

The Newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church

# The Good Word



SEPTEMBER ISSUE

PUBLISHED AUGUST 23, 2013

65 Public Square  
Brecksville, Ohio 44141

440-526-8938

*Open Doors. Honest Worship. Determined Service.*



## 31st Annual Southern Hills CROP Hunger Walk

### Participating Churches (at press time):

- ♦ Bath United Church of Christ
- ♦ Brecksville UMC
- ♦ Brecksville United Church of Christ
- ♦ Christ the King Lutheran Church
- ♦ Christ the Redeemer
- ♦ Independence Presbyterian Church
- ♦ St. Matthews Episcopal Church
- ♦ St. Joseph Byzantine
- ♦ Triune Lutheran Church

**Sunday, Sept. 29**  
**1:30 pm**



The Southern Hills CROP Hunger Walk of Brecksville is one of the oldest CROP Hunger Walks in the state. Since 1982, the walk has raised \$346,599.20 to help end hunger here at home and around the world. That is fantastic!

Last year, our walk raised \$5,231.45 with 110 walkers and volunteers participating. Were you a walker? A donor? A cheerleader for the team? ***We thank you!*** Brecksville UMC has long been involved with the walk. Our goal this year is to have a team of at least 13 walkers. Can we do it?

Why are we walking? Together with other area churches and 2,000 CROP Hunger Walks in cities and towns nationwide this year, we are joining in interfaith community around the theme "Ending hunger one step at a time." CROP Walkers are proclaiming their solidarity with the millions of neighbors around the world who have to walk to live -- as well as with the millions served by local food pantries, food banks, and meal sites here in the U.S. We walk because they walk!

25% of the money raised at the walk each year stays in the local area, supporting the Greater Cleveland Hunger Network and the important work they do here. The remainder of the money helps families and communities worldwide to rebuild homes, food supplies and livelihoods after disaster, to build sustainable systems, and to provide nutrition aid for children. CROP Hunger Walks also play a role in the U.S., helping communities ravaged by floods and tornadoes to recover.

**NEW THIS YEAR!** We have TWO walk options, both starting from the same point at 1:30 pm. The standard 2 mile walk will step off from Brecksville Station, but there will also be an option to walk 4.4 miles south to Boston Mill Station and take the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad train back to Brecksville at 3:30—at a special one way rate of just \$3. Will you join us?

### HOW YOU CAN HELP...

- ♦ Sign up to walk at church or online: [hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/BUMC13](http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/BUMC13).
- ♦ Donate to the walk. (Checks made payable to BUMC, CROP Walk in the memo line.)
- ♦ Recycle your paper at BUMC. Proceeds from our paper recycling fight hunger.
- ♦ Pray for our walkers!

*Several companies offer corporate and matching gift support to Church World Service. A list can be found at [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org).*



**Through September 1**  
8:30 Worship on the Lawn  
10 Sanctuary Service

**Starting September 8**

8:45 Contemporary Worship, 10 Ed Hour  
11:15 Traditional Worship

## Our Staff

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Published monthly by

**Brecksville United Methodist Church**

65 Public Square,

Brecksville, OH 44141

**Article deadline: 3rd Friday monthly**

Please send submissions to editor

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## Matthew 20: 1-16

*"Lord, let me know my end, and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is. You have made my days a few hand-breadths, and my lifetime is as nothing in your sight. Surely everyone stands as a mere breath." Psalm 39:4-5*

I sit in my office, contemplating the run at business that characterizes autumn around this place. My thoughts are constantly interrupted by the cooing of mourning doves, who have apparently decided the ultimate perch for the past couple of days is the slim windowsill left on either side of the air conditioning unit which is efficiently cooling my work area. The sound of their cooing, as well as the descriptive name they bear, has set my brain spinning about many things... here are a few:

My eldest child will be married in a month. How can this be possible? He is almost 30 years old, yet I still clearly remember the night he came into my world. The other years passed by in a blur, and here we are ready to move into another arena. Blessings have accompanied our journey together as a family, and we are welcoming a lovely young lady into our shared story. God is good all the time. Things are different now. Time marches ever on.



I have become a creature of habit. This comes as no surprise to my family. They live with me, understand my patterns, and have mostly adjusted to them as I have tried to adjust to theirs. Even the way we greet one another when we walk into a room is familiar and strangely comforting. I like a newspaper in my hands every morning, and I drink coffee as I read it. I am disappointed in the Indians, again, and hopeful about the Browns (it is August). Many other examples could be cited, but I liked to think I was a bit more unpredictable than I really am. It is OK though. God is good all the time. Things are different now. Time marches ever on.

I have been saddened by many deaths this past year. I have lost close friends and family members, and I have become more acquainted with my own mortality. It really is what the Psalmist was getting at, I think. Time moves. We move through it, hopefully aware of the changes going on in us and around us. We care for others as best we can. Hopefully we welcome new ones as we say goodbye to others. God is good all the time. Things are different now. Time marches ever on.

I am grateful for the ministry we share in this place. As we begin our September time together, I feel even more aware that these changes I have noted in my life, also have counterpoints in yours. Some of the changes we share in common, others are yours and mine alone. Yet somehow, when we all gather back together, the spirit moves among us, and the spirit moves through us, and...God is good. Things are different now. Time marches on.

Joy in the journey,

*Pastor Clark*

# Sanctuary Air Conditioning

Recently, in light of the changing world we live in, our Church leadership recognized the need to consider providing cooling for the sanctuary. Today, people go from their air conditioned homes to their air conditioned cars, and generally want to be in an air conditioned environment on hot days whether at work, shopping or at church. For some, this is not just about comfort but also about health, as high temperatures and air impurities can contribute to breathing difficulties. Some have chosen not to attend worship services during the hot summer months, while others have chosen to attend other local churches offering air conditioning. As families look for a church to worship in, and ultimately join, most area churches offer air conditioning. To help address these issues, Trustees were asked to investigate various solutions for providing supplemental cooling for the sanctuary.

The goal was to make the sanctuary comfortable in the summer months for our weekly worship services, weddings, funerals, and other sanctuary uses. The target temperature was identified to be 75F, but could vary based upon actual weather conditions. This air conditioning would also help preserve church assets; namely, our beautiful organ and piano. A more constant temperature and humidity level will help extend the lives of these instruments and help reduce their maintenance costs.

Trustees researched alternatives for several months. Major considerations included not only cost but also effectiveness, aesthetic impact on the sanctuary, appearance on the church's exterior, noise level, serviceability, cost of operation, and useful life. The Trustees were assisted by members of the congregation with experience and expertise in this area. Three reputable air conditioning companies were identified and contacted seeking their thoughts on accomplishing our goals. We received proposals ranging from a class A+ office building approach cooling the sanctuary all day, every day, to more modest approaches for making the sanctuary more comfortable in summertime. Proposed designs ranged from massive units installed in the ceiling over the sanctuary requiring additional holes cut in the ceiling to smaller units mounted on the walls over the west windows. Proposals ranged in price from approximately \$40,000 to \$250,000. After analysis, including contacting other churches in the area using the same system, Trustees selected a system manufactured by LG. This system will have one unit approximately 3 feet wide by 1 foot tall installed over each of the four windows on the west side of the sanctuary. The units will run quietly and will circulate cool air throughout the sanctuary. We plan to cool the sanctuary Saturday evenings in preparation for Sunday mornings, running the system on a limited basis during the week. This system will also help with minor heating of the sanctuary during the spring and autumn when it may be a bit cool inside, helping us to save money by avoiding the need to start the church's boiler on cool days.

The vendor selected is Geisel Heating and Cooling located in Elyria, Ohio, a company which has been in business for over 30 years and which has installed this, and similar systems, in many facilities including other churches. The cooling system should be installed by the time this issue goes to print.

The cost of this cooling system will be in the \$40,000 area, and funding of this project is being finalized by the Finance Committee. At this time we are asking for your contribution to this sanctuary enhancing project. Should you choose to make a donation, please mark your check or the outside of the envelope clearly with the words 'air conditioning' so that your donation can be applied to this project. - Jack Drescher, Chairperson, Trustees



## Thank you, Pat!

After 27 years of dedicated service, as of July 31, Pat Gordon has retired as our church's Financial Secretary. When Pat started the job, all accounts were handled manually in ledger books! Over the years, computerization changed all that. Pat has been responsible for recording all pledges, posting all donations, generating everyone's pledge letters, and sending monthly and annual giving statements to you all. Her extensive knowledge of the congregation and church history, along with her dedication to detail and accuracy, has contributed to her success in this important ministry. Pat has retired so she and her husband, Dick, can continue to pursue their extensive travels. We thank you, Pat, for all of your wonderful and dedicated service! Bon voyage!—BUMC Staff Parish Committee.



"Stitch'n'Time" will begin meeting again in September on the third Tuesday of the month at 10 am. Join us as we make gifts for the mitten tree. Anyone who likes to knit or crochet or would like to learn is welcome. We are collecting donations of yarn which might be languishing in drawers, closets or attics. Talk to Sandy Crist for information. 440-526-1494. PS the best part of the meeting are the laughs and fellowship!





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

Our condolences go out to members of our church family who have lost parents recently. Dick Hayes's mother, Marilyn Hayes passed away on July 30. Claudia Monnet's mother, Jean Brooks, died on August 16. Our thoughts and love are with you and your families in your time of grief.

Mark and Donna Sibits celebrated 40 years of marriage in August. Congratulations, Mr. and Mrs. Sibits, on a wonderful milestone!

In other August wedding news, Alex and Jessica Vastartis were joined in holy matrimony here on August 10. Congratulations to the new Mr. and Mrs. Vastartis! (And to Catherine & Mark, who have added a daughter to their family!)

Wedding bells will ring this month, as Pastor Clark and Kathy's son, Caleb, will wed on September 21.



"Where's our Pictorial Directory?" is a question we hear pretty regularly in the church office. Unfortunately, because of a series of mix ups, miscommunications, and more with the company producing the book for us, we haven't had a good answer.

But the good news is that the book has arrived! If you had your picture taken, your copy of the book awaits you. Pick it up at church on Sunday, or in the church office during office hours. *Sorry it took so long!*

# THIS MONTH'S Birthdays

Greg	Eberhardt	09/01	Barbara	Diver	09/15
Alan	Jones	09/01	Loren	Guell	09/15
Mary Kate	Kaminski	09/01	Claire	Hayes	09/16
David	Hurder	09/02	Kathleen	Bartholomew	09/17
Ann	Rittman	09/03	Charles	Wilson	09/18
Luke	Dorman	09/04	Rebecca	Gezze	09/20
Marilyn	Huber	09/04	Claire	Kenney	09/20
L. Neil	Johnson	09/04	James	Patrick	09/20
Timothy	Miller	09/04	Fred	Priest	09/20
Celeste	Olenik	09/04	Jonathan	Wise	09/20
Matthew	Scheff	09/04	Kara	Storey	09/22
Harry	Wilson	09/05	Les	Buttolph	09/23
Mariella	Siemer	09/06	Emma	Sak	09/23
Matthew	Georgevich	09/07	Donald	Yates	09/23
Quinn	Slifcak	09/08	Anne	Rosenthal	09/24
Megan	Burns	09/09	Hannah	Stanley	09/24
Joseph	Hurst	09/09	John	Faulk	09/25
Sandy	Whitton	09/09	Daniel	Hulten	09/25
Tonya	Boldt	09/10	Brett	Hubert	09/26
Mona	Carlisle	09/10	Jeffrey	Schillo	09/26
Jacqueline	Daugherty	09/10	Hannah	Buttolph	09/27
Abbey	McLuckie	09/10	Kathleen	Holmes	09/27
Jinho	Lee	09/11	Annie	Madaus	09/27
Samuel	McLuckie	09/11	Jean	McBride	09/27
Madeline	Hamilton	09/12	Matt	Harper	09/28
Abigail	Jaite	09/12	Mary Jane	Matts Slifcak	09/28
Ruth	Georgevich	09/13	Matthew	Harper	09/29
Giovanna	Figer	09/14	Kaiya	Crouch	09/30
Douglas	Huth	09/14	Craig	Kotnik	09/30
Monica	Klipfell	09/14			



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. Craig Kitko, of Baldwin Wallace University, came to our rescue at a moment's notice when the church server failed recently. Pat Gordon, has served the church office faithfully for 27 years. Thank you, Pat, for all of your help! Matt Nelson was a tremendous help in the process of exploring air conditioning for our sanctuary. Robert Anastos and his cello have filled the sanctuary with beautiful music on Sunday mornings. Thank you, Robert, for enlivening our worship!



## A Homecoming Potluck August 25

Homecoming games and celebrations have a rich and deep tradition across America. The origins of the first homecoming celebration remain largely contested. Baylor, Illinois and Missouri are three of the frontrunners, all having planned and held their first "coming home" celebrations around 1910.

Despite the debate, these early homecoming events all had similar characteristics: a football game served as a center point; the events included rallies, parades, speeches and dances; the events intended to unite alumni and students to create a stronger sense of school pride; and they were wildly successful.

We believe it is time for BUMC to host our own homecoming celebration. It seems that each summer our church family travels far and wide and we miss seeing each other. Although it would not be wise for any of us to suit up for a football game we can certainly celebrate homecoming with a more thoroughly Methodist tradition... a potluck. Bring a dish to share and --if you are moved to do so-- your dancing shoes and tiara! Our homecoming potluck will take place after indoor worship (about 11:00) on August 25.

### Dates to note:

8/25 and 9/1: Rally Days

9/8: Sunday School Begins

9/29: 3rd Grade Bible Sunday



## Here's What's Planned for Sunday School This Fall...

### Crib and Toddler Room

*Open to all our babies and children.*

Our nursery is staffed by loving workers to care for your children. Nursery care, child care, and children's fellowship are available Sunday mornings during both worship services.

### Godly Play

*Preschoolers and Kindergarteners*

Godly Play is a Montessori-inspired method for teaching Christian education through storytelling, reflection, art, writing, singing and/or creative play. Children and the teacher/storyteller wonder together about the message and meaning of selected Bible stories, and then respond to the words they hear. The children also share a simple feast, which is a great time to share joys and concerns, and a blessing with each other.

### 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders

Bible Unit (Sept 8 through October 13) and Rotation (begins October 20)

- ▶ **Bible Unit:** This year we begin our Sunday school year opening our Bibles to the center! We will study the Psalms, a book of poetry that praises God in the most beautiful way. After learning about the beauty of this book for the first month we will plan our children's led worship. You will each have a chance to offer your skills and talents to the congregation as you lead them in worship on October 13.
- ▶ **Rotation:** Beginning October 20, our 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders will enter into the rotation portion of Sunday school. Rotation Sunday school is a way to teach major Bible stories and concepts through child-friendly, creative and interactive workshops. Children rotate through Art, Drama, Cooking, Music, Movie, Science and Games over the course of 5-6 weeks. During each unit of time the children focus on just one scripture based story or theme. This year we are thrilled to add a new rotation classroom: COMPUTERS!!!

\* In Rotation Sunday school, each age group has a "shepherd" that goes with them every Sunday. We are blessed to have a wonderful team of shepherds that have committed to spending the entire year getting to know your child better. The children can find out where they will be each Sunday on the sign posted in the Narthax.

\* Rotation Sunday school concentrates on the major stories of the Bible and central themes of Christianity and United Methodist Beliefs. The model's philosophy recognizes that kids not only love repetition, but they need it to develop a lasting memory and understanding of content. This "multi-intelligences" approach recognizes that we (children and adult alike) learn differently and use all our senses--as hearing, seeing, touching, and doing). This model has been developed to take advantage of our children's God-given thirst for learning and engage kids so that learning is fun as well as effective.

### Sixth and Seventh Grade

This year we will dive into some concepts that are central to our Christian faith. Through the use of movie clips, group discussion and activities, we will work toward a greater understanding of what the Bible tells us *and* how these subjects are dealt with in popular culture. We will explore topics such as prayer, love, integrity, temptation, compassion, faith and forgiveness throughout the year.

### Eighth Grade

This is an exciting time for you! You will spend this year asking and being asked questions about your faith. Some questions may be things you have already spent time thinking about or wrestling with and others may have never crossed your mind. You will be encouraged to think out loud and share your beliefs and ideas while your teachers do the same. During a portion of the year; you will learn about John Wesley and Methodism; why are you choosing this church as your church?

This is also a year for commitment. You will continue on your faith journey and decide if you are ready to make your commitment to Christ and Christianity in the spring. This year you will be paired with a mentor who, in addition to your teachers and parents, will be helping you with your faith journey and faith questions. There will be several events planned for your group and details will follow shortly with dates and times for each.

### Sprouts

*Ages 3 and up, meets after the Children's Moment for the duration of worship.*

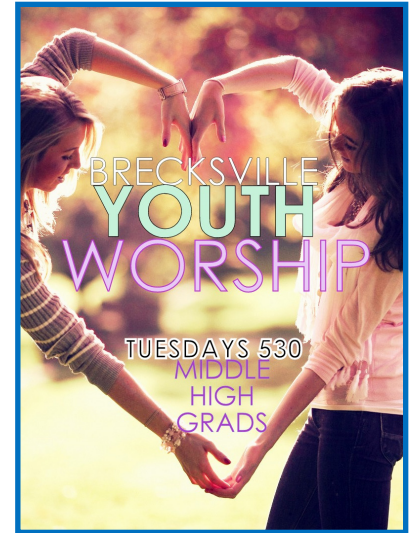
Sprouts incorporates Bible stories, activities, crafts, visual media, and games into a full faith experience for children. At Sprouts, children develop the skills to unlock the Bible message and grow their faith by leaps and bounds. Our goal with the Sprouts program is to help the children learn Jesus' clear message to us about loving our neighbors. We want to see our young people living out their faith as they grow.

### Third Grade Bible Sunday

One of the many wonderful traditions in our church is the presentation of Bibles to our third graders each year. This year Third Grade Bible Sunday will be held on September 29 during the 8:45 worship service. Plan to join the children in Fellowship Hall for a cake and punch reception following the 8:45 service. Third Grade Bible Sunday is the culmination of a four week Bible unit that the children in Grades 1 through 5 will complete on September 29. This year they are studying the Psalms and the meaning behind the poetry. Over the next two weeks these young people will be planning and practicing to lead worship on October 13. If your third grader did not receive a letter in their Sunday School class, call Jenny as soon as possible.

### Rally Days

Rally Days are August 25 and September 1. Look for us at the table in the lobby to update your child's contact information. We have made it so easy. Even if your information has not changed please stop by the table and let us know. Remember Sunday School for all ages begins on September 8!



*"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."*

- John 4:24

**Through 9/11 we're worshipping on Tuesday evenings. *On 9/18 we move back to Wednesdays.***

Join us in this essential time for hearts to be transformed by the renewing power of God's Word as we praise and understand our Savior Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, and God the Father. We aim for all youth to become true worshippers, growing together as a family in Christ through food, games, interactive lessons, and teen applications.

***Brecksville Youth Worship:  
530PM dinner + worship for all  
middle-high school youth***

**Brecksville United Methodist Church**

Kyle R. Allen

Director of Youth Ministries

[youth@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@brecksvilleumc.com)





## Fall Worship Times

Have you heard?? Brecksville United Methodist Church has *air conditioning*... it's true! Have the hot temperatures kept you at home this summer? Temperatures are cooling, our new A/C is installed, and we're excited to welcome you back to worship this fall! Wherever you are on your journey, *you're welcome (and needed) here.*

**Worship:** Beginning on Sunday, September 8, we will return to our regular worship schedule with services at 8:45am and 11:15am in the Sanctuary. Our 8:45 service tends to be more contemporary; 11:15 is traditional worship. *That's right...service times are changing!! Mark your calendar... September 8... 8:45 and 11:15.*

**Music:** You can find a complete description of many music, worship and technology opportunities in this Good Word. Check it out and contact Joy at [mu-sic@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:mu-sic@brecksvilleumc.com) for information.

**Education:** An awesome year of education for children and youth will kick off on Sunday, September 8, with our education hour from 10:00 – 11:00 am. There is truly something for everyone, including classes for adults!

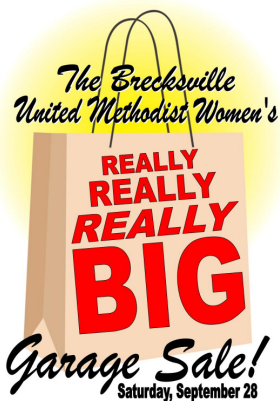


United  
Methodist  
Women

## Learn about Vial for Life

UMW Thursday, September 5 meeting program is Vial for Life presented by Rosemary Gulik, Community Service Chair. The program will focus on importance of medical information that you may need in case of a medical emergency. This is vital information everyone should know. Women and men are welcome to attend the meeting. Morning starts 9:30 with a continental breakfast and fellowship followed by the program at 10:00 and a very short business. We hope to see you.

## Really, Really, REALLY BIG Garge Sale!



Don't throw it away! Empty those closets, clean out the garage, and bring the things you no longer need or want to our September really, really, REALLY BIG sale on **September 28!** If it's in working condition and clean, we'll take it! Garden tools, household "stuff", toys, sporting equipment, books and furniture are all great sellers. **No clothing, old telephones or computers, please. Proceeds benefit the United Methodist Women's Missions fund. Bring your donations to the Fellowship Hall stage after September 1. We need lots of hands to help! For questions, or to volunteer Contact Ruth Herman, 330-467-3237 or Barb Harper, 440-838-4938.**

**Asbury Bremeth Circle** will begin the 2014-2014 year on Thursday, September 12th at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor (meetings are the second Thursday of the month). Each session begins with a continental breakfast and is followed by a bible inspired lesson presented by Jenny Gee. Please join us for faith and fellowship. Have questions? Call Nancy at 440.838.4341



Interested in a quiet, remote, prayerful weekend with your maker? Join our trip to The Abbey of Genesee, a Roman Catholic community of monks who lead a life of solitude and silence, prayer and penance in a joyful spirit of faith. At the Abbey you are encouraged to follow the worship schedule (six services daily) of the monks. The rest of the time you are open to pray, meditate, conference with a monk, hike, eat, and sleep. Interested in learning more? Visit

[www.geneseeabbey.org](http://www.geneseeabbey.org) – or talk to Craig Czarnota or Kendall Lancaster or call the church office to be put on the list (440) 526-8938. This year's dates are November 1-3. Suggested donation to the Abbey: \$50 per person – this includes two nights private room and all meals. We will car pool the 4 hour trip to the abbey, which is just south of Rochester, NY. Let the church office know

## Kids' Art for Hunger

Our Sunday School Students are creating painted pottery bowls, representative of the empty bowls many hungry people face. These bowls will be for sale in The Parlor between church services on Sunday, September 22. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the CROP Hunger Walk on Sept. 29



For more information, contact Jenny Gee, Director of Christian Education. *Thank you, student artists, for fighting hunger!*



Calling all musicians... or *would-be* musicians... or wannabe musicians... Do you have a heart for music? A heart for worship? We would LOVE to see you in the Music Department this fall!!

## Music Dates to Note

9/8 Worship Times Change

9/19 Chancel Choir  
Rehearsals Resume

10/1 Children's Choir  
Resumes

10/3 Handbell Choir  
Rehearsals Resume

### Praise Team/Instrumentalists

This group of instrumentalists and singers serves as worship leaders for our 8:45 Contemporary Worship on most Sundays. Music is drawn from a wide range of sources ranging from hymns to cutting-edge songs. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings from 8:00 to 8:45, and teams are scheduled in advance. We are always looking for vocalists, guitarists, bass players, drummers/percussionists, and brass/woodwind/string players to lead us in our worship of God. Please contact Joy to get involved! 440-526-8938 or [music@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:music@brecksvilleumc.com)

### Chancel Choir

This dynamic ensemble serves as worship leaders for our 11:15 Traditional Worship on most Sundays. We learn a wide variety of anthems from diverse styles and genres, but most important, we invite the congregation into the worship of God. You need not be an experienced musician, as lots of guidance is provided along the way! Rehearsals are 7:30 to 9:00pm on Thursday evenings, beginning on September 19.

### Ensembles for Children & Youth

Children's Choir will resume on Tuesday, October 1, and each Tuesday thereafter from 5:00 – 5:45pm. This group is open to *any* young singer from pre-school through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We work cooperatively to build our vocal skills, build good rhythm, and play musical instruments together! Join us!

Our youth ensembles this year will be organized on an as-available basis. Last year the group met on Fridays right after school, but we will adjust to meet the needs of the group. If you are in *Middle School* or *High School* and you want to sing, contact Joy to get involved!

### Handbell Choir

Bell ringing is a unique and engaging way to get involved! This ensemble provides beautiful and worshipful music about once a month at both of our services. The group shares a great sense of humor and enjoyable rehearsals, and they meet on Thursday evenings from 6:15 to 7:30, beginning on October 3. Please let Joy know if you would be interested in giving handbells a try – your initial commitment could be to try it out for just 3 weeks!

### Technology Team

There is so much that goes into worship each Sunday morning. Sometimes we forget that worship can't happen without people working diligently behind the scenes to set up sound equipment, run the PowerPoint, and accomplish many other important tasks. If you have a servant heart and a love of technology, we need you! Even if you feel unsure about all the equipment, just give us a call – we will provide the training!

### Activities & Events

Have you not quite honed all of your musical skills just yet? Perhaps you would have fun helping to plan our Scholarship Golf Outing, or baking goodies for one of our concert receptions, or serving as an usher or welcome at a concert. Whatever your gifts and talents, we need you! Contact Joy, or any member of Worship/Music Board, to get involved!

*For more information  
contact*

Joy Parker  
Director of Music Ministries  
440.526.8938  
[music@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:music@brecksvilleumc.com)

Get the  
**SUNDAY BLAST**  
a weekly e-mail  
Newsletter from BUMC.

Featuring:  
*Sunday Song Titles*  
*Scripture Readings*  
*Announcements*  
*Upcoming Events*  
*and More*

To subscribe, e-mail  
[office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)

Blessings & see you this fall! ~ Joy Parker, Director of Music



# Serving in Love in Nepal

Growing up with parents who are focused on volunteering their time and attending Brecksville United Methodist Church instilled in me the importance of mission and service and the desire to help others. After four years of YSP experience, I decided to combine volunteering with building skills and enriching my education. Through classmates at the College of Wooster, I found ELI Abroad and an opportunity to volunteer in an orphanage while practicing music therapy.

ELI provides opportunities in 28 countries, and I selected a country that is politically stable, safe, and a place I would like to explore - Nepal, home to the Himalayan Mountain Range between China, Tibet, and India. Nepal is one of the few places in the world in which Buddhists and Hindus live in harmony. The more I read about Nepal, the more excited I was to land in Kathmandu and spend 3 weeks volunteering at Sarita's Safe Haven, an orphanage in the city's center. On May 18th, I left the United States and began my 30+ hour journey.

Upon landing, I saw chaos, poverty, and a lack of development. Their capital city was less developed than any impoverished, isolated area I had ever visited. Homeless children wandered the streets, begging for money or food. Dogs, monkeys and other animals were everywhere. I was anxious to get started with my work at the orphanage and make a difference in the lives of the ten children who did not have the opportunity to go to school due to the expense. In this developing country, the \$400 per year tuition is beyond the reach of many. To put the tuition cost into perspective, my lunch at a typical restaurant cost 50 cents there.

Two days later, I began my work at Sarita's Safe Haven. Sarita comes from a high caste in Nepal. She decided not to marry but instead to open an orphanage for the motherless children of Kathmandu and the children of families that simply cannot afford to feed them. Sarita used her portion of her family's money to open the orphanage and continues to run it with the help of donations and volunteers. This woman is an angel. She could have lived a comfortable, wealthy life but instead she traded it to help others. My first day at Sarita's, there were 9 children in the classroom, ranging in age from 1-8. The youngest child had no pants (or underwear). Most of the children knew little or no English. After the first day, I brought my Nepali phrasebook and my phone to write a few songs to increase literacy. As soon as I started typing on my phone, the children swarmed around me to watch. They all wanted to try typing their names and the alphabet. After several minutes of fighting over phone usage, I convinced them to play with their own toys. When I say "their own toys", I mean bits and pieces of puzzles, broken plastic toys, some crayons and a few dry erase markers. They ripped toys out of each others' hands, hit each other, and had no concept of sharing. It broke my heart to see the conflict and lack of ownership. Sharing and patience became goals in my music therapy sessions. Later that day, when the children found a bag of rice and ate a few small handfuls of uncooked rice for "lunch", I became even more inspired to make a difference.

Over the three weeks I was there, I taught English and math and tried to have one music therapy session each day. I supervised the children to allow Sarita a break to run errands. The children were so kind and happy and they made significant improvements in their education and patience. This was the most unique, eye-opening and life changing experience of my life.

Recently, I learned that another volunteer raised enough money to send three of the children to school! I'm investigating the logistics of this and have set a goal to raise enough additional funds to provide another child with the opportunity for an education.

Serving in Love, Mallory Krolikowski

Read more about Mallory's experience in her Blog: [15222miles.blogspot.com/2013/05/2-days.html](http://15222miles.blogspot.com/2013/05/2-days.html)



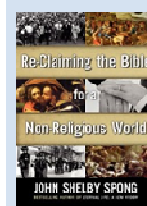
Mallory at Sarita's Safe Haven

*Would you like to help Mallory with her goal of raising \$400 to send another of Sarita's orphans to school? Contact her at [mallory@itsposted.com](mailto:mallory@itsposted.com)*

## Summer Book Group

*Join us on the deck for summer sunshine, tasty food, and lively discussion for our final book:*

**Thursday, August 29 @ 6:00pm. *Reclaiming the Bible for a Non-Religious World* by John Shelby Spong**



200 years of biblical scholarship has been withheld from lay people, argues renowned bishop and social activist John Shelby Spong. In this brilliant book, Spong reveals not only the crucial truths that have long been kept hidden from the public eye, but explores what the history of the Bible can teach us about reading its stories today and living our lives for tomorrow.

Contact Joy Parker, [mu-sic@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:mu-sic@brecksvilleumc.com)

# SEPTEMBER 2013

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 Communion</b> <i>Sunday</i> 8:30 Worship - Lawn 10 Worship - Sanctuary 	<b>2</b>  <b>Labor Day</b> Church Offices Closed	<b>3</b> 9:30 Staff 5:30 <b>Youth Worship</b> 7pm Gifts & Memorials 7 Evangelism  (No School)	<b>4</b> 6:30 am Dawnbrkrs 6:15 pm Wednesday Wheels	<b>5</b> 9:30 UMW 4 Wo. Emma 6 Men's Ensemble 6:30 Worship Arts Picnic  	<b>6</b> 7 Emmaus Reunion	<b>7</b>
<b>8 Worship Time Change!</b> 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Traditional Worship	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 11 Staff 5:30 <b>Youth Worship</b> 7 COM 8 Super Tuesday	<b>11</b> 6:30 am Dawnbrkrs 6:15 pm Wednesday Wheels	<b>12</b> 9:30 Asbury Bremeth 4 Wo. Emma	<b>13</b> 7 Emmaus Reunion	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Traditional Worship	<b>16</b> 7 pm Staff Parish Relations	<b>17</b> 9:30 Staff 10 Stitch 'n'Time 7 Trustees 7 Music/Worsh.	<b>18</b> 6:30 am Dawnbrkrs 6:15 pm Wed Wheels 5:30 <b>Youth Worship</b>	<b>19</b> 10 History Club 4 Wo. Emma 7:30 Choir  	<b>20</b> 7 Emmaus Reunion  	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Traditional Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:30 Staff 7 Finance	<b>25</b> 6:30 am Dawnbrkrs 6:15 pm Wed Wheels 5:30 <b>Youth Worship</b>	<b>26</b> 4 Wo. Emma 7:30 Choir	<b>27</b> 7 Emmaus Reunion 9:30 UMW Board Mtg	<b>28</b> 
Garage Sale Set Up. To volunteer, contact Ruth Herman: 330-467-3237						
<b>29 Bible Sunday</b> 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Traditional Worship 1:30 CROP Walk!	<b>30</b> 	 Communion Stewards this month are Elaine Geringer and Janet Nelson				

# United Methodist News

*“News in the Pews” from the United Methodist News Service*

## ***Praying for Detroit***

DETROIT — On July 18, Detroit became the largest American city in history to file for bankruptcy. In a time of uncertainty and concern, the Rev. Melanie Lee Carey, Detroit Renaissance District superintendent, reminded United Methodists that it is a time to connect and stand together for the city and its people. Join Facebook group Pray for Detroit.

## ***Forgiveness in Congo***

KINSHASHA, Democratic Republic of Congo — Recalling the loss of her husband and four children, Vava Ilombelombe recently challenged African United Methodists to forgive, even when it is difficult. She shared her personal struggle during a July meeting of leaders from the denomination’s Western Congo Annual (regional) Conference, organized by the United Methodist Board of Church and Society.

## ***New leader for Church and Society***

WASHINGTON — The Rev. Susan Henry-Crowe, dean of the Chapel and Religious Life at Emory University in Atlanta, has been elected to succeed James E. Winkler as chief executive of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society. The appointment will be effective at the February 2014 board meeting of the agency.

## ***Missionary appointments announced***

NEW YORK (UMNS) — Longtime United Methodist missionaries Gordon and Maria Tereza “Teca” Great-house have been selected as the new missionaries in residence at the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries.

## ***Wesley sermons catalog***

NEW YORK — On July 25, 1741, John Wesley spoke about the “almost Christian.” The United Methodist Board of Global Ministries offers a list of 171 sermons of the founder of Methodism. To find the sermon catalog, go to <http://www.umcmmission.org/Find-Resources/John-Wesley-Sermons>.



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## **Next FBI director is a United Methodist**

WASHINGTON— James B. Comey Jr., confirmed by the U.S. Senate on July 29 to be the next director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has an extensive résumé in the justice system and law enforcement. He also brings experience as a United Methodist Sunday school teacher to his new post. Neill Caldwell of the Virginia Annual (regional) Conference reports that Comey joined his wife, Patrice, in teaching the middle school Sunday class at Reveille United Methodist Church in Richmond, Va. The Comeys are now members of Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church in Washington.

## **The ABCs of back-to-school outreach**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Whether it’s assembling backpacks with school supplies or organizing a teacher appreciation event, churches can make a difference when the school year begins. Here are a dozen ideas that are as easy as 1-2-3. Find ideas at [umc.org/schools](http://umc.org/schools).

## **United Methodist pastor is 2013 CNN Hero**

NEW ORLEANS — After two experiences with gang-related violence, the Rev. Lisa Fitzpatrick co-founded the APEX Youth Center in New Orleans. The center’s name stands for Always Pursuing Excellence. Since 2010, more than 460 children and young adults have come to the center to spend their free time and escape the violence on the streets. “Our motto is ‘Reconciliation, never retaliation,’ and that’s a hard lesson in an eye-for-an-eye world,” she told CNN. “What we do is (ask) ... ‘How can we address this differently? What could we do to de-escalate this situation instead of escalate the situation?’ I constantly ask questions. ... The young men come up with the answers.”

## **Faithful attendance brings blessings**

JACKSON, Tenn. — Eddie Wade Workman, 71, has not missed a Sunday school class in more than 48 years. “I made a covenant with my Lord and made up my mind to worship the Lord,” he told the Jackson Sun. At Salem United Methodist Church, he has been the Sunday school superintendent for more than 20 years and teaches the senior citizens’ Sunday school class.



Working to keep you connected

<http://umns.umc.org>



*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

Prayers for our CROP Hunger Walk team and those they are helping: those who are hungry, those who are without clean water.

Prayers for students and teachers and their families as the school year begins, and for the Sunday school teachers and helpers volunteering for the church’s fall programming.

Prayers of thanksgiving for the Air Conditioning in the Sanctuary. Pray that this investment will enable more people to join us in worship on Sunday mornings.

**Other Prayer Concerns:**

# 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.

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

Date	Offering
July 28	\$5,853
Aug 4	\$10,043
Aug 11	\$10,604
Aug 18	\$6,985

# PRESENCE

We’ve set a goal of bringing 300 people together for worship on Sunday mornings. We fell short of this goal again this month. What’s keeping you from church on Sunday?

Date	8:30	10:00	Difference
July 28	90	80	-130
Aug 4	85	99	-116
Aug 11	52	121	-127
Aug 18	102	116	-92

What are some other ways you can be present in the life of the church this month?

# SERVICE

Some ways you can be of service to others this month:

- ☐ Walk to fight hunger in the 31st Annual Southern hills CROP Hunger Walk! Can’t walk? Support a walker!
- ☐ Please consider taking a turn in the crib and toddler room. Volunteers are especially needed during the 11:15 worship service. This is an important ministry, and one way that our church family shows care for one another. If you can help, or need more information, please contact Jenny Gee: 440-526-8938.
- ☐ Do you have a ready smile? Do you like to make people feel welcome? Do you like to help others? Put your gifts for hospitality to good use—become an usher! Contact Cec in the church office to learn more!

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