems to know more about it than you, your knowledge and interpretation of God's word is about to be rocked! Join us on Sunday nights from 7-9pm in the youth room for an awesome adventure through the echoing stories of our world, from Genesis through Revelation. As always, friends are encouraged to join us for this time!

Hanging of the Greens – November 30th, stick around after second service to help decorate the church and youth room for the Advent season! We'll be sure to have plenty of food, and will spend this time together in place of our nightly youth group meeting. Again, we will NOT meet for weekly youth group on November 30!

YSP 2015 – Miss our YSP Information meeting in October? We'd still love to have you join us next summer! We'll be traveling to Pocahontas, VA, from July 19-25th, to work and serve the people of this tiny Appalachian town in the name of Jesus. Email Courtney if you're interested, or need more information, at youth@brecksvilleumc.com. This trip is open to all students who have completed ninth grade by summer 2015.

Middle School Youth News

Confirmation Students – Please continue to bring your completed Nehemiah forms and \$30 to the church. We need all forms and checks by November 9! If you have any questions, please feel free to email Courtney at youth@brecksvilleumc.com. Are you an adult willing to chaperone this trip? We need at least one adult male and one adult female to accompany us on this overnight service trip!

Youth Group – So far this year, we've been focusing a lot on "epic fails." However, we've learned that our epic failures and sins are forgiven, because we are warriors and conquerors in God! In November, we'll turn our eyes towards the holidays, and realize just how much we have to be thankful for. Not only that we belong to such a forgiving God, but for all the blessings in our lives. If you haven't joined us yet this year, feel free to jump on in as we begin this new unit. We'll continue to meet Wednesdays after school, from 3:15-5pm. As always, friends are more than welcome to join us!

THANKSGIVING BREAK – We will NOT be meeting on Wednesday, November 26th, for Thanksgiving break.



On All Saints' Sunday, November 2, we will lift up the names of the saints who have gone before us. If you would like to have a name read aloud on that day, please send your request to the church office: 440-526-8938 or cecp@brecksvilleumc.com. Requests must be received no later than Monday, October 27. Thank you!



The Evangelism Committee will recognize Veterans' Day on Sunday, November 9. If you or a family member has served, please submit your name, years of service, and branch of service to the church office before November 6. Call 440-526-8938 for more information!

More Music Events...

Chris Toth invites you to the following events for which he is the music director:

The Dybbuk, November 6-16, CSU Theater at Allen Theatre Playhouse Square

Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well, November 20-23, Marinello Theatre at John Carroll University 216-397-4428.

And this event for which he is the organist:

Handel's MESSIAH, November 23 at 4 pm, Grace Lutheran Church in Cleveland Heights



MILESTONES
News of the Fellowship

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

“I want to thank all who prayed with me and helped me with the healing service on Sunday, August 17th. Thank you for the work in The Good Word, the posters, the use of this church, sharing about it with others and those who selflessly volunteered in helping that evening. There was love and there was healing.” Thanks, Shelly Meek

Join us in celebrating the birth of Blakely Elizabeth Raybuck, who arrived October 2 to parents Scott & Danielle Raybuck. Proud grandparents are Don & Robin Raybuck.

Joe & Ruth Holmes would like to express their thanks for all the cards, baking and planning that went into their anniversary celebration on October 12. They said, “Celebrating with our larger family was wonderful! Thank you to all!”

We recently lost two long time members of our church family. Prayers and thoughts of comfort are with the families of Miriam Moore, a 44 year member of this congregation and Marjorie Arnold, a 34 year member of this church.

Our faith, lives and ministries take on new life when they are shared. Help us tell God's story as it unfolds in our church and community. Send news items and story ideas to the church office!

Melanie Smith
office@brecksvilleumc.com
4400-528-8938

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Nancy	Einheit	11/01	Ryan	Burrows	11/16
Karl	Riccardi	11/01	Sandra	Crist	11/16
Joyce	Wuerth	11/01	Edison	Davis	11/16
James	McBride	11/02	Edward	Schroedel	11/16
Hayden	Vincent	11/02	Michael	Gezze	11/17
Anthony	Cipolla	11/03	Zachary	Johnson	11/17
James	Houston	11/03	James	Berry	11/18
Ruth	McKenzie	11/03	Shirley	Hill	11/19
Alyssa	Whitton	11/03	Brandon	Klipfell	11/19
Elaine	Geringer	11/05	Donald	Raybuck	11/19
Ella	Nelson	11/05	Diana	Wise	11/19
Melissa	Schillo	11/05	Carole	Brachna	11/20
Brandon	Calovini	11/06	Kyle	Holmok	11/20
Raymond	Koloda	11/06	Lucy	Lodge	11/20
Karl	Robie	11/06	Ellie	Batcheller	11/21
Sean	Lundholm	11/07	Matthew	Havranek	11/21
Ardyn	Olszko	11/07	Richard	Ling	11/21
Cathy	Drescher	11/08	Ian	Roberts	11/21
Thomas	Ellis	11/08	Doug	Robie	11/21
Brandon	Fisher	11/08	Kimberly	Campbell	11/22
Darell	Fisher	11/08	Rebecca	Paroda	11/22
Charlotte	Hocutt	11/08	Alan	Phillips	11/22
Connor	Hogan	11/08	Martha	Rosenthal	11/22
Allan	Filips	11/09	Jennifer	Sendrey	11/22
Michele	Mihalich	11/10	James	Berry	11/25
Bryan	Miller	11/10	David	James	11/25
Michael	Basen	11/11	Deborah	Scheufler	11/25
Terry	Bennett	11/11	Douglas	Farling	11/26
Jan	Kaminski	11/11	Kelly	Meyer	11/26
Judith	McBride	11/11	Evan	Davis	11/27
Laddie	Papp	11/11	Adam	Archacki	11/28
Ryan	Hulten	11/12	Gina	Goodwin	11/28
Kevin	Vastartis	11/12	Henry	James	11/28
Kelsey	Hogan	11/13	Dee	Lancaster	11/28
James	Mueller	11/14	Kimberly	Ling	11/28
Gregory	Warth	11/14	Nicholas	Rajkovich	11/28
Brian	Wygonski	11/14	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. People like Michael Pace, always willing to step in at a moment's notice to play the drums for worship; Jinho Lee and Marisol Wylie whose gift of

language added special depth and beauty to our World Communion Sunday worship; Jeff Fesler, who used his skills with a paint brush to beautify and refresh the Youth Room and our new Reading Room (coming soon!); and Gretchen Mates, whose ideas help make church life better for all!



News from the Brecksville United Methodist Women



UMW Thursday, November 6—Get Crafty!

The Thursday, November 6 UMW meeting is looking for some "crafty" people to help assemble 60 Christmas bags and create two craft projects for Guidestone Head Start classes in Maple Hts. Join us at 9:30 for fun and fellowship. Bring scissors and glue. Everyone is welcome.

Acme Register Tapes Wanted

Acme register tapes are wanted by UMW for the Acme Cash Back program. Shop at Acme from now and throughout the holidays. Place your register tape in the Acme labeled box in the coat room and help earn money for UMW Missions!



Come Join The Circle!

Our November 5 meeting will feature EARS TO YOU founder and Executive Director, Ruth Crane. Ruth is a cancer survivor with a heart for others, whose topic for the evening is, "How Much Lemonade Can I Make?" EARS TO YOU is a top rated nonprofit started in 2008 whose vision is to provide a moment of joy and hope to those fighting cancer by providing earrings and hats to those in treatment. Check out

www.earstoyou.org to learn more of Ruth's story and

join us for an informative evening. Let's see how WE can become involved in this worthwhile cause. *Everyone is welcome. Please join us!*

The evening circle meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. We will sometimes do a Bible study, sometimes have a speaker and sometimes do community outreach. Our ages range from 16 to 70-something and everywhere in between. Everyone is welcome. We hope you'll join us!

Help Shower a New Ministry—The Rahab Safe House

The evening circle of UMW is supporting Rahab, an outreach ministry to women on the streets in the Akron area. Rahab is opening a safe house for victims of human trafficking. The safe house will provide long term care and rehabilitation, but first the home needs to be completely furnished. Come to a special Evening Circle Shower for Rahab in our Parlor on Sunday, November 9 from 2 - 4 pm. All are welcome. If you can't attend you can still show your support by purchasing a gift or gift card from the registry. If you'd like to get involved, please email Lynn Hobzek at kezboh@aol.com or 440-526-6037 to RSVP. Lynn will give you information about the registry and answer any questions you might have!



UMW Bicentennial Cook Book

Your favorite recipes are wanted for The Brecksville United Methodist Women's Bicentennial Cookbook before the end of the year. Drop a copy of your favorites in the recipe collection box in the Parlor.

Sisterhood Christmas

The Brecksville UMW are partnering with the West Side Community House again this year to provide Christmas for young ladies in the sisterhood program. Gretchen Mates has wish lists from each girl, which include requests for gifts for others in each girl's family. Would you like to help? Contact Gretchen for more information (440.526.6481) or talk to her during Fellowship Hour on Sundays in November.

Sisterhood is an after-school and summer arts program (Summer of Sisterhood) preparing girls ages 10 - 18 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.

Learn more about the organization at www.wschouse.org.



Want to read more? Go to www.brecksvilleumc.com

NOVEMBER 2014

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH www.brecksvilleumc.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	 <i>Cec Podolny</i>					1 8:30 Women's Small Group 7:30 Flute Concert
2 <i>Communion Sunday. All Saints.</i> 8:45 Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 7 HS Youth Group	3 4:30 BCA Youth Chorus 7 BCA Community Chorus 7 Disciple Bible Study	4 10 Staff Mtg 7 Evangelism	5 6:30 Dawnbrks 3:15 MS Youth Group 7 Evening Circle 	6 9:30 UMW 4:30 Children's Choir 5 Men's Group 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir 8:15 Men's Ens.	7 7am Emmaus Reunion Abbey Trip Departs!	8 8:30 Women's Small Group 6:15 Ecumenical Chapel Service at Chippewa Place
9 <i>Veterans Day Observance</i> 8:45 Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 2 Shower for Rahab 7 HS Youth Group	10 4:30 BCA Youth Chorus 7 BCA Community Chorus 7 Disciple Bible Study 8 COE	11 <i>Veterans Day</i> 11 Staff Mtg 7 COM 8 Music & Worship Board	12 6:30 Dawnbrks 3:15 MS Youth Group	13  9:30 Asbury Bremeth 4:30 Children's Choir 5 Men's Group 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	14 7am Emmaus Reunion <i>Confirmation Overnight Trip to Nehemiah Mission</i>	15 8:30 Women's Small Group 8:30 Church Yard Clean Up Day 
16 8:45 Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 6 Open Table Service at Berea UMC 7 HS Youth Group	17 4:30 BCA Youth Chorus 7 BCA Community Chorus 7 Disciple Bible Study 7 Staff Parish	18 10 Staff Mtg 10 Stitch'n'Time 7 Missions 7 Gifts & Memorials 7 Trustees	19 6:30 Dawnbrks 3:15 MS Youth Group 	20 4:30 Children's Choir 5 Men's Group 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir 8:15 Men's Ens.	21 7am Emmaus Reunion 9:30 UMW Board Meeting	22 8 Cleveland Food Bank 8:30 Women's Small Group 7:30 Piano & Cello Concert
23 <i>Community Thanksgiving Service</i> 8:45 Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 7 HS Youth Group	24 4:30 BCA Youth Chorus 7 BCA Community Chorus 7 Disciple Bible Study	25 10 Staff Mtg 7 Finance	26  6:30 Dawnbrks <i>BBHCSD Thanksgiving Break Begins. No School.</i>	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>  <i>Office Closed</i>	28 7am Emmaus Reunion <i>Church Offices Closed</i>	29 8:30 Women's Small Group
30 8:45 Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 12:15 Hanging of the Greens 3 Pearl Road Dinner 4 Christmas Parade and Reception						

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...

- The people of Camphor Mission Station in Liberia, and all of the people of the West African nations suffering under the Ebola crisis.
- The people we remember on All Saints Sunday.
- Our nations veterans and their families.
- Prayers of Thanksgiving!
- Pray boldly! Pray for the impossible.
- Pray for world peace, for an end to human suffering and sickness and disease and scarcity.
- Trust that God is fully present and listening. Pray hard!

Do you know that Brecksville United Methodist Church has an active e-mail Prayer Chain?

To be added to the e-mail list, or to submit a prayer request, please contact Elrowan33@aol.com.

PRESENCE

Date	First Service	Sunday School	Second Service	Goal of 300
Sept. 28	108	94	56	-136
Oct. 5	119	78	97	-84
Oct. 12	122	99	77	-101
Oct. 19	111		88	-101

We've set a goal of bringing 300 people together for worship on Sunday mornings. We fell short of this goal this month. What's keeping you from church on Sunday? What are some other ways you can be present in the life of the church this month?

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.

Date	Offering
Sept. 28	\$5,874
Oct. 5	\$10,640
Oct. 12	\$6,840
Oct. 19	\$12,617

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

SERVICE

Some ways you can be of service to others this month (look for details in this issue of *The Good Word*):

- Donate your old eyeglasses to the UMW collection. They'll be recycled for those in need!
- Help on Sunday morning. Serve as an usher, a parking lot greeter, with the coffee hour, with the PowerPoint. Help is always needed!
- Help serve a meal at Pearl Road UMC on Nov. 30.
- Help shower Rahab Ministries new home for women with housewarming gifts.
- Contribute a recipe to the UMW Cookbook!
- Add the West Side Sisterhood Girls to your Christmas List!

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

The people of The United Methodist Church are putting our faith in action by making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, which is our church's mission. Through the power of our connection, we are making a positive difference in more than 125 countries.

United Methodist News

UMC #GivingTuesday Returns December 2, 2015

On December 2, you can extend the spirit of giving thanks into the Advent season by participating in UMC #GivingTuesday. Every gift made online through The Advance at www.umcmmission.org/give on Dec. 2 will be matched up to \$1 million.*

*Global Ministries will allocate the matching funds dollar for dollar up to the first \$1 million in gifts to Advance projects received online on Dec. 2 between 12 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. EST. A maximum of \$2,500 per individual gift to a project will be dispersed as matching funds. A project may receive a maximum of \$25,000 in matching funds.

Last year on UMC #GivingTuesday, United Methodists collectively raised a record \$6.5 million on line in through The Advance. 11,000 individuals and churches in 34 countries gave more than 16,300 gifts to mission and ministries they believe in. It was a wonderful sign of commitment and extravagant generosity, maximizing the impact of thousands of United Methodists coming together on one day to transform the world.

UMC #GivingTuesday is part of an international movement to extend the spirit of giving thanks into the Advent season. It offers an opportunity to start off the holiday season by giving instead of getting by supporting organizations that are transforming the world.

Visit www.umcmmission.org/give to search for Advance projects and give.

When Methodists are United...

When Methodists are united . . . we provide an alternative to the recent US consumer driven shopping traditions of Black Friday, Local Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday. UMC #GivingTuesday offers an opportunity to start off the holiday season by giving instead of getting through supporting organizations and missionaries that have been researched and approved

by the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. And 100% of all gifts made through The Advance are given directly to the designated project.

Thanks to United Methodists' participation in last year's UMC #GivingTuesday:

- ministries purchased new land in places like Cambodia and Tanzania.
- an entire community in the Philippines is rebuilding after being devastated by a typhoon.
- families in Guatemala are generating income and improving their diets through gardening.
- youth in the US repaired homes for families in need while being trained to be servant leaders.
- **UMCOR responded globally to disasters that weren't in the news spotlight.**
- a health care center in Haiti now offers increased access to care.
- a community in Sierra Leone finished digging a well to provide clean safe drinking water.

When Methodists are united . . . and support any one of the 850 United Methodist related Advance projects, together we meet a range of needs, from helping survivors cope with natural or civil disasters to helping communities build churches, feed and educate children, and equip hospitals and clinics.

Since its founding in 1948, The Advance has helped channel more than 3 million gifts totaling more than \$1 billion dollars to thousands of projects and ministries.

While people can give through The Advance any time of year, having one day when Methodists are united in supporting The Advance together, shifts energy away from secular consumerism and back into a spirit of cheerful Christian giving. It shows the world the transformational power that can happen in one day . . . when Methodists are united.

This is a great opportunity to build awareness and maximize support for a project or missionary that is meaningful to you.



[facebook.com/BrecksvilleUMC](https://www.facebook.com/BrecksvilleUMC)



twitter.com/BrecksvilleUMC



[pinterest.com/brecksvilleumc](https://www.pinterest.com/brecksvilleumc)