



Palm Sunday 2014

## **Palms and Justice**

Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, accented by the jubilant waving of palm branches, is re-enacted on Palm Sunday in Christian congregations worldwide as Holy Week observances begin.

We purchase our palms from The University of Minnesota's Eco-Palms program, ensuring that the leaves were harvested in an environmentally sensitive manner by workers getting paid a fair price. The University works with cooperatives who have worked to develop new structures for harvesting palms. The fronds are harvested in a sustainable manner that protects the environment and provides a fair income for palm harvesters. Workers are paid by quality rather than quantity. This helps limit the amount of palms harvested from the forest.

As you celebrate Palm Sunday, please say a prayer of thanks for those who harvested our palms, for their families, for their communities, and for those who minister to them.



Palm and Passion Sunday at 8:45 and 11:15 am *Sunday, March 25.* We will participate in our traditional Palm Sunday processional, with palms in hand! Come for this unique Sunday on which we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry and also begin to mourn Jesus' passion.

## Tenebrae Service at 7:30 pm *Good Friday, March 30*

Join us for this quiet and reflective time of worship as we recognize the gravity and magnitude of Jesus' suffering and sacrifice.

#### Easter Sunday, April 1

- Nurrise Service at 6:45 am. We will have a new location this year. More exciting details coming soon! Gather with friends and neighbors for worship, Scripture readings and a short message. Dress casually and in warm clothes. Bring a blanket, a lawn chair and a friend and join us to watch the sunrise as we celebrate the resurrected Lord.
- ▶ Easter Sunday at 8:45 and 11:15 am. Join us for triumphant worship celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! (There will be no education hour offerings on Easter Sunday.) He is risen! He is risen indeed!



## 8:45 Worship with Live Band 10:00 Classes for All Ages 11:15 Worship with Choir

Nursery care available all morning!

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Published monthly by **Brecksville United Methodist Church** 65 Public Square, Brecksville, OH 44141

## Article deadline 3rd Thursday monthly

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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!



## **JOURNEYING**

Rev. Clark Stein, Senior Pastor

Following entails journeying. "If anyone would come after me, let them deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me." Now, the end of our journey may well be some form of a cross, and we will need to determine whether or not we will bear it, but in the meantime, let us not miss all of the encounters that are daily brought our way. Jesus led a life of encounter. It is in the measure of these encounters that we determine what is important to us, what we will stand for, and ultimately what we would be willing to die for.

There is an old sailor's saying that goes, "When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on." Jesus was ever aware of the moment. So much so that when he was near his death, his last words on the cross were those of a bedtime prayer taught to Jewish youth in their childhood. "Into your hands I commit my Spirit," was said like, "Now I lay me down to sleep." It was with this prayer that he tied the knot and decided to hang on. I believe it was in recognition of a time of deepest winter. Of a time for Jesus that held grey skies and biting winds, not much of a sign of new life. In his deepest encounter with lifelessness, Jesus committed himself to God's care as a child going to sleep at night, aware that the journey would continue with the birth of a new day.

As we continue to journey together this Lenten season, may we truly appreciate our daily encounters with the deepest winter. For in the end, when Spring breaks, we may stand amazed with the rest of creation that in spite of cold and biting winds, new life pushes up in the new day having been about its business unobserved. Thank you Jesus.





# CRIB & TODDLER ROOM NEWS

#### From the sad news/ glad news department:

Kathy Goebel has decided to step down from her role as nursery manager. We are so grateful to Kathy for the time she has devoted to our littlest ones but also understand that she needs to take some time for herself on a Sunday morning to recharge and renew. We will be happy to see her in worship and in our Sunday school classes!



We are incredibly fortunate that we were able to connect with one of our own to fill the position. Allie Kenney will assume the responsibilities of this position. Allie officially began on Sunday, February 18 and Kathy has agreed to stay on until March 11 to assure a smooth transition.



Allie is a student at the University of Akron majoring in Early Childhood Education and Intervention. She is a lifeguard and swim coach at the Brecksville Community Center and an active volunteer at the Parma Animal Shelter. She has been involved in mission

and outreach here, having participated in four years of YSP and last summer's mission trip to Liberia.

**Do you have a heart for children?** Please consider taking a turn in the crib and toddler room. Volunteers are especially needed during the 11:15 worship service. This is an important ministry, and one way that our church family shows care for one another.

If you can help, or need more information, please contact Jenny Gee: 440-526-8938 or education@brecksvilleumc.com

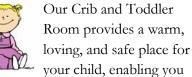






## Nursery & Childcare

at Brecksville United Methodist Church



to focus on worship or other church activities. Pre-registration is not required.

### When is nursery care available?

The nursery is available during Sunday Worship Services. Infant and toddler care is available during the Education Hour, as are classes for kids ages 3 and up. Childcare is available for other church activities and events upon request.

### Who is watching my child?

Our nursery is staffed with two reliable, responsible care givers who have been through our Child Protection certification. If you just need a place to quiet a fussy little one, there is a rocking chair in the nursery. You are welcome to leave your child with one of the caregivers or you may sit with them and listen to the worship service through the intercom system.

## Do I need to supply anything for my child?

You can bring diapers, wipes, bottle/sippy cup or whatever your child might need while in our care. Please label your child's items with their name. We do offer cheerios and water from a cup if the children visiting are feeling a little hungry or thirsty. Mostly they just want to play with the nice variety of toys in the room.

## **Employer Matching Gifts**

Many companies will match charitable contributions or volunteer hours made by their employees. To find out if your company has a gift matching program, contact your HR Department or visit <a href="https://www.matchinggifts.com/search/rit">www.matchinggifts.com/search/rit</a>.

Brecksville UMC qualifies for matching gifts under the federal tax exempt group ruling of the United Methodist Church. We may not be on the list of your company's approved charities, but our church office has the information needed to get on these lists.



## Join us as we celebrate Girl Scout Sunday on March 11!

On March 11, Brecksville UMC will join with places of worship all across America in recognition of Girl Scout Sunday. The day commemorates the founding of the Girl Scouts in 1912.

Scouting is a lighthouse to many kids, a beacon that guides young people to develop leadership skills, build character and values, care for the environment, and become responsible citizens. It helps them grow into responsible adults by helping them navigate the experiences life throws at them. It is through scouting that many kids are able to stay the course (or are shown where they need to change course) in order to do their best for God, country, community, and family.

To celebrate, Girl Scout Troop 70573
- Senior/Ambassador girls will present a Waffle Bar Breakfast for all to enjoy on Sunday, March 11 at 10 am in Fellowship Hall.





Learn About Human Trafficking. Thursday, March 1 in the Parlor //9:30 Continental Breakfast//10:00 Program and UMW Meeting. Come hear Detective Shane Bates, an Agent with the Human Trafficking Task Force commissioned by the Ohio Attorney General. In this position, and as a police officer with the Village of Boston Heights and the City of Independence, Detective Bates has investigated over 100 sexual offense cases. He is also responsible for breaking cases involving large human-trafficking rings in both Cleveland and Akron. ALL are welcome for this informative morning!

**TLC Service Project.** UMW Evening Circle//Wednesday, March 7//6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall// Please join us as we assemble tasty care packages of lasagna, bread, and cookies to distribute to our shut-ins and others in our congregation who may need a little **T**ender **L**oving **C**are. All are welcome to help in fellowship and service!

Palm Sunday Bake Sale. Why slave over a hot oven? Shop the UMW Palm Sunday Bake Sale before or after church services on March 25. Your purchases support the UMW Mission Fund which benefits programs supporting women and children locally and around the world. *Calling all bakers!* Your donations make this sale possible. Watch your bulletin (or contact your favorite UMW member) for more details soon. Questions? Contact Ruth Herman: 216-780-1828. Thank you!

A Special Thank You. The Brecksville United Methodist Women recognize the following board members, Mary Kotnik, Ruth McDonel, and Carol Wilson for their years of service and dedication to our various service projects. Thank you for being special members who give freely of your time and skills!



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 first floor coatroom before Thursday, March 15.

## \*\*\*YOUTH NEWS \*\*

## March All Youth Dinner and Minute to Win It Game Night

Sunday, March 4 from 5-7 pm// This month's dinner is being sponsored by Pastor Clark and Kathy Stein! Join us for a fun night and yummy food. After dinner, we will be having an epic Minute to Win It game night that's sure to be a blast. Students in grades six through twelve are invited—and encouraged to bring friends! We hope to see you there!

## What's the Mission of Music with a Mis-

**sion?** Each summer our Youth Service Project (YSP) team travels to locations in need because we feel a calling to reach out and connect to others in new communities. While it is always a goal to go out into the world and leave it better than when they began, YSP participants are often changed themselves, seeing life back home in new ways.



In June, our YSP team will travel to Pittsburgh, PA for Group Mission's special program, *Week of Hope*. Community partnerships are the backbone of many inner-city mission projects and residents are often dependent upon these organizations for their survival. YSP will go out into the community: planning, preparing, and serving meals at a homeless shelter; teaching underprivileged children a new sport or craft; and building and stocking a brand new free store for residents. Evening programing and devotions encourage students to look at every moment as a "God Sighting." All the while, the students involved create faithbased relationships with other young people from all over the United States.

Going on a trip like YSP can be a life and faith-changing experience. We are incredibly blessed to be supported and encouraged by this enthusiastic congregation who celebrates community mission, youth ministry, and finding Jesus in interactions with others. The mission of YSP continues to empower young people to reach out in new ways, grow in their faith, and contribute in very real ways to communities in need. It is our hope that YSP continues to fulfill this mission for generations of youth to come.

**Let's Talk About It: Safe Social Media/**/Sunday, March 25// Youth Room// 7 pm. We are excited to continue our discussion series "Let's Talk About It" (4th Sunday of every month.) Our topic for March is safe social media use, an important and relatable topic for everyone! Come for open, honest, and informed discussion on topics that impact students and the people they love. These discussions will be led by guest speakers and while they are youth focused, all are invited to join us! We would love to know how many people to expect so please email Dana with your RSVP and questions!







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



## MUSIC WITH A MISSION

Friday, March 9

Tickets on Sale NOW

Adult Ticket \$15 Family Ticket \$50

Doors open at 5:45 pm

## TWIST, SHOUT, CHA-CHA

SLIDE your way through the best music of the past 5 decades at Music with a Mission: Dancing through the Decades! Our YSP students will be serving a delicious meal with a team of incredible adult volunteers. Let us entertain you with a live band and the musical stylings of our very talented congregation. Don't miss the totally awesome Silent Auction, filled with themed baskets, gifts, and hand-crafted goods. A BUMC tradition that is always a lot of fun, Music with a Mission is a night you'll not want to miss!

#### **Silent Auction Donations**

We need your help! Can you donate a themed basket? A service? A handmade item? Do you work for or own a company interested in making a donation? We'll thank our donors in the program and in the April issue of *The Good Word*. Ask the office for a donation letter with all of the details!

Contact Dana for more info! 440-526-8938 or youth@brecksvilleumc.com.



Our dear friend, Phil Hines, went home to Jesus (and Gloria) on January 22. A member of our church since 1976, Phil moved to Iowa in May 2016 to be near his family. He was a faithful servant, having been a part of many church committees, including Trustees and Finance. He was a Scout Master and was an active volunteer with our youth mission trips. A memorial service will be held for him here on Saturday, June 2 at 11 am, Rev. Barbara Bartholomew officiating.

# **Baptism**ANNIVERSARIES

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. - *Galatians 3:27* 

Amanda Auble	3/20/1994
Nate Bender	3/12/1995
Chloe Boldt	3/26/2000
Darell Fisher	3/8/1987
Mike Gezze	3/23/1986
Madison Hart	3/23/2008
Connor Hogan	3/25/2001
Kelsey Hogan	3/25/2001
Mary Kate Kaminski	3/10/1996
Katie Kiss	3/15/1992
Maddy McBride	3/29/1998
Jeffrey Mihalich	3/26/2006
Nicholas Mihalich	3/26/2006
David Schroedel	3/13/1968
Charlotte Sebastian	3/1/2015
Logan Vastartis	3/19/2017
Jon Wise	3/18/1997



Question of the Day: Asking questions is a sign that you are thinking about your faith. We are excited to implement a 'question of the day' at Sunday coffee hour. After you grab your cup of coffee or tea, take the time to discuss the question of the day as you head off to Sunday school or gather around the dinner table at home. Let us know what you think!



Brianna Diver	1
Jack Falko	1
Edie Coman	2
Mary Kotnik	2
Eileen Yates	2
Sue Dietrich	4
Emily Schultz	4
Tiffany Jacob	5
Phyllis Phillips	5
Caitlin Drescher	6
Ron Goodin	6

Donald Burkle	7	Joann Fox	17
Megan White	7	Carly Johnson	17
Ruth Ann Bilek	8	Matthew Gardner	18
Kaleb Dumot	8	Bob Hudacek	18
Matthew Auble	9	Dave Sibits	18
Cliff Thielman	9	Kristen Kubek	20
George Gee	10	Stosh Skoczen	20
Mike Kubek	10	Sienna Petznick	22
Bob Bloch	11	Liz Fredrick	25
Janet James	12	Stacie Memmer	25
Tyler Hulten	13	Mallory Krolikowski	26
Kaden Juniper	13	Joe Holmes	27
Sydney Hudacek	14	Carol Kubicek	27
Lisa Sibits	14	Elizabeth Mitchell	28
Lindsay Dorman	15	Max Mitchell	28
Lee Derry	16	Kim Rybak	30
Samuel Eberhardt	16	Hannah Shively	30
		Madeline Piorkowski	31

# Happy Anniversary!

Cindy & Rick Krause, 3/20/1993 Alex & Gerry McMaster 3/26/1955



As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly staff meetings over the last four weeks, the following people were lifted in prayer with thanks to God for the way lives are touched when we reach out to one another in service. People like Helen Lee, who has stepped up to serve as a Power-Point operator on Sunday mornings;

Brenda Calovini who help lead our first "Let's Talk About It" event for youth and their families; Elinor Rowan, whose dedication to our prayer chain ministry helps amplify the power of prayer; Kathy Goebel, who lead an important ministry of caring, our Crib and Toddler Room, and Allie Kenney who is stepping up to continue this important ministry. We are so thankful for ALL of you, named and un-named, and for all of the ways that you serve as the hands and feet of Jesus daily!



## BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH www.brecksvilleumc.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ruth Herman and Beverly Gooding				9:30 UMW 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:30 Men's Ensemble  Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	World Day of Prayer  Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	3 Labyrinth 10 am—5 pm
4 3rd Sunday in Lent Communion Sunday 8:45 Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 11:15 Worship 5 All Youth Dinner	5	6 10 Staff Meeting 5 MS Youth Group	7 6:30 (am) Breakfast 6:30 Evening Circle	8 9:30 Asbury Bremeth 6 Music with a Mission Rehearsal	9 6 Music with a Mission	10
Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Labyrinth 9:30 am—9 pm
II 4th Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time Begins UMCOR Sunday Girl Scout Sunday 8:45 Worship 10 Coffee & Classes II:15 Worship 7 HS Youth Group Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	13 10 Staff Meeting 12 St. Patrick's Day Lunch Bunch 5 MS Youth Group  Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	14 6:30 (am) Breakfast  Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Good Word Deadline 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:30 Men's Ensemble  Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Donations delivered to Brookside Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	17 8 Greater Cleveland Food Bank I Meal prep for Pearl Road Dinner  Labyrinth I pm—5 pm
18 5th Sunday in Lent 8:45 Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 11:15 Worship 5 Pearl Road Dinner 7 HS Youth Group	19 Labyrinth	20 10 Staff Meeting 10 Stitch'n'Time Knitting Group 5 MS Youth Group 7:30 Trustees	21 6:30 (am) Breakfast Labyrinth	22 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:30 Men's Ensemble	23  Labyrinth	Nothing scheduled in the building today.
Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	8:30 am—9 pm	8:30 am—9 pm	8:30 am—9 pm	8:30 am—9 pm	8:30 am—9 pm	
25 Palm Sunday 8:45 Worship 10 Coffee & Classes 11:15 Worship 5 Pearl Road Dinner 7 HS Youth Group? Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	27 10 Staff Meeting 5 MS Youth Group 7 Finance Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	28 6:30 (am) Breakfast Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	29 Maundy Thursday 6:15 Bells 7:30 Choir 8:30 Men's Ensemble Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	30 Good Friday 9:30 UMW Board Meeting 7:30 Tenebrae Service Labyrinth 8:30 am—9 pm	31 Holy Saturday Nothing scheduled in the building today.



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### Electronic Service Requested











Socialize with us!



Daylight Savings Time Begins!

Spring Forward March 11



# 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.

## THE BUMC LENTEN CHALLENGE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25 <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i> Walk the labyrinth (in the Chapel) after church!	26 Sign up to serve at the Food Bank or Pearl Road in March.	27 "Toothy Tuesday" Spend the day smiling at strangers! Smile because you are God's masterpiece.	Surprise some- one with a flow- er, a candy, or a trinket. Acts of kindness spread brightness wher- ever you go!	1 "March comes in like a lion" Lions sleep much of the day. Treat yourself to a nap.	High Five Friday. Give some high fives today.	Plan something fun today with your family or friends.
4 <i>3rd Sunday</i> Make a prayer list and spend time in prayer today.	5"No Moaning Monday" Spend a day free from com- plaints!	6 Text Challenge Tuesday: send a positive text to 5 friends. No group texts!	7 Walk the labyrinth (in the Chapel) today. Open 8:30 am until 9 pm.	8 Send a note to someone who strengthens your faith.	9 <b>Fun Friday</b> Attend the Music with a Mission Fund- raiser tonight!	10 Positivity Day! Be positive and use only positive words.
11 <i>4th Sunday</i> Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. See you at church!	12 Write a thank you note to someone—for being your friend.	Be extra kind to someone you do not like today. You can do it!	14 Give someone a gift for no rea- son— anonymously!	Be kind to the earth today. Bring your paper to the church recycling bin.	16 Forgiveness Friday. Forgive all who offended you this week.	17 Do you have a "feel good movie"? Invite a friend to watch it with you.
18 <i>5th Sunday</i> Natalie Vastartis will be baptized today. Write her parents a card!	19 Say "Hi! How are you?" today and lis- ten closely to the answers.	20 Don't let the weather forecast determine how sunny your day's going to be!	21 Warm Wednesday. Greet warmly every person you meet today.	Leave change in a vending ma- chine or shop- ping cart.	23 Fasting Friday. Take a Social Media break today. Can you do it?	24 Surprise someone with words of encouragement on a sticky note.
25 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Take part in the Processional of Palms during worship today.	26 Make amends or reconcile with someone.	27 Say a prayer for someone who is suffering or in need of comfort.	28 Walk the labyrinth (in the Chapel) today. Open 8:30 am until 9 pm.	29 Refrain from judging others today. Radiate God's love and grace!	30 <i>Good Friday</i> Attend the Tenebrae service tonight at 7:30 pm	31 Pray for Pastor Clark and all those working in churches.
1 <i>Easter Sunday</i> Celebrate this day in gratitude in the presence of God with your family!	makir	ORS. HONEST ' ong disciples of Chris SVILLE UNI	st for the transforn	nation of the world		

Here's a big THANK YOU to everyone who adopted a girl for the West Side Sisterhood Christmas this year! Here are a handful of thank you notes from the girls! - The Brecksville United Methodist Women

Dear Jeak UMIJ Chirotmao Angel UMW CHRISTMAS ANGEL, Thank you for all your gifts, love, and Thank you so much Joy you brought to mt. I appreciate for the Wift I really Your thoughtfulners. You have truly bitth a bitssing to mt. Thank you Appreciae it and happy TO MUCH. HAPPY NEW YEAR, MODE WILL IS LOVE SELETO JOHS NEW YEAR and all gors well for you in 2018 Thouse tomas to make give Dear UMW Christinia Argel upo barint me. I love the joughing suit and Dear UMW Christinas I want to thank you so much for the Gifty Vit is ville and soft. I also is the little And little Angels, Happy New Year's! Day Christmas Angles, I that would or volv than I Itaan cligate fi Thank you for the 508 really appreciate these of this Yord oxform through you ! 9, ft cave and phone case Thank you so I finally got to givenny much for the Visa mom something and seeing her smile is the best think gift card. Lachell Adonson Ever and i thank you for nelpingme Thanks for the wonderful gifts I was able to recieve, you really are From, chips+mas angels. I adore the bracelet - Melody C. Mere you gave me, and the 11/9/1053 was Phemoral and Went Well with My lip tone, I enoys Thank you! Thank the gifts you've granted upon me. Christmas clift... I Really appreciate Thankyou H I bought alot of good things I went to the moll. - Ronnen W. With My gift cord. 3 Had a Blost - Layla