

The Good Word

Brecksville United Methodist Church

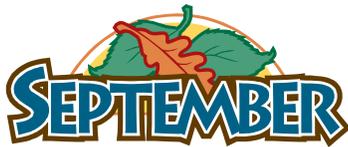
Living in Christ. Serving in Love.

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

Published August 27, 2010

Regular Worship Hours Return 9/12

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



September 4

Drew/Kropinak Wedding

September 12

Regular worship hours return

September 14

Super Tuesday Committee Mtgs

September 15

Quest and CMAP begin

September 16

SoulQuest and
High School Choir begin

September 19

Middle School Bike Ride
and Picnic

September 26

Charge Conference
High School and Middle School
Fall Fun Days



Information about fall programs and events inside!

Charge Conference September 26

Our Charge Conference, the church's annual meeting, will be held on Sunday, Sept. 26, at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary, presided over by our District Superintendent, Orlando Chaffee. We will call this conference as a church conference, which allows any member in attendance to vote on business. At a United Methodist Charge Conference, we care for matters of church health and leadership, as you might do at the annual meeting of a company. We discuss clergy relationships to this congregation, membership, business, and issues of our connection to the larger church. You are invited to come be a part of this distinctive United Methodist tradition.



Our Staff

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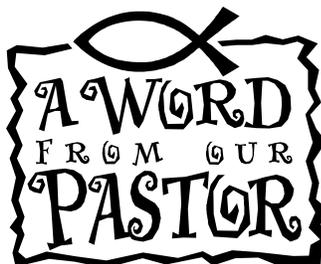
Financial Secretary, **Pat Gordon**

Church School Registrar, **Joan Olszko**

Facility Managers,
Jeff and Scott Hastings

Organist, **Chris Toth**

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Doing Discipleship

Comments from Rev. Karen Oehl

Thank you, Brecksville United Methodist Church. Through your pushing (in the form of the Staff Parish Relations Committee) and financial support (in the form of Gifts and Memorials continuing education funding), I was able to spend the first week of August in Michigan in beautiful Bay View listening to theologian/sociologist/storyteller Tex Sample. I attended a Church Leaders Institute sponsored by the Methodist Theological School in Ohio and Garrett Evangelical Seminary. We heard a lecture in the morning and then in the afternoon members of the Institute had the opportunity to dialogue as a small group with this respected writer.

The theme that Sample built on through the week was the Craft of Discipleship. Discipleship is not a frame of mind or a belief system, it is the activity of one's life. Sample encouraged us to constantly go beyond just thinking about our faith into living it. Too many times we live out our Christianity just in our own minds. Sample called this "sinus theology", which never goes beyond the space above our eyebrows. He focused on four areas in which we can improve the craft of discipleship in our own lives, and more importantly in our shared life as a church.

First, we need to be involved in *Getting the Story Right*. Each person is shaped by the culture, family, and environment that he or she lives in. Every person has a story. But instead of starting with our own story and trying to make God's story fit our values and perspectives, we've got to turn it the other way around. Our task is to allow our own story to be formed by God's story. This takes practice and intention. But it is the way to truly come to know God. Aristotle pointed out that there is a difference between *knowing* and *knowing how*. Being a disciple involves knowing how, and you learn this by doing.

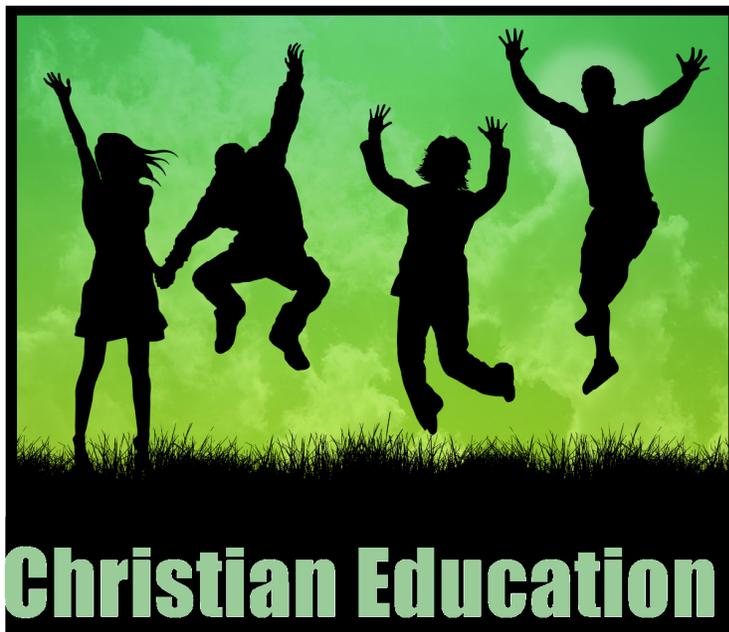
Second, since we need to know God's story to be shaped by it, it is important for us to *Read the Bible as a Church*. The scriptures are the witness of God's ongoing activity in the world, and point us to the craft of discipleship. Within the scriptures we find our key story: the revelation of God in Jesus. The best way to read and interpret scripture is not alone, but as a community of faith. This provides a corrective to our habit of putting our own story first. As a community we are looking to interact with God in the scriptures, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Sample described reading the Bible as a Church this way: "Interpreting scripture is more like performing the script of a play than constructing history from fragments. It is not fiction. Not play acting. It is engaging the life of the entire community; the church."

OUR
Journey
 OF FAITH



Third, the craft of discipleship by definition will involve us in *Doing Justice*. Sample cautioned us against reducing justice to an issue of rights, and justification to an issue of forgiveness of sins. Instead, God's justification, enacted by Jesus, puts us into a right relationship with God and others. In this new relationship, this new world created by Jesus, there is no difference between Jew or Gentile, slave or free, man or woman

(Continued on page 9)



HIGH SCHOOL

Two options for high school students:

“Am I Happy?”

Join other **9-10 graders** in the search for happiness. We are promised the “pursuit of happiness,” right? You will dig into relationships, accomplishments, appearances, and circumstances. Are we guaranteed a happy life? What does God say about happiness. This video-based class will have you thinking and talking as Sean McDowell, a nationally known youth speaker and writer will give you food for thought. Your new 9-10 grade youth room is on the 4th floor! See Youth Minister, Lisa Drew, with any questions.

There's Something for Everyone at BUMC!

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Birth to age 3 - Crib and Toddler Room, 206: Nursery care is available during both worship services as well as during Sunday School Classes. Toys fill this room and two caregivers will be with the children.

3 to 5 year olds - Godly Play is a method of Christian Education and spiritual direction that teaches children the art of using religious language - sacred story, parable, silence and liturgical action - helping them become more fully aware of the mystery of God's presence around them and in their lives.

3 years through 2nd grade students - Sprouts is offered during both Worship Services. Parents should sign their children into the Sprouts room before worship begins and proceed to worship with their children. After the Children's Moment your child will be escorted to Room 103 for the remainder of worship service. Your child can be escorted directly to Godly Play or Rotation if you indicate this on the sign in sheet.

1st Grade through 5th Grade - Rotation model Sunday School teaches Bible stories and concepts through kid-friendly multimedia workshops. The same Bible story will be taught in each of the workshops during the 5-7 week period. This approach will teach a different aspect of the story each week providing the children a chance to delve deeper and explore God's word.

Location: Parent drop off and pick up will be in whatever room the child's grade is rotating to that particular Sunday. Rotation classes are posted in the main church hallway (2nd floor) each Sunday.

6th through 8th Grades - Young Disciples are more traditional Sunday school classes broken down by grade level intended to grow young disciples of Christ. The students will take a deeper look at the Bible and reflect on how the teachings fit into their life today. The 6th & 7th grade combined class will meet in the back half of Room 301. The 8th grade class will meet in Room 402.

***Age = at the beginning of the Sunday School year - September 12, 2010**

“Conflict: Overcoming Stress in Your Relationships”

11-12 Graders, do you face conflict on a regular basis? Is life just a string of stress after stress after stress? If you have conflict in your life at any level then don't miss this video-based Sunday school series helping you to look at life from a new perspective and get a handle on stress. Doug Fields, a teaching pastor and youth speaker, will give you thoughts to chew on and discuss. Join other 11-12 graders in the 4th Floor youth room! See, Youth Minister, Lisa Drew, with any questions.

ADULT EDUCATION

In order to appeal to all tastes, classes generally adhering to the following 4 themes will be offered: Faith Issues Lectures, Bible and Church Studies, Book Studies, and Faith & Family.

See information about upcoming Adult Education classes on the next page!



FAITH ISSUES LECTURES



The Faith Issues class is a drop-in class that meets in the Sanctuary between the worship services each week. Pastor Karen will lift an issue that relates to the readings and theme for that particular week. We might explore the Bible text more fully, unravel a theological question that arises from the sermon, or get a Methodist perspective on something.

Come prepared to ask questions and have some discussion and pastoral teaching.

FAITH AND FAMILY

Join Jenny Gee and Kathy Auble for an informal roundtable discussion about adolescents and the stages they go through in these years of rapid growth and development. How do we keep ourselves, as parents, grounded during these years? Join other parents of adolescents to share stories of struggle and understanding.



Adult Education

BIBLE AND CHURCH STUDIES

Twelve Ordinary Men

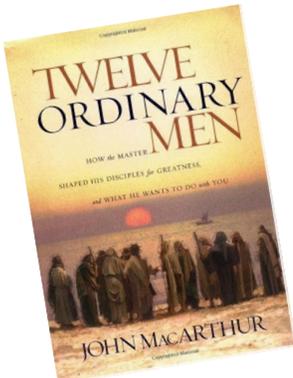
Facilitated by Les and Cathy Buttolph

Would you like to know more about the disciples – where they came from, how they interacted with the others, and ultimately what happened to them?

We will be studying these twelve ordinary, hopelessly human, remarkable unremarkable men, and learn how they responded to Jesus' masterful teaching and touch to become a powerful force in spreading the gospel message.

The course will be based on the book of the same name by John MacArthur, a very knowledgeable, dynamic pastor.

The book will not be required for this course. Just come and be prepared to put yourself in the disciple's sandals and gain some Biblical perspectives.



www.brecksvilleumc.com

BOOK STUDIES

Living in Christ, Serving in Love: Bringing the "Spiritual" and the "Secular" Together

Our mission statement at BUMC beautifully states our purpose as Christians in the world. But do you ever catch yourself saying something like, "You know, we have done such a good job focusing on service; it is really time to invest ourselves on growing our spiritual lives." Or perhaps you've thought, "What good does it do me to spend all this time in Bible study if I can't find any practical application to my life?!"

From time to time, we all get caught up in *dualistic* thinking, a subject that Robert McAfee Brown addresses with humor and wisdom in his wonderful book, *Spirituality and Liberation: Overcoming the Great Fallacy*. This is a text about setting our philosophy in such a way that it can harmoniously guide every aspect of our daily life... both those areas that seem "spiritual" and those areas that seem "secular." (Except by the end, you may be convinced that they are one and the same!)

This book is not for the faint of heart. If you are ready to be challenged, not only in your thinking but in your ability to read and synthesize challenging content, this class is for you! To aid in your study, Joy is offering this text as a **book on CD**. She will take you, aloud, through the entire content of this text, so that you can listen in conjunction with your reading, while commuting, or while going about your daily activities.

CMAP: Christian Musical Arts Program

Body, Mind, Spirit, Voice

In the words of esteemed children's choral director, Helen Kemp, "it takes the *whole person* to sing and rejoice!" In that spirit, the Christian Musical Arts Program (CMAP) will resume once again this fall. In conjunction with Quest, CMAP provides a variety of musical and worship opportunities for children in Kindergarten through 8th grade. The program this fall will include adjusted start times to accommodate feedback regarding schedules as well as new handbell opportunities for all ages!

For more detailed information, contact Lisa Drew (Quest) or Joy Fenton/Jenny Gee (CMAP). We hope to see many new faces this fall!

Quest/CMAP Schedule 2010 - 2011

| | 3:15 – 4:00 | 4:00 – 4:30 | 4:30 – 5:15 | 5:15 – 6:00 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| K – 1 st | NA | NA | NA | Choir (new time!) |
| 2 nd – 3 rd | NA | Optional handbells | Choir | Worship Arts |
| 4 th – 5 th | NA | Optional handbells | Worship Arts | Choir |
| Middle School | Quest | Quest (continued) | Handbells | Choir |

Quest for Middle School

Quest is a weekly opportunity for middle schoolers to find encouragement, friendship and faith development in a safe environment. Each time we gather there are games, snacks and Bible study. We follow the lectionary so what the kids are learning about on Wednesday they will hear again on Sunday morning in a variety of ways. Middle school is a very formative time in the faith life of a person and Quest is a chance for Middle schoolers to "plug-in" to their relationship with Christ and each other. Note the new time for Quest this year—3:15-4:30pm. Registration forms can be found on the church website www.brecksvilleumc.com. See Youth Minister, Lisa Drew, if you have any questions.

In case you're wondering...

"What Do I do when my child transitions from one level to another?"

Is your child moving from Godly Play to Rotation, out of Rotation and into Young Disciples, or are you the proud parent of a 9th grader entering the senior high program? If so, don't fret... the transition is simple.

For all of our incoming first graders we will hold a meeting after the 8:45 worship service on September 12. Parents and children, please meet Jenny in the parlor to learn how rotation will be different for you compared to Godly Play. You will then be escorted to your classroom.

For students leaving Rotation and entering Young Disciples, meet in your assigned room – 6th and 7th graders in Room 301 B and 8th graders in Room 402. This will be your classroom for the entire school year. You will meet your teachers and have time to catch up with each other.

9th Graders, "you have arrived." Meet in the youth room on the 4th floor!



A Change This Year!

This year ALL Sunday School classes will follow the same calendar. This means that if you are a Rotation teacher and you want to take an adult Sunday School class you can - and you won't miss a minute! This also means that if you are moved to teach High School and then want to share your knowledge with adults, the schedule will not get in the way! The year is broken into 6 sessions:

Session 1: Sept. 12 – Oct. 17
♦ *Six Week Unit*

Session 2: Oct. 24 – Nov. 21
♦ *Five Week Unit*

Session 3: Dec. 5 --19
♦ *Three Week Unit*

Two Week Break: *No Sunday school or Godly Play on December 26 or Jan. 2. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

Session 4: January 9 – Feb. 27
♦ *Eight Week Unit*

Children's Worship Sunday, March 6, both services.
Last week of session 4 for adults, middle school and high school.

Session 5: March 13 – April 17
♦ *Six Week Unit*

No Sunday School or Godly Play on April 24 – Happy Easter!

Session 6: May 1 – 22
♦ *Four Week Unit*

May 29th off for Memorial Day
June 5th Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast



Alpha begins on Sept 12 and end on Nov 14. This includes a Saturday retreat on Oct 30th. We will meet Sundays from 5-7:30pm. A donation of \$5 per week covers food and materials. Child care will be provided. Register now and bring a friend!

Need more information? Visit www.alpha.org or call the office!

Health Kits

Our BUMC Middle Schoolers are collecting items to assemble health kits used by UMCOR. These kits help people stranded by natural disaster, war and poverty. There is a donation box marked "Health Kits" in the cloak room (next to the Fellowship Hall). On Oct. 24 the young people will assemble kits and learn about the way United Methodists are touching the world with the compassion of Christ. Help by donating:

- ◆ Hand towel (15" X 25" up to 17" X 27", no kitchen towels)
- ◆ Wash cloth
- ◆ Comb (sturdy large, not pocket)
- ◆ Nail File or fingernail clippers
- ◆ Bath-sized bar of soap (3 oz. up)
- ◆ Toothbrush (single brushes in original wrapper, no child-size brushes)
- ◆ Adhesive plastic strip bandages
- ◆ Sealable one-gallon plastic bags
- ◆ Monetary donation helps purchase items. (Checks to BUMC and mark it Health Kits.)

The 2010-2011 Committee Roster is Now Available

MEMBERS-ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

(Meets in January, April, July, and October)

- * Karen M. Oehl, Senior Pastor
Libby Kuntz, Associate Pastor of Visitation
- * Jenny Gee, Director of Christian Education
- * Lisa Drew, Director of Youth Ministries
- * Joy Fenton, Director of Music Ministries
- * Les Buttolph, Business Manager/Treasurer
- * Administrative Board Chairperson, Sue Hastings (440-838-0947)
Secretary, Sherry Klodnik, (440-526-6431)
Lay Members to Annual Conference,
Elizabeth Jaszczak (216-573-0600), Jenny Gee (440-526-8149)
- * Lay Leader, Lynn Spencer (440-838-4317)
- * President of United Methodist Women:
Ruth Herman (330-467-3237) and Sandy Crist (440-526-1494)
- * President of United Methodist Men, 'Skip' Smith (440-526-4264)
Church Historian, Marianne Nolan (440-526-2272)

CHAIRPERSONS

- * Council on Ministries - Lynn Spencer (440-838-4317)
- * Education - Scott Ford (440-526-0525)
- * Evangelism – Kathy Goebel (330-467-6806)
Finance – Shelly Meek (216-447-3484)
Gifts & Memorials - Kay AuWerter (440-546-5382)
- * Missions – Janet Kleckner (440-526-2386)
- * Music Board – Karen Schroedel (440-237-7532)
Staff Parish Relations – Bruce McCrodden (440-546-9127)
Trustees – Jim Fredrick (440-526-8556)
- * Worship – Lynn Hobzek (440-526-6037), Jane Petrie (440-526-1725)
- * Youth Board – John Dietrich (440-877-0852)
- * Secretary, Council on Ministries - Sherry Klodnik, (440-526-6431)

* = *Also Council on Ministries*

For a list of committee members, please contact the church office.



Opportunities for Ministry **Through Music & the Arts**

Chancel Choir

Meets Thursday evenings 7:30 – 9:00 pm; directed by Joy Fenton.
Open to all adults – ability to read music is not required.

Adult Handbells

Meets Thursday evenings from 6:15 – 7:30 pm; directed by Chris Toth.
Open to adults and high school students – basic ability to read music is helpful. Previous handbell experience is not required.
Please let Chris know if you plan to attend.

Contemporary Worship Team

Rehearses on Thursday afternoons at 3:30 pm and Sunday mornings.
Instrumentalists are invited to join the band on Sunday mornings.
Please let Joy know if you plan to attend.

High School Choir

This brand new ensemble will meet on Thursday evenings from 6:15 to 7 pm; directed by Joy Fenton. We will meet following SoulQuest, our new senior high youth group. Please contact Joy for more information!

Sound/Projection System Technician

Needed on Sunday mornings, once a month, for a single service.
You don't need to be a "techie"! High school students are welcome.
Training provided, serve when you are available. Contact George Gee (screens) or Paul Calovini (sound) for information.

Music Librarian

Needed for a few hours per month to assist with filing and organizing music. Serve when you are available.
Contact Joy for more information or to volunteer.

Hope to see YOU in the music department!

Contact me with any questions – music@brecksvilleumc.com!

Peace,
Joy Fenton
Director of Music

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



Dear friends at BUMC,
Thank you so much to all of you for your generous financial gifts over the past few months. This difficult time has been made so much easier through knowing I have your support and prayers. I feel blessed to have so many people looking out for me.
Sincerely, Noel Fenton

I'd like to thank Rev. Libby and those members of the congregation who visited during calling hours, sent cards, or who prayed for my family following the recent passing of my father. It certainly gave Diana, Jonathan, Arthur and I comfort during our time of sorrow. God bless you all and thank you for caring.
Ken Wise

Many thanks to my church family for the cards & prayers. My back surgery went well and I'm in much less discomfort. Many, many thanks to Libby (twice). June 28th was a shocker. I was called back to the waiting room and informed my doctor had passed away in his sleep! July 25 the operation went well. We were grateful to have Libby's support and comfort.

Eileen Yates



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

Happy Anniversary to Tom and Nell Taylor, who celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on August 6 with a trip to romantic Quebec, Canada.

Anniversary wishes also go out to Craig and Pam Czarnota, who walked down the aisle one September 6th.

Congratulations to Marianne Nolan on her retirement from Cleveland State University after more than 30 years of service.

Look out world, Sean Lundholm and Laina Culley are new drivers!

Janet Kleckner's daughter, Laura, has accepted an assignment with the Peace Corp to the country of Togo. Keep Janet, Laura, and all of the Peace Corp workers in your prayers.

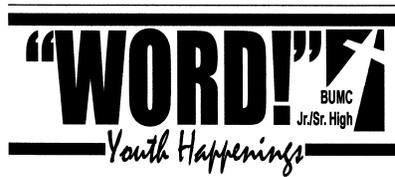
Lois Urban has moved a little closer to the church, and is now residing at Chippewa Place.

Our heartfelt condolences to the Wise family on the loss of Ken's father, John.

Our hearts also go out to Scott Ford and his family on the passing of Scott's mother, Sandy.

To all of our families starting a new school year, best of luck for an easy transition and a fruitful year of study!

www.brecksvilleumc.com



High School Happenings

EPIC Begins 9/12 -- 6-7:30 pm. EPIC is a twice a month event for all 9-12 graders. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, typically from 6-7:30pm. We are going to have some "EPIC Special" events that will be on the same day but may be at a different time. For instance in October we will be going on a bike ride and having a picnic. EPIC includes relaxing time, Bible study, and laughter. See Youth Minister, Lisa Drew, with any questions.

Fall Fun Day!! Sunday 9/26--11 am-6 pm: High school families mark your calendars for this wonderful faith and leadership opportunity! Camp Asbury in Hiram, Ohio will host us for a day of fun, laughter, challenge, and faith growth. We will arrive at Camp Asbury and eat lunch there before hitting the Ropes Course. This ropes course work is more challenging for high school students and run by certified professionals provided by Camp Asbury to make it a very safe event. The cost is only \$10 and covers lunch and the ropes course. Afterwards we will cook hot dogs on the fire and roast marshmallows while talking about our day. Register online at www.brecksvilleumc.com by 9/15.

Soul Quest Begins 9/16 - - 5-6:15 pm: Soul Quest is a mid-week, high school event that will give you a chance to weekly catch up and dig deeper into your faith. We will include supper. Our music director will be offering a High School Choir from 6:15-7 pm following Soul Quest Thursday.

Middle School Happenings

Quest Begins Wednesday 9/15- - 3:15-4:30 pm. Quest is a mid-week, after-school program for 6-8 graders. During Quest we play games, eat a snack and share in a Bible Lesson. We will need a registration and medical form filled out and turned in by 9/15. Lisa is looking for some adult help with Quest. Contact , Lisa Drew, with any questions!

Middle School Bike Ride and Picnic 9/19—12:30-2 pm. Bring a sack lunch and your bike to the Brecksville Station on the towpath Sunday the 19th. We will eat lunch together and then hit the towpath. Make sure to have your tires aired up and ready to go!

Fall Fun Day!! Sunday 9/26--11 am-6 pm. Middle school families mark your calendars for this wonderful, faith and leadership opportunity! Camp Asbury in Hiram, Ohio will host us for a day of fun, laughter, challenge, and faith growth. We will arrive at Camp Asbury and eat lunch there before hitting the Ropes Course. This ropes course work is middle school friendly and run by certified professionals provided by Camp Asbury to make it a very safe event. The cost is only \$10 and covers lunch and the ropes course. Afterwards we will cook hot dogs on the fire and roast marshmallows while talking about our day. Register online at www.brecksvilleumc.com by 9/15!

| Looking Ahead - Youth Happenings in October: | |
|--|---|
| 9/16 | Soul Quest Begins |
| 10/10 | EPIC Special Bike Ride and Picnic (12:30-2pm) |
| 10/10 | Middle School Bowling & Pizza |
| 10/24 | Middle School Health Kit Assembly |
| 10/24 | EPIC |
| 10/24 | YSP Informational Meeting |
| 10/31 | 5 th Sunday Fieldtrip |



September Birthdays

Don't see your birthday on the list? We must not know your birth date! Contact the office!

| | | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------|-----------|---------------|-------|
| Alan | Jones | 09/01 | Kathleen | Bartholomew | 09/17 |
| Greg | Eberhardt | 09/01 | Charles | Wilson | 09/18 |
| Mary Kate | Kaminski | 09/01 | Fred | Priest | 09/20 |
| David | Hurder | 09/02 | Rebecca | Gezze | 09/20 |
| Ann | Rittman | 09/03 | Jonathan | Wise | 09/20 |
| L. Neil | Johnson | 09/04 | Mitchell | Hlay | 09/20 |
| Marilyn | Huber | 09/04 | Claire | Kenney | 09/20 |
| Timothy | Miller | 09/04 | James | Patrick | 09/20 |
| Gregory | Decker | 09/04 | Donna | Box | 09/21 |
| Celeste | Olenik | 09/04 | Kara | Storey | 09/22 |
| Luke | Dorman | 09/04 | Donald | Yates | 09/23 |
| Harry | Wilson | 09/05 | Emma | Sak | 09/23 |
| Matthew | Georgevich | 09/07 | Nolan | Smith | 09/23 |
| Quinn | Slifcak | 09/08 | Les | Buttolph | 09/23 |
| Sandy | Whitton | 09/09 | Anne | Rosenthal | 09/24 |
| Joseph | Hurst | 09/09 | Hannah | Stanley | 09/24 |
| Ellie | Ritterbusch | 09/09 | Daniel | Hulten | 09/25 |
| Megan | Burns | 09/09 | Jeffrey | Buttolph | 09/25 |
| Mona | Carlisle | 09/10 | John | Faulk | 09/25 |
| Jacqueline | Daugherty | 09/10 | Jeffrey | Schillo | 09/26 |
| Abbey | McLuckie | 09/10 | Brett | Hubert | 09/26 |
| Tonya | Boldt | 09/10 | Kathleen | Holmes | 09/27 |
| Samuel | McLuckie | 09/11 | John | Hlay | 09/27 |
| Ruth | Georgevich | 09/13 | Jean | McBride | 09/27 |
| Douglas | Huth | 09/14 | Hannah | Buttolph | 09/27 |
| Giovanna | Figer | 09/14 | Mary Jane | Matts Slifcak | 09/28 |
| Loren | Guell | 09/15 | Matt | Harper | 09/28 |
| Barbara | Diver | 09/15 | Matthew | Harper | 09/29 |
| Claire | Hayes | 09/16 | Craig | Kotnik | 09/30 |
| John | Zakarowsky | 09/17 | Kaiya | Crouch | 09/30 |
| Jacob | Root | 09/17 | | | |

Doing Discipleship

(Continued from page 2)

(quoting Paul). Doing justice as Christians means living in this new world, *as* this new creation. The new world has not come for everyone yet, but we live as if it had. We are called, as the church, to be an alternative community.

Finally, the craft of discipleship means acting as a *Witness*. The word witness is packed with many meanings that include dimensions both of hearing or seeing and acting. It is actually related to the same root word as martyr. A martyr lives out belief or faith, even unto death. We are not all called to be martyrs, but we are called to be witnesses in some way—to live out God's story. Sample quoted St. Francis for this practice: "Preach the gospel at all times; if necessary, use words."

The craft of discipleship, then, is living in such a way that we are constantly learning, growing, acting, and being formed by God in Jesus and through the power of the Holy Spirit. What is your story? How have you allowed yourself to be shaped by God's story? Or when have you heard the gospel—the good news about Jesus—and just knew that you had to act on it? How is Brecksville UMC reading the Bible, doing justice, and acting as a witness in the world? I look forward to grappling more with these things in community in the coming year. My continuing education is something we all share!

Pastor Karen

August 27, 2010

Softball Season Recap

This year's men's Church softball season is over. We ended the season with 23 men having played for the team at one time or another. A thrilling 1-0 first round playoff win helped cap the season. The season was full of great fellowship for multiple generations of men in our Church. I look forward to building on this fellowship next year. *Bob Lundholm*

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

SEPTEMBER 2010

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| September 5: Communion, last week of summer schedule. Opening verse: Luke 14:28 Texts: Philemon 1-21, Luke 14:25-33. Message: "Daily Discipleship" September 12: Opening verse: 1 Timothy 1:15 Texts: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 Luke 15:1-10 | | | 1 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 7 p Prayer Svc | 2 9:30 UMW 3:30 Band 7 Teacher Training | 3 7a Emmaus Reunion | 4 Drew/Kropinak Wedding at noon. Reception 1 - 5  |
| 5 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10 Sanctuary Worship | 6 6:30 Women's Emmaus  | 7 9:30 Staff Mtg | 8 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 7 pm Taizé Prayer Service | 9 3:30 Band 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Chancel Choir | 10 7a Emmaus Reunion | 11 8:30 Emmaus Men's Walk |
| 12 Worship Times Change! 8:45 Worship 10 Education 11:15 Worship 12:30 8th Grade Parent/Student Meeting 5 Alpha 6 EPIC | 13 6:30 Women's Emmaus | 14 SUPER TUESDAY 9:30 Staff Mtg 7 COM 8 COE 8 Evangelism 8 Missions 8 Music Board 8 Worship Com | 15 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 3:15 Quest 4 CMAP 7 Prayer Svc 7:30 SPR | 16 3:30 Band 5 SoulQuest 6:15 HS Choir 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Chancel Choir | 17 7a Emmaus Reunion | 18 |
| 19 8:45 Worship 10 Education 11:15 Worship 12:30 Middle School Bike Ride and Picnic 5 Alpha  | 20 6:30 Women's Emmaus | 21 9:30 Staff Mtg 7:30 Finance 7:30 Trustees | 22 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 3:15 Quest 4 CMAP 7 Prayer Svc | 23 3:30 Band 5 SoulQuest 6:15 HS Choir 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Chancel Choir | 24 7a Emmaus Reunion | 25 7:30 Cleveland Food Bank 8:30 Emmaus Men's Walk |
| 26 8:45 Worship 10 Education 10 Charge Conference 11-6 Fall Fun Days (MS/HS) 11:15 Worship 5 Alpha 6 EPIC Unwound | 27 6:30 Women's Emmaus | 28 9:30 Staff Mtg | 29 6:30 a Dawnbreakers 3:15 Quest 4 CMAP 7 Prayer Svc | 30 3:30 Band 5 SoulQuest 6:15 HS Choir 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Chancel Choir | September 19: Opening verse: 1 Timothy 2:1-2 Texts: Psalm 4 Luke 16:1-13. Message: "Security is as Security Does" September 26: Charge Conference. Opening verse: Psalm 91:1-2 Texts: 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31 | |

Summer Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30 - 4:30. Friday, 8:30 - 12:30.

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Need more information? Check the on-line calendar for details!