

The Good Word

A newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church. December Issue. Published November 27, 2019



OPEN DOORS. HONEST WORSHIP. DETERMINED SERVICE.

Making disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world

65 PUBLIC SQUARE, BRECKSVILLE, OHIO 44141



You're invited! CHRISTMAS EVE

3 pm - A Quiet Christmas

This meditative celebration of Christmas will be attentive to the needs of people in need of a sacred space, for reflection, healing & hope this Christmas.

5 pm - Family Service

The Christmas Story comes to life, as our players re-enact Mary and Joseph's arrival in Bethlehem. This service is geared towards children and families to help remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas. The service closes with the singing of Silent Night as we pass candlelight (glow sticks are provided, too!)

8 pm - Service of Carols and Candles

Rejoice, for God is with us! In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light. Join us for Silent Night, Joy to the World and the lighting of Candles.

10 pm - Carols, Candles & Communion

Now there is reason to hope, to love, to laugh, to live. God is truly with us. We are not alone!

Childcare will be available at all services.



Sunday Mornings are Special Here!
8:45 Worship with Live Band
11:15 Worship w/ Traditional Hymns
10:00 Classes for All Ages

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

FROM THE PASTOR

Three years ago, on the day before Christmas Eve, Rus and I stared at each other: we had no idea what to have for Christmas Eve supper. I had to be at 5 pm and 8 pm services, so whatever we ate needed to be quick and ready to go as soon as I got home. We asked Joseph for ideas, and he said, "Let's have tacos!" "Tacos?" I replied, "On Christmas Eve?" "Yeah! Christmas tacos!" We laughed at the silliness, and a Christmas tradition was born. We even came up with a little jingle for our Christmas tacos—ask Joseph and he'll sing it for you!

Our family traditions might involve the food we eat, the trees we put up, or the elves that sit on shelves. And while Jesus will always be the reason for the season, traditions are often what make it "feel" like the holidays; they connect family members and create memories. Sometimes, though, due to circumstances or life changes, these traditions change or are set aside. In the same way, new traditions can be added and soon we can't remember what we did before. (What did we eat before Christmas tacos??)

This year, we're changing up Christmas tacos a bit. Instead of going home to eat between services, we're going to have our tacos at church—and everyone's invited! If you find yourself wondering what to eat on Christmas Eve or wanting to start a new tradition, join us in the Fellowship Hall after the 5 pm service. It'll be relaxed, low-key, and simply a time to eat and celebrate together as a church family. When I asked Rus about this idea, he said, "Of course! You know I love cooking for people. Whether we're making tacos for 4 or 40—it's the same to me!"

Rus and I have that in common—many of our favorite memories are sitting around a table, eating good food, laughing and sharing with friends and family. The best times are when people just keep coming and we have to add more chairs and more plates, everyone moving over a bit to make space for the newcomer. (What a great image for the church!) At any Welch holiday meal with Rus' parents or grandparents, there's always "extras"—people who aren't related, but who feel like family and somehow make their way to the table. So 2019 is a year to combine this Welch tradition with our Christmas tacos. Make

your way to the family table on Christmas Eve—we'll set a place just for you!

Pastor Heidi

Rev. Heidi Welch, Senior Pastor



TACOS!



Christmas Parade

December 1

You're Invited to the Annual Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting complete with Fireworks and the Bee's Brass Ensemble on the square Sunday, December 1 at 4 pm. After the fireworks, the community will gather in our Fellowship Hall for cookies, hot chocolate and music from the Brecksville Community Chorus. Hope to see you there!

Photo by Bill Rittman, 2018

Christmas Extravaganza

December 22 at 10 am

Kids in preschool through seventh grade, bring mom and dad along and have some Christmas fun in the Fellowship Hall. Decorate cookies, make crafts, play games and celebrate the season. High schoolers and college kids—want to help run the activity tables? Come enjoy a wonderful family day to stop the rushing and have a great time together.



Fun with popsicle sticks at last year's event!

Advent Labyrinth

Make a plan to slow it down and spend time with Jesus this season. The Fellowship Hall Labyrinth will be set up from Monday, December 23 through Sunday, December 29. Meditate, pray or just enjoy a moment of sacred peace. If they help you to center your thoughts, devotional books and prayer books will be available on the sign in table. Call the office if you have questions.

Christmas Offering

This year our Christmas offering will be shared with two organizations, one international and one domestic, each fighting against human trafficking. The International Justice Mission assists men, women and children who are victims of violence, forced labor, or sex trafficking. The organization works to protect people from violence by rescuing victims, bringing the criminals to justice, restoring survivors to safety and strength, and helping local law enforcement build a safe future that lasts. The Polaris Project, named for the North Star that guided many escaped slaves to freedom, operates the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline, conducts trainings and provides vital services to victims of trafficking. Polaris Project works to create long-term solutions that move our society closer to a world without slavery.

If you would like to support these ministries, please designate your gift "Christmas Offering". Special Christmas Offering envelopes will be included in bulletins, or choose the Christmas Offering fund code with your electronic gift.

Volunteer at the Food Bank

December 21



Be a part of our church volunteer team at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank on Saturday, December 21. Together, we'll help feed our hungry brothers and sisters! Sign up in the lobby, or call the office. All volunteers must also register online— we'll walk you through it!

Christmas Carol Sunday— Fifth Sunday Music

December 29—One Service at 10 o'clock!

Our guest musician is Machala Comenschek, a double major in Music Education and Vocal Performance at Cleveland State University. A section leader at Solon Community Church, Machala previously worked at The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Cleveland. She has performed as a soloist and choir member with various community choirs in our area. Machala is very excited to partake in a new experience making music at Brecksville United Methodist Church.

Let's go Caroling!

Wednesday, December 18

5 pm—Meet
in Fellowship Hall





At the time of this printing, 95 commitment cards have been returned to the church. If you were one of the people making this commitment, thank you!

By completing and returning a card, you are expressing your intent and affirming your desire to honor God in 2020. Returning a card makes it possible for our church to plan and implement important ministries. Knowing your plans allows wise management of resources throughout the year. *All* the ministries implemented at our church are dependent on the generosity and participation of God's people—people like you!

If you haven't taken this step yet, please pick up a card at church (or on our website www.brecksvilleumc.com) and return it as soon as you can.

Habitat Home Dedications!



The houses we worked on and supported this summer are becoming homes!

Saturday, December 21 at 11 am
St. Rocco's Gym

3205 Fulton Road, Cleveland
Open Houses 11:45 –12:45 pm

Feed those Feathered Friends

We have our first snow storm under our belt and are looking ahead to a few more months of cold and blustery weather. If you don't already feed the birds, consider taking up this fun and satisfying hobby this winter.

If you have the space to put up just one feeder, consider a tube feeder that you can fill with black oil or safflower seed. The black oil seeds are super high in nutrition compared to the striped seeds and there is minimal waste. You likely will see nuthatches, chickadees, titmice, juncos and chipping sparrows enjoying sunflower seed.

Safflower seed is a great option because the birds love it but the squirrels don't care for it as much! I fill my "squirrel proof" tube feeder with black oil sunflower seeds and place a platform feeder filled with safflower seed right on my deck railing. The larger birds (mourning doves, cardinals and blue jays) congregate here.

Nyjer or thistle seed attracts finches, but they will also enjoy both the sunflower and safflower seeds as well.

A suet feeder is also a great purchase. Mine has a cedar fin at the bottom that helps the larger woodpeckers rest their tail while they munch away on all that energy filled fat mixed with dried fruits, nuts and seeds. The woodpeckers and blue jays also love the small amount of peanuts that I sprinkle on the deck railing each morning.

My favorite feeder is my enclosed dried mealworm feeder. I have been working to train my beautiful backyard bluebirds to be brave enough to venture inside the cage. It has taken two full years of sprinkling them on the outside of the feeder to get them to know that all that deliciousness is inside the cage. This year I decided that if they weren't going to go in they weren't going to get fed. (I probably would have relented eventually as I love to see them.) It worked! The other day I had four bluebirds in the feeder at once! I also get nuthatches, chickadees and titmice inside the feeder, but the grackles don't fit!

My deck also has a heated bird bath which offers both beverage service and a place to wash those feathers before a meal. — *Jenny Gee, Dir. of Christian Ed*

A Healthy Bird is a Happy Bird

Keep these tips in mind if you want to feed the birds this winter:

- Give your feeder a good cleaning occasionally throughout the winter and even more often if you continue to feed in the summer.
- Do not feed birds bread, crackers, cereal or any other processed treats. Foods like this fill their bellies with lots of mass but little nutrition. Birds have a difficult time processing salt out of their systems too, so salted seeds and nuts are a big no-no. If you make popcorn garland, enjoy it on your tree or mantle, but don't hang it outdoors.

At this year's Hanging of the Greens we will set up a little homemade bird feeding station. The edible decorations we make will be hung on our small evergreen on the east side of the church building.



Loving God and Loving Others in This Time & Place

Last June I was elected as an alternate delegate to Jurisdictional Conference. I'm sure many of you know about General Conference, but may not be familiar with Jurisdictional Conference. So, here it goes...

The United Methodist Church's governing structure gathers local churches into Districts, Districts into Annual Conferences, and Annual Conferences into Jurisdictional Conferences (see map below). Jurisdictional Conferences are within the United States, and outside the US they're called Central Conferences. General Conference is where all Jurisdictional Conferences and Central Conferences gather together every four years to discuss issues related to the worldwide church. After General Conference meets, each Jurisdiction meets to discuss issues related to that area; this is primarily the electing and placing of Bishops, and discerning how decisions made at General Conference will impact the Jurisdiction.

(Well. Wasn't that fun?)

As a Jurisdictional delegate, I gathered with other delegates from our Jurisdiction in Chicago Nov. 8 & 9 for training and discussion over what's "coming down the pike" at General Conference 2020 (GC2020). We

discussed budgets, number of bishops, and apportionments.

We also learned about the many plans and petitions being put forth for GC2020 that could impact the structure of The UMC and what we claim to believe as a denomination. Some plans and petitions call for a dissolving of the current structure and creation of several new Churches based on theological beliefs. Other plans keep the current structure while giving churches who disagree with theological statements of the Church an option to "bow out" and create new denominations.* And still other plans have nothing to do with theology and are only concerned with restructuring in order to make better sense in our current global context.

Discussions of division or dissolving the Church have been happening for decades. Although it seems to be stemming from the concern over the Church's response to human sexuality, it is much more than that—it is about how we understand biblical interpretation, how we feel called to live out the Good News of Jesus Christ, and whether we can continue to be united despite our differences.

This all might sound a little overwhelming, but don't worry—in the New Year we will provide several opportunities to learn and discuss these possibilities together. We will also focus on naming a clear vision for Brecksville UMC, which will help us remain true to God's calling in the months and years to come. Know this: no matter what happens in the greater Church, what we do at Brecksville UMC will not change. We will continue to live out our mission of loving God and loving others in this time and in this place.

I'm trying my best to remain aware of what is going on in the greater Church while remaining focused on our local ministry. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. We're in this together!

A statement from the Jurisdiction meeting is including on the next page.

- Pastor Heidi



Brecksville United Methodist Church is in the North Coast District of the East Ohio Conference, which is part of the North Central Jurisdiction.

Want to learn more?

- Take part in our Basic Beliefs Class, where we'll learn about the structure of the United Methodist Church and what we Methodists believe.
- Save the dates: Sundays January 12, 19 and 26

*[Note, "churches" refers to local churches, and "Churches" refers to the greater Church/denomination.]



WE PRESS ON

2020 North Central Jurisdictional Conference
of The United Methodist Church



Gathering on November 8 and 9, 2019, in a crucial moment in the life of The United Methodist Church, we, 140 members present and voting from the North Central Jurisdiction's Annual Conference delegations and the North Central Jurisdiction's Mission Council, through honest, prayerful dialogue, discerned the following:

- We as NCJ delegations acknowledge and apologize for the harm that is being done and the escalation of potential harm that will begin January 1, 2020. We repent of the ways we have abused our privilege and the ways that it has harmed the marginalized.
- We witness the Holy Spirit moving in our midst. We witness God's seeking, saving, healing and liberating grace at work in our communities. We renew our commitment to follow the Spirit's leading and joining in God's gracious work.
- We believe that God is not finished with the people called United Methodist. We renew our commitment to lead our conferences, congregations and ministry settings in "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" in just, compassionate, creative, equitable and innovative ways.
- We call NCJ laity, clergy, Annual Conferences and bishops to covenant to a moratorium on complaints, charges and trials related to officiating same gendered weddings and LGBTQIA+ identity and credentialing.
- We call laity, clergy, Annual Conferences, Boards of Ordained Ministry and bishops to covenant for greater freedom and diversity for ministry with LGBTQIA+ people.
- We will hold accountable and support laity, clergy, Annual Conferences and bishops in these commitments and calls.
- When we gather for the 2020 NCJ Conference, we desire to elect bishops who will join us in these commitments and calls.

ADOPTED November 9, 2019

80% support, 18% does not support, 2% abstain

ADVENT LOVE FEAST

It's a new experience—dinner is worship! Come connect with God and one another.

Wednesday, December 4 at 6 pm

This year our Advent service will be a bit different—we'll be joining together in a Love Feast! A Love Feast (or Agape Meal) is a meal focused on Christian fellowship, recalling the meals Jesus shared with the disciples and expressing the koinonia (community, sharing, fellowship) of the family of Christ. The Love Feast has been woven throughout the Christian and Methodist history, and will be a great way to connect with God and one another as we begin to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ. We will sit around tables in the Fellowship Hall and share food, prayer, song, and conversation around various topics.

What's a Love Feast? The modern history of the Love Feast began when Count Zinzendorf and the Moravians in Germany introduced a service of sharing food, prayer, religious conversation, and hymns in 1727. John Wesley first experienced it among the Moravians in Savannah, Georgia, ten years later. His diary notes: "After evening prayers, we joined with the Germans in one of their love-feasts. It was begun and ended with thanksgiving and prayer, and celebrated in so decent and solemn a manner as a Christian of the apostolic age would have allowed to be worthy of Christ."

It quickly became a feature of the Evangelical Revival and a regular part of Methodist society meetings in Great Britain and throughout the English-speaking world. As Methodists immigrated to North America they made Love Feasts an important part of early American Methodism.

While Love Feasts became less frequent in the years that followed, they continued to be held in some places; and in recent years the Love Feast has been revived.

Congregational participation and leadership are usually extensive and important, especially involving children.

Testimonies and praise are the focal point in most Love Feasts. Testimonies may include personal witness to God's grace or accounts of what God has been

doing in the lives of others. Praise may take the form of hymns, songs, choruses, or spoken exclamations and may vary from the relative formality of an opening and closing hymn to spontaneous calling out of requests and singing as the Spirit moves. Sometimes the leader guides those present alternating spontaneous singing and sharing in free and familiar conversation for as long as the Spirit moves. Wesley counseled that all the above be done decently and in order.

Prayer is vital to a Love Feast. A fixed form of prayer may be used, especially something like the *Lord's Prayer* or *Be present at our table, Lord, that is familiar to the people. Spontaneous prayer requests and prayers may come from the people.*

Scripture is also important. There may be scripture readings, or persons may quote Scripture spontaneously as the Spirit moves. There may be a sermon, an exhortation, or an address; but it should be informal and consist of the leader's adding personal witness to what spontaneously comes from the congregation.

The Love Feast may also be followed by a full meal, in which case persons or families may bring dishes of food for all to share. During the meal there may be informal conversation in Christian fellowship, or the leader may direct the conversation by suggesting matters of mutual concern, or there may be spontaneous witnessing and praise. If there is food left over, it may be taken as an expression of love to persons not present. - *Pastor Heidi*

Seasons Greetings

from BUMC Youth Ministry

During the month of December we know that our students are busy with finishing up the school semester, spending time with their families, and, hopefully, getting some well deserved rest. With that in mind, we will not be meeting for youth group in December but, we will be having some fun and festive opportunities for students to celebrate the season together. We pray for you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you in 2020!

Annual Youth Ugly Christmas Sweater Party & Dinner

December 15 from 5 to 7 pm

Hey middle & high school students, it's that time again! Don your ugliest sweater and come hang out with us for a night of fun, food, and festivities. What will this year's party have? Win a year of FREE FROSTYS at bingo! Try your hand at our Christmas *Minute to Win It* Extravaganza! Decorate cookies and watch a classic Christmas movie on the big screen in Fellowship Hall! Plus, a special thank you to The Louttit Family for sponsoring our dinner this month. Don't miss out on any of this fun, RSVP to Dana by December 11!

Christmas Caroling

December 18 at 5 pm

A wise elf once said, "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!" and we agree. That's why we are going as a church family to carol all around our community. Do you know someone who needs a bit of cheer this holiday season? Maybe your favorite teacher, coach, or a friend? Let us know and we will add them to the location list. RSVP to Dana or Malik and join us for a fun night!

All Youth Dinner on January 5

Save the Date! Let's celebrate the start of 2020 together!



START YOUR STORY ON
December 8th 12:30pm

YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT INTEREST MEETING

Open to students in 9th grade- College and Adults



The Peace Light from Bethlehem

Each year, a child from Upper Austria fetches the peace light from the grotto in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. The light is carried in two blast proof miners lamps on an Austrian Airlines jet from Tel Aviv Israel to Vienna Austria where it is distributed at a Service of Dedication to delegations from across the globe who take it back, with a message of Peace, to their home countries. Rev. Ash Welch explains the history of the Peace Light below.

In 1986, there was turmoil in Austria. A group of Scouts (“Pfadfinder”) petitioned the Austrian broadcasting service, O.R.F. (Linz) to mount a campaign for peace. A child from a poor family in Upper Austria (the hill country) was chosen for a pilgrimage. It was a child who showed compassion and a community spirit; along with his family, accompanied by a mayor, city officials and others from Linz flew via Austrian Airlines to Tel Aviv; from there they traveled to Jerusalem to view Christian historic sites. Their journey took them to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. There, the child lit two miners lamps (designed to operate in a flammable atmosphere) from the Grotto of the Nativity. The eternal flame in the Grotto has been burning continuously about 1000 years through war, famine, fire. When one flame has gone out, it’s been re-lit from another. The pilgrims returned to Linz, where they were met by Boy Scouts and Girl Guides from 22 nations. The Peace Light was shared throughout Europe that year, and it has spread to more communities each year since.

Fast-forward to September 11, 2001. Our nation experienced the worst turmoil in decades. Following the tragedies of that day, there was an increase of fear, prejudice and anger. A group of Canadian Scouts petitioned Austrian Airlines and the Austrian Scouts to send the flame across the Atlantic. The Peace Light arrived at J.F.K. International Airport in New York (named for the only President with an eternal flame at his grave) that December. From New York, it was transported by land continuously across North America. Each year, the flame travels the route from Bethlehem to Austria to the U.S. Each year, churches welcome the Peace Light from Bethlehem to remind us that the Light of Christ shines in our darkness, which can’t overcome it. The Peace Light will arrive at J.F.K. International Airport again this year, on Friday, December 6th. It will be shared in a ceremony at the chapel in Terminal 4.—*Pastor Ash Welch, St. Paul UMC, Galion, OH.* Learn more here: www.peacelight.org <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PeaceLightNorthAmerica/>



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

You are Invited! Get into the Christmas spirit by attending the Annual UMW Christmas potluck luncheon on Thursday, December 5 at 11:30 am in the Parlor, hosted by the Asbury Bremeth Circle. Bring your favorite casserole, salad, or dessert to share. Everyone is welcome. A free will “World Thanks” offering will be collected.

The Brecksville United Methodist Women wishes everyone a blessed Christmas season. Thank you for all your support in 2019 for our mission projects!



Do you shop at Acme? Save your receipts! We’ll earn cash back for the UMW Missions

Fund for qualifying purchases on receipts dated through December 15. Bring yours to the collection bin in the first floor coat room.

We’re bringing the Peace Light to Brecksville United Methodist Church!

We’re working out the details now. Watch for details in the bulletin in December!

We will use The Peace Light this year to light the Christmas candles. Each Sunday, the Peace Light from Bethlehem can remind us in worship about the love of





E-mail or phone Melanie
with news to share!
office@brecksvilleumc.com
440-526-8938

Joy and Will Fenton-Jones
welcomed a baby boy in
November. Welcome to the
world, Xander James!

Our church staff celebrated some
major milestones on November 9.
As of that date, Jeff & Scott
Hastings and Melanie Smith have
been in ministry here for ten years!

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, January 18 at 7 pm
Brecksville UMC Sanctuary

In honor of Bill Long's
90th birthday
Bill and Sue Ellenberger
Present a pipe organ extravaganza.
Come join the fun!



S'Winter (Summer in Winter)

Corn Hole Tournament

For the Music & Worship Scholarship
Saturday, January 25

Summer Attire Required
2:00pm - Food & 3:00pm - Tournament
Cost of Tournament: \$15 individual
or \$40/family
2-3 People per Team
Register on Sundays:
January 5, January 12, January 19



Allen McCrodden	1	Scott Schneider	10	Hudson Schneider	20
Jack Burrows	2	David Schroedel	10	Carol Dambaugh	21
Dave Dobos	2	Joseph Welch	10	Megan Louttit	21
Sue Ellenberger	2	Thomas Aldridge	11	Amanda Bianchi	23
Marisol Wylie	2	Barb Berry	11	Logan Hricko	25
Ronnie Rajkovich	3	Amy Piorkowski	11	Erin Kapaigorodsky	25
Malik Khalfani	4	Greg Urso	11	Kayla Kosla	26
Nicholas Mihalich	4	Mitchell Bell	12	Elliott Thorson	26
Carter Barnum	5	Penny Burns	12	Anastasia Brachna	28
Diane Ellis	5	Steve Piorkowski	12	David Brown	28
Kate Krause	5	Doug Ritterbusch	12	Christine Drescher	29
Bruce McCrodden	6	Trinity Crouch	13	Sylvia Fowler	29
Katie Pasek	6	Kiira Olszko	13	Brandon Schroedel	29
Joyce Rossborough	6	Shirley Harper	14	Mary Lou Bennett	30
Karen Schroedel	6	Sydney Hazelton	15	Darell Fisher	30
Rachel Dubin	8	Ruth Moorhead	15	Todd Fowler	30
Steve Harper	8	Dale Meyer	16	Bob Jaite	30
Vivian Bielinski	9	John Jatsek	17	Connor Hulten	31
Daniel Biggs	9	Elinor Rowan	17	John Scott	31
Dick Gordon	9	Carol Wilson	18	Hadley Spencer	31
Charles Helm	9	Jeff Fesler	19		
Joyce Johnson	9	J. Donald Moorhead	19		
Daniel Soltis	9	Nathan Petznick	19		










As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly staff meetings recently, prayers of thanks were lifted to God for the way lives are touched when we reach out to one another in service. Folks like Carole & Anastasia Brachna and Julianna Tate who passed out treats from our church at Broadview Heights'

Halloween on the Heights. Thank you for reaching out to the community in love! Elinor Rowan, who makes our prayer chain possible. Thank you, Elinor, for helping us hold one another up with prayer. Rev. Kathy Dickriede, who joined us in worship and helped sign folks up for the Advent Study. Sydney Hazelton, Michelle & Eliza Botzman and all of the members of the Fellowship Committee who made this year's recognition of the veterans in our church family extra special. We lifted up a prayer of thanks for each of you, one and all, named and unnamed! Amen!

DECEMBER 2019

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH www.brecksvilleumc.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1st Sun of Advent Communion Sunday 8:45 Worship 10 Classes for All 11:15 Worship 4 Christmas Parade 5 Parade Reception 6 Advent Study	2	3 10 Staff Mtg	4 6:30 Brkfast 12 Advent Study with Pastor Heidi 6 Advent Dinner & Worship	5  11:30 UMW Christmas Potluck 7:30 Chancel Choir	6 <i>Friday is Pastor Heidi's new sabbath day</i>	7 6 Chapel Service at Chippewa Place <i>Bread Ministry: Millers</i>
8 2nd Sun of Advent 8:45 Worship 10 Classes for All 11:15 Worship 12:30 YSP Info Mtg 4 Community Chorus Concert 6 Advent Study	9	10 10 Stitch'n'Time 10 Staff Mtg	11 6:30 Brkfast 12 Advent Study with Pastor Heidi 7 Advent Study	12  7 Missions & Outreach 7:30 Chancel Choir	13 7 Staff Christmas Party  <i>Poinsettia dedications due Sunday!</i>	14 8:30 Bike Repair Day! Emmaus Gathering <i>Bread Ministry: Santoras</i>
15 3rd Sun of Advent 8:45 Worship 10 Classes for All 11:15 Worship 6 Youth Christmas Party 6 Advent Study	16 6 Christmas Eve Rehearsal  <i>early this month!</i>	17 10 Staff Mtg 6 Yuletide Bikes 7 Trustees	18 6:30 Brkfast 12 Advent Study with Pastor Heidi 5 Caroling 7 Advent Study	19  6 Yuletide Bikes 7:30 Chancel Choir	20 <i>Habitat Faith Build Home Dedication Tomorrow!</i>	21 8 Greater Cleveland Food Bank <i>Bread Ministry: Hastings</i>
22 4th Sun of Advent 8:45 Worship 9:45 Blood Drive 10 Classes for All 11:15 Worship 6 Advent Study	23	24 Christmas Eve Services 3 A Quiet Christmas 5 Family Service 8 Carols & Candles 10 Carols, Candles and Communion	25	26 	27	28 <i>Bread Ministry: ?</i>
Walk the Prayer Labyrinth This Week in Fellowship Hall						
29 10 Christmas Carol Sunday— ONE SERVICE with special music! No Sunday School Today	30	31 Office Closes at 12:30	Church Closer Schedule Week of December 1—Hudacek December 8—Brown December 15—Holmok December 22—Holmes December 29—Gezze			 Mary Kotnik & Donna Houston

For details and more information visit www.brecksvilleumc.com



Brecksville UMC

65 Public Square, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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928

Electronic Service Requested



Socialize with us!

BLOOD DRIVE



**Brecksville United
Methodist Church**

**Sunday, December 22
9:45—1:45 pm**

Every donor gets a t-shirt!

**Sign up online vitalant.org/OhioDonorPortal
Sponsor code: **breckunimethod****



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.

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

Be part of this beloved Christmas tradition of Brecksville United Methodist Church. Dedicate a poinsettia to help beautify the sanctuary for worship **and** help feed the hungry! Large pots of flowers will fill the Sanctuary for Christmas. We will order only enough small plants to deliver to the home bound. Funds from this sale benefit Brookside Food Center in Cleveland, an organization feeding our hungry neighbors.

New this year—send a card to your loved ones to let them know about their dedication. Cards are in a basket in the Parlor today. Pick up as many as you need and mail them to those you honor.

Do you know someone who would appreciate a poinsettia and a visit? Someone who can't make it to church, or who is alone for the holiday? Maybe an organization working on Christmas Eve? Please list them here:

Can you deliver a plant to a fire department, hospital, nursing home, etc.? Circle a date: 12/24 12/25 12/26 12/27

Return to the office by Dec. 15!

Poinsettia Dedications Fight Hunger

Dedication deadline is Sunday, December 15. Names will be in the bulletin on Sunday December 22 and on Christmas Eve. Please include cash or check (made payable to BUMC) with this form. Return in the offering plate, deliver to the church office, or mail to **Brecksville United Methodist Church, 65 Public Square, Brecksville, OH 44141.**

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ (Suggested donation of \$10 for each dedication.)

IN MEMORY	IN HONOR	FOR	FROM
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____



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Brecksville Broadview Hts. Community Chorus

presents the annual free



Christmas Holiday Concert

December 8, 2019: 4:00pm

65 Public Square • Brecksville, Ohio
(in the Brecksville United Methodist Church)

www.bbhcommchorus.org



BBH Chorus

Stay after for
Cookie and Cocoa Social
to meet Director
Isaac Becker-Howell
and discover how to join
this no-audition Chorus



*directed by
Isaac Becker-Howell*



*The Joy
and the of Christmas
Magic of the Holidays*

