



# The Good Word



**Brecksville United Methodist Church: A Reconciling Congregation**

*Open Doors. Honest Worship. Determined Service.*

**November 2017 Issue. Published October 26.**

**[www.brecksvilleumc.com/Newsletter](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com/Newsletter)**

*All Saints  
Sunday*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5  
8:45 AND 11:15 AM**

On All Saints Sunday, we give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith.

On Sunday, November 5, during both worship services, the names of the saints of the church who have died since November 2016 will be read and our church bell will toll in each person's honor.

If you have lost a loved one in the last year, you are invited to submit their name to be read. Please contact Leslie in the church office before Tuesday, October 31

by phone 440-526-8938 or  
[leslie@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:leslie@brecksvilleumc.com).

On All Saints Sunday, let us give thanks for both the saints in glory and those on earth, who have led us to Jesus. As they have shared the gospel with us, may we add our voices so someone else may hear about the grace and love of Jesus Christ.



**Good Lord, by your mercy  
guide our outward actions in such ways  
that our inward being is formed  
in faith, hope, and love.**

**May the decorations we offer  
engage our senses during the days of Advent  
and enliven our praise and worship,  
in the name of the child of Bethlehem,  
our risen and coming savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Hanging of the Greens, Sunday, November 26  
after second service**

*Let us prepare God's house for the light  
which will come into the world*

Greenery is associated with everlasting life. Join us as we hang greens, erect Christmas trees, and prepare for Advent and the coming of the Christ child. Come help hang an ornament, a wreath or a ribbon—there's something for those of all abilities to do. We hope to see you there! Did we mention that there will be pizza? Hope to see you there!





**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**8:45 Contemporary Worship**  
 10:00 Classes for All Ages  
**11:15 Traditional Worship**

**Our Staff**

Phone: 440-526-8938

Pastor:

**Rev. Clark Stein**

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

Associate Pastor, Visitation:

**Rev. Barbara Bartholomew**

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

Dir. of Christian Ed: **Jenny Gee**

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

Director of Music: **Adrienne Leska**

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

Youth Director:

**Dana Schwendeman**

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

Church Treasurer: **Becky Paroda**

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

Office Manager: **Melanie Smith**

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

Asst. Office Manager: **Leslie Miller**

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

Church School Registrar:

**Joan Olszko**

Facility Managers:

**Jeff and Scott Hastings**

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

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Editor, Melanie Smith

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

Our faith, lives and ministries take on new life when they are shared. Help us tell God's story as it unfolds in our church and community. Send news items and story ideas to the church office!



**What is the Secrecy All About?**

*Rev. Clark Stein, Senior Pastor*

...Back in the village she told the people, "Come see a man who knew all about the things I did, who knows me inside and out. Do you think this could be the Messiah?" And they went out to see for themselves. - John 4:4-30

So, there is this special mud, and Major League Baseball absolutely depends on it. A brand new baseball just out of the box is slippery. So much so that a pitcher has no control when throwing one unless it is dirtied up a bit first. So, an umpire spends a lot of his time before a game rubbing mud into dozens of balls, but not just any mud works. Before the 1930's teams tried all kinds of substances, including tobacco juice and shoe polish, but nothing really worked. Then one day a man named Blackburne, a no name player turned coach, was taking a walk near his home in New Jersey when he stumbled upon some strange mud. Obviously having a "eureka" moment, Blackburne took some home and tried it out. It worked brilliantly. By 1938 the American League was using Blackburne Rubbing Mud exclusively on all their balls. The National League wouldn't use it until the 1950s mostly because Blackburne refused to sell it to them, but they have been using it ever since.

The location of the mud has been a closely guarded secret since the 1930s. All that is known is that it is found on a tributary of the Delaware River, somewhere near Palmyra, New Jersey. Just one barrel lasts a major league team all year, but it is crucial to their operation. So, you can just imagine what the charge is for this rare substance that can only be found in one part of the world. Actually, it is \$24. So, what is the secrecy really about?

The Samaritan Woman had a past. In her own community, it defined her negatively, and she had accepted this definition. We know this because she did not come with the other women to the well. And in walks Jesus, just accepting her as she is. We all come with a past, but it does not have to define us.

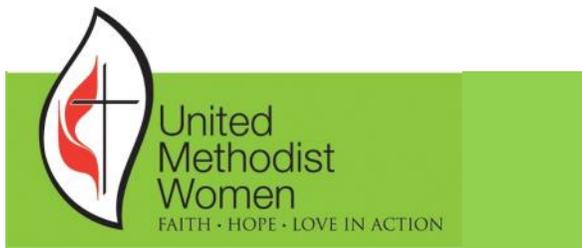
Every day we make choices. What we choose to become we become. We can transcend our choices by listening to the call to go beyond what we have created as the boundaries of life. When we can do this we find that we move toward God whose circle is ever increasing, the One whose hospitality knows no bounds, and who invites all to the table, beginning with the least and the marginalized. As we enter the Holidays, we need to ask ourselves, what is the secrecy all about?

Peace,

*Pastor Clark*



Sunday Mornings  
 at 10 am in the Parlor  
**November hosts:**  
**Fellowship Committee**  
 Stop in and visit!



**UMW Meeting Thursday, Nov. 2**

Come learn and discuss with us, and Ruth McDonel presents on the topic of Domestic Violence. It would be appreciated if you would bring a personal hygiene item to be donated to the Cleveland Domestic Violence Center. The UMW World Thank Offering will be also be collected. Continental breakfast and fellowship at 9:30 am, followed by the program at 10 am. Everyone is welcome! Plan to attend.

**West Side Sisterhood** is a program of the West Side Community Center in Cleveland. Sisterhood fosters a belief in girls' self-worth based on their skills, unique talents, and spirituality rather than on appearance, popularity, sexuality or negative gender and racial stereotypes. Sisterhood encourages and challenges young women to be strong and independent, to exercise self-discipline, to respect themselves and one another, to value education, and to know when and how to give help and receive it. The United Methodist Women support this great program, and again this year we are coordinating an "adopt a girl for Christmas program." If you'd like to help fill a girl's Christmas wish, sign up at church on Sunday, November 12 or contact Gretchen Mates, 440-526-6481.

**College Care Packages** will be assembled by the Evening Circle during their monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 1 at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Let's show our college students that they are loved by their church family, and give them a boost as finals approach!

**Coins and Keys for Rahab** The Evening Circle continues to support Rahab Ministries, an organization helping victims of human trafficking in Akron, Ohio. The Bakin' for Bibles Bake Sale in September was a big success. The funds from the sale will be used to buy Bibles for residents of Rahab House and for the organization's prison ministry. In a thank you note, they wrote, "This has truly been a blessing to us as...we recently gave out 11 Bibles...our budget is already stretched thin. I can't thank you enough for the money you are contributing." If you picked up a Mason jar bank, decorated by the women in the program, please return them once filled to the church office to help cover the many expenses of the program. The ladies are also collecting old keys, which they patina, stamp, and use to create jewelry to sell to support their living expenses. If you have an old key you'd like to donate, add it to the collection jar on the table outside of the office. *Thank you!*

**This Month's Brookside Food Pantry Collection** focus is canned "meats" - think tuna, stews, chili and other hearty fare. We'll be collecting through the end of the month, when our Christmas Food Tree will be erected!



UMW Mission Fund  
**Pie & Cake**  
Holiday Bake Sale

The Brecksville United Methodist Women  
are Baking for the Missions Fund!  
*Get your delicious cakes & pies for the holidays!*

- ◆ Order by Sunday, 11/12. **Payment due with order.**
- ◆ **Pre-order only!** No extras will be available!
- ◆ Pick up on Sunday, 11/19.

<b>Order Form</b>			
Name:			
Phone:			
Number of Pumpkin Pies <i>9" Frozen Pie</i>		@ \$10 =	
Number of Spice Cakes <i>8" Frozen Cake</i>		@ \$10 =	
<b>Total Enclosed</b>			

Please make checks payable to BUMW.

Pies are sold frozen. Bake at 375° for 90 minutes.  
Cakes are served at room temperature,  
or gently warm in the oven.

**Order Form Available Online:** [www.brecksvilleumc.com/pie](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com/pie)



## Veteran's Sunday

November 12, 2017

**One Worship Service at 10:00 am**

Luncheon at 11:00 am

Are you or a family member a veteran? Our Fellowship Committee is planning a special Veteran's celebration on Sunday, November 12, and ALL veterans are encouraged to participate in a special recognition ceremony during the worship service. To be included, please contact the church office before November 8 by calling 440-526-8938.

Celebrating our servicemen and women, past and present, will continue after the worship service with a light luncheon and dessert in Fellowship Hall. The entire congregation and community are invited to attend. Everyone is welcome!

**Helpers are needed** to set up, help serve and clean up the luncheon. Call Donna Sibits at 440-457-2411 or Catherine Vastartis at 440-759-6436 to volunteer.

### Christmas Cards for patients at the VA Hospital

As part of our Veterans Day celebration, we will be collecting and delivering Christmas cards for the patients at the Cleveland Veterans Administration Hospital. Sign a card at church or make your own. There will be a collection area in the church lobby through Sunday, December 3.

## Fall Yard Clean Up

*Saturday, November 18*

Get out your rake, get out your gloves, shovels and clippers and join us on Saturday, November 18 for a yard clean-up. Our church building and grounds are a part of our mission outreach to the community. Members of Boy Scout Troop 175 will be lending a hand! Let's meet around 8:30 am. With enough volunteers we will be done by noon. You'll be surprised how quick the time goes when you're having a good time visiting with your church family. Try it!

## Charge Conference

*Saturday, November 4 at 1 pm*

Join us at Church of the Saviour (2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118.) We will be meeting with other East Side United Methodist Churches. All church members are welcome and encouraged to attend. What's a Charge Conference? It's the basic governing body of each United Methodist church, directing the work of the church. See you there!

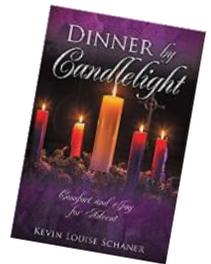
## Morning Advent Study

*Begins November 20*

Join Rev. Kathy Dickriede and friends for five weeks of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace this Advent and rekindle your anticipation of Christ's birth with comforting conversation.

**Five week study begins Monday, November 20 at 7:30 am in the Parlor, and will meet each Monday through December 18.**

We'll be discussing "Dinner by Candlelight" by local author Kevin Schaner who shares from her heart a collection of deeply engaging essays that provide not only food for thought during the pre-Christmas season, but also inspiration and hope for the future. This study is open to all. Know someone who would enjoy the study and who commutes to work through Brecksville? Tell them about the study! We will be ordering books November 10. E-mail [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com) to reserve a copy, or sign up in the Parlor on Sunday!



## BUMC Night Out! Saturday, December 16 at 6 pm

*A Cold, Cold Reading of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol*

Tickets are \$12 for adults. Children 12 and under are \$8.

Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* was first published on December 17, 1843. Forty-nine days later, it received its first stage adaptations, three of them to be exact, in London. Since then the popular novel has received scores then hundreds and now thousands of readings and productions, yearly. But rarely is it presented in the brisk night air of winter...in a barn. The Lantern Theatre presents **A Cold, Cold Reading of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol**. Now in its sixth year, it has become a cherished Christmas and family tradition. Beginning at 6 pm on the night of December 16, 2017, six brave actors and a piano accompanist will take the stage in Gleeson's barn to read Mr. Dickens' masterwork. The reading will be accompanied by hot cocoa, cider and baked goods and will be followed by Christmas Carols sung by all. **Dress warmly. It's a barn.**



**WE HAVE RESERVED A BLOCK OF TICKETS.**

**Sign up on Sunday in The Parlor!**

*See Kathy Stein or any member of the Fellowship Committee for more information.*

# YOUTH NEWS

## All Youth Dinner

November 5, from 5 - 7 pm

We will gather together in the Fellowship Hall for fun, food, and fellowship! Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a meal and then a large group game. Special thanks to The Aubles who provided October's meal for us and to The Millers who will be serving us in November. We hope to see you there!

## High School Main Event: Energize Worship & Epic After Party

November 4, 5:30-11:30 pm

We are heading to Newcomerstown, OH for our annual Energize Youth event! There will be a full worship band and service, then the after party will have laser tag, build-your-own fry bar and ice cream bar. Plus, there will be other surprises throughout the night. Don't miss out on this FREE fun! *P.S. This is also Jamie's birthday, so come and celebrate with us!!*

## 2017 Week of Gratitude

November 20 - 26

Last year we encouraged our youth and families to participate in a week long program that revolved around different aspects of gratitude. In our busy lives it can feel like we are on a never-ending wheel of doing, scheduling, and going. But gratitude is one way we slow down, allowing ourselves to enjoy the wonderful people that God has placed in our lives. Deep-rooted gratitude in students often leads to deeper faith and greater confidence in the future. Our students are blessed in many ways and this year we will be giving them the opportunity to say thanks. Our 2017 Week of Gratitude will once again incorporate a social media challenge each day and students are encouraged to post a reflective devotional that relates to the word of the day. During this time we will not meet for youth group, but ask that students spend time with family and friends who love them and show their gratitude. Follow us on our social media accounts to get updates and details on the full challenge!

**New School Year, New Emergency Forms:** If your student plans on going to any events with our youth ministry during this school year they will need a new emergency form. An updated 2017-18 form is available on the church website (click the "BUMC Online" tab, and scroll down to "forms".) Please have your student bring the updated form completed and signed to the next event they attend!

**Youth Newsletter:** Want more details about the happenings in youth ministry at Brecksville UMC? Sign-up for the monthly newsletter that gets delivered right to your inbox! E-mail Dana at [youth@breckvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@breckvilleumc.com) to subscribe.



@bumcyouthmin



@bumcyouthmin

@BrecksvilleumcYouth

Stay Connected! Contact Dana Schwendeman 440-526-8938 ext. 237  
or [youth@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@brecksvilleumc.com)



The holidays officially begin with **Brecksville's Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony** on Sunday, November 26. Come to the band stand on the square for Yuletide songs, Christmas carols, and a special appearance by Santa Claus. The parade steps off at 4 pm.

Our church, with coordination from our Fellowship Committee, will host a **festive reception** following the parade in Fellowship Hall. Want to help create a warm welcome for people who might not normally come through our doors? Lend a hand with set up, clean up, serving hot chocolate and cookies, and with smiling and hosting! Can you give an hour or two?

Please contact Catherine Vastartis at 440.526.9406



## FRIENDSGIVING Tues. Nov. 14

Everyone's welcome!

It's the season of gratitude.  
Come enjoy a Thanksgiving themed  
lunch with your friends!

12 noon in Fellowship Hall

Please RSVP!

Sign up on Sunday or contact us:  
440-526-8938 or  
[office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)



“I just wanted to send a warm and heartfelt thank you for all of the thoughts and prayers during my recent sinus surgery. I know prayers are powerful. I also want to especially thank Pastor Barb for calling me the night before and praying with me as well as visiting me the day of surgery and bringing me a beautiful Prayer Shawl. (God's work at hand) Her compassionate face and spiritual companionship was just what I needed. I have used the Payer Shawl everyday since surgery- it gives me such warmth and comfort. Thank you!”

Blessings, Janine Telischak

## Baptism ANNIVERSARIES

*May the light of Jesus guide us on our paths as we share his love with the world!*

Amy Piorkowski	11/15/1970
Nathan Olszko	11/11/1979
Allison Engler	11/25/1984
Rebecca Urso	11/13/1988
Ron Goodin	11/4/1990
Emily Kotnik	11/12/1995
Emily Telischak	11/12/1995
Luke Dorman	11/16/1997
Bailey Archacki	11/19/1997
Nancy Lundholm	11/8/1998
Sarah Lundholm	11/8/1998
Joni Robinson	11/8/1998
Claire Kenney	11/25/2001
Lauren Sendrey	11/16/2003
Bryan Miller	11/7/2004
Lexi Stetler	11/25/2007
Andrew Scott	11/9/2008
Stella Figer	11/27/2011



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nan Einheit	1	Al Filips	9	Kyle Holmok	20
Karl Riccardi	1	Michele Mihalich	10	Ellie Batcheller	21
Joyce Wuerth	1	Bryan Miller	10	Matthew Havranek	21
Chia-Tien Chen	2	Logan Vastartis	10	Rich Ling	21
Burke Engelhardt	2	Mike Basen	11	Ian Roberts	21
Jim McBride	2	Terry Bennett	11	Doug Robie	21
Hayden Vincent	2	Jan Kaminski	11	Kimberly Campbell	22
Tony Cipolla	3	Judy McBride	11	Becky Paroda	22
Jim Houston	3	Ryan Hulten	12	Alan Phillips	22
Ruth McKenzie	3	Kevin Vastartis	12	Martha Rosenthal	22
Alyssa Whitton	3	Kelsey Hogan	13	Jennifer Sendrey	22
Jamie Schwendeman	4	Monica Geib	14	James Berry	25
Elaine Geringer	5	Jim Mueller	14	Dave James	25
Ella Nelson	5	Gregory Warth	14	Debbi Scheufler	25
Melissa Schillo	5	Brian Wygonski	14	Douglas Farling	26
Brandon Calovini	6	Ryan Burrows	16	Kelly Meyer	26
Raymond Koloda	6	Sandy Crist	16	Evan Davis	27
Karl Robie	6	Edison Davis	16	Harry Koberna	27
Sean Lundholm	7	Mike Gezze	17	Adam Archacki	28
Ardyn Olszko	7	Zachary Johnson	17	Gina Goodwin	28
Cathy Drescher	8	Jim Berry	18	Hank James	28
Tom Ellis	8	Shirley Hill	19	Dee Lancaster	28
Brandon Fisher	8	Brandon Klipfell	19	Kim Ling	28
Darell Fisher	8	Donald Raybuck	19	Nick Rajkovich	28
Charlotte Hocutt	8	Diana Wise	19	Kourtney Ellis	29
Connor Hogan	8	Carole Brachna	20	Kaitlyn Hazelton	29



As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly staff meetings this month, we lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others. People like the Rybak family, who provided food for our all youth dinner in October; the newest additions for our usher team, Chris and Debbie Watkins; and Lori Rusterholtz and Bev Gooding, whose cornstalks, pumpkins, and mums at the church door helps make everyone feel welcome; Pat Frank, who gives of her time and talents by playing the piano for the chapel services at Chippewa Place; and Fran McClean, who covered the office on a Friday so Melanie could enjoy her vacation knowing that things were in very good hands. We're so thankful for each and every one of you, named and unnamed, and for all of the ways that you spread the love of Christ in the world.

# IN



# NOVEMBER 2017

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>5 Communion All Saints Sunday <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Classes for All Ages <b>11:15 Worship</b> 5 All Youth Dinner</p>			<p>1 6:30 Brkfst 4:15 Kids Choir 6:30 Eve Crle 7 Bible Study</p>	 <p>2 9:30 UMW 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir</p>	3	4 1 Charge Conference, Church of the Saviour
	6 6 Cardio Kickboxing and Strength Training	7 10 Staff Mtg 5 MS Youth 7 Music & Worship Board	8 6:30 Brkfst 4:15 Kids Choir 7 Bible Study	9  9:30 Asbury Bremeth 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	10 <b>PAPER RECYCLING BONUS WEEK!</b> Pick up on Thursday	11 Come help prepare for the Veterans Day Luncheon!
12 Veterans Sunday Organ/Tissue Donor Day <b>10 ONE Worship Service today</b> 11 Veterans Day Luncheon 7 HS Youth Group	13 6 Kickboxing	14 10 Staff Mtg 12 Lunch Bunch 5 MS Youth 7 BBHHS Jazz Ensem- ble Concert	15 6:30 Brkfst 4:15 Kids Choir 7 Bible Study	16  9 Pie Baking 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:30 Men's Ensemble 	17 9:30 UMW Board Mtg  Canned Meat Delivery to Brookside Food Center	18  Yard Work Help Needed
19 National Bible Week <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Classes for All Ages <b>11:15 Worship</b> 5 Pearl Road Dinner 7 HS Youth Group	20 7:30 am Advent Study 6 Kickboxing	21 10 Staff Mtg 10 Stitch'n'Time Knitting Grp 5 MS Youth 7:30 Trustees	22 6:30 Brkfst 7 Bible Study  No School BBHSD	23 	24 Church Offices Closed Today	25
26 United Methodist Student Day <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Classes for All Ages <b>11:15 Worship</b> 12 Hanging of the Greens (and pizza!) 4 Christmas Parade 5 Parade Reception	27 7:30 am Advent Study 6 Kickboxing  	28 10 Staff Mtg 5 MS Youth 7 Finance	29 6:30 Brkfst 4:15 Kids Choir 7 Bible Study	30  6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:30 Men's Ensemble	 Communion Stewards  Kristi Eberhardt and Amy Piorkowski	



# Brecksville UMC

65 Public Square, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*Socialize with us!*



**Open Doors.**

*Welcoming all of God's children.*

Brecksville United Methodist Church is called to the ministry of reconciliation. We embrace diversity as a gift. We celebrate our human family's diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, faith history, economic status, marital status, physical and mental ability, and education. We affirm that all people are created in the image of God and as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Brecksville United Methodist Church as we journey toward reconciliation through Christ.

# LOOKING AHEAD

Your church staff uses a long range planning calendar for church programming.

Here's a look at December and January

*Have something to add? Contact the church office! 440-526-8938 or office@brecksvilleumc.com*

<b>December 2017</b>	
Brookside Drive Focus: Fill the Food Tree Annual Mission Projects: Hat & Mitten Tree, West Side Sisterhood Christmas, Christmas Offering	
<b>Sunday, 12/3</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent. Communion Sunday.</b>
	Saturday, December 2 – Greater Cleveland Food Bank Wednesday, December 6 – <b>Advent Worship Service and Soup Supper</b> Thursday, December 7 – UMW Potluck
<b>Sunday, 12/10</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
	Brecksville Broadview Hts Community & Youth Chorus Christmas Concerts Saturday, December 16—reading of a Christmas Carol (Fellowship Committee outing)
<b>Sunday, 12/17</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
	December 20 – January 2 – Brecksville Broadview Heights Winter Break
<b>Sunday, 12/24</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship in the morning at 8:45 and 11:15. Sunday school. Christmas Eve services at 5, 8 and 10.</b>
	Monday, December 25 – Christmas Day! Thursday, December 28 – Good Word Deadline (postponed for Christmas)
<b>Sunday, 12/31</b>	<b>New Year's Eve. One service at 10 am.</b> No Sunday school
	Offices closed on Monday, January 1.

<b>January 2018</b>	
Evening Circle Project: USO Cookie Bake Brookside Drive Focus: Personal Hygiene/Toiletries	
<i>Year End Giving Statements Mailed.</i>	
<b>Sunday, 1/7</b>	<b>Communion Sunday. Baptism of the Lord. Epiphany Sunday.</b> Volunteer Appreciation Sunday—no Sunday school. Pancake Breakfast
	Thursday, January 4 – Good Word Publishes
<b>Sunday, 1/14</b>	<b>Worship.</b> Human Relations Day (offering) Sunday School resumes All Youth Dinner.
	Monday, January 15 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (church offices closed)
<b>Sunday, 1/21</b>	<b>Worship. Ecumenical Sunday.</b>
	Saturday, January 27 - Chili Cook Off?
<b>Sunday, 1/28</b>	<b>Worship.</b>

LET THERE BE

Light

THE SEASON OF  
ADVENT

**A Sneak Peek at the Coming Season. Save the Dates!**

November 20: Morning Advent Study with Rev. Kathy Dickride begins. (7:30 - 8:30 am)

November 26: Hanging of the Greens and Brecksville Christmas Parade Reception.

December 3: First Sunday in Advent. New Sunday Morning adult classes begin.

December 6: Soup Supper at 6 pm and **Advent Worship Service** at 7:30 pm.

December 10: Second Sunday in Advent. Brecksville Community Chorus Concert.

December 17: Third Sunday in Advent

December 24: Fourth Sunday in Advent. Services at 8:45 and 11:15 (10 am Sunday School)

**Christmas Eve Services**

Sunday, December 24: 5 pm Family Service. 8 pm & 10 pm Candlelight Services