

THE GOOD WORD

"Our hope at Brecksville United Methodist Church is that Confirmation can be a safe space for students to grow with God and one another. They can ask questions, follow their curiosity, and find a place in the world and the church where they feel they can totally be themselves."

Confirmation Sunday May 18

We will be celebrating our Confirmation class on May 18th at the 10:30am service. These students will have completed the two-year Confirmation program at BUMC and they will take vows of membership and publicly declare their faith. Please join us in celebrating these students and praying for them as they continue on their faith journey!



Confirmation is an opportunity offered to students in 7th grade and above, to have a personal exploration of what it means to be a Christian, and more specifically, a United Methodist. They are invited to learn more about scripture, church history, prayer, spiritual development, theology, mission, and the structural connections of the UMC.

This learning takes place during our Sunday morning education hour, with their mentors, during worship, on retreat, and in many other avenues throughout the year. The culmination of the confirmation journey ends with students deciding to claim their faith as their own and become full members of the United Methodist Church. Confirmation is a continuation of baptismal vows that parents make for their children, where students can now say for themselves, "yes, I want to follow Jesus and I choose to be a United Methodist." - Submitted by Dana Schwendeman

Enrollment for Confirmation Fall 2025 is opening soon. To learn more, reach Out to Jenny at education@brecksvilleumc.com



Dana Schwendeman - 9/6/1990 - 4/22/2025. With heavy hearts, we share the news that our Director of Youth Ministry, Dana Schwendeman, has died. Dana came to our church in August 2016 and we are forever better because of her. With an understanding heart and caring spirit for youth and adults alike, Dana recognized each person's inherent worth as a beloved child of God. God graced her with abundant gifts - music, poetry, humor, art, creative writing and design - and she shared these gifts with generosity. Dana was just 34 years old and leaves behind her husband of 12 years, Jamie Schwendeman; her parents, Kim and Tony Petro; sister Emily, nephews Wally and Ricky and more beloved friends than we can count. **We will celebrate her life on Thursday, May 1.** Calling hours from 4-6 pm. Service at 6 pm. Refreshments follow in Fellowship Hall.

Brecksville UMC

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🌐 www.brecksvilleumc.com ✨

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FROM THE PASTOR

Get Off Your Donkey 2.0

Two years ago, in January of 2023, we spent six weeks looking at the story of the Good Samaritan. In the story, a Samaritan man is traveling along the road from Jerusalem to Jericho and happens upon someone who has been robbed and beaten, lying on the side of the road. Instead of continuing on his way, he gets off his donkey, cleans up the man's wounds, and takes him to an inn, where he pays to have the man cared for while he recovers.

The Samaritan didn't have to do any of this. But he does anyway. Because that's what our faith in God calls us to do—to get off our donkey and care for others, particularly those in need.

At the end of the parable, Jesus calls his listeners to “go and do likewise.” In May, we're bringing back this story and its concept for the series, “Get Off Your Donkey 2.0.” This time, we're going to investigate the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, and see how they call us to action.

Our Social Principles are not church law. Rather, they represent prayerful and sincere efforts to speak to contemporary issues from a sound biblical and theological foundation. They are a call to faithfulness and to social engagement, challenging us to think about how we put our faith into practice.

Did you know that the United Methodist Church has a long and rich history of concern for social justice? Its members have often taken candid positions on controversial issues involving Christian principles. For instance, some early Methodists expressed their opposition to the slave trade, to smuggling, and to the cruel treatment of prisoners.

This series challenges us to resurrect this part of our history, and remind us that “church” isn't just about what we do on Sunday morning—it's what we do every day of our lives. Our faith reaches into every corner of our thoughts and actions, calling us to live as Jesus lived—compassionately working for justice for each and every one of God's creations.

Together, we'll tackle issues like health care, food justice, and Christian Nationalism. I'm not saying it's going to be easy, but then again, I've never experienced faith to be easy!

So, are you willing to join me and get off your donkey and “go and do likewise?”

Pastor Heidi

Rev. Heidi Welch,
Senior Pastor



Sundays in May

May 4 - Luke 10:25-37

May 11 - Acts 16:11-15 (UWF Sunday)

May 18 - Deuteronomy 16:18-20 (Confirmation)

May 25 - Leviticus 23:1, 22



VBS

IN THE PARK!

July 7-11 - 9:30 to 12:30

For kids from pre-school to 5th grade

Planning is well underway for **VBS 2025: Road Trip – On the Go with God!** This year, we're partnering with Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church to bring our community the very best week of summer!

Save the date: VBS runs July 7–11, from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM each day.

Throughout the week, children and volunteers alike will explore a new Bible story each day—each one reminding us that *wherever life takes us, God goes with us*. Registration is open and spots are filling quickly. Learn more and reserve your child's place at BUMCLinks.com.

In the weeks leading up to VBS, our sermon series will highlight the five Bible stories from VBS—so the whole church can journey along with us!

New location. Same Fun! We're moving to a new site this year but keeping the experience outdoors. We are excited to be able to use the pavilion at Blossom Hill and adjacent field.

Want to support VBS? If you have a heart for this ministry and its outreach into the community, consider becoming a VBS sponsor. Your support helps us keep this incredible week accessible to all families, even as costs continue to rise. Here's how you can make a difference:

- Sponsor half the facility rental: \$150
- Sponsor one day of snacks for all kids: \$80
- Sponsor one day of science fun: \$45
- Cover a full week of craft supplies for a child: \$12
- Provide a VBS t-shirt for a child: \$10

Your generosity helps bring this life-giving experience to over 100 children—singing, playing, and learning just how deeply they are loved by God. VBS truly is the best week of summer!

For Kids: Sunday School, Sprouts and Seedlings

Age appropriate Faith filled fun Sundays at 9:30 and 10:30. Email Jenny@brecksvilleUMC.com to learn more!

Sunday at the Movies:

Celebrating God's Creation

This May, our Sunday at the Movies theme invites kids of all ages to experience the wonder of nature and the beauty of God's amazing creation. Each Sunday at 9:30 am, we'll watch captivating clips from nature documentaries, marvel at the intricacies of the natural world, and take time to express gratitude to our Creator. It's a joyful and awe-filled way to connect faith and the environment — come be inspired!



5- 8 pm Second Wednesdays

See you May 14?

Soccer practice, track meet, music lessons...families are often running from one place to the next during the week. Come be in community with others - pause and connect - at Take Out Wednesdays. BYO dinner or just come hang out with us!

Text "TakeOut" to 833-556-1171 to learn more!

WORSHIP ON THE LAWN

Worship in God's cathedral. Join us on the church lawn Sunday mornings at 8:30 beginning May 4 for this unique worship experience under a canopy of trees. The service includes scripture, prayer and song and Pastor Heidi's message! Prefer to sleep in? Join us at 10:30 in the Sanctuary - or anytime online!



Get Off Your Donkey 2.0

Sunday morning adult discussion class

May 4, 11 and 18 at 9:30

Through the lens of the Good Samaritan, we will explore how we—the people of BUMC—can more deeply live out our values and actively engage in creating real, lasting change in the world. Grounded in the United Methodist Church's Social Principles, our conversations will challenge and inspire us to move from reflection to faithful action, as we seek to embody compassion, justice, and mercy in tangible ways. Join Jenny and friends in the Chapel at 9:30.

Prayer Lab

Join Anthy in the Chapel each Wednesday for Prayer Lab: a time to come together in supportive community, and experiment with different forms of contemplative prayer practices. In each hour-long session, Anthy will facilitate two guided prayerful meditations, each lasting about 20 minutes each with a short break in between, and if time allows, a period of sharing our experiences afterward. Whether you're just curious about Christian contemplative practices or want to enhance your established practice, Prayer Lab is open for all! Instruction will be given at each session, and each session will be a little different. Drop in as your schedule allows. **Morning group at 9 am. Evening group at 7 pm. Alternating weeks.** See the church calendar. The Chapel is also open weekdays from 9:00-9:30 for **Silent Prayer Circle**: a time to practice together without a facilitator, or to pray in whatever silent way you choose with others!

Let's Talk - Podcast

Sundays at 9:30 in room 301

Each week, we listen to a podcast then come together on Sunday morning to discuss what we heard, through the lens of faith. What kind of podcasts? Some favorites include *Hidden Brain* and *Soul Sunday*. [Visit our website](#) or click the link in each week's e-news to learn what we're listening to this week - then come talk about it in room 301! There's a seat for you at the table!

Lectio Divina

Mondays at 10:30 in the Chapel

Lectio Divina (divine or holy reading) is a slow repetitive reading of scripture designed to help us connect deeply with the Word. Come try it with friends on Monday mornings in the Chapel.



Jenny Gee and Some Summer Sprouts Kids 2024

Beginning May 25 - and continuing all summer - the kids will be gathering outside for Sprouts right after the Children's Moment (at the 10:30 Worship Service).

Throughout the school year we divide the kids loosely by age and have good age-appropriate fun as we learn our Bible stories. When summer arrives we gather as a mixed-aged group to learn and explore together.

Our Summer Sprouts theme celebrates God's remarkable creativity in nature. We'll use our eyes, ears, and hearts to notice the beauty and wonder all around us—right on the church grounds. From blooming flowers and buzzing bees to birdsong and rustling leaves, we'll take time to slow down, look closely, and listen deeply. These moments of quiet awe remind us of the goodness and generosity of our Creator.

Last year's walking field trip was such a success, we will do it again- maybe more than once! More details to follow.

If the weather is poor we will hold Sprouts on the 4th floor as we do throughout the school year. Questions? Email Jenny at education@brecksvilleumc.com.



United
Women
in Faith

faith

action

sisterhood

United Women in Faith meets the first Thursday of most months in the church parlor. Gathering for fellowship and refreshments begins at 9:30 am. Programs begin at 10 am.

UPCOMING PROGRAM

Thursday, May 1

No matter who we share the road with, intersect paths with, sit across the table from, ride the elevator with, stand in long lines with, agree with, disagree with, feel different than, look up to, frown upon... we share this in common: we are - each one - created in the image of God.

Come explore the topic of social justice with Brenda Calovini. We all carry biases as part of being human. These biases don't excuse how we perceive others but it does explain those perceptions (ones we are aware of and want to change and those that we might be completely oblivious to). Being aware of our personal biases is the first step to changing how we respond to those who deserve to be seen and treated as ones who are created in the image of God. How can we compassionately work for a more just community, near and far? In this brief talk, with way too much to cover than time allows, we will look at where we have been (women within the United Methodist Church have long been agents for good) and what we can do today to best advocate for social justice reform. To borrow a quote from UMCjustice.org, "Our faith requires it and our world needs it!" When we join with others, our efforts are magnified, our agency is fortified and we don't risk feeling so small against the enormous tide of indifference and cruelty.

Join our mailing list!

Email UWF@Brecksvilleumc.com

MISSION U 2025



2025 MISSION U - PRACTICING HOPE TOGETHER

Friday July 18 – Sunday July 20 at the University of Mount Union.

In the midst of so many hard realities, is hope merely optimism? What does it mean to practice hope in God even when things seem to be falling apart? Curricula for adults, youth and children. Learn more: <https://www.eocumc.com/uwf/missionU.html>

ASBURY BREMETH CIRCLE

Second Thursday of the Month - May 8

Fellowship starts at 9:30 - study begins at 10 am

When Jesus taught in parables, he wasn't just sharing simple moral lessons—he was inviting his listeners into a deeper understanding of God's vision for the world. These stories, rooted in the everyday life of his time, reveal powerful truths about the Kingdom of God. This month, we continue our journey through the parables with the Parable of the Wicked Tenants—a challenging and thought-provoking story that invites us to wrestle with justice, accountability, and hope. Bring your own beverage, and come ready for meaningful conversation.

EVE CIRCLE

Join us Tuesday, May 13 at 6:30 pm as the Eve Circle plans the rest of the year's projects. We will also be collecting gift cards for Journey Center for Safety and Healing in Cleveland (formerly Domestic Violence & Child Advocacy Center.) Gift cards from Target, Walmart, gas cards, Giant Eagle and Dave's are suggested. A more complete list will be listed on the church website. To learn more, talk to Lynn Hobzek or email UWF@BrecksvilleUMC.com.

CREEKSIDE FUNDRAISER

May 12-28 only! Support ministries helping women, children and youth with a purchase of an electronic gift card to a local favorite, Creekside Restaurant & Tavern. A percentage of each purchase benefits the UWF Mission Fund. Find instructions at BUMCLinks.com or see Anthony at church on Sunday!

TRIALS for HOPE WORK DAY MAY 10

What is a Trials for Hope Work Day?

We travel to Bridge Avenue in Ohio City, CLE and spend a morning serving our neighbors together.

When do we do it?

This is a bi-monthly service project, serving on a Saturday morning from 9 am - noon. Serve in May, July, September and November.

What will we do?

There are options! You may pack dignity kits, deliver food to shut ins, or load or unload delivery trucks. If you can't help in person consider donating trial sized hygiene items (shampoos, etc), non-perishable food items or large reusable shopping bags.

Why do we do it?

Trials for Hope is delivering dignity and hope to people on the margins. But, they can't do it alone! They serve 3,000 people in the greater Cleveland area who are facing food insecurity and do not have enough personal care and household items for their families.

How do I sign up?

Visit BUMCLinks.com - or talk to Matt or Kathy Auble!



Have an old bike you no longer need? Donate it to the bike ministry!

DETERMINED SERVICE



May Donation Drive for Midwest Missions



Churches throughout the East Ohio Conference are coming together to make a global impact with a donation drive for Midwest Missions. Around the world and around the corner people are lacking simple resources that could improve their circumstances. Midwest Missions works with churches to collect needed items and distribute them to those in need. Let's help fill the truck at Annual Conference with

items for Personal Dignity Kits (bar soap, washcloths); Home Care Kits (things like dish soap and household cleaner); or other needed items (canes, crutches, walkers, specific handmade items, and more). See [BUMCLinks](http://BUMCLinks.com) for a complete list of needed items and donate what you can. Don't want to go online? Call or visit the church office. Bring your donations to the bin on the first floor by June 1.

Emerald Necklace Garden Club Plant Sale

Saturday, May 10 from 9 am to 2 pm in Fellowship Hall

Since 1964, The Emerald Necklace Garden club has been beautifying and educating our community, and for the past several years, have held an annual fundraiser, their Spring Plant Sale, in our Fellowship Hall. We are looking for a few volunteers for a BUMC table at the sale, a place where we can share our Joyful Gathering Cookbook and raise some money in support of church ministry. How can you help? You can bake an item from the cookbook for sale at the table, or you can volunteer for a shift, selling cookbooks, baked goods and coffee. Learn more and sign up at BUMCLinks.com

Kids2Camp Update

In March, we set an aggressive goal - to raise enough money to send 14 girls from refugee families to a week of East Ohio Summer Camp. We didn't reach that goal (yet!) but have raised \$4,909 - enough to send 8 girls. These students come from families with limited means and the packing list for camp is long, so in April, we dedicated our donation drive to helping them with camp necessities. Thank you to each person who donated an item. (If you'd like to help, it's not too late!) *Sew 4 Good* heard about this effort and took up the goal of creating a personalized pillow case for each girl, with each girls' name embroidered on the side - a lasting memento of what's sure to be a great summer memory!



CELEBRATE RUTH MCDONEL'S 90TH!

Ruth's family is inviting her Church Family to come celebrate her milestone birthday with a light luncheon after church **Sunday, June 29** at noon in Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP at BUMCLinks or by calling the office (440-526-8938) by June 22. Your presence is your present!

Questions? Please contact daughter

Darlene with questions:

DRBRIDEWESER@Gmail.com

412-417-5575

JOYFUL GATHERING



BROADVIEW HTS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Monday, May 26

Pastor Heidi will be leading the opening prayer

The parade will start at 9 am from the Church of the Assumption parking lot and go to the Community Amphitheater via Broadview Road to the ceremony, starting shortly after, at approximately 9:40 am. The best place to view the parade is alongside Broadview Road and Don Faulhaber Memorial Drive (the main entrance). Parking will be available in the West Parking and grass areas next to the amphitheater.

MEMORIAL DAY CAMP-O-RAMA

Friday May 23 (6:30 pm) to Monday May 26 (noon)

Celebrate the spirit of togetherness at Camp Wanake's Memorial Day Family Camp Weekend. Come together in the beauty of nature, create lasting memories, and kick off the summer with a fun-filled weekend. Your family will get to spend time together, building deeper relationships and meeting other families who will quickly become your lifelong camp friends. Rough it in a tent, drive out in your RV, or rent one of Wanake's cabins or retreat center rooms. Learn more:

campwanake.org/memorial-day-family-weekend/

COURAGEOUS INCLUSION



Brecksville UMC T-Shirts

The Missions & Community Engagement Committee is creating two new BUMC T-shirts for Pride Month. **You have options!**

Love is Louder

a bold and bright design printed on a new heather grey t-shirt. \$15

Beloved

a cheerful design printed on a new white t-shirt. \$15

Complete this order form and return to the office - or order online at BUMCLinks.com.

No money due now. T-shirts will be ready to pick up by June 1.



Name	Phone	Louder (size)	Beloved (size)	Total QTY
Tess Example	555-555-5555	1 -XL	1 - L, 1 - M	3



Kitchen Re-Organization

If you have been in and around our downstairs kitchen lately, you may have noticed some tidying up taking place. We have a small group of volunteers helping to reorganize the pantry space as well as other storage areas. The overall goal is to keep items in the kitchen area that we use in our day to day functions and to find new storage areas for our event items that are not used as often.

Freeing up this space in the kitchen area provides us the opportunity to rent the kitchen as an alternative revenue resource for our capital campaign. Once our reorganization is complete, we will have a detailed list of where items are being stored...both in the kitchen as well as other storage spaces in the church. Thank you for your patience during this process.

-Submitted by Kathy Auble



State of the Church

If you enjoy digging in to facts and figures, you might enjoy taking a closer look at the Vital Statistics report shared at *The State of the Church* worship service on April 27. Pick up a copy at church or download at BUMCLinks.com

Brecksville UMC 2024/2025 Financial Update

There is good news about the 2024 budget wrap-up. We started out the 2024 year with a budget shortfall of \$51,308. But through the efforts of many people, that shortfall was greatly reduced. Through additional gifts, the Brecksville Flea, the Pumpkin Patch, Close the Gap, the Church Cookbook and many other efforts, not only did we raise more money, but we had a real positive community impact.

We celebrate all the efforts of so many people to reduce the shortfall!

Together, we reduced the 2024 shortfall to only \$6,595. *Wow!* That shortfall amount was covered from money received several years ago from the Sally Bibler Estate, giving us a balanced financial statement for 2024.

Over the years, Brecksville UMC has been immensely blessed by Church Family Members who have made gifts to the Church through their estates. We are so grateful for the gift from Sally Bibler's Estate, as it has helped us to handle a number of challenges with grace. We honor and cherish all such gifts.

For 2025, our stewardship pledge campaign resulted in 107 pledges, including 12 new pledges, for a total of \$453,653. We believe that is a record total amount! Our per pledge average increased from \$3,923 in 2024 to \$4,240 in 2025. That also is a record average pledge! These pledges are so important to us, since they provide almost 72% of our annual revenue to count on. **THANK YOU!**

Leadership Board has approved a new 2025 budget. Our church staff are wonderful, and the Board approved 4% raises to recognize how treasured our staff are. They not only keep our church operating well daily, they also provide so many of us with ministry, mission, love and care. They bless us every day.

While there is another expected 2025 budget shortfall, it is smaller at \$25,415. A copy of the 2025 Budget is included in this newsletter.

The Alternative Revenue program is already kicking into high gear to address that shortfall. The 2025 Brecksville Flea and Pumpkin Patch are already in planning, with more opportunities to come. Cookbooks are still available for sale!

Leadership Board is extremely grateful for the fantastic financial and volunteer support our Church Family provides to our Church. By everyone working together, we accomplish so much more for Christ's mission within our church, our community, and around the world.

-Alan Scheufler, Leadership Board Chair



2025 Operating Budget Summary

		2025	
REVENUES		BUDGET	Allocation
	Current Year Pledges	453,653	
	Non-Pledged Revenue	130,000	
	Scheduled Gifts		11,023
	Corporate Giving		
	Alternative Revenue	20,000	
	Interest/Dividend Income	8,000	
	Facility Use	19,000	
	Weddings	1,000	
	Misc Income		
	Excess General Reserve	0	
	TOTAL REVENUES	631,653	
EXPENSES			
	Alternative Revenue Expenses	10,000	
	Conference Apportionments	63,932	
	District Apportionments	all combined in Conference for 2025	
	BUMC Missions	8,441	
	Church Administration	28,527	
	Office Supplies		4,542
	Office Equipment		15,857
	Computer Related		1,577
	Processing Fees		6,552
	Church Programs	28,872	
	Joyful Gathering		1,000
	Music		11,572
	Worship		2,000
	Upper Room Devotionals		
	Communications		5,100
	A/V		500
	Youth		3,000
	Christian Education	-	5,700
	Salaries & Allowances	447,282	
	Parsonage	18,652	
	Church Building	51,362	
	Excess General Reserve	-	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	657,068	
REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES		(\$25,415)	



LEADERSHIP BOARD REPORT



Wellness and Wellbeing

Submitted by Matt Gabor

Each month in our leadership board meeting we start by spending the first 20 minutes going over a devotional. We do this to help prepare our hearts and minds to be in the right zone to discuss the business of the church. This past meeting we discussed the word *wellness*, or *wellbeing*. There are 8 dimensions of wellness which are; Social, Emotional, Spiritual, Intellectual, Physical, Environmental, Financial, and Occupational. This really helped fuel our conversations this month. How can leadership board foster wellness in our church? What part can we play? I loved this topic. I have served on leadership board over the past year and a half and I truly think this sums up so well the work we have been doing, really trying to keep overall wellness of the church at the forefront of what we do and the decisions we make together.

One thing that stands out to me as I look back over the new(er) structure of the leadership board is that this church is really led by the members of the church and it really does serve us well to ensure it's always that way. We each love our church so deeply and want to see it thrive.

We have a special gem in Brecksville UMC. I mentioned in the Podcast Sunday school class this past week for every 25 churches there is 1 that is as open and loving as we are here. There are many that tout what Christ called us to do, but I have really found it living out in our congregation. I started coming here in 2021 after a 10-15 year hiatus craving to find somewhere where we could call home, connect, and be able to give back and live out Christ's love. ***Thank you for being a sanctuary to those who thought they had no other options.*** I pray others find their way to our doors and also discover the love of Christ that lives in our walls and permeates throughout our community.

Never stop remembering you make a difference in the small things you do. John 13:35 is one of my favorite scriptures which states, ***"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*** I see you, your love you show others, it matters!

Let's continue to be that shining beacon of hope, connection and renewal for all standing on the square in Brecksville showing we have a home for them here. When Christ gave us the great commission, it doesn't mean it has to be a grand action, it can mean telling your neighbor about all the things you love about your church, sharing a post on social media of an item of impact you did with the church that you felt gave back to others (such as our recent Rise Against Hunger event), or just working to live out the UMC's social principles. Others will see, they will ask. That is where you can invite them to come and enjoy the special gem we all enjoy.

May God continue to bless you and your family and thank you for loving mine.

The 2025 Leadership Board: *Kristi Eberhardt, Kathy Louttit, Michael Houff, Julie Kubeck, Alan Scheufler (chair), Matt Gabor, Jim Slagle, Maria Shurik, Deb Watkins, Rev. Heidi Welch.*

Do you support access to healthcare?

Pastor Heidi is urging us to get off our donkeys. We are leaning into our social principles as United Methodists, which include expanding access to healthcare.

Here's an opportunity!

The Greater Cleveland Congregations, a non-partisan coalition of faith communities in Cuyahoga County, is unveiling their Healthy Blocks Initiative. They are working with the City of Cleveland and MetroHealth to open health clinics in underserved neighborhoods and provide aging in place housing. To show support for this effort, we have been invited to join them on **Tuesday, May 13 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Lee Road Baptist Church, 3970 Lee Road, Cleveland,** where we will have an opportunity to learn more about this initiative.

To reserve your space, obtain more information, or participate in a carpool, call Jim Slagle (740-396-0195).





Reach out with a prayer and a note,
call or text each week this month!

Week of May 4

Craig Czarnota

8341 Whitewood Rd
Brecksville, OH 44141-1527

Week of May 11

Bill Rittman

It's his birthday this week!

200 Laurel Lake Dr Apt E373
Hudson, OH 44236-2181

Week of May 18

Jack Neville

It's his birthday next week!

9274 Beechwood Dr
Brecksville, OH 44141-2647

Week of May 25

Clark Rechkemmer

It's his birthday this week

800 Lakeside Cir Apt 1503
Pompano Beach, FL 33060-7720

*Nominate someone who could use a
reminder that they are loved and prayed over!*

Email Prayer@brecksvilleumc.com



1 Carissa Spitzer	12 Doug Hurst	23 Michael Lee
1 Bennett Skoda	12 Chris Wygonski	23 Gavin Bendlak
2 Karen Pace	12 Alainna Teare	24 Brett Hof
2 Cindy Krause	14 Wyatt Slifcak	24 Evan Jaite
2 Tracy Adanich	14 Nora Culley	24 Taylor Kwiatkowski
3 Shelby Olszko	15 Melanie Smith	24 Guinevere Pace
3 Hannah Botzman	15 Noah Stacher	25 Alan Scheufler
4 Mary McHenry	15 Phillip Long	25 Kathy Sopka
5 Sandie Meyer	16 Harry Fox	25 Gabrielle Croes
6 Suzanne Blatnik	16 Lauren Sendrey	25 Clifford Diemer
7 David (Eli) Shively	16 Donald Rickert	26 Catherine Vastartis
8 Stephanie Holmes	17 Lynn Hobzek	26 Alison Rickert
8 Lori Pasek	17 Sara Meyer	27 Jack Neville
8 Patrick Magee	18 Emily Kotnik	27 Don Krolkowski
8 Grace Donathan	19 Michael Paroda	27 Marla Knight
9 Jenny Gee	20 Emma Vastartis	27 Hallie McDonough
9 Scott Hastings	20 Lulu Pena	27 Ash Welch
10 Nancy Lee	21 Emily Miller	28 Kate Burrows
10 Jack Drescher	21 Connor Mathewson	28 Dan Spitzer
10 Sandy Kovalik	21 Bryn Watkins	28 Matt Lyons
10 Alison Bell	21 Aneira Watkins	29 David Engler
10 Russell Goodwin	22 Mark Hobzek	30 Ava Pawlak
11 Bill Rittman	22 Brian Culley	31 Clark Rechkemmer
11 Addy Pribble	22 Alex Shurik	31 Theo Burgstahler
11 Frank Ludwig	23 Nathan Hudacek	31 Griffin Hricko

**If you would like to be added to - or to opt out of - the monthly birthday list,
please email melanie@brecksvilleumc.com*



Brecksville UMC is a thriving community of faith because of people like you who care for one another and reach out in service to those who are in need. People like those who serve on our welcome team and hospitality teams week in

and week out. You are living out our mission of creating safe spaces to grow with God and one another! Brenda Calovini is one of those folks, and has been sharing her gifts in so many ways in this season - including stepping out of her comfort zone to share a presentation with the United Women in Faith. We lift up prayers of thanks for you, Brenda! It's always a joy when Kim Vann shares a message with the kids for Children's Moment. Thank you for reminding us that God made each of us in God's image, Kim! Maria Shurik took the lead on another great Names to Faces event. Thank you, Maria, for helping us build connections with one another, and thanks to everyone on the Joyful Gathering Team for helping to make the event such fun. We are thankful for each of you, named and unnamed, and all the ways you share the love of God with the world!

APRIL 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY

JUNE 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Celebrating the Life of Dana Schwendeman Thursday, May 1 Calling hours 4 - 6 pm. Service at 6 pm. Refreshments follow in Fellowship Hall</p>			<p><i>Check Out "God In Nature" Wednesdays on Facebook Live!</i></p>	 1 9:30 UWF Mtg 6:30 Choir 8:30 Band	2	3 2-6 Wedding!
4 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 9:30 Classes for all 10:30 Worship 11:30 Church Prop Care Team 5 Youth Group	5 10:30 Lectio Divina 7 GCC Meeting	6 9:30 Tues Talk 10:30 Staff Mtg 2:30 Service of Communion at Chippewa Place	7 6:30 Breakfast 9 Prayer Lab 	 8 9:30 Asbury Bremeth Study 6:30 Choir 7:30 Leadership Board Meeting 8:30 Band	9  <i>Staff Birthdays: Jenny & Scott</i>	10 9-2 Emerald Necklace Garden Club Spring Plant Sale (and BUMC Cookbook Sale!)
11 UWF Sunday 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 9:30 Classes for all 10:30 Worship <i>Became a Reconciling Church on this date in 2014</i>	12 10:30 Lectio Divina	13 9:30 Tues Talk 10:30 Staff Mtg 6:30 Eve Circle 7 GCC Healthy Blocks	14 6:30 Breakfast 5-8 Take Out Wednesday 7 Prayer Lab	<i>Staff Birthday Melanie</i>  15 <i>Last day to submit info for the June Newsletter!</i> 6:30 Choir 8:30 Band	16 <i>Final day to register for Annual Conference</i> EOCUMC.com	17 9-12 City of Brecksville Shred Your Documents Day (City Muni Lot)
5/14-18: UWF Creekside Restaurant Gift Card Fundraiser - BUMCLinks.com						
18 Confirmation Sun 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 9:30 Classes for all 10:30 Worship 11:30 Missions & Comm Engagement 5 Youth Group Ice Cream Night	19 10:30 Lectio Divina	20 9:30 Tues Talk 10 Stitch'n'Time 10:30 Staff Mtg 5-8 Sew4Good	21 6:30 Breakfast 9 Prayer Lab 10 Newsletter Production Party!	 22 6:30 Choir 8:30 Band <i>Last choir rehearsal of the season!</i>	23 9:30 UWF Board Meeting	24 Family Camp-o-Rama at Camp Wanake 
25 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 9:30 Refreshments 10:30 Worship	26 Memorial Day  Church Office Closed	27 9:30 Tues Talk 10:30 Staff Mtg	28 6:30 Breakfast 7 Prayer Lab	 29	30	31

Find calendar updates at www.BrecksvilleUMC.com



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RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

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.