

he Good Word

March 2017 Issue ~ Published February 23, 2017 Archived at www.brecksvilleumc.com/Newsletter



Series starts Sunday, March 5th. Are you ready?

This year's all-church Lenten study will parallel Pastor Clark's sermon series, EXPOSED. Are you ready to tear away pretense and get honest about what holds you back from following God's call on your life? Each Sunday, during the 10 o'clock education hour, we will examine Scripture and use a combination of largegroup and small-group discussion to uncover God's heart for us and our heart for the world.

March 5 Psalm 32 Matthew 4:1-11

A Hiding Place - What holds you back in your spiritual growth? Are you hiding behind old habits or excuses? This week, we will strip back some of our fears and explore the freedom

March 12 Psalm 121 John 3:1-17

March 19 Psalm 95 John 4:5-42

March 26 Psalm 23 John 9:1-41

April 2 Psalm 130 John 11: 1-45

> April 9 Palm Sunday

Life & Death - What does it mean to fully commit to being a disciple of Jesus Christ? Jesus promises us abundant life when we choose to become a disciple. Are you ready to live fully into that call and fully live?

No Secrets - What does it mean to be authentic with one another and truly support each other in community? How can we, as a community of faith, provide a safe environment for growing together as followers of Jesus?

To See or Not to See - We know that God has placed a call on our lives, and we know that call will take us to places we don't expect. Are you ready to open your eyes to the places God is calling you to go?

Set Free - What does it look like to be truly empowered for ministry? How can we come together, gear up, and get to work as followers of Jesus, right here at BUMC?

The Call to Justice - In this final week, we will take a look at the call to justice that brought Jesus into Jerusalem on the back of a humble donkey. Understanding that we answer the same call, what will discover together what that looks like in our own lives and in our life as a community.

that comes with exposing our personal truth.



Sunday Morning Worship 8:45 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Coffee & Classes for All Ages 11:15 Traditional Worship The Crib and Toddler Room is open throughout the morning!

> Our Staff Phone: 440-526-8938

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Following Entails Journeying

Rev. Clark Stein, Senior Pastor

Calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, "Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the driver's seat; *I* am. Don't run from suffering; embrace it. Follow me and I'll show you how..." Read Mark 8:34-38

Winter drags on. I am rather tired of winter. I'm not too good at cold weather, grey skies, biting winds, snow shoveling, waiting for the car to warm, bundling up, Kleenex, coughs and the like. It is so easy for me to want to rush into spring, warmer weather, bluer skies, gentler winds, cleansing rains, warm sun, outward signs of life. But today, after a blanket of snow, I looked out of the window and was taken by the beauty of it. What had been a sloppy mess was covered in a blanket of white, hiding all that the spring melt will eventually reveal. It was a good reminder for me to simply enjoy every moment for what it is, not always what we might wish it to be.

As we begin our Lenten journeys, I also hear reminders encouraging us not to rush into Easter. Jesus asked all of his listeners to consider the costs of discipleship. It must have given the original listeners as much pause as it gives us today to hear the words, "If anyone would come after me, let them deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me." We tend to look just at the goal, and put aside all of the moments in between the beginning and the ultimate triumph in the end. Following entails journeying. Let us not lose sight of all the encounters brought our way. Jesus led a life of encounters. It is the stories of those encounters that slowly exposed who he was to all who met him on the way.

Just as the slowly melting snow will expose the birth of new life to the creation that so majestically surrounds us, I pray your Lenten pilgrimage will slowly reveal Jesus to you once again. For I think you will find that at Easter, when the snow melts and we notice that new life has been about its business unobserved, you will find new life present for you as well. Life is full of pleasant surprises. I even find that I like the appearance of snow today.

Keeping the faith,

Parton Clark

Henderson Settlement in Frakes, KY is no longer collecting Campbells Soup Labels, but they are collecting Box Tops. You can help unlock a world of opportunity for their students. All you need is a pair of scissors. Clip the symbols from products and bring them to the collection bin in the coat room. Learn more at www.labelsforeducation.com.



Coffee Hour Hosts for March Trustees

Stop by the Parlor during the 10 o'clock Sunday Education Hour for a treat and say hello!

> April Hosts: Church & Society

MUSIC WITH A MISSION Friday, March 10



IT'S HIP TO BE SQUARE

An evening of food, fun and music for YSP!

6 pm: Doors Open, Silent Auction Begins 6:30: Dinner is Served 7 pm: Auction Closes. Show begins

Tickets are going fast! \$15 each or \$50 for a family

New This Year! The Music with a Mission Silent Auction will begin online! Visit our Facebook Page (<u>www.fb.com/BrecksvilleUMC</u>) at noon on Tuesday, March 7. We will have an album of raffle donations where you can place bids. Online bidding closes at noon on Friday, March 10 when all bids will be taken downstairs to Fellowship Hall and the bidding will continue during Music with a Mission. Winners need not be present to win! Want to know more? Pick up a flyer at the Music with a Mission ticket table in the Parlor on Sunday or visit our website: www.brecksvilleumc.com



Silent Auction Donations Needed. The silent auction is always a lot of fun at Music with a Mission, our annual fundraiser for YSP (Youth Service Project). Your donations to the auction (and your bids) will help send our youth team to Milton, Pennsylvania this summer where they will help people in need with essential home repair! Can you donate an item? A basket? Handmade, store-bought, or company donations are all welcome. Donations are needed by March 3. Contact Dana with questions 440-526-8938 or youth@brecksvilleumc.com.



UMW Meeting, March 2

Join us in the Parlor at 9:30 for a special presentation from Tonya Karabanous of the Cleveland area USO, a nonprofit organization that provides programs, services and live entertainment to United States service members and their families. Everyone is welcome for an enjoyable morning with a continental breakfast and fellowship.

World Day of Prayer, March 3

Join Church Women United at Berea United Methodist Church at 9:30 for worship, fellowship, food and an educational opportunity. The theme is based on Matthew 20:1-16, the parable of the laborers in the field. Cost is \$3.

Dine or dash for UMW

Mark your calendar for our annual Creekside fundraising project. On Tuesday, April 11 treat yourself and/or family to lunch, dinner or take out while supporting a local restaurant. Remember your coupon (available in the April issue of *The Good Word*.)

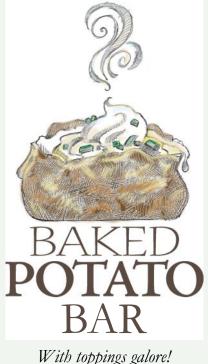


DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 12 It's time to spring forward! Set your clocks ahead one hour



Have news to share with your church family? Contact Melanie 440-562-8938 or office@breck.svilleumc.com

Marjorie Novak, who joined Brecksville United Methodist Church on October 20, 1968, died on February 19. She was 91 years old. Marjorie will be dearly missed by her daughter, Judy. A celebration of her life was held at Nosek-McCreery Funeral Home on Friday, February 24



W ith toppings galore! March 14 at Noon Spend your lunch hour at BUMC. FREE if you RSVP! Want to contribute a topping? Sign up in the office! office@brecksvilleumc.com 440-526-8938



Brianna Diver1Jack Falko1Edie Coman2Mary Kotnik2Eileen Yates2Emily Schultz4Tiffany Jacob5Phyllis Phillips5Caitlin Drescher6Ron Goodin6Donald Burkle7Megan White7Ruth Ann Bilek8Kaleb Dumot8Matthew Auble9

1	Cliff Thielman	9	Matthew Gardner	18
1	George Gee	10	Bob Hudacek	18
2	Mike Kubek	10	Dave Sibits	18
2	Bob Bloch	11	Kristen Kubek	20
2	Janet James	12	Philip Storey	24
4	Tyler Hulten	13	Liz Fredrick	25
5	Kaden Juniper	13	Stacie Memmer	25
5	Marjorie Priest	13	Mallory Krolikowski	26
6	Sydney Hudacek	14	Joe Holmes	27
6	Lisa Sibits	14	Carol Kubicek	27
7	Lindsay Dorman	15	Elizabeth Mitchell	28
7	Samuel Eberhardt	16	Max Mitchell	28
8	Joann Fox	17	Kim Rybak	30
8	Carly Johnson	17	Hannah Shively	30
9	Chris Archacki	18	Madeline Piorkowski	31



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 Pat Frank, who so willingly shares her time and talents with the residents of Chippewa

Place. Pat accompanies their singing at the ecumenical chapel services there. With Paul Calovini's help, you and many others are able to hear our services every Sunday. Do you know that Paul records each sermon, which is then posted <u>on our website</u> (www.brecksvilleumc.com)? Working women of the church have the opportunity to be involved in the service and fellowship of United Methodist Women with Evening Circle. Without Lynn Hobzek, this wonderful group would not be meeting. We're so thankful for Lynn and for all of the ways that this group has found to reach out into our community. (Join them this month to help make soup for shut ins!) We are so thankful for each of you, named and unnamed!

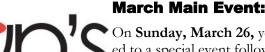
A Corner for Outreach & Development

Leaning in

ent **REACHING OUT**

We have been busy with Outreach activities in February. On February 18, a group visited **Habitat for Humanity** for a time of information gathering and vision casting. Later the same evening, a group attended "That's Amore," a benefit evening at **Nehemiah Mission** at which we learned more about the ministry being done in Cleveland neighborhoods.

On **Saturday, March 11**, our Outreach team will visit **Ohio Guidestone** and learn about ways our church can become a partner to individuals in our community dealing with unemployment, drug addiction and displacement.



On **Sunday, March 26,** you are invited to a special event following worship! This summer, an intergenerational team will travel to Grand Bassa, Liberia to provide 2 weeks of Vacation Bible School (VBS) and core educational support for students at the J. F. Yancy School. Children in Kindergar-

ten through ninth grade will receive a simple uniform (shorts and t-shirt), a daily meal, activities and classes in core subject areas, led by our team as well as graduates of the school itself. **SOUP FOR AFRICA** is an opportunity for you to partner with our team and show your support to an individual student.

Join us for a **FREE** soup lunch following Sunday school or 11:15 worship. For a suggested donation of \$10, you can decorate a placement that will be laminated and will go to Liberia with our team. During our two weeks of VBS and summer school, a child will have the opportunity to use your placemat each day and know that an individual or family at Brecksville United Methodist Church is praying for them! Soup will be served from **11:15 am until 1:00 pm.** Join us following Sunday school or 11:15 worship as your schedule permits. Thank you for partnership with us in transforming young lives in Liberia!

- Joy Parker, Director of Outreach

Let's Move Some Bikes!



A core team of bike mechanics, including Wally Kudlaty, Jinho Lee, Harry Koberna and Ben McNair, have been making repairs to bikes this winter and Jenny Gee has been delivering them to area agencies. As the weather warms, we would love to get more of these bikes out into the community. If you know of anyone who may be able to help repair bikes, please contact Jenny Gee, 440-526-8938 ext 230 or <u>education@brecksvilleumc.com</u>



Volunteer with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank March 11

Come spend a Saturday morning with your church family helping our hungry neighbors, March 11.

Each volunteer will need to create a Volunteer Profile and RSVP to your event by registering at <u>http://cerv.is/</u> <u>m?0136gtVQaBe</u> with this code: <u>tVQaBe</u> Please note that volunteers who do not RSVP will not be able to sign -in when they arrive for their scheduled event.

Serve the Pearl Road Dinner March 26

On Sunday, March 26, our church will be providing the main course, Lasagna, for hungry folks at Pearl Road UMC. Want to help? Sign up on Sunday in the Parlor, or call the office. Pearl Road United Methodist Church provides a free hot meal to anyone in need on the last two Sundays of every month (and on the second Thursday of every month!) We work in conjunction with other churches to help provide that meal.



United Methodist Church of Berea 170 Seminary Street, Berea, OH Save the Date! More details coming soon.

Keynote Speaker: Beth Estock, co-author of *Weird Church: Welcome* to the Twenty-first Century

Beth Ann Estock coaches weird churches all over the United States. She grew up in the Midwest, began her pastoral work in the Bible Belt, and then moved to the Pacific Northwest two decades ago. She is an ordained pastor in The United Methodist Church, a contemplative, cultural architect, and futurist. She and her husband, Jeff, and two daughters live in Portland, Oregon. She blogs at <u>www.sacreddirt.com</u>



Do you know that SNAP benefits can only be used for food and for plants and seeds to grow food? This means that soaps and household cleaners are a great need for our brothers and sisters served by Brookside Food Center. This month, we're focusing our collection on bar soap, body wash and household cleaners. Moved to help? Please bring donations to the bin in the coatroom by Thursday, March 16.

animate BIBLE

Join Pastor Clark and friends for a new mid-week Bible Study, Wednesdays at 7 pm in the Parlor and reinvigorate and deepen your understanding of the Bible. Each session will feature a short video featuring a leading voice from the Christian faith, time for personal reflection and journaling, and sharing ideas with the group. Each participant will receive a beautifully illustrated Bible Journal which provides space for reflection and prayer. The cost of the journal is \$15. (If you are not able to afford the book right now, the church Corinthian fund can cover your cost.) Sign up on Sunday, call the office, or simply show up for the study!



Come to Kristin Bisco's Cardio Kickboxing and Strength Class in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 pm on March 5, get fit, and help our team help others in Appalachia this summer! As a youth, Kristin participated in YSP and is giving back by offering all proceeds from this class to YSP. Isn't that great?



A monthly feature highlighting our Sunday School Teachers!



Kylie Engelhardt

I have been a part of Brecksville UMC for 14 years.

My favorite Bible Character is Mary. God chose Mary to be the mother of Jesus.

I pray that the kids in my class find a connection to the stories, to each other, to our church family and the world!



Special Music

The Greater Cleveland Flute Society Flute Choir, Erie Waters, will perform during worship services on Sunday, March 12. Mark your calendar!



10-12th grade Lenten Study on Social Justice "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

During the season of Lent, a group of students will meet Wednesdays at 5 pm to discuss current events and social justice through timely articles and cinema. As Christ-followers, how do we respond to injustices in the world? If you are a student looking for space to explore this question and more, sign up for this study. There will be a clipboard in the Parlor on Sunday or simply contact Dana by March 5. (youth@brecksvilleumc.com or 440-526-8938 ext. 237.) **This study begins on March 8 and is free, but pre-registration is required!**

Craft Beer & Conversation: Immigration/Refugees



Sunday, March 5 from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm The Bourbon Street Barrel Room 2393 Professor Avenue, Cleveland

Joy Parker says, "I'm really excited about this opportunity to engage in conversation on these important issues with brothers and sisters in the wider community. Would

you like to join me? I have 5 spots available!"

The purpose of the event is for people to have a chance to engage in civil dialogue about topics we are sometimes afraid to discuss, in a safe, respectful, moderated space. This is an opportunity to listen to different opinions and share your own story too.

You do not need to be well informed or an "expert" to attend, but you must be willing to listen and share. The goal is not to change opinions. This event will focus on conversation surrounding immigration and refugees.

RSVP to outreach@brecksvilleumc.com.



Altar Flowers

Would you like to share a special occasion with the congregation? Order Altar Flowers!

A standard size arrangement is \$40. Special arrangements are available at additional cost. Flowers are provided by Vince DiCillo of Forest Woods. Take your arrangement home to enjoy after second service!

Flowers are already ordered for these dates in 2017:

- March 12
- May 21
- June 4
- ► July 30
- November 12

Reserve your special date, available on a "first come, first served basis." Your gift will be recognized in the Sunday bulletin.

Complete this coupon:

Name: _____

Date Wanted: _____

Your Phone: _____

Or contact Leslie Miller to order: 440-526-8938



Important Dates

Mark your calendars!

March 5 All Youth Dinner, 5 pm

March 6 Kickin' It for YSP, 5:30 pm

March 10 Music with a Mission, 6 pm

> March 24 HS Lock-In, 7 pm

Main Event: A Little/Big Game Night and Lock-in

Friday, March 24 at 7 pm

High Schoolers, do you love board games? How about sleepovers? Well, from March 24 to 25 you can have the best of both! But this won't be like any game night you've ever been to... IT'S GONNA BE HUGE... it's gonna be tiny. We will participate in giant and mini versions of all the board games you know and love, plus spend the night at the church. Best Friday EVER?? We think so! Let Dana know you'll be there by sending her an email (youth@brecksvilleumc.com).

All Youth Dinner

Sunday, March 5 at 5 pm in Fellowship Hall

We will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day with a menu of delicious Irish food. How lucky are we?? Come enjoy fun games and make memories with friends! Special thanks to the Eberhardt Family for sponsoring and serving this month's dinner! If your family would like to sponsor an upcoming All Youth Dinner, please email Dana at <u>youth@brecksvilleumc.com</u>.

Support YSP This Month

There will be two awesome events being held this month to help our Youth Service Project group raise money for their mission trip in the summer!

Kickin' It with YSP– *Monday, March 5 at 5 pm.* Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a fun kickboxing class hosted by Kristen Bisco. The only charge for the class is a donation to YSP!

Music with a Mission– *Friday, March 10.* Dinner AND a show?? Yes! Get your tickets now for the best show in town and help our YSP group serve in Milton, PA!

Ronald McDonald House Volunteer Day

We will be spending the day serving at the Cleveland Ronald McDonald House. Our very own high school senior, Katrina Orr, will be leading our group in this special opportunity. Date and time TBD, keep a look out for email updates!

Stay Connected! Contact Dana Schwendeman 440-526-8938 ext. 237 or youth@brecksvilleumc.com



@bumcyouthmin



@BrecksvilleumcYouth



) @bumcyouthmin

MARCH 2017

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH www.brecksvilleumc.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Community	Jack Drescher & Kristi Eberhardt		I Ash Wednesday 6:30 Breakfast 6:30 Eve Circle 7:30 Worship	2 9:30 UMW 6 MWM Small Group Rehearsal 7:30 Choir	3 9:30 World Day of Prayer Service at Berea UMC	4 BBH Music Pancake Breakfast
5 Communion First Sunday in Lent 8:45 Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 11:15 Worship 3 Youth Board 5 Youth Board 5 Youth Dinner 6 HS Youth Group 6 Financial Peace	6 4:15 Brecksville Youth Chorus 5:30 Kickboxing for YSP Fund- raiser! 7 Brecksville Community Chorus	7 10 Staff Mtg 4:15 Children's Ensemble 5:30 MS Youth Group	8 6:30 Breakfast 7 Bible Study	9 9:30 Asbury Bremeth 6 Music with a Mission Rehearsal	10 6 Music with a Mission	11 Outreach team visits Ohio Guidestone
 12 Daylight Savings! Second Sunday in Lent Flute Choir Performs 8:45 Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 11:15 Worship 6 HS Youth Group 6 Financial Peace 	13 4:15 Brecksville Youth Chorus 5:30 Kickboxing 7 Brecksville Community Chorus 7 SPRC	14 10 Staff Mtg 12 Lunch Bunch 5:30 MS Youth Group	15 6:30 Breakfast No Bible Study tonight!	16	17 Food delivery to Brookside Happy St. Patrick's Day!	18 9 North Coast District Leadership Academy
 19 Third Sunday in Lent 8:45 Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 11:15 Worship 6 HS Youth Group 6 Financial Peace 	20 First day of spring! 4:15 Brecksville Youth Chorus 5:30 Kickboxing 7 Brecksville Community Chorus	21 10 Staff Mtg 10 Knitting Grp 12 UMW Staff Luncheon 4:15 Children's Ensemble 5:30 MS Youth 7:30 Trustees	22 6:30 Breakfast 7 Bible Study	23 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:30 Men's Ensemble	24 7 High School Lock-in	25
 26 UMCOR Sunday Fourth Sunday in Lent 8:45 Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 11:15 Worship 11:15 Soup for Africa 3 Pearl Road Soup Kitchen 5 Open Table North Olmsted UMC 6 HS Youth Group 6 Financial Peace 	27 4:15 Brecksville Youth Chorus 5:30 Kickboxing 7 Brecksville Community Chorus	28 10 Staff Mtg 4:15 Children's Ensemble 5:30 MS Youth Group 7 Finance	29 6:30 Breakfast 7 Bible Study	30 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:30 Women's Ensemble	31 UMW Board Meeting	



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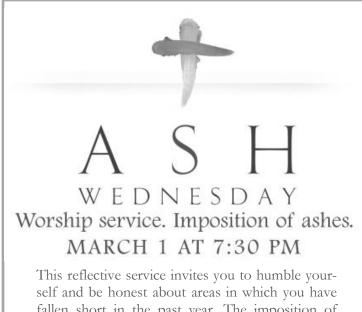
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fallen short in the past year. The imposition of ashes--having the sign of the cross gently placed on your hand or forehead--is a powerful and important practice, and it prepares you to walk with Jesus all the way to the cross and into new life. You are warmly invited to participate in this timehonored and meaningful tradition!



Open Doors. Welcoming all of God's children.

Brecksville United Methodist Church is called to the ministry of reconciliation. We embrace diversity as a gift. We celebrate our human family's diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, faith history, economic status, marital status, physical and mental ability, and education. We affirm that all people are created in the image of God and as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Brecksville United Methodist Church as we journey toward reconciliation through Christ.



Your gift reaches people in more than 80 countries, including the United States.

More than 10 years ago, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the coasts of Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, displacing thousands of families and killing more than 1,800 loved ones.

UMCOR was on the ground and operational within 24 hours of Hurricane Katrina's devastating arrival.

According to the Rev. John C. Moore, who was on the ground helping, "because of the UMCOR Sunday offering, UMCOR was able to get us funds to measure the damage."

UMCOR came alongside people like Moore and everyone else in the annual conferences to guide the response effort.

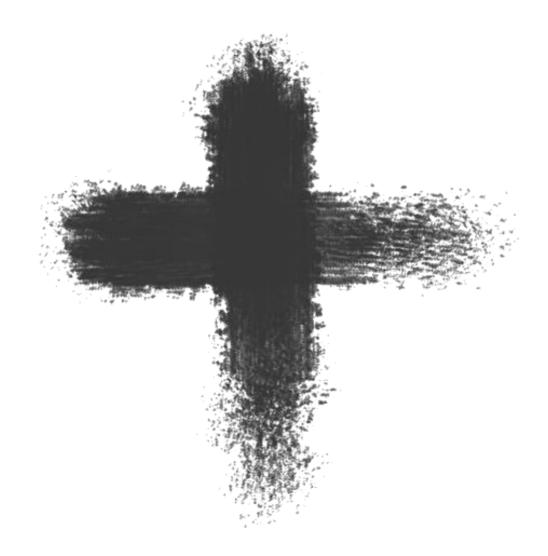
From cleanup to rebuilding efforts, UMCOR was there. Plus, they set up a cadre of counselors for the youth who had survived the trauma.

Today, UMCOR is still serving there. The legacy of UMCOR's efforts in the communities is unmistakable. A decade later, people are still moved by UMCOR's compassionate response.

UMCOR does incredible work and does not receive apportioned funds. Your gift on UMCOR Sunday covers **many of the operating costs** for UMCOR.

This means that any donations that come in during disaster relief can be 100% contributed to the disaster.

Your generous gift today matters.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 IMPOSITION OF ASHES

7:30 PM THE SANCTUARY

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

This reflective service invites you to humble yourself and be honest about areas in which you have fallen short in the past year. The imposition of ashes--having the sign of the cross gently placed on your hand or forehead--is a powerful and important practice, and it prepares you to walk with Jesus all the way to the cross and into new life. You are warmly invited to participate in this time-honored and meaningful tradition!

Would you like a ride to this service? Would you be willing to provide a ride? Please call the church office: 440-526-8938 or e-mail <u>office@brecksvilleumc.com</u>