

The Good Word

The Newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church

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

September Issue : Published August 26, 2011

Fall is a lively time at Brecksville United Methodist Church!

This issue of *The Good Word* takes a look at what's ahead this fall, beginning with Adult Sunday School options on this page, upcoming events inside, and a handy pull out page with important information for kids and youth!

Fall Programs Begin!



Adult Sunday School

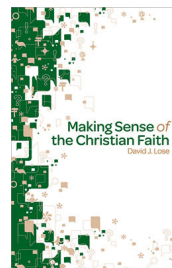


The Hole In Our Gospel
Facilitated by Dave Podolny

Richard Sterns, the President of World Vision, an international aid organization, asks, "What does God expect of us? Is our faith just about going to church, studying the Bible and avoiding the most serious sins—or does God expect more? Have we embraced the whole Gospel or a Gospel with a hole in it?"

This former CEO of Lenox China talks about his own spiritual struggle with questions such as: "What is my responsibility to the poor? How should I use my money? How do I deal with self-centeredness? What does God expect of me if I claim to follow Him? Can I call Him 'Lord,' even when I don't always do what he says?"

We will explore what God says about compassion for the least and the lost, missions as evangelism, the relevance of the church in the twenty-first century, the origins of persistent poverty, and what we might be willing to do about it.



Making Sense of the Christian Faith
Facilitated by George and Jenny Gee

Making Sense of the Christian Faith is an exciting and inviting exploration of the major theological doctrines of our Christian faith. Topics include Theology, Creation, Sin, Covenant, Law, Community, Incarnation, Atonement, Church

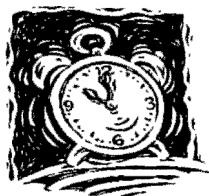
and Holy Spirit, and Eschatology. There will be a few pages for participants to read at home each week and great discussion to follow.



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 folks of all ages. Come join in the fun with an inspirational study based on the show Led by Pastor Clark. 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!

Register for these classes at church or on our website: www.brecksvilleumc.com



Regular Worship
RETURNS

September 11

8:45 First Service

10:00 Education Hour

11:15 Second Service

Our Staff

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Alter Your Course

Comments from Rev. Clark Stein

"Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try and figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; God's the one who will keep you on track."

Proverbs 3:5-6

There was an officer in the Navy who had always dreamed of commanding a battleship. He finally achieved that dream and was given commission of the newest and proudest ship in the fleet. One stormy night, as the ship plowed through the seas, the captain was on duty on the bridge when off to the port he spotted a strange light rapidly closing in on his own vessel. Immediately, he ordered the signalman to flash the message to the unidentified craft, "Alter your course ten degrees to the south."

Only a moment had passed before the reply came, "Alter your course ten degrees to the north." Determined that *his* ship would take a back seat to no other, the captain snapped out the order to be sent, "Alter your course ten degrees- I am the CAPTAIN!" The response beamed back, "Alter your course ten degrees- I am Seaman Third Class Jones." Now infuriated, the captain grabbed the signal light with his own hands and fired off: "Alter course, I am a battleship." The reply came back, "Alter your course. I am a lighthouse."

We move back into the business of our everyday schedules after a season apart. Hopefully, we have been rejuvenated over the summer. Hopefully, we have reconnected with friends and family in a way that will sustain us up to the holiday period. At church, we come back together ready to burst at the seams with all the activities that the Spirit has inspired. Many big and little decisions stand before us. I pray that all of us will keep our eyes fixed on the lighthouse. For though the seas may change, we sail together and sink or swim by keeping our eyes ever on Jesus.

I am excited about what the future holds for our lives of faith. I pray we come together ready, willing, and able to introduce as many folks as we can to Jesus. For no matter how big or important any of us think that we are, God's Word shines as an unchanging beacon.

Rejoicing in the day, Pastor Clark

Third Grade Bible Sunday

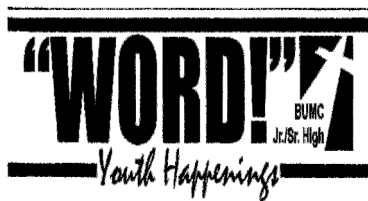
One of the many wonderful traditions in our church is the presentation of Bibles to our third graders. This year, Third Grade Bible Sunday will be held on September 11, during the 8:45 worship service. Plan to join the children in Fellowship Hall for a cake and punch reception following the 8:45 service. All the students in Rotation Sunday School (1st through 5th grade) will begin a Bible study unit beginning that Sunday and continuing for 8 weeks. Their unit will culminate with the children leading worship on October 30. This is an exciting time in our children's faith journey. Please plan to attend and be a part of this special day. If you have a third grader but did not receive a letter in the mail, call Jenny as soon as possible.





Calling all History Buffs

We have a rich collection of historical documents and pictures stored away in the church. Let's take some time to start going through them, organizing them and getting them stored properly for safe keeping. We have so many photos of past events. I don't know who most of the people are in the pictures but would sure like to find out! Let's enjoy the photos together and get them labeled and put into albums. The History Club will meet in the Parlor each third Thursday of the month at 10 am. If you have unused photo albums you would like to contribute or archival quality plastic sheets we would welcome the donations. Call Jenny if you have any questions or suggestions. Hope to see you for our first meeting on September 15 at 10 am in the Parlor. - Jenny Gee



With school back in session, youth are getting into a new routine. This fall will fly by, but we'll provide our youth with ample opportunity to take a break from their academics and take time for fellowship, building their community of faith and spending some time in the Word.

Our fall kick-off is just around the corner. Add the dates to your calendar! Epic will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month throughout the fall. Kick-off for Epic will be Sunday, September 11, and Jr. High on Sunday, September 18—both at 6pm. We will have pizza, games, hang time, and build your own Sundaes. Our after school QUEST programs will start Thursday September 15. Please note that both Jr. & Sr. High QUEST groups will meet on Thursday only.

We will also be joining in with some district and conference events this fall. Sunday, October 9 there will be a Project 1:8 Pump Up and Lazer Xtreme event from 2pm-6:30pm This will be a great opportunity to connect with other youth in our district, have fun and prepare for the Celebrate 1:8 event in November (Nov 11-12) at Fort Rapids Indoor Water Park in Columbus. For more information about Project 1:8 please check out this website:

<http://eocproject1eight.wordpress.com/>

This year the focus of our activities and discussions will be the desires of the youth. If you have any thoughts or ideas about how to make this year exciting, engaging and meaningful, please contact me. I will be in my office on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and I'm always available by e-mail. God Bless, Cristy



Youth attended The Fest, a concert and festival in Wickliffe on August 7.



United
Methodist
Women

UMW Meeting, Thursday, September 1

9:30 Continental Breakfast and Fellowship
10:00 Program on Domestic Violence
featuring Linda Johaneck, Executive Director of
Domestic Violence Center of Greater Cleveland

Movie Night Under The Stars!

Doug & Gail Huth's Back Yard

Friday September 9, at 7 p.m

Bring your own Lawn Chair or
Blanket and Snack to share.



Ladies of the church,
please join Asbury
Bremeth Circle on the
second Thursday of
each month in the par-
lor at 9:30 am. Our

meetings include a light continental breakfast, an opening thought and prayer, approximately thirty minutes of good talk and fellowship, and a lesson that combines our real lives with God's plans for us. Our wonderful Christian Education Director, Jenny Gee, will be our facilitator, so look forward to exciting lessons! We are starting our new spiritual season on Thursday, September 8. For more information call Nancy at 440-838-4341. **See you September 8!**



Do you shop at GFS Marketplace stores?

BUMC is now enrolled in GFS's Fun Funds program. All you need to do is shop at a GFS and mention BUMC at the check-

out. We can earn up to a 10% rebate based on the quarterly purchases of our whole congregation. The percent earned increases depending on how much is spent that quarter. Rebates are calculated quarterly, and a check is sent directly to our church. If you shop at GFS be sure to mention BUMC at the checkout! *The stores nearest to us are at 10820 Brookpark Road in Brooklyn and at 8789 Pearl Rd. in Strongsville.*



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

Congratulations to Stephanie Warth and Ian Jacobs, who walked down the aisle and became "Mr. and Mrs." on August 6. Pastor Clark officiated the ceremony.

Prayers of Joy that the Clark's grandson, Liam, is home and thriving and that Hannah is healthy! A couple of corrections from last month's issue: Liam's last name is McLoughlin and he was born on June 28.



Liz Frederick presents Adalyn, Lisa and Tony Kropinak with a blanket from the congregation.

Dear Brecksville Parishioners:

I am thanking you from the bottom of my heart for your prayers for my grand daughter, Allison (after her recent surgery)...Allison is well and feels normal now. God is good! And God Bless You All!

With Love, Prayers and Blessings,
Adele Johnston

Dear BUMC, Your blood drive collected 24 pints of blood for needed patient care. On behalf of the patients whose lives you have touched, as well as their loved ones, we offer heartfelt gratitude.

Sincerely, Gretchen Kresge
Donor Recruitment Representative
American Red Cross

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

| | | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------|-----------|---------------|-------|
| Greg | Eberhardt | 09/01 | Katie | Bartholomew | 09/17 |
| Alan | Jones | 09/01 | Jacob | Root | 09/17 |
| Mary Kate | Kaminski | 09/01 | John | Zakarowsky | 09/17 |
| David | Hurder | 09/02 | Charles | Wilson | 09/18 |
| Ann | Rittman | 09/03 | Becky | Gezze | 09/20 |
| Luke | Dorman | 09/04 | Mitchell | Hlay | 09/20 |
| Marilyn | Huber | 09/04 | Claire | Kenney | 09/20 |
| L. Neil | Johnson | 09/04 | James | Patrick | 09/20 |
| Tim | Miller | 09/04 | Fred | Priest | 09/20 |
| Celeste | Olenik | 09/04 | Jonathan | Wise | 09/20 |
| Harry | Wilson | 09/05 | Donna | Box | 09/21 |
| Matthew | Georgevich | 09/07 | Kara | Storey | 09/22 |
| Quinn | Slifcak | 09/08 | Les | Buttolph | 09/23 |
| Megan | Burns | 09/09 | Emma | Sak | 09/23 |
| Joseph | Hurst | 09/09 | Donald | Yates | 09/23 |
| Ellie | Ritterbusch | 09/09 | Anne | Rosenthal | 09/24 |
| Sandy | Whitton | 09/09 | Hannah | Stanley | 09/24 |
| Tonya | Boldt | 09/10 | Jeffrey | Buttolph | 09/25 |
| Mona | Carlisle | 09/10 | John | Faulk | 09/25 |
| Jacqueline | Daugherty | 09/10 | Daniel | Hulten | 09/25 |
| Abbey | McLuckie | 09/10 | Brett | Hubert | 09/26 |
| Jinho | Lee | 09/11 | Jeff | Schillo | 09/26 |
| Sam | McLuckie | 09/11 | Hannah | Buttolph | 09/27 |
| Madeline | Hamilton | 09/12 | John | Hlay | 09/27 |
| Abigail | Jaite | 09/12 | Kathleen | Holmes | 09/27 |
| Ruth | Georgevich | 09/13 | Annie | Madaus | 09/27 |
| Giovanna | Figer | 09/14 | Jean | McBride | 09/27 |
| Doug | Huth | 09/14 | Matt | Harper | 09/28 |
| Barbara | Diver | 09/15 | Mary Jane | Matts Slifcak | 09/28 |
| Loren | Guell | 09/15 | Matthew | Harper | 09/29 |
| Claire | Hayes | 09/16 | Kaiya | Crouch | 09/30 |
| | | | Craig | Kotnik | 09/30 |

*And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,
may have power, together with the saints,
to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.
Ephesians 3:17b-18*



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:

Alan Scheufler and his work with YSP. **Megan Culley** for the gift of music.
Jeff Fessler, whose talents with a paintbrush are amazing and appreciated.
Craig Kotnik, whose help on Sunday mornings is invaluable.



Is God Calling You to experience Your Walk to Emmaus?

Summer is coming to an end, Fall is around the corner, and that means Winter will follow. We know how to prepare for the change in seasons, but do we know how to prepare our hearts and minds to spend time with God?

The Walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal. The Gospel of Luke, chapter 24:13-35, relates the story of two disciples of Jesus who were going along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. As these two friends were walking together, they were joined by an unknown person who explained the scriptures as they walked. Toward the end of the day's travel, they urged the stranger to eat with them. As the stranger took bread, blessed, broke, and shared it with them, their eyes were opened, and they recognized the risen Christ.

Since many men and women have different issues that can only be freely discussed in same-sex environments, men and women attend different weekends. During a Walk to Emmaus, you will enjoy three days of singing, learning, laughing, worshipping, sharing communion, reflecting, praying, and participating in small groups. Discussions center around fifteen talks given by laity and clergy. These talks present themes of God's grace and how that grace comes alive in the Christian community. You will experience God's grace through the prayers and acts of anonymous service offered by the Emmaus community.

The upcoming Men's Walk will be held October 6-9, 2011 and the Women's Walk will be held October 20-23, 2011. Registrations are being accepted now. For more information, you may view a short video presentation about the Walk to Emmaus at www.UpperRoom.org/Emmaus, or contact Les and Cathy Buttolph, Chuck and Becky Gezze, or Craig Czarnota for more information or to obtain a registration form.



Music Bits

Bicentennial Church Choral Festival: Mark your calendar for an exciting event to take place on Saturday evening, October 22. The City of Brecksville, in conjunction with area churches, is proud to announce a Church Choral Festival, featuring the beautiful *Requiem*, by composer John Rutter. The festival concert will take place at 7:30pm on October 22, likely at St. Basil the Great in Brecksville. Stay tuned for additional details as the date approaches.

If you are interested in singing in the festival choir, please contact Joy Fenton for additional details at 440.526.8938 or music@brecksvilleumc.com. You need not be a regular member of Chancel Choir to participate, and any singer in 9th grade or older is welcome.

- **Chancel Choir** – Rehearsals will resume on Thursday, September 8, from 7:30 to 9:00pm. Contact Joy for more information.
- **Handbell Choir** – Rehearsals will resume on Thursday, September 8, from 6:15 to 7:30pm. Contact Chris at tothchristopher@att.net for more information.

WSEM

West Side
Ecumenical
Ministry

July 2011

Dear Friends at Brecksville UMC:

Thank you for your generous donation to WSEM Food Center at Brookside. Your support directly impacts the lives of families and individuals experiencing poverty and crisis. During the hot summer days of July, Brookside distributed food to 729 families. Brookside's outreach helped 524 people access furniture, clothing, shelter and food stamps. Volunteers are offering creative outlets of dance, movement and craft workshops to our children throughout the summer. With a new school year about to begin, we are busy gathering new school supplies to distribute to children from low-income families. Our staff and volunteers are here reaching out to people in need because you care. Heartfelt thanks!

Sincerely,
Lou Keim, Director



TAILGATE PARTY OCT. 8

Mark your calendar for an awesome tailgate party at our church. The Music Department is hosting a church-wide tailgate event for the OSU at Nebraska game on Saturday, October 8, at 8:00pm. Plan to come and enjoy grill fare, popcorn, cotton candy, sno-cones and more at this family-friendly event! Games, activities and prizes will be available for children and youth. Admission is free, and food/beverages will be available for purchase as we watch the game on the big screen! All proceeds will benefit the BUMC Concert Series, which provides free outreach concerts to the greater community.

HOW you can HELP

As Pastor Stein preached on Aug 7th, "We need to get out of the boat". This year, we will again be offering opportunities to serve others.

We will be **serving dinner** to low income, families and elderly adults. The first date is **Sunday September 25**. We will meet at our church and car-pool to Pearl Road United Methodist Church (near the Zoo). We also need **cookies** donated for dessert on this date. The other two dates we will be serving are December 18 & March 18.

We are also continuing the opportunity to help at the **Cleveland Food Bank**, we are scheduled to take a group every other month. Our first trip will be on **Saturday, September 24**. We meet at our church at 7:30 am and return about Noon. The other dates we are scheduled are Nov 19, Jan 28, March 24 & May 26, 2012.

Cornerstone of Hope is dedicated to providing support, education, and hope for the grieving. We are looking for volunteers to serve dinner (all you need to bring is a dessert) on **Monday evenings, September 26 - October 31**. We need one or two people to arrive at 5:15 pm at their Independence location at 5905 Brecksville Road. You will set up buffet line, serve beverages, and clean up with an experienced Cornerstone volunteer. Another opportunity at Cornerstone would be to work at the Reception desk on Friday morning or afternoon. A orientation will be on Thursday September 8, 1-4 pm. Look for sign up sheets in the Parlor after service or call the church office.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these opportunities, we will have sign-ups in the Parlor after services on **August 28**, or call the church office.

- The Missions Committee



While so many have been on vacation, the work of the church continued to go on. It must. God and the Church do not go on a hiatus. We must carry on our stewardship of service: lining up teachers for Sunday school, finding volunteers for the nursery, ushers for worship services, choir members, workers for the garage sale, etc. The bottom line is this:

- Helpers are always needed.
- Helpers are always wanted.
- Helpers are always Living in Christ and Serving in Love.
- Helpers are always special and greatly appreciated.

Will you please be a helper? Contact the church office 440.526.8938 to sign up. Ushers are in great demand!



Recently, we began noting each week's attendance and offering in our bulletin announcements. Have you seen it? Below is a chart with information from the past six weeks.

| Date | 1st Service Attendance | 2nd Service Attendance | Offering |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| July 17 | 75 | 135 | \$7,818 |
| July 24 | 95 | 146 | \$4,149 |
| July 31 | 37 | 122 | \$10,782 |
| August 7 | 60 | 105 | \$5,735 |
| August 14 | 61 | 109 | \$11,410 |
| August 21 | 63 | 122 | \$7,460 |

A big "Thank you!" to our counters for their service each Sunday!

First Sunday: Jack Drescher, Nancy Lundholm, Cliff Thielman

Second Sunday: Gretchen Mates, Phyllis Phillips, Janet Patterson

Third Sunday: Elizabeth Jaszczak, Carol Wilson, Sylvia Fowler

Fourth Sunday: Bob Lundholm, Dick Hayes, Carl Rossborough

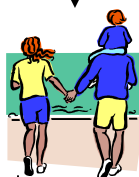
Fifth Sunday: Jeff Hastings, Cliff Thielman, Ann Rittman

2011 North Coast District Walk to Bethlehem

Are you looking for ways to increase your physical, spiritual and emotional health? Join us on an "imaginary" trip to **Bethlehem**! Beginning Labor Day weekend, our team will log activities each week with the goal of accumulating enough "miles" to reach **Bethlehem** by Christmas. There is a lot to learn along the way about new cultures, new food, and missionary work while incorporating exercise and spirituality into one's lifestyle.



Exercise 30 Minutes Per Day: Although the program is called "Walk to Bethlehem" all forms of physical activities count: swimming, biking, walking, running, yoga, aerobic exercise. The goal is to exercise 30 minutes per day.



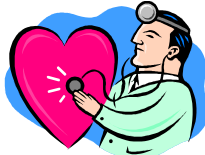
The Healthy Eating Challenge: Can you eat 5 servings of fruits and vegetables each day? Can you make half of the grains you eat whole grains? Can you change your portions so that at each meal half of your plate is fruit or vegetables, a quarter is protein, and a quarter is grains?

Spiritual Life: Make time for Bible study, worship, journaling, daily devotions or other spiritual pursuits and you will earn miles on your walk!



Mission Outreach: Serving in love earns miles for our walk. Any kind of volunteer activity, such as serving dinner to low income families, working at the Cleveland Food bank, or volunteering at Cornerstone of Hope counts!

Bonus Points: Earn bonus points for things like getting a health screening, obtaining a flu shot, quitting smoking, or losing 5 pounds. Bonus points will be announced as the walk progresses.



Our Walk Begins the week of Sunday, September 4th!
Join The Walk to Bethlehem!

Pick up your Tally Card in The Parlor
or download a copy from the church website.

Return your completed card each week.

(There will be a box in the parlor.)

Or sign up by e-mail: office@brecksvilleumc.com



Saturday, Sept. 17

9 am—3 pm

Don't throw it away! If it's in working condition and clean, we need it! Garden tools, household "stuff", toys, sporting equipment, books and furniture. No clothing, old telephones or computers, please. Proceeds will go to the Trustee budget. So empty those closets, clean out that garage, and bring the things you no longer need or want to the September sale! We'll have space available on the stage after September 6.

THANK YOU!






Paper Recycling
=  **UPDATE**

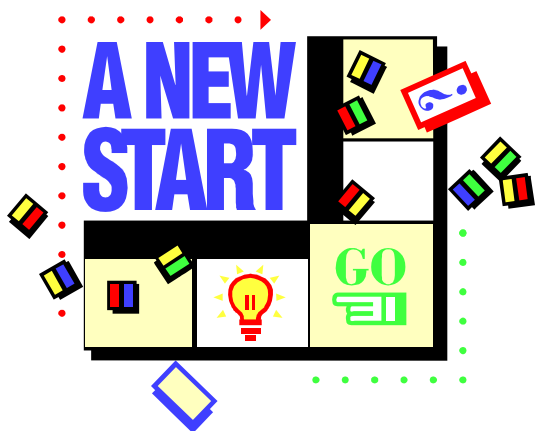
*Recycling 912 lbs of paper is like
saving about 8 trees*

This year, we're weighing our paper before it goes to recycling. So far we've recycled 912 pounds of paper here at the church.

Recycling paper saves more than just trees. Did you know that recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17 mature trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, 2 barrels of oil, and 4,100 kilowatt-hours of electricity?

September

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
|  <p><i>Janine and Emily Telischak</i></p> | <p>September 4: Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20. Sermon "Bind, loose, gather"</p> <p>September 11: Exodus 14:19-31, Romans 14:1-12. Sermon "No judging, no tripping"</p> <p>September 18: Exodus 16:2-15, Philippians 1:21-30. Sermon "Proper equipment"</p> <p>September 25: Exodus 17:1-7, Philippians 2:1-13. Sermon "Side stepping"</p> | | | <p>1 <i>Spencer & Huth Mowing</i></p> <p>9:30 UMW</p> <p>4 Women's Emmaus</p> <p>6:00 Worship Arts Picnic</p> <p>7 Lay Speaker Committee</p> | <p>2</p> <p>7 Emmaus Reunion</p> <p>9 Men's Bible Study</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Wedding</p> |
| <p>4</p> <p>Communion Sunday Rally Day</p> <p>8:30 Outdoor Worship</p> <p>10 Worship</p> <p>2 Hiking Club</p> |  <p><i>Church Office Closed.</i></p> <p><i>No Jesus in the Gospels Bible Study Today</i></p> | <p>6</p> <p>11 Staff Mtg</p> | <p>7</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbrks</p> <p>6:15 Cycling Club</p> <p>6:15 Yoga Resumes</p> | <p>8 <i>Bloch & Campbell Mowing</i></p> <p>9:30 Asbury Bremeth Circle</p> <p>4 Women's Emmaus</p> <p>6:15 Handbells</p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir</p> | <p>9</p> <p>7 Emmaus Reunion</p> <p>9 Men's Bible Study</p> <p>7 Movie Night Under the Stars!</p>  <p>Wedding</p> | <p>10</p> <p>9 Emmaus</p> <p>Wedding</p> |
| <p>11 <i>Third Grade Bible Sunday</i></p> <p>8 Worship Band</p> <p>8:45 Worship</p> <p>10 Extended Coffee</p> <p>10:20 Education Hr</p> <p>11:15 Worship</p> <p>5 Alpha</p> <p>6 Epic Kick Off Party (Pizza & Ice Cream)</p> | <p>12</p> <p>7 Jesus in the Gospels Bible Study</p> | <p>13</p> <p>9:30 Staff Meeting</p> <p>7 COM</p> <p>8 COE, Evangelism, Missions, Music, Worship, Youth Bd.</p> | <p>14</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbrks</p> <p>3:45 CMAP Resumes!</p> <p>5:45 CMAP Parent Meeting</p> <p>6:15 Cycling Club</p> <p>7:30 Gifts & Memorials Mtg</p> | <p>15 <i>Herzing & Lundholm Mowing</i></p> <p>10 History Club</p> <p>12 NACBA</p> <p>3:15 Quest</p> <p>4 Women's Emmaus</p> <p>5 Soul Quest</p> <p>6:15 Handbells</p> <p>6:15 HS Ensemble</p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir</p> | <p>16</p> <p>7 Emmaus Reunion</p> <p>9 Men's Bible Study</p>  | <p>17</p> <p>9 Emmaus</p> <p>9 Church Garage Sale</p>  |
| <p>18</p> <p>8 Worship Band</p> <p>8:45 Worship</p> <p>10 Education Hr</p> <p>11:15 Worship</p> <p>5 Alpha</p> <p>6 Middle School Kick Off Pizza & Ice Cream Party</p> | <p>19</p> <p>7 Jesus in the Gospels Bible Study</p> | <p>20</p> <p>9:30 Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:30 Finance & Trustees</p> | <p>21</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbrks</p> <p>4 CMAP</p> <p>6:15 Cycling Club</p> <p>7 SPR</p> | <p>22 <i>Hayes & Sendrey Mowing</i></p> <p>3:15 Quest</p> <p>4 Women's Emmaus</p> <p>5 Soul Quest</p> <p>6:15 Handbells</p> <p>6:15 HS Ensemble</p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir</p> | <p>23</p> <p>7 Emmaus Reunion</p> <p>9 Men's Bible Study</p> | <p>24</p> <p>9 Emmaus</p> <p>Wedding</p> |
| <p>25</p> <p>8 Worship Band</p> <p>8:45 Worship</p> <p>10 Education Hr</p> <p>11:15 Worship</p> <p>2:30 Mission Outreach Dinner</p> <p>5 Alpha</p> <p>6 Epic</p> | <p>26</p> <p>7 Jesus in the Gospels Bible Study</p> | <p>27</p> <p>9:30 Staff Meeting</p> | <p>28</p> <p>6:30 Dawnbrks</p> <p>4 CMAP</p> <p>6:15 Cycling Club</p> | <p>29 <i>Fenton & Johnson Mowing</i></p> <p>3:15 Quest</p> <p>4 Women's Emmaus</p> <p>5 Soul Quest</p> <p>6:15 Handbells</p> <p>6:15 HS Ensemble</p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir</p> | <p>30</p> <p>7 Emmaus Reunion</p> <p>9 Men's Bible Study</p> <p>9:30 UMW Board Mtg</p> | <p>1</p> <p>District Lay Speakers' Academy</p> |



SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION

RALLY DAYS

Rally Days are August 28 and September 4. Look for us at the table in the lobby and update your child's contact information. We have made it so easy. Even if your information has not changed please stop by the table and let us know. Remember Sunday School for all ages begins on September 11! Bring your young person to the table with you so they can take part in a special activity.

Attention: ALL FIRST GRADERS and your parents,

On Sunday, September 11, you will begin your exciting journey into Rotation Sunday School. Rotation is lots of fun but it is also very different from what you have been doing in Godly Play. I want to invite you and your parents to join me for a special ten minute introduction time to Rotation Sunday school. Please meet me and your shepherd at 10:00 a.m. in room 402. You will learn all about what Rotation is and meet your shepherds! If you have any questions you can ask them at that time. We are so excited to have you "graduate" into Rotation Sunday School and we know you are going to love it!!!

What's available for kids on Sundays?

Crib & Toddler

Ages birth to three years

Nursery care is available during both worship services and during Sunday School Classes in the crib and toddler room and nursery located in room 206.

Godly Play

For Children ages 3, 4, and 5

Godly Play is a method of Christian Education and spiritual direction. Godly Play teaches children the art of using religious language - sacred story, parable, silence and liturgical action - helping them become more aware of God's presence in their lives each day.

Rotation

First through fifth grades

Bible stories and concepts taught 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.

Young Disciples

Sixth through eighth grades

A traditional style Sunday School class that focuses on spiritual formation and a deeper understanding of our faith. Sixth and seventh graders follow work toward applying God's Word to their everyday life. Our 8th graders continue on their faith journey as they ready themselves for Confirmation in May.

High School

Ninth through twelfth grades

Biblical truth is not just information. James told us to be "doers of the Word and not hearers only" (James 1:22). Our high school curriculum helps our students see that God's Word is relevant to their lives today. And we have a lot of fun!



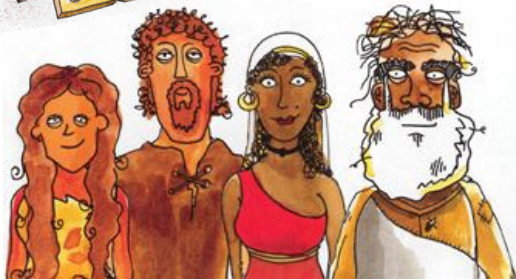
This year, our **8th graders** will be tackling some big questions, starting with...

- Who wrote the Bible, God or humans?
- Is the Bible true?
- Why does the Bible contradict itself at times?
- Is the New Testament more important than the Old Testament?
- Why are there so many versions of the Bible?
- Can it be proven that God exists?
- Is God male?
- How can God be "three-in-one"?



WHAT'S GOIN' ON IN SUNDAY SCHOOL?

Sign up for "Sunday School Friday" a weekly e-mail highlighting the themes for Sunday School that week! Each week will include great discussion starters. E-mail Jenny at education@brecksvilleumc.com to sign up!



Unlikely people. Extraordinary stories.

High School Sunday School

Our new high school youth Bible study introduces the ancestors of our faith by exposing the real, unpolished, and unexpected humanity of Old Testament Bible characters. Some of the people we will meet:

Adam & Eve: The lovable screw-ups

Noah: The obedient eccentric

Abraham & Sarah: The ordinary patriarchs

Jacob: The conniving survivor

Joseph: The virtuous dreamer

Moses: The frustrated leader

Rahab: The faithful opportunist

Deborah: The exasperated matriarch

Samson: The raging prima donna

Ruth: The tenacious outsider

David: The flawed and beloved king

Solomon: The ambitious son

Elijah: The get-r-done prophet

Daniel: The invincible visionary

Jonah: The passive-aggressive coot

Senior High students will meet together for the main lesson and then break out for discussion groups. Be sure to join us each week as we try to understand the roots of our faith in the Old Testament.

Important Dates to Note

- September 11 is 3rd grade Bible Sunday
- October 30 is Children's Worship Sunday.
- No Sunday School December 25 and January 1

FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Epic a bimonthly meeting of our Sr. High youth and friends meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 6:00-7:30. Relax, have a good time, plan future events and share thoughts about life, faith and the Bible. Some Epic meetings may be shifted for special events and outings.


Watch for information about a junior high program coming soon!

Quest is a mid-week, middle school event where youth play games, eat a snack and share in a Bible Lesson. Quest meets Thursdays 3:15-4:30pm.

Soul Quest meets Thursdays 5-6:15pm: 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 6:15-7pm following Soul Quest Thursday!

YOUTH MUSIC START DATES

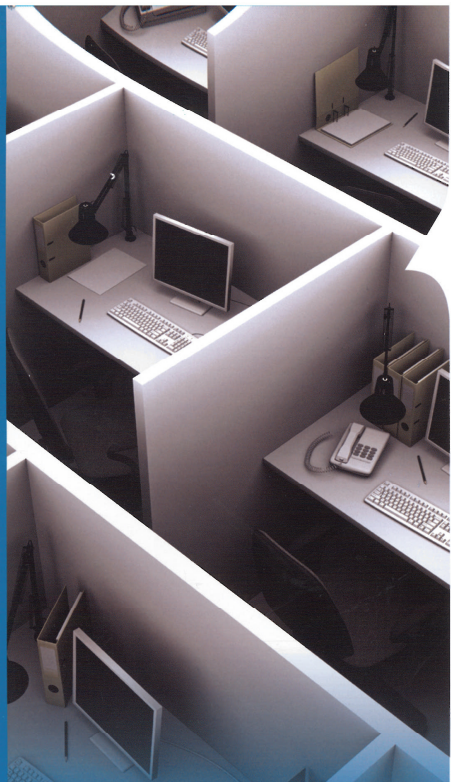
- **High School Ensemble** – Rehearsals will resume on Thursday, September 15, from 6:15 to 7:00pm (following Soul Quest). Contact Joy at music@brecksvilleumc.com for more information.
- **Christian Musical Arts Program** – The CMAP program will resume on Wednesday, September 14. Please check the updated schedule below to determine meeting time for your age group.

| | 3:15 – 4:00 | 3:30 – 4:00 | 4:00 – 5:00 | 4:30 – 5:00 | 5:00 – 5:45 |
|---|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|
|  | | | | | |
| K – 1 st Grade | NA | NA | NA | NA | Choir (302) |
| 2 nd – 3 rd Grade | NA | NA | NA | Bells (Sanctuary) | Choir (304) |
| 4 th – 5 th Grade | NA | Worship Arts | WA (until 4:30) | Bells (Sanctuary) | Choir (304) |
| Middle School | Bells (Sanctuary) | NA | Choir (304) | NA | NA |

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT IT?

CMAP, our **Christian Musical Arts Program**, is a graded program that offers children a choral experience and the opportunity to ring handbells in combination with a time of discovering more about the many ways we worship God through the arts. CMAP meets on Wednesday afternoons from September to May.

High School Ensemble meets weekly in preparation to share an anthem and/or leads worship on a monthly basis.



"WHAT AM I DOING HERE?"

If you could ask God one question
what would you ask?

"Alpha is a way to explore what we
hunger after – meaning, intimacy and
relationship – in a very non-pressured,
non-judgmental environment."

BEAR GRYLLS

Alpha course, now offered in **169**
countries, in **81** languages, by over
100 denominations.

TIME

"...many claim Alpha has changed
their lives and appear genuinely
happier for the experience."

Join our next class!

Brecksville United Methodist Church
65 Public Square, Brecksville

Sunday Evenings

September 11 through November 20
5 - 7:30 pm. Includes dinner
Child care provided.

Where ever you are on your spiritual
journey, Alpha is for you!

For More Information

Call: 440-526-8938

E-mail: office@brecksvilleumc.com

www.brecksvilleumc.com

Tell us at:

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explore the meaning of life



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