



The Good Word

Open Doors.

Honest Worship. Determined Service.

PUBLISHED AUGUST 22, 2014
65 Public Square, Brecksville, OH
440-526-8938
www.brecksvilleumc.com



BUMC through the years: the 30's, 50's, and Today!



Potluck Celebration on the Square
September 21
One Worship Service at 10 o'clock
Potluck Picnic in the Square 11—3

Mark your calendar and join your church family and the community for a very special celebration recognizing 200 years of Christian worship in Brecksville.

Two hundred years ago, in 1814, Lemuel and Delia Bourne held the first Christian worship in their home situated at the corner of Brecksville and Snowville Roads. They invited the whole town to show up and worship with them and all 16 people did! From that day on, the Bournes and others worshipped in each other's homes organized as the Brecksville Methodist Society. They were occasionally visited by a circuit rider. In the year 1832 they were able to afford the construction of a small church. It is from these modest beginnings that the community of the Brecksville United Methodist Church has grown.

We will celebrate this monumental occasion on Sunday, September 21 with one very special worship service at 10 which will focus on our roots as a worshipping people. **Directly after this worship we will enjoy each other's company on the square as we enjoy a picnic potluck.** Sloppy Joes will be provided by our Evangelism Committee. In true Methodist tradition, please bring a dish to share. Throughout the afternoon you will have the chance to play games, listen to music, take a history hike, pose for some old fashioned photos, unveil the new church history timeline, create a button for our memory quilt and most importantly catch up with friends. Activities begin after the 10 o'clock worship and continue until 3 pm.

Bicentennial Choir

As part of our bicentennial celebration, BUMC is forming a festival choir! This special ensemble will lead worship for the bicentennial celebration on Sunday, September 21 and will be premiering an original hymn, written especially for this celebration!

The chorus is open to all interested singers, including members of the community who wish to join us at this time of celebration. Please feel free to invite family, friends or community members who might be interested in participating.

Rehearsals will be held on Thursday evenings, September 4, 11, and 18, from 7:00 to 9:00pm, in preparation for our ONE worship service on Sunday, September 21 at 10 am.

We are still looking for additional singers to reach our goal of fifty people! We would love to run out of chairs!! Contact Joy for more information or with any questions! music@brecksvilleumc.com or 440-526-8938



Regular Worship Hours
Resume Sept. 7
8:45 Contemporary Worship
10 Education Hour
11:15 Traditional Worship

Our Staff

Phone: 440-526-8938

Pastor:

Rev. Clark Stein

pastor@brecksvilleumc.com

Associate Pastor, Visitation:

Rev. Barbara Bartholomew

associatepastor@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Music & Worship:

Joy E. Parker

music@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Christian Education:

Jenny Gee

education@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Youth Ministry:

Courtney Drescher

youth@brecksvilleumc.com

Business Manager: Mike Memmer

finance@brecksvilleumc.com

Office Manager: Melanie Smith

office@brecksvilleumc.com

Administrative Assistant:

Cec Podolny

cecp@brecksvilleumc.com

Church School Registrar:

Joan Olszko

Facility Managers:

Jeff and Scott Hastings

facilities@brecksvilleumc.com

Organist: Chris Toth

tothchristopher@att.net

Published monthly by
Brecksville United Methodist Church

65 Public Square,

Brecksville, OH 44141

Article deadline: 3rd Friday monthly

Editor, Melanie Smith

office@brecksvilleumc.com



See You In Church!

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone." -1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Once a wise teacher was speaking to a group of eager young students. He gave them the assignment to go out and find a small, unnoticed flower somewhere. He asked them to study the flower for a long time. "Get a magnifying glass and study the delicate veins in the leaves, and notice the nuances and shades of color. Turn the leaves slowly and observe their symmetry. And remember that this flower might have gone unnoticed and unappreciated if you had not found and admired it." After the class returned, the teacher observed, "People are like that. Each one is different, carefully crafted, uniquely endowed. But you have to spend time with them to know this. So many people go unnoticed and unappreciated because no one has ever taken time with them and admired their uniqueness."



We enter a special time in the life of our congregation as we welcome September, and a return to our "normal" life together. Our children return to school. We return to our regular worship schedule. We celebrate 200 years together as a United Methodist Presence in the City of Brecksville. All of this and so much more will occupy our attention in the coming weeks. I am excited for all of it.

I am amazed at the talented people that make up who we are. Not only in our day and age, but the stories that inform us of people who thought about us years ago. Many gifts, different times even, but the same Spirit and the same Lord. I hope you will make time to be a part of the many celebrations that are planned. I hope you will be blessed by the talents of others that are shared freely and lovingly in this place. I pray you will find a way to come alongside another and share something of yourself. See you in church!

Blessings,

Pastor Clark

OLD CELL PHONES WANTED



Have an old cell phone collecting dust and using up space in your junk drawer? Why not recycle it? Bring your old phone to the coat room collection bin for safe recycling, and earn money for our church Missions Fund!



Become a part of the church hospitality team! Volunteer to host a coffee hour!
Contact the church office:
440-562-8938



Coffee Has Its Rewards!

Number five on the list of ten things visitors don't want to hear is "We don't believe in serving coffee on Sunday mornings." Visitor and member retention is closely tied to hospitality. Think of it this way—how do you want friends and family to feel when visiting your home? If you are kind to others, they are left with a pleasant im-

pression and are likely to feel comfortable and consider visiting you again!

Each Sunday, our church offers a place for visitors and members to gather in fellowship. Offering a light beverage is a natural way to enhance that hospitality!

The Nominations Committee is looking for someone to organize this coffee hour ministry. The leader we are looking for should have the skills necessary to recruit others to assist in providing (primarily) coffee and tea to members and guests between services. This is a leadership position. Are you feeling called? Please contact Don Krolkowski 216-524-8260, or the church office for more information.



In Memoriam –

Celebration of Life and Remembrances for
The Reverend David Patton
Saturday, September 6 at 1 pm

Rev. Patton served as Pastor here at Brecksville UMC from 1972 through 1984. Vernon Shepherd, pastor at Lakeside Ohio UMC, who served with Dave, is invited by Dorothy Patton and Pastor Clark Stein to conduct the services. Our words, songs, prayers and gathering in Christian community will recollect thoughts of a man in motion among us and will recognize the One who first and finally moves us - and will not let go of us.

Our VBS Mission Campaign Faces a New Challenge

This year at Vacation Bible School we challenged the children to do extra chores around their own homes, for their neighbors or for their grandparents to earn a few extra dollars to help send a child to school for a year. Throughout the week we talked about how children in some faraway places cannot afford to go to school and about how lucky we are to be able to go to school, get a good education and grow up to do good work. We committed to try to bring in \$500 which would be enough for to pay tuition, board and food for one student for a year at Camphor Mission. We were successful!! The children brought in \$586!

Janet Kleckner knows a young woman by the name of Wallace Etta Joe. Although she is a teenager, she has recently completed 4th grade. Wallace Etta is from the area (but far enough away that she is a boarding student) and her father recently suffered a stroke - so the family is really struggling. Wallace Etta participated in the Three Simple Rules study Janet did for the girls last September. Wallace Etta is a very good student and was selected in March to participate in the first ever county-wide spelling bee. We now need to see the best way to get money to the school to pay for her tuition as travel has been stopped temporarily because of the Ebola crisis. Stay tuned for more developments!



Join our trip to the Abbey of Genesee, a Roman Catholic community of monks living a life of solitude and silence, prayer and penance in a joyful spirit of faith. During our retreat, you are encouraged to worship six times daily with the monks. When not in worship, you are open to pray, meditate, conference with a monk, hike, eat, and sleep.

Live from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon in total silence. Sound daunting? It is in silence that we can hear the still, small voice of God. Talk to Craig Czarnota to learn more. The Abbey's website is www.geneseeabbey.org.

The dates are November 7-9. Cost is \$65 per person per night, which includes your private room and all meals. We will car pool the 4 hour trip to the abbey, which is just south of Rochester, NY. To reserve your spot, please submit a \$50 deposit to the church (checks made payable to BUMC, "Abbey" in the memo line.) The trip will fill up fast!



The Men's Church Softball League games are Tuesdays at 6:15 pm (7/29 - 9/16 and then playoffs) at Longwood Park in Macedonia. Come cheer the team! For more information, contact Bob Lundholm 216-533-9794.

YOUTH FALL KICK OFF PICNIC Sunday 2-4 AUG 31 PM

AT THE DRESCHER'S. RSVP!
YOUTH@BRECKSVILLEUMC.COM

☀ 440.526.8938 ☀

Parents and Youth

Come join us for a fun afternoon of getting to know one another and celebrating the start of a new school year!

We'll be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs. Bring your favorite side or dessert to share, and get ready for a great time together!

Please let us know you're coming so we have an idea of how many burgers and dogs to have!

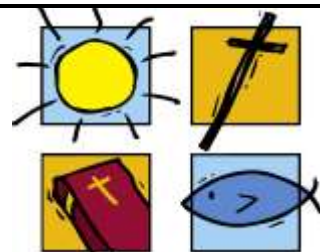
Email Courtney at
youth@brecksvilleumc.com

or call

440-526-8938 x 237

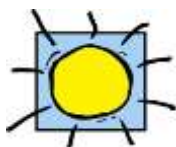
SAVE THE DATE
YSP 2015
July 19-25
Destination - Pocahontas, VA

EDUCATION HOUR PLANS



As we continue to enjoy these most lovely days of summer, your education committee is working hard to be ready for Christian Education at BUMC! Our Sunday School Rally Days have been moved to September 7 & 14. Come register yourself or your children for Sunday school classes! Our First Day of Fall Education Classes for all Age Levels is September 28.

September 7— Rally Day One!



We return to our regular fall worship hours today and that means the return of Sunday School! Join us in the Fellowship Hall for an extended coffee hour and some time to catch up with each other. If you have not had the chance to have your picture taken yet for the new church directory please make sure you do that first in the sanctuary! During the Sunday School hour you will have the chance to see how you can become involved in Sunday morning ministries, update your information on our rosters, and learn a little more about our big celebration on September 21.

September 14—Rally Day Two!



Bible Sunday! Our third graders will be receiving their Bibles this morning. Do you remember receiving your first Bible as a child or youth? Do you still have it? Do you have an old family Bible with birth and death records? Do you have a particular memory associated with a Bible study in which you have taken part? Which story from the Bible holds particular meaning to you right now? It is through sharing our stories and experiences with the children in our church family that we help encourage faithful study and learning about Jesus and the Bible. Be a part of this wonderful celebration during the Sunday School hour. Bring those old Bibles, your memories, stories, camera... and maybe even your trivia brain!

September 21



Join the celebration! Two hundred years ago Lemuel and Delia Bourne opened up their home to the community (all 16 people!) to hold the first Christian worship service in Brecksville. The Bournes went on to be founding members of the Brecksville Methodist Society (1823) and eventually Brecksville Methodist Episcopal Church (1832). We are celebrating this great milestone of 200 years of worship in Brecksville with a special 10:00 worship and community picnic potluck to follow. Games, music, food and fellowship will be the order of the day. History walks leave at 1:00.

September 28



We begin our regular Sunday School classes today. All ages, from preschool through adult, will delve into a deeper discussion of today's lectionary scripture explored during the worship service. All participants will have the opportunity to continue dialoguing at home and 'compare notes' with other members of your family or church family. We are looking for teachers for all ages, contact Jenny if you are able to be part of our teaching team. 440-526-8938 ext. 230 or education@brecksvilleumc.com



Do you have a heart for worship and music?

We would LOVE to see you in the Music Department this fall!!

Chancel Choir: This dynamic ensemble serves as worship leaders for our 11:15 Traditional Worship on most Sundays. We learn a wide variety of anthems from diverse styles and genres, but most important, we invite the congregation into the worship of God. You need not be an experienced musician, as lots of guidance is provided along the way! Rehearsals are 7:30 to 9:00pm on Thursday evenings, beginning on October 2. (But don't forget our Festival Chorus is rehearsing in September – feel free to join us for that as well!)

Handbell Choir: Bell ringing is a unique and engaging way to get involved! This ensemble provides beautiful and worshipful music about once a month at both of our services. The group shares a great sense of humor and enjoyable rehearsals, and they will meet on Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00, on September 4, 11, and 18 in preparation for the Bicentennial Celebration on 9/21. Please let Joy know if you would be interested in giving handbells a try – your initial commitment could be to try it out for just 3 weeks! (Please note that handbells will be taking October off in order to have our bells reconditioned.)

Praise Team/Instrumentalists: This group of instrumentalists and singers serves as worship leaders for our 8:45 Contemporary Worship on most Sundays. Music is drawn from a wide range of sources ranging from hymns to cutting-edge songs. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings from 8:00 to 8:45, and teams are scheduled in advance. We are always looking for vocalists, guitarists, bass players, drummers/percussionists, and brass/woodwind/string players to lead us in our worship of God. Please contact Joy to get involved!

Technology Team: There is so much that goes into worship each Sunday morning. Sometimes we forget that worship can't happen without people working diligently behind the scenes to set up sound equipment, run the PowerPoint, and accomplish many other important tasks. If you have a servant heart and a love of technology, we need you! Even if you feel unsure about all the equipment, just give us a call – we will provide the training! We are especially seeking an individual to run the PowerPoint at our 8:45 service each week!

Activities & Events: Have you not quite honed all of your musical skills just yet? Perhaps you would have fun helping to plan our Scholarship Golf Outing, or baking goodies for one of our concert receptions, or serving as an usher or greeter at a concert. Whatever your gifts and talents, we need you! Contact Joy, or any member of Worship/Music Board, to get involved!

Blessings & see you this fall! Joy Fenton, Director of Music and Board: Ric Lesinski, Dave Schroedel, Jenna Schroedel, Marianne Nolan, Becky Chen, George Gee, Megan Rohrer, Elizabeth Jaszczak



Southern Hills CROP HUNGER WALK

Sunday, Sept. 28

Registration at 1 pm
Walk steps off at 1:30 pm
Brecksville Station

Join the Brecksville UMC team as we walk with other area churches for our 32nd annual walk! We are coming together to help fight hunger here at home and around the world.

We have set a goal of having at least 15 walkers from our church. Can we do it?

Enjoy Cuyahoga Valley National Park as you stroll a flat, 2 mile route along the towpath trail. The trail makes for delightful outing for people of all ages and abilities.

If you are up for a longer hike, you can opt to walk 4.4 miles south to Boston Mill Station and take the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Train back to Brecksville at 3:30 pm. Will you join us?

Signups will be in the Parlor beginning September 7, or stop by the church office to pick up a packet. We are collecting donations to be turned in the day of the walk. Together we can put an end to hunger, one step at a time. For additional information contact the church office or our team page at:

<http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/bumc2014>



Do you have news to share? Contact
Melanie! office@brecksvilleumc.com
or 440-526-8938

Congratulations to Jeffrey and Marilyn Schillo, who celebrated the marriage of their daughter, Melissa, to Andrew Armstrong on July 26, 2014 in Stillwater, Minnesota. Both Andrew and Melissa are employed at 3M in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Sixty years ago, on September 25, 1954, our education building was consecrated. That's a milestone!

Each Sunday in August, we had altar flowers to mark a special occasion in the lives of our church family. That's pretty rare!

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!

Melanie Smith
office@brecksvilleumc.com
440-528-8938



The Missions Committee is looking for volunteers to join the BUMC team at The Cleveland Food Bank September 27 and November 22 Sign up on September 7 after church!

Other ways to fight hunger: Join our CROP Hunger Walk team or sponsor a walker or donate food to our Brookside Food Drive!



Greg	Eberhardt	09/01	Barbara	Diver	09/15
Alan	Jones	09/01	Loren	Guell	09/15
Mary Kate	Kaminski	09/01	Claire	Hayes	09/16
David	Hurder	09/02	Kathleen	Bartholomew	09/17
Ann	Rittman	09/03	Charles	Wilson	09/18
Luke	Dorman	09/04	Rebecca	Gezze	09/20
Marilyn	Huber	09/04	Claire	Kenney	09/20
L. Neil	Johnson	09/04	James	Patrick	09/20
Timothy	Miller	09/04	Fred	Priest	09/20
Celeste	Olenik	09/04	Jonathan	Wise	09/20
Matthew	Scheff	09/04	Kara	Storey	09/22
Harry	Wilson	09/05	Les	Buttolph	09/23
Mariella	Siemer	09/06	Emma	Sak	09/23
Matthew	Georgevich	09/07	Anne	Rosenthal	09/24
Quinn	Slifcak	09/08	Hannah	Stanley	09/24
Megan	Burns	09/09	Daniel	Hulten	09/25
Joseph	Hurst	09/09	Brett	Hubert	09/26
Sandy	Whitton	09/09	Jeffrey	Schillo	09/26
Tonya	Boldt	09/10	Hannah	Buttolph	09/27
Mona	Carlisle	09/10	John	Hlay	09/27
Jacqueline	Daugherty	09/10	Kathleen	Holmes	09/27
Abbey	McLuckie	09/10	Annie	Madaus	09/27
Matthew	Robusto	09/10	Jean	McBride	09/27
Jinho	Lee	09/11	Matt	Harper	09/28
Samuel	McLuckie	09/11	Mary Jane	Matts Slifcak	09/28
Madeline	Hamilton	09/12	Matthew	Harper	09/29
Leslie	Phillips	09/12	Amy	Magee	09/29
Ruth	Georgevich	09/13	Kaiya	Crouch	09/30
Giovanna	Figer	09/14	Ella	Davis	09/30
Douglas	Huth	09/14	Craig	Kotnik	09/30
Monica	Klipfell	09/14			



As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly Staff Meetings, we recently lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others. People like James and Michael Dabney who shared their musical talent with us on Sunday morning, Cliff Thielman who keeps our kitchen gleaming, and Shelly Meek who organized a healing service, filling a need for people in our community!



News from the Brecksville United Methodist Women

UMW Thursday, September 4

Join us to hear George Sleight discuss his experience surviving the World Trade Center collapse on September 11, 2001. A native of England and current resident of Northeast Ohio, the deeply religious Sleight, now retired from his career as a structural engineer, believes it's his duty to be a part of the surviving oral history of the attack. Start the day with us at 9:30 with a continental breakfast and fellowship followed by the 10:00 program. Everyone is welcome (men, too!) Please plan to attend.



UMW Bicentennial Cook Book

Your favorite recipes are wanted for The Brecksville United Methodist Women's Bicentennial Cookbook. Drop a copy of your favorites in the recipe collection box in the Parlor.

UMW Clothing Drive

Have you been collecting your unwanted clothes, blankets, towels, shoes, and purses? You can start bringing your bags (no boxes, please) of clothes to the Fellowship Hall stage now. On October 4 & 5 we want to fill a truck with clothes! This collection is for anything that is cloth—even stained items. All donated items will be reused, resold, or recycled and proceeds will benefit both our UMW Missions Fund and Easter Seals. So clean out those closets and ask your friends if they have anything to donate. Collection bags are available now in the church Parlor, or use your own. Help us fill the truck!



Come Join The Circle!

A new UMW circle has formed and you are invited to be a part of it! We meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. We will sometimes do a Bible study, sometimes have a speaker and sometimes do community outreach.

Our ages range from 16 to 70-something and everywhere in between. In August we learned a little more about human trafficking, which is a topic near to the heart of many of the circle participants. This month, on September 3 at 7 p.m. in the Parlor, we welcome Becky Moreland, founder of the RAHAB House in Akron. RAHAB is a non-profit Christian ministry of staff and volunteers devoted to rescuing and restoring women who have been trafficked into prostitution in Akron, Ohio. She will tell us about the different ministries that RAHAB House offers with the ultimate goal of bringing rescue to women who desperately need it. Everyone is welcome. Please join us!

Learn more about RAHAB, a ministry of hope at: www.rahab-ministries.org

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

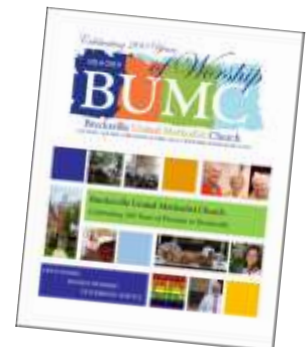
Asbury Bremeth Circle

We join together again starting September 11 for all the laughter and great fellowship of last year. This year we will be watching and discussing a new video series by Adam Hamilton called "Revival." Through this video series we follow him as he travels to England, following the life of John Wesley. The focus of the series is to explore the defining characteristics of a Wesleyan Christian. Wesley's story is our story. It defines our faith and it challenges us to re-discover our spiritual passion. Don't miss out!! All are welcome.



Mark your calendars! October 5, from 6-9pm, all youth and adults are invited to a Sunday Night Movie Night at Brecksville UMC! We will be showing God's Not Dead and sharing in great faith discussion, accompanied by plenty of snacks and popcorn. Look for more details in the next few weeks!

Pictures Needed For 2014 Directory



DEADLINE September 14!

SEPTEMBER 2014

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH www.brecksvilleumc.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <i>Bob & Joan Bloch</i>	1  <i>Church Offices Closed</i>	2 10 Staff Meeting 6 Men's Softball 7 Evangelism	3 6:30 Dawnbrk 7 Evening Circle 	4  9:30 UMW 5 Men's Group 6 Bell Choir 7 Bicentennial Choir <i>Brown & Sendrey Mowing</i>	5 7 Emmaus Reunion	6 1 pm Rev. Dave Patton Memorial Service and Reception
7 Fall Worship <i>Hours Resume!</i> Communion Sunday RALLY DAY 1 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Education Hour & Picture Taking 11:15 Traditional Worship	8 7 Community Chorus 7:30 Boy Scouts 8 Commission on Education	9 11 Staff Meeting 6 Men's Softball 7 Gifts & Memorials 7 Council On Ministries 8 Missions	10 6:30 Dawnbrk	11 9:30 Asbury Bremeth 5 Men's Group 6 Bell Choir 7 Bicentennial Choir <i>Lundholm & Herzing Mowing</i>	12 7 Emmaus Reunion	13 8 Women's Small Group
14 Third Grade Bible Sunday RALLY DAY 2 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Traditional Worship	15 7 Community Chorus 7 Staff Parish Relations Committee 7:30 Boy Scouts	16 10 Staff Meeting 10 Stitch'n Time 6 Men's Softball 7:30 Trustees	17 6:30 Dawnbrk	18  5 Men's Group 6 Bell Choir 7 Bicentennial Choir <i>Parker & Johnson Mowing</i>	19 7 Emmaus Reunion 	20 8 Women's Small Group
21 10 Bicentennial Celebration Worship Service 11 Potluck Picnic on the Square	22 7 Community Chorus 7:30 Boy Scouts	23 10 Staff Meeting 7 Finance	24 6:30 Dawnbrk	25 5 Men's Group <i>Spencer & Gee Mowing</i> Our Education Building was consecrated on 9.25.1954	26 7 Emmaus Reunion 9 UMW Board Meeting	27 8 Women's Small Group 8 Cleveland Food Bank Volunteers
28 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Education Hour 11:15 Traditional Worship 1 CROP Walk! 	29 4:30 BCA Youth Chorus 7 Community Chorus 7:30 Boy Scouts	30 10 Staff Meeting	<div> <p>THE SUNDAY BLAST A weekly e-mail Newsletter featuring: <i>Sunday Song Titles, Scripture Readings, Announcements, Opportunities to Serve, Upcoming Events and More</i> To subscribe, e-mail office@brecksvilleumc.com</p> </div>			

When we join The United Methodist Church, we vow to support it with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. But sometimes, our good intentions get lost in the day-to-day hustle and bustle of life. As a church, how are we doing with our promises? Can you help fill in the blanks?

PRAYERS

Consider adding the following to your prayer list...

- Peace in the world.
- As the Sunday School season begins, prayers for our faith development.
- Our 200th Birthday Celebration and the church family members who have come before us, and those who will follow us in the future.
- That new families will find BUMC a welcoming church home.
- That kids starting school will have a safe and successful year of learning and growing!

Do you know that Brecksville United Methodist Church has an active e-mail Prayer Chain? To be added to the e-mail list, or to submit a prayer request, please contact Elrowan33@aol.com.

PRESENCE

Date	8:30	10:00	Goal of 300
July 27	80	129	-91
Aug 3	65	92	-143
Aug 10	97	133	-70
Aug 17	82	117	-101

We've set a goal of bringing 300 people together for worship on Sunday mornings. We fell short of this goal this month. What's keeping you from church on Sunday? What are some other ways you can be present in the life of the church this month?

GIFTS

If you have made a pledge or a contribution, you will receive a giving statement (either electronically or on the other side of this page with your mailed Good Word) which outlines your gifts to date this year. If you need additional information, or if you have not received your statement, please contact the church office.

Date	Offering
July 27	\$6,495
Aug 3	\$9,436
Aug 10	\$9,445
Aug 17	\$3,953

This table outlines the offering received each Sunday since the publication of the last *Good Word*.

SERVICE

Some ways you can be of service to others this month (look for details in this issue of *The Good Word*):

- Join the CROP Walk, or support a walker!
- Volunteer with the BUMC Team at the Cleveland Food Bank. Help is needed September 27 and November 11.
- Become a part of a church committee. Contact Pastor Clark to let him know about your interests!
- Get involved in the church's 200th birthday celebration. Contact Jenny Gee to learn how you can help.
- Keep collecting clothes for the UMW's clothing drive. You can start bringing donations to the Fellowship Hall stage today!

Thank you! Other opportunities are listed on the church website!

Have you been missing church on Sunday mornings? Consider getting back into the habit of church this fall!

United Methodist News

United Methodist Communications Fights Ebola with Technology

Nashville, Tenn.: Efforts to contain the Ebola outbreak have met difficulties due to widespread myths and misinformation about the deadly virus. In collaboration with bishops in Sierra Leone and Liberia, and their communicators, [United Methodist Communications](#) has implemented a crisis communications strategy in West Africa aimed at controlling the outbreak, saving lives and comforting those affected by this epidemic.

United Methodist Communications is also in contact with bishops in Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire.

"In the Ebola crisis, communication precedes prevention and treatment," said the Rev. Larry Hollon, chief executive of United Methodist Communications.

"The contagion cannot be contained without clear communication about the reality of the Ebola virus, sanitation, isolation of sick people, and proper handling of the deceased. This has to be communicated effectively and widely. In these circumstances, a clear message saves lives."

Sierra Leone and Liberia received \$10,000 crisis communications grants to create and distribute banners, posters and photocopies of messages that aid in prevention, diagnosis and treatment; messaging for radio to address prevention, care and pastoral needs; and Internet access.

Additionally, at the request of Bishop Innis and his communicator, Julu Swen, United Methodist Communications is sending text messages to church leaders in Liberia to keep them informed and encouraged in this time of crisis. African communicators are being equipped and trained to take over this communication in the near future.

United Methodist Communications' [Information and Communications Technologies for Development](#) (ICT4D) team learned from a recent CNET report that the majority of the telecommunications market in Liberia is wireless, with 69% relying on mobile phones. That number is 67% in Sierra Leone, making text messages a crucial way to distribute prayers for encouragement and life-saving messages.

The first text message was sent today, August 19, on behalf of Bishop John Innis of Liberia to his district superintendents. The agency will also be sending **approved health and pastoral messages on the bishop's** behalf until the Liberian conference communicator takes over the task. The message sent today reads: *Ebola is real. It kills with little warning. Please adhere to health messages to safeguard your family. Let us be in prayer. God is with us. – Bishop John Innis.*

"Prayers of Encouragement," an Upper Room publication, will be made available to World Reader users in a variety of formats, including tablets, smartphones and biNu, billed as **"Your Smartphone in the Cloud."** This is technology that United Methodist Communications has tested and used previously and is well-received in developing nations. Additionally, the agency will send words of encouragement from this booklet via text.

The agency has also partnered with Iheed and award-winning animator and activist [Firdaus Kharas](#) of Chocolate Moose Media to create a short animation that promotes prevention and dispels local rumors. The animation will be made available in local dialects for use by community health workers and for television.

Along with these efforts, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, Church of the Resurrection and the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church have all sent grants to affected countries. These funds support United Methodist hospitals and health clinics, and will be used to purchase supplies for patient treatment and management, construction of isolation wards, and training of front line personnel to protect themselves from infection.

The Foundation for United Methodist Communications has established an emergency communications fund where [individuals can donate to provide communications support](#) in crises and disasters, such as this outbreak.



facebook.com/BrecksvilleUMC



twitter.com/BrecksvilleUMC



pinterest.com/brecksvilleumc