



# The Good Word

The Newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church, A Reconciling Congregation

## THE SEASON OF LENT

40 DAYS OF DEVOTION

March 2015, Issue

Open Doors. Honest Worship. Determined Service.

Published February 27

## HOLY WEEK

March 29

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 3

Good Friday

Tenebrae Service 7:30 pm

April 5

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service 6:45 am  
at Blossom Hill Pavilion

Easter Services at  
8:45 and 11:15 at church



**Daylight Saving  
Time Begins  
March 9**

### Music with a Mission: "On the Road Again"

Friday, March 6 at 6:00 pm (Dinner)/7:00 pm (Show)



This annual tradition is always a riot, and this year promises to deliver another great evening of talent, laughter and great music. The program features tunes popularized by the Beatles, Rascal Flatts, Johnny Cash, Edward Sharpe & the Magnetic Zeros, Nelly, The Proclaimers, Wilson Pickett, and so many more! Doors open at 6 pm, dinner's served at 6:30 and the show starts at 7. Tickets are \$15 each

(maximum of \$50 for a family). Join us!

### The Gray Havens

Friday, March 20 at 7:30 pm

Many musical artists crossover into other mediums, drawing inspiration from one creative form and appropriating it for another. What differentiates the husband & wife duo of The Gray Havens from other artists is how effortlessly they blend fantasy story, lyric poetry, theology and song to produce a sublime narrative-folk-pop.

Dave & Licia Radford's richly textured compositions and unexpected, imaginative lyrics create a listening experience similar to paging through your favorite book. Check out Joy's favorite song, "Silver," at [www.thegrayhavensmusic.com](http://www.thegrayhavensmusic.com).

Their latest album – *Fire And Stone* – is the fruit of collaboration, helmed in the studio by GRAMMY® Award-winning Mitch Dane (Brandon Heath, JJ Heller) and includes contributions from Stephen Mason (Jars of Clay) and Tyler Somers (Jenny & Tyler), among others. Featuring 10 songs written or co-written by the Radfords, the album is an exuberant and hopeful declaration, the songs conveying a common theme of joy and its counterfeits. This dichotomy is nowhere more evident than on the Celtic-stomp-flavored track, "The Stone."

There is an evident theological undercurrent present in Gray Havens' songs. Often this is expressed in stories, which occupy space with major influences—C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. For writers Dave and Licia, the lines between fantasy, lyric poetry and song lyric are very thin indeed. The Gray Havens will join us on Friday, March 20, at 7:30pm. As always, this concert is free and open to the public. Invite your friends!





## Worship Schedule

**8:45 Contemporary Worship**

10 Education Hour

**11:15 Traditional Worship**

## Our Staff

Phone: 440-526-8938

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

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*Grace is forgiving.*

*Grace is also for giving.*

## Matthew 20:1-16

In your families, have you ever heard a voice plead; "It's not fair"? So it is with the parable of the workers in the vineyard. This is perhaps one of the most difficult parables to understand. The difficulty is not in the story itself. The difficulty may be that what we see in it depends a good deal on what might be bothering us as we read it. It really challenges our feelings by telling us that what is fair is not really what is important. It is what helps that makes the difference. Jesus told this story about a wealthy man. He had the power to do what he wanted. He could help; but the people grumbled at the manner in which he helped. It is a story about grace. It is about how God gives us what we don't deserve. God gives us "extra."

A sheep keeper in Indiana was troubled by his neighbors' dogs killing his sheep. People usually counter such problems with lawsuits or guns. But this man had a better idea. To every neighbor's child he gave a lamb or two as pets, and in due time, when all his neighbors had their own small flocks, they began to tie up their dogs. That's grace.

March holds much of our Lenten pilgrimage this year. It is a time for contemplation. It is a time to walk with Jesus as he walks toward the cross. It is a time for us to think about how to help overcome problems in our world. It is a time when we struggle with the notion of grace. It is a time when we remember that notion, take thankful hold of it for ourselves, and look for ways to extend it to others. Maybe especially to those most difficult to embrace, who perhaps need to hear good news the most. We need to figure out the lamb thing...

Keep the faith,

*Pastor Clark*



You can help unlock a world of opportunity for the students at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky. All you need is a pair of scissors. Our UMW collects Campbell's Labels for Education and Box Tops for Education. Clip the symbols from products and bring them to the collection bin in the coat room. Learn more at [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) or [www.boxtopsforeducation.info](http://www.boxtopsforeducation.info).



Special Thanks to the Youth Board for hosting Coffee Hour in February! Our March hosts will be **Trustees.**

## THE SUNDAY BLAST

A weekly e-mail Newsletter. *Sunday Song Titles, Scripture Readings, Announcements, Upcoming Events and More.* To subscribe, e-mail [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)

# YOUTH NEWS

Learn More! Contact Courtney Drescher, Director of Youth Ministry, 440.526.8938 ext. 237 or [youth@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@brecksvilleumc.com)

## HIGH SCHOOL

**Sunday School** - Be sure to join us this Lent as we study and discuss Mike Slaughter's book, ***Renegade Gospel: The Rebel Jesus***. Jesus didn't come to start a new religion - he came to start a revolution! What should that revolution look like in our lives during this Lenten season? During Lent, we'll have several guest teachers for our weekly Sunday school, including Ryan & Kate Burrows and Anthony & Ashley Pacholewski!

**Youth Group** - We'll continue to meet each Sunday evening from 7-9pm for a fun time of fellowship, food, and discussion. Feel free to come with a discussion topic or question in mind, or to bring friends! New ideas and people are always welcome.

**Winter Retreat Recap** - At the end of January, we took a group of 7 high school girls (freshmen to seniors) on a weekend retreat in Michigan. We had a blast exploring the camp, sharing surprisingly great meals, and discussing our personal beliefs and theology with one another. This was a great weekend of relationship building, deep conversation, and a hilarious skit in which the girls all dressed up as boys and shared their best "Christian pick-up lines" with the rest of the camp!

**Rock-A-Thon** - In February, our youth enjoyed the Rock-A-Thon fundraiser and overnigher here at the church. So far, we've collected over \$135, which will be donated to the Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky branch of Make-A-Wish. The fundraising efforts of our middle and high school students will help create wishes for children suffering from life-threatening diseases. God is good!

**Music with a Mission** - Are you free on Friday, March 6? If so, we really need your help! Please let Courtney know ASAP if you're able to help as a chef, server, or dishwasher, whether or not you plan on attending YSP.

**Youth Annual Conference (YAC)** - Believe it or not, it's time to start early-bird registration for this year's YAC. We'll be heading up to Lakeside from June 12-14, and all middle and high school students are welcome! For more information, please contact Courtney at [youth@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@brecksvilleumc.com).

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Youth Group** - Our weekly youth group meetings will recommence on March 4th! We'll meet during our regular time, Wednesday afternoon from 3-4:30pm. All 6-8th graders and friends are welcome, as we'll continue our walk through the Bible!

**Confirmation Students** - Please mark your calendars for two more church visits, March 1st and 22nd. We'll be attending Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church on the 1st, and another (TBD) on the 22nd. These trips will take place during regular Sunday school hour! If you're a parent and would like to join us and/or drive, please contact Courtney at [youth@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:youth@brecksvilleumc.com).

## IMPORTANT DATES

**March 1**  
Confirmation Church Visit

**March 6**  
Music with a Mission

**March 8**  
NO High School Youth Group

**March 22**  
Confirmation Church Visit

**May 17**  
Confirmation Sunday







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

We offer prayers of joy for the baptism of Emily Jean Vastartis, daughter of James and Amanda, granddaughter of Mark and Catherine, and great-granddaughter of Bob Johns. She was baptized here on February 15 with plenty of friends and family to celebrate.

We have a number of our church family recovering from surgery this month. We're thankful that they are all recovering and pray for their continued healing.

Prayers of joy on the arrival of Lucy and Jeff Fesler's first granddaughter, Elle Mackenzie Fesler, who was welcomed to the world on February 16 by her parents, Jay and Elizabeth.

#### **Thank You to...**

Thank you to all the bakers, borrowers and buyers of cookies for the USO as sponsored by the Parma-Southwest District of CWU. The total collection from our district, which were picked up here on Jan 27, was in excess of 120 dozen!!!

Thank you to everyone at BUMC for their prayers and well wishes for a successful surgery and speedy recovery. Everything is going well and am now into the rehab phase. Hope to be seeing everyone at church in the very near future - or after the snow and ice are gone!!! Thanks again.—*Judy McCrodden and family*

Thank you so much for the DVD you gave us from Veteran's Day Services...It was so well done. Will be saved. Sorry we couldn't attend that day, but really felt a part of the services.—*Jack and Betty Monnin*



Brianna Diver	1-Mar	Lisa Sibits	14-Mar
Jack Falko	1-Mar	Lindsay Dorman	15-Mar
Edie Coman	2-Mar	Lee Derry	16-Mar
Mary Kotnik	2-Mar	Samuel Eberhardt	16-Mar
Eileen Yates	2-Mar	Joann Fox	17-Mar
Emily Schultz	4-Mar	Carly Johnson	17-Mar
Tiffany Jacob	5-Mar	Bob Hudacek	18-Mar
Phyllis Phillips	5-Mar	Dave Sibits	18-Mar
Caitlin Drescher	6-Mar	Jack Monnin	19-Mar
Donald Burkle	7-Mar	Kristen Kubek	20-Mar
Megan White	7-Mar	Philip Storey	24-Mar
Ruth Ann Bilek	8-Mar	Liz Fredrick	25-Mar
Kaleb Dumot	8-Mar	Stacie Memmer	25-Mar
Matthew Auble	9-Mar	Mallory Krolikowski	26-Mar
Cliff Thielman	9-Mar	Joe Holmes	27-Mar
George Gee	10-Mar	Carol Kubicek	27-Mar
Mike Kubek	10-Mar	Kaia Mack	30-Mar
Robert Bloch	11-Mar	Kim Rybak	30-Mar
Janet James	12-Mar	Hannah Shively	30-Mar
Tyler Hulten	13-Mar	Madeline Piorkowski	31-Mar
Kaden Juniper	13-Mar		
Sydney Hudacek	14-Mar		



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 Bob Bloch, Jack Drescher, Bob Lundholm, Kristi Eberhart, Alan and Paul Phillips, Alan and Debi Scheufler, David Brown, Craig Czarnota, Al Harper, Craig and Mary Kotnik, Jinho and Michael Lee, and John

Brachna who all stepped in to help when Jeff and Scott were called away from the church. And for people like Maddie Piorkowski, Kristin Kubek, and Brenda Calovini who enlived our worship experiences by sharing the gift of music with us in the month of February. We thank God for each of you and for the unique ways your servant hearts give to the ministry of this church!

# North Coast District Leadership Academy and Spring District Conference

More details, workshop information  
and registration coming soon!

Passion  
Vision  
Mission

# Ignite



Saturday, March 21, 2015

Garfield Memorial  
United Methodist Church

3650 Lander Road  
Pepper Pike, OH 44124

8:30 am - 3:00pm  
(Registration: 8:30 - 9:15 am)

## Easter Flowers

Order Easter Altar Flowers in honor of or in memory of loved ones or to the glory of God. **The order deadline is Sunday, March 22.** You may pickup your flowers following worship on Easter (April 5) or designate them as a gift to someone who can't make it to church.

All orders must be accompanied with payment in cash or check payable to Brecksville UMC.

### Plants Available This Year:

- \_\_\_\_ Lily (\$7.50)
- \_\_\_\_ White Hydrangea (\$12.00)
- \_\_\_\_ Daffodil (\$7.00)
- \_\_\_\_ Pink Azalea (\$12.00)

Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*How the flowers will be recognized in the bulletin:*

- ☐ in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ to the glory of God

Check one: \_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my flowers.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Please give to someone else.



## In Need of a Visit?

The Caring Committee wants you to know that we are available to visit any members who are homebound, ill, or in a care facility. We are an extension of your church family who cares for you. If you or someone you know would enjoy a visit, especially in these winter months when getting out is difficult, or any time of the year, please contact Pastor Barbara (440-799-3126) or any one of our Caring Committee members: Craig Czarnota, Lucy Fesler, Ruth McDonel, or Janine Telischak. (Call the office 440-526-8938 to be put in touch with them.) We are here to serve you and want you to feel connected to your church family!

## Nominate Someone for Flowers

Do you know of someone who's not able to make it to church this Lenten and Easter season who could be cheered by a visit and some Easter flowers? Submit that person's name to the Caring Committee! Call or e-mail the office by Sunday, March 22 with the person's name. 440-526-8938 or [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)

## Fair Trade Fair Returns

Are you looking for unique, hand crafted gift items? You'll find them at Brecksville United Methodist Church's Fair Trade Fair on Sunday, April 26! Come to Fellowship Hall between 8:30 am and 1 pm and treat yourself to a wonderful shopping experience – A Fair Trade Fair. Fair Trade goods come from farmers and artisans who are justly compensated for their work. With Fair Trade, the money you spend on day-to-day goods can improve an entire community's day-to-day lives. For more information, contact Jenny Gee.





## Experience Passover

*An Invitation from Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple*

“Please join us for our annual Interfaith Passover Seder at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 from 7 pm - 8:30 pm. Welcoming you to visit our community is a chance to build understanding together, raise awareness about the holiday of Passover, and work to fulfill the prophet Isaiah’s vision that our house be ‘a house of prayer for all peoples.’ The evening will consist of a retelling of the Israelites’ redemption from Egypt, an explanation of the significance of many of the customs related to Passover, and a small sampling of traditional foods used at the Passover Seder. At the conclusion of the Seder, we invite you to tour our building and view our Judaica collection.”

Brecksville United Methodist Church has reserved seats at this event. We’ll be meeting in the church parking lot at 6 pm to carpool. Space is limited! To participate, please contact

Jenny Gee  
440-526-8938 ext. 230  
or  
Craig Czarnota  
216-577-3000 or  
max@clevelandvalve.com.

## “To Be Known” Infant Loss Support Group

Do you know someone who has suffered the loss of an infant? They may want to know that Hospice of the Western Reserve is hosting a six-week group for parents who missed the opportunity to know their child due to death in utero or within the first year of life. Participants join the group to “Be Known” with others who can share in their sorrow, questioning and healing.

The group will meet here at the church on Wednesdays (every other week) 7:15—8:45 pm. March 4—May 13.

Registration is required. Call Mindy Stewart, 216-916-5520 for more information.



The Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Bereavement Center

800.707.8922 | hospicewr.org

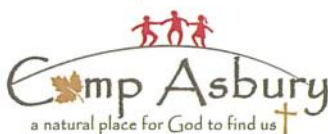


## 2015 Open House Dates

Want a chance to tour the sites, talk to the staff,  
and see what is being offered for 2015?  
Join us on the following dates or contact the site.



Saturday, April 11th - Open House and Summer 2015  
Preview from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Sunday, February 22nd - Open House and Summer  
2015 Preview from 2 - 6 p.m.



Saturday, March 28th - the Resurrection Egg Hunt  
& Wanake Preview - 2 - 6 p.m.  
Saturday, May 16th - Open House from 2 - 6 p.m.



Go to [www.EOCSummercamps.org](http://www.EOCSummercamps.org) for more information



## Getting to Know You.... Question of the Month

### *What's your dream vacation?* ?

How well do you know our church staff? A new Question of the Month feature, brought to you by the Staff Parish Relations Committee, will help us get to know one another. With the polar vortex swirling outside the window, we thought a great question to begin the series would be *What/where would be your dream vacation?* Can you guess who gave each answer? What's *your* dream vacation?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Fiji   | A. Pastor Clark Stein                            |
| 2. Australia and New Zealand (where I am as you read this!)                   | B. Barbara Bartholomew, Assoc. Pastor            |
| 3. Right now, the place I want to visit is Italy.                             | C. Joy Parker, Director of Music & Worship       |
| 4. Backpacking through Europe and traveling by train from country to country. | D. Jenny Gee, Director of Christian Education    |
| 5. A golfing road trip through America with my husband.                       | E. Courtney Drescher, Director of Youth Ministry |
| 6. The Greek Islands  | F. Mike Memmer, Business Mgr                     |
| 7. Ian Anderson's Jungle Adventure in Belize                                  | G. Melanie Smith, Office Manager                 |
| 8. Cruise to Alaska.  | H. Leslie Miller, Asst. Office Mgr               |
| 9. London and Ireland   | I. Jeff Hastings, Facility Manager               |
| 10. Alaska cruise. Return to Greece.  | J. Scott Hastings, Facility Manager              |
| 11. Paris, France   | K. Chris Toth, Organist                          |

See the answers below. Do you have a suggestion for a future question? Send it to [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)!

1.H 2.K 3.I 4.D 5.G 6.E 7.C 8.F 9.A 10.B 11.J



### **The Bourne Reading Room**

Are you looking for a quiet spot to enjoy a good book? Do you need a book to help while away the last weeks of winter? Or maybe you're in need of a spot to meet with 3 friends for a Bible Study or Small Group?

Try the Bourne Reading Room! Located on the third floor, in a corner of the large meeting room (301), it offers a quiet, private spot. This space was previously used as our Youth Director's office, but Courtney has moved her office to the Youth Room on the fourth floor.

The Reading Room is open whenever the church is open—but won't be available when there is a meeting in Room 301. (Check the church calendar or call the office for that schedule.)

To reserve the room for your small group meeting, call Melanie in the church office: 440-526-8938.

**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](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)  
440-528-8938



## Help Others in March

The Missions Committee is looking for volunteers to serve in outreach to our neighbors in two ways in the month of March:

### Pearl Road Soup Kitchen

March 22

Food service begins at 5 pm, leaving BUMC around 3pm.

### Cleveland FoodBank

March 28

8:00 am until noon

Sign up at church on Sunday!

Contact Gail or Kim Meyer for more information:

440-582-9811

or

e-mail the church office  
office@brecksvilleumc.com

## Chili Cook Off Turns Up the Heat for a Great Cause!

On a cold winter's eve in January, Fellowship Hall filled with the enticing aroma of chili and the warm sounds of laughter as cooks presented their best chili for about 100 people to sample. Craig Kotnik's creation was selected as the crowd's favorite, followed closely by chili created by Kathy Stein and Sharon and Matt Mannocho. After everyone was fed, Pastor Clark lead the crowd in a rousing game of trivia, and the kids were treated to a candy filled piñata. Best of all, the event raised about \$300 for the Brookside Food Pantry! The cook off was hosted this year by the Evangelism Committee and the United Methodist Women. Thank you to everyone for making the event a success!

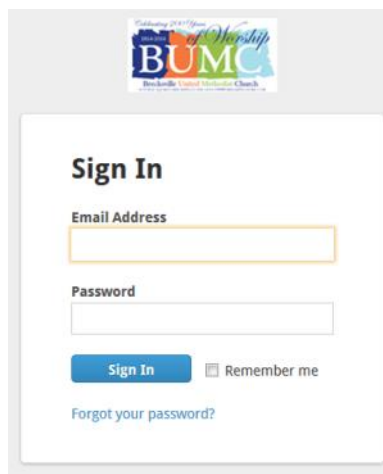
# Connect with Realm

Connecting with your church family just got easier! Realm gives you the ability to update and maintain your church contact information, join a class or group, give online, review contributions history, and print year-end statements. Ready to get engaged and connected? Sign in at this web address:

[www.realm.org/brecksvillemethodist](http://www.realm.org/brecksvillemethodist)

*Need a log in? E-mail the church office :*

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



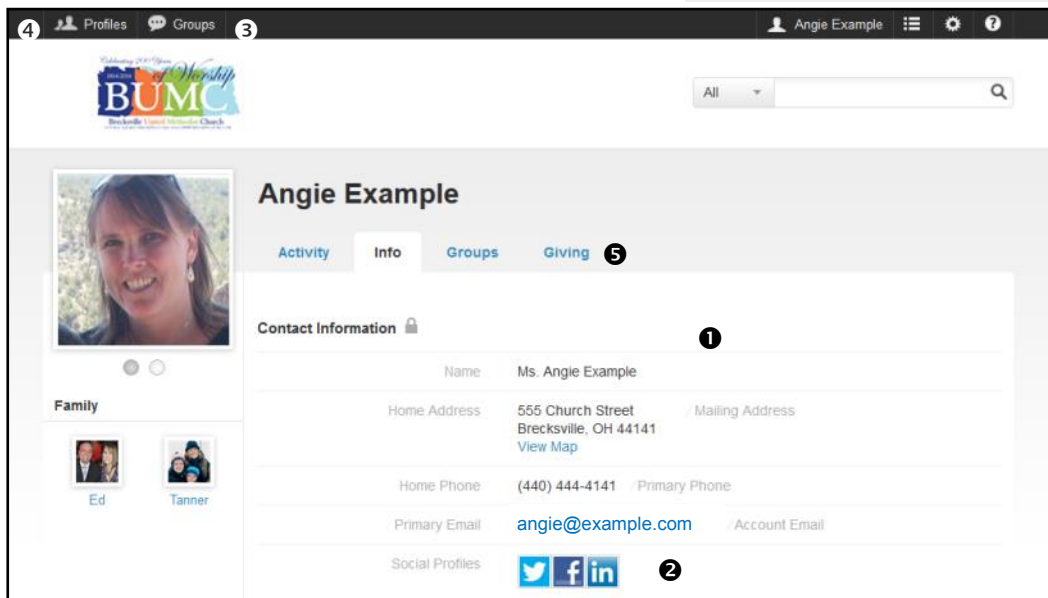
Sign In

Email Address

Password

☐ Remember me

[Forgot your password?](#)



4 Profiles 3 Groups

Angie Example

Activity Info Groups Giving 5

Contact Information 1

Name Ms. Angie Example

Home Address 555 Church Street Brecksville, OH 44141 View Map

Home Phone (440) 444-4141 Primary Phone

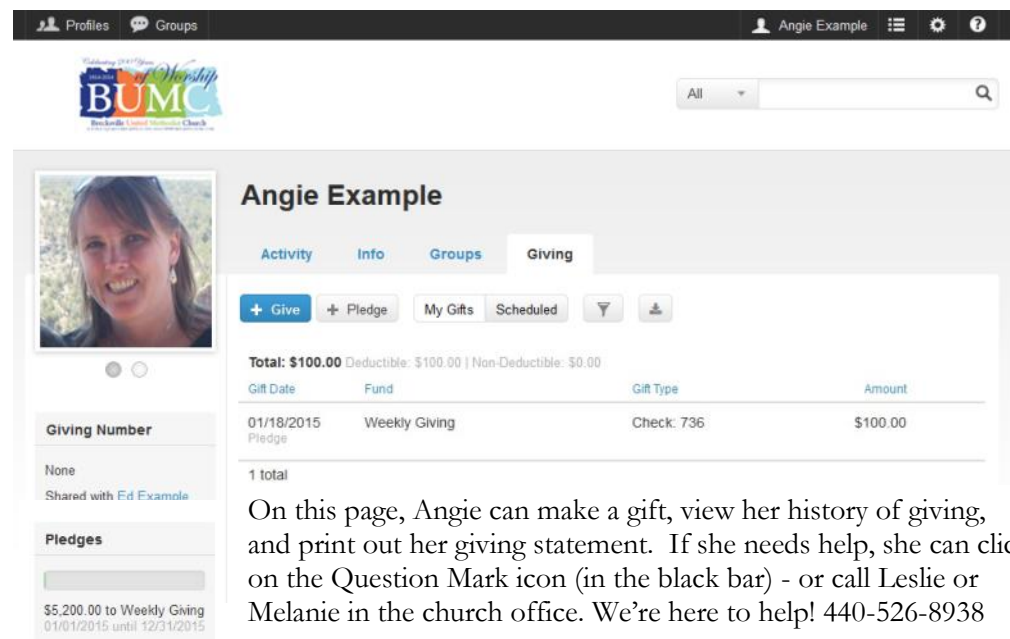
Primary Email angie@example.com Account Email

Social Profiles 2

Family

Ed Tanner

Here's what a profile page looks like. Angie can update her contact information ①, share her social networking sites ②, and add profile pictures of herself and her family. By clicking on the "Groups" tab at the top of the page ③ (in the black bar), she can sign up for a class or join a group. By clicking the "Profiles" link ④ at the top of the page, she can look up contact information for other church members. When she clicks the Giving tab ⑤ a new screen will open:



4 Profiles 3 Groups

Angie Example

Activity Info Groups Giving 5

+ Give + Pledge My Gifts Scheduled

Total: \$100.00 Deductible: \$100.00 Non-Deductible: \$0.00

Gift Date	Fund	Gift Type	Amount
01/18/2015	Weekly Giving	Check: 736	\$100.00

1 total

Giving Number

None

Shared with Ed Example

Pledges

\$5,200.00 to Weekly Giving 01/01/2015 until 12/31/2015

On this page, Angie can make a gift, view her history of giving, and print out her giving statement. If she needs help, she can click on the Question Mark icon (in the black bar) - or call Leslie or Melanie in the church office. We're here to help! 440-526-8938





# News from the Brecksville United Methodist Women

## Following in Jesus's Footsteps

Don't miss the UMW meeting on Thursday, March 5 when speaker Barbara Smith presents "Following in Jesus's Footsteps." Continental breakfast and fellowship at 9:30. Program starts at 10. All are welcome—hope you'll join us!

## Calling All Quilters

Flat Rock Homes has begun preparations for their biennial quilt auction (October 2015), and have put out a call for quilters. Their 2013 Quilt Auction was one of the most successful ever, raising more than \$16,600 with more than 150 quilts donated. Their goal is to do even better this year, as all funds raised benefit the individuals they serve through therapeutic and life-giving programs. If you would like to be a part of this meaningful tradition and would like to share your talents and contributions through your gifts as a quilter or lover of quilts, please contact Barb Harper 440-838-4938. The organization is looking for quilts of your creation and for antique quilts. Full size, baby quilts, wall-hanging, new or antique, your donation will help Flat Rock live out its mission of restoring hope, transforming lives, and living faith.

## Come Join The Circle!



Join us this evening for an interesting look at our next 'Bad Girl of the Bible' Lot's wife. Lot, his wife, and their two daughters were saved from the destruction that rained down on Sodom and Gomorrah. As they were fleeing the devastation Lot's wife took one last look back... let's piece together more of the story using our Bible and the writings from other traditions. Our ages range from 16 to 70-something and everywhere in between. Everyone is welcome! Join us!

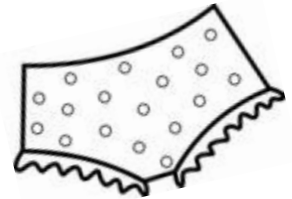
## Creekside Fundraiser for UMW Missions

Make a date to treat yourself to a tasty meal (or two) at a great local restaurant! Enjoy lunch, dinner, or a takeout from Creekside on Tuesday, April 14 for our UMW. When you present the UMW coupon, a percentage of your check will be donated to the UMW mission fund. Coupons will be available April 1 at the church and on the website.



## Fair Trade Fair Returns, April 26

Fellowship Hall will transform into a spring bazaar featuring handmade items from around the world! Fair Trade goods come from farmers and artisans who are justly compensated for their work. With Fair Trade, the money you spend on day-to-day goods can improve an entire community's day-to-day lives. Just in time for Mother's Day and spring weddings, come shop the Fair Trade Fair from 8:30 am to 1 pm. Tell your friends!



## Bloomers!

*UMW Collects for Girls in Need.*

During the month of April, UMW will be collecting donations of underwear, bras, and socks for the Westside Community House West Side Sisterhood. The items are for girls age 10 to 18. There will be a box in the coat room for your donations. Our donations will be delivered to the girls during the first week of May. Need more info? Contact Gretchen Mates: 440-526-6481.

West Side Sisterhood is an after-school and summer arts program that prepares girls ages 10 - 18 from Cleveland's west side for womanhood and their life beyond. 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.



# MARCH 2015

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

*Walk the Labyrinth in the Chapel during the Lenten Season, Monday through Saturday*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 Communion Sunday</b> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Education Hour <i>Confirmation Church Visit</i> <b>11:15 Worship</b> 5 MWM Practice 6:30 Financial Peace U <i>Communion Stewards: Harpers</i>	<b>2</b> 5:30 Kickbox 7 Disciple's Path Study 7:30 Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 10 Staff Mtg 7 Evangelism 7:30 Zumba	<b>4</b> 6:30 Dwnbrkr 3 MS Youth 5 Men's Group 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:15 Men's Ensemble	<b>5</b> 9:30 UMW 7-10 Music with a Mission Rehearsal 	<b>6</b> 3 YA Choir 5 Music with a Mission 	<b>7</b>
<b>8 Daylight Savings Time Begins!</b> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Education Hour <b>11:15 Worship</b> 12:15 Music & Worship Bd. 6:30 Financial Peace U <i>No HS Youth Group</i>	<b>9</b> 5:30 Kickbox 7 Disciple's Path Study 7:30 Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 11 Staff Mtg 7 COM 7 Gifts & Memorials 7 Missions 7:30 Zumba	<b>11</b> 6:30 Dwnbrkr 3 MS Youth 4:30 Children's Choir 5 Men's Group 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	<b>12</b> 9:30 Asbury Bremeth 7 Evening Circle	<b>13</b> 8 LifeLine Screening	<b>14</b> 10 Caring Committee
<b>15 One Great Hour of Sharing</b> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Education Hour <b>11:15 Worship</b> 6:30 Financial Peace U 7 HS Youth Group	<b>16</b> 5:30 Kickbox 7 Disciple's Path Study 7 SPRC 7:30 Boy Scouts	<b>17</b>  10 Staff Mtg 10 Stitc'n'Time 7:30 Trustees <i>No Zumba Today</i>	<b>18</b> 6:30 Dwnbrkr 3 MS Youth 4:30 Children's Choir 5 Men's Group 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	<b>19</b> 	<b>20 NCoast Jam</b> Brookside Food Delivery 7:30 Gray Havens Concert 	<b>21</b> <i>Leadership Academy</i> 
<b>22</b> <i>Confirmation Church Visit</i> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Education Hour <b>11:15 Worship</b> 6:30 Financial Peace U 7 HS Youth Group <i>Pearl Road Dinner</i>	<b>23</b> 5:30 Kickbox 7 Disciple's Path Study 7:30 Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> 10 Staff Mtg 7 Finance 7 Interfaith Passover Seder 7:30 Zumba	<b>25</b> 6:30 Dwnbrkr 3 MS Youth 4:30 Children's Choir 5 Men's Group 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <i>No School</i> <i>BBHCSD</i>	<b>28</b> <i>Cleveland Food Bank Volunteers Needed!</i>
<b>29 Palm Sunday</b> <b>8:45 Worship</b> 10 Education Hour <b>11:15 Worship</b> 6:30 Financial Peace U  <b>HOLY WEEK</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30 UMW Board Meeting 5:30 Kickbox 7 Disciple's Path Study 7:30 Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> 10 Staff Mtg 7:30 Zumba	<b>1</b> 6:30 Dwnbrkr 10 PEO 3 MS Youth 5 Men's Group 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b> <b>Good Friday</b>  <b>Tenebrae Service</b> <b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>4</b>



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...

- Pray for all those working or living outdoors during this cold, cold winter weather.
- Prayers for peace.
- Pray that others will find Brecksville United Methodist Church, feel our welcome, and join us on our journey of faith.
- Pray for those in recovery.
- Say a prayer of thanks for the best thing that happened in your life today!

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](mailto:Elrowan33@aol.com).

# PRESENCE

Date	First Service	Education Hour	Second Service	Goal of 300
Feb. 1	122	75	42	-136
Feb. 8	120	108	79	-101
Feb. 15	83	98	74	-143
Feb. 18	Ash Wednesday Service—47			
Feb. 22	110		83	-107

We've set a goal of bringing 300 people together for worship on Sunday mornings. We fell short of this goal again 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.

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

Date	Offering
Feb. 1	\$18,870
Feb. 8	\$10,728
Feb. 15	\$3,468
Feb. 22	\$8,025

# SERVICE

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

- Donate to our food drive. Bring your non-perishable items and paper products to the Brookside bin in the coat room for delivery on March 20.
- Volunteers are needed for the Pearl Road Dinner on March 22. Catherine Vastartis and Donna Sibits are preparing lasagna for the meal, but need help serving it! Contact the church office to sign up, or sign up on Sunday.
- Volunteers are needed for the Cleveland Food Bank on March 28. You must pre-register online. Contact the church office for details.

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

*The people of The United Methodist Church are putting our faith in action by making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, which is our church's mission. Through the power of our connection, we are making a positive difference in more than 125 countries.*

# United Methodist News

How much do you know about the traditions and symbols of Lent?

**Q. True or False? Sundays are not counted in the 40 days of Lent**

The correct answer is **True**.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

**Q. How did the early church observe Lent?**

- They remembered the mercy and forgiveness of Christ
- They reconciled relationships among church members
- They prepared converts for baptism
- All of the above
- None of the above

The correct answer is **all of the above**.

In addition to being a time to remember the mercy and forgiveness of Jesus, the early church used Lent to prepare converts for baptism, and to offer opportunities for those who had been separated from the church to be reconciled.

Today Lent remains an ideal time to remember our baptism and to reconcile relationships with those we may have harmed. All of this signifies to us our sinfulness and the sacrifice of Jesus which makes our forgiveness possible.

**Q. What does the term 'Lent,' which comes from 'lencten,' mean?**

- Time
- Length
- Sacrifice
- Spring

The correct answer is **spring**.

Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The root words mean "long days," and this combination probably refers to the increasing daylight at this time of year. Lent's 40 days represent Jesus' time in the wilderness, enduring temptation and preparing to begin his ministry.

**Q. When did United Methodists start the 'imposition of ashes?'**

- 1877
- 1933
- 1992
- 2008

The correct answer is **1992**.

This practice became part of our official worship resources in 1992 when General Conference adopted *The United Methodist Book of Worship*. It is optional to use it.

Did you enjoy these questions? See how much you know about the traditions and symbols of Lent & Easter with daily questions from the United Methodist Church. Visit:

[www.umc.org/what-we-believe/lent-quiz-test-your-knowledge-of-the-season](http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/lent-quiz-test-your-knowledge-of-the-season)

We encourage you to share the link to this page with others, too. Good luck!



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