



# The Good Word

*Open Doors.*

*Honest Worship. Determined Service.*

PUBLISHED JULY 25, 2014  
65 Public Square, Brecksville, OH  
440-526-8938  
www.brecksvilleumc.com

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# SAVE *the* DATE

SEPT **21** 2014

200 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN BRECKSVILLE

200 years ago in a small log cabin in Brecksville Lemuel and Delia Bourne invited their neighbors to gather together and worship. It was from those humble and faithful beginnings that the Bournes went on to become the founding members of Brecksville Methodist while some of the others in attendance went onto found the first Congregational Church (now the UCC). It is safe to say that people have been worshipping in Brecksville as long as people have been living in Brecksville.

Mark your calendars for September 21. We will enjoy a picnic potluck on the Square beginning at 11:00. The afternoon will hold opportunities to go on a variety of interpretive history walks, while we listen to music, play games and catch up with old friends. This event is open to the community, all you need to bring is a dish to share.

Watch for more details in next month's *Good Word*, in the Sunday Bulletin and The Sunday Blast.



*Students at J.F. Yancy Elementary & Junior High School*

This year our Vacation Bible School Mission is to help send a child to school in the Camphor Mission Station in Liberia, Africa. BUMC has a long history with the Camphor Mission and we have heard much about the school, the church and the health facility. As a church we recently reached our goal of collecting the funds needed to build teacher housing.

It costs \$500 for a child to attend the school, live in the dormitories and eat for an entire year. Eight out of 10 Liberians live on less than U.S. \$1.25 a day, putting the cost of school out of reach for most. Enrollment is made up predominantly of village children whose parents live on subsistence farming, growing only enough to feed their families but not growing enough to be sold commercially. **Over 90% of the school's funding comes from donations from Methodist churches.**

We have challenged our VBS kids to take on extra chores around the house to earn dollars towards sending a child to school. We know how fortunate we are here to have excellent schools that help paint a very bright future for our children. We are hoping that our VBS children will reach out and support the goal of sending a child they will never meet to school! Look for the poster in the Narthex next week to see if we were able to reach our goal!



Sunday Mornings  
*Through August 31*  
 8:30 Worship on the Lawn  
 10 Worship in the Sanctuary  
*Regular hours resume Sept. 7*

### Our Staff

Phone: 440-526-8938

Pastor:

Rev. Clark Stein  
 pastor@brecksvilleumc.com

Associate Pastor, Visitation:  
 Rev. Barbara Bartholomew  
 associatepastor@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Music & Worship:  
 Joy E. Parker  
 music@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Christian Education:  
 Jenny Gee  
 education@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Youth Ministry:  
 Courtney Drescher  
 youth@brecksvilleumc.com

Business Manager: Mike Memmer  
 finance@brecksvilleumc.com

Office Manager: Melanie Smith  
 office@brecksvilleumc.com

Administrative Assistant:  
 Cec Podolny  
 cecp@brecksvilleumc.com

Church School Registrar:  
 Joan Olszko

Facility Managers:  
 Jeff and Scott Hastings  
 facilities@brecksvilleumc.com

Organist: Chris Toth  
 tothchristopher@att.net

Published monthly by  
 Brecksville United Methodist Church  
 65 Public Square,  
 Brecksville, OH 44141  
*Article deadline: 3rd Friday monthly*  
 Editor, Melanie Smith  
 office@brecksvilleumc.com



Isaiah 11:6-9

The lion was proud of his mastery of the animal kingdom. One day he decided to make sure that all of the other animals knew that he was the king of the jungle. He was so confident that he bypassed the smaller animals and went straight to the bear. "Who is the king of the jungle?" the lion asked. The bear replied, "Why, you are, of course." The lion gave a mighty roar of approval.

Next he asked the tiger. "Who is the king of the jungle?" The tiger quickly responded, "Everyone knows that you are, O mighty lion."

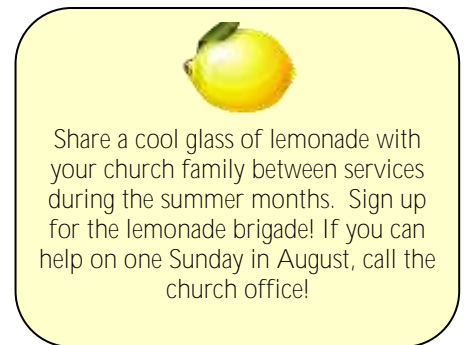
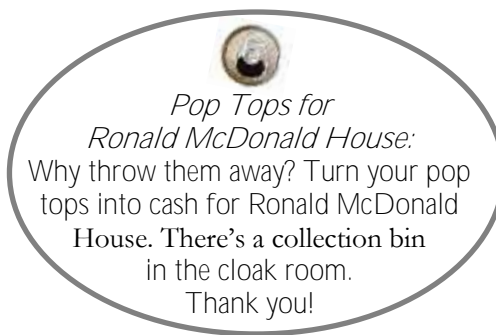
Next on the list was the elephant. The lion faced the elephant and addressed his question: "Who is the king of the jungle?" The elephant immediately grabbed the lion with his trunk, whirled him around in the air five or six times, and slammed him into a tree. Then he pounded him onto the ground several times, dunked him under water in a nearby lake, and finally threw him up on the shore.

The lion, beaten, bruised, and battered, struggled to his feet. He looked at the elephant through sad and bloody eyes and said, "Look, just because you don't know the answer is no reason for you to get mean about it!"

We read about a "Peaceable Kingdom" in Isaiah: a portrait of wildlife living together in peace and harmony, no war, no pounding, slamming, dunking, no fighting. It seems right, and we can sit back and think that's the way it should be. Creatures that at times can be at each other's throats figuring out another way to be together. "The whole-earth will be brimming with knowing God-Alive, a living knowledge of God ocean-deep, ocean-wide." (The Message) After spending some time apart, thinking on these things, I'm not ready to give this up. I hold that it is still possible for us to figure this out, God willing, God leading. I think it starts by simply being appreciative of who you are, where you are, who you are with, and being happy and content with all of it. Peace is not a destination. Peace is the way.

Pray for peace,

*Pastor Clark*



Share a cool glass of lemonade with your church family between services during the summer months. Sign up for the lemonade brigade! If you can help on one Sunday in August, call the church office!



# News from the Brecksville United Methodist Women

## UMW Bicentennial Cook Book

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

Here's a classic from the UMW's 1988 Cookbook for your summer get-togethers! (Recipe submitted by Pat Butler.)

### Best Broccoli Salad

4 cup fresh broccoli  
8 slices bacon, diced  
1/2 cup sweet onion, minced  
1/2 cup raisins

Dressing:  
1 cup mayonnaise  
1/4 cup cider vinegar  
2 Tablespoons sugar

Mix dressing ingredients and set aside. Divide broccoli into florets, add crispy bacon, minced onion and raisins. Mix lightly. Toss lightly with dressing and refrigerate overnight. Makes 6—8 servings.

## Submit Your Recipes



## FEED THE HUNGRY

Your generous donations to WSEM Food Center at Brookside directly impacts the lives of families and individuals experiencing poverty and crisis.

Help us fill the bins in the coat room in August!

Consider donating some of these nutritious foods:

- Shelf-stable milk
- Foods high in protein such as canned meats (i.e., tuna, chicken, salmon) and canned or dried beans
- Foods high in nutrients, such as canned fruits and vegetables (preferably with reduced sodium and reduced sugar)
- Whole-grain foods such as brown rice, whole grain cereal and whole-wheat pasta
- Soups, chilies and stews (preferably with reduced sodium and reduced fat)
- 100 percent fruit juice (canned, plastic or boxed)
- Unsaturated cooking oils
- And other nutritious, "healthy-choice" foods (preferably with reduced fat, sodium and sugar)

To ensure food safety, we cannot use:

- rusty or unlabeled cans
- perishable items
- homemade items
- noncommercial canned or packaged items
- open or used items

*Thank you for helping our neighbors in need!*



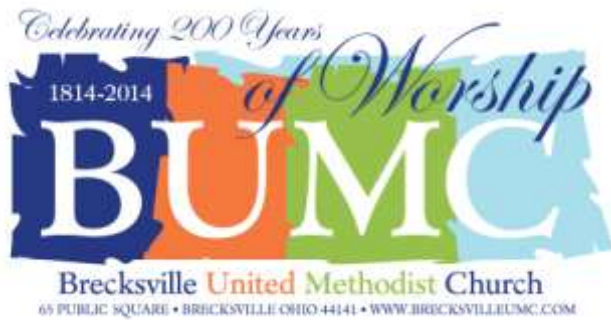
Have you found yourself wishing that you could be involved with the United Methodist Women, but your daytime schedule wouldn't allow it? **We've got good news** - a new evening circle has formed! Come to our next meeting, Wednesday, August 6 at 7 pm in the Parlor. Come join with other women of our church to learn and grow in our faith!

## UMW Clothing Drive

Start collecting your unwanted clothes, blankets, towels, shoes, and purses. We want to fill a truck with them on October 4 & 5! This collection is for anything that is cloth—even stained items. All donated items will be reused, resold, or recycled and proceeds will benefit both our UMW Missions Fund and Easter Seals. Start collecting now, and ask your friends if they have anything to donate. Collection bags are available now in the church Parlor. Help us fill the truck!



Thank you, one and all, for the many ways that you helped make **Grandma's Pie Booth** at Brecksville Home Days a great success again this year! Whether you baked, worked the booth, helped clean up or set up, or enjoyed our cooking, you helped raise about \$3,400 for the UMW mission fund, which supports programs and projects related to women, children and youth in our neighborhoods and around the world. Thank you!



# The History of Women in the Church

By Jenny Gee, Director of Christian Education

The history of women in the Methodist Church is intriguing. What may have seemed encouraging during the life of John Wesley took a detrimental turn after his death. Women who felt the call by God to preach were kept in **silence for many years. But let's start at the beginning.**

In 1761, John Wesley granted a License to Preach to Sarah Crosby, and he continued to license other women as preachers. One of the youngest ordained women, Mary Fletcher, began preaching at age 16! Remember, Methodism began not as a separate denomination but as an effort to re-invigorate Anglicanism. Wesley could develop informal structures of leadership more open to women than in other institutions in his day. Wesley expected all Methodists to attend regular Anglican Church services and receive the sacraments. He could therefore rely on non-ordained leaders to spread his movement. Because ordination was not an issue, more leadership roles were open to women.

John Wesley's views on women can be found in his 1786 sermon [On Visiting the Sick](#). In this sermon, he attacks the requirement of submissiveness that was often imposed on women of the time. (The sermon can be found on our church website.) Previous to this sermon, John Wesley **had also removed the word "obey" from the marriage rite** he sent to North America in 1784.

After John Wesley's death in 1791, several splits happened within the church. The Methodist Protestant Church split from the Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1828; and in 1844 the Methodist Episcopal Church South split, leaving a separate Methodist Episcopal Church of the north.

Wesley's death also marked a shift in the view on women in the church. Some denominations continued to officially sanction the status of women. In 1866 Helenor Alter Davidson was a circuit rider for the Methodist Protestant Church in Jasper County, IN. She later became the first ordained minister of any Methodist denomination. Starting at the end of the 19th century, the Methodist Protestant Church had not only begun to ordain women, but had also granted them full rights as clergy. This was not the case for all branches of Methodism. During the next decades, the Methodist Episcopal Church reversed many practices, and publicly emphasized the domestic role of women, refusing to acknowledge their more public role as church leaders and preachers.

In 1880, despite support from the Alumni of the Theologi-

cal School of Boston University, the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church refused to ordain female graduates. Anna Snowden Oliver and Anna Howard Shaw applied for their deacon's orders at the 1880 session of the New England Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. When their applications were denied, they approached Bishop Edward Andrews to ask about their next steps. He said there was nothing to do but to get out of the church.

Anna Howard Shaw chose to leave the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in October 1880, Shaw's name was presented for ordination at the New York Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church. She was approved for ordination in a special service - the day after the male candidates had been ordained. In 1885, Shaw resigned to devote herself to the struggle for women's suffrage and temperance.

Anna Oliver chose to remain in the Methodist Episcopal Church and appealed the conference decision to the General Conference. The 1880 General Conference participants not only denied Anna Oliver and all women their right to ordination, they also revoked the right even to hold a license to preach and declared that all local preacher's licenses issued to women since 1869 were to be rescinded. It was not until 1924 that the Methodist Episcopal Church granted women the right to be ordained as local deacons and elders.

In 1939, the Methodist Protestant Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church South merged. Although the women from the Methodist Episcopal Church South gained the right to ordination, the Methodist Protestant women gave up full clergy rights in the merger. The newly formed Methodist Church recognized the currently ordained women and accepted them into the conference yet offered few actual appointments.

One of the women affected by this merger was Lea Joyner. Looking to be appointed, Joyner was told by her conference in 1952 that **"no church will have you."** She was given a vacant lot and \$5,000 and told to start her own church in Monroe, Louisiana. When she died tragically in 1985, she held the distinction of having the longest pastorate in the Louisiana conference, and the largest Methodist church in the world pastored by a woman. The church she started in 1952 had over 2,200 members.

Today the United Methodist Church has 8,124 clergy-women serving in some capacity, according to a 2001 statistical report by the church's General Council on Finance and Administration. Of that number, 4,572 are elders in full connection. In contrast, the church has 28,101 male clergy in full connection.

# YOUTH FALL KICK OFF PICNIC

Sunday  
AUG 31 2-4 PM

AT THE DRESCHER'S. SAVE THE DATE FOR FUN!  
YOUTH@BRECKSVILLEUMC.COM ☎ 440.526.8938

## Pictures Needed!



Have you had your picture taken for the 200th Anniversary Edition of the BUMC Pictorial Directory? On Sunday, July 27 and Sunday, September 7, Don Krolkowski will be taking pictures between church services. He will also have his camera with him most Sundays and he is happy to take your picture anytime. If you'd prefer, e-mail or drop off a picture of your family taken this year! Contact [Melanie](#) in the church office with questions: 440.526.8938

### Open Table Service at Lakeside

On Wednesday, June 18, a whole bunch of BUMC'ers made the drive up to Lakeside, Ohio, where they participated in worship leadership for the Open Table Service at this year's East Ohio annual conference. It was a truly meaningful time of worship with an inspiring message by Bishop Joseph Sprague. A huge "thank you" goes out to Craig Kotnik, Bob Hudacek, Michael Lee, Matt & Kathy Auble, Michael Jaszczak, Amanda Auble, Jenna Schroedel, Aleyna, Bridget & Erin Gee, Megan Rohrer and Allison Loughner. Elizabeth Jaszczak, Jenny Gee and Pastor Clark also participated in the service through Scripture reading and prayer. It was an awesome time of worship and so exciting to see so many BUMC youth and adults involved! Thanks to everyone who made the drive out to join us in worship!

*Let all that*  
**YOU DO BE  
done in  
LOVE**

## Music Notes

### Bicentennial Choir

As part of the upcoming bicentennial celebration, BUMC is forming a festival choir! This special ensemble will lead worship for the bicentennial celebration on Sunday, September 21 and will be premiering an original hymn, written especially for this celebration! The chorus is open to all interested singers, including members of the community who wish to join us at this time of celebration. Please feel free to invite family, friends or community members who might be interested in participating. Rehearsals will be held on Thursday evenings, September 4, 11, and 18, from 7:00 to 9:00pm, in preparation for both worship services on Sunday, September 21. Contact Joy for more information or with any questions!



### Men's Ensemble in August

This fun and relaxed group is always eager to welcome new members. We'll practice on Thursdays, July 31 and August 7 at 7:00pm, to sing in worship on Sunday, August 10. Email Joy for more information or a complete rehearsal schedule.

You have one more opportunity to sing with the Summer Choir! This is a great chance for families to sing together without a big time commitment and is an opportunity for all ages! We gather in the Sanctuary at 9:20 on Sunday, August 17, for a brief rehearsal and share a simple piece of music with the congregation at 10:00 worship.



### YSP 2014 – "REPAIR: Be a Story of Transformation"

We've officially returned from Waterloo, Iowa, where we spent a week repairing homes and transforming lives on our annual Youth Service Project! From stopping in Chicago on our first day, to our final good-byes and long drive home, this week was filled with an incredible amount of fellowship and faith. Join us on August 10th for YSP Sunday, where you'll hear some of our favorite stories from the week and learn about the amazing repair and transformation witnessed and experienced by our youth!



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

Cliff and Karen Thielman will celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary on August 15. May God continue to confirm your covenant and fill you both with grace!

Alvin and Lois Hahn are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary and Al's 90th birthday, with an open house, Sunday, August 31 from 2 pm - 5 pm. If you would like to attend, please contact the church office for details!

## Thank you!

“Our four year old grandson, Elliot, was hospitalized in June with a ruptured appendix. Fortunately, he made a wonderful recovery. We want to thank those who prayed for him, his family, and for us. We are very grateful.” - Karl and Laurie Riccardi

“Thank you so much for your thoughtful visits, cards, phone calls, and prayers for my father, Philip Hines, during his recent surgery and hospital stays. It's comforting to have so many people reaching out and caring. My brother, sister, and I all appreciate the outreach of the people of the Brecksville Methodist Church.” - Nancy (Hines) Marsh

John	Dietrich	08/01	Lois	Markley	08/14
Daniel	Jaszczak	08/01	David	Meek	08/14
Sally	Jones	08/01	Barbara	Tereshko	08/14
Letitia	Kwiatkowski	08/01	Kathleen	Auble	08/15
Austin	Smith	08/01	Charles	Gezze	08/15
Susan	Hurst	08/02	Nickie	Myers	08/16
Katrina	Orr	08/02	Matthew	Johnson	08/17
Nicholas	Orr	08/02	Karin	Meyer	08/17
Kaitlyn	Robinson	08/02	George	Diver	08/18
Chris	Davis	08/03	Nancy	Lundholm	08/18
Bennett	Eberhardt	08/03	Sarah	Lundholm	08/18
Karen	Fisher	08/03	Robert	Tschannen	08/18
Jeffery	Hastings	08/03	Robin	Engler	08/19
Steven	Vastartis	08/03	Joan	Olszko	08/19
John	Zawada	08/03	Grant	Palmer	08/20
Catherine	Derry	08/04	Roger	Wadsworth	08/20
Kristi	Eberhardt	08/04	Robert	Wilson	08/20
Joan	Filips	08/04	Grace	Auble	08/21
Judith	Novak	08/04	Mark	Robinson	08/21
Karen	Walburn	08/05	Nathan	Robinson	08/21
Lilly	Jatsek	08/06	Rebecca	Urso	08/21
Franklin	Pasek	08/06	Jill	Zawada	08/21
Dean	Campbell	08/07	Patricia	Fowler	08/22
Joan	Martin	08/07	Fin	Lake	08/22
Mary Jane	Opatrny	08/07	Ann	Zupanc	08/22
Jeffrey	Mihalich	08/08	Chelsea	Croy	08/24
James	Rollins	08/08	Andrew	Dorman	08/24
Laina	Culley	08/09	Denise	BonTempo	08/25
Elizabeth	Monnin	08/09	Helen	Lee	08/26
Valorie	Bender	08/10	Christopher	Nurre	08/26
Allison	Engler	08/10	Bridget	Gee	08/27
Ryan	Shijo	08/10	Amelia	Guell	08/27
Beth	Dadas	08/11	Diane	Pidwell	08/27
Maddie	Holt	08/11	Bryn	Bisco	08/28
Heather	Manocchio	08/11	Janet	Nelson	08/28
Trey	Shively	08/12	Donald	Southam	08/28
Mark	Vastartis	08/12	Kristin	Bisco	08/29
John	Galik	08/13	James	Hocutt	08/29
Tanya	Palmer	08/13	Margaret	Haseley	08/30
Lue	Andree	08/14	Patricia	Neville	08/30
Aleyna	Gee	08/14	Andrew	Scott	08/31



As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly Staff Meetings, we recently lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others. People like Kendall Lancaster, whose gift for giving comfort to others has touched many; and Carl Rossborough, whose help and cheerful spirit on Sunday mornings is such a blessing to us all!

## Rev. Barbara Bartholomew, Associate Pastor of Visitation

We are pleased to welcome Rev. Barbara Bartholomew to our staff at Brecksville United Methodist Church as our new Associate Pastor of Visitation.



An ordained Presbyterian Pastor, she will be serving part time at a Lutheran church, and part time with us. Pastor Clark and your Staff Parish Relations Committee are excited to have her join us and look forward to sharing in ministry with her.

Pastor Barb clearly displays gifts for pastoral care and ministry. She has an undergraduate degree from Illinois College, majoring in Philosophy and Religion. She then went on to McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, where she received her MDIV Degree. We have found her to be open, gentle, kind, and compassionate. She is committed to Christ and to a life of serving God's people. We pray that you will extend a Brecksville UMC welcome to her, and embrace her gifts and graces for ministry as she shares them with us.

Pastor Barb can be reached at her cell phone 440-799-3126 or by e-mail at [associate-pastor@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:associate-pastor@brecksvilleumc.com). She plans to be in Brecksville most Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Please continue to hold Pastor Barb, Pastor Clark, and the entire staff and people of Brecksville UMC in your thoughts and prayers as we strive to care for each other in honorable and grace filled ways. WELCOME PASTOR BARB!



### In Memoriam –

Celebration of Life and Remembrances for  
The Reverend David Patton  
Saturday, September 6 at 1 pm

Rev. Patton served as Pastor here at Brecksville UMC from 1972 through 1984. Vernon Shepherd, pastor at Lakeside Ohio UMC, who served with Dave, is invited by Dorothy Patton and Pastor Clark Stein to conduct the services. Our words, songs, prayers and gathering in Christian community will recollect thoughts of a man in motion among us and will recognize the One who first and finally moves us - and will not let go of us.

## Healing Service: August 17, 6:30 pm



A healing service, led by Dr. Mary Jo Logee and a prayer team, will be held here on Sunday evening, August 17, 6:30 pm. Dr. Mary Jo Logee and her husband Owen live in Wooster, Ohio. Owen is a retired orthopedic surgeon and Jo is a physician in Sports Medicine. They are both team physicians for the area high schools and the College of Wooster. In 1999, Jo was diagnosed with

multiple sclerosis and experienced her own healing. The Lord has led her to open The Healing Rooms of Wooster, which is part of an international ministry of prayer and healing. Dr. Logee will guide us in a time of healing and renewal. Dress for this service is casual. All are welcome.



The Abbey of Genesee is a Roman Catholic community of monks living a life of solitude and silence, prayer and penance in a joyful spirit of faith. Come to the Abbey where you are encouraged to worship six times daily with the monks. When not in worship, you are open to pray, meditate, conference with a monk, hike, eat, and sleep.

You will live from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon in total silence. Daunting? It is in silence that we can hear the still, small voice of God. Talk to Craig Czarnota to learn more. The Abbey's website is [www.geneseeabbey.org](http://www.geneseeabbey.org).


The dates are November 7-9. Cost is \$65 per person per night, which includes your private room and all meals. We will car pool the 4 hour trip to the abbey, which is just south of Rochester, NY. To reserve your spot, please submit a \$50 deposit to the church (checks made payable to BUMC, "Abbey" in the memo line.) The trip will fill up fast!



The Men's Church Softball League games are Tuesdays at 6:15 pm (7/29 - 9/16 and then playoffs) at Longwood Park in Macedonia. Come cheer the team! For more information, contact Bob Lundholm 216-533-9794.

# AUGUST 2014

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH [www.brecksvilleumc.com](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 Chuck and Becky Gezze	 = Altar Flowers				1 7 Emmaus Reunion	2 8 Women's Small Group
3 Communion <b>8:30 Worship/Lawn</b> <b>10 Sanctuary Service</b> 3:30 Flute Rehearsal 	4	5 10 Staff Meeting 6:15 Softball 7 Evangelism	6 7 Evening Circle 	7  5 Men's Group 7 Men's Ensemble Lundholm & Herzing Mowing	8 7 Emmaus Reunion	9 8 Women's Small Group
10 YSP Sunday <b>8:30 Worship/Lawn</b> <b>10 Sanctuary Service</b> 6 Brecksville Concert on the Square 	11 7 Staff Parish Relations 8 Comission on Education	12 11 Staff Meeting 12 Staff Lunch 6:15 Softball 7 Gifts & Memorials 7 COM 8 Missions	13	14 5 Men's Group Parker & Johnson Mowing	15 7 Emmaus Reunion 	16 8 Women's Small Group
17 Summer Choir <b>8:30 Worship/Lawn</b> <b>10 Sanctuary Service</b> 6:30 Healing Worship Service 	18	19 10 Staff Meeting 10 Stitch'n'Time 6:15 Softball 7 Finance 7:30 Trustees	20	21  5 Men's Group Spencer & Gee Mowing	22 7 Emmaus Reunion	23 8 Women's Small Group
24 <b>8:30 Worship/Lawn</b> <b>10 Sanctuary Service</b> 	25	26 10 Staff Meeting 6:15 Softball	27	28 5 Men's Group Bloch & Campbell Mowing	29 7 Emmaus Reunion 9:30 UMW Board Meeting	30 8 Women's Small Group
31 Youth Picnic! <b>8:30 Worship/Lawn</b> <b>10 Sanctuary Service</b> 	1  Church Offices Closed	2 10 Staff Meeting 6 Softball 7 Evangelism	3 6:30 Dawnbreakers 7 Evening Circle	4  9:30 UMW 5 Men's Group 7:30 Chancel Choir Lundholm & Herzing Mowing	5 7 Emmaus Reunion	6 1 pm Rev. Dave Patton Memorial Service and Reception



When we join The United Methodist Church, we vow to support it with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. But sometimes, our good intentions get lost in the day-to-day hustle and bustle of life. As a church, how are we doing with our promises? Can you help fill in the blanks?

# PRAYERS

Consider adding the following to your prayer list...

- Peace in the world.
- The planning and beginnings of a successful Sunday School season.
- Our 200th Birthday Celebration.
- That our VBS kids will continue to grow in their faith development.
- That Rev. Bartholomew will be welcomed here warmly, and that her ministry will be comfort to many.

Do you know that Brecksville United Methodist Church has an active e-mail Prayer Chain? To be added to the e-mail list, or to submit a prayer request, please contact Elrowan33@aol.com.

# PRESENCE

Date	8:30	10:00	Goal of 300
June 29	89	91	-120
July 6	94	79	-127
July 13	59	88	-153
July 20	75	101	-124

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

# GIFTS

If you have made a pledge or a contribution, you will receive a giving statement (either electronically or on the other side of this page with your mailed Good Word) which outlines your gifts to date this year. If you need additional information, or if you have not received your statement, please contact the church office.

Date	Offering
June 29	\$7,387.00
July 6	\$5,089.00
July 13	\$7,247.00
July 20	\$5,525.00

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

# SERVICE

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

- Donate to our food drive! Help us fill the bin for the West Side Ecumenical Ministries Food Pantry at Brookside.
- Volunteer with the BUMC Team at the Cleveland Food Bank. Help is needed September 27 and November 11.
- Become a part of a church committee. Contact Pastor Clark to let him know about your interests!
- Get involved in the church's 200th birthday celebration. Contact Jenny Gee to learn how you can help.
- Keep collecting clothes for the UMW's clothing drive!

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

*Have you been missing church on Sunday mornings? Consider getting back into the habit of church this fall!*

# United Methodist News

## *UMW Event Urges Awareness of Disabilities*

LAKELAND, Florida – In many cases, churchgoers and ministry leaders alike can help people with disabilities fully enjoy worship with some simple thoughtfulness, workshop attendees were told Friday during a “Mission u” event at Florida Southern College.

For example, asking a person who can’t walk or see whether help is needed before touching or pushing is a common courtesy and respects the person’s space. Churches can also use technological advances, along with time-tested methods like American Sign Language, to make church services accessible to those don’t hear or see well, said Mary Harris, who leads a ministry for the deaf at Conway UMC, Orlando.

Including people with disabilities was a major focus of this year’s Mission u, a four-day event featuring education and fellowship that began Thursday, July 10. The event is offered annually by Florida’s United Methodist Women. This year’s theme was “Learning Together for the Transformation of the World.”

Ministry leaders who work with people with autism and developmental disabilities also had parts in the program.

In addition to disability awareness, classes focused on the Roma of Europe, commonly known as gypsies, and spiritual growth, with the topic “How Is It with Your Soul?”

In Harris’ session, about 30 attendees learned that even within a particular disability category, there can be considerable differences that lead to different needs and approaches.

Among people who don’t hear well, Harris said,

there are those who have been deaf from birth and others who suffer hearing loss over time.

People with a lifelong hearing loss are more likely to know sign language, while others may feel daunted at trying to learn those hand signals and gestures late in life.

Patience and sensitivity – slowing down with sign language or not hurrying someone in a wheelchair – can go a long way in helping people with disabilities feel independent and involved in church activities, listeners were told. They were also reminded that not all disabilities are visible or readily apparent. Using appropriate technology also can help make church activities more accessible. For people with profound hearing loss, for example, recent advances have opened up a world of communication, Harris said.

“Now they are Skyping each other,” she said. “Their technology ... has taken a lot of isolating barriers away [to allow] them to share together.”

People who don’t know sign language should feel free to convey simple ideas, including a welcoming attitude, through body language and facial expression, Harris said. “Really and truly, a lot of sign language is very visual,” she said.

Church leaders also were encouraged to complete an accessibility assessment to determine where improvements can be made in welcoming people with all levels of ability. The United Methodist Church has developed an audit checklist and encourages congregations to invite people with disabilities to be involved in the assessment. To access audit forms and information: <http://www.gcfa.org/forms>

For a United Methodist perspective on accessibility, including a resolution adopted at the 2004 General Conference: <http://www.umdisabilityministries.org/download/audit1.pdf>

**-- Susan Green is the managing editor of Florida Conference Connection.**



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



[twitter.com/BrecksvilleUMC](https://twitter.com/BrecksvilleUMC)



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