

THE *Pillar*  
BRECKSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

JUNE 2021



TO BE LOVING, SERVING, AND ACCEPTING  
OF ALL PEOPLE  
WITH GOD'S LIFE-CHANGING POWER  
AND GRACE

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## ***Pastor's Ponderings.....***

### **Church**

***“Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.” Colossians 4:15***

As many people know, the earliest church met in the houses of members. There were no special buildings that functioned only as churches. Usually the houses belonged to the wealthier members of the congregation. Here at the end of Paul's letter to the churches of the city of Colossae, we get a quick glimpse of one of these churches: it meets in Nympha's house. This shows that women could be leaders in the early church, and that they could have substantial wealth of their own. The earliest existing example of a building that we know was a house church, is at Dura-Europos in Syria. Some time between about 233 and 256, the domestic house became used for worship and had a hall with a baptistry built on to it. It was during this time that the shift from house churches to more permanent churches began, and Dura-Europos shows it. Dura-Europos has frescoes of the good shepherd, of the healing of the paralytic, and of Christ and Peter walking on the water. These are probably the most ancient existing Christian paintings, and are the earliest known depictions of Jesus.

After the Christian Emperor Constantine took over the Western Roman Empire, in 312, he made Christianity a legal religion within the Empire (it didn't become the official religion of the Empire until Theodosius 1 in 380). After that, great churches were built based on the model of the Roman law court, or basilica, or around a martyr's tomb. The era of the house church was over, at least in the West, though even today in Eastern countries, mission churches often meet in new believers' homes, replicating the early church.

**(continued)**

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## ***Pastor's Ponderings..... (continued)***

Church has continued in each of our homes over Zoom for the past year, so that we each became, essentially, house churches! But the church has never depended for its existence on any type of building, or any building at all, because the church has always been the people of God meeting together.

As our church building reopens its doors, it's important to remember that we never stopped being the church, because the church is not a building at all, but a people, as the children's song puts it.

Whether meeting in a private home, a catacomb (underground burial place), a magnificent basilica, a wooden and brick structure, or via electrons on a computer screen, it has always been the faithful believers joining together for worship that made it church, for wherever two or three gather in Christ's name, there he is with them (Matthew 18:20), and there is church.



## ***FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC***

### **COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH**

**NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR OUR TEAM** - To address a growing number of issues regarding the performance of our SBCglobal.net email addresses, we are making the switch to gmail. Please see the following list of new email address for the BUCC staff:

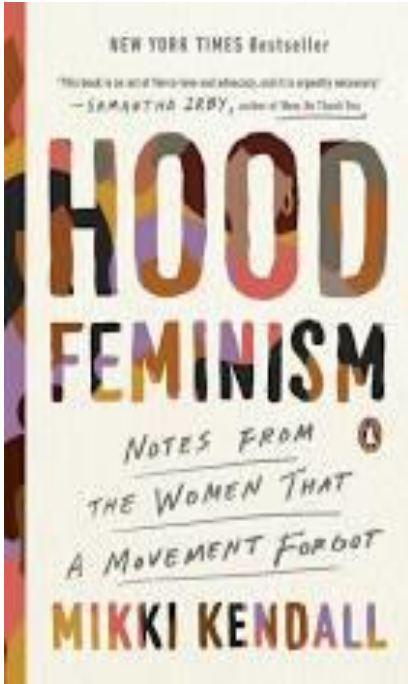
- General Office (Anne Melfo): **buccoffice23@gmail.com**
- Pastor (Allan Lane, Interim): **buccpastor23@gmail.com**
- Donations/Expenses (Joy Garapic): **buccfinance23@gmail.com**
- Music Ministry (David Debick): **buccmusic23@gmail.com**

The "23" comes from our address "23 Public Square", where we have been for over 200 years.

Please make this change to the information in your email contacts, or email groups. If you have further questions, please contact me or anyone else in the Communication & Outreach Ministry

**Jim Duffy**  
**jmorganduffy@gmail.com 216-644-2784**

## OCWM / CE



### **SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB –**

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will begin discussing our next book, ***Hood Feminism: Notes From the Women that a Movement Forgot***, by Mikki Kendall.

*“With poise and clarity, Kendall lays out the case for why feminists need to fight not just for career advancement but also for basic needs and issues that often plague women of color, including food security, educational access, a living wage and safety from gun violence. In expertly tying the racial justice and feminist movements together, Kendall’s is one of the most important books of the current moment.”*

*—Time, “100 Must-Read Books of 2020”*

We encourage you to purchase your book from a local bookseller if possible! Please reach out to **Kate Klonowski** by calling or texting **(216) 534-3498**, or by email at **keightykay@gmail.com**, with any questions.



## **SPIRITUAL LIFE**

**OUR PLANS FOR WORSHIPING IN-PERSON** - It has been well over a year since we have gathered together physically, to celebrate. For the last few months, congregational leadership has been meeting and discussing how and when we can gather again.

The COVID-19 “numbers” are improving, with most Ohio counties (including two adjoining ones) turned “Orange”, and many of us are now fully vaccinated. Therefore, it is time for those plans to be announced!

We will reopen in a safe, socially distant way. We will gather together in the church, while also providing a way for those who cannot attend to participate. We are planning our first service back in the building for June 13<sup>th</sup>. Also, we are planning to “live stream” on Youtube (no longer via Zoom), for those who would prefer to remain virtual.

Thank you for your responses to our email survey, which was sent in order to get an approximate idea of how many to expect at the first services. You will also receive an additional email, containing a link to the volunteer sign-up sheet – please contact **Anne** at **buccoffice23@gmail.com** or **(440)526-4364** with any questions about how you can participate in upcoming services.

**(continued on next page)**

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## REOPENING PLAN (continued)

We will be following the combined guidelines from both the CDC and the greater UCC (see below), in order to provide the safest environment that we can. This could include masks, limited singing, social distancing in the pews, reduced capacity, taking reservations and various “no touch” techniques. Since the public health situation and these guidelines are ever evolving, we are not announcing the exact procedures until the week before, as it is our goal to avoid additional confusion.

Please look forward to email communication, Facebook and brecksvilleucc.org postings, as well as announcements during our Sunday Virtual Services.

### **Guiding Principles for Reopening:**

- Everyone is welcomed to the service, regardless of vaccination status.
- Current CDC Guidelines will be followed:  
**<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/faith-based.html>**
- Current Ohio COVID Guidelines will be followed:  
**<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/public-health-orders/public-health-orders>**
- Current guidance from the UCC will be considered and applied where appropriate:  
**<https://livingwaterone.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Heartland-Covid-letter-and-Guidelines-Feb-2021.pdf>**

Thank you for your patience. We can't wait to be together at last.

Signed,

*Spiritual Life Ministry, Council and Pastor*

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## **SPECIAL NOTES .....**

**PRIDE IN THE CLE 2021!** The LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland is proud to announce details for Pride in the CLE 2021. This Pride Month, there are two opportunities to celebrate!

The first is by tuning into Pride in the CLE, June 4th at 7:30 pm on WKYC Channel 3. Exploring the past, present, and future of Pride in Northeast Ohio, the Center and WKYC Channel 3 will be broadcasting the sights and sounds of the LGBTQ+ community.

The second is by showing your support for the Pride Ride, kicking-off at Edgewater Park on June 5th at 10 am. Adhering to state-mandated safety guidelines, individuals are encouraged to position themselves along the route of this year's distanced ride, which will run through the Edgewater and Detroit Shoreway neighborhoods.

Amid a global pandemic, the Center reimagined Pride in the CLE in 2020 by producing a series of events that would allow for individuals to participate safely at a distance while cultivating the essence of their annual event that typically draws more than 15k people to Downtown Cleveland, pre-COVID-19. Last year's events included their Pride Ride, which attracted more than 300+ participants for a celebratory ride from Edgewater to Ohio City, and virtual Pride in the CLE, which attracted more than 8000+ views on streaming platforms and highlighted the works of local LGBTQ+ artists, musicians, and leaders.

*"Pride is a bold and beautiful testament to the history, resilience, joy, and well-being of our LGBTQ+ community, now and into the future. We are so pleased to have the privilege to present this year's Pride in the CLE program and Pride Ride, in collaboration with WKYC,"* said Phyllis Seven Harris, Executive Director of the LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland.



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

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| June 2:  | Bridget Sproul                            |
| June 4:  | Lily Hunt                                 |
| June 15: | Dot Bailey<br>Giuliana Gagliano           |
| June 19: | Marla Corrado                             |
| June 20: | Sam Koch                                  |
| July 29: | Bill Harris                               |
| June 24: | Chad Sproul                               |
| June 25: | Carole Snider<br>Cameron Rose Ward-Rogers |
| June 26: | Maureen Stanley                           |
| June 27: | Bruce McCain                              |
| June 29: | Evelyn Seager<br>Carli Began              |

***\*If you have a JUNE Birthday and are not included above, please contact the church office so we can add you to the BUCC Birthday List!***



# Calendar

## JUNE 2021

### Tue., JUNE 1

10am Parking Lot Meetup  
11am Pastor's Office Hour

### Wed., JUNE 2

### Thu., JUNE 3

5pm Parking Lot Meetup  
7pm Book Club

### Fri., JUNE 4

**\*OFFICE CLOSED\***

### Sat. JUNE 5

### Sunday, JUNE 6

9:30am Zoom w/ Ms.Mindy  
10am Zoom Worship Service

### Mon., JUNE 7

### Tue., JUNE 8

10am Parking Lot Meetup  
11am Pastor's Office Hour

### Wed., JUNE 9

7:15pm Council Mtng

### Thu., JUNE 10

5pm Parking Lot Meetup  
7pm Book Club

### Fri., JUNE 11

**\*OFFICE CLOSED\***

### Sat. JUNE 12

### Sunday, JUNE 13

10am Worship Service

### Mon., JUNE 14

### Tue., JUNE 15

**\*PILLAR DEADLINE\***  
11am Pastor's Office Hour

### Wed., JUNE 16

### Thu., JUNE 17

7pm Book Club

### Fri., JUNE 18

**\*OFFICE CLOSED\***

### Sat. JUNE 19

### Sunday, JUNE 20

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

10am Worship Service

### Mon., JUNE 21

### Tue., JUNE 22

11am Pastor's Office Hour

### Wed., JUNE 23

### Thu., JUNE 24

7pm Book Club

### Fri., JUNE 25

**\*OFFICE CLOSED\***

### Sat. JUNE 26

### Sunday, JUNE 27

10am Worship Service

### Mon., JUNE 28

### Tue., JUNE 29

11am Pastor's Office Hour

### Wed., JUNE 30

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## **PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP**

### **JUNE 6, 2021**

**Lay Reader:** Cliff Cribbs  
**Responder:** Sue Stenzel  
**CE Teacher:** Mindy Wade  
**Slide Runner:** Kate Klonowski  
**Zoom Host:** Jim Duffy

### **JUNE 13, 2021**

**Lay Reader:** Jill Zedan  
**Head Usher:** Anne Melfo  
**Ushers:** TBD  
**Acolyte:** TBD  
**Peace Candle:** TBD  
**Sound:** TBD  
**Comns Grtr:** Heidi Spangler  
**Flowers:** TBD  
**Counters:** TBD

### **JUNE 20, 2021**

**Lay Reader:** Bridget Sproul  
**Head Usher:** TBD  
**Ushers:** TBD  
**Acolyte:** TBD  
**Peace Candle:** TBD  
**Sound:** TBD  
**Comns Grtr:** TBD  
**Flowers:** TBD  
**Counters:** TBD

### **JUNE 27, 2021**

**Lay Reader:** Betsey Wilson  
**Head Usher:** TBD  
**Ushers:** TBD  
**Acolyte:** TBD  
**Peace Candle:** TBD  
**Sound:** TBD  
**Comns Grtr:** TBD  
**Flowers:** TBD  
**Counters:** TBD

# *The Pillar*

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**FIRST CLASS**

