The Newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church, A Reconciling Congregation

The Good Word



Open Doors. Honest Worship. Determined Service. SEPTEMBER 2016 Issue ~ Published August 25, 2016 See it in color! Visit www.brecksvilleumc.com/root/bumconline/Newsletter



September 4 Communion Sunday Last Summer Worship of the Season 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10 Worship in the Sanctuary

September 11

Fall Kick Off Sunday 9:00 Adult Education Hour: Learn about Africa University 10:00 One Worship Service 11:00 Potluck on the Square

September 18

National Back to Church Sunday Third Grade Bible Sunday Fall Worship Times Return 8:45 Contemporary Worship Service 10:00 Coffee & Classes for All Ages 11:15 Traditional Worship Service

September 25

8:45 Contemporary Worship Service 10:00 Coffee & Classes for All Ages 11:15 Traditional Worship Service



Join us on Sunday, September 11 as we celebrate the start of a new program year with Fall Kick Off Sunday!

- Special Adult Education Hour at 9 am with Dr. Cheryl L. Walker, a member of the Africa University advisory development committee.
- One worship service at 10 am with guest speaker, Mrs. Angella Current-Felder, who will share with us about Africa University, an initiative of The United Methodist Church. Her book "The School of Dreams in the Valley of Hope: The Africa University Story" was published April, 2012.
- Immediately after the service, we'll gather in the Sanctuary for a Church Family Photograph. How many people we can fit in the picture?
- At 11:30 am, join us on the Square for a potluck luncheon. Bring a healthy appetite and a dish to share. We'll have lawn games, a "No Place Like Home" Photo Booth, face painting, and a bounce house for the kids.
- At noon, the Cleveland Photographic Society will host a reception for their exhibit, Images of Faith, which will be on display in the church through November. Join them in the Parlor for cake and to learn about the exhibit.

As you can see, there's a lot going on that morning. We hope YOU will be a part of it! If you'd like more information about any of the events of the morning, please visit our website (www.brecksvilleumc.com) or call the church office 440-526-8938. Thank you!



Sunday Mornings *Through September 4* 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10:00 Worship in the Sanctuary Worship Times Change Sept. 18 8:45 Contemporary Worship 11:15 Traditional Worship

Our Staff

Phone: 440-526-8938

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Back to Basics

Rev. Clark Stein, Senior Pastor

"See, I am laying in Zion a foundation stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation: "One who trusts will not panic."" - Isaiah 28:16

A sentry stood day after day at his post for no apparent reason. One day, a passerby asked him why he was standing at that particular place. "I don't know," the sentry replied, "I'm just following orders." The passerby then went to the captain of the guard and asked her why the sentry was posted in that place. "I don't know," the captain replied. "We're just following orders." This prompted the captain of the guard to pose the question to a higher authority. "Why do we post a sentry at that particular spot?" she asked the king. But the king didn't know. So he summoned his wise men and asked them the question. The answer came back that one hundred years before, Catherine the Great had planted a rosebush and had ordered a sentry placed there to protect it. The rosebush had been dead for eighty years, but the sentry still stood guard.

God is always doing a new thing. We must not just stand guard at the past, preventing movement into the future. However, many foundation stories of our past do inform who we are today. We have begun to plan to go back to basics for the coming year. Let's consider together where we stand guard at dead rosebushes, and where we guard priceless treasures. I think such examination from time to time can be informative and life giving. I pray you will make plans to join us with supportive hearts and minds and hands and energies. I continue to celebrate what God is doing at Brecksville UMC!

Peace for the day,

Parton (Va





The Caring Committee is here for you and available to visit those who may be lonely and looking for support or someone to lend an ear. Contact Pastor Barbara, 440-799-3126, to arrange a visit for yourself or a loved one.



United Methodist Women kick off the new program year with a meeting Thursday, September 1. Join us at for a continental breakfast and fellowship at 9:30. At 10:00 am Ellen Riehm, from National Alliance on Mental Illness Greater Cleveland, will share valuable information on support, education, and advocacy for people with mental illness and their families. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there!

Asbury Bremeth Returns September 8. Ladies of the church, please join Asbury Bremeth Circle on the second Thursday of each month in the parlor 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 looking at Philip Yancy's Vanishing Grace. For more information call Nancy Knowlton at 440-838-4341. See you there!



Ronald cDonald House

Evening Circle, Wednesday, September 7: Flower Arranging. Bring a vase of any size, shears, and any kind of flower appropriate for the size of your vase Beverly Gooding will instruct us on floral arranging. Take your finished project home, or deliver it to someone in need of cheer. Need more info? Contact Lyn Hobzek 440-526-6037.

Greater Cleveland Food Bank

Your help is needed at the Cleveland Food Bank, Saturday, September 10 from 8 am until noon. The Missions Committee is organizing a carpool leaving from the church at 7:30 am. Want to help? Sign up Sunday in the Lobby for more info!



What does it mean to be a member of the Methodist Church? Come find out during New Member Classes September 18 and 25.

If you are interested, or want to know more, please contact Pastor Clark by email <u>pastor@brecksvilleumc.com</u> or phone phone 440-526-8938.

New members will be received during worship on October 2.

Pull for the House!

Proceeds from recycling pull tabs benefit the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland.

> These funds allow us to: Celebrate Special Occasions Provide Family Meals Assist Families in Emergencies And Much More!

Our UMW collects pull tabs (soda pop, soup, pet food, etc.) year round!

Bring your pull tabs to the collection bin in the first floor coat room!



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

Congratulations to Joan and Paul Olszko who welcomed their first granddaughter (and second grandchild) Maeven Ilyse Reiter who was born on August 10. Proud parents are Shelby Olszko & John Reiter.

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

Your Bible Stories Wanted!

Do you remember receiving your first Bible? Share your memories with kids who will receive this gift on Third Grade Bible Sunday, September 18. Jenny will be available on Sunday mornings to record your video. Or you can record a video or snap a picture of your Bible at home and e-mail it to the office. We are also looking for hand written messages to tuck into each third grader's Bible as an additional keepsake of this special day.

Contact Jenny with questions or for more details:

education@brecksvilleumc.com

Greg Eberhardt Alan Jones Mary Kate Kaminski David Hurder Ann Rittman Luke Dorman Marilyn Huber Tim Miller Matthew Scheff Harry Wilson Mariella Siemer Matt Georgevich **Quinn Slifcak** Megan Burns Joe Hurst Jennifer Mathewson Sandy Whitton Tonya Boldt Mona Carlisle Jackie Daugherty **Travis Papesh** Matthew Robusto



Chank Jou!

As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly Staff Meetings this month, we lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others. People like ALL of the wonderful people who lent their time and talents to VBS in July. The Thursday Men's Group, who have been helping with a

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series of cleaning projects around the church. Bob Lundholm, who serves on our church closer team, is a trustee, a member of the lawn mowing club, and who is always ready to step up and help when there is a need. The crew who helped with the Sanctuary floor restoration in July. The pews had to be removed and then replaced after the floor work was done. We also had some brave volunteers who climbed up and replaced all of our chandelier light bulbs with energy efficient LEDs, and who climbed up and replaced the filters on the sanctuary air conditioners. Bob Hudacek, who serves as a church closer and who helps enliven our worship experience with music with the Praise Band. Brenda Calovini is so generous with her considerable talent, and we're thankful for her music during worship as well. Jamie Schwendeman, shared an early morning with our outreach team serving coffee to Brecksville Broadview Heights teachers at the high school teacher training day. Thank you for helping us engage our community in a new way. We are thankful for each of you, and for those of you who were not named but who help in the ministry of this church, in ways large and small!

School is back in session, and we are getting BACK to BASICS. We won't be focusing on reading, 'riting or 'rithmetic, though. Instead, get ready to deepen your understanding of significant biblical stories, your knowledge about United Methodism, and your own personal faith. As the year progresses, we invite you to develop a deeper, richer, and more profound walk with God.

This year, we will offer 3 distinct tracks, focusing on important aspects of Christian discipleship:

- Back to Basics, a humorous and insightful look at important biblical stories that shape and inform our faith (begins with Session I on September 18).
- Personal Spiritual Development, devoted to spiritual disciplines and practices that lead us deeper in our relationship with God and others (begins with Session I on September 18)
- United Methodism 101, which will unpack ideas like the Wesleyan Quadrilateral, Wesley's 3 Simple Rules, and the history of United Methodism (this track will begin in Session II, on November 20).

Back to Basics

Beginning September 18 Every week join Pastor Clark to meet one of your spiritual ancestors. You will be amazed to find that they are a lot like you. Some were heroes, some were villains but most were just everyday folks that we can learn so much from. Hear the stories of these men and women called by God to do amazing things and see how they fit into the larger narrative of our faith story.

The Gospel of Mark

Back to Basics Mid-Week Bible Study This course will begin on Wednesday, October 5, at 7:00 pm in the Parlor and will meet each Wednesday evening through December. Pastor Clark will lead this in-depth study that will familiarize you with the life of Jesus as told from the perspective of an emerging Christian community.

Seeing Gray

BASICS

September 18 through November 6 As we head toward Election Day the television is filled with ads that shout messages of divisiveness. How can we navigate the waters of the election season with our brothers and sisters in Christ who may hold very different political ideology? It might not be easy to do, but we already have the tools and abilities to do just that when we remember what Jesus taught us. This class will be a combination of Biblical readings, video and group discussion.

Kids' Sunday School

Begins September 18 Sunday School for children in preschool through 12th grade will also take place during the 10:00 Sunday School hour. Look for signs hanging in the church on September 18 which will direct you to your classroom.

Teachers Wanted! Do you have a love for children and a desire to fulfill the promise you make when a child is baptized in our church? Consider sharing your love for God with our children this year by becoming a Sunday School teacher. You will be added to a team of amazing teachers and all material you need will be provided. Contact Jenny if you would like to learn more: 440-526-8938 ext. 230 or <u>education@brecksvilleumc.com</u>

THIRD GRADE BIBLES

September 18 is a very important day in the life of Brecksville United Methodist Church!!

It's the day we celebrate an important step in the faith journey of our third graders. Our church family will gather together with the children during worship services to present them with their very own Bible.

We will be making quite a big deal about it all morning... because it is a really big deal!!! This congregation has made a promise to each child in their baptism to nurture and encourage them in their faith development-we are excited to be able to do that on September 18!

Everyone's invited to a reception in Fellowship Hall at 10:00, where we will enjoy some cake and fellowship before Sunday School classes begin.

If you have a third grader, be sure to contact Jenny before September 12 to reserve their Bible.

Share your Bible Memories

Did you grow up in a church where you received a Bible as a kid? Maybe you didn't get your first Bible until you were older. Do you have a special Bible memory with a grandparent or grandchild? Whatever your story, we'd love you to share it!

- Jot a note to be included in a third grader's Bible.
- Snap a picture of your Bible and send it to the office.
- Record a video (at home or at church after services) and tell the kids about your special memory.

Contact Jenny Gee 440-526-8938 ext. 230 education@brecksvilleumc.com

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Board Update

We have revived the Youth Board and we are so excited for the future of youth ministry at BUMC! Five students representing grades eight to twelve will meet once a month to discuss youth programming and brainstorm ideas for improving student ministry at our church. This wonderful opportunity ensures that students are taking leadership in ministry and in partnership with church staff, creating youth events that make an impact in the lives of young people. If you have any ideas or questions for the Youth Board



BUMC Youth Ministry is on social media!

Follow us for photos, event updates, and more! We would love to connect with you and share all the fun things going on in youth ministry at BUMC!

fb.com/BrecksvilleUMCYouth twitter.com/bumcyouthmin Instagram @bumcyouthmin

Let's Have Dinner, September 4!

- What: combined Youth dinner
- Where: Brecksville UMC
- When: September 4th at 5 pm
- Why: Introduction to the youth schedule and receive a calendar of upcoming events
- Who: Students 6th-12th grade and parents (bring friends!)
- RSVP to Dana at <u>youth@brecksvilleumc.com</u> by Aug 31

Details of Youth Events are shared in the Sunday bulletin, the Sunday Blast, and on our social media platforms. If you want to be sure to be in the loop, please reach out to Dana and let her know the best way to reach you! E-mail youth@brecksvilleumc.com or phone 440-526-8938 ext. 237.



Last week, our students took the leap into the new school year and 15 of our Middle Schoolers celebrated with a pool party!

Cleveland Photographic Society Presents

Photographers were challenged to capture images of faith and encouraged to break down some of the barriers we traditionally place between "sacred" and "secular" images or ideas. A panel of judges selected the best photographs based on composition, impact and photographic technique. The photographs in the exhibit will challenge your thinking and take your breath away.

Photographs will be available for purchase (with or without frame), and a portion of the proceeds from each sale will benefit Brecksville UMC's Music and Arts Program.

OPENING RECEPTION SUNDAY, SEPT 11, 2016 12 o'clock noon. Exhibit on display through November.



CHURCH & SOCIETY The United Methodist Church

As we get Back to Basics this fall, the Board of Church & Society is teaming up with United Methodist Women to bring you a series of Wednesday night programs that will address critical issues on which we all need to be better informed in order to be agents of positive change in our communities.

LivingFAITH SeekingJUSTICE PursuingPEACE

All of our Wednesday education series meetings will take place at 7:00 pm! Locations vary, so make sure to check carefully for the location of each meeting!



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

On Wednesday, September 21 at 7 pm we welcome the League of Women Voters for an engaging presentation designed to refocus our attention on the political issues that affect us at a local and regional level. Join us in the church Parlor and take a break from the antagonism of the national political scene to consider:

- What are the BASIC issues that actually affect your community?
- Which individuals and groups are making sensible progress on those issues?
- What can you do to support positive change-makers?
- How can you get more directly involved in local and regional politics?

ADDICTION SERIES

In October and November, we begin a 3-part series that will address heroine and opiate addiction, arguably the most pressing issue facing our communities in Northeast Ohio. Each talk in the series will offer education and conversation around critical issues related to identifying signs of addiction and providing the best resources to individuals and families. Details on the flyer on the next page!

ADDICTION NEXT DOOR KNOWLEDGE + ACTION = HOPE

A speaker series about how addiction affects us all.

"Addiction is an equalopportunity malady. It takes one and all regardless of class, creed or distinction..."

- Amanda, 17 years clean

"The health of our entire community depends on a vision of cooperation and the determination to put it into action." - Recovery Resources

Wednesday, October 5 at 7 pm IDENTIFYING & UNDERSTANDING ADDICTION Brecksville United Methodist Church

Do you know the signs of addition? What do you do when you see it? Recovery Resources, an organization committed to educating the community on addiction and mental health resources, will provide straightforward information and answer your questions.

Wednesday, October 19 at 7 pm ADDICTION AND THE LAW

Broadview Heights Community Center, Oak Room No other public health issue presents as tangled a legal process as that facing addicts and their families. Carly Snavely is a defense attorney who will discuss addiction and the law. The facts may surprise you, and you will find you have an important role to play.

Wednesday, November 2 at 7 pm ADDICTION AND RECOVERY

Broadview Heights Community Center, Gym Recovery options provide tangible hope to those facing addiction and their families, but more are needed. Russ Goodwin, of Sober Living Cleveland, will share information and resources alongside a representative from Metrohealth. Participants will also learn about Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided with Naloxone).

www.brecksvilleumc.com/addiction



What a difference a year makes! As I sat down to write my newsletter articles for this month, I took a moment to reflect on all that has happened in the Music Department over the last 12 months. It has been a full and exciting year!

- We have welcomed new faces into our Chancel Choir, Worship Band, Handbell Choir, Men's Ensemble, and Music Board. And we said goodbye to some dear friends as they have moved on to college or graduate school.
- We welcomed the BBHHS Jazz Ensemble for the first time in what we hope will become and annual tradition and an ongoing partnership.
- We had our biggest Golf Outing yet, raising well over \$2,000 and giving away our biggest scholarships to date!
- We had our First Annual SummerFest on the Square, featuring our friend Josh Rzepka on trumpet and guest speaker and musician Rob Leveridge.

The list could go on and on, but the summary is that it is just awesome to look around and see how many people are involved in worship, music and the arts at Brecksville United Methodist Church.

As we enter this new program year, we're getting BACK to BASICS and refocusing our attention on what really matters: worship, music and arts that IN-VITE people through our open doors, music and worship that CHAL-LENGE people to go deeper in their faith, and a program that EMPOWERS individuals to take their gifts out into the community!

As I transition into my new role as Director of Outreach & Development, it's only natural for folks to wonder what will be happening with the music program this fall. As of the writing of this article, our search committee has interviewed several promising candidates for Director of Music, and we have several interviews to go. We've been encouraged by the level of response to the search, and we feel hopeful about having music staff in place very soon.

If you have participated in - or plan to participate in - one of our outstanding music ensembles, we will keep you updated with start dates and information as it becomes available. We want to tailor the start date around our new staff members as they are hired, so you can plan to resume sometime after Labor Day. We will communicate with each ensemble as information becomes available, or you can always reach out to me, Joy Parker, with questions at my e-mail: <u>music@brecksvilleumc.com</u>.

Thank you for holding our Music Program - and indeed our entire church staff - in your prayers as we continue through this important transition! We are all appreciative of your prayer and your support!

Peace and Blessings in this new school and program year!



Fall Spiritual Retreat The Abbey of Genesee October 21 – 23

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

You will live from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon in total silence. 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 October 21 -23. 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 \$65 deposit to the church (checks made payable to BUMC, "Abbey" in the memo line.) Your deposit is refundable until October 10. The trip will fill up fast!

- Joy Parker, Director of Outreach & Development



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jack Drescher and Kristi Eberhardt				1 9:30 UMW Herzing & Lundholm Mowing	2	3
<i>4</i> 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10 Worship in the Sanctuary 5 All Youth Dinner	5 Labor Day Church Offices Closed	6 10 Staff Mtg 7 Evangelism	7 6:30 am Dawnbrkrs 7 Evening Circle	8 9:30 Asbury Bremeth <i>Gee & Gee</i> <i>Mowing</i>	9	<i>10</i> 7:30 Cleveland Food Bank 12 Photo Exhibit Installation
<i>11 Fall Kick Off!</i> 9 Adult Education 10 Worship 11 Potluck on the Square 12 Images of Faith Photography Exhibit Reception	<i>12</i> BBH Community Chorus & Youth Chorus Resume	<i>13</i> 11 Staff Mtg 12 Lunch Bunch 7 COM 8 Music & Worship Board	14 6:30 am Dawnbrkrs	15 Bloch & Campbell Mowing	16 Food Delivery to Brookside	17
<i>18</i> 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 10 New Member Class 11:15 Traditional Worship	19 Sound System Update begins and continues all week. Community Chorus	20 10 Staff Mtg 10 Stitch'n'Time 7 Gifts & Memorials 7:30 Trustees	21 6:30 am Dawnbrkrs 7 League of Women Voters	22 Paper Recycling Bonus Week! Brown & Sendrey Mowing	23	24
25 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 10 New Member Class 11:15 Traditional Worship	26 Community Chorus	27 10 Staff Mtg 7 Finance	28 6:30 am Dawnbrkrs	29 Parker & Spencer Mowing	<i>30</i> 9:30 UMW Board Meeting	

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

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	First Service	Education Hour	Second Service
July 31	90		93
Aug 7	65		93
Aug 14	79		88
Aug 21	89		110

GIFTS

If you have made a pledge or a contribu tion, you will receive a giving statement (either electronically or on the other side of this page with your mailed Good

	Date	Offering
-	July 31	\$7,545
))	Aug 7	\$9,171
	Aug 14	\$8,054
	Aug 21	\$5,207

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 last publication of the Good Word.

SERVICE

At Charge Con	Committee or Cause	TOTAL
At Charge Con- ference this	Administrative Board	190
	Caring Committee	0
year, we set a	Prayer Chain	79
goal of serving	Closers	96
4,000 volunteer	Council on Ministries	
hours as a con-	Church and Society	0
gregation this	Counters	224
year.	Education	933
At right are our	Sunday School Secretary	216
totals so far	Evangelism	0
(November	Finance	0
through July.)	Gifts & Memorials	0
Do you have	Men's Small Group Cleaning	45
hours to add?	Missions	610
Contact Ric Le-	Habitat for Humanity	0
sinski:	Bike Mechanics	0
	Seeds of Literacy	16
rlatking@aol.com	Music & Worship Board	72
	Scholarship Golf	10
	Choir	517
	Bell Choir	207
	Men's Ensemble	96
	Praise Band/Musicians	300
	Fridays @ 5	165
	Concert Series Volunteers	58
	Music w/a Mission-Performers	50
	Music w/a Mission - Workers	0
	Ushers	376
	Communion Stewards	32
	Worship Team - AV	80
	Project Learn	220
	Staff Parish Relations	0
	Trustees	50
	Closers	213
	Mowing Club	20
	United Methodist Women	1000
	Youth Board	0
		5879



Social Media sites give us the opportunity to glorify God, connect with one another, and reach out into our community. Once you start interacting with the church on social media, your friends and followers will start noticing us as well! Our social media presence can be a subtle reminder of the Spirit's movement in your life, in our community and in the world. It's a subtle form of outreach anyone can do. If you're on social media, take a minute to connect with us! Share a picture or post with #Brecksvilleumc

In August, We Learned About Twitter



twitter.com/BrecksvilleUMC

Each week, we tweet links to the worship songs for the upcoming Sunday. Every month, we use it to share *The Good Word*, our monthly newsletter. We amplify news from the United Methodist Church by re-tweeting their posts. And we use Twitter to share news and events. We opened the account in 2012 and have shared 310 photos and videos! At the time of this printing, we have 235 followers! (Thank you to the folks who followed us in August!) Follow us <u>@Brecksvilleumc</u>

In September Our Focus will Be Pinterest



Brecksville United Methodist Church

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Pinterest: pinterest.com/brecksvilleumc

Pinterest is like a giant, endless bulletin board where users collect and share images and videos. The site has over 50 million users! We use our account to inform and engage our church family and friends, with boards like *Books We're Reading, Potluck Recipes, Devotions, Music, Methodism, Ice Breaker Ideas, Chili Cook Off Inspiration, Yarn Ministry and VBS 2016 Surf Shack.* Connect with us and share!









