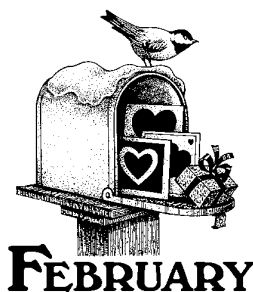


The Good Word

Brecksville United Methodist Church

Published January 22, 2010



February 6

Leadership Academy,
Church of the Savior,
Cleveland Heights

February 7

Communion Sunday

February 16

Red Cross Blood Drive

February 17

Ash Wednesday

Lent Begins

Services at 7:30 am
and 7:30 pm

February 21

First Sunday in Lent

February 26

Music with a Mission

Waiting—Congregational Study for Lent

"I hate waiting." How many times have you heard that, thought that, muttered it under your breath as you stood in line, sat in an outer office, or idled at a red light? How many times have you prayed some version of "Give me patience, God, and give it to me *now*."

You are invited to take a fresh look at waiting and the possibilities for our spirits that come with waiting by joining in a Lenten study of the book, *Seven Spiritual Gifts of Waiting*. This will be the topic of our adult Sunday school classes, and perhaps a small group or two meeting at other times during the week. You may choose to study the book on your own as a Lenten discipline, as well.

The seven gifts mentioned in the title are: patience; loss of control; living in the present; compassion; gratitude; humility; and trust in God. We could all use these gifts.

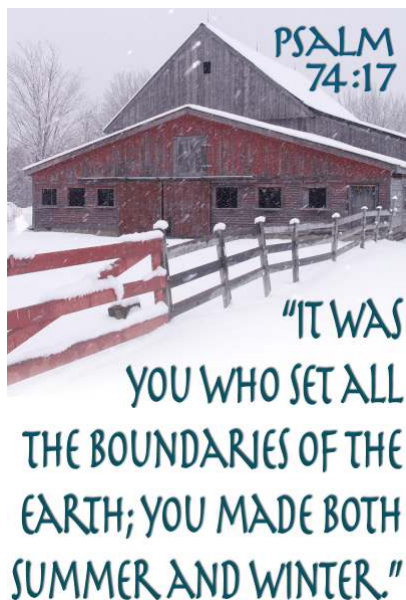
The first Sunday of Lent is February 21, with Lent actually beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Please watch for more information on signing up for classes and/or buying a copy of the book itself. If you are interested in being a facilitator for a group by yourself or with a friend, please contact Pastor Karen.

Lent Begins with Ash Wednesday

Each year the road to Easter begins with a time to focus on our deep longing for God's presence and forgiveness. Ash Wednesday worship gives us the space and opportunity for this reflection and preparation.

On Wednesday, February 17, you are invited to attend one of our two services: at 7:30 am in the Chapel or 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Each service will include music, scriptures, time for meditation, communion, and imposition of ashes. For the sake of Jesus, who bore our sins, we bear the mark of the cross on this holy day.





Staff

Pastor

Karen M. Oehl

Associate Pastor of Visitation

Libby Kuntz

Director of Youth Ministries

Lisa L. Drew

Director of Music

Joy E. Fenton

Interim Director of
Christian Education

Jenny Gee

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Joan Olszko

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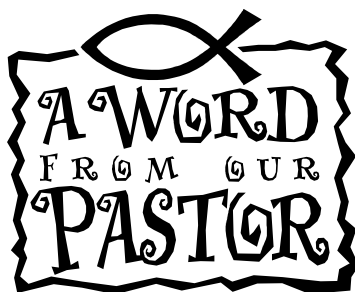
The Brecksville

United Methodist Church.

65 Public Square

Brecksville, OH 44141

**Article deadline is the third
Monday of each month.**



Do You Feel Different?

Costa Rica Reflections from Rev. Karen Oehl

"Do you feel different?" That is what my husband, Chris, asked me a couple of days after we returned from the Volunteer in Mission trip to Costa Rica that we took with other members of Brecksville UMC.

I knew what Chris was asking. Had my perspective changed? Was my heart touched? Have I redefined my calling? Am I going to live my life differently now? All of these are possible effects of taking that step into the mission field. One does not even need to go to another country to experience these effects. You might feel different after helping to serve a meal at Brooklyn Memorial Church, or spending an hour with someone sick in the hospital, or sharing a victory with a student that you tutor. Anything that takes us beyond our normal sphere of life changes us. And when we take that step out into the world in the name of Christ, we will be changed, shaped more and more by the Potter's hands into vessels of service.



A small part of a bigger family!

I do feel different. I feel bigger. Not better, but bigger. Bigger because I suddenly have a bigger family, a whole lot of

new brothers and sisters. That is my lasting feeling about Costa Rica—that I found there the family of God. It felt very natural to be working on a church, eating with people, laughing and playing. The two languages, warm sunshine, and beautiful mountains were not Ohio, but they felt like home.

I experienced what I often have in being about the business of justice and mercy. Just when you think you are the giver, the one serving, you receive gifts beyond measure and service beyond expectation. The people of the Living Word Methodist Church in Carrillos made time to work with us, feed us, and make us feel safe. They also wanted to play with us: soccer, UNO, sharing a picnic, laughing, running around with the children, all were a part of the experience.

People of Brecksville United Methodist Church, you are also bigger. Your support of this trip and other mission trips connects each and every one of you to a bigger family, the family of God and followers of Jesus in the world. People who do not know you love you, and are praying for you. People that you do not know have been served by you. Do you feel different?

In the next few weeks we will continue to grow in love and service, as we commit ourselves to service during the PROJECT 2010 kickoff and pray for Janet Kleckner and the others from East Ohio going to Liberia in mission. We will respond to the disaster in Haiti and make plans to help at the Cleveland Foodbank. We certainly are part of a big family!

"WORD!"

BUMC
Jr./Sr. High

Youth Happenings

February 6

Leadership Academy--8am-4pm

Join Lisa for a day of fun and leadership training. Lunch is included and you'll meet other youth from around the Cleveland area. Watch your mail for more information.

February 14

EPIC-- 6pm-7:30pm

9th-12th graders! Come join your youth group for faith, friends and fun. Enjoy time for relaxation and laughs. Supper is provided!

February 26--Music With A Mission

YSP attenders: It is that time again! Splash of Color is the theme and we will be providing the dinner. Plan to help out that evening from 4:30pm-? This is our biggest fundraiser so all hands to the decks!!

February 28

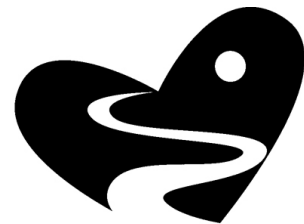
EPIC UnWound (High School)

6pm-7:30pm

High School is stressful, and God knows we need a break! Join Lisa to learn ways to live life in a more laid back way, and be creative in the process. Come learn what it really means to enjoy SABBATH!



Craig Kotnik took home the grand prize in this year's UMM's Chili Cook Off with his famous "Craig's Chili Pot Pie". At right, Skip Smith presents his trophy. See more photos on the church website!



MILESTONES

News of the Fellowship

In this new feature, we will celebrate the special happenings in the lives of BUMC. 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: 440-526-8938 or office@brecksvilleumc.com.

Congratulations to Cathy Buttolph, who retired from the Department of Labor in December. Someone once said, "The money's no better in retirement, but the hours are." Enjoy your retirement, Cathy!

You may have noticed the beautiful white poinsettia arrangement on the altar at services December 27th. They were in celebration of Bob and Lue Andree's 51st wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

Congratulations also go out to Marge and Bill Webb who celebrate their golden wedding anniversary January 30. Congratulations on 50 wonderful years together.

Our Director of Youth Ministries, Lisa Drew, will blow out her birthday candles on February 20. Happy Birthday, Lisa!

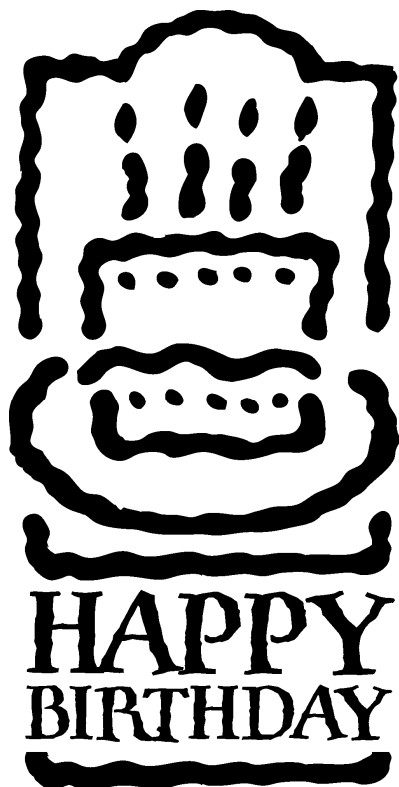
Robin and Don Raybuck have a new grandson. Brock Daniel Raybuck was born on January 13th. His big brother, Bradley, welcomed him home.

Joann and Harry Fox welcome a new great-granddaughter, Olivia Rose, to their family. Happy Birth Day, Olivia!



Thank You Notes

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Doris Cipolla | 11 Douglas Bender | 21 Kelli Buttolph |
| 2 Doug Hubert | 12 Gladys Smith | 22 Steve Warth |
| John Olenik | Gloria Southam | Dan Rajkovich |
| 3 Donna Bambic | Kelly McLuckie | 24 Olive Priest |
| Brian Buttolph | Marla Hocutt | Janet Kleckner |
| 5 Kathleen Davis | 13 Leslie Hoffman | Eric Louttit |
| Faith McAlliter | Bill Hurder | 25 Miriam Buttolph |
| Lynn Spencer | 14 Dorothy Jordan | 27 Johanna Klein |
| 6 Bob Andree | Lucy Fesler | Darcie Engler |
| Paul Olszko | 15 Abby Smith | Emily Hastings |
| 8 Nancy Knowlton | 16 Bill Kranstuber | Angela Harper |
| Becky Chen | 17 Christine Hudacek | 28 Kathy Decker |
| Mike Whitton | Stephanie Fisher | |
| 9 Eric Buttolph | Grace Ford | |
| Sarah Nurre | 18 Scott Campbell | |
| 10 Marge Webb | 20 Sally Bibler | |
| Pam Johnson | Lisa Drew | |

CMAP... C-what??

Quick pop quiz:

Do we have a children's choir here at BUMC?

If so, roughly how many children participate?

When do they rehearse?

Answers:

No... or not exactly. We don't just have *one* children's choir at BUMC. We have *four*!

Over *forty* children and youth participate in our graded choral program.

The *Christian Musical Arts Program* (we call it CMAP [*see-map*] for short) meets on Wednesday afternoons. Age groups ranging from Kindergarten up through Middle School meet for choir rehearsal, worship arts, theater activities, snacks and fellowship.

If you have been previously unaware, or only vaguely aware, of the incredible music ministry happening amongst our children and youth, it's time you take note! CMAP is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends, neighbors and family to come and see what's happening in our church!



Preparing to go caroling at Chippewa Place.

CMAP is participating in two exciting events this Spring, and we want to invite you to both! On Saturday, April 24, we will welcome clinician Paul Caldwell in from Chicago for a full day of rehearsals and workshops. This youth choral festival will culminate in a wonderful festival worship service at 4:00 pm on that day. Over 200 children will raise their voices together – it will be a joyful noise not to be missed!

On Sunday, May 16, the CMAP program will present their spring musicals. Beginning at 4:00 pm, our K through 3rd graders will present *It's Okay to Be Different*, a short musical in which we learn about peace and reconciliation through the Biblical image of the lion and the lamb. They will be followed by our 4th through 8th graders in *Elijah, God's Faithful Prophet*, a story about placing our trust in God.

If you know a child who would enjoy participating in CMAP, it is never too late to get involved. Auditions for the spring musical are on February 3, and we are just getting underway with rehearsal for the choral festival. This is a great time to get plugged in to this exciting ministry!

~Joy Fenton, Director of Music

North Coast District

United Methodist Church Presents:

Leadership Academy 2010:

RETHINKCHURCH

*Not Just a Place – Not Just a Steeple
Walk Out the Doors and Minister to
People*

Saturday, February 6th

Church of the Savior UMC

2537 Lee Rd.

Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Registration 8:30 –9:00 a.m.

Phone: 216-321-3019

Keynote Speaker:

Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.

Providence UMC, Charlotte, NC

“A Way of Life in the World “

Spiritual Practices for
United Methodists:

*Prepared to go out into our changing world as
health witnesses of our Christian faith .*

More information on line at:

[http://www.ncdistrictumc.org/
leadership_acad_b.htm](http://www.ncdistrictumc.org/leadership_acad_b.htm)



Never miss another event at BUMC!

Log onto brecksvilleumc.com and click on the calendar link for up to the minute information about all events scheduled at the church. The calendar will update daily.



Friday,

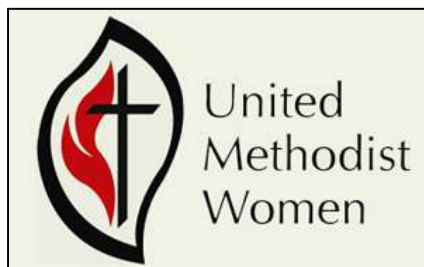
February 26th

**A musical evening raising
money for the 2010 Youth
Service Project.**

**Dinner at 6pm followed by
a musical review
celebrating
color, color, color!!!**

**Cost is \$12 per person,
\$6 for kids 12 years old,
free for 6 years old or
younger.**

**Tickets will go on sale
February 8th**



UMW meeting will be **Thursday, February 4** starting with a continental breakfast at 9:30. The installation of officers for this year will be the first part of the program followed by "warm fuzzies" fellowship. Everyone is welcome.

Alice & the Mystery of Music Selection

A Column of Ongoing Response to our Worship Surveys

In the December edition of *The Good Word*, I took the opportunity to address the issue of preferences in worship style. I hope your eyes were opened a bit to the realization that there are those who are deeply moved by each service of worship. This month, I have the opportunity to tackle another topic that seems to be equally supported on both sides. Music selection is an issue close to my heart (and in my job description), so I'm looking forward to responding to you! Read on...

Several of our worship surveys queried, "Why don't we sing more songs and hymns we know?" I will admit that this question didn't particularly surprise me. I am well aware of (and I share) an affinity for the familiar songs and hymns of the faith, be they traditional or contemporary. Once again, though, I had to chuckle when I read an equal number of surveys posing the *opposite* question: "Aren't there enough songs and hymns out there that we shouldn't need to sing the same ones more than once a year or so?"

This is most definitely an "Alice in Wonderland" issue. Without thoughtful explanation, the music we sing each week may seem rather arbitrary! *Why* do we sing particular songs or hymns? Some of them are unfamiliar. Some of them are hard to sing. Are we just working our way through the hymnal or praise book? I can assure you that the answer to that final question is a resounding "no". In fact, you might be surprised to know that in the 2 ½ years I have been director of music here, we have sung less than 20% of the hymns in the hymnal, less than 10% of the songs in *The Faith We Sing*, and perhaps 30% of the songs in our praise volumes. In view of all the music "out there", we sing a very *limited* selection of repertoire.

Music selection for each week is driven by the Scriptures we will be reading and a sense of the message of that particular Sunday. Some weeks it's pretty obvious. You can't miss the binding theme of Easter Sunday, Pentecost or the Sunday after Christmas. But even on the Sundays that our lectionary calls "ordinary time", great care is taken to create a service in which the children's moment, prayers, music and sermon all support the Scripture and spirit of the morning.

This begins with a document detailing the Scriptures and sermon topics for a particular month. Pastor Karen often posts this information two or three months in advance. Each week, Lisa, Jenny and I read those Scriptures and often converse with Karen about where she's heading with her message. From that basis, a children's moment is developed, calls to worship and prayers are written, and music is chosen. There's nothing random about it!

In the coming weeks, consider adopting a slightly different stance with regard to the music we sing in worship. If an unfamiliar song arises, treat the first verse like a time of meditation. Listen to the voices of the worship leaders or choir as you follow the words on the screen, and take that time to open your heart to what that song might be saying to *you*! If a hymn or song arises that we have sung several times, you have a different opportunity before you. Perhaps the words are familiar enough that you can close your eyes and focus on inviting God's presence into your heart. Be bold and creative and remember that ultimately, whether the song is old or new, God calls you to sing a new song *in your heart*!

Soli Deo Gloria, ~Joy Fenton, Director of Music



As we begin the process of making improvements to our sanctuary, the Gifts and Memorials Board is reaching out to ask if you would be interested in establishing a permanent memorial to your loved ones by dedicating a new sanctuary window in their honor.

If you are able to sponsor the replacement cost of a window, a memorial plaque will be placed on the window featuring your name or the name of your loved one.

These plaques will serve as an enduring reminder of the generosity of the donors and of the importance of Brecksville United Methodist Church in that family's life.

Replacing the windows is an important improvement as it will increase the comfort of our sanctuary and will improve energy efficiency and safety.

If you would like additional details, please contact any member of the church Gifts and Memorials Committee: Kay AuWerter, Dick Hayes, Kathy Holmes, Nancy Lundholm, Jim Houston, Pam Root, Rob Wilson, Gretchen Mates, Jeannette Dumont or Jeff Fesler.

Budget Status

Here is our financial status at the end of budget year 2009:

	Budget	Actual
Total Revenue	\$556,452	\$544,843
Total Expenses	\$556,452	\$542,533
Difference	\$ 0	\$ 2,310

Last quarter, we were showing a \$30,000 deficit and projecting we would finish with about a \$12,000 deficit. Actually, as shown in the summary, we finished with a \$2,310 surplus! Many of you responded generously to the projected need. We had a donor who pledged \$3,000 as a matching gift to anyone who would give above and beyond their pledge during the last week of the year. The response was \$3,100, which meant that the extra \$6,000 carried us from a deficit to a surplus. Our prayers were answered thanks to all of you whose stewardship helped us meet our expenses in 2009, in spite of the difficult economy.



Alpha
is coming!

Monday, January 25th

- *If you are interested in finding out more about your faith and how it relates to your life, this course is for you.*
- *If you know someone who wants to grow their faith, this course is for both of you.*

Alpha is a ten week practical introduction to Christian faith offering answers to some key questions about life and God. Each weekly session opens with an informal dinner, followed by a large group learning time and concludes with small group discussion.

Join us for an introductory informative evening on **Monday, January 25 at 7:30 in room 201.**

Angel Tree Math

65 Pair of Gloves and Mittens

24 Hats

1 Ear Muff

14 Scarves (10 Home Made)

5 Scarf and Glove Sets

3 Scarf, glove, hat sets

8 Hat and glove sets

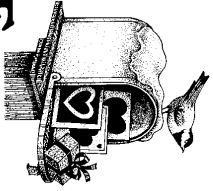







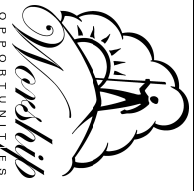


EQUALS

Warm Hands and Hearts This Winter!
CMAF thanks you for your generosity!

February 2010

2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 FEBRUARY	1 6:30 Women's Emmaus 7:30 Trustees, Parlor 7:30 Boy Scouts, FH	2 9:30 Staff Mtg 201 7 Knitting, 406 	3 6:30 Dawnbreakers 4 CMAP, 304/302 4 QUEST, 406 7 Taizé Service, Chapel	4 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Choir	5 7am Emmaus Reunion	6 8:30—3 pm Leadership Academy, Church of the Savior Cleveland
7 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 8:45 Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 7 Jesus & Ebert, Hastings Residence	8 6:30 Women's Emmaus 7 Order of the Arrow, Scout, 405 7:30 COM, Parlor 7:30 Boy Scouts, FH	9 9:30 Staff Mtg 201 7 Cub Scouts, 403/405 7 COE, Parlor 8 Music Board, 304	10 6:30 Dawnbreakers 4 CMAP, 304/302 4 QUEST, 406 7 Prayer Service, Cha	11 9:30 Asbury Bremeth, Parlor 6 Evangelism, 301 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Choir	12 7am Emmaus Reunion	13
14 8:45 Worship 9:30 Church & Soc 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 6 EPIC 	15 <i>GW Deadline</i> 6:30 Women's Emmaus 7:30 Finance, Parlor 7:30 Boy Scouts, FH 	16 9:30 Staff Mtg 201 1—7 Red Cross  <i>Blood Drive</i> 7 Knitting, 406	17 6:30 Dawnbreakers 7:30 Ash Wed. Svc. 4 CMAP, 304/302 4 QUEST, 406 7:30 Ash Wed. Svc. 	18 6:15 Handbells 7:30 Choir	19 7am Emmaus Reunion	20 8:30—5 pm Conference Workshop, Parlor
21 8:45 Worship  10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 2 Brooklyn Mem 6:30 Conf. Class	22 6:30 Women's Emmaus 7:30 Worship Comm, Parlor 7:30 Boy Scouts, FH	23 9:30 Staff Mtg 201 7 Cub Scouts, 403/405	24 6:30 Dawnbreakers 4 CMAP, 304/302 4 QUEST, 406 7 Prayer Service, Cha	25 7 Music with a Mission Rehearsal	26 7am Emmaus 9:30 UMW Board, Par 12 NACBA, Parlor 6 Music with a Mission	27
28 8:45 Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Worship 6:30 Conf. Class 6 EPIC Unwound	<div>   <p> February 7: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11, "I am what I am" February 14: Luke 9:28-43, 2 Corinthians 3:18, "Love is not blind" February 17: Ash Wednesday, Lent Begins: "Seven Spiritual Gifts of Waiting" February 21: First Sunday in Lent, Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13, "Waiting with Temptation" February 28: Second Sunday in Lent, Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35, Genesis 15:1-12, "Shadow Boxing" Visit www.brecksvilleumc.com for an up to the minute calendar, including details for ALL events held at BUMC! </p> </div>					