

The Good Word

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



LORD PREPARE ME
TO BE A SANCTUARY
PURE AND HOLY
TRIED AND TRUE
AND WITH THANKSGIVING
I'LL BE A LIVING
SANCTUARY, FOR YOU



THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

It's been one year since we have been out of the building for worship and many other things. (It boggles my mind that the weekend before the world shut down, we were crammed in the Fellowship Hall for "Music with a Mission!")

As COVID-19 case numbers decrease, and more and more people are being vaccinated, the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter: ***we will be able to gather together for in-person worship soon!*** I wish I had a crystal ball and could tell you exactly when that will be; but alas, God did not give me that gift. What I do know is that our staff has been working diligently on re-gathering plans. So when the Cuyahoga County health alert changes to "orange," we will have regular worship outdoors; and as soon as we hit "yellow," we'll be ready to greet you indoors! (See *details of our reopening plan inside.*)

We have learned and grown so much this past year, and we do not want to lose our momentum. We're working on ways to integrate our online worship with in-person worship (aka "hybrid worship") so that those online still feel as connected as they do now. We are also working with medical professionals to keep apprised of best practices for in-person worship.

In the meantime, we have special outdoor worship services planned:

On **March 7**, we will resume **parking lot communion** services at 11 am.

Easter Sunday, April 4, we will have a sunrise service on our front lawn at 7 am (with Holy Communion!)

We are working to equip Fellowship

Hall to be another worship space, so we can welcome more people.

I know you are anxiously awaiting the Sunday when we can finally gather in our sanctuary together. Please know that I, too, am shouting, "How long, O Lord?"

Until then, though, I know that we are called to be the sanctuary out in the world: day to day, we are each a holy and sacred refuge where those who are broken and hurting can encounter God's love.

And I pray that we never stop doing that. I pray that we never forget the lessons we've learned in this time physically apart from one another. And I'm confident that when we come back together as a church community, we will be stronger than ever! Take Care,

Pastor Heidi

Rev. Heidi Welch, Senior Pastor

WORSHIP WITH US

LIVE ONLINE SUNDAYS AT 9 AM
SERMONS BY PHONE 440-526-0653
WATCH ONLINE ANYTIME - 24/7

Our Staff

Phone: 440-526-8938

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Heidi Welch ext. 224
pastor@brecksvilleumc.com

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Rev. Barbara Bartholomew
associatepastor@brecksvilleumc.com

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education@brecksvilleumc.com

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music@brecksvilleumc.com

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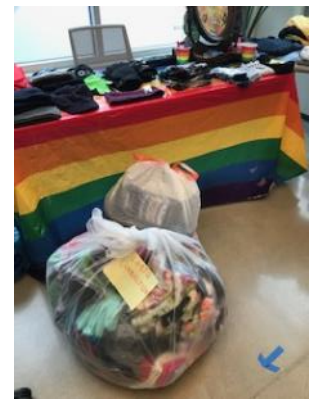
Jeff and Scott Hastings ext. 233
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Sean Brown
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Help us tell God's story as it unfolds in our
church and community.
Send us your news!



Your hat and mitten tree donations reach their destinations.

Missions & Outreach Looks Back at 2020

2020 was an amazing year. Our church family was able to reach out and help others in so many ways. Here are some of them:

- **Food Pantry Support**—Monetary, Non-Perishables and Volunteers
- **Rise Against Hunger**—Packaging meals for the developing world
- **Salvation Army Bell Ringing**—Raising funds for neighbors in need
- **Backpack and School Supply Drive**—250 Backpacks and well over \$1500 in School supplies delivered to Corner 65 of Nehemiah Mission, Parma Heights Food Pantry and The Emergency Assistance Center
- **Nordonia Hills Meals and Wheels**—Drivers delivering meals to seniors
- **Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity**—\$5K to help fund a home, and hands to help build it.
- **Thanksgiving Offering**—\$2,400 for UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery
- **Drive In Nativity Pageant**—Financial support for this special outreach ministry.
- **Christmas Offering**—\$2,606 for Greater Cleveland Food Bank and the Teach*Reach*Bless Initiative for Africa University.
- **Hat & Mitten Tree**— 30 pairs of socks, 170 face masks, 76 scarves, 80 hats, 77 mittens/gloves, 91 hat & mitten sets for Centers for Families & Children (formerly WESEM), LGBTQ Connection of Cleveland and LeBron James Foundation (Akron City Schools). Each place received 2 trash bags full of items!
- **Housing Assistance**—With extra money we had, we saved 4 families from eviction at the end of 2020 through a donation to The Nazareth Housing Development Corporation.

Do you have ideas where we can make a difference in the year ahead? Please forward to Pastor Heidi or Mary Kotnik. *What's planned in the near future?*

Read the next page!

DISCHARGE WITH DIGNITY

JESUS CLOSET

Clothing collection for The Jesus Closet at Marymount Hospital

Everyday, patients are brought into hospitals with clothing that is soaked with blood or with injuries so severe that their clothing must be removed with scissors. Sometimes, the clothes must be kept as evidence of crime. When these patients have no family or friends to bring fresh clothing to them upon discharge, workers at Marymount Hospital rely on donations from **The Jesus Closet** to help.

Right now, the Jesus Closet is virtually empty and the need for clean, gently used adult clothing is great. **Our Missions and Outreach Committee is organizing a drive to fill the closet—from March 7 to 28.** Clothing in all sizes and for both men and women are needed. Bring your gently used and clean clothes such as sweatpants, jeans and khakis, t-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets and coats, shoes and boots. New underwear and socks are also needed.

Look for the collection location on the first floor of the church beginning March 7. We'll have coat racks for items on hangers and a collection bin for all other donations. We hope you are able to take part in this important ministry.

I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me.

- Matthew 25: 35-36
(GNT)

Easter
OFFERING

This year's Easter Offering will support two important projects providing safe housing for people who are working to improve their lives.

Faith Build. Our annual \$5K commitment to Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build Project helps fund the construction of a new home for a partner family in Cleveland.

Teach*Reach*Bless is an East Ohio Conference initiative to build safe dormitory housing for female students at Africa University. This commitment to the education and wellness of women today means a better Africa tomorrow.

Mark your donation "Easter Offering" or give online onrealm.org/BrecksvilleMethodist/give/Easter



MARCH

Show your care with prayer!

Help us surround one person or family in prayer each week! Say a prayer, then drop a note in the mail to Bob, Nancy, Carole and Ruth to let them know you are praying for them:

Week of March 7

Bob Tschannen
14040 Vista del Lago Blvd
Winter Garden, FL 34787

Week of March 14

Nancy Kroenke
511 Tollis Pkwy Apt 181F
Broadview Hts, OH 44147-1820

Week of March 21

Carole Dambaugh
6781 Windward Hills Dr
Brecksville, OH 44141-2469

Week of March 28

Ruth Hazlett
997 W Aurora Rd Apt 207
Northfield, OH 44067-1605

Pastor Barbara says, "Be a blessing for those in our church family you may not see on Facebook or at the grocery store. They will be thrilled to hear from you. Thanks for being loving, caring people of Christ!"

**Check back next month
for a new list!**

ENTERING THE PASSION OF JESUS

LENTEN STUDY



Jesus' final days were full of risk. Every move he made was filled with anticipation, danger, and the potential for great loss or great reward.

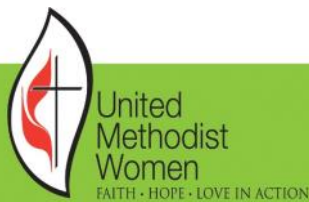
Jesus risked his reputation when he entered Jerusalem in a victory parade. He risked his life when he dared to teach in the Temple. His followers risked everything when they left behind their homes, or anointed him with costly perfume. We take risks as we read and re-read these stories, finding new meanings and new challenges.

In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for us, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

Join us online Sundays at 10:30 am with [Jenny Gee](#) or at 7 pm with [Rev. Kathy Dickriede](#). In March, we'll cover:

- Teachings: Risking Challenge
- The First Dinner: Risking Rejection
- The Last Supper: Risking the Loss of Friends
- Gethsemane: Risking Temptation

Email the church office to sign up!
office@brecksvilleumc.com



UMW Donations Support West Side Community House and its Sisterhood

West Side Community House (WSCH) was founded in 1890 as the Methodist Deaconess Home of Cleveland. WSCH has operated as a private, nonsectarian nonprofit 501(c)3 social service agency since 1964, owned and operated by a board of managers. Their programs are open to all social, racial, ethnic and income groups but are targeted to those who are most vulnerable and at-risk. The programs strengthen the family, provide opportunities to learn and grow, support independent living, encourage economic self-sufficiency, and renew the life spirit.

Their mission is transforming lives in the community. West Side Community House envisions a people transformed in mind, body and spirit. They will continue to create and refine programs that empower and inspire, and to build relationships that support and sustain our mission. They also cultivate a spirit of neighbor caring for neighbor and will give the community back to the people with hope for a brighter future.

- ★ **SELF-ESTEEM** *The Sisterhood* is an after-school and summer arts program (Summer of Sisterhood) that prepares girls ages 10 – 18
- ★ **HEALTH** for womanhood and their life beyond. Throughout the school year, arts and creativity are interwoven into the curriculum which has a focus on literacy.
- ★ **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**
- ★ **ARTS** Summer of Sisterhood focus is on a specific arts project designed to teach the girls how creative expression can transform a
- ★ **LEADERSHIP** community and positively impact public perception.

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 and the program 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.

Girls participate in a range of cultural, educational and social programs throughout the school year. These programs aim to provide girls with the skills they need to maintain high self-esteem and reach future success.

Your donations to The Brecksville United Methodist Women help support programs like these!

—Submitted by Fran McClean

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2021

PALM SUNDAY - 3/28

PARKING LOT PALM PARADE 11 AM

GOOD FRIDAY - 4/2

ONLINE WORSHIP 7 PM

EASTER - 4/4

OUTDOOR SUNRISE SERVICE 7 AM

ONLINE WORSHIP WITH ORCHESTRA 9 AM

Lectio for Lent

Lectio Divina (sacred reading) is an ancient method of reading scripture that allows us to meditate on a passage and contemplate its meaning in our life. Small groups have been meeting in person at the church since summer. Those participating share that this practice has given them a rich and personal experience with scripture. ***Lent is a wonderful time to expose yourself to new spiritual disciplines and Lectio is a great place to start.***

Throughout Lent we will be reading and meditating on the passages that are part of the Passion. We believe that this will enrich your Easter experience in ways you can't even imagine! Please make a plan to join us on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm in the Chapel, or Wednesday mornings at 10 am in the Parlor. You do not need a knowledge of scripture to join us. God will speak to your heart. Questions? Email Jenny at education@brecksvilleumc.com.



Palms and Palm Crosses If you received a Lent Kit, you received a palm cross—to be used as a prayer prompt as you invite your friends to join us for Easter Services. These crosses were hand-woven by villagers near Masasi, Tanzania and are made from the dried leaves of the dwarf palm. Our purchase of the palms supports clean water, education and medical aid for the villagers. Learn more:

africanpalmsusa.org

Eco Palms The palms we wave for our palm parades (at home or in the church parking lot) will be harvested from the forests of Mexico and Guatemala through the Eco-Palm Project. The use of palm fronds on Palm Sunday creates a large demand, but conventional palm harvesting harms the environment as more fronds are cut than necessary. Eco-Palm harvesters, by contrast, incorporate better environmental techniques. More money goes to those who harvest them, and their communities flourish as a result. [Learn more with this video.](#)

- ▶ Request home delivery of palms! [Click this link](#) or contact the church office: 440-526-8938 or office@brecksvilleumc.com

***He is risen indeed!* Invite others to experience the good news!**

With our online option, anyone can join from anywhere there's an internet connection. Pick up a postcard at church and mail it to a friend!

CONNECT WITH CHURCH STAFF

As we come up on one year “out-of-building” due to COVID-19, our staff continues to work very hard to keep us connected and growing in our faith. We encourage you to reach out to us with whatever you need; whether it’s pastoral care, help signing up for a class, learning more about BUMC, or help with your giving. The best ways to reach us are by calling the church office and leaving a message (440-526-8398) or by sending an email. Below you will find each person’s contact information and when they’re usually “on the job.”**

Ministry is weird: it’s not a “9-5 job,” because life isn’t lived 9-5. Sometimes we work long days, so we might carve out rest time when we would “normally” be working. Never worry: we will get back to you as soon as we’re able. **If you have an emergency, contact Pastor Heidi at 330-718-9360.

Pastor Heidi, Senior Pastor:

Tuesday- Friday; Sundays
pastor@brecksvilleumc.com
330-718-9360

Office Staff:

MELANIE, Office Manager:
Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Friday, 8:30 - 12:30 pm
Sunday, 8 - 11 am
office@brecksvilleumc.com
440-526-8398

ALLIE, Office Assistant; Nursery Caregiver:
Wednesday, 3 - 6 pm
allie@brecksvilleumc.com

BECKY, Business Manager:
In the office: Tuesday, 9 am-3 pm;
Thursday, 9am-12pm
finance@brecksvilleumc.com

Facility Staff:

JEFF & SCOTT, Facilities Managers:
At the church Monday – Friday, 9 am - 2 pm
facilities@brecksvilleumc.com

Ministry Staff:

PASTOR BARB, Pastor of Visitation:
Tuesday & Thursdays, 9 am-9 pm
Saturday, 9 am-4 pm
330-336-4461 (home)
associatepastor@brecksvilleumc.com

JENNY, Director of Christian Education:
Monday – Thursday, 10 am-6 pm
Sunday, 8 am-4 pm
education@brecksvilleumc.com

DANA, Youth Director:
Sunday- Thursday, 10 am-5 pm
youth@brecksvilleumc.com
440-897-1235 (cell)
*Students can text any time before 8pm on weekdays, any time before 5pm on weekends

Worship Staff:

MALIK, Music Director:
Monday-Friday, 9 am - 5 pm
music@brecksvilleumc.com
419-944-8965 (cell)

JAMIE, Worship Band Leader;
A/V Coordinator:
Sunday, 8 am-5 pm
Monday, 4-7 pm
Tuesday, 12-9 pm *in office*
Thursday, 12-5 pm
jamie@brecksvilleumc.com
440-227-5546 (cell)

OFFICE VISITING HOURS - - - MON. 8:30 - 12:30. WED. 3 - 6

A Technicolor of Faith Voices

Leaning into the Power of Story in Youth Ministry

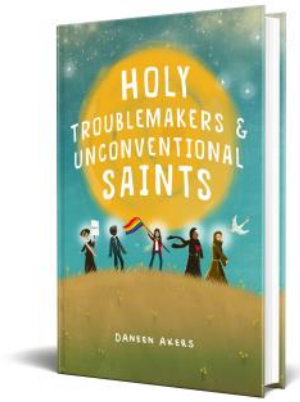
I was scrolling on Instagram after dinner one night and I came across a brightly colored advertisement for a book. You don't see that often, a physical, hardbound book with a beautiful cover being advertised on social media, so I clicked it and I was pleasantly surprised at what I found. I was being introduced to a book all about people throughout history who were movers and shakers in their faith communities. There were all different races, religions, sexualities, nationalities, and times in history among the profiles being featured. I was blown away that such a book even existed, let alone that I had quite literally stumbled upon it randomly on the internet. The book is called *Holy Troublemakers & Unconventional Saints* by Daneen Akers.

As I looked more into the book, I learned that the author is a mother who was dismayed to find out that her children's education was lacking quite a bit of diversity, in and out of school. So she took it upon herself to write a book that profiled an extremely diverse group of people who stood for love, justice, and caring for one another. Akers writes how she deeply believes in "the power of stories" and how those stories shape the narrative our children make for themselves. The heroes of the stories we tell matter and they can paint a world-view for our families in brilliant technicolor, if we let them.

The more voices we can add to the conversation of faith, the more our students can see a detailed picture of what their own faith could look like. That is why in April, as a part of our youth group program, we will be exploring *Holy Troublemakers & Unconventional Saints* and the beautiful people that are featured within the covers. Students can sign up for a delivery of an at-home kit that includes the book, activities to do during youth group, and other ways to engage in learning at home. Signing up is not necessary to join us for youth group, as lessons will be for any student to feel connected to the profiles we will feature. My hope is that students come away from each youth group session with a more expansive view of what it looks like to be a person of faith and how they can be holy troublemakers themselves.

Contact me for the at-home delivery youth@brecksvilleumc.com. If you know a student who would benefit from conversations around diverse voices in faith leadership, please reach out!

Looking forward to this new adventure, *Dana Schwendeman, Director of Youth Ministry*



THINK SPRING

As thoughts turn to spring, the Trustees Committee's thoughts turn to our church lawn and gardens. With your help, the grounds can look beautiful and welcoming throughout growing season. Want to join the team? Here are three ways to serve!

1. Adopt a Flower Bed. For the second year, we're asking folks to claim one of the many flower beds in the church grounds and commit to caring for it throughout the growing season. At minimum, we're asking that you weed the plot. If you want to go above and beyond, you're welcome to improve the plot with plants! Contact [Bob Lundholm](#) to claim your flower bed!

2. Join the Mowing Team. Each week, a team of two people comes to the church to mow the grass and trim around the sidewalks, etc. Does this sound like something you'd like to help with? With 5 or 6 teams serving, it's not a big commitment of time. Contact [Dave Brown](#).

3. Save the date for Spring Clean Up Day! Come to the church yard on Saturday, April 24 and help tidy up the church yard for the spring. We'll be praying for nice weather, but if it rains, we'll gather the next Saturday, May 1. Hope to see you there!

For as the earth bursts with spring wildflowers, and as a garden cascades with blossoms, So the Master, God, brings righteousness into full bloom and puts praise on display before the nations.

- Isaiah 61:11 MSG



Share your news with your church family! Contact Melanie:
office@brecksvilleumc.com
 440-526-8938

Joe Holmes, a member of our church family since 1979, passed away on February 4, at the age of 91. Joe’s love for his community and his church was abundant, and we are thankful for all of the ways that he served and helped make the world a better place. His wife of 66 years, Ruth, called this morning to say how much all of the cards, letters and calls she has received have meant to her, and how our love and support has helped her through this time. Join us in saying a prayer of thanks for Joe and a prayer of comfort for Ruth and family.

Kathy Sopka, who serves as president of the United Methodist Women, thanks Fran McClean and Sharon Judson for stepping in for her, and thanks everyone for the cards and prayers as she recovers from surgery. “It makes me feel so loved.” Kathy has a long road of recovery ahead — about four more months before she has healed. “Thank you again for the outpouring from my church family. I am looking forward when we can all be together again.”

HELP WANTED

We’re looking for a part time office manager to complete our ministry team! Contact office@brecksvilleumc.com for details.




Mary Kotnik	2	Alison Bellone	11	Kristen Kubek	20
Eileen Yates	2	Bob Bloch	11	Stosh Skoczen	20
Tiffany Jacob	5	Kathy Dickriede	12	Joseph Botzman	21
Phyllis Phillips	5	Janet James	12	Sienna Petznick	22
Harper Adanich	6	Tyler Hulten	13	Liz Fredrick	25
Donald Burkle	7	Kaden Juniper	13	Nathan Gardner	25
Megan White	7	Sydney Hudacek	14	Stacie Memmer	25
Ruth Ann Bilek	8	Samuel Eberhardt	16	Mallory Krolikowski	26
Kaleb Dumot	8	Zoey Telischak	16	Elliot Shah	26
Matthew Auble	9	Joann Fox	17	Robin Wilson	26
Cliff Thielman	9	Carly Johnson	17	Carol Kubicek	27
George Gee	10	Corrie Welch	17	Kim Rybak	30
Sharon Judson	10	Matthew Gardner	18	Hannah Shively	30
Mike Kubek	10	Bob Hudacek	18	Madeline Piorkowski	31
Barb Sindyla	10	Dave Sibits	18	David Slaby	31



As people of faith, we find God’s presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly staff meetings prayers of thanks are lifted to God for the way lives are touched when we reach out to one another in service. Recently, we said prayers of thanks for people like Shelly Meek, who helps conduct an audit of our church finances annually, ensuring that our financial house is in order and safeguarding the ministries of the church. *Everyone* (and it’s a lot of people!) who helped make the Lent kit deliveries possible—from the folks who helped assemble, to those who helped deliver—you made “at home” resources for the season a Lent for over 230 homes! One day, Jennifer Schneider said, “If you need any help with anything, let me know.” The next day, she delivered 500 prayer strips for our Lenten prayer wall. You’re amazing, Jennifer. Brenda Calovini stepped out in faith and offered to lead a book study on racial justice, and is leading important conversations on Monday evenings with a group of caring people. We are thankful for all of you! Mike Paroda is leading the Board of Trustees this year. Thank you, Mike, for leading the great team of folks that that provides care and planning for our church building, church grounds, and parsonage! Thank you all for using your gifts to God’s glory!

MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 8:30—12:30 Office Open 7 Biased Study 7 Bell Choir 9 Enneagram Small Group	2 7 Lectio Divina	3 7:30 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina 7 Bible Study 7:30 Virtual Choir	4 9:30 Pastor's FB Check In 10 Staff Mtg 3 Grief Group	 5 Jesus Closet Collection starts Sunday!	6 9 Visioning Team <i>Bread Ministry Hobzeks</i>
7 9 Worship with Communion 9:45 Blood Drive 10 Coffee Hour 10:30 Lenten Study 11 Parking Lot Communion 11 Kids Connect 7 Lenten Study	8 8:30—12:30 Office Open 7 Biased Study 7 Bell Choir	9 7 Lectio Divina 7 Inclusion Task Force	10 7:30 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina 7 Bible Study	11 9:30 Pastor's FB Check In 10 Staff Mtg 3 Grief Group	 12	13 <i>Bread Ministry Petkovsek</i>
14 9 Worship 10 Coffee Hour 10:30 Lenten Study 11 Kids Connect 7 Lenten Study 7 Virtual Youth Grp	15 8:30—12:30 Office Open 7 Biased Study 7 Bell Choir	16 10 Stitch'n'Time 7 Lectio Divina 7:30 Trustees	17 7:30 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina 7 Bible Study	18 9:30 Pastor's FB Check In 10 Staff Mtg 3 Grief Group	 19	20 <i>Bread Ministry Gee & Gambone</i>
21 9 Worship with Baptism 10 Coffee Hour 10:30 Lenten Study 11 Kids Connect 7 Lenten Study 7 Virtual Youth Grp	22 8:30—12:30 Office Open 7 Biased Study	23 7 Lectio Divina 7 Finance	24 7:30 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina 7 Bible Study	25 9:30 Pastor's FB Check In 10 Staff Mtg 3 Grief Group	 26 Jesus Closet Collection ends Sunday!	27 <i>Bread Ministry Millers</i>
28 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9 Worship 10 Coffee Hour 10:30 Lenten Study 11 Palm Parade 11 Kids Connect 7 Lenten Study	29 8:30—12:30 Office Open 7 Biased Study	30 10 Staff Mtg 7 Lectio Divina	31 7:30 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina 7 Bible Study	1 9:30 Pastor's FB Check In 3 Grief Group	 2 7:30 Good Friday Online	3

Electronic Service Requested

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Church office visiting hours:

MONDAY 8:30—12:30

WEDNESDAY 3—6

We're working all week!

Reach us by voicemail and email


Monday—Thursday

8:30—4:30 pm

Friday 8:30—12:30 pm

A hand is shown holding a white-bordered card against a blurred background. The card has the word 'HEALING' in large, white, outlined letters, with 'PSALM 147:1-11' in smaller white text below it.

**Daily Email Devotions for Lent and
a Devotional Booklet to Print**
www.brecksvilleumc.com/Lent



Open Doors.
*Welcoming all
of God's children.*

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.

FINANCE REPORT

MARCH 2021

2021 started off on the right foot as the Stewardship Campaign was a great success. We received 118 commitments this year for a total of \$410,793! Our average pledge has increased by 4% over last year. Additionally, we received 54 commitments to our Planned Expense Fund for \$26,409 and a Missions commitment for \$5,000.

As the campaign kicked off in the fall, the Finance Committee started putting together a budget. This process starts in October with the intention to have final approval by Church Council in January. Budgeting during a pandemic is incredibly difficult, as we all know! There are many “what if?” scenarios that were discussed at length.

Church Council approved our 2021 budget with the caveat that it will be a working document subject to change if necessary. Our aim is to increase revenues with the hope that our building will become busier as the year progresses. If and when that happens, we do expect our expenses to increase as well. The pie chart pictured at right illustrates what we foresee our expenses to be.

We are facing a \$30k deficit, but by the grace of God, You, and our forgivable PPP Loan, we anticipate that we will end the year in a positive way, just as we did in 2020.

2021 Expenses



- Appportionments \$76,003
- Missions \$12,500
- Church Administration \$23,446
- Programming \$25,942
- Staff \$400,406
- Building and Parsonage Maintenance \$55,850



It is not too late to make a financial commitment for 2021! Pick up a commitment card from the table by the church office, download a copy from our website (to complete and return) or fill out the commitment form on our website:

www.brecksvilleumc.com/giving

Your commitment is a practical way that you can say “Yes! I support the missions and ministries of Brecksville United Methodist Church!

Any questions?

Contact me at finance@brecksvilleumc.com

or call the office 440-526-8938

- Becky Paroda, Finance Manager

The Church Council, using recommendations from the church staff and current public health guidelines, has put together a guide to help us make planning decisions until all in person church activities can resume. We are looking forward to the day when we can safely gather again, and we hope that these guidelines will help each of us make good choices and show care for one another until that day arrives.

Find the latest health advisory from the Ohio Department of Health:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system>

PUBLIC EMERGENCY				
NO ALERTS No Health Orders	YELLOW ALERT Level 1	ORANGE ALERT Level 2	RED ALERT Level 3	PURPLE ALERT Level 4
<p><i>BUMC Standards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in person worship services without social distancing measures • live streamed services • Sunday School Classes for all ages • All in-person events resume 	<p><i>BUMC Standards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in person indoor service • small groups • in person mission/service opportunities • live streamed services <p><i>Health Orders</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home is you're sick • Maintain 6' distance from non-household members • Wear masks • Wash hands, use sanitizer, don't touch your face, etc. 	<p><i>BUMC Standards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in person outdoor service • small groups • live streamed services <p><i>Health Orders</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same guidelines as level 1 • Decrease in-person interactions outside the household. 	<p><i>BUMC Standards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • live streamed services • In-person special outdoor services • Small groups <p><i>Health Orders</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same guidelines as level 1 & 2 • Consider necessary travel only. • Limit attending gatherings of any number. 	<p><i>BUMC Standards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-recorded worship service • No in-person church activities <p><i>Health Orders</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same guidelines as level 1-3 • Stay at home!

AT ALL LEVELS: the church will require hand sanitizing, face masks be worn and physical distancing for all functions inside the church and on church grounds. Remember the phrase "cleaning, screening, and distance in-betweening!"

OUTSIDE GROUPS (support groups & preschool) will be empowered to make their own decisions for their groups, and will be informed of our policy/recommendations.

BLOOD DRIVE



Make every
day awesome

Brecksville United Methodist Church

SUNDAY, MARCH 7
9:45 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
VITALANT BLOODMOBILE
65 PUBLIC SQUARE, BRECKSVILLE

At this time appointments are preferred & masks are required.
Please make an appointment & earn reward points at
vitalant.org/OhioDonorPortal
Group code: 4230

Donate blood. We'll let you know if you have the antibodies to help patients battling COVID-19.

Please eat before you donate. Bring a photo ID & a list of any medications that you take.



GIVE BLOOD TODAY | vitalant.org
Eligibility questions? Call 877.258.4825

vitalantSM



Easter Flower Order Form

We celebrate Easter morning by filling the Sanctuary with flowers. Use this form to order your plants. Flowers can be picked up from the Sanctuary after the online worship service, have them delivered to your doorstep, or donate them to cheer someone up. **Orders must be received by Sunday, March 21.**

Your contact information goes here!

Name

Phone/Email

Address

Honorariums will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. How would you like yours to read? *i.e. **In memory of** Dorthea Gilger, from her family. **In honor of** our parents, from Melanie & Jim Smith or **To the glory of God.***

Return this order form to BUMC, 65 Public Sq, Brecksville OH 44141. Checks payable to "BUMC" or pay securely online at onrealm.org/BrecksvilleMethodist/give/FLOWERS

- Tulip - Pink \$8
- Tulip - Red \$8
- Tulip - Purple \$8
- Tulip - Orange \$8
- Lily - White \$8
- Hydrangea - White \$12
- Hydrangea - Pink \$12
- Hydrangea - Blue \$12
- Azalea - White \$12
- Azalea - Pink \$12
- Azalea - Pink/White \$12
- Daffodil - Yellow \$8

Choose One

- I will pick up after 4/6
- Deliver to my house
- Gift my plants