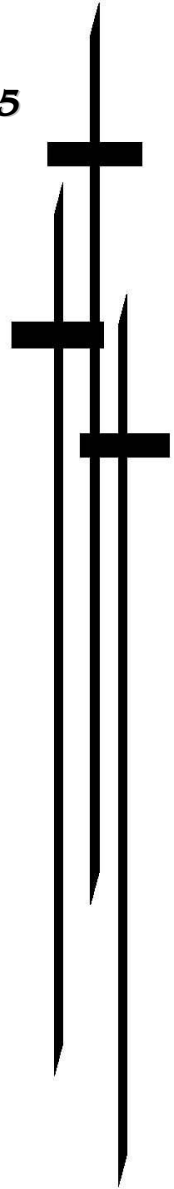


The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

AUGUST, 2015



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



**PASTOR'S
PONDERINGS...**

...Inside-Out...

In the early 1990's a nondenominational movement known as "Churches Without Walls" began. For many people "the Church" had come to mean the building - the place where the congregants congregate. So a new emphasis was put forth, to remind people that "the Church" is so much

more than a physical location. In the broadest sense, the Church is a community of people who believe in the Good News that Jesus Christ proclaims. And regardless of where that community gathers, what makes it a "church" is the way in which those people demonstrate the love and grace which Jesus Christ embodies and expresses. In this regard, the Church is also referred to as "Body of Christ", which is another way of emphasizing that it's not the building that matters, but the life and spirit of the community.

This month, our BUCC Community of Faith will have not one, not two, but THREE opportunities to gather for some great outdoor [Church] Family fun! Sunday, August 16th our Annual Sunday School Car Wash will take place after worship. This is an excellent opportunity to get the summer grime off your car, enjoy a hotdog and soda, and help our students wrap-up their money raising efforts for the Brookside Hunger Center. The following Sunday will be our Worship-in-the-Park with Richfield UCC members, and their new pastor, John King - former member of BUCC. We begin at 10:00 with bagels, juice and coffee in Richfield Woods Park, followed by our joint worship service at 10:30. Maps to the park [and the Richfield UCC, in the unlikely event of rain] will be available in the Church Office throughout the preceding week. Then, in the afternoon of the 30th, our annual Church Picnic will be held

at Fields Memorial Park in Broadview Hts. - complete with food, games, and even a pie baking contest!

While I hope you all will be able to participate in these "Church Without Walls" events, I hope you'll also take advantage of our various "inside" opportunities to worship and celebrate together. And as always, *wherever we're gathering*, please remember to invite others to join us, so that no one is left out!

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

FINANCE



In June a check for \$494 was sent to the Western Reserve Association for Strengthen the Church. This fund helps establish new churches, revitalize existing churches, develop spiritual life in young people, and helps fund the "Still Speaking" campaign

OCWM

Recently, another 52 pounds of aluminum cans (provided by BUCC members and friends) were redeemed, yielding \$21.00 for SARA. Since



2002, 3989 pounds of cans have been redeemed. The price for cans is going down, due to worldwide conditions. For those who like statistics or playing with numbers, there are 17 cans in one pound. If the total cans are multiplied by the weight of each can, an amazing number can be calculated. The answer can be found at the end of this column.

Also recently, another 35 bags of food, a bag of toiletries, 3 bags of soap and cleaning supplies, and empty bags were delivered to Brookside Center. A big “thank you” goes to the BUCC members and friends who have been faithfully providing these items.

The July Pillar had a very good article written by Vicki Szabo concerning an opportunity to help Vicki’s students with their English language skills. Vicki will have sign – up sheets from time to time this summer, and it is hoped that the response will be great, as the need is also great.

Brookside Center has requested donations of school supplies for children of kindergarten through 8th grade ages. The suggested time period is from now through August 7th. However, if people miss that date, please know that we deliver donated school supplies to hunger centers any time they are donated, so don’t worry about being late in donating. Also, probably Vicki Szabo can use these items. What items are needed? The list is posted on several bulletin boards at BUCC.

The CUE offering will be received at Worship In The Park on August 23rd. We will be worshipping with Richfield UCC, and as usual, offering envelopes marked for each church will go to that church. The so – called “loose offering” will go to a designated charity. This year that charity is the CUE offering, which goes to the Chicago, United, and Eden seminaries of the UCC.

The funds are used to support and continue education programs for future clergy and lay leaders, and also for parish ministry. Support of individual congregations is very important, as tuition fees do not cover costs.

How many cans? 67,813 (plus or minus 5%)

STEWARDSHIP

Divine Understanding: Guiding the Youth

Dear My Generation,

I have always been told that “in youth we learn, but in age we understand” (Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach). Well, here I am at the edge of 18 years old, making my way to adulthood, and this quote has my foot caught in the door. I’ve always asked myself what this is supposed to mean. What should we be learning? What am I supposed to understand? When will this all make sense? After a few years of asking myself what this means, I think I’ve finally found the answer; although, not in the way you might think. What I was failing to “understand” is not what this means, but why it is said in the first place.

I’ve taught Sunday school for approximately 3 years now at the Brecksville United Church of Christ, and in the time I have spent doing so, I am confident enough to say that I have been able to “learn”, and “understand” more about our place between earth and heaven than I ever could with any amount of time spent in class. You never truly gain understanding until you take on your role in stewardship of the youth, for this is the only definite trait we inherited from our creator. Seeing the eager face of a child as he/she listens intently for your guidance is the one feeling I’ve felt that is genuinely divine. With that, I understand why we are here; our purpose on earth. They say that we are all God’s children. This is true, and with that we of course on earth have our own children. That feeling that I get from teaching Sunday school, the feeling that a mother gets when she holds her new-born baby, or the feeling that a father gets when he reads to his child; this is why God created us. This is the feeling that God gets when his/her smile shines down upon us. It is this



truly divine understanding that makes me feel closer to our God than anything else. It is our privilege to have such responsibility.

So what of this understanding transfigures us on our path to adulthood? What must we take from this understanding? Well the answer is simple; we take what God would take, action. Action to make sure every child brought up has the same opportunity to inherit the same understanding. Living in the world today is frightening. We have so many issues plaguing our society on all fronts. Environmental catastrophe, internal and external terrorism, financial crisis, you name it. The children we have today did nothing to create these issues, but they will be the ones to rectify them. Our role is simple. We guide them to become smarter, stronger, happier, and more full of grace. It is through this teaching that we pass on the love and understanding that our parents passed to us, that their parents passed to them, and that God passed on to the human race. When the next generation grows old, they will have their own children with their own problems, and they will do the same thing, for this heavenly responsibility is why we were created. I might still be young, and I might not understand everything, but what I can understand now is the love our divine holy one has for us, and how to pass it on. George Costanzo

NOTES AND ASIDES

BICENTENNIAL MINISTRY



Our Next Meeting will be Tuesday, August 4, 7 pm. Please make sure a representative from your ministry is in attendance. ALL ARE WELCOME/ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

BICENTENNIAL QUILT



At this point we have received about half of the completed muslin squares. If you have misplaced your square we can give you another one. We really want to start putting the quilt together in September.

-Continued next page-

The committee would appreciate receiving the completed pieces by the end of August. Any of the following persons would be happy to take your square. Caroline Chandler, Anne Demko, Joanne Cook, Marla Corrado, Carole Snider, or Beth Rehling.



BLESSINGS JAR

The contribution to the Pastor's Fund is in honor of Carolyn and Bob Chandler for The Economist and other favors. Ann and Bill Toneff



BUCC BOOK DISCUSSION

Bucc Book Discussion will meet in the parlor @ 1:00 p.m. on August 3 to talk about ORPHAN TRAIN by Christina Baker Kline.

The Next selection is Sonia Sotomayor's autobiographical memoir MY BELOVED WORLD. You can join into the discussion group at any point. Call Dot Bailey 440-526-4881.



FOOD PANTRY

Dish, Hand, and Laundry Soap

A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Friends,



We want to tell you how very much we appreciate your cards, flowers, and your presence at the Funeral of our Son, and especially your Prayers. You have helped us get through these difficult times in our lives.

We feel Blessed to belong to this Loving Church Family. Thank You All.

Jim & Betty Kaul



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

August 1:	Shauna Bigelow
August 2:	Mike Corrado
August 4:	Morgan Constanzo
August 6:	Paul Nicholas Owen Rees
August 8:	Betty Gifford
August 9:	Rachel Brown
August 11:	Beth Rehling
August 14:	Lee Sanderson
August 15:	Dave Bernard George Snider
August 18:	Bettina Ortiz
August 22:	Marianne Hoppel
August 25:	Zachary Novak
August 29:	Shirley Duncan
August 30:	Claire Novak
Other August Birthdays	Courtni Began

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

SCHEDULING



If you know that you are going to be unavailable prior to the time the schedules are made out please let Caroline Chandler know at home (440-526-9714) or by e-mail (chandler9143@roadrunner.com). If you find that you cannot serve after the schedule is published try to exchange serving dates with another person and then let the office know who will be filling in for you.

WOMEN UNITED



Our next meeting will be on Wednesday August 19 at 7:00 PM. (please note change in time).

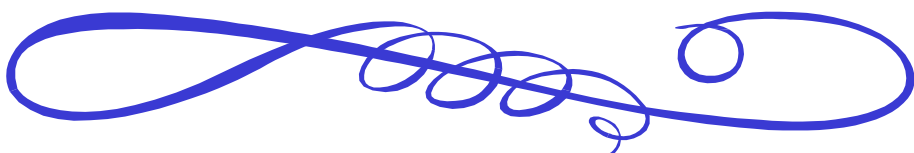
Those who are not available to attend our daytime meetings are encouraged to attend. Member Heidi Spangler will be our speaker. She will show a 25 minute video of her Mother, recorded in 1988 and presented on PBS, regarding her memories from the Holocaust. We will meet in the Parlor and light refreshments will be served.



ENCORE

In the interest of space/resource conservation, we will no longer be printing an Encore Sermon.

All of Pastor Dave's Sermons are online at our Church Website and also available in the office on audio CDs for listening at home or in your car. **Thank You.**



BUCC CALENDAR AUG, 2015

Saturday, Aug 1

Sunday, Aug 2

10 am Worship and
Church School
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, Aug 3

9-12 Vacation Bible
School
1 pm Book
Discussion/
Parlor
7 pm Spiritual Life

Tuesday, Aug 4

9-12 Vacation Bible
School
7 pm Bicentennial
Ministry

Wednesday, Aug 5

6 am Early Birds
9-12 Vacation Bible
School

Thursday, Aug 6

9-12 Vacation Bible
School
1 pm Bible Study

Friday, Aug 7

9-12 Vacation Bible
School

Saturday, Aug 8

3 pm BUCC Choir
Picnic

Sunday, Aug 9

10 am Worship and
Church School
11 am Coffee Hour/
Christian Ed.

Monday, Aug 10

Tuesday, Aug 11

7 pm Membership

Wednesday, Aug 12

6 am Early Birds
7 pm Council

Thursday, Aug 13

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, Aug 14

Saturday, Aug 15 PILLAR DEADLINE

Sunday, Aug 16

10 am Worship
Church School
11 am Coffee Hour
Car Wash

Monday, Aug 17

Tuesday, Aug 18

Wednesday, Aug 19

6 am Early Birds
7 pm Women United

Thursday, Aug 20

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, Aug 21

Saturday, Aug 22

Sunday, Aug 23

10:00 am Worship in
the Park
Refreshments
10:30 am Service
CUE Offering

Monday, Aug 24

Tuesday, Aug 25

Wednesday, Aug 26

6 am Early Birds

Thursday, Aug 27

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, Aug 28

Saturday, Aug 29

Sunday, Aug 30

10 am Worship and
Church School
CUE Offering
11 am Coffee Hour
2 pm Picnic

Monday, Aug 31

1 pm Book
Discussion

Participants in Worship

AUGUST 2, 2015

Lay Reader: Kathy Smith
Head Usher: Matt Wolbert
Ushers: Julie & Dave Bernard
Evie & Wes Novak
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candel: Lily Hunt
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comms Grtr: Ann Kelley
Narthex Grtr: Dot Bailey
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
Nursery: Shauna Bigelow
Counters: Donn Whyte, Jim Duffy
Servers: Marge Culver
Clean Up: Jill Zedan

AUGUST 16, 2015

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Head Usher: Caroline Chandler
Ushers: Dorie Gabor, Sam Koch
Betty Kaul, Tia Began
Acolyte: Ben Rehling
Peace Candel: Indira Bigelow
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr: Marge Culver
Narthex Grtr: Stu Bailey
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Kara Reese
Counters: Jim Kaul, Jan Renovetz
Servers: Dorie Gabor
Clean-Up: Kathy & Dave Pastor

AUGUST 23, 2015

Worship in the Park

Ushers: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Counters: Betty Kaul, Joy Garapic
Refreshments: Evie Novak, Jill Zedan

AUGUST 30, 2015

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Joanne Cook, Ed Lusk
Beth Rehling, David
Ritchey
Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski
Peace Candel: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: David Pastor
Comms Grtr: Jane Cribbs
Narthex Grtr: Lenore Harris
Flowers: Tina Ortiz
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
Counters: Stu Bailey, Bruce McCain
Servers: Dorie Gabor
Clean Up: Bridget & Chad Sproul

AUGUST 9, 2015

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Head Usher: Evie Novak
Ushers: Fred Pesek, Tina Ortiz
Tim Wallis, Kim Dessoiffy
Acolyte: Ben Davis
Peace Candel: Garrett Demko
Sound: Max Roha
Comms Grtr: Jim & Betty Kaul
Narthex Grtr: Kathy Smith
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
Nursery: Peg Duffy
Counters: Nancy Stella, David
Pastor
Servers: Joanne Cook
Clean-Up: Cliff & Jane Cribbs

The Pillar

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Brecksville United Church of Christ

23 Public Square
Moderator: Betsey Wilson
Brecksville, Ohio 44141 Betseywilson10@gmail.com

Phone: 440-526-4364
Pastor: Rev. Dave Shackle
440-546-1193

E-mail: buccoh@sbcglobal.net

Web: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

Director of Music:

Dave Debick
buccmusic@sbcglobal.net

Financial Secretary: Joy Garapic
buccfinance@sbcglobal.net

Pillar Editor: Jeannette Kroeger
buccoh@sbcglobal.net

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FIRST CLASS

