



The Good Word

The Newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church

65 Public Square, Brecksville, Ohio 44141 Phone: 440-526-8938

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The Processional Cross

By Les Buttolph

We've added a very special cross to our worship services. Do you remember what our sanctuary looked like before we did the Capital Campaign renovations a few years ago? There was a large pulpit where the piano is now, a large altar in front of the screen, and a communion rail around the chancel area. To make more room, those three items and several pews were removed and destined for the scrap pile. As an amateur woodworker, I couldn't let some of that very good wood be scrapped, so I salvaged a truck load. So, when Pastor Clark suggested this cross, I volunteered to make it from the "church wood".

The Cross itself is made from the Communion rail, where many of us knelt, joining ourselves in communion with our Lord with our joys and special needs. The 1 1/2" wood was made from three 1/2" strips. Three distinct pieces yet one complete piece, just like our Triune God. Even the surface is "anointed" with oil (tung oil finish) which does not cover the wood, but rather joins with the wood to preserve and protect it.

The pole supporting the Cross is actually conduit, usually used for electrical circuits that provide power to our daily needs. Even the pewter/silver color of the conduit is similar to our chandeliers, which provide illumination to our congregation. So, the pole is symbolic of the power of the Holy Spirit flowing from the Cross as well as the illumination He provides to us.

Once the Cross is present at the Altar, it fits into a wooden base, made from the supports of the pews. Of course, the pew wood is representative of the laity of the church. Even though the base looks like three steps, those steps will never reach Christ without the intervention of the Holy Spirit. As the base (His church) embraces the pole (Holy Spirit), so the Cross of Christ is lifted high.

Just like the wood that was once condemned to destruction, the Master has redeemed us and given us new life. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Cor 5:17) May our Church, through His Holy Spirit, lift Jesus as He leads us in worship, His empty Cross reminding us of His sacrifice and power over sin and death.



8:45 First Service
10:00 Education Hour
11:15 Second Service

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Thanksgiving

Comments from Rev. Clark Stein

“...the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven, and gives life to the world.”

John 6:33

As we prepare for yet another Thanksgiving celebration, I am amazed by how God continually blesses us. Perhaps our celebrations have changed a bit over the years, perhaps not, but as we approach Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday times, we rub up against two areas which push us to scramble to hold on to “tradition”. As society increases its demands and pace, we have changed and conformed to participate as our schedules will allow. Families have scattered, and for some it has become increasingly difficult to “gather the clan” for a festive time of celebration. I can’t help but wonder how all the stress that surrounds preparation and gathering affects the holiday. Thanksgiving was designed as a time of pause to count blessings and thank God for harvest, family, home, clothing, shelter, and the love we experience in our daily walks. This is again an expansion of the notion of “Sabbath”, set on a Thursday, sort of mid-week, set apart.

There was a day that most of the clan lived in the same neighborhood and the gathering was simple. Families shared the land and worked together to harvest all that the earth would provide from their faith and labors. The food that set the table for many was acquired through sweat and dedication, early morning rising to toil until sunset. The purchase price was paid all year through from plow to plant to harvest. Furthermore, much of this work was realized together by those who gathered to celebrate.

Today, we simply purchase most of our celebration. Although the price is paid with monies hard earned through our toil, I can’t help but think we are missing something. It has become easier for us. We only need to check the price of turkey, potatoes, beans, pumpkins, apples, cranberries, etc., and we do not have the worries of seed, rain, fertilizer, yields. That is for others.

As we gather to give thanks this year, may we think back to times past; times when gathering was easier, when fruits of labors set our tables, and Thanksgiving was truly a “Sabbath”. For the source of our true thanksgiving must ultimately be that, “...the bread of God came down from heaven, and gave life to the world.” This is bread that cannot be purchased, but is freely given out of boundless love. As we hustle and gather and purchase and eat, may we also be inclined to observe “Sabbath” space, which can transform our hectic celebrations into quiet thankful times for love and grace.

Peace,

Pastor Clark



United
Methodist
Women

UMW Meeting, Thursday, November 3

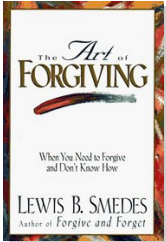
9:30 Continental Breakfast and Fellowship

10:00 Program will feature a hands-on Christmas craft project for Brookside Center children. There will be a collection for the World Thank Offering.

Adult Sunday School

A new series of Adult Sunday School classes begins on November 6. Sign up now for a spot in one of these great studies! Stop by the Parlor between services on Sunday, or click the "Education Registration" link at the top of the right column on our website: www.brecksvilleumc.com.

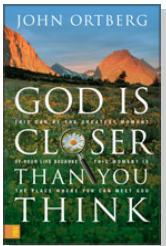
The Art of Forgiveness



Facilitated by Les Buttolph

Have you really thought about forgiveness? Is it as easy as people make it sound? Can I "forgive and forget"? What does it take to forgive someone else, or even myself? How do I know if I have forgiven that person? If you've been wondering about these questions, Lewis Smedes' very practical book on The Art of Forgiving may be something you may want to study with us. We will look at the process of forgiveness and the realities and consequences of why we forgive, what we do when we forgive, whom we forgive, and how we forgive.

God is Closer than You Think



Facilitated by Chuck and Becky Gezze

Intimacy with God can happen right now -- a closeness you can feel, a goodness you can taste, a reality you can experience for yourself. That is what the Bible promises, so why settle for less? God is closer than you think, and making the connection isn't only for monks and ascetics. It is for business people, high school students, busy moms, single men and women... and most important, it's for YOU! Be ready to see God in action and hear God speaking to you while you make a heart-to-heart connection.

A Visit to Mayberry, RFD



Facilitated by Pastor Clark Stein

First televised by CBS between October 3, 1960, and April 1, 1968, and rebroadcast for years since, *The Andy Griffith Show* is familiar to people of all ages. Come join in the fun as our inspirational study based on the show continues until Advent. Reacquaint yourself with Sheriff Andy Taylor, Opie, Aunt Bea, Barney and the rest of the gang. Discuss the moral principles presented in these wonderful stories with others in the family. We'll keep the light on for you!

Advent Worship

Wednesday,
November 30

7:30 pm

Step away from the stresses of life and join with others in welcoming the season of Advent.



All church members should plan to attend our **Charge Conference, Monday, November 21 at 7 pm**. What's a Charge Conference? It's the basic governing body of each United Methodist church. It directs the work of the church and gives general oversight to the church council, reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church, sets salaries for the pastor and staff, elects the members of the church council, and recommends candidates for ordained ministry. *See you there!*

POTLUCK SUPPER

Join us in fellowship as we send Tom and Nell Taylor off to their new home. Save the date, and watch the bulletin for more information!

Sunday, November 13
Fellowship Hall
Following Second Service



MILESTONES

News of the Fellowship

*Have news you would like to share?
Please call or e-mail Melanie.*

Our church family recently lost Helen Sahrbacker, who passed away on Wednesday, October 19. Mrs. Sahrbacker joined BUMC in January 1968.

We offer prayers of support and comfort for the Lundholm family as Nancy grieves the loss of her father, Constantine Tishkin.

Mark and Monika Waite, who were married here in September, sent us a note, addressed to Brecksville United Methodist Church: "Thank you for having us at your church. Our wedding was beautiful and we want to thank you for being a part of it!"

Congratulations to Melissa Schillo who completed her Ph.D degrees in Materials Science and Engineering at The Ohio State University in August. She recently moved to St. Paul, Minnesota to work in the Abrasive Systems Division at 3M as a ceramics research and development engineer.

Arthur Wise was outstanding in *My Fair Lady*, which came to Ej Thomas Hall as part of their Broadway in Akron series. Congratulations, Arthur!

Jenna Schroedel will be appearing in the BBH Middle School production of *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie*, playing at the Middle School on November 4, 5 & 6. This play is an adaptation by a local playwright and will raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Consider attending and showing your support for Jenna and this worthy cause!



November Birthdays



Nancy	Einheit	11/01	Christopher	Hlay	11/15
Karl	Riccardi	11/01	Sandra	Crist	11/16
Joyce	Wuerth	11/01	Edward	Schroedel	11/16
James	McBride	11/02	Michael	Gezze	11/17
Hayden	Vincent	11/02	Zachary	Johnson	11/17
Anthony	Cipolla	11/03	James	Berry	11/18
Jim	Houston	11/03	Shirley	Hill	11/19
Ruth	McKenzie	11/03	Donald	Raybuck	11/19
Alyssa	Whitton	11/03	Diana	Wise	11/19
Elaine	Geringer	11/05	Carole	Brachna	11/20
Ella	Nelson	11/05	Kyle	Holmok	11/20
Melissa	Schillo	11/05	Lucy	Lodge	11/20
Brandon	Calovini	11/06	Matthew	Havranek	11/21
Raymond	Koloda	11/06	Richard	Ling	11/21
Karl	Robie	11/06	Ian	Roberts	11/21
Sean	Lundholm	11/07	Doug	Robie	11/21
Ardyn	Olszko	11/07	Kimberly	Campbell	11/22
Cathy	Drescher	11/08	Rebecca	Paroda	11/22
Brandon	Fisher	11/08	Martha	Rosenthal	11/22
Darell	Fisher	11/08	Jennifer	Sendrey	11/22
Charlotte	Hocutt	11/08	James	Berry	11/25
Connor	Hogan	11/08	David	James	11/25
Allan	Filips	11/09	Debbie	Scheufler	11/25
Michele	Mihalich	11/10	Douglas	Farling	11/26
Bryan	Miller	11/10	Kelly	Meyer	11/26
Michael	Basen	11/11	Adam	Archacki	11/28
Terry	Bennett	11/11	Gladys	Doherty	11/28
Jan	Kaminski	11/11	Henry	James	11/28
Judy	McBride	11/11	Dee	Lancaster	11/28
Ryan	Hulten	11/12	Kimberly	Ling	11/28
Kevin	Vastartis	11/12	Nicholas	Rajkovich	11/28
Kelsey	Hogan	11/13	Kourtney	Ellis	11/29
James	Mueller	11/14	Kaitlyn	Hazelton	11/29
Gregory	Warth	11/14	Brandon	Klipfell	11/29
Brian	Wygonski	11/14			



As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly Staff Meetings, we have recently lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others: Look around BUMC and you might see **Bill Webb**, high up on a ladder, wielding a chain saw, weeding the flower beds, or shepherding 3rd graders in VBS. Or **Mary Kotnik** digging holes in the front yard, finding new homes for large appliances, or preparing meals in the kitchen. **Evan Croy** and his friends Kyle and Joey were grill chefs extraordinaire for the Music Department's tailgate party. Listen and you might hear **Fred Priest** sharing the ways that BUMC has shaped his (and his wife, Olive's) life over 45 years with the church. We are thankful each of you and your unique gifts!

Youth Service Project

Building wheelchair ramps, youth group devotions, installing drywall, meeting our great residents, painting, worship, new friends, care cards, building porches, fun times, roofing, yard work, skits, jugglers and a sand-dune buggy ride. We experienced all of this and much more on YSP 2011 in Grand Rapids Michigan.

18 youth and 6 adults from BUMC joined a total of 497 campers to serve the good people of Grand Rapids this past July. BUMC high school youth were Amanda Auble, Nate Bender, Derek Brinkman, Lauren Brinkman, Christine Drescher, Grace Ford, Stephanie Holmes, Brad Holmok, Allie Kenney, Emily Kotnik, Darren Krolikowski, Mallory Krolikowski, Nick Orr, Michael Pace, Donald Rickert, Doug Robie, Megan Rohrer, and Alyssa Whitton. Adults included Kathy Auble, Jeff & Lucy Fesler, Ruth Herman, Craig Kotnik and Alan Scheufler.

In addition Mark & Catherine Vastartis, and Elizabeth Jaszczak, also served on the camp staff. Campers came from 11 different states. Together we worked on 57 different sites, and volunteered over 11,000 hours of service in one week.

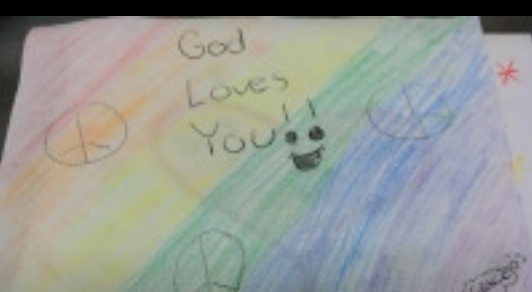
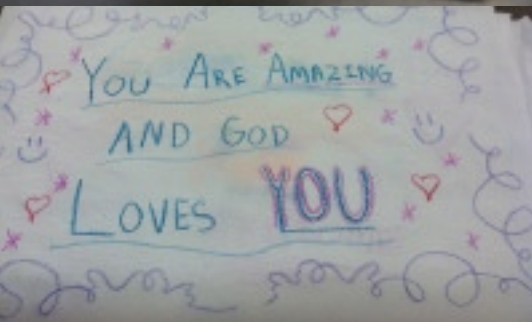
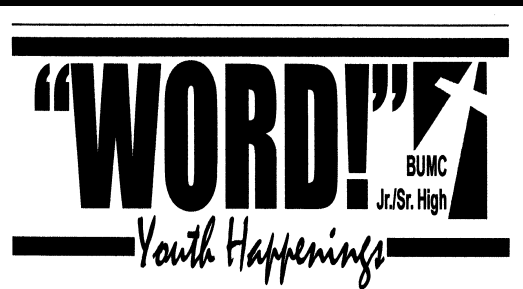
The theme this year was "Connect". We explored what it means to be connected to Christ and to each other. We learned that Christ is the vine and we are the branches. If we separate from Christ's vine, we lose our very connection to him.

We are so grateful for the great support from BUMC. Your support makes these life-changing mission trips possible. We truly had a positive impact on the residents we served and the entire community. Sometimes people from the neighborhood even joined us to repair the homes when they saw such good things happening. Helping others is infectious!

YSP 2012 will be July 8-14 in Rushville Indiana – mark your calendars now. Youth who will have finished their freshman year in high school are eligible to participate. Watch the Sunday bulletin, e-mails, and Good Word for more information on meetings soon. Talk to any youth who have already gone on YSP, and we are sure you will want to go too!

- Alan Scheufler





October was filled with lots of activities for our youth and November will bring the same enthusiasm and more opportunities for growth and fellowship!

During **Quest**, **Soul Quest** and **EPIC** our youth had the opportunity to learn about the **Kairos Prison Ministry**. Les Buttolph spoke with the Soul Quest group about his involvement with this ministry and just how powerful it can be for the inmates. Kairos is one of the most successful programs for rehabilitation, and it is all at NO cost to the prison or inmates. Through speakers, acts of love and cookies, the inmates are taught about Christ's love and forgiveness. The youth were able to participate by decorating placemats (pictured on this page) and baking cookies. Altogether the youth spent about 5 hours in service for this ministry, baked 14 dozen cookies and decorated approximately 100 placemats!

We also joined 70 other youth from the North Coast District to play laser tag, outdoor games, worship, and share about our mission opportunities. Lauren Brinkmann, Megan Rohrer and Grace Ford talked about the YSP trip this summer. Their experiences were videotaped and will be included in the **East Ohio Conference Youth Event: Celebrate Acts 1:8** in Columbus this month.

We will be having a **youth service day** on Saturday Nov. 5 at Nehemiah mission. Specific times/activities/waivers will follow. On Sunday Nov. 6 there's a fantastic **concert** downtown at the Wolstein Center. 7 bands for \$10!! You won't want to miss it! We will meet at the church at 4pm. All seats are first come-first served, so arrive early. The doors open at 5:30pm. Also, the middle school youth (grades 6-8) will have a **whirly ball night** on Saturday the 12!

Be sure and RSVP to all Youth events so we can plan for our transportation needs. If you haven't already, please check online and fill out the Medical Waiver/General Permission form. Just one form for the whole year!

If you aren't receiving e-mails about Youth events, please contact Cristy so we can make sure you get the latest information! youth-dir@brecksvilleumc.com If you are available to drive and join us for any of our activities, please let Cristy know!

Cristy is available by phone or in person in her office on Tuesdays 1pm-4pm and Thursdays 9am-3pm. Any other day please contact her via e-mail or cell phone 216-402-7682.

Important Dates:

11/3: Quest 3:15-4:30
Soul Quest 5:00-6:30

11/5 Youth Service Day at Nehemiah Mission. Time TBA but most likely AM

11/6 Rock & Worship Road Show @ The Wolstein Center Concert Starts at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Meet at the church at 4pm.

11/10 NO QUEST-NO SOUL QUEST

11/12 Middle School Youth Whirly Ball Night 7:00-10pm Cost \$10

11/13 EPIC 6:00-8:00

11/17 Quest 3:15-4:30
Soul Quest 5:00-6:30

11/24 THANKSGIVING!! NO QUEST-NO SOUL QUEST

11/27 EPIC 6:00-8:00pm

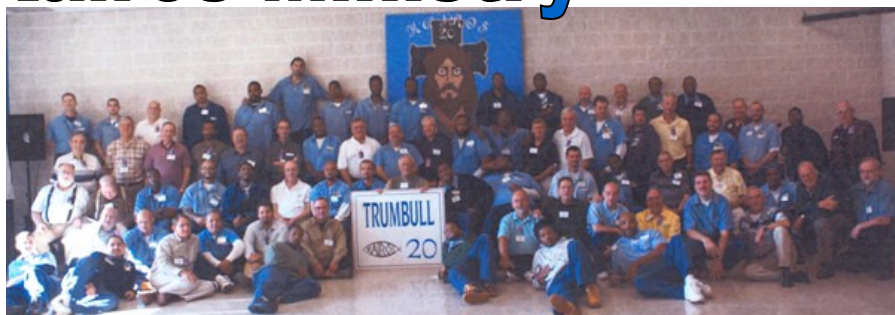
2011 North Coast District Walk to Bethlehem

Congratulations to everyone who is participating in the Walk to Bethlehem! Each one of you has helped us on our journey. For those of you who are thinking about it--it's never too late to join the journey!

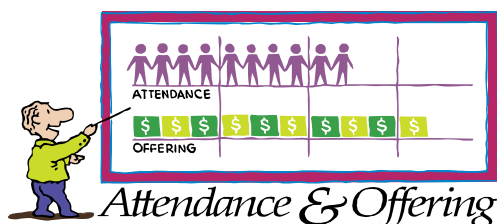
As a district, we have walked 10,952 miles. Wow! That's a lot of miles. We have just entered the Democratic Republic of the Congo to visit some Imagine no Malaria net distribution sites. These 10,952 miles represent a healthier people of the North Coast District as we pay more attention to our exercise, our eating healthier, obtaining our flu shots and health screenings, developing our relationship with our God and being Christ in the world. Our journey is 16,784 miles so we are well on our way to Bethlehem and may spend some time in Africa visiting imagine no malaria net distribution sites.

The focus in November is exercise and developing our spiritual life in preparation for Advent. The focus in December is mission outreach. Won't you join us? Pick up your tally card and tip sheet in the parlor, or download a copy from the church website.

Kairos Ministry




Les Buttolph and a Kairos Ministry team visited Trumbull County Correctional Facility October 6 - 9. Les says, "Thank you for your cookies, prayers, and placemats!



We list each week's attendance and offering in our bulletin announcements. Have you seen it? Below is a chart with information from the past four weeks.

Date	1st Service Attendance	2nd Service Attendance	Offering
September 25	138	120	\$5,969
October 2	143	84	\$11,864
October 9	126	142	\$8,657
October 16	126	101	\$8,727
October 23	132	92	\$7,437



COMMUNITY

Thanksgiving

WORSHIP SERVICE

The Brecksville -
Broadview Heights
Ministerial Association is
hosting a
Community
Thanksgiving Worship Service
Sunday, November 20 at
St. Basil The Great
7 pm



Yard Clean Up Day

The congregation is invited to join the Boy Scouts for our **November 5** BUMC Yard Clean-Up. Start time is 8:30 am and we will work until finished, sometime about noon. Leaves are the main concern but some knowledgeable folks could trim limbs and pull weeds, too. See you there!



Old Cell Phones Add Up!

Recycling Effort Earns Money for Missions. Do you have an old cell phone sitting in a drawer? Recycle it! We just sent 14 more phones off for recycling, earning more dollars for our missions budget. Bring your old phones (no cords or accessories, please) to the red bin in the cloak room.

On Tuesday, **November 1**, at 12:10pm, Joy and Chris will present a preview of their November 19 program, as part of Messiah Lutheran Church's Tuesday Series. The program is open to the public at no cost. Bring your brown bag lunch—coffee, tea, and cookies are provided. The program will conclude before 1pm and is entirely informal...come when you can, and leave when you must. Messiah Lutheran Church is located at 21485 Lorain Road, in Fairview Park.

Organ & Piano Concert. Saturday, November 19, at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary, Joy Fenton and Chris Toth will present an evening of music for organ and piano featuring such composers as Peeters, Busoni, Bach, Jongen and Finzi. It's a diverse program featuring music from many times and places in musical history. Music is for various instrumental combinations, including piano and organ and works for four hands (or two people) sitting at one piano. It promises to be an energetic and entertaining concert by musicians you actually know! A reception will follow in the parlor.

Come and hear **Handel's Messiah**, performed by the Cleveland Messiah Chorus and accompanied by our organist, Chris Toth. The concert is Sunday, November 27, at 7:00 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 13001 Cedar Rd, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. A free will offering will be taken.

Christmas Concert. On Sunday, December 11, the Brecksville Community Chorus and Youth Chorus will return to our Sanctuary at 4:00pm for their annual Christmas Concert. Under the direction of Donna Box and Joy Fenton, both choruses will offer a blend of sacred and secular music representing a broad range of styles.



Music News

Fall is well underway, and so much is happening in the Music Department! Our Tailgate Party was a huge success and raised over \$600 for our Community Outreach Concert Series. Announcements related to upcoming concerts and events can be found here in the *Good Word*, in your Sunday bulletins, or at any time on our church website.

This month, I wanted to share a short hymn biography related to our November liturgy. All Saints Day is on Tuesday, November 1, and we will observe All Saints in our worship on Sunday, November 6. You can expect a rich service of remembrance and celebration! One of the great hymns of the faith associated with All Saints is *For All the Saints*, written in 1864 by Bishop William How (1823 – 1897). Bishop How cited Hebrews 12:1 as the title inspiration, but the hymn draws from the entire 11th chapter of Hebrews, which we often know as the “faith chapter.” In its initial form, the hymn had *eleven* stanzas!

Debate raged for over 30 years as to whether this hymn was best sung to the tune we know [Ralph Vaughan Williams' SINE NOMINE, written in 1906] or an older tune by Joseph Barnby. Many critics felt that Vaughan Williams' melody was a “feeble dance tune” and “sound[ed] like jazz music.” Interesting criticisms for a tune that is quite beloved today. Presently, SINE NOMINE is used almost exclusively, though our Methodist Companion to the Hymnal suggests, “using the alternate harmonization for several stanzas [to] underscore the reflective qualities of this hymn and help mitigate the tendency of strong unison singing to caricature the Christian church and its mission as unqualifiedly militaristic and triumphal.”

Ultimately, though, the author of this hymn was himself a man of tremendous character and a caring saint of the church in the truest sense. He is quoted as having said that among the qualities a minister should possess was that of being “wholly without thought of self.” His contemporaries knew him as just that sort of man, one who selflessly cared for those around him. His life and spirit were certainly a fine model for us, as we are modern saints of the church, and perhaps we can be aware of that spirit as we sing the hymn he penned. May you enjoy precious memories and deep thankfulness for the saints who have walked through your life!

- Soli Deo Gloria, Joy Fenton, Director of Music



Would you consider joining our **Handbell Choir**? This group is open to anyone from the 9th grade to the age of 90. No experience is necessary, and Chris or Joy will spend time with you to make sure that you get up to speed quickly. Rehearsals, which are focused but fun, are Thursday evenings from 6:15 pm to 7:30 pm. The group plays on Sundays once a month during the school year. Please contact Chris at tothchristopher@att.net for more information.



It's also time to extend an invitation to sing in our **Christmas Celebration Choir**. If you have been itching to sing but haven't quite felt you could make the time commitment, this opportunity is for you! It's also for anyone who loves Christmas music, loves to sing, or is just ready to try something new! Rehearsals for Christmas Choir will be on Wednesday or Thursday evenings from 8:00 to 9:00pm, beginning on Wednesdays, November 2 & 9, then switching to Thursday evenings, November 17 through December 22. We will share in worship at 11:15 on Sunday, December 4, at both the 8:45 and 11:15 services on Sunday, December 18 (Christmas Music Sunday), and at the 8:00 and/or 10:00 services on Christmas Eve. Please join us! (If you have questions about the schedule above, just ask Joy!)



The Art of Welcoming

On Saturday, October 22, our church ushers participated in a Welcoming Workshop where they discussed the importance of creating a welcoming environment in our church. Welcoming is the responsibility of all members of our congregation. It's not just the job of a committee, the pastor or the ushers. Welcoming is part of who we are as Christians, a gift we offer to a stranger with no expectation of anything in return. Some people may have more experience or more comfort with welcoming, but we all still have a biblical imperative to do it. Below are some ideas that might make it easier for you to welcome others to our church. Can you come up with other ideas, too?

- **The Circle of 10:** Greet anyone, member or guest, who comes within ten feet of you. Make a special effort to greet the people you don't already know within your Circle of 10.
- **Rule of Three:** For the first three minutes after the service, make a point to talk only to those you don't know or to people you know are guests. It takes guests about three minutes to exit the church after worship. Make sure someone has made contact with them before they leave.
- **Try a conversation starter:** Offer a handshake and say, "Hello. My name is _____. What's your name?" Repeat the person's name so you make sure that you get it right and more easily remember it. If you think you know the face but can't recall the name, try this approach: "Hello, I'm _____. I believe I've seen you here before but I don't know that we've had the opportunity to meet. What is your name?"
- **Offer Grace:** Don't be embarrassed if you're greeting a member and don't know that person's name—or be offended if someone doesn't remember yours. We need to offer grace to one another, just as we would to new people.
- **Remember Welcomes:** Think of a time when you felt particularly welcomed. Did someone use your name? Remember something about you? How did it make you feel? What can you do to give this feeling to another person?



The Book Cart

From Carole Brachna

The book cart just outside the sanctuary is full of new additions generously gifted to the church. Feel free to borrow one for a child to read during the service. No need to check it out if you are borrowing only during the service.

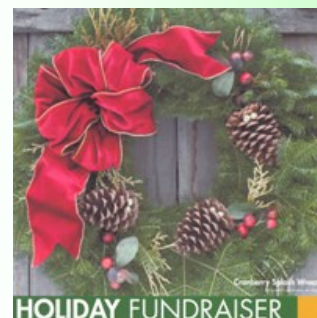
Wonderful books for children:

Looking for ways to teach your children what it was like in Jesus' time? The book cart has several recent additions you may be interested in. *Jesus Grows Up* by Pilar Paris is a gentle read for younger children, telling the story of Jesus' life until the age of 12. *If I had Lived in Jesus' Time* contains lively illustrations of the differences between living in the 1st century and living in the 21st century.

New titles for adults:

As we approach Thanksgiving, check out Holly Whitcomb's *Feasting With God: Adventures in Table Spirituality*. Whitcomb's joyful work includes mouthwatering recipes and topics for reflection and discussion.

Or how about *Messy Spirituality: God's Annoying Love For Imperfect People* by Michael Yaconelli? This title is not for those who have already achieved perfection in their spiritual life, but for the rest of us who struggle with our own imperfections.



HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

Enjoy the beauty and fragrance of handcrafted evergreens throughout the Holiday Season!

Live Christmas Wreaths- \$18-\$24

Matching Spray - \$15-\$20 each

Candlelit Centerpiece - \$25 each

14" tall Living Tree with lights
\$23 each

Orders will be shipped to Brecksville the week of Thanksgiving. They can also be shipped to friends and relatives within the lower 48 states by early December.

These beautiful handcrafted evergreens are a Fundraiser for the Brecksville Chapter of P.E.O., an organization that raises money for women's scholarships. This is our fifth year of selling these handcrafted evergreens and we are very pleased with their quality. They will last all throughout the holiday season.

To see colored pictures of the handcrafted evergreens contact Gail Huth, Ruth McDonel, Ann Rittman, Catherine Vastartis, Mary Hoffman, Janet Nelson, Carol Wilson, June Tschannen, Gloria Southam, Elaine Geringer, Pat Prominski or Lois Markley.

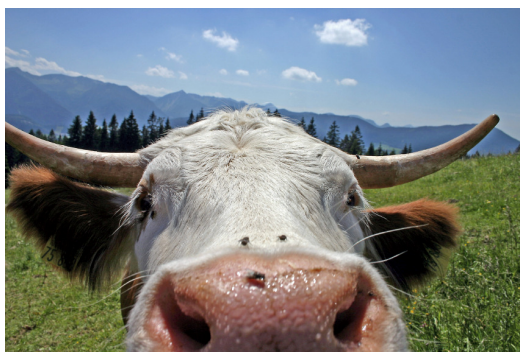
Get your Christmas shopping done and help a worthy cause. Don't delay! Orders need to be placed this week!



Coffee Fellowship

In November, our Worship Committee will be hosting coffee each Sunday morning. Come to The Parlor between services for

fellowship and to learn more about this ministry.



Young People Collect for Heifer International

Each year our young people donate their Sunday School dollars to a worthy cause that touches their hearts. Last year they collected enough money to pay for the purchase and installation of a fresh water well in Camphor Mission Liberia. This year they are setting their sights on the purchase of livestock through Heifer International.

The mission of Heifer International is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth. By giving families a hand-up, not just a hand-out, lives of hunger and poverty grow into self-reliance and hope.

With gifts of livestock and training, our young people will be helping families improve their nutrition and generate income in sustainable ways. The animals are referred to as "living loans". In exchange for the livestock and training one family receives, they agree to give one of the animal's offspring to another family in need. Passing on the Gift is a cornerstone of Heifer's mission that creates an ever-expanding network of hope and peace.

Today, millions of people who were once hungry are being nourished by milk, eggs and fresh vegetables.

Families who for generations knew only poverty are building new homes and starting businesses.

Children who once headed out to the fields to do backbreaking work are heading into schoolrooms to learn to read.

And people who never thought they'd be in a position to help someone else are experiencing the joy of charitable giving.

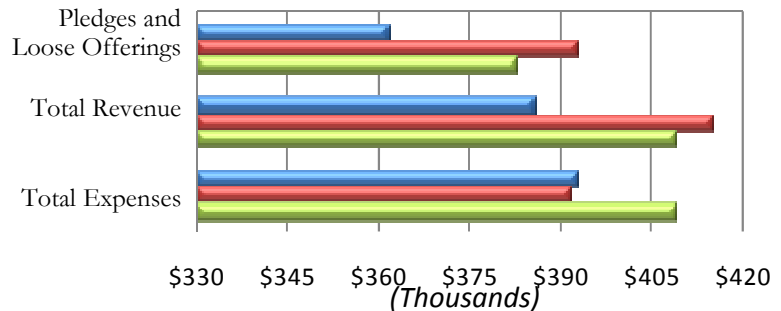
If you would like to add to the donations please mark your envelope "Heifer" and drop it in the offering plate. We will keep you updated on the success of our mission efforts.

From The Finance Committee

Budget Status: Below is a graph of our financial status through the end of the third quarter. Year-to-date, our Total Revenues have been strong and thanks to everyone's efforts our expenses have been controlled tightly (currently less than budget).

Financial Status Year-to-Date

■ 2010 Actual ■ 2011 Actual ■ 2011 Budget



2012 Stewardship Campaign



The Ripple Effect

How far does OUR giving go?

You're invited to share with us your personal or group ministries as part of the BUMC. In the Church Parlor you will find a U.S. and World Map. Using a push pin, please mark on the U.S. or World Map where you or your group's prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness has been shared. Additionally you may print you or your group's name, the type of ministry, and the exact location of its impact in the provided log.

*For I was hungry
and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty
and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger
and you invited me in,
I needed clothes
and you clothed me,
I was sick
and you looked after me,
I was in prison and you came to visit me.
Matthew 25: 35 -36*

Methodism 101

Do United Methodists Believe in Saints?

United Methodists believe in saints, but not in the same manner as the Roman Catholic Church. We recognize Matthew, Paul, John, Luke and other early followers of Jesus as saints, and countless numbers of United Methodist churches are named after these saints. We also recognize and celebrate All Saints Day (Nov. 1) and "all the saints who from their labors rest."

However, our denomination does not have any system whereby people are elected to sainthood. We do not pray to saints, nor do we believe they serve as mediators to God. United Methodists call people "saints" because they exemplified the Christian life. In this sense, every Christian can be considered a saint.

United Methodist believe "... there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human who gave himself a ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:5-6a).

John Wesley believed we have much to learn from the saints, but he did not encourage anyone to worship them. He expressed concern about the Church of England's focus on saints' days and said that "most of the holy days were at present answering no valuable end."

Wesley's focus was entirely on the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

--The Rev. J. Richard Peck for UMC 101 Learn more at www.umc.org



BUMC CROP Walk

Food security occurs when people have consistent access – physically and economically – to sufficient safe and nutritious food to maintain a healthy and

active life. For too many people, food security is a dream – and food insecurity is their reality. On Sunday, October 2, walkers from 13 area churches participated in the annual CROP walk to end hunger. Walkers



Catherine Vastartis, Pat Gordon, Carole Brachna and Cec Podolny were among the walkers from BUMC.

were given the option to carry gallon jugs of water on their walk, to help them imagine what it is like for many African women whose limited access to clean drinking water forces them to carry gallons of water many miles every day.

12 walkers from Brecksville United Methodist Church took part in the walk, and many more provided their financial support. We raised \$657! Think of all the good that money will do. It's the Ripple Effect in Action!



**All
Saints'
Day**

November 6

On All Saints Sunday, we will read the names of the saints of the church who have died since last November. If you have lost a loved one in the last year, submit their name to be read during worship. Drop a note to Pastor Clark now or submit the name to be read during worship that morning.



BAKE SALE THANK YOU

A big thank you to the bakers and buyers for making the UMW bake sale a success. The sale was held during the September Garage Sale and grossed \$285 for the UMW mission funds.

Writers Wanted!







Interested in contributing to this year's Advent Devotional project? This is a wonderful way to share your experience of faith with others. Please contact Pastor Clark or e-mail the office for more information.

office@brecksvilleumc.com



NOVEMBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 <p>Janine and Emily Telischak</p> <p>6 All Saints Sunday</p> <p>8 Worship Band 8:45 Worship 10 Sunday School 11:15 Worship 2 Hiking Club 7 Rock & Worship</p> <p>13 Commitment Sunday</p> <p>8 Worship Band 8:45 Worship 10 Sunday School 11:15 Worship 12 Church Potluck 6 Epic</p> <p>20 Christ The King Sunday</p> <p>8 Worship Band 8:45 Worship 10 Sunday School 11:15 Worship 6 Epic 7 Community Thanksgiving Svc</p> <p>27 First Sunday in Advent</p> <p>8 Worship Band 8:45 Worship 10 Sunday School 11:15 Worship 6 Epic</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7 Bible Study</p> <p>14</p> <p>7 Bible Study</p> <p>21</p> <p>7 Charge Conference and Administrative Board Meeting</p> <p>28</p> <p>7 Bible Study</p>	<p>1</p> <p>11 Staff Meeting 7 Knitting Group 7:30 Gifts & Memorials</p> <p>8</p> <p>9:30 Staff Meeting 7 COM 8 Committee Mtgs: COE, Evangelism, Missions, Music Board, Worship, Youth Board</p> <p>15</p> <p>9:30 Staff Meeting 7 Knitting Group 7:30 Finance 7:30 Trustees</p> <p>22</p> <p>9:30 Staff Meeting</p> <p>29</p> <p>9:30 Staff Meeting 6 Hanging of the Greens, Church</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbreakers 3:30 CMAP 7:30 Chancel Choir 8 Christmas Choir</p> <p>9</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbreakers 3:30 CMAP 7:30 Chancel Choir 8 Christmas Choir</p> <p>16</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbreakers 3:30 CMAP 7 Staff Parish Relations</p> <p>23</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbreakers No CMAP Today</p> <p>30</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbreakers 3:30 CMAP 7:30 Advent Worship Service</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:30 UMW Meeting 3:15 Quest 5 Soul Quest 6:15 HS Ensemble 6:15 Handbells</p> <p>10</p> <p>9 Program Staff Training Day 9:30 Asbury Brem <i>No Quest or Soul Quest Today</i> 6:15 HS Ensemble 6:15 Handbells</p> <p>17</p> <p>9:30 History Club 3:15 Quest 5 Soul Quest 6:15 HS Ensemble 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Chancel Choir 8 Christmas Choir</p> <p>24</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>9 Men's Bible Study</p> <p>11</p> <p>9 Men's Bible Study</p> <p>18</p> <p>9 Men's Bible Study 9:30 UMW Board Meeting</p>  <p>25</p> <p>Church Offices Closed</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Youth Service Day Yard Clean Up Day! Ecumenical Chapel Service at Chippewa Place</p> <p>12</p> <p>7p Middle School Youth Whirly Ball Night</p> <p>Wedding</p> <p>19</p> <p>7:30a Cleveland Food Bank Ecumenical Chapel Service at Chippewa Place 7:30p Organ & Piano Concert</p> <p>26</p> <p>10 Hanging of the Greens, Sanctuary</p> 
<p align="center">Come to Sunday Worship!</p> <p>Nov. 6: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4. "All Along the Watchtower". Nov. 13: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Haggai 1:15b-2:9. "A Thanksgiving Centerpiece" Nov. 20: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25. "We Are Witnesses" Nov. 27: Matthew 24:36-44; Isaiah 2:1-5. It's a Wonderful Life. "Setting the scene: Someone Needs Help"</p>						