



BRECKSVILLE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SINCE 1814

PROGRAM GUIDE

FALL 2023

65 Public Square, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

www.brecksvilleumc.com

440-526-8938

WWW.BRECKSVILLEUMC.COM

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BRECKSVILLE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SINCE 1814

MISSION

Creating safe spaces to grow with God and one another.

VALUES

Honest Worship

We invite everyone to participate in worship authentically and holistically; heart, mind, soul and body.

Joyful Gathering

We gather in an atmosphere of joy and laughter as we share in the life God offers us.

Lifelong Learning

We are unabashedly authentic in our lifelong quest to grow with God and learn with one another.

Courageous Inclusion

We whole-heartedly welcome all people to come as their perfectly imperfect selves.

Determined Service

We show God's love for others by meeting the needs of the whole person.

MEASURES

I will create safe space to grow with God and one another by...

... sowing love and compassion.

- Am I seeing myself and others through God's eyes?
- Am I seeking and giving forgiveness?
- Am I recognizing the presence of God's kingdom around me?

... cultivating sanctuary.

- Am I listening for the voice of the marginalized?
- Am I nurturing someone else's healing?
- Am I accepting of those different than me?

... tending to life-long learning.

- Am I engaged in exploring my faith with others?
- Am I actively seeking to grow my personal relationship with God?
- Am I reflecting my spiritual growth in my daily life?

... bearing God's fruit in service.

- Am I giving back to God?
- Am I sharing God's blessings with others?
- Am I demonstrating God's love beyond the church doors?

STRATEGY

Rooted in worship.
Nourished in groups.
Branching out in service.





ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The onset of fall has the vibe of “new year, new beginnings.” With the craziness of summer slowing down, and the picking up of more “regular” routines, it’s a natural time for setting intentions and discerning how you will spend your resources (time, energy, and money) for the next few months. And for many of us, there are a multitude of individuals and organizations vying for those resources.

At Brecksville United Methodist Church, we are all about creating safe spaces to grow with God and one another. We do not want to be just another organization inundating your to-do list with tasks; rather we want to create an environment in which you can intentionally discern how God is calling you to learn and grow.

Our hope in putting this Planning Guide together is to put most of the opportunities to root yourself in worship, nourish yourself in groups, and branch out in service all in one place, so you can prayerfully and intentionally discern how you will engage with and grow with God in the coming months.

If something sparks your interest and you’d like more information, you will find contact information for each Committee Chair and Ministry Team member on the last pages of this Guide. Or if you’re not sure who to contact, you can always reach out to Jaelyn in the church office, and she can help connect you to the right person.

I say that this Planning Guide has “most of the opportunities” because we are always adding new ways to engage with God through Brecksville UMC. For the most up-to-date information, be sure to check out our weekly e-newsletters, bulletins, and announcements.

I pray that as you read through this Guide, God will nudge you to grow in some way—whether that’s by trying out a new class or using your gifts to volunteer in some way!



SCAN HERE

Download an electronic copy of this guide to share with a friend!

Visit BUMCLinks.com for this and other downloads, sign up forms, and more!

Grateful to be serving alongside you!

Pastor Heidi

Rev. Heidi Welch, Senior Pastor

HONEST WORSHIP

We invite everyone to participate in worship authentically and holistically; heart, mind, soul and body.



Sundays at 8:30

Worship on the Lawn: This contemplative service includes hymns, affirmations of faith, and communion each week. As the weather allows, we worship on the lawn - camp chairs and blankets welcome! Last service of the season will be October 1.

Meditative Worship: October 8 through early spring, we move indoors for a worship service focusing on the word of God. Come experience this unique opportunity to be still and know.



Sundays at 10:30

This energetic service, led by the Worship Band, includes an inspiring message and has additional options for kids - a Children's Moment during the service, and a special program for faith filled learning & fun (Sprouts) after the Children's Moment.



Online

Wherever we are worshipping God, we are on holy ground! Our services are streamed live to our website, Facebook, YouTube, and Boxcast - with real time chat on our Facebook page.

Worship on your own schedule with our video archives. Prefer to listen on the go? We post a podcast every week of the scripture, sermon and prayer time. Listen on SoundCloud or wherever you get your podcasts.



Worship In the Woods

From May through August, we worship without walls, under the pines and alongside the waters in the Brecksville Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks once a month - on a Friday evening.

Upcoming Worship Series & Special Services

The Struggle is Real - 9/10 to 10/1

Living in community is hard. Effectively communicating with people is hard. In this series, we acknowledge the struggle and look to the Gospel of Matthew to learn, “How does Jesus teach us to communicate with one another?”

Grace In Action - 10/8 to 10/22

There is one simple, powerful idea at the heart of Christian faith: God is gracefully generous, and we – children of God created in the image of God – are born to be gracefully generous, too. Not because we “should,” but because gracefully generous is who we really are!

Dynamite Prayer - 10/29 to 11/19

There is a massive current of divine power — God’s resurrection power — that is active and alive in the world today. What might God do if, through prayer, we opened ourselves to God’s Holy Spirit? Let’s find out together!

How Does the Weary World Rejoice - 11/26 - 1/7?

Sometimes we find ourselves weary from conflict, stress, caring for others, etc. This Advent, we will look at the opening chapters of Luke’s Gospel to see “How does a weary world rejoice?” A few answers: we acknowledge our weariness, we find joy in connection, we allow ourselves to be amazed, we sing stories of hope, we make room, we root ourselves in ritual, and most importantly, we trust our belovedness.

Also, remember these Special Sundays coming up!

- All Saints Sunday - 11/5. We read the names of those who have gone before us in the faith in the past year and toll the bell in their honor.
- Veterans Sunday - 11/12 We honor those who have served and pray for peace.

Baptism

Through the sacrament of Baptism, we are incorporated into God’s mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. We receive God’s grace in a unique and special way, no matter how old we are or how long we’ve been worshipping God. Interested in baptism? Please reach out to Pastor Heidi!

Communion

Communion nourishes and sustains us on the journey. In The United Methodist Church, we observe an open table, which means that all are welcome to participate. Holy Communion is celebrated each week at the 8:30 service and on the first Sunday of the month at the 10:30 service.



WAYS TO SERVE IN WORSHIP

Welcome Team

A spirit of joyful hospitality fills the church on Sunday mornings, and your gifts of warmth and relationship can create welcome for all who enter Brecksville UMC! As a welcome team member, you also answer questions, pass out bulletins, count attendance, collect prayer cards and the offering, and assist with special needs. Serve once a quarter, once a month or once a week as you're able.

Liturgists

Add your voice to a worship service as a liturgist, reading prepared passages of scripture and prayers, and leading the congregation in responsive readings.

Communion Stewards

Communion stewards are integral to celebrating this sacrament. From cutting the bread and pouring the juice to washing communion glasses after the service, preparation of communion elements can be done as a family or with a friend. We celebrate Holy communion every Sunday at the 8:30 service, and on the first Sunday of the month at the 10:30 service.

Music

Has God graced you with the gift of music? Consider sharing that gift in worship. Vocalists and instrumentalists are invited to join the choir, the worship band, and to share special music during worship services, for Worship in the Woods or for seasonal services.

Audio & Visual Technology

If you have an interest in sound or visual production, these are exciting times for you! Come help produce worship services for people in the building and those joining us online. Run the cameras, mix the sound, or operate the worship slides with the team in the balcony. It's a special way to create space to grow with God!

Acolytes

Children entering third grade or older are invited to help create a worshipful space by bringing the light of Christ into the Sanctuary as the 10:30 Worship Service begins.



NOURISHED IN GROUPS

We are unabashedly authentic in our lifelong quest to grow with God and learn with one another. We gather in an atmosphere of joy and laughter as we share the life God offers us.



Sign up at
BUMCLinks.com

Adult Faith Formation Groups

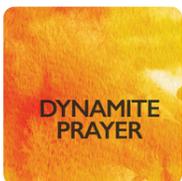
- Am I engaged in exploring my faith with others?
- Am I actively seeking to grow my personal relationship with God?
- Am I reflecting my spiritual growth in my daily life?



Lectio Divina *Mondays at 10:30 am & Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Chapel*
A time of slow, meditative reading of a scripture passage. There is no homework. Drop in anytime. The Chapel is on the main floor of the church - on the east end. Walk past the water fountain and you're almost there.



Neighboring in the Movies, Part 1
Sundays at 9:30 in the Chapel, Five weeks - starting September 17
"A Man Called Otto" is a movie about neighborliness - not just caring for those around us, but allowing them to care for us as well. Join us as we watch the movie and discuss what we experience. FYI: The movie includes some strong language and attempts at suicide.



Dynamite Prayer - a 28 Day Experiment
Sundays at 9:30 in the Chapel, Five weeks - starting October 22
What might happen if, for 28 days, we adopt a daily practice of simple, heartfelt collective prayer asking for God's new possibilities?



Pastor's Midweek Bible Study *Wednesdays at 7 pm - online*
Join Pastor Heidi and friends as we take a deep dive into the Gospel of John. We dig into the history of the text, the culture in which it was written, what it teaches us about God and faith, and wrestle with our questions together. "Bible novices" to "bible nerds" are welcome!



Podcast Class *Sundays at 9:30 beginning September 17*
Podcasts can educate, entertain, and enrich our thinking. Join this class as we listen to a selected podcast during the week, then come together for group discussion about it on Sunday morning. What can we learn for our faith journey?



Brecksville United Women in Faith

The First Thursday of the Month in the Parlor

9:30 Refreshments & Community. 10 am Program & Meeting

Driven by God's love and united in sisterhood, we work to improve the lives of women, children and youth. Get connected with one of our circles!

Executive Director of Womankind to speak at September Meeting

Mary Ann Meitin, Executive Director of Womankind, will share about the work of her organization. Eve Circle and UWF invite you to this special event Wednesday, September 6. Reception at 6:30. Program begins at 7 pm.

What's ahead? Save these dates for our monthly meetings:

- Thursday 10/5: Come learn about Professional Development, Community Education and the Encore 55+ Learning Program with Tri-C's Suzanne Ortiz.
- Thursday 11/2: Librarian Susan Price will teach us to make greeting cards. Make one card for Veteran's Sunday and take one home. No special skills required!
- Thursday 12/7: Join us at noon for seasonal cheer with our annual Christmas Potluck.



Asbury Bremeth Circle - Christianity and World Religions

Second Thursday of the Month at 9:30 am in the Parlor

Last year we learned about various Christian denominations, what they believe and what we can learn from them. This year we expand our view and look at various world religions. All are welcome to learn together and share insights. Bring a friend!



Evening Circle

Usually The Second Tuesday of the Month at 6:30 pm

This service-oriented group of women meets in September, October, November, January, March and May for hands-on projects. We'd love for you to be part of it and are always open to new ideas and activities! Contact Lynn Hobzek at kezboh@aol.com

- Tuesday, October 10 - Confirmand gift bags
- Tuesday, November 14 - Gift cards for our college students
- December - no meeting, Collect for RAHAB
- Tuesday, January 9 - USO cookie bake
- Tuesday, March 12 - TLC deliveries to the homebound
- Tuesday, May 14 - planning for next year and collection for Womankind

JOYFUL GATHERING



Fall Kick Off- *The Second Sunday of September*

We celebrate Brecksville UMC's birthday and the start of a new program year with a joyful gathering. Join us for good food, a bounce house, lawn games, friendship and fun!



Good Grub Social Club

Groups of 8 adults gather quarterly to share a meal

If you're looking for the opportunity to grow in friendship & faith, the GGSC is for you! Get to know others over a shared meal at home, at a restaurant or in the park. Sign up at BUMCLinks.com



Dawnbreakers Breakfast Group - *Wednesday Mornings*

This group gets up with the dawn to enjoy breakfast, a devotional and conversation. They meet in Fellowship Hall or at the Brecksville Panera Bread. Doug & Gail Huth help keep things organized. Reach out to the church office for contact information!

COURAGEOUS INCLUSION

We whole-heartedly welcome all people to come as their perfectly imperfect selves.



A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation

We intentionally make space for everyone to encounter a loving God—no matter your age, gender, race, income level, sexual orientation, or ability. No matter if you're an atheist, someone struggling with faith, you live with constant faith in your heart, or you're somewhere in between. You are welcome here and you are invited to participate in the life of our church!



Brecksville UMC is committed to accessibility for all

We are a certified sensory friendly facility through Kulture City. Sensory Bags and Large Print Bulletins are available upon request. Is there a way we can make worship more accessible for you? Please let us know!



New Automatic Door Opener - *west first floor entrance*

Great news! Our automatic door opener project is well underway and should be operational by the time you read this sentence!

FAMILY MINISTRIES



The Wiggle Room

Kids are always welcome in our worship spaces, but The Wiggle Room is available as another option! Staffed from 8 am until noon on Sundays, it's a safe space for our little ones, infants and up.



Sprouts

Kids in preschool through 6th grade can meet with their teachers on the 4th floor after the Children's Moment at the 10:30 service. It's a time of learning age appropriate Bible stories through craft, cooking, science, games and lots of sensory fun!



Spark your Faith

Kids in preschool through 6th grade should plan to join us from 9:30 to 10:20 for some good multi-aged fun as we look at popular shows (think Bluey) and movie clips (Frozen perhaps??) and talk about the way we can live out our faith every day and in every way.



Third Grade Bibles - Sunday, September 17 at the 10:30 Service

Each year, we present our third graders with their very own Bibles. It's a rite of passage, and a gift of love from the congregation. It is our prayer that this gift will be a starting point for each of our third graders to develop a deeper relationship with Jesus through the study of God's word.

Confirmation - 7th grade and up. Begins 9/17 at 9:30



What does it mean to be a Christian? What does it mean to #BeUMC? On the confirmation journey, students will learn about scripture, church history, prayer, spiritual development, theology, mission, and the structural connections of the UMC. Confirmands are encouraged to ask questions, follow their curiosity, and find a place in the world and the church where they feel they can totally be themselves. Those who complete the two-year process are confirmed as members of The United Methodist Church and Brecksville UMC.

Confirmation Bibles will be presented on Sunday, September 17

YOUTH MINISTRY

In youth ministry, safe space looks like growing with God and one another through curiosity and wonder; making memories and creating genuine communities where students feel supported and loved. Safe space is letting students show up when they can and always feel comfortable being completely themselves. It's knowing it's okay to not be okay, and authentically exploring whatever life stage students might be living through. "Safe space" means love no matter what.



Youth Group - Weekly on Sundays from 5-6 pm. Begins Sept. 17

Each Sunday evening students in grades 6th-12th gather together for food, faith, and fun. We typically will do a time of checking-in, a quick devotional, and then end our time together with a group game. Each week is a little different so come and check it out, friends are always welcome! We meet on the front lawn or in the Youth Room. See the church calendar for specific details.



5th & 6th Grade - Spark Your Leadership

During our "Spark Your Faith" hour from 9:30 am to 10:20am, fifth and sixth grade students will take on leadership roles, helping teachers to guide the other kids in multi-age fun and learning. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain leadership skills, confidence, and experience their faith in new ways!

All this is possible because of you!



We are grateful for your gifts and the way they enable us to create safe spaces to grow with God and one another.

- Give using the enclosed envelope, stop by the office, or drop a gift in the offering plate on Sunday.
- Give securely online:
<https://onrealm.org/BrecksvilleMethodist/give/now>
- Text "GIVEBUMC" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.*

*This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply. Privacy Policy - <https://legal.acst.com/privacy-policy> Terms of Service - <https://legal.acst.com/terms-service-use>



The Membership Journey

Have you been asking yourself “What can I do for God through this church?” or “How can I help this church reach more people with the Good News of Jesus?” Then it may be time to prayerfully consider if you’re ready to become a member of the church. Brecksville UMC’s Membership Journey has several steps to help you discern if we are a good “fit” for you and if becoming a member is the next step in your faith journey.



Talk with the Team - Sunday, September 17 at 11:30 am.

This first step in the membership journey is an opportunity to gather around the table with our Ministry Team, ask questions, get to know the people who serve the church and their unique roles, learn about the ministries and missions of Brecksville UMC and take a tour of the building. ALL are welcome to attend!



Basic Beliefs - Sundays at 9:30 - 9/24 through 10/15

What is a United Methodist? This 4-week class is focused on learning the history of our denomination and the basics of faith through a United Methodist lens. Before you become a member of a United Methodist Church, it’s important to know whether you’re “our kind of crazy.” Come learn more about the rich theological heritage of our denomination in Basic Beliefs.



The Membership Class - October 22, 29 and November 5.

The final step in the Membership Journey focuses on what it means to be a discipling, active member of Brecksville UMC: using your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to love God and love others. In this 3-week class, you will uncover your own “Jesus story,” learn about your God-given gifts and talents, and discover the ways you can use those gifts to glorify God through BUMC. New members will be received during services on Sunday, November 12.

ALL are welcome to participate in these classes!

You may be new to the church, a long time member, or somewhere in between! The Membership Journey classes are offered once or twice a year, allowing you to make your way through them at your own pace. If you feel led to begin the membership journey with our church, contact Pastor Heidi to start the conversation! 440-526-8938 ext. 224 or Pastor@brecksvilleumc.com



DETERMINED SERVICE

We show God's love for others by meeting the needs of the whole person. We create safe space to grow with God and one another by bearing God's fruit in service.



Bike Ministry - Giving Spokes to Folks since 2015

We accept donations of bicycles year round, and are always in need of helping hands to clean, repair, and make them road ready.

Hundreds of bikes have been distributed to kids and adults in need because of this church's support. Join us on Bike Fix It Days, one Saturday a month, to help make it happen!



Trick or Trot - Saturday, October 28. 8:30 am - Blossom Hill

This Brecksville Kiwanis sponsored 5K Race/1 Mile Family Fun Walk is celebrating its 10th year in the community. Wear your costumes! Prizes awarded for both costumes and race time. Come be part of it - in the race/walk, at our church table, or by donating candy!



Creation Care

We have a strong commitment to caring for God's creation. Some of the ways we do that include:

- A community bike patio for parking & repairs.
- A commitment to reusable mugs, cups, plates, and utensils. We are a "no Styrofoam" zone.
- Paper recycling in the green bins in the parking lot.
- Recycling receptacles throughout the building.
- Recycling old cell phones and eye glasses.
- Energy efficient choices in the building (LED light bulbs, etc.)
- Education through Weekly "God In Nature" Video spots with Jenny Gee! (See write up on a page ahead!)

Start your needles for the November Knit-Off!

Will our church claim the Golden Mitten Award? The United Methodist Church of Berea is challenging all churches in our District to create mittens, hats and scarves for the ministries we support, and then report the number of creations we make and distribute. Imagine all of the people we can warm together! Sign up at BUMCLinks.

BEARING GOD'S FRUIT IN SERVICE

Am I giving back to God?

Am I sharing God's blessings with others?

Am I demonstrating God's love beyond the church doors?

Ministries of Caring



Congregational Care Committee

Pastor Heidi leads this team in making regular visits to those in need of prayer and encouragement. If you would like help make calls to people or visit them in their homes or the hospital, your gift of caring would be a gift well used!



Stitch'n'Time - third Tuesday of the month at 10 am

This group of talented people who knit and crochet meet monthly to make prayer shawls, prayer blankets, hats, mittens and gloves for people in need. All abilities welcome!



Sewing Group - second Monday of the month from 5 - 9 pm

This new group of crafters came together this summer to start dreaming up ways to serve others through their creative talents. If you are a sewist of any level, you are encouraged to be part of it!



Funeral Reception Team

Support families in their grief by serving as a funeral greeter, or by helping set up, serve, or clean up after funeral receptions.



Deeds of Mercy

We maintain a fund to assist people in our community who have fallen on hard times. Support this ministry with your donations and prayers.



AED/CPR Training - date TBD - Sign up at BUMCLinks

Are you prepared to save a life in an emergency? The Brecksville Fire Department will come to BUMC this fall to conduct a class taught to American Heart Association standards and guidelines.



Community Blood Drives - October 12 and December 31

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. This could be a little girl in the ICU or a mother with Stage 3 leukemia. Give blood and save lives! Sign up at Vitalant.org/OhioDonorPortal

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION



Sunday Morning Joyful Gathering

Help make Sundays a Joyful Gathering! Coffee Hour Hosts create a welcoming environment for connection and friendship in the Parlor between services. Contact Jaclyn in the Church Office to learn more!

Learning, Sharing and Connecting with Facebook Live



Thursday Check in with Pastor Heidi

An opportunity to learn about church news and ask questions on Facebook Live! Pastor Heidi checks in live on Facebook most Thursdays around 9:30 am. Watch it live or later!



God In Nature

What's up with cicadas? Why do salamanders migrate? Why do fireflies light? Most Fridays, our Education Director, Jenny Gee, answers questions like these and shares some incredible facts about God's amazing creation on Facebook Live.

A Community Gathering Place

Our church is a vibrant place throughout the week. Here are a few of the activities you may find happening within our doors (or on our grounds), helping to make our community a better place for all people - heart, mind, body and soul.

- Cardio Kickboxing Classes with Kristin Bisco on Monday evenings.
- Cleveland Federation of Dance Clubs.
- Dog training.
- Fundraising Car Washes for school groups.
- Horizons Preschool - serving kids aged 3 - 5.
- Insight Meditation Group.
- PEO - a philanthropic organization of women who raise money for scholarships.
- Piano Lessons with Rachael Fasano.
- Recovery groups meet here six days a week, including Al Anon, AA, and NA.
- Scout Groups.
- 24 Karrot Kitchen, a meal service for people with special dietary restrictions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH



Pearl Road Dinners

We help prepare and serve meals at the Pearl Road Kitchen at Pearl Road UMC each year. Our 2023-24 dates are Sundays, November 19 and January 28. Sign up at BUMCLinks.com



Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

Since 2016, we have partnered with area churches to help fund and build a home every year. Support this effort by serving on a work team, giving, and praying! Our final work date for 2023 is Sept. 16



Trials for Hope - Harbor and Bridge

We support this United Methodist Urban Mission project serving the people in the Ohio City neighborhood of Cleveland by collecting trial-size toiletries at various times during the year, and organizing work days to volunteer on-site.



Christmas Collections

At Christmas time, we host collections for people in need - hats & mittens, non-perishable foods, toiletries, household cleaning items, and a "Giving Tree" with wish lists for organizations who serve those in need.



Monthly Donation Drives

We partner with a different non-profit each month of the year, collecting items to fill their most immediate needs. Learn about this month's organization and bring your donations to the first floor bin.



Nehemiah Mission

This United Methodist Mission located at W 65th and Bridge Avenue, serves all corners of Cleveland. If you would like to engage with life changing, transformational work in the city - as an individual, group or family - there is a way for you to serve here!



Pull Together for the House!

Saving your aluminum pull tabs is an easy way to support families being served by Ronald McDonald House NEO. Bring them to the donation bin in the coat room and the Harpers will deliver to RMH!

Want to get involved? Have ideas? Reach out to Kathy Auble or Marla Knight.
Contact information on Committee Page!

BEARING GOD'S FRUIT IN SERVICE



Counters

Teams who serve on a rotating basis, Sunday mornings, to count, record and deposit the weekly offering. To serve as a counter, you must be a member of the church.



Newsletter Team

It's a production party! We get together once a month to stuff, fold, stick, and sort about 300 printed newsletters (or seasonal program guides!) - and mail them out into the world.



Gophers!

Born of the pandemic, the gopher team is at the ready to make home deliveries to people in need. Have a car and a willing heart? You can be a gopher!



Meal Train

A new baby is born, an accident knocks you off your feet, a surgery is scheduled - sometimes help with a meal is a tremendous gift! Sign up to be part of the team preparing meals for people in need.



Church Closers

Our church is busy, with evening meetings six days a week. Closers commit to closing up the church after the last meeting for one week, rotating with other team members every six or eight weeks.



Fall Clean Up Day - Saturday, November 11 (Rain date 11/18)

Grab your gloves and a rake and join us in cleaning up the church grounds. Many hands make light work! (And there will be donuts!)



Special Projects - Stone Steps & Mulching Day

Want to help widen the front walkway with stepping stones? Does spreading mulch make you happy? Help is needed with these two upcoming one day projects! Dates TBD



Adopt-A-Bed & Mowing Teams

During the growing season, wonderful folks volunteer their time to care for a garden bed or to serve on a weekly rotation of mowers and trimmers. Sign up for 2024: Trustees@BrecksvilleUMC.com

CHURCH COMMITTEES

At a special Church Conference on August 20, 2023, church members voted to transition our church governance structure to a simplified, accountable structure (SAS) on January 1, 2024. We ask for prayers as we make the intentional transition to this model! Until January 2024, please contact these wonderful leaders with questions and ideas for their area of service!

Church Council—The executive agency of the church
Sue Hastings, Chair: (216) 470-6017, sue.hastings@att.net

Fellowship Committee—Coordinates opportunities for joyful gathering
Catherine Vastartis, contact person: (440) 759-6436,
cvastartis@gmail.com

Finance—Spiritual direction on the use of funds
Eric Louttit: (216) 233-4927, louttit4@hotmail.com

Gifts & Memorials—Manages & administers legacy gifts to the church
Kristi Eberhardt: (440) 821-9066, klzeberhardt@gmail.com

Missions & Community Engagement—
Helping us be intentional in our determined service
Marla Knight: (330) 701-3788, marlarknight@gmail.com and
Kathy Auble: (440) 241-8617, mattkathyauble@gmail.com

Staff Parish Relations—Liaison between the congregation & staff
Dave Brown: (216) 533-7881, dbrown6903@sbcglobal.net
Julie Kubek: (440) 227-9335, jmkubek15@gmail.com

Trustees - Cares for all physical property owned by the church.
Bob Lundholm: (440) 546-1815, bob.lundholm@regalrexnord.com

Lay Member to Annual Conference
George Gee: (440) 570-2082, ggeeteach@gmail.com

Annual Conference Member at Large
Jenny Gee: (440) 570-2080, education@brecksvilleumc.com

President of United Women in Faith
Kathy Sopka: (440) 821-5203 kmineagain@cox.net



CONNECT WITH US

All of our links, sign ups, and downloads are in one place!
Use your phone camera to scan the QR code or visit
www.BUMCLinks.com

MINISTRY TEAM

440-526-8938

Senior Pastor—Rev. Heidi Welch
pastor@brecksvilleumc.com

Director of Education—Jenny Gee
education@brecksvilleumc.com

Dir. of Youth Ministry—Dana Schwendeman
youth@brecksvilleumc.com

Music Ministry—Machala Comenschek
machala@brecksvilleumc.com

Organist/Accompanist - Sean Brown
Sean@brecksvilleumc.com

Worship Leader - Jamie Schwendeman,
jamie@brecksvilleumc.com

Dir. Communication & Connection—
Melanie Smith, melanie@brecksvilleumc.com

Office Manager—Jaclyn Torres
Jaclyn@brecksvilleumc.com

Finance Manager—Becky Paroda
finance@brecksvilleumc.com

Facilities Mgrs.—Jeff & Scott Hastings
facilities@brecksvilleumc.com



Our Welcoming Statement

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.



Find us @BrecksvilleUMC

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel

www.youtube.com/c/BrecksvilleUnitedMethodistChurch

Keep in touch!

Here are a few of the ways you can stay up to date with the happenings at BUMC!



Our Sunday Bulletin includes the latest announcements and updates for the week ahead. Pick up a copy at church or download at BUMCLinks.com or on our streaming page: www.brecksvilleumc.com/streaming



On Thursdays, we email resources for Sunday Services and ways you can connect with Brecksville UMC's mission of Creating Safe Spaces to Grow with God and one another. Email office@brecksvilleumc.com to subscribe!



On the Fourth Friday of each month, we publish a long-form newsletter formatted around our vision and values. Subscribe for a mailed or emailed version (or both) or pick up a copy at church. office@brecksvilleumc.com



Our new website is under development. Coming soon at www.brecksvilleumc.com!



We're conducting a membership audit! Watch your mailbox! A letter asking for your updated contact information should arrive by September 15. You can also fill out our form at BUMCLinks.com.



BRECKSVILLE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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