

The Good Word

Brecksville United Methodist Church

Living in Christ. Serving in Love.

65 Public Square, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

Published May 21, 2010

Summer Worship

Begins June 13

8:30-Outdoor Service

10:00- Sanctuary Service



June 1, 5, 8, 22, 29

Men's Softball

June 3

United Methodist Women

June 6

Communion Sunday

New Member Orientation Begins

Volunteer Appreciation Sunday

June 11- 13

Youth Annual Conference

June 13

Summer Worship Begins!

Graduation Recognition Sunday

June 15

Red Cross Blood Drive

June 27

New Member Sunday

June 25-27

Brecksville Home Days

June 29-July 1

Vacation Bible School

Our Confirmands

Thank you for your support and love given to the Confirmation Class of 2010, who were confirmed on Sunday, May 23:

Derek Brinkmann

Faith Decker

Josh Dietrich

Ellen Falko

Aleyna Gee

Stephanie Holmes

Allie Kenney

Darren Krolikowski

Sarah Lundholm

Nick Orr

Michael Pace

Gil Phillips

Paul Phillips

Sam Phillips

Doug Ritterbusch

Doug Robie

Brandon Schroedel

Sarah Stanley

Brian Wygonski





8:30
Outdoor
Worship
10:00
Worship

Summer Worship Schedule

Our Staff

Pastor: **Karen M. Oehl**
pastor@brecksvilleumc.com

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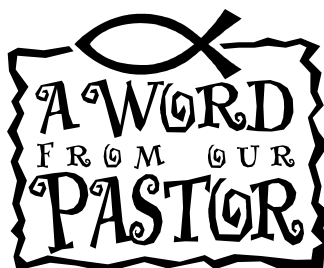
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Pat Gordon

Church School Registrar
Joan Olszko

Facility Managers:
Jeff and Scott Hastings

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The Earth is the Lord's— but we live here

Comments from Rev. Karen Oehl

I grew up living in parsonages, and am still living in one now. So I get the concept of living in a space that actually belongs to someone else. The Brecksville parsonage feels like home, but I also have a sense of responsibility to it that comes from knowing that the church owns it. In turn, it has always been clear that the Trustees and other church members feel responsible for the parsonage, even though it is not their home. Someone else lives there, but they are responsible for it. They see it as a way of serving God.

Both of these dynamics are a good model for our relationship to the earth, to God's creation. We live here, and it is home, although it all belongs to God.

We are responsible to care for it, including caring for places where we don't live, but someone does. It is a way of serving God.

Our church has been finding new and improved ways of serving God by caring for the earth this spring. You have all helped, which is wonderful. We will continue to improve in this area in the coming years, I know.

Two other things have been going on in my family to make me more aware of caring for the earth. Our daughter Kirsten is working right now for Ohio Citizen Action, an environmental advocacy group. She goes door to door to raise awareness and funds for the efforts of the group. Since they cover a huge area in and outside of Cuyahoga County, you never know when she might show up even on your doorstep! Meanwhile, our daughter Maren will be working as the naturalist at Camp Asbury this summer. She will be introducing campers to the earth in ways that will encourage them to see caring for the earth as serving God. Plus, she will just have an opportunity simply to share wonder with them.

So this summer we here at Brecksville will continue to look at this interesting relationship of life that we have with the earth and with God. The texts each week will explore the relationship of the people of God and the earth, both in the Old and New Testaments. It will be a celebration, but also a way to help us reflect on our relationship with God and each other.

I hope that you will find something to think about each week that you will carry with you to home, to work, to your backyard, the hiking trails, and on summer vacations. The Earth is the Lord's—and it is a great place to live.



Pastor Karen



june BIRTHDAYS

1 Kelly Decker	7 Courtney Drescher	19 Judy Helm	25 Brian Pasek
1 Betsy Jaszczak	7 Lauren Scott	20 Allie Cline	26 Jerry Bartholomew
1 Leslie Jo Miller	9 Gil Phillips	20 Kevin Kwiatkowski	26 Linda Crouch
1 Laura Tereshko	9 Paul Phillips	20 Dianne Urdzik	26 Craig Czarnota
2 Jeannette Dumot	9 Sam Phillips	21 Russell Martin	26 Darren Krolikowski
2 Harmony Lasich	9 Amy Seelye	21 Mark Pace	26 Will McLuckie
2 Fran McClean	10 Joy Banjac	21 Sarah Stanley	26 Linda Merhar
2 Judy McCrodden	10 Garrett Croes	21 Bill Webb	26 Joyce Szekelyi
4 Bill Bisco	11 Jim Monnett	22 Neilson Tait	26 Jimmy Zawada
4 Bob Butler	12 Sarah Hurder	23 Michael Pace	27 Shirley Galik
4 Aaron Georgevich	12 Marilyn Schillo	23 Linda Rollins	27 Jan Kranstuber
4 Grayce Herrick	13 Tom Kuttler	24 Anne Ford	27 Ruth McDonel
4 Tracy Simon	15 Jeanette Buttolph	24 Mary Morris	27 Krissy Nelson
4 Russell Slifcak	15 Amber Lasich	25 Katie Bellingham	28 Joe Bartholomew
5 Kimberlee Fisher	16 John Falko	25 KK Hood	29 Melanie Smith
5 Cathy Krolikowski	17 Dan AuWerter	25 Kylie Hulten	30 Taylor Cave
6 Jenna Schroedel	18 Marge Novak	25 Jacob Nelson	30 Dorothy Dorman
7 Darren Calovini	18 Mary Hoffman		



Is someone in your family graduating from high school, college, graduate or professional school? We want to celebrate them during

Graduation Recognition Sunday, June 13th. Please contact Melanie or Cec in the church office before May 28th by phone or e-mail to receive a graduate recognition form: 440-526-8938 or office@brecksvilleumc.com.

Volunteer Appreciation

Calling all volunteers!! Sunday June 6 is the last Sunday before summer worship hours begin. There is no Sunday School for any grade level that day so that we can join together to recognize the many people that volunteer their time and energy to our church. This means YOU!!! Please join us for breakfast, fellowship and volunteer recognition. **Who:** You and everyone that makes our church family so strong; **Where:** Fellowship Hall; **When:** Between 1st and 2nd Service on Sunday, June 6.

Mark your calendars and plan on attending!!!

Want to read more? Go to www.brecksvilleumc.com

SUMMER HOSPITALITY

On June 13 we will start worship on the summer schedule, with an outdoor service at 8:30 am on the lawn, and a sanctuary service at 10:00. In recognition of the family feeling of these Sundays, we would

like to invite families to serve as our summer hospitality teams. Pick a Sunday when you and your family, perhaps as a team with another family, will be our greeters and ushers. We will provide training and guidance. This is a great way to be involved one Sunday this summer and help to give our regular ushers a summer break. If you are interested, contact Pastor Karen or the office.



May 21, 2010



MILESTONES

News of the Fellowship

If you have a special anniversary, birth, retirement, wedding, special honor or other news you would like to share, please call or e-mail Melanie

Congratulations to Fran Tonkin, who learned recently that her 22nd great grandchild is on the way. You read that right! Twenty-second great grandchild!

Our own Shirley and John Galik have been named "Senior Volunteers of The Year" by the City of Brecksville and Brecksville Kiwanis Club. The Tuesday and Thursday meal program at the Brecksville Human Services Center benefits greatly from Shirley's cooking and John's entertaining personality. The Galik's are renown for their strudel and roast pork dinners. Congratulations to you both on this well deserved honor!

Carol and Harry Wilson celebrate their silver wedding anniversary on June 18. For 45 of their 50 years of marriage, they've been members of BUMC. Congratulations, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson! We're so glad you're a part of our family!

BUMC was well represented in the "Race at The Rock" in April in Flat Rock, Ohio. The Bishops Cup was won by Chris Oehl, Matt Auble, and Mark Spencer. Bryan Smith finished second in his age group, and Jeff Fesler placed first in his. Way to go runners!

Gretchen Knapp has TWO grandsons receiving advanced degrees this spring. Phillip Karger received his MBA in Akron and Cameron Hatzel earned his law degree from the University of Houston. Gretchen's sister, Linda Timar, has a granddaughter who's graduating from Pinnacle High School in Phoenix, Arizona. Congratulations to the graduates and their grandmothers!



Want to help? There are several ways you can! We need folks to bake, pull the beef, help set up or tear down the booths, work the booth, order a dessert, and to stop by for a meal or dessert and coffee! All proceeds support BUMW's district pledge, other missions near and far and BUMC's very own kitchen.

Sign-up sheets will be in the Parlor June 6, 13 and 20 or call Mary Kotnik at 330-467-4834. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!!!!



United
Methodist
Women

The Thursday, June 3 UMW program speaker will be Bruce McCrodden. His presentation is "Serving in Love in Costa Rica". Join us for a continental breakfast and fellowship at 9:30 in the parlor. Everyone is welcome. There are no UMW meetings in the months of July and August.

A special thank you to the "anonymous angel" who donated the clear glass plates for the kitchen.

BUMC Service Squad

**National
Trails Day**



Join the 9th annual Adopt-a-Trail Training Workshop to be held on National Trails Day, Saturday, June 5, 2010. The day starts at 8 a.m. with a continental breakfast, followed by one hour of classroom training. From 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. we will do an actual trail maintenance sweep along one of the trails in the CVNRA.

Doing a trail sweep means we pick up litter, trim tree branches, clear culverts, and report trail conditions. Let Jenny know if you are interested in this project. If we get a large enough group we will be assigned our own trail to "sweep".

Meet at the Octagon Shelter, 801 Truxell Road, 1.5 miles west of Akron Cleveland Road in Peninsula. Bring a small pack with lunch, water and work gloves. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather.

PROJECT 2010 UPDATE



In January, BUMC launched Project 2010. When we began, 53 individual pledge cards were submitted totaling 1346 hours pledged. Have you been wondering how we're doing?

As of 4/30/10 a total of 63 individuals and a group of 17 participants (not individually named) have reported donating a total of 808.5 hours of service.

The 19 following agencies or activities have been recipients of services by members of BUMC.

Kairos Ministry	67.5
Garlic Mustard Pull	17
SE YMCA	10
Non-member Funeral Luncheons	2.5
Brookside	41.5
Brooklyn Memorial	30
SWEM	17
Project Learn	16
Seeds of Literacy	13
Medical Transport	23
Blood Donation	6.5
Meals on Wheels & Baskets of Hope	30.5
Cleveland Food Bank	20
Park Maintenance	6
United Way	3
Ronald McDonald House	53
Brooklyn Animal Shelter	4
Nursing Home	8
OAA Tutoring	8
Costa Rica Mission Trip	432

In order to reach our goal of 2010 hours of service, we need everyone who has provided service since January 1 to complete a **Project 2010** service sheet. Complete the form at right, or complete a blank form found in the pews. Remember you can list worldwide service as well as your local service. **Please remember to report your service.**



Track Your Service Hours!

Name: _____

Date(s) of Service: _____

Total Time: _____

Type of Service: _____

Do you have a story or photos to share regarding this service?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please provide your phone number or e-mail address.

If you have questions regarding Project 2010 or reporting hours of service, please email the church office:

office@brecksvilleumc.com



*Young men and women alike,
old and young together!*

*Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.*

— Psalm 148:12-13

Summer Music



Once again, you are invited to sing in our **Summer Choir**! This is an opportunity for families to sing together in worship in a relaxed environment. Summer choir is happening on June 27, July 25 and August 29 – that's the last Sunday of each month!

We will meet in the Sanctuary at 9:20 am, rehearse for about 20 minutes, take a short break, and then share our anthem in worship at 10:00.

This is a great opportunity to get involved if you are not able to commit to a weekly choir rehearsal. CMAP kids and their parents are also particularly invited to come and keep their voices limber through the summer months!

Singers and instrumentalists, if there is a solo or duet you would like to share as special music this summer, please contact Joy at:

music@brecksvilleumc.com.

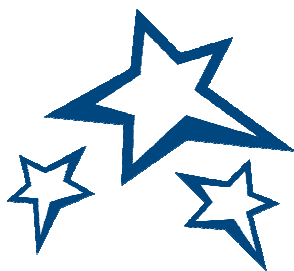
We would love to hear you!
www.brecksvilleumc.com

Vacation Bible School

*June 28 through July 1
9:00 until 11:30 am*



This year's theme is "Galactic Blast". Your cadets will voyage into outer space praising God. Through daily missions, your kids will see space like never before, gain a new perspective on our planet Earth, and learn easy "green" earth tips they can practice at home. This cosmic combination of faith and fun will have your cadets developing a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ



Preschoolers through incoming 5th graders will attend VBS at the church. From learning how our wonderful God created everything we see, to knowing our incredible God is always near, to believing how much our amazing God knows us, to understanding how much our magnificent God cares about us, to realizing how much our awesome God has given to us through Jesus Christ, your children will grow into a deeper relationship with God through Jesus Christ.



Incoming 6th through 8th graders will meet at the Meadows Picnic Area in Brecksville Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks. Join Lisa Drew and George Gee at Meadows Picnic Pavilion in the Brecksville Reservation from 8:45-11:45am! 6-8 graders will explore ways we can love our creation and worship God while tending this beautiful world we live in. Teens will explore biblical and theological reasons in support of environmental care, current threats to our environment, and an awareness of how small steps can have big impact.

Register now for a spot! See Lisa Drew or Jenny Gee for questions. Sign up will take place in the Parlor between church services, and you can also download a registration form from the church website.

Volunteers are still needed to lead children and teach classes for VBS. Call Jenny if you are willing to help at VBS this year.

Alice Muses about Modernity

A Column of Ongoing Response to our Worship Surveys

Have you met me? That's not a bizarre rhetorical question. If you attend worship regularly, I hope our paths have crossed. If not, introduce yourself one day soon. In the meantime allow me to paint a basic picture for the purposes of this article: I am 29 years old, reasonably open-minded, and I like to fancy myself pretty "with it". Nonetheless, I must confess: I am a bit of a stick in the mud when it comes to the latest, greatest technology. I held out until I was 20-something before getting my first cell phone. I actually got a little anxious when a friend gave me an iPod as a gift, because I wasn't sure I wanted it. I dislike television immensely, I staunchly refuse to tweet (whatever that is), and I feel mildly uncomfortable even *having* a Facebook account.

If you're nodding your head in agreement, or if you're wondering what all this tweet and Facebook nonsense even *is*, this article may be for you. Technology can be a difficult subject. It seeks to make our lives easier and more efficient, but it often ends up commanding our attention and taking up more time than we might have expected. With the ease of email comes a tendency not to pick up the phone or speak to people in person. With the convenience of an iPod comes the expense of purchasing songs and the tendency to walk through the day with our ears plugged. With the endless options available to us through cable TV, Netflix, and Redbox, we have collectively become far less likely to read.

As you might imagine, the decision to install screens in our Sanctuary was undertaken with a great deal of prayer and deep consideration. Making such a large aesthetic change is never to be taken lightly, and it represented a philosophical adjustment as well. When the Worship Committee re-

viewed our worship surveys, we identified this as one area that is still of concern to some. Among the questions posed: are we really "meditating" when we view huge, moving, digital images or have we lost the concept of *real* meditation? Are we losing something by not opening the physical Bibles and hymnals that are parked in the pew backs? The answer may surprise you: yes, perhaps things are lost, and it can be a bitter-sweet transition.

Throughout Scripture and the history since, men and women have struggled with the dilemma of advancing culture. The early church felt that valuable tradition and piety was lost by not requiring new Christians to be circumcised in the Jewish tradition. Martin Luther more or less described having an organ in worship as a sign of the devil. Our Methodist founder John Wesley said that he had no objection to musical instruments in the wor-

ship space, provided they were neither seen nor heard. At least he had a sense of humor about it!

Friends, this is the world in which we live. It is a world full of digital graphics and digital communication. And though we are not to limit our thinking to things *of* this world, we are certainly called to live and minister *in* it. We are here to welcome in every person – traditionalists and technology junkies alike. We believe that in today's landscape, our screens make that mission a little more possible.

But the Bibles and hymnals are still there for you in the seat back pocket. And, as I think John Wesley might quip, you can always close your eyes. In good humor and ever convinced that God's grace is sufficient for all our little quandaries...

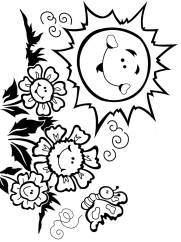




~Joy Fenton, Director of Music





June 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thru	Fri	Sat
		1 9:30 Staff Meeting	2 Graduation Forms Due! 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 9 Lay Leadership 7 Prayer Service	3 9:30 UNW 3:30 Praise Team Practice 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Choir	4 7 a Emmans Reunion 6:30 p Wedding	5 6:15 Softball BBHS Commencement
6 Communion Sunday Music Sunday 8:45 Worship Volunteer Appreciation 11:15 Worship 12:30 New Member Ort. 1 Music Dept Picnic 5 Alpha	7 6:30 Women's Emmans 7:30 Trustees 	8 9:30 Staff Meeting 6:15 Softball 7 COE 8 Music Board	9 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 7p Tazze Prayer Service	10 12 Circle Luncheon 3:30 Praise Team Practice BBHS Last Day of School 	11 Youth Annual Conference 7 a Emmans Reunion	12 Youth Annual Conference (through Sunday)
13 Summer Worship! 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10 Worship 11:15 New Member Ort. 5 Alpha 6 EPIC	14 6 Evangelism 6:30 Women's Emmans 7:30 COM	15 9:30 Staff Meeting 1-7 Red Cross Blood Drive	16 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 7 Prayer Service 7:30 SPR	17 3:30 Praise Team Practice	18 7 a Emmans Reunion 5:30 Wedding Rehearsal	19 2:30 Wedding
20 Father's Day First Day of Summer! 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10 Worship	21 6:30 Women's Emmans 7:30 Finance	22 9:30 Staff Meeting 6:15 Softball	23 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 7 Prayer Service	24 3:30 Praise Team Practice	25 7 a Emmans Reunion 9:30 UNW Board 12 NACBA 6 YSP Reunion	26  Friday, Saturday, Sunday
27 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10 Worship 11:15 New Member Polack 6 EPIC Ummund	28 9-11:30 VBS  7:30 Worship Committee	29 9-11:30 VBS 9:30 Staff Meeting 6:15 Softball 	30 9-11:30 VBS 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 7 Prayer Service 