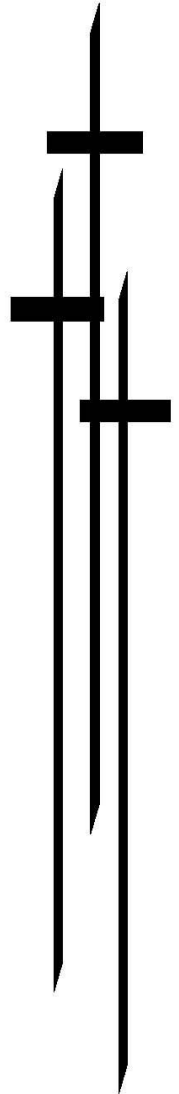


The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

APRIL, 2016



*Loving, Serving, and Accepting All People
With God's Life-Changing Power*



...So let us not grow weary
in doing what is good
[Galatians 6:9]....

As I ponder this month's *Pillar* article, I think about all the Good News that has been proclaimed and experienced in this very spot over the past 200 years. Year after year - even in the midst of a Civil War, two World Wars, a decade of severe economic

Depression - our extended Family of Faith found ways to continue to celebrate Christ's Good News of Divine Love and Renewed Life. Just trying to envision how this faith community made it through so many dark and disturbing chapters of our nation's history, is itself overwhelming. They were certainly made of tougher stuff than I! Or maybe they didn't fully realize how bad things actually were at the time [just as we sometimes forget how relatively good we have it]. No matter how difficult or dire the circumstances around them became, our forebears somehow were able to trust that the redemptive power of God would ultimately turn the tide.

Each generation is presented with its own new set of challenges, and opportunities. We currently live in a culture where a person can garner acclaim for literally carrying-out a campaign of intolerance and disrespect for minorities, promote sexism and misogyny, openly mock individuals with disabilities, and encourage ridicule and violence against those who dare to disagree. We also live in a world where technology allows people to widely disseminate their impulsive, random ramblings of hatred, bigotry, and unchecked anger. Additionally, our 24 hour news cycle informs us of local and worldwide acts of violence, terror and disaster even as they are happening. Maybe this is why many people today tend to romanticize and pine for "the good old days!"

In a world that often seems overrun with negativity, fear, and bad news, it is critically important for us as people of faith to remember the amazing amount of love and kindness, grace and Good News that is also present. For me, one of the best ways to face today's growing negativity, narcissism and nihilism without being overwhelmed, is to allow myself to be inspired by the many positive things that we share together as a community of faith. Brecksville United Church of Christ is a place - and a people - through which good things regularly happen, and affirmative attitudes and actions are both encouraged and celebrated. The Easter Message - which we proclaim throughout the year - reminds us that even when things seem completely hopeless and lost, our Holy Source of Life will, in time, turn the tide. Knowing and trusting this Good News can give us the encouragement and strength we need to do our part in helping make that happen!

CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!
This is the Good News that brings us new life.

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Dave

If you would like to have a pastoral visit in your home, or simply need to talk, please call Pastor Dave at the church office [440-526-4364] or at home [440-546-1193]. He will be glad to meet with you.



FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

MEMBERSHIP

BOWLING Sunday April 3rd will be our annual Bowling outing at Northwoods Lanes in Macedonia at 1-3 pm. Cost is \$6 per person which includes 2 games, rental shoes, pizza, goodies and prizes. Please see David Pastor to sign up or contact David at 440.552.4403 or email at ridave@hotmail.com.





SAVE THE DATE for Sunday, May 1st for the Akron Rubber Ducks game. Game time 2:05 pm. \$6 per seat and there is free parking in the garage across the side street from Canal Park. May 1st is MS Awareness day, with a 1K fun run, \$2 hot dogs, and kids can run the bases. We'll have sign-up sheets during coffee hour in April.

The Membership Committee would like to thank everyone for attending and sharing their delicious contributions at our annual St. Patrick's Day potluck. We would also like to extend a special thanks to Sue and Cliff Stenzel for their generosity and expertise in making the corned beef and vegetables.



NEWS FROM OCWM



The next hunger meal is set for Sunday, April 17, 2016 at Pearl Road United Methodist Church. The menu is not determined at this writing, but about 150 meals are anticipated. The usual sign – up board will be set up in the narthex. We could use the help of 6 to 8 persons at 2:30 PM to set up and prepare the meal, and the help of 6 to 8 persons at 4:00 PM to serve and clean up.

STEWARDSHIP



BEGINNINGS

Max Roha

It was 1816. The fledgling United States had won its independence and had reconfirmed it by also winning the War of 1812. To acknowledge their valuable service, most soldiers were given land in the western states, better suited for farming than the rocky land of New England. The land west of the Cuyahoga River in Ohio had just recently been opened up; it was no longer Indian Territory. Connecticut was actively selling this reserve land, west of Pennsylvania, to settle people in the frontier.

Ohio had become a state in 1803. Robert Breck of Massachusetts had purchased a part of the Connecticut Western Reserve. He did not live long enough to visit here but his heirs were active in Brecksville which was established in 1811. Many, new attractive areas were now open to other new settlers. One of the first people to come to Brecksville would be Lemuel Bourne, who first walked from Savoy, Massachusetts to check out the land; then returned to his home, married his sweetheart, Delia Waite, and returned in 1812, walking along the side of his horse which carried his new bride and their worldly possessions. The Erie Canal would not be completed until 1825 but, when finished, would make travel west, especially for those coming from Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont, less arduous than that experienced by Lemuel Bourne and the other early settlers. By 1816, Brecksville was a thriving village of mostly farmers and small merchants. They were busy clearing land, building log houses and

protecting their crops and farm animals from the wild animals which roamed the area. The Great Hinkley Animal Hunt, to rid the area of predators, would not happen until 1825. The population had grown enough so that the Methodists would start a church when Lemuel Bourne invited a missionary to hold a service in 1813. In 1815, they hired their first preacher who held regular services starting in 1823.

Rev. William Hanford, a Connecticut missionary serving the Hudson Congregational Church, met in Esq. Bradford's house in Brecksville with 13 Congregationalists who adopted Articles of Regulation on July 13-4, 1816 and formed the Brecksville Congregational Church. Rev. Hanford continued to include the Brecksville Congregational Church under his care for about seven more years, preaching there once a month. They initially met in Deacon Hannum's log cabin but in 1831 the Congregationalists built their first church building, a log cabin, on Highland Drive, west of the present cemetery.

The Presbyterians and Congregationalist in the East had come to an agreement to minimize competition for the limited membership in the frontier areas with a "Plan of Union". Under this agreement, the Brecksville church flipped back and forth several times between being Congregational and being Presbyterian. Early, on January 4, 1817, the church placed itself under the care of the Grand River Presbytery. But in 1854, it voted to become an independent Congregational church. Then in 1874, it again became a Presbyterian church. By 1889, the Plan of Union agreement had become unraveled since the top-down structure of the Presbyterians permitted them to reap most of the advantages of the Plan. Our Brecksville church was finally received into the fellowship at the Congregational Conference held at Dover, Ohio, in October, 1889.

In 1832, the Methodists began to erect a new church building on the north side of Public Square in the middle of Brecksville. The Congregationalists also acquired land on the south side of the square after resolving some controversy as to whether the site, then occupied by a saloon operated by Isaac Packard, was no longer suitable for a church building. Thus, the first of our present 7 contiguous pieces of land was acquired.

The Congregationalists now began building their new church building. Although they started later, delays in the Methodist's project, allowed the Congregationalists to complete theirs first, that building also used for funerals, etc. for the Methodists when needed. The Breck family, as promised, donated the Congregational bell. With the two churches facing each other on the square, Mrs. Anson Norville, a member of the Methodist Church, and a musician, made sure that the bells were selected so that, when rung together on a Sunday morning, the sounds of the bells from both churches complimented each other.

The first regular pastor of the Congregational Church, after several missionary ministers, was Rev. Newton Bartlett. Thus began a succession of about 40 pastors, plus a similar number of interim pastors, leading up to our present, the Rev. David Shackle.

During this time, the church has met many exciting changes in our world and our community and has faced them creatively. The Brecksville United Church of Christ is proud to celebrate its 200 years of serving. While we continue to savor our historical past, we continue to look forward to the future. An "Opening Doors" project was initiated to raise funds for the 2001 addition of our new, welcoming South entrance, incorporating the historical stained-glass windows saved from the 1965 fire. This addition faces onto our parking area, providing improved visibility, availability of convenient parking, easier accessibility, an elevator and new handicapped washrooms.

Now after our 200 years of an exciting history and with the continuing growth of our church and our community, we reach out with a warm welcome to everyone under the theme "You Are Welcome Here." We seek to extend this friendly, loving outreach to the broader local and to the world-wide communities.

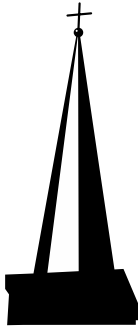
We believe "God is Still Speaking." We try to embrace new understandings of the Christian mandate, seeking to do as Jesus would do. We were the first church in Brecksville with a woman pastor and with openly gay senior staff members. We strive to continue this past history of being on the cutting edge of the continuing evolution. We believe that this is our Christian imperative.

NOTES AND ASIDES

BICENTENNIAL MINISTRY



PHOTOS WANTED! Please take photos of ALL events this year so we might add them to the new pictorial directory this fall, ie. Ministry meetings, event set-up/tear down, donation delivery, hospital visits (with permission), choir practices, Sunday School classes, you get the idea! Post them on our Facebook page, email to BetseyWilson10@gmail.com or leave hard copies in the office Attn: Bicentennial Ministry. Thank you!



Brecksville United Church of Christ

CELEBRATING
200
YEARS

Enter, Rejoice & Come In!

We are now taking orders for the BUCC polo shirts and t-shirts with our 200 year anniversary logo. These high quality polo shirts are gray with an embroidered red, white and black BUCC logo. Sizes s-xl are \$25.00. 2xl and larger are \$27.00.

Gray, logo screened t-shirts sizes s-xl are \$15.00 with an additional \$2.00 for larger sizes. Children's t-shirts are also available.

Samples will be available for you to see and try on during coffee hour. A representative of the bicentennial committee will be available during coffee hour to take your order.

Deadline for orders is April 3.



Happy, Happy April Birthdays to the following BUCC Members!
Please share in their joy and wish them a Happy Birthday!

April 5:	Phyllis Molnar
April 6:	G Wardlaw
April 9:	Arthur Cook
April 10:	Jan Wardlaw
April 12:	Sandra Rooney
April 14:	Max Roha
April 17:	Lynne Struck
April 18:	Brian Esser
April 21:	Vickie Szabo
April 22:	Nate Hunt Evan Smith
April 25:	Sebastian Albenze
April 27:	Rob Grow
April 29:	Sherrill Witt Claire Esser
April 30:	Jeannette Kroeger

If you have an April Birthday and are not included above, please contact the church office so we can add you to the BUCC Birthday List!

FACEBOOK



If You Are New to BUCC? Find out all about us at BrecksvilleUCC.org or join our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/groups/47415019263/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/47415019263/) (or type in Brecksville United Church of Christ in the top search bar on your FB page). On our website you'll find current announcements, details of our 200 year history, photos and our Affirmation of Welcome. Our Facebook page is just plain fun!



FOOD PANTRY

APRIL - Rice and Tuna

ILCU (INTENTIONAL LOVING CARING UNIT)



HAPPY SPRING!! Though it hasn't been a bad winter in northeastern Ohio, it is still heartwarming to see the lawns turning green and the flower stems poking through the earth. Soon we will be surrounded by the bright, beautiful colors of spring...yellow daffodils and forsythia, red tulips, blue and purple hyacinths and irises. Let's all try to get out and enjoy.

Our prayer list is in the Bulletin each week and I am including their names here so you may send them a cheery card, make a phone call or pay a visit. Addresses may be found in your directory. IF you do not have the newest directory, please call me (Jan @ 330-467-9357) and I will get one for you.

New address: Jill Black, Elmcroft, 997 W. Aurora Rd., #524, Sagamore Hills, OH, 44067.

March hospitalizations: Caroline Chandler, Mary D'Agostino, Lenore Harris, Jim Kaul, Jan Rahnenfuehrer.

Prayer list: Jim Kaul, William Zmich (Marla Corrado Father), Lenore Harris, Cindy Burton, Shirley Duncan, Bill Harris, Phyllis Hassler, Doug Lightbody, Dassie Matsuoka, Tina Ortiz, Kirk and Lee Sanderson, Doris Schmid, Jan and G Wardlaw, Mary D'Agostino, Anne Toneff, Kathleen Stewart, and Donn Whyte, and our office manager, Jeannette Kroeger.

If you know of someone who needs to be included, please call the church office 440-526-4364.

MUSIC

On Sunday, April 10 at 4:00 PM, Brecksville UCC will host the **Brecksville Broadview Heights Community Chorus**, directed by Joy Parker. The free concert will feature settings of early American hymns, folk tunes and spirituals along with several secular pieces. The program was chosen to help us celebrate our bicentennial year as a congregation. A free-will offering will be received, and a light reception will follow the concert. Plan on joining us April 10 for an inspiring program of choral music.



BUCC's staff and adult choir request that you ***kindly refrain from applauding*** after the adult choir anthem is presented at Sunday service - not only during Lent, but throughout the church year. We understand that people like to express their appreciation, but many find this applause disruptive to their worship experience. Thank you. As for the Joyful Noise Choir: please feel free to affirm them with applause as the Spirit moves you!

A NOTE OF THANKS

Thank You



for your kindness

Bob and I would like to thank our friends of BUCC for all the lovely cards etc. that we received during the past few weeks after my surgery.

Blessings, Caroline Chandler

Thank you to the Stenzels and their helpers for providing the delicious corned beef dinner.

Thank you, Bill & Ann Toneff

WOMEN UNITED

Our next meeting will be April 20 at 11:30 am.
Hope to see you there!

At our March gathering we made, and delivered
130 sandwiches to St. Herman's!



2016 Easter Flower Dedications

- | | |
|---|--|
| <u>Anonymous</u> | <i>In Memory of the Lost but Not Forgotten.</i> |
| <u>Julie Bernard &
Linda Kriynovich</u> | <i>In Memory of Tony, Julie & Lori Gorenc.</i> |
| <u>Jill Black</u> | <i>In Memory of my Son, Harry K. Tucker III.</i> |
| <u>Community of
St. Bridget</u> | <i>With Gratitude from the Community of St. Bridget.</i> |
| <u>Jeanne Cowden</u> | <i>In Memory of James W. Cowden, and Parents
Dr. Harry & Ella Robinson.</i> |
| <u>Jane & Cliff
Cribbs</u> | <i>In Memory of Loved Ones.</i> |
| <u>Dorothy Faust</u> | <i>In Memory of Mother and Father, Clinton & Caroline
Tallant.</i> |
| <u>Anna Mary Fisher</u> | <i>In Memory of Lance & Mandy.</i> |
| <u>Shelley Forbes</u> | <i>In Memory of Elmer & Mildred Wright, and
Benjamin & Lucille Forbes.</i> |

- Joy Garapic *In Memory of William Garapic, Loving Husband, Father, Grandfather.*
- Diane Gressley *In Memory of my Parents, Evan & Emma.*
- The Hunt Family *In Memory of Loved Ones who can't be with us today.*
- Mark Lehman *In Memory of my Father, Ralph Lehman.*
- Dassie Matsuoka *In Memory of James Matsuoka.*
- Phyllis Molnar *In Memory of Edward Molnar, and Parents Bertha & George Ulsenheimer.*
- Bettina Ortiz *In Honor of my Children, Rachel Kubic & Daniel King; My Grandchildren, Stephanie & Steven Hough; Grace, Julianne & Jenna Kubic; and my Great-Grand Children, Lyndsey & Bradley Joseph Hough.*
- Eric Rahnenfuehner *In Honor of Jan & Marjorie Rahnenfuehner.*
- Pat Rehm & Carol Miller *In Honor of Robert Miller.*
- Max Roha *In Loving Memory David J. Roha, Mary C. Roha, and Lois L. Wallin.*
- Mariam R. Rosewicz *In Memory of Loved Ones.*
- The Stella Family *In Honor of those whose life journeys have touched this Church.*
- In Celebration of our Church as it begins its next 200 years.*
- Bill & Ann Toneff *In Memory of Elizabeth & C.C. Thorton, and Vera & Milan Toneff.*
- Donn Whyte *In Memory of my Father, Wayne White.*
- The Wilson Family *In Memory of Norinne F. & John M. Brownslow, Sr.*

BUCC CALENDAR
APRIL , 2016

Friday, APRIL 1

Saturday, APRIL 2

9 am Facilities

Sunday, APRIL 3

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour
1 pm Bowling

Monday, APRIL 4

Tuesday, APRIL 5

10-11:30 C.W.R.U

Wednesday, APRIL 6

6 am Early Birds
7 pm Spiritual Life
No Dulcimer/Recorder

Thursday, APRIL 7

1 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:30 pm Choir

Friday, APRIL 8

Saturday, APRIL 9

Sunday, APRIL 10

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour
4 pm BBH Chorus
Concert

Monday, APRIL 11

Tuesday, APRIL 12

10-11:30 C.W.R.U

Wednesday, APRIL 13

6 am Early Birds
4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer
7 pm Council

Thursday, APRIL 14

1 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:30 pm Choir

Friday, APRIL 15

PILLAR DEADLINE

Saturday, APRIL 16

Sunday, APRIL 17

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour
2 pm Hunger Meal
PRUMC

Monday, APRIL 18

Tuesday, APRIL 19

10-11:30 C.W.R.U

Wednesday, APRIL 20

6 am Early Birds
11:30 am Women United
4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer
7 pm Bicentennial

Thursday, APRIL 21

1 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:30 pm Choir

Friday, APRIL 22

Saturday, APRIL 23

Sunday, APRIL 24

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour
5:30 pm Youth Percussion
6 pm Youth Ministry

Monday, APRIL 25

Tuesday, APRIL 26

Wednesday, APRIL 27

6 am Early Birds
4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer

Thursday, APRIL 28

1 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:30 pm Choir

Friday, April 29

Saturday, April 30

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

APRIL 3, 2016

Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul
Head Usher: Jon Thompson
Ushers: Vicki Szabo, Cliff Cribbs
Kathy Smith, Bob Chandler
Acolyte: Garrett Demko
Peace Candle: Drew Demko
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comms Grtr: Marge Culver
Narthex Grtr: Sue Stenzel
Flowers: Kathy Pastor
Nursery: Gina Cook
Counters: Bruce McCain, Jan Renovetz
Servers: Julie Bernard, Joanne Cook
Clean Up: Anne Melfo, Doug Fawcett
Snacks: Marla Corrado, Kate Klonowski
Snow Herder: Doug Fawcett

APRIL 10, 2016

Lay Reader: David Ritchey
Head Usher: Kathy Smith
Ushers: Dave & Julie Bernard
Fred Pesek, Joanne Cook
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr: Cliff Cribbs
Narthex Grtr: Jane Cribbs
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Marla Corrado
Counters: Donn Whyte, Sue Stenzel
Servers: Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks: Beth Rehling, Tia Began
Snow Herder: Joe Wilson

APRIL 17, 2016

Lay Reader: Jon Thompson
Head Usher: Evie Novak
Ushers: Bridget & Chad Sproul
Wes Novak, Beth Rehling
Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Max Roha
Comms Grtr: Matt Wolbert
Narthex Grtr: Joanne Cook
Flowers: Julie Bernard
Nursery: Jon Cook
Counters: Nancy Stella, Kathy Pastor
Servers: Marge Culver, Dorie Gabor
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks: Annie Demko, Rob Grow

APRIL 24, 2016

Lay Reader: Kathy Smith
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Linda Kriynovich, Ed Lusk
Joe & Betsey Wilson
Acolyte: Carli Began
Peace Candle: Lucy Brown
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comms Grtr: David Pastor
Narthex Grtr: Kathy Smith
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
Nursery: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Carole Snider, Jon Thompson
Servers: Sue Stenzel, Joy Garapic
Clean-Up: Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey
Snacks: Peg Duffy, Marilyn Wrights

The Pillar

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FIRST CLASS

