

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
THE GOOD WORD

GET OFF YOUR DONKEY!

Help Somebody and Help Yourself

The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear.” A couple weeks before Christmas I learned just how true these words are.

On December 11th, two groups of carolers from Brecksville UMC went out to spread Christmas cheer. I expected the smiling faces of the church members who opened the door—they were happily surprised by this act of love. What I didn’t expect was the impact of our singing beyond those to whom it was aimed.

At one house, we shouted “Merry Christmas!” as we got done caroling and immediately heard, “Hey! Come over here!” We walked a couple of houses down, and then caroled to a woman’s elderly mom and aunt who both had mobility issues.

Then, we were caroling to one of our members who lived in an apartment building, and neighbors came out onto their balconies, saying, “We never get anything like this here! This is wonderful!” And as we walked back to our cars, another neighbor shouted “Do you want Christmas cookies?!” The answer was, of course, “Yes!” So we walked over and sang to a family who had multiple generations together to bake Christmas cookies.

I could see the pure joy on their faces, and how this simple act of singing showed them the love of Christ that the season is all about. As we sang to that family of strangers, I couldn’t help but laugh. While we intended to sing and bring cheer to our people, God used the opportunity to remind me that we are called to bring cheer to all people.

In January, we begin a 6-week series called “Get Off Your Donkey,”

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- Opportunities for **Lifelong Learning** on page three
- Ways you can **Branch Out in Service** on page six.
- Opportunities for **Joyful Gathering** in the January Calendar!



Connect with us!

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

Continued from front page

focusing on the parable of the Good Samaritan. This is one of Jesus' most well-known stories, and it has so much to teach us. So much so that we'll be using the book by Reggie McNeal to help us dig into this story both in worship and through discussions in Sunday School.

I'm both excited for this series, and a little bit nervous. Nervous because I know that if we actually listen to what Jesus is teaching in this story and allow it to impact us, it could be world-changing.

What would happen if, when we saw someone hurting, we—like the Samaritan—got off our donkey and did something about it rather than simply making a comment or thinking to ourselves, "Someone should do something."

In the weeks leading up to Christmas each year, I hear people (Christians) complain, "No one is focused on Jesus anymore—everyone is so stressed and doesn't remember the reason for the season. If they came to church they would hear the story, but no one comes to church anymore."

I hear the complaints, and I get it. I want people to focus on Jesus—to come hear the stories and remember that God's love came down to dwell with us at Christ's birth. That's the good stuff of Christmas!

And yet, if we just complain about it and don't turn that observation into action, we're just like the two people who walked on the other side of the road, not helping the person in need.

When we were caroling to those strangers, I realized, "Ohhhhh... this is doing something! This is reminding people—people who probably won't come to church—the reason for the season! This is what it is to be the church!"

This series, "Get Off Your Donkey" is going to call us out of our comfort, and—if we're willing—help us to live into God's mission of "love your neighbor" no matter where we find ourselves between Sundays, and no matter who our neighbor might be.

At the end of this series, on February 19th, we're going to put all we've been talking about into action and do something. That Sunday, rather than the way we typically worship, we will worship by packing 35,000 meals to go to people in need. We will "workshop" together.

As you read this, I hope you feel the nervous-excitement, too. This energy of the Holy Spirit that is just waiting to burst through us and into the world, so that the world may know of God's redeeming love...in incredible ways we haven't even imagined yet!

Take care,

Pastor Heidi

Rev. Heidi Welch, Senior Pastor



Get Off Your Donkey

Sundays at 9:30 am in the Chapel **Willing to lead a small group at a different time? Reach out to Jenny Gee! 440-526-8938 ext 230**

We know from Jesus' actions throughout his life that he had little patience with institutional religion that cared for its own needs while neglecting the plight of ordinary people. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus tells of a man who, unlike some religious folks, actually gets down off his donkey and helps a person in dire need.

Join your church community as we dig into an awesome book that allows us to take a hard look as to who we are as a church. Over 6 weeks, we will enjoy conversation and discussion, take on challenges, and plan for a fresh way to step into 2023. We will see that helping others actually helps the one doing the service just as much as the one being served. In fact, serving is the very best way to learn about yourself and grow spiritually. Get ready to get down and dirty, and live a life that makes a difference! Books available now in the church lobby, or order a copy from your favorite book seller.

Fourth Sunday Hymn Sing Returns!

January 22 at 11:30 am and fourth Sundays ahead

The first song in our United Methodist Hymnal is *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*. Add your voice to our rousing chorus—accompanied by our fabulous pipe organ. Join Sean Brown, Machala Comenschek, and Sue Ellenberger to sing your favorite hymns (and Christmas carols), and discover the stories behind the hymns.

Join us on the fourth Sunday of each month, starting 1/22, at 11:30 (after the second service). Can't join us in person in the sanctuary? We'll be streaming on our website at www.brecksvilleumc.com/streaming, Facebook & YouTube!

Let's Talk Podcasts

Sundays at 9:30 in Room 301



Do you enjoy listening to podcasts? Do you have a favorite? Are you looking for something to expand your thinking while you drive to or from work? Even if you aren't sure what a podcast is, but you enjoy talking with faith friends, this class is for you! Join Don and Cathy Krolkowski and Max

Gabor as they open up dialog connected to relevant podcasts that you listen to throughout the week. Pop into Room 301 at 9:30 on Sunday mornings to join the discussion!

Lectio Divina

Mondays at 10:30 am or Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Chapel

A slow, meditative reading and praying of a Scripture passage.
All are welcome. There is no homework. Drop in anytime!

Bible Study

...
Wednesdays at 7 pm
online with
Pastor Heidi

...
Dig into the
Gospel of John

All are welcome.
Drop in anytime!

Sign up at BUMCLinks.com
for updates

SPARK
ACTIVATE FAITH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

OPTIONS FOR PRE-SCHOOL
THROUGH 8TH GRADE

SUNDAY MORNINGS
AT 9:30 AM

EDUCATION@
BRECKSVILLEUMC.COM

What's all this "Disaffiliation" Stuff about?

As we hear about more churches choosing to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church, I wanted to take a moment and remind us of how we got here.

The United Methodist Church was founded in 1968, with the coming together of the Methodist Episcopal and the Evangelical United Brethren denominations. Then, in 1972, at the first General Conference of the newly formed United Methodist Church, the first discussions and disagreements about homosexuality and the Church were had.

Fast-forward to 2019, when a special session of General Conference (the top governing body of The UMC) was called to specifically address the church's ongoing disagreement over homosexuality.

The Council of Bishops recommended this special session in order that "the General Conference defer all votes on human sexuality and refer this entire subject to a special Commission, named by the Council of Bishops, to develop a complete examination and possible revision of every paragraph in our Book of Discipline regarding human sexuality." The goal was to keep our global denomination united and move beyond our impasse.

The special commission, called the Commission on a Way Forward, offered a report to the 2019 General Conference. Included in this report were three plans for the future of the church, on which GC 2019 were to vote. One plan allowed but did not require the ordination and marriage of LGBTQ+ United

Continues on page 8



What are your Youth Ministry Resolutions?

2022 was filled with so much growing, learning, and having fun in BUMC Youth Ministry. We plan to have all of that and more for the New Year. If one of your resolutions is to connect your youth to more BUMC events, here are some you can put on your calendar, right now!

- ▶ Youth Group - January 8
- ▶ Pearl Road Meal Help - January 22
- ▶ ReachOut Winter Retreat - February 3-5
- ▶ Middle School Mission Experience - early June
- ▶ ReachOut Camp - July 9 - 15
- ▶ Volunteering with VBS - July 17-22

Connect with our director of youth ministry, Dana, too make your youth ministry resolutions come true in 2023!

Dana Schwendeman, Director of Youth Ministry

E-mail youth@brecksvilleumc.com Voicemail 440-526-8938 x 237

www.instagram.com/bumcyouthmin



FINANCE UPDATE

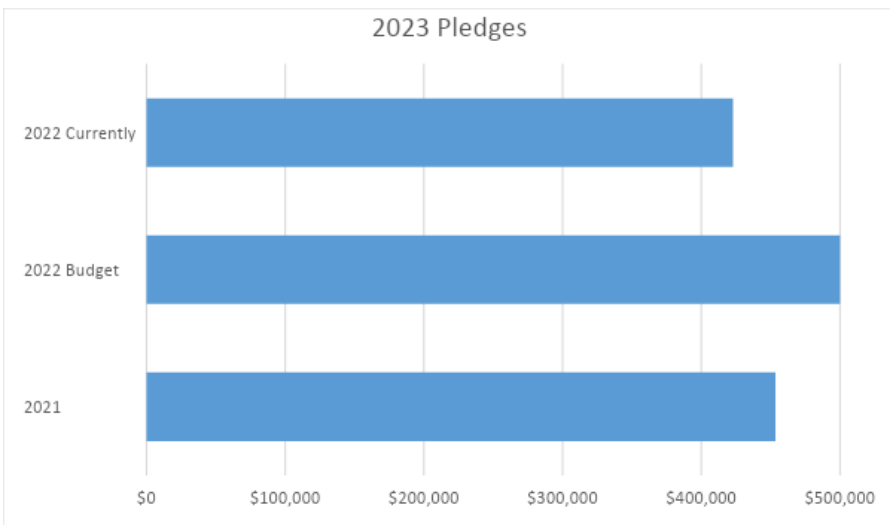
We are SO CLOSE to hitting our 2023 Stewardship Campaign goal. We have received 99 pledges for \$422,863 compared to 133 received last year for \$453,485. Even more extraordinary news is that 7 of these are NEW pledges! In addition, we received 46 pledges to the Planned Expense Fund (PEF) for \$37,045, which is a 30% increase over last year.

Our goal is to receive at least 39 more for an additional \$78,373. Haven't sent your pledge in yet? We are still accepting them!

- **Pick up a printed pledge card at church.**
- **Complete an offering pledge online:** <https://onrealm.org/BrecksvilleMethodist/AddPledge/offering2023>
- **Complete a PEF pledge online:** <https://onrealm.org/BrecksvilleMethodist/AddPledge/pef2023>

We are nearing the target for our 2022 goal! Over the course of this year, we received offering gifts from 20 new families, on top of the 28 new pledgers! With your continued commitment, it looks like we will finish within 2% of our 2022 planned budget. On behalf of the Finance Committee, I cannot thank you enough for your generosity.

Questions about yearend giving or pledging? Give me a call at the church office and let's chat (I love to talk about numbers)! I am in Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 1pm. - *Becky Paroda, Finance*



#BeUMC—Rick Krause

Branching out in service happens in some unexpected ways! With an “empty nest” after his daughter went off to college, Rick Krause went looking for some new experiences and connections.

He found connection attending Dawnbreakers Breakfasts on Wednesday mornings in Fellowship Hall. This friendly, casual group meets weekly for devotions and conversation—and great food prepared by chef Dave Smith!

Rick also found an opportunity to serve others through a Cuyahoga County volunteer income tax preparation program—Cuyahoga EITC Coalition—one of the largest anti-poverty initiatives in our county.

“Not that any of us like doing taxes, but I’ve always done my own taxes and I thought this is something I might be interested in.” Four years later, he’s still at it! The program helps those earning less than \$60,000 get the tax refunds they’re entitled to under the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit.

“You see people from all walks of life. Very young people, never having filed before. Single parents. Married couples with kids. Recent immigrants trying to figure out how this all works.” Some don’t have access to computers or the internet.

Rick volunteers once or twice a week at the Parma Library on Snow Road from January through mid-April and said that the training and resources provided are top notch. “I find that 9 out of 10 people are incredibly appreciative of the service and the fact that you’re willing to help.”

Sound like something you’d like to be part of? Visit <http://www.refundohio.org> or contact Rick Krause at dd_krause@yahoo.com.

SORRY
Offering Envelope delivery postponed!

Due to arrive the first week of January.

Want a set? Call Jaclyn!
☎ 440-526-8938

Give By Mail
Brecksville UMC
65 Public Square,
Brecksville, OH 44141

Text Giving
Give easily and securely from anywhere, anytime.
Text “GiveBUMC” and “Amount” to 73256 and follow the prompts.



DETERMINED SERVICE

Bike Ministry News

After a Fix-It day in November and another in December we had over 40 bikes that were refurbished, scrubbed up and transported out to Pearl Road United Methodist Church, the Nehemiah Mission and the City of Cleveland Heights in time for Christmas giving. And we had an unexpected gift to the church! An incredibly generous donor gave us her trailer to use for bike deliveries. We no longer need to rent a trailer monthly!

***Our next Fix-It is on Saturday,
January 21 from 9 to noon
in Fellowship Hall.***

Want to help get spokes to folks? All skill levels are welcome. Bring a friend!



Thank you to all of you who helped to create a blessed meal with the folks at Pearl Road UMC in November. We served just over 20 people and leftovers were shared at St. Herman House, a shelter providing shelter and support to homeless men in Cleveland. Thanks to all who brought pies, rolls, salad fixings, whipped cream, butter and milk. We had plenty of hands for preparing, serving and clean up. And we had a good time together catching up and being the hands feet and heart of Jesus together.

Our next time to serve is Sunday January 22 when we will provide the main meal—meatloaf, macaroni and cheese and green beans. The partnering church will be responsible for the desserts, salad, rolls and beverage. Will you be part of it? As we get closer to the date, we'll make plans about our meal, whether purchased, made in community or on our own. This is a great opportunity for families to serve. There is no age requirement, and older elementary kids on up are encouraged to be part of it. **Sign up at BUMCLinks.com**

We have much to be thankful for and much to hope for as we love, seek peace and live in joy. - *Peace, Rev. Kathy Dickriede* kdickriede@eocumc.com



Eagle Scout Craft Closet Revamp

Have you ever been upstairs to see the storage closet filled with crafts, stuff for science experiments, and much more? For the past few months, Eliza Botzman has been working on organizing this room. She is working on her Eagle Scout project for Boy Scouts and this is what she decided to do. From lots of planning to carrying out the project she spent about 50 hours total by herself. That doesn't include all the help she got from her family and fellow scouts. Some may ask why she picked to do this as her project. Growing up she saw her cousins and brothers being Boy Scouts and always wanted to be one, so when it was her turn and she worked her way up to this final project she knew she wanted to do something for her church. Eliza helps with Sunday school and Sprouts, so she visits the craft room and hunts for supplies. When she was in the room she knew she wanted to redo it so it would be easier to use for all. An unexpected bonus of her project is that she was able to donate a total of four trunk loads of supplies to a school in Cleveland for students in need. It was the perfect timing, right in time for Christmas, giving some of those students a boost of excitement with all the new craft supplies they are receiving. The craft storage room is completely cleaned out and redone in a way that everything will be easier for you to find! Please enjoy the new looks of the room and help keep the room clean! - *Submitted by Eliza Botzman*



Taking Down The Greens

Sunday 1/8 at 11:30

Stay after church for a time of joyful gathering!

2023 Guide Book—Coming Soon! Want a copy?

Our annual Guide Book & Directory contains good stuff: the various ministries, organizations, committees, activities, functions and events plus a complete directory of members & friends. This book is provided and direct-mailed to each family at no cost to our church, because it is subsidized by local businesses that advertise. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please call the Church Office. 440-526-8938.

To ensure that you get a copy, please make sure your contact information is complete! Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Have you added any family members? Do you want your record published? Email Jaclyn@brecksvilleumc.com or complete this form here or at BUMCLinks.com

Name (s) _____

Mailing Address _____

Primary Phone Number(s) _____

Would you like to receive occasional texts from the church? _____

Primary Email _____

My Subscriptions _____ Weekly E-News. (Publishes Thursdays at noon.)

_____ Monthly newsletter. _____ By mail _____ By email _____ Both Mail and Email

I no longer wish to receive communications from Brecksville UMC. Please remove me from your lists.

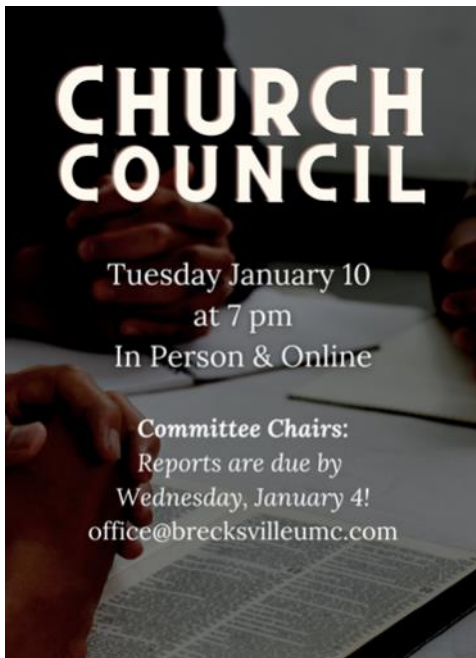
MFSA *The Methodist Federation for Social Action invites you to* **SEEKING PEACE with JUSTICE...** **In Our Time**



An enriching and challenging event for Lay and Clergy who seek to find ways to implement the totality of Jesus' message concerning injustice issues, with Keynote speaker, the Rev. Dr. Jack Sullivan, Jr., Executive Director of the Ohio Council of Churches. Breakout sessions addressing injustice issues include Racial Justice in Ohio: Led by Freedom BLOC, War In Our World: Ukraine & Palestine, and Danger of Christian Nationalism.

Register by Thursday, January 19, 2023. \$20.00 (Checks Payable to: East Ohio MFSA) Hospitality, Lunch and Materials Included. Scholarships are available to cover the registration fee if it might prevent you from coming!

Advance registration is needed but payment can be sent or made at the door. We confirm reservations if we have your Email address, otherwise, "see you at the door!" Register by contacting Tom Douce: doucethomas@yahoo.com, 330-936-9543 or 6648 Marelis Ave NE, Canton OH 44721-2469. Please include your name, phone, email address, mailing address, number in your party and any dietary restrictions or special needs.



Continued from Page Four

Methodists, one plan created three values-based conferences churches could join,

and one plan—the Traditional Plan—maintained the denomination’s ban on weddings and ordinations of LGBTQ+ individuals, and increased the penalties for clergy who violated those bans.

By a difference of only 54 votes, General Conference supported the Traditional Plan. “What resulted was a denomination with a broken heart—and United Methodists with heels dug in.”

The 2019 special session of General Conference also added a new paragraph to the Book of Discipline, allowing local churches to disaffiliate from The UMC and keep their church building. (Before the addition of this paragraph, leaving the denomination meant closing the local church, and church property going to the annual conference board of trustees.)

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A New Committee Year Begins

Each year, it takes many people to make things happen at Brecksville United Methodist Church. Our Nominations Committee meets each fall to prayerfully discern who to ask to lead our church. We do our best to match people’s gifts and passions with the needs of each committee, and try to ask a demographically diverse group of people that represent our church community well.

Welcome new committee members for 2023:

Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC): Kathy Louttit, Alan Scheufler, Beth Smith

Finance Committee: Bob Bloch, Shelly Meek, Leisa Scott

Trustees: Chuck Gezze

Mission & Community Engagement: Matt Botzman, Marla Knight, Sherri Petkovsek

Gifts & Memorials: Jeff Hastings

Fellowship Committee: Cathy Girard, Ann Zupanc

Nominating Committee: George Gee, Leslie Miller

Our committee year begins January 1. We try to get 2-3 people to join a committee each year, with most people serving for three years. As you can see, we have a couple of committees that need additional people to serve: Trustees and Gifts & Memorials. For both of these committees you need to be an official member of BUMC, due to the nature of their work. Trustees do the work of maintaining our physical church building and parsonage (where the pastor lives), and is the legal body of the church. Gifts & Memorials prayerfully discerns how to use funds that are given to our church by those who have given to the Gifts & Memorials Fund.

We also have other areas in which you can serve in a leadership capacity, such as: the Building Function Team, Inclusion Task Force, and Congregational Care Team. These groups are not filled by the Nominations Team—anyone can join anytime, if it peaks their interest! Please contact the church office to learn more!

I receive questions from those who are new to BUMC and those who have been around a while, asking what our committees do, who is on them, etc. So, this year we’re going to spotlight one committee each month. You can look forward to something here in the newsletter, as well as a video (and probably some other fun things!) to help share about each committee and the people who serve on them.

Please pray for the leaders of our church. They do so much “behind the scenes,” giving of their time and gifts, and I am so grateful for their servant leadership! - Rev. Heidi Welch, Senior Pastor

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



JANUARY

Care and Prayer!

A wonderful gift? A card or note letting someone know you said a prayer for them!

Week of January 1

Janet Biggs

119 Laurie Ln
Northfield, OH 44067-2758

Week of January 8

Tom & Nell Taylor

NEW ADDRESS!

803 West Ave Apt 6404
Elyria, OH 44035-5944

Week of January 15—

it's her birthday this week!

Lois Moston

8212 Wyatt Rd
Broadview Hts, OH 44147-1346

Week of January 22

Don & Beryl Burkle

3464 Logwood Trl
Richfield, OH 44286-9359

Week of January 29

Donna Eilbeck

Decatur House
PO Box 1070
Sandwich, MA 02563

Contact the office to nominate someone for next month's list!

3 Penny Lienert	14 Baby Barnum	22 Nate Bender
3 Michael Patrick	14 Steven Chen	22 Louis Samblanet
3 Michelle Shively	14 Maddy McBride	23 Kennedy Romance
3 Emily Vincent	15 Scott Ford	24 Bob Lundholm
4 Donna Sibits	15 Donna Houston	25 Colin Crouch
5 Wesley McDonough	15 Marianne Nolan	25 Katie Hurder
5 Kaya Roberts	15 Sam Papp	26 Sue Hastings
6 Nate Machesky	15 Adalaide Spitzer	26 Bill Long
6 Claudia Monnett	16 Lois Moston	27 Emerson Knight
7 Lucas Juniper	17 Aundrea Dumot	28 Kimmer Cave
7 Autumn Lasich	17 Eliot Slifcak	28 Donna Culley
9 Cole Mihalich	17 Kathryn Welch-Young	28 Jaclyn Torres
9 David Vastartis	18 Kim Johnson	29 David Gardner
9 James Vastartis	18 Ellen Martin	30 Jill Magistro
10 Nathan Hulten	18 Jennifer Schneider	30 Don Salsbury
11 Gerry McMaster	18 Jessica Zawada	31 Kathy Goebel
11 Marc Vincent	20 Kaitlyn Ellis	31 DJ Magee
12 Bob Carson	20 Brian Meek	
13 Jennifer Custer	21 Dan Auble	
13 Brock Raybuck	21 Pat Gordon	
13 Jim Smith	21 Benjamin Weber	



Each week at Staff Meeting we celebrate “God Moments” and lift up prayers of thanks to God for the way lives are touched when we reach out to one another in service. We’re thankful for people like Jessica Vastartis and Cara Samblanet, who breathed new life into our annual Hanging of the Greens event this year and Jane Petrie, whose generous

donation of live evergreen wreaths for the church doors is a gift to all. Connie Tezzi, a frequent bike fixer-upper, who saw a bike ministry need and filled it. Maggie Jones, who has been so generous with her time and help. Mary Kotnik, whose ability to get things done is a true gift. Thanks, Mary, for facilitating some much needed kitchen repairs! Julie Kubek, who’s joyful attitude was contagious, as she stepped in to help with photos and videos at our Christmas photo booth. To every member of our choir, whose beautiful Cantata was a special gift this Christmas season. To everyone who participated in making the Christmas Extravaganza a wonderful treat again this year. To the countless people who volunteered to help on Christmas Eve this year! These special worship services would not happen without you!

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The provisions of the new disaffiliation paragraph expire Dec. 31, 2023, which explains some of the current urgency for churches in this discernment process. There are more than 40,000 United Methodist churches worldwide, and currently, about 5% of churches have voted to disaffiliate since 2019.

It's important to note that local churches are not required to vote on affiliation or disaffiliation. No congregational action is necessary for United Methodist churches to remain part of The UMC. Brecksville United Methodist Church has not voted, and I can say with confidence that our theology fits firmly within the "big tent" of The United Methodist Church.

The next General Conference of The United Methodist Church will take place April 23-May 4, 2024, in Charlotte, North Carolina. At that General Conference, delegates will make decisions that will impact the future of The United Methodist Church. I am an alternate delegate to General Conference, and will be participating in the conversation, discernment, and voting.

I will do my very best to keep our church updated on any goings on in the greater United Methodist Church. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me! - *Take care,*
Pastor Heidi



United
Women
in Faith

faith

action

sisterhood

EVE CIRCLE

A weeknight group for women of faith!

Our next Eve Circle meeting has been changed **from January 11 to February 1 at 6:30 pm** in the church kitchen. We'll gather to bake cookies, so bring your cookie dough already mixed and ready to bake. We will be baking cookies to deliver to the USO Lounge at the airport, so we are asking anyone who would like to bake but can't attend the meeting to leave their baked cookies in the kitchen freezer. There will be a box labeled USO cookies in the freezer. Please place them in baggies - 6 cookies per bag. Also, they should be an easy cookie recipe to freeze.

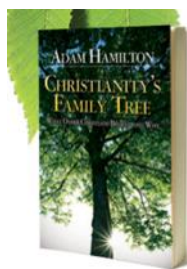
Questions? Contact Lynn Hobzek - kezboh@aol.com

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (formerly UMW)

No meeting in January so cuddle up and stay warm at home! Mark these dates down on your calendar, the first Thursday of each month:

- February 2: Suzanne Carle, Stepstone Academy
- March 2: Judy Kidder, President of UWF East Ohio Conference
- April 6: Sylvia Fowler, President of Brecksville Historical Association
- May 4: Peg Bobel, author and avid birder will talk about the Herons in Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Everyone gathers at 9:30 a.m. for refreshments with the program beginning at 10 a.m.



Asbury Bremeth Circle

A study group for women. Meets on the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 am. Next meeting January 12

Have you ever wondered about other Christian denominations and what the differences in beliefs are? That will be the focus of this year's Asbury Bremeth Study. All women are invited to join us for a study of Adam

Hamilton's *Christianity's Family Tree*. Invite a friend and join us on the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 in the Parlor.

Pastoral Emergency Line: 440-290-6671

A pastoral emergency is something that **just can't wait**: a loved one is in critical care, there's been a death in the family, a pastor is needed. Call the church at 440-526-8938. What do you do if it's after hours or the office is closed? **Call our new Pastoral Emergency Line: 440-290-6671** and leave a message. The "pastor on call" will get back to you as soon as possible.

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 <i>Happy New Year!</i></p> <p>10:30 One Worship Service today join us in person or online!</p>	<p>2 <i>Happy New Year! Church Offices Closed</i></p> <p>10:30 Lectio</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10 Staff Mtg 2:30 Comm at Chippewa Pl 7 Finance 7 Lectio</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30 Breakfast 7 Pastor's Online Bible Study—Gospel of John</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 FB Live 6:30 Choir 8 Band Practice</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 God In Nature</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:30 Joyful Gathering 10:30 Worship 11:30 FB Live 11:30 Taking Down the Greens 5 Youth Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:30 Lectio Divina 6 Cardio 7 Scouts</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10 Staff Mtg 7 Church Council 7 Lectio</p>	<p>11 <i>Human Trafficking Awareness Day</i></p> <p>6:30 Breakfast 7 Pastor's Online Bible Study</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30 FB Live 9:30 Christianity's Family Tree 6:30 Choir 8 Band Practice</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 God In Nature Church Wedding</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:30 Joyful Gathering 10:30 Worship 11:30 FB Live 5 Youth Group</p>	<p>16 <i>MLK Day Church Offices Closed</i></p> <p>10:30 Lectio Divina 6 Cardio 7 Scouts</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10 Staff Mtg 10 Stit'ch 'n' Time 7 Trustees 7 Lectio</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30 Breakfast 7 Pastor's Online Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>Newsletter Deadline Today!</i> 9:30 FB Live 6:30 Choir 8 Band Practice</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30 God In Nature</p>	<p>21</p> <p><i>Bike Fix It Day</i></p> 
<p>22</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:30 Joyful Gathering 10:30 Worship 11:30 FB Live 11:30 Get to Know Missions & Outreach 4 Pearl Rd Dinner 5 Youth Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:30 Lectio Divina 6 Cardio 7 Scouts</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10 Staff Mtg 7 Finance 7 Lectio</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:30 Breakfast 7 Pastor's Online Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30 FB Live 10 Newsletter Production Party 6:30 Choir 8 Band Practice</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 God In Nature <i>Last day to request a Guidebook Directory!</i></p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:30 Joyful Gathering 10:30 Worship 11:30 FB Live 11:30 Talk with the Team 5 Youth Group</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:30 Lectio Divina 6 Cardio 7 Scouts</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10 Staff Mtg 7 SPRC 7 Lectio</p>	<p>Thank you for your patience regarding PAPER RECYCLING. River Valley Paper Company is experiencing staffing issues, which has thrown their pick up schedule into chaos. <i>Remember, breaking all cardboard boxes down and flattening them allows more to fit in the bins!</i> Please do not leave paper outside the bins.</p>			



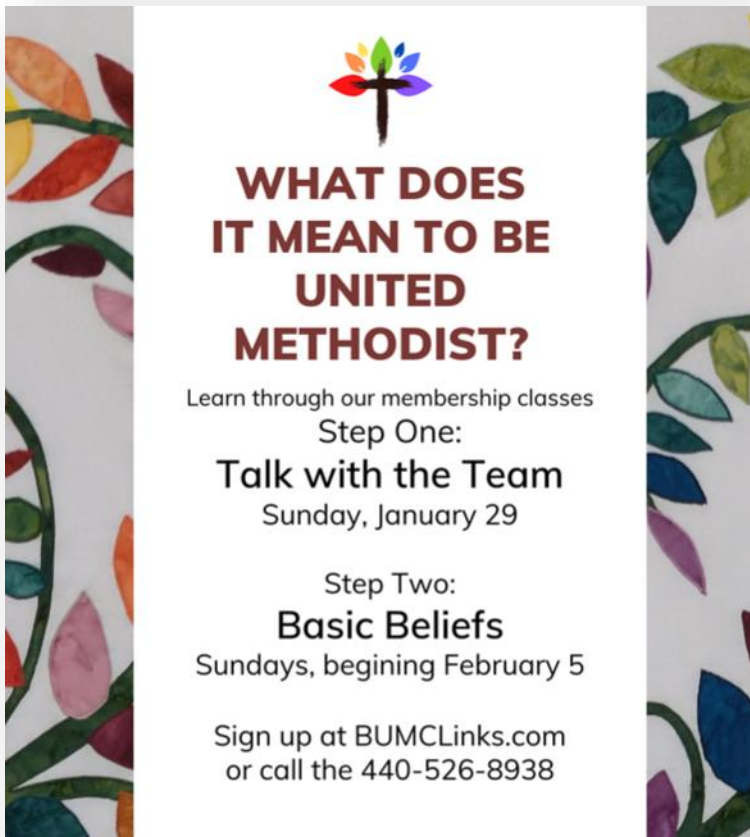
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**WHAT DOES
 IT MEAN TO BE
 UNITED
 METHODIST?**

Learn through our membership classes
 Step One:
Talk with the Team
 Sunday, January 29

Step Two:
Basic Beliefs
 Sundays, beginning February 5

Sign up at BUMCLinks.com
 or call the 440-526-8938



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.