

The Good Word

A newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church. June Issue. Published May 24, 2019



OPEN DOORS. HONEST WORSHIP. DETERMINED SERVICE.

Making disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world

65 PUBLIC SQUARE, BRECKSVILLE, OHIO 44141



Dear Brecksville UMC,

From the day we moved into Brecksville and welcomed our first (7 weeks early) grandchild, we have felt surrounded by your love and prayers. We have walked this faith journey and life journey with you and cherish the relationships and the hands we have held. May you continue to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. You are loved. — *Kathy and PC*



*Evan Davis, James Patrick, Anastasia Brachna,
Colin Johnson and Ellie Ritterbusch*

Alex's Lemonade Stand
FOUNDATION FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER™

With your help, we hope to host an Alex's Lemonade Stand at church every Sunday this summer, June 2 through September 1 - to raise money to fund research that brings better treatments and cures to children with cancer. Can we reach our goal of \$2000?

Sign up for a Sunday, make some lemonade, man the booth and collect donations. We'll provide the cups, ice and pastries and your efforts will give hope to children with cancer! Sign up for a Sunday in the church Lobby—or call the office!

Our 2019 Confirmation Class spent the school year exploring their faith life. In this year of intentional discovery, these eighth graders began asking, "What is *my* understanding of the Christian faith?" It is a first step in a life-long journey with God. With a commitment to presence in worship and Sunday School, participation in a weekend retreat, and involvement in mission and service projects, the kids nurtured a growing sense of self and friendships within our church family. By examining their spiritual gifts, the students gained an understanding of their unique ability to make a difference in the lives of others - all part of the journey and experiences which are fundamental to a life of faith. Each student was paired with a confirmation mentor, an adult from our church who learned about their mentee and shared some of their own faith journey. They met over coffee, a meal, or at church. Our hope is that these mentors will be guides and friends to each student, not just this year, but for life! If you would like to be involved in the Confirmation journey next year, please contact us!



SUMMER SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

8:30 Worship on the Lawn
10 Worship in the Sanctuary

Nursery care available at both services!

Our Staff

Phone: 440-526-8938

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Rev. Clark Stein

pastor@brecksvilleumc.com

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Help us tell God's story as it unfolds in our church and community. Send news items and story ideas to the church office!



Farewell

Rev. Clark Stein, Senior Pastor

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat at his feet. He held up a sign which read: "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat. A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by could see the new words.

Soon, the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The boy recognized his footstep and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?" The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said, but in a different way. I wrote, 'Today is a beautiful day but I cannot see it.'" Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign told people that they were so lucky to have their sight.

It is difficult to write this last article. There is so much to say, and much that will remain unsaid. However, this little story sums things up for me. We have learned the power of words. We know that those words can help build new realities and find ways to welcome everyone into our fellowship. We have also experienced how words can cut and do damage. Yet through it all, the words we have shared together has helped to forge a hopeful reality for this congregation. You are a beacon of hope for a culture that seeks ways to be open and caring to all people. It is no longer good enough to state the obvious, but we must continue to interpret the love and acceptance of Jesus to folks who are yearning to hear this good news. How you say it matters. Keep the faith.

I count myself fortunate to have walked in faith with you these last eight years. I believe that the world has changed because of it, that the Holy Spirit showed up here, and that together we realized a bit more of the kingdom in our time and place. Everything else, I shake off my sandals, and encourage you to do the same.

Walking on...

Pastor Clark



Old Cell Phones Wanted. Have an old phone in a drawer collecting dust? Bring it to the coat room collection bin for safe recycling and help us earn money for the church Missions Fund!

Bike Patio Blessing

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9
9:30 AM**

Launch into the peddling season by allowing Pastor Clark to bless you, your bike, your helmet... whatever symbolizes your biking this season. Our Bike Blessing Event will also serve as a way to formally introduce our bike patio to our community and encourage everyone to use it! In addition to secure parking for bikes, the bike patio features a bike fix it stand, with an air pump and tools for common bike repairs. Tell your friends about it and invite them to join us on the patio between services on **June 9**.



Take Us Out to the Ball Game!

***Rubber Ducks , Ice Cream and Beach Boys Fireworks,
June 14 at 7:05 pm***

Nothing says "summer" like baseball! Join us on our summertime outing to Canal Park Stadium as the Akron Rubber Ducks take on the Portland Seadogs on Friday, June 14 at 7:05 PM. We have reserved a big section of seats. Come enjoy the game and fireworks with us! It's an Akron Screammers Jersey Give Away Night. Tickets are \$8. Everyone's welcome—bring your friends! Contact Jenny at 440-526-8938 ext. 230 or e-mail education@brecksvilleumc.com or to reserve your tickets!



Abbey Retreat

October 25 - 27, 2019

Interested in a quiet, remote, prayerful weekend with your maker? Reserve your spot now on our fall trip to The Abbey of Genesee, a Roman Catholic community of monks who are dedicated to the worship of God in a hidden life within the monastery following the Rule of St. Benedict. They lead a life of solitude and silence, prayer and penance in a joyful spirit of faith.

You will live from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon in total silence. This may sound daunting... and yet we are reminded that it is in silence that we can hear the still, small voice of God.

Your single room is furnished with a bed, a writing desk and a comfortable chair. At the prayer services, you will hear and participate in the chanting of the Psalms. In the course of a week the entire psalter is chanted by the monks.

Interested in learning more? Check out the Abbey Website www.geneseeabbey.org or talk to Craig Czarnota.

The Details: Dates are October 25—27, 2019. Suggested donation to the Abbey \$65 per night, per person – this includes private room and all meals. We will car pool the 4 hour trip to The Abbey, which is just south of Rochester, New York.

A \$65 deposit is needed by June 15! If you miss this date, you may be able to reserve a room by contacting the Abbey directly. For more information, call the office at 440-562-3938.





UMCOR Cleaning Kits enable those affected by floods, hurricanes and tornadoes to begin the overwhelming job of cleaning up. Shop for as many items as you are moved to give, and return them to the Parlor by June 2! The Gees will deliver our kits to the Midwest Distribution Center's collection site at Annual Conference.

Our goal is at least 10 kits. There are shopping cards in The Parlor, along with lists for a complete kit (estimated value \$75) You can also download a shopping list at brecksvilleumc.com/admoffice/pdfs/CleaningKit2018.pdf



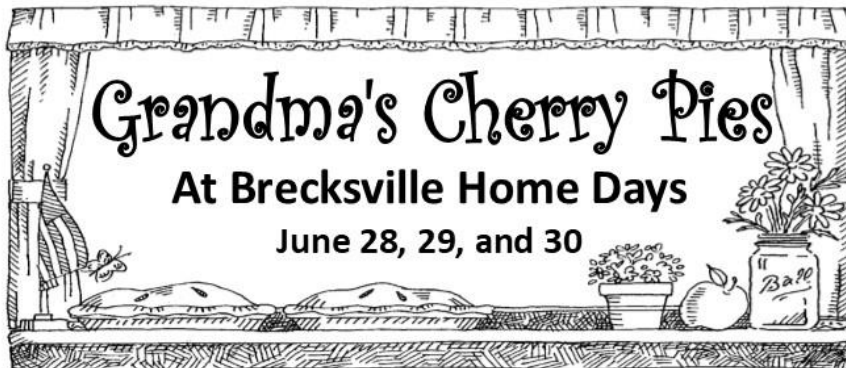
GRADUATION SUNDAY is June 2. Are you graduating from high school, trade school, college, graduate or professional school? Share the good news with your church family! Send a short (200 words or less) bio for the bulletin telling us about your graduation and your future ploans. E-mail your write up to Melanie by Snday, May 26! Her e-mail is office@brecksvilleumc.com



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

FIELD TRIP, Thursday June 6! Join us as we carpool to the Kent State Fashion Museum and May 4th Exhibit at Taylor Hall. Meet at the church at 9 am. Cost is \$5, plus the price of your lunch at Treno (formally Pufferbelly). Everyone is welcome—invite your friends! Sign up in the church lobby or call Kathy Sopka (440-821-5203) by June 2.

Don't miss out. Get the best price - order early!



A Brecksville Home Days Tradition. Pre-order your sweet treats today! Complete this form and return to the church office. **PRE-ORDERS ARE VERY IMPORTANT.** Last year, we sold out! *If not pre-ordered, pies will be \$15 if any are available!*

Name:		Phone:	
Item	Qty	Price	Total
Favorite Cherry Pie - 10" Pie		@ \$12.00	
Bountiful Blueberry Pie - 10"		@ \$12.00	
Take & Bake Cherry Pie		@ \$12.00	
Take & Bake Blueberry Pie		@ \$12.00	
Cherry Cobbler—8" Round		@ \$11.00	
Decadent Chocolate Cake - 8" Square		@ \$7.00	
For Pickup: _____ Friday, June 28 after 12 pm _____ Saturday, June 29 after 12 pm _____ Sunday, June 30 after 12 pm			TOTAL
<p>Make check payable to BUMW and return your pre-paid order to the church office.</p> <p>NO ORDERS ACCEPTED AFTER JUNE 27!</p>			



farewell PICNIC

FOR PASTOR CLARK
AND KATHY

SUNDAY, JUNE 23
11 AM—3 PM

Our church was fortunate to “catch” Pastor Clark and Kathy Stein, but after eight years of ministry, we have to “release” them to serve another congregation. Let's gather together as a church family to thank Pastor Clark for his leadership. We will miss Pastor Clark and Kathy greatly, and want to give them our best wishes as he begins his new position as pastor of Hudson United Methodist Church.

We will meet at **Richfield Woods Park** (located at 4100 Broadview Road) after the 10 o'clock worship service. The picnic area has a large shelter, restrooms, playground, volleyball & basketball courts, baseball field and catch & release fishing. Fun for the whole family! Bring your favorite balls and yard games. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be supplied, as well as ice and compostable cups, plates, napkins and cutlery. Please bring a potluck dish or dessert to share.

If you would like to contribute toward a love offering for the Steins, please put a marked gift in the offering plate, or send or bring it into the church office by Wednesday, June 19. Thank you!



2019 FAITH BUILD

Our church is one of 17 churches committed to providing the prayer, labor, and financial support to rehabilitate two homes on Roehl Avenue in Cleveland. These houses will become homes for two partner families. Want to be a part of it? Pray for the project! Commit to being on one of our work teams **July 13** or **August 10**. Sign up in the lobby of the church, or contact the office!



Accept the mission to serve at VBS! It's an opportunity to give your time, talents, gifts and energy to provide a solid biblical foundation for faith development for the children and families of our church and our community. It's out of this world—and beyond!

There are plenty of ways to help make this program a reality! We need teachers, crew leaders, and decorators. All you need is a love for children and a desire to help them know Jesus better! Contact Jenny Gee on Sunday morning, by calling 440-526-8938 ext. 230 or emailing education@brecksvilleumc.com.

Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by God's power at work within us!

- Ephesians 3:20



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL July 8—12

For PreK—5th Grade. Sign up at
Brecksvilleumc.com/VBS

\$25 for the whole week*

Maximum cost is \$50 per family*

**if registered and paid by June 16*

REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE
WHEN WE REACH CAPACITY!

Parents who volunteer all week can
sign their children up for \$10 each!



Have a cool family photo?

Be sure to include it in the update of our church family directory!

Pastor Heidi arrives in July, and we want to provide her with a tool to help put names to faces—an updated pictorial directory.

You don't have to be an "official" church member to be included! And, if you send us your photo, we'll be sure to print a copy of the directory for you.

Don't be left out! E-mail or drop off a photo in the church office by Monday, June 24!

We're open

8:30 - 4:30 Monday - Thursday
and 8:30 - 12:30 on Friday.

office@brecksvilleumc.com



Men, you're invited to lift up your voice in song with the BUMC Men's Ensemble. We will have three rehearsals this summer (Thursdays from 7—8 pm, May 30, June 20 and August 1) and sing at both services on June 2, June 23 and August 4. Contact Malik Khalfani, Director of Music for more information: music@brecksvilleumc.com.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Annual Conference *June 7-9* Middle and high schoolers, it's time to head to Lakeside, OH for our annual gathering of East Ohio Conference Youth. Come hang out at Lakeside, a gorgeous beach town with ice cream, shopping, mini golf, and shuffle board! We have the privilege of staying in a comfy, cozy house right on the lake and breaking bread together as a group. This is a weekend that many students cherish and we hope you'll consider coming along with us! Time is running out to sign up! Contact Dana!

Youth Service Project *June 16-22* Our group of devoted youth and adults are hitting the road to Racine, Wisconsin for work camp with Group Missions! Keep us in your prayer that week as we reach out to the Racine community alongside hundreds of other youth and adults from all around the country. We can't wait to share with you what God has planned for us!

Vacation Bible School *July 8-12* Help us give our VBS kids a summer experience they will always remember! Volunteer to help out at VBS and get some community service hours in the process. What better way to have fun and help your church community? Connect with Jenny Gee to see where your gifts can be used during VBS!

Reach Out East Ohio Camp *July 14-20.* Another opportunity to experience Lakeside, OH! Spend a week there with Dana, Jamie, and the rest of the staff for some summer fun and mission work! This East Ohio Conference camp is planned and led by a peer-elected group of students. In the middle of the week, students are put into mission teams and sent on an overnight mission experience in the general east Ohio area. The rest of the week has worship, devotions, and fun camp activities. Reach Out is a great place for students to explore their faith and discover what being a follower of Jesus means. Go to www.reachouteoc.com for more info and to register!



YSP Junior. Tuesday and Wednesday, June 4-5: Students entering sixth grade through exiting eighth grade are invited for a small taste of what Youth Service Project is like. We will be working at Greenfield Berry

Farm and then having fun at church overnight! On the second day, we will be working on mission projects here at the church. This event will only cost \$5 to participate! Invite your friends! Let's do some good and have a great time! Sign up by June 1 by calling Dana at 440-526-8938 ext 237 or by e-mailing youth@brecksvilleumc.com.

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



@bumcyouthmin



@bumcyouthmin



@BrecksvilleumcYouth

2019 Special Session of General Conference Report

Traditional Plan Adopted

In February 2019, a specially called General Conference of The United Methodist Church was held in St. Louis to act on a report from the [Commission on a Way Forward](#), which examined paragraphs in *The Book of Discipline* concerning [human sexuality](#) and explored options to strengthen church unity.

After much debate, the plans put forward by the Commission on a Way Forward were rejected. Instead, delegates passed the Traditional Plan, which affirms the church's current bans on ordaining LGBTQ clergy and officiating same-sex marriage, by a vote of 438–384. The Traditional Plan mandates stricter enforcement for violations of church law and imposes minimum penalties upon clergy convicted of performing same-sex weddings. Penalties include a one-year suspension without pay for the first offense, and loss of clergy credentials for the second offense. The Traditional Plan also prevents self-avowed homosexual candidates from even being considered to become clergy.

The Judicial Council was then charged to review the Traditional Plan to determine if it was constitutional under the UMC Constitution. Portions of the Traditional Plan were found to be unconstitutional, but the remaining constitutional portions will become church law in January 2020. The “gracious exit” resolutions were constitutional. Copies of the Judicial Council's rulings can be found on our website: brecksvilleumc.com.

While the Traditional Plan becomes effective in January 2020, another General Conference will not be held until May 2020. Although this issue may be reconsidered at that 2020 General Conference, each local church must start considering now how they may respond to the current situation. Our Church Council began those discussions at its May 14 meeting.

A large gathering of Methodist representatives from 54 Conferences (including East Ohio) met in Kansas May 20–22 for the UMC Next Conference to discuss alternatives and build support for full inclusion of all of God's children in the United Methodist Church. Closer to home, East Ohio Reconciling Ministries is working with a new organizing group, East Ohio Forward, to unite progressives and moderates to create a church where all are truly welcome.

We will watch carefully and learn as much as we can so our local church can make informed decisions. As we learn about the alternatives, we will share them in monthly *Good Word* reports, in bulletins, and on our website and social media platforms.

Brecksville United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation. Our church family has made a commitment to open our doors with radical hospitality and welcome to all, and to minister to all people no matter their background, whom they love, their experience or where they are on their faith journey.

We welcome your questions! Pastor Clark is passionate about this issue and would be happy to talk with you in the coming weeks. Pastor Heidi will be here in July and will help walk us through next steps. - *Special Report*



Tuesday, June 11 – 4:15 pm
Hoover Auditorium, Lakeside, Ohio

You are invited to gather outside Hoover Auditorium wearing a rainbow stole or similar item of witness. We will sit together in honor of those who are excluded from ordination in the United Methodist Church.

OPEN TABLE WORSHIP AND COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday June 11 – 6 pm
Come hear Rev. Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, chief connectional ministries officer for the Connectional Table. Formed by the 2004 General Conference, the Connectional Table's role is to serve as both the visioning body of the church and the steward of resources to carry out the vision of the denomination worldwide. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

For more info, call Bill Watts 330-322-5708.



CLEVELAND FOOD BANK

June 8

Volunteers are needed to help sort and repack both perishable and non-perishable **food** that is later distributed to local **food** pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters. Come spend a Saturday morning helping our neighbors in need. Sign up in the lobby or contact the church office!



MILESTONES

News of the Fellowship

E-mail or phone Melanie
with news to share!
office@brecksvilleumc.com
440-526-8938

On May 26, Jeff and Sue Hastings celebrated 40 years of marriage! Happy Anniversary!

Two of our church families recently welcomed new grandchildren into the world. Congratulations, Cliff Thielman, whose daughter, Missy, welcomed a baby boy in May and to Pastor Clark and Kathy, whose grandson, Fritz, was born in the Carolinas this month!

Congratulations to all of our graduates! We are looking forward to celebrating you on Graduation Sunday, June 2. One of our graduates, Aleyna Gee, is also engaged to be married! Congratulations, Aleyna and Greg!

Matthew Manocchio was selected as finalist for the coveted BGSU Outstanding Student Award and chosen as the school's Top Marketing Student. Congratulations, Matthew!



Lunch Bunch takes a break in June, for Annual Conference.

*Gather with us at Open Table
at Lakeside on June 11!*



Betsy Jaszczak	1	Garrett Croes	10	Anne Ford	24
Rick Krause	1	Megan Rohrer	10	Kylie Engelhardt	25
Leslie Miller	1	Jim Monnett	11	K. K. Hood	25
Laura Tereshko	1	Sarah Hurder	12	Jacob Nelson	25
Harmony Lasich	2	Tom Kuttler	13	Brian Pasek	25
Fran McClean	2	Amber Lasich	15	Jerry Bartholomew	26
Judy McCrodden	2	John Falko	16	Linda Crouch	26
Aaron Georgevich	4	Charlotte Sebastian	16	Craig Czarnota	26
Grayce Herrick	4	Dan AuWerter	17	Darren Krolkowski	26
Tammy Jaite	4	Judy Helm	19	Silas Spitzer	26
Russell Slifcak	4	Allie Cline	20	Jimmy Zawada	26
Kimberlee Fisher	5	Kevin Kwiatkowski	20	Shirley Galik	27
Cathy Krolkowski	5	Russ Martin	21	Jan Kranstuber	27
Walter Kudlaty	5	Mark Pace	21	Ruth McDonel	27
Jenna Schroedel	6	Bill Webb	21	Krissy Nelson	27
Darren Calovini	7	Stella Figer	22	Joe Bartholomew	28
Courtney McDonough	7	Gavin Santora	22	Dorothy Bowles	28
Lauren Scott	7	Neilson Tait	22	Lori Cooper	28
Brayden Biladeau	8	Michael Pace	23	Liam McLoughlin	28
Ruth Koberna	9	Linda Rollins	23	Deanne Kloss	29
Gil Phillips	9			Julia Patterson	29
Paul Phillips	9			Melanie Trovillion	29
Sam Phillips	9			Taylor Cave	30
John Zakarowsky	9				



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 weeks, prayers of thanks were lifted to God for the way lives are touched when we reach out to one another in service. People like Beth Smith, who has joined our Bread Ministry Team to help get food to people in need (and who is a valued member of our bell choir!); Becky

Chen and the beautiful music she shares in worship; the UMW Ladies, who spend countless hours baking up their delightful pies for missions; and Bev Huber who overcomes a little bit of stage fright to serve as worship liturgist. Confirmation Sunday was extra special with the help of Bill Rittman, Chris & Debbie Watkins, Mary Ann Nolan and Deane Kloss. The help of folks like Don & Robin Raybuck, Nan & Herb Einheit, Ruth Herman, Lori Rusterholtz, and Bev Gooding made candy ready to help tell the community about our bike ministry for the Memorial Day Parade. We're thankful for each of you, and all of the ways that you serve as the hands and feet of Christ everyday, in so many ways!

June

WELLSBORO CHURCH www.barnstable.com

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH www.brecksvilleumc.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	Communion Stewards: Ann & Bill Rittman					1 Bread Ministry: Scheufler	
2 Summer Worship Schedule Begins Graduation Sunday 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10 Worship	3 World Bicycle Day! Closer: Gezze	4 YSP Junior 10 Staff Mtg	5 YSP Junior 6:30 a Breakfast	6  9 UMW Field Trip to Kent Fashion Museum	7 Auble & Spencer Mowing	8 Bread Ministry: Kotnik	
9 Pentecost Communion 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 9:30 Bike Blessing 10 Worship with baptism	10 Closer: Lundholm	11 10 Staff Mtg 6 Open Table Svc, Lakeside	12 6:30 a Breakfast	13 	Youth Annual Conf.		
YAC	EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE: LAKESIDE, OH					14 Brown & Sendry Mowing 7:05 Rubber Ducks Game 	15 Bread Ministry: Miller Habitat Walk TN Youth Grp Overnight
16 Peace with Justice Sunday Father's Day 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10 Worship	17 Closer: Hudacek	18 10 Staff Mtg 10 Stitch'n'Tm 7 Trustees	19 6:30 a Breakfast	20  	21 Gee & Gee Mowing 1st Day of Summer!	22 Bread: Brachna Bee's Car Wash Here 4:30 Church Wedding	
CLASSROOM ANTICS CAMP HERE							
YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT TRIP TO RACINE, WISCONSIN							
23 PC's Last Sunday 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10 Worship 11—3 Pastor Clark's Farewell Picnic	24 Closer: Brown	25 10 Staff Mtg 7 Finance	26 6:30 a Breakfast	27 	28 Bloch & Campbell Mowing	29 Bread Ministry: Beth Smith	
					Home Days		
30 YSP Sunday 10 One Worship Service!	Closer: Holmok	June 30 is a Fifth Sunday and that means special music! We will be joined by a guest musician, Zane Biddle, who plays French horn. If you would like to share your musical talents in worship, please contact our music director, Malik Khalfani, at music@brecksvilleumc.com					
Home Days							



Brecksville UMC

65 Public Square, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Socialize with us!

June Worship Times

June 2—Graduation Sunday

Summer Worship Schedule

8:30 Worship on the Lawn

10 am Worship in the Sanctuary

June 9—Communion Sunday, Pentecost

8:30 Worship on the Lawn

10 am Worship in the Sanctuary

June 16—Peace With Justice Sunday

8:30 Worship on the Lawn

10 am Worship in the Sanctuary

June 23—Pastor Clark's Last Sunday

8:30 Worship on the Lawn

10 am Worship in the Sanctuary

11 Church Picnic at Richfield Woods Park

June 30—YSP Sunday

One Combined Service at 10 am



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.

