

# *Pillar*

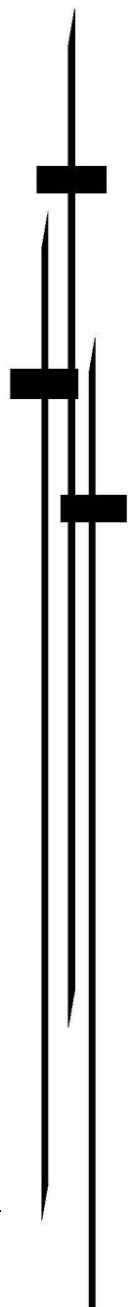
The

Brecksville United Church of Christ

***August, 2016***



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



## *Pastor's Ponderings*

### ***...and two more things...***

In these warm days of Summer, it seems that quite a few people are getting hot under the collar when it comes to asserting the absolute rightness of their position - be it political, religious, or personal. I'll admit that I'm a bit hesitant to raise this issue, primarily because when doing so I can tend to get a bit self-righteous myself! I imagine most of us believe that the opinions we have and the stances we take are both solid and sound - otherwise why would we maintain them? The problem comes when we start to believe that we possess a kind of infallibility that even the Pope recognizes as dangerous and damaging. ["If a person is gay and seeks God and has good will, *who am I to judge?*" - Pope Francis]

It's important for us all to adopt a similar spirit of humility, especially when it comes to declaring to know the mind and purpose of God. For any of us mere mortals to believe that we have the final word on what the Divine Mystery's purposes is for us and our world, is a foolish and dangerous position to take. And until we tone-down the volume of our self-proclaimed rightness and righteousness, we will have a hard time hearing that Divine "still, small voice" that whispers to us amid Life's chaotic complexities. The following is an excellent passage of Scripture to consider when dealing with issue:

*The Holy One has shown you, O mortal, what is good, and what is required of you: to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. ~ Micah 6:8*

These words of wisdom, written some 2700 years ago, still ring true today. Treating all of God's children - and all of Creation - with justice and kindness, respect and dignity, is an crucial step in diminishing our "us-versus-them" approach the Life. And when we strive to "walk humbly" with our God, it definitely lessens our need to assert our own sense of superiority, and the need to always be "right". When you and I truly trust in the ultimate goodness and dependability of Divine grace and guidance for *our* lives, we can begin to trust the Holy One's ability to work in and through the lives of others.

I realize that it's difficult to let God be God, especially when I think I can do a better job! With all the pain and trouble in this world, and the immediacy in which we hear about it, it's hard not to want to respond with swift and forceful action. The important thing to remember, however, is that we are required "to do justice, *and* to love kindness, *and* to walk humbly with our God." Those two "ands" can make all the difference in the world.

With you in Christ's Service,  
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**

### **FACILITIES**

**KEY SHORTAGE** Since our exterior locks were changed to more secure ones about 10 years ago, we have signed out 70 keys and have run out of keys again. The price from our locksmith is now \$10 each. The Facilities Ministry has decided to try a "recycle your unused key" campaign rather than purchasing more keys. If you have two keys in your family, or are no longer involved with a ministry, or just don't use that key anymore for whatever reason, place it in an envelope with Jeanette's name on it and place it on her desk. She will see that your key is properly signed in and that you receive our copy of your driver's license. If you have lost a key, we will be pleased to accept payment for it. **FYI** these keys are for all exterior doors except the South Entry and have a number stamped on them. (1to 60 and 1A to 10A) Usually they are with an unnumbered interior key. We would like to have these also, but feel free to retain yours if you need it. Your Facilities Ministry



## FINANCE



Another \$10 gift card was found in the Blessings Jar - thanks to an anonymous donor.

## NEWS FROM OCWM

Deliveries to hunger centers continue to help to address the needs of people less fortunate than ourselves. Dave Bernard continues to make one or two deliveries per month to Brookside or to Community Corner. Each delivery totals at least 25 bags of food and other items not covered by food stamps. Thanks go to all who participate in this effort.



The magic barrel in the lower commons continues to fill up with aluminum cans. The total redeemed to date is over 2280 pounds of cans, yielding over \$1900.00 for SARA since can collection started.

Because of the uncertainty in the organization of hunger centers recently, we have not received notification of the schedule of hunger meals in the last half of 2016 and the first half of 2017. Just as soon as our dates for serving have been selected, the information will be provided to members and friends of BUCC.

## NOTES AND ASIDES

### BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

"**SAVE THE DATE!** A celebration 200 years in the making will take place at HALE FARM & VILLAGE on Sunday evening, OCTOBER 16TH. Please mark your calendar TODAY!"



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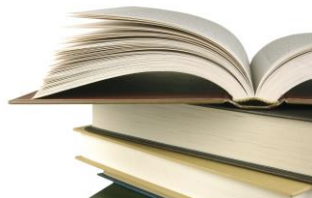
### OUR BICENTENNIAL COOKBOOK "200 YEARS OF SERVING"



Many of the bicentennial cookbooks have been sold. Thanks very much for your support. We are putting some in the church office for people to purchase during the week and on Sundays any one of the cookbook committee can get you as many cookbooks as you would like to purchase. They are also available for purchase on the website [www. Cookbookshoppe.com](http://www.Cookbookshoppe.com)!

### BOOK DISCUSSION

The August Book Discussion will be August 1 at 1:00 in the parlor. The book for discussion is **UNDER THE WIDE AND STARRY SKY** by Nancy Horan. It is a historical novel about the shared life of Robert Louis Stevenson and Fanny deGrift Osbourne, which unfolds as impassioned and unpredictable as any of Stevenson's own unforgettable tales.



## "CHRISTMAS WILL BE HERE SOON"

The Advent tree (formerly called a Christmas tree) is a big part of our Advent/Christmas celebration here at BUCC. It is so-o-o tall, sits in the right front corner of the sanctuary and looks spectacular covered in lights. Our children hang Chrismons on it during the children's sermon on the first Sunday in Advent. It seems to appear magically BUT there is some prep work that needs to be done beforehand.



An hour +/- of labor to bring the tree and accessories down from the attic and set it all up on the Saturday before Advent is the first job. The second job is another hour +/- the week after Christmas to take the tree and decorations down, pack them and return to attic. So it only takes about 4 hours of your time during the holiday season to handle the job along with recruited volunteers.

Over the years this job has been passed down to younger and more able members of our congregation and it is time again to pass the "torch". It won't seem like Christmas without the tree, the wreaths and other decorations, so we are asking for volunteers to take over the job of decorating our church for the holidays. Please give this some thought and submit your name(s) to Caroline Chandler or Jan Renovetz."



## FOOD PANTRY

**AUGUST** - Dish, Hand, and Laundry Soap

## A NOTE OF THANKS

To the Congregation,

The first time Jim & I attended a service at this church, we were immediately certain this would be our new church home. Everyone welcomed us and treated us as friends.

You have all again helped our family get through a sad time in our life. Your prayers, cards, and visits have been touches of love and caring. Our family wishes to thank all of you for your kindness.

Betty Kaul



A **BIG** thank you to **Dorothy Faust** for clearing out the flower beds, especially under my window where tall, obnoxious weeds had found a home.

Joy Garapic

## NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

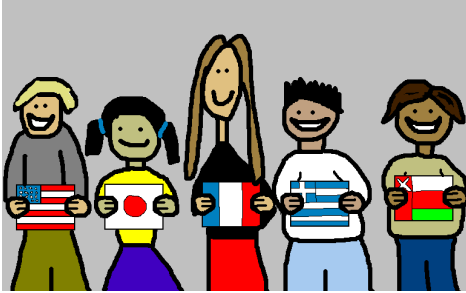
Scheduling will begin very shortly for the Bicentennial Church Photo Directory! For participating, you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and printed directory. Portrait sessions will take place in the Parlor on September. **September 14, 15, 16 from 2- 9 and September 17 from 10-5.**



Let's make this the best/most comprehensive directory ever. It will be included in our Bicentennial Time Capsule, being buried sometime next Spring!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Are you looking for a great volunteer opportunity? Many members of BUCC volunteered at the International Newcomers Academy @



Thomas Jefferson school last year. This Cleveland Metropolitan School District specialty school serves immigrant and refugee students who are new to the Cleveland area and speak no or limited English. Volunteers assist teachers by working with individual students or small groups by reading, practicing

vocabulary or math skills, and making a personal connection with a newcomer. We are always in need of caring volunteers. Won't you prayerfully consider this opportunity? Please call or see Vicki Szabo if you are interested. 216-712-7197

## WOMEN UNITED

Our next Meeting will be, Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 AM. Bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided.



Joy will share a video which was broadcast on Channel 25's Montage Series. Her mother, Eva Nenadel, was the subject of one segment and it will follow her piano playing and enjoying camp with The Society for the Blind. ALL ARE WELCOME, bring a friend.



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 Kathy Ford
August 11:	Beth Rehling
August 14:	Lee Sanderson
August 15:	Dave Bernard George Snider
August 18:	Bettina Ortiz
August 25:	Zachary Novak
August 29:	Shirley Duncan
August 30:	Claire Novak
Other August Birthdays	Courtnei 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!

**BUCC CALENDAR**  
**AUGUST, 2016**

**Monday, AUG. 1**

1 pm Book Discussion

**Tuesday, AUG. 2**

**Wednesday, AUG. 3**

6 am Early Birds  
7 pm Spiritual Life

**Thursday, AUG. 4**

1 pm Bible Study

**Friday, AUG. 5**

**Saturday, AUG. 6**

**Sunday, AUG. 7**

10 am Worship  
11 am Coffee Hour  
11am Leadership –  
Library

**Monday, AUG. 8**

7:30 pm Facilities

**Tuesday, AUG. 9**

**Wednesday, AUG. 10**

6 am Early Birds  
7 pm Council

**Thursday, AUG. 11**

1 pm Bible Study

**Friday, AUG. 12**

**Saturday, AUG. 13**

**Sunday, AUG. 14**

10 am Worship  
11 am Coffee Hour

**Monday, AUG. 15**

**PILLAR DEADLINE**

**Tuesday, AUG. 16**

**Wednesday, AUG. 17**

6 am Early Birds

**Thursday, AUG. 18**

1 pm Bible Study

**Friday, AUG. 19**

**Saturday, AUG. 20**

**Sunday, AUG. 21**

10 am Worship  
11 am Coffee Hour

**Monday, AUG. 22**

**Tuesday, AUG. 23**

7 pm Bicentennial  
Ministry

**Wednesday, AUG. 24**

6 am Early Birds

**Thursday, AUG. 25**

1 pm Bible Study

**Friday, AUG. 26**

**Saturday, AUG. 27**

**Sunday, AUG. 28**

**\*WORSHIP IN THE PARK\***

**Monday, AUG. 29**

**Tuesday, AUG. 30**

**Wednesday, AUG 31**

6 am Early Birds

## PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

### Aug. 7, 2016

Lay Reader: Stu Bailey  
Head Usher: Kathy Smith  
Ushers: Linda Kriynovich, Sue Stenzel, Dan & Ian Stewart  
  
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart  
Peace Candle: Lucy Brown  
Sound: Tim Wallis  
Comns Grtr: David Pastor  
Narthex Grtr: Jon Thompson  
Flowers: Dorie Gabor  
Nursery: Kathy Pastor  
Counters: Nancy Stella, Jim Duffy  
Servers: Jill Zedan  
Clean Up: Bridget Sproul

### AUG. 14, 2016

Lay Reader: Diane Gressley  
Head Usher: Evie Novak  
Ushers: Wes Novak, Beth Rehling, George & Carole Snider  
  
Acolyte: Michalina Fawcett  
Peace Candle: Garrett Demko  
Sound: Max Roha  
Comns Grtr: Jill Zedan  
Narthex Grtr: Fred Pesek  
Flowers: Kathy Pastor  
Nursery: Jon Cook  
Counters: Stu Bailey, Jan Renovetz  
  
Servers: Joy Garapic  
Clean-Up: Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey

### AUG. 21, 2016

Lay Reader: Sam Koch  
Head Usher: Jill Zedan  
Ushers: Joanne Cook, Vicki Szabo, Matt Wolbert, Fred Pesek  
  
Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski  
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski  
Sound: David Pastor  
Comns Grtr: Dot Bailey  
Narthex Grtr: Kathy Smith  
Flowers: Jan Renovetz  
Nursery: Courtni Began  
Counters: Sue Stenzel, Marge Culver  
Servers: Carole Snider  
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs

### AUG. 28, 2016

*\*Worship In The Park\**

# *The Pillar*

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## Brecksville United Church of Christ

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FIRST CLASS

