

The Good Word

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Green VBS Sows Seeds



Joyful Gathering—Post-Pandemic Picnic



Worship In the Woods

Deeply Hopeful and a Little Nervous

I can't believe it's August already. This year seems to have flown by, in the same way last year dragged on! We have spent the last few months easing into our new normal as a church: in-person worship as well as online; meetings at the church for some, while others choose to continue virtually; and new worship times, office hours, and church building rhythms. As we look to the coming months at Brecksville UMC, we will continue to evolve and adapt as we discover what works well, what doesn't, and what needs tweaked.

Recently, Dana read a poem during our 8:30 worship entitled, "*Flashlight*." It put well into words the thoughts that've been tumbling in my mind. It's included on the next page.

I have ideas of where to go from here—after the pandemic—but Church has never been done this

way, so there's a sense of we're learning as we go. Yet, I'm "deeply hopeful and a little nervous, all at the very same time." And "what I do know is I don't want to go anywhere without you."

I know that with you by my side and God leading us, pushing us along, and surrounding us with wisdom and strength, we will find our way. And our flashlight will be our "Vision Framework, helping us to abolish the shadows of doubt and fear and uncertainty.

What is the "Vision Framework," you ask? A group of Brecksville UMC members has been diligently working to uncover what makes Brecksville United Methodist Church unique. We have put words to a mission statement and values, as well as a strategy to help individuals live out those values and

measures to help individuals understand if they're on a path of growth.

In the coming weeks and months we will be sharing the Framework in various ways: worship, committee meetings, the newsletter, bulletins, and social media. And I hope that you love it as much as we do. It's not something "new" and it's not necessarily that fancy, but it's us: it's wonderful and authentic and speaks to who God created Brecksville UMC to be from the very beginning, over 200 years ago.

I don't know what the future holds, but I'm so excited and grateful to be on this journey with you!

Take care,

Pastor Heidi

Rev. Heidi Welch, Senior Pastor

WORSHIP WITH US

ON THE LAWN SUNDAYS AT 8:30 AM
IN THE SANCTUARY & ONLINE AT 10 AM

SERMONS BY PHONE 440-526-0653

WATCH ONLINE ANYTIME - 24/7

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education@brecksvilleumc.com

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office@brecksvilleumc.com

Help us tell God's story as it unfolds in our church and community. Send us your news!

Flashlight

written by: rev. sarah are | sanctifiedart.org



I wish I could draw you a map of the next steps—
the next conversation,
the next brave truth,

the next fumble,
the next apology.
Wouldn't it be nice to know what's coming?
Wouldn't it be nice to prepare our hearts?

But I don't know where to go from here. I am a child with a flashlight—
deeply hopeful and a little nervous,
all at the very same time.

What I do know is I don't want to go anywhere without you.
So I'm hoping that you will
take my hand.

See this truth.
Trust my voice.
Look for the good.
And day by day,
we can go from here,
because we were never meant to go alone.

And maybe we'll get lost; but then again,
maybe we'll be found.

So if you're willing,

if you'll just say yes,
I will let you hold the flashlight. We can find our way,
step by step,
light in hand,
abolishing shadows
together.

Who needs a map when you have the light, anyway?

DATE: Sunday, August 29, 2021
TIME: 9:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location: 65 Public Square
Brecksville, OH 44141

BLOOD DRIVE

vitalant.



HONEST WORSHIP



*(James 1:19-20) You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be **quick** to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness (NRSV).*

Whether we've been on our faith walk for years or we are newly minted followers of Jesus, we continually ask ourselves how is it with our souls and with our living these days. Throughout **our next worship series**, Doers of the Word, we will be reflecting on how well we are living in community. How do we value one another? Who is being neglected or left out of the decision-making process within the church? How do we relate to the wider community around us? How do we open ourselves to the world around us in ways that impact our communities for the better? And how will that help us each live lives of spiritual health and wholeness? Be sure to join us *August 8*—Avoiding Anger; *August 15*—Making Distinctions; *August 22*—Taming The Tongue; *August 29*—Root of Conflict; *September 5*—Power of Prayer



There is no better place to connect with our Creator God than in nature. Make a plan to join as we worship without walls, under the pines and alongside the waters in the Brecksville Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks. We will gather in the assigned meeting place, go on a hike to a different location, worship with song, prayer and meditations, then return to our original meeting place for breakfast (for the morning worship service) or s'mores around the grill (for the evening service).

Registration is required so we can adequately prepare and purchase enough food. Mark your calendar for Friday, August 6 at 7 pm and/or Saturday, August 21 at 9 am. Register here <https://forms.gle/e8sxTJRpXh4LtYgN9> - or contact the office - and we will be in touch regarding the meeting location. Contact Jenny Gee for more information! education@brecksvilleumc.com

Fall Sunday Morning Planning

As the weeks of summer fly by, it is time to begin to look ahead and get excited about spending time with our completely awesome kids in the fall. Begin to think about and pray over being a teacher for our little preschoolers, elementary aged kids or middle schoolers. Why? Because it is rewarding beyond what you can imagine. If you are agreeable to teaching you will be placed on a team and you will have complete flexibility with your schedule. What could be better than that?

Adult Education teachers

needed too! Do you have a passion for an aspect of your faith? Perhaps how to live out your faith in your workplace and neighborhoods? Maybe a book of the Bible really speaks to you. Do you have a specific faith skill you'd like to guide others through? Journaling, prayer, meditation? Is there a particular book on a topic of faith or social justice that you would like to discuss with your faith friends? Would you be willing to step out of your comfort zone and try something brand new? Contact Jenny or Pastor Heidi. We plan to have both in person and virtual adult Sunday morning classes but we simply cannot accomplish this without our community offering their skills, talents and passions.



DETERMINED SERVICE

Bike Fix-It Day

Join us on Saturday, August 7 from 9 to noon for a very important Bike-Fix-It Day. We are moving quickly towards the start of the new school year at Horizons pre-school, the summer days are fading, and we need to do some big work toward moving many 'ride-ready' bikes out of the church. Can you set aside this first Saturday of August to help keep Brecksville UMC's Bike Ministry rolling along? Do you have friends or family who might be willing to help? No experience necessary, a willing spirit and servant heart are all it takes! Have questions? Want to be on the list for messages and updates about this ministry? Reach out to Jenny!



Back to School Supply Drive

Education is a core value of The **United Methodist** Church that dates back to the earliest days of the Methodist movement in 18th century England. Founder John Wesley believed **education** was the key to a fuller, richer life. The Missions & Outreach Committee's Back-to-School Supply Drive is one way we can support kids and their education!

We will be collecting school supplies for the students served by The **Corner 65 Project of Nehemiah Mission** and **Parma Heights Food Pantry**. A detailed list of what type of supplies and when we need them will be available soon (in Thursday e-news, on our website, and our social media platforms.) *Stay tuned!*



Habitat for Humanity Faith Build Update

As we "go to press" our first build team of 2021 is preparing to serve at our Faith Build House. Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity reports that 10 homes for families are complete on Grandview Avenue, and 10 more new homes are underway on Hulda Avenue! It's a real transformation of a Cleveland neighborhood.

In exciting news on the Faith Build house, future homeowner Kassy's driveway and front walk were recently poured. And weather permitting, the siding should soon also be complete. Kassy and her kids Kamari, Jeffery and Kasson recently created a beautiful artwork to commemorate this year's Faith Build.

Brecksville UMC is partnering with 16 other area churches to make the dreams of this family come true. We are helping them build this home, providing prayer, time, talents of volunteers and financial support. Do you

have friends at one of these other churches? Tell them that we're working together! *Strongsville United Methodist Church, St. Mary of the Falls Catholic Church, St. Joseph Catholic Church, The Church of the Covenant, St. Mark Catholic Church, Church of St. Dominic, Old Stone Church, Plymouth Church UCC, St. Mary's Parish of Berea, United Methodist Church of Chagrin Falls, Fairmount Presbyterian Church, John Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Calvary Hill Church of God in Christ and Church of the Redeemer UCC.*



SAVE THE DATE for combined UMW Meeting

at a special time *Wednesday, September 8 at 6:30 pm.*

Come join us as we welcome BUMC’s own Ed Gugliucci who is spending his retirement years advocating for abused children!

The National CASA/GAL (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Association, together with state and local member programs, supports and promotes court-appointed volunteer advocacy so every child who has experienced abuse or neglect can be safe, have a permanent home, and the opportunity to thrive.

Ed says “CASAs are trained community volunteers appointed by the court regarding child abuse cases. They contact the child, investigate the allegations of child abuse and appear in court. They identify resources and services the child could need, and then monitor (their progress) until the case is closed. CASAs work with a volunteer coordinator and participate in 32 mandatory hours of training and continuing education.” Please note: We’re kicking off our first meeting in the evening in combination with Evening Circle.

They’re back! Did you miss your opportunity to order Grandma’s famous desserts in June? You have another chance, but you have to submit your order by August 13, and there’s a limited supply, so don’t delay! Pick up your order after church on Sunday, August 29 in the kitchen. All proceeds benefit the UMW Mission Fund.



for the Brecksville United Methodist Women's Mission Fund

Order by August 13 - pick up Sunday, August 29

Pick up between 9:30 and 11:30 am

Your Name: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

Item	Qty	Price	Total
Cherry Pie—Baked		\$15	
Blueberry Pie—Baked		\$15	
Take & Bake Cherry Pie		\$15	
Take & Bake Blueberry		\$15	
Chocolate Cake 8” Square		\$8	
Questions? Call Ruth—216-780-1828			

Prefer to pay online? Text "GiveBUMC Grandmas" to 73256 or visit <https://onrealm.org/BrecksvilleMethodist/give/Grandmas>

Payment attached. Will pay online or pay later.



This is not UMW News but we wanted to share this great photo of Craig, Nancy, Ann, Barb, Judy and Al which was taken at the Church Picnic on July 9 at Oaks Grove Pavilion. After a hot, sometimes stormy week, the sun came out and we gathered joyfully as we celebrated our Music Director, Malik Khalfani. Malik’s off to Ohio State in the fall, so the Fellowship Committee gathered everyone together for a game of “Malik Trivia” and a Buckeye themed picnic, complete with a gift of every flavor of candy buckeyes you can imagine. Even bacon? Yes! Even bacon. We will miss you, Malik!



AUGUST

Show your care with prayer!

Thank you for setting aside a little time for the Care & Prayer Mail Project. You may see some of the people on this list regularly — but dropping them a note in the mail is another way to show you care. It's a small gesture that spreads great joy!

Week of August 1

Kathy Goebel

1000 Tollis Pkwy Apt 114
Broadview Hts, OH 44147-3701

Week of August 8

Bill & Ann Rittman

200 Laurel Lake Dr Apt E373
Hudson, OH 44236-2181

Week of August 15

Elaine Geringer

8066 Richard Rd
Broadview Hts., OH 44147-1241

Week of August 22

Cliff Thielman

8759 Stuart Ln
Sagamore Hills, OH 44067-3404

Week of August 29

Jane Petrie

6814 Rosemont Dr
Brecksville, OH 44141-2613

Check back next month for a new list!



Daniel Jaszczak	1	Laina Culley	9	Grace Auble	21
Tish Kwiatkowski	1	Betty Monnin	9	Ben King	21
Skip Smith	1	Valorie Bender	10	Mark Robinson	21
Susan Hurst	2	Allison Hurley	10	Nathan Robinson	21
Katrina Orr	2	Ryan Shijo	10	Rebecca Urso	21
Nick Orr	2	Beth Dadas	11	Jill Zawada	21
Kaitlyn Robinson	2	Heather Manocchio	11	Ann Zupanc	22
Chris Davis	3	Lori Rusterholtz	11	Megan Juniper	23
Bennett Eberhardt	3	Trey Shively	12	Andy Dorman	24
Jeff Hastings	3	Mark Vastartis	12	Caroline Eschbaugh	24
Gabriel Vastartis	3	Tanya Palmer	13	Helen Lee	26
Steven Vastartis	3	Lue Andree	14	Christopher Nurre	26
Kristi Eberhardt	4	Aleyna Gambone	14	Raegan Papp	26
Joan Filips	4	Beverly Gooding	14	Bob Snyderwine	26
Judy Novak	4	Kathy Auble	15	Bridget Gee	27
George Smith, Jr.	5	Chuck Gezze	15	Oliver Bellone	28
Karen Walburn	5	Karin Meyer	17	Bryn Bisco	28
Sam Burrows	6	Nancy Lundholm	18	Kristin Bisco	29
Lily Jatsek	6	Sarah Lundholm	18	Jamie Hocutt	29
Frank Pasek	6	Emma Santora	18	Hilary Houff	29
Brooke Barnum	7	Bob Tschannen	18	James Lesinski	29
Sally Crist	7	Robin Engler	19	Pat Neville	30
Mary Jane Opatrny	7	Joan Olszko	19	Grant Palmer	30
Adrienne Leska	8	Kyle Romance	20	Andrew Scott	31
Dave Stoffer	8	Roger Wadsworth	20		
		Rob Wilson	20		

We celebrated the baptism of Trevor Vastartis on June 27, and on August 8, we will celebrate two more baptisms—Samantha Bellone and Elizabeth Sparks. What a joy to welcome these children into a life of faith!

Share your news with your church family! Contact Melanie: melanie@brecksvilleumc.com



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. People like Craig Kotnik, Tracy Adanich, Bob Hudacek, Deanne Kloss, Marla Knight and Sean Brown—who have all shared their musical gifts with us on Sunday mornings recently. Thank you for helping us praise God with music! With all the rain we had recently, we had some flooding in the church basement. Big thanks to Aleyna & Greg Gambone and Bob Lundholm (with an assist from Sarah's boyfriend) for helping sop up the mess!



HEY TOTALLY AWESOME

Adults,

WE ARE COLLECTING PHONE NUMBERS TO BE ON OUR LIST OF TRUSTED ADULTS* FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS TO BE ABLE TO CALL/TEXT FOR EMERGENCIES, NO QUESTIONS ASKED. IF YOU HAVE A HEART FOR OUR YOUTH REACH OUT TO DANA AT YOUTH@BRECKSVILLEUMC.COM!



*ADULTS WILL BE BACKGROUND CHECKED TO BE ON THE LIST.

Blessing of the Backpacks - On August 15—at both worship services—we will have our annual Blessing of the Backpacks! Students, teachers—anyone heading to school in the fall—are encouraged to bring their backpack, purse, or briefcase to be prayed over as you prepare to start the school year. Each backpack or bag will receive a tag with a phrase to remind you that you are loved by God and by your church family.

Our older students will receive special tags that include phone numbers of trusted (and background checked) adults who are committed to making themselves available in case of emergency. Students can call or text them at anytime—no questions asked. If you are an adult who feels called to be support for our students in this way, please reach out to Dana Schwendeman (youth@brecksvilleumc.com) to add your name to the list!



2019 Third Graders with their Bibles

Third Grade Bible Sunday

September 12 at the 10 o'clock service

Studying Scripture is one of the most important ways we learn about God. Brecksville United Methodist Church presents an inscribed Bible to each third grade student as a statement of their growing faith development and as recognition of their being old enough to dig into these stories on their own.

We will celebrate the tradition of presenting Bibles to our third grade students on **Sunday, September 12 at the 10:00 service**—followed by our big homecoming celebration!

It is our prayer that this Bible will help these children come to know and understand the remarkable nature of Jesus and help them deepen their relationship with God through Christ.

If your child or grandchild is in third grade and would like to receive his or her Bible, contact Jenny Gee at education@brecksvilleumc.com or 440.526.8938

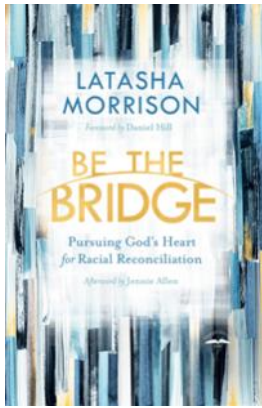
Fall Sunday Morning Planning

As the weeks of summer fly by we know it is time to begin to look ahead and get excited about spending time with our completely awesome kids in the fall. Begin to think about and pray over being a teacher for our little preschoolers, elementary aged kids or middle schoolers... it is rewarding beyond what you can imagine. If you are agreeable to teaching you will be placed on a team and you will have complete flexibility with your schedule.

Adult Education teachers needed too! Do you have a passion for an aspect of your faith? Perhaps how to live out your faith in your workplace and neighborhoods? Maybe a book of the Bible really speaks to you. Do you have a specific faith skill you'd like to guide others through? Journaling, prayer, meditation... Is there a particular book on a topic of faith or social justice that you would like to discuss with your faith friends? Would you be willing to step out of your comfort zone and try something brand new? Contact Jenny or Pastor Heidi (contact information is on page two!) We plan to have both in person and virtual adult Sunday morning classes, ***but we simply cannot without our community offering their skills, talents and passions.***

Spiritual Direction

The mission at Brecksville UMC is to create safe spaces to grow with God and one another. We are so excited to be able to offer individual or small group spiritual direction starting this fall. Are you looking to walk alongside someone as you explore your joys, questions and/ or concerns about your life with God? Consider spiritual direction as the next step in your faith journey. Jenny is graduating from a two-year certification program in Spiritual Direction in mid-August and she would love to meet with you. **What is Spiritual Direction, you ask?** A spiritual director is a trained listener who accompanies you on your spiritual journey, helping you to notice God's presence and activity along the way, as well as your personal reactions and responses. Spiritual direction is a ministry that helps you grow in prayer and live into your calling as a follower of Jesus. To learn more, reach out to Jenny at education@brecksvilleumc.com



We Can Be The Bridge

In defining anti-racism, author Jayson Reynolds says it best: It's "simply the muscle that says humans are human... I love you, because you are you...and you remind me more of myself than not."

As a congregation, we are on a journey of embracing, widening our circle, and finding how we respond to others with compassionate humanity. We can identify our common bond (all part of the human race and created in the image of God) and celebrate how we are created as unique individuals all at the same time! Approximately 25 of us have invested in the one or two book discussions around anti-racism. *Biased* (by Jennifer Eberhardt) taught us that we ALL have biases. That doesn't excuse us for making assumptions or snap judgments but does explain us. Once we know we are wired through our life experiences and perceptions, we have to make intentional efforts to slow down, think about what we are thinking and work to re-wire faulty connections that might lead us to treating others "less than" in any way. We all agreed at the end of the discussions, that we wanted to stay active in this process of being aware of our biases and confronting them. *Be the Bridge* can be the next step or the first step! Whether you have been involved in these conversations, read the book, have read other books related to these efforts, or are just curious, please come on August 22nd at 9:30 at the church. We can be a much better bridge when we join forces and support one another! Email or call the office, sign up on Sunday, or **register online here:** <https://forms.gle/p63X4LYgRYfPEFQU8>



VBS Recap — Vacation Bible School was held the week of July 5-9 at the Oak Grove Picnic Area in the Cleveland Metroparks' Brecksville Reservation. It was an incredible week of living, loving and growing together in our faith. Our focus all week was the Parable of the Sower. The 85 kids learned from our incredibly talented crew of 43 volunteers what the symbolism of the Four Soils were. Focusing on one story all week was at first challenging for us, as we tried to determine how to go about teaching it each day in fresh and engaging ways. But we realized in the end that it was a real gift to be allowed the time to focus on one story. By the end of the week the kids seemed to really understand the parable. As a matter of fact, at Sprouts that next Sunday, while we focused on the baptism of Jesus, one of our VBS attenders asked which soil I thought the religious elite (who were grumbling about John baptizing) were and a second child added that she could see how John's heart was like good soil after he agreed to baptize Jesus. We have the most awesome children in our church family!

AUGUST 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10 Worship Inside 10 Worship Online 6 Visioning Team Ecumenical Youth Group Event— Contact Dana!	2 Closer— Knight	3 10 Staff Meeting 7 Lectio Divina	4 6:45 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina	5 <i>SPR Forms Due in 2 weeks</i> THURSDAY is paper recycling pick up Day! Mowing— Lundholm 	6 7 Worship In the Woods	7 <i>Bread Ministry—</i> 10 Bike Fix It Day
8 <i>Baptisms of Samantha Bellone and Elizabeth Sparks</i> 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10 Worship Inside 10 Worship Online	9 Closer— Hudacek	10 10 Staff Meeting 7 Lectio Divina 7 Inclusion Task Force	11 6:45 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina	12 Mowing— Auble/Spencer 	13 2 Wedding Celebration in Fellowship Hall <i>Last day to order pies!</i>	14 <i>Bread Ministry—</i> Millers
15 <i>Blessing of the Backpacks</i> 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10 Worship Inside 10 Worship Online	16 Closer— Brown	17 10 Staff Meeting 7 Lectio Divina 7 Trustees	18 <i>First Day of School BBHCS</i> 6:45 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina 	19 <i>SPR Forms Due</i> 8:30 Faith Build Mowing— Brown/Sendrey 	20	21 <i>Bread Ministry—</i>
22 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 9:30 Summer Book Club—Lawn 10 Worship Inside 10 Worship Online	23 Closer— Lundholm	24 10 Staff Meeting 7 Lectio Divina 7 Finance	25 6:45 Breakfast 10 Lectio Divina	26 Mowing— Campbell/Bloch 	27 9:30 UMW Board Meeting	28 <i>Bread Ministry—</i>
29 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 9:30 Pie Pick Up in the Kitchen! 9:45 Vitalant Blood Drive 10 Worship Inside 10 Worship Online	30 Closer— Gambone	31 10 Staff Meeting 7 Lectio Divina	Save the Date! Fall Kick Off Celebration Sunday, September 12			

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday

9 am — 12 pm

440-526-8938

office@brecksvilleumc.com



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.

BECOME A GATEKEEPER!

LEARN 3 SIMPLE STEPS TO HELP SAVE A LIFE FROM SUICIDE

*LifeAct has proudly partnered with the QPR Institute to offer
FREE, virtual Gatekeeper Training.*



QUESTION. PERSUADE. REFER.

QPR Gatekeeper training is an emergency mental health intervention for people experiencing a mental health crisis. Just as people trained in CPR help to save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE, VIRTUAL TRAINING TODAY!

FREE ONLINE QPR Gatekeeper Training **Wednesday, September 8th from 7-8pm**

How to register: email scheduleprogram@lifeact.org with your name, email address and how you heard about us. If you are registering more than one person, please also include their full name and email address as well. We will send a confirmation of your registration and a reminder with the Zoom link the week before the training, as well as the day before!

REGISTER TODAY!

EMAIL: SCHEDULEPROGRAM@LIFEACT.ORG

QUESTIONS?

CALL LIFEACT AT 216.464.3471

QPR Gatekeeper training is offered to adults 18 years or older and is free of charge.
Training dates: Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10, Apr 14, and May 10





BRECKSVILLE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SINCE 1814

\$43,982. That's the amount of money it takes for this church to operate each month. That's the amount of money it takes to pay for utilities, care and maintenance of our beautiful church building; worship services; programming; salaries and more. Have we been hitting this target? No. In fact, in five out of six months this year, we have been significantly below our goal.

- January \$36,117
- February \$36,945
- March \$39,908
- April \$39,091
- May \$50,562
- June \$37,448

We are at a deficit of about \$23,000. If this trend continues, we will end the year \$82,000 in the hole.

But it's not all doom and gloom. We can reverse this trend!

Because of online and in-person options, our worship attendance has been averaging around 240 people every week. Those who have made a commitment to the church have been keeping up with their commitments—in fact, pledged giving is up. This year, 35 families have given to the church for the first time!

We have 57 families who gave in 2020, but have not yet been able to contribute to the budget in 2021. If you are one of these families, and you're able to do so, please consider making a gift today. Give by mail (at the address below), online (onrealm.org/BrecksvilleMethodist/Give) or by text (text **GiveBUMC** to **73256**) and say "Yes! I support the missions and ministries of this church!"

Do you know that it takes \$753 to produce *The Good Word* each month? That money helps us reach 663 subscribers—and many more online—with the good news and ministries of this church. If you find any joy or good news here, please consider offsetting the cost of *The Good Word* with a gift to the church.

And if you're inspired to do more, prayerfully consider making a financial commitment for the remainder of the year. You can set up your commitment online at www.brecksvilleumc.com/root/Giving/stewardship, call the church office, or pick up a commitment card at church! Gifts of any size will help us continue creating safe space to grow with God and one another.

If you would like to discuss giving, please reach out to us!

- Eric Louttit, Finance Committee Chair and Becky Paroda, Business Manager