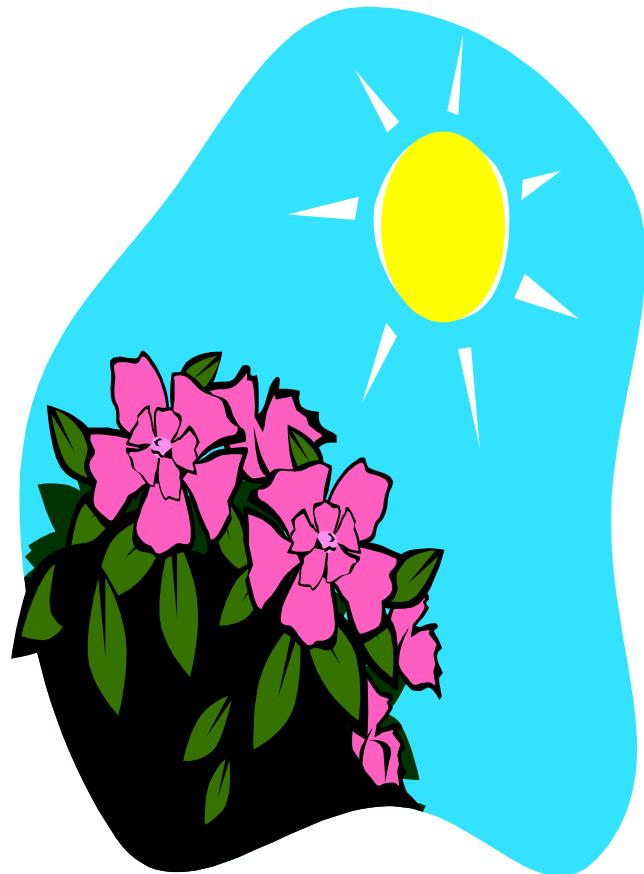


The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

June 2014



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



...Has It Been That Long...?

On Sunday May 21st, 2006, we had a whole-church "Mission Statement Workshop" where we developed our current BUCC Mission Statement: *Loving, Serving, and Accepting All People with God's Life-Changing Power*. It is printed on the front of each Pillar and on every

Sunday bulletin, so it should be familiar to us all. It occurs to me, however, that since that was eight years ago, many of our current members weren't part of that developmental process. Here's what happened. A good number of us gathered to talk about what drew us to this Faith Community, what we saw as our strengths and challenges, and where we hoped to grow and go. We then condensed those ideas into the following six "Core Values":

1. Inclusiveness in All Things
2. Creative and Dynamic Worship
3. Reaching-out To and Welcoming the Community
4. Community of Love, Acceptance, and Forgiveness
5. Environment of Learning and Spiritual Growth
6. Unleashing Peoples' Gifts of Ministry to Help Them Grow through Serving Others

After breaking for supper (another BUCC Core Value - we thoroughly enjoy eating together!) we condensed those Values

into our proposed Mission Statement. We communicated these to all our members for their thoughts, feedback, and refinement. Church Council then adopted them and they were approved at a Congregational Meeting in September.

This Mission Statement and these Core Values truly do form, and inform, a great deal of what we seek to do in and through our congregation's ministries. And with the approaching Summer season of growth, I thought it would be a good time for us to reflect on them - to let them "grow on us" and stimulate our thinking about what we hold dear as a Faith Community. Those of you who have become a part of this Church Family since we first went through this process, were likely drawn to BUCC because you hold values similar to these. I believe that there are many other people in our area who feel the same way, and who would be delighted to know that there is a Community of Faith near them that holds these values. I know that I am extremely fortunate to be involved in a Church like this - one that throughout the generations has embraced and advanced such noble, Christ-like ideals. And I also look forward to our continuing to work together, in carrying forward the mission and ministry of this wonderful congregation.

Try to envision the various ways in which we might work together to live-out these values and bring them to life through in our different ministries and programs, so that we can continue to evolve and grow as a unique and important Church presence within our larger community.

An important thing for us to recognize, is that this Mission Statement was not developed in a void. It was crafted through the faithful efforts and prayerful consideration of several of our members, in a methodical and open process. And perhaps, best of all, it is touched by that open and loving

Spirit that has been the hallmark of this faith community throughout the years.

**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

CHRISTIAN ED



Time to spring clean your car! The annual car wash will be on Sunday, June 29th right after fellowship hour in the parking lot. Please bring buckets, sponges and lots of old towels for another round of scrubbing fun! All proceeds will go to charity, as yet to be determined by the kids.

FACILITIES



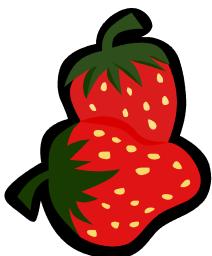
The turnout for both the yard clean-up Saturday's was great! Some of the adults came both days, and so did some very hard working children. Many thanks to everyone who participated.

Kathy Pastor is looking for families or individuals to join the "Garden Angles" by adopting a section of our landscaping. The areas are not large and would require attention every week or two. Please see Kathy for details and the choices available.

The excess classroom chairs were sold to a church in Cleveland (thank you Mindy & Jesse) and the proceeds will go to the Pastor's Fund.

We have received many good comments about the installation of our historic stained glass in the sanctuary. More glass is available and we could use it in the small, high west windows. Our estimate of the cost would be about \$2000 for the five windows. If you would be interested in helping with the restoration and framing in memory of a loved one, please see a facilities member.

MEMBERSHIP
Strawberry Social



Have you signed up for the Strawberry Social yet? If not, it's not too late. It will be on June 22nd after the morning worship service. We will be serving strawberry shortcake, ice cream and whipped cream. All you need to bring is your appetite. There will be a signup sheet downstairs during coffee hour. Hope to see you there.

STEWARSHIP
By Drew Wilson

My School, Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy, has a Semester-long assignment where you have to come up with 8 hours of service every Semester. At first, I didn't know what I thought of this idea. But as I started to do things like Adopt-A-Highway with



my friends from church for only an hour per Sunday, we have made a section of a highway much better, with an added bonus of self-pride.

Another fun opportunity I've had in the Hunger Meal. We go to a church in Cleveland, and get to make food from scratch, sort it how we want on different plates and trays, and have a



chance to catch up with local church members. Following the preparation of the meals, we get to pass out and help with whatever guests may need during the meal. This includes getting them refills on drinks, another utensil/napkin,

sugar and cream packets, and serving desserts. When they are done, if we are lucky, we can give some of them seconds to take home. Also, you get to interact with the members of Christ's family and share some time.

I also had a chance to go to Brookside Hunger Center. I learned how to organize and distribute food to the people not as fortunate as me. I like to see how much time and effort that the workers and even volunteers put in to help others. It's nice to see how hard people try to get others back on track.

I have learned that I do not only do this for service hours, I do this for the fun ad because God sees what you do. He would love to see everyone pitch in and help a neighbor and/or your community.

Notes and Asides

OUR ADOPTED-HIGHWAY NEEDS A NEW PARENT! After approximately 15 years of taking care of our BUCC Adopt-A-Highway program, Jane Cribbs is ready to let that baby leave



the nest. We are looking for a new parent or guardian to keep a watchful eye on this program. This involves coordinating information with the Ohio Department of Transportation, scheduling events with Pastor Dave, and encouraging our members and friends to sign-up and participate. Mindy Harris and Jesse Wade will continue their good work with the events. Please talk to Jane or Pastor Dave if you are willing to help with this.

An Ageless Love Story by Kirk Sanderson (edited)

I was twenty-three and Lee was just out of high school. I was a Naval Aviation officer, and had just finished an Engineering review course at Bowdoin College in Maine and a Radar Engineering program at MIT. I had my first leave since being commissioned on April 1st, 1943. I had known Lee's family when I was at Dodge Institute in Valparaiso, Indiana. We dated a bit during 1942-43 when I was an instructor at Dodge. Most of our dating consisted of going to Chicago on the South Shore and seeing a Big Band play at the Chicago Theater. I had to wash dishes three times a day and work odd jobs to get through Dodge Institute, so I never had a lot of money for dates, and we never really dated anyone else. So when I finished MIT, I phoned Lee and asked her to marry me. She said "Yes!" And her mother quickly went to work to arrange a church wedding for us.



Lee and I got married on June 3rd, 1944, three days before D-Day. I was assigned to an engineering office, Bureau of Aero in Washington DC, in charge of radio control of drones, a forerunner of missiles. This Navy office also had officers for TV and telemetering. So no France for me. The only "combat" I saw was three anti-sub bombers (PV-1s) over Atlantic from Brunswick, Maine and a weekend on a minesweeper out of Portland for radar work. But I did fly around the country a lot on the job, and that was pretty risky at times. (Did you ever fly through a hailstorm in a SNJ advanced trainer aircraft, or ride out a thunderstorm in a PBY?) But I had it easy. We lived in Washington DC and Lee worked in a real estate office. I had no big war story, but like most Americans at that time, I lost good friends in France.

They tried to talk me into staying in the Navy, but I returned to broadcasting, and came to NBC Cleveland in 1948. I could have joined NBC much earlier if I had moved to New York, but I waited until they were ready for TV in Cleveland. I first worked in broadcasting in 1941 at WHIZ in Zanesville; and after the war, near my Illinois home at KBUR in Burlington, Iowa. (Remember *Del's Folks* on Channel 3 in Cleveland? That Del Donahoo worked in nearby Ottumwa, Iowa, where he and I became good friends!) Karen, our first child, was born in Burlington in 1948.

2014 GAY GAMES HOSTING/HOUSING

The 2014 Gay Games presented by The Cleveland Foundation are coming to Cleveland+Akron from August 9-16. The Games will welcome more than 10,000 participants and nearly 20,000 guests to the cities, with individuals participating in more than 35 sport and culture events over the course of the week. We are looking for people



to open their home for that week, allowing one or more participants to stay with them during their visit. You don't need to feed the participants or drive them to their events, though you are welcome to do so. This is a fun way to be more involved in the Games and meet people that are visiting from around the world! If you are interested in signing up as a host or learning more, please contact Chelsea Kertes at ckertes@gg9cle.com or 216.479.6314



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

Gail Moore

June 5:

Lauren Meyers

June 15:

Dot Bailey

June 19:

Marla Corrado

June 20:

Sam Koch

June 24:

Max VanDuyne

June 25:

Carole Snider

Cameron Rose Ward-

Rogers

June 26:

Maureen Stanley

June 27:

Bruce McCain

June 29:

Carli Began

Jean Kukis

David Wilson

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!

FELLOWSHIP NEWS:

Every Sunday from Sept to May we use 6 very special volunteers to set up and serve, bring in snacks and 2 more to clean up after Fellowship Hour. As in the past, June, July and August we will still have Fellowship hour but there will be no snacks and only 1 person for setting up and 1 for clean-up. If



you would like to bring in a snack or treat, please have your item on a plate/bowl and help serve your delicious item. We would love to sample your goodies. Thank you to all that make our Fellowship Hour happen at BUCC.



FOOD PANTRY

June - Powdered and Canned Milk

LETTER OF THANKS



Dear BUCC Members,

Thank you sincerely for the beautiful Easter plant. It is a lovely symbol of God's spirit of hope and renewal. We appreciate your kind thoughtfulness. God Bless you.

Bill and Ann Toneff

LET'S SEE THOSE BEAUTIFUL FACES!

If you haven't yet done so, please sign a Photograph & Video Release Form and return it to the Church Office. We continue to gather some marvelous pictures of BUCC events that would make our great website even greater.



However, we want to respect those who may not want their picture included. Therefore, we will only post images of those who have a signed release form in our records. Thank You!

LIBRARY

The BUCC Library needs a new computer laser printer. If you have a computer printer that you are not using and could donate, please contact Max Roha at 440-667-3982 (rohasark@sbcglobal.net) or Susan Snyder at 440-582-8884 (ssnyder44147@gmail.com). Thank you.



THURSDAY LUNCH, ANYONE?

For those over sixty, you're invited to attend Thursday Lunch at Brecksville Human Services Center Gathering Room. Enjoy a delicious homemade meal; entrée, salad, beverages, and of course dessert! Lunch is served as 12 noon and reservations are required. The cost is \$7 for residents and \$9 for guests of residents. Call: 440-526-2499 to make your reservation.



MUSICAL NOTES – DAVE DEBICK



Summer Music Program: Over the next couple Sundays, Dave D. will be recruiting volunteer singers and instrumentalists to share their musical gifts with our congregation at Sunday worship from June through Labor Day. Volunteers are welcome to choose their own music, or Dave can help you find a piece you like. Rehearsal(s) beforehand as necessary so everyone feels comfortably prepared.

A huge thank you to Sue Stenzel and everyone who contributed to the success of our May 4 concert: greeters, ushers, counters, all who provided food for the reception, set-up and clean-up crews, and Jeannette Kroeger for her work on the printed program. And many thanks to violinist Jinjoo Cho and pianist HyunSoo Kim for their inspiring playing!

Sunday June 8 is Pentecost Sunday, and we'll also be celebrating Music Appreciation that morning. If you've participated in our music ministry at BUCC in any way this past church season, please try to be present to receive a humble token of appreciation for your hard work and dedication.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED AT BUCC



Sunday June 22nd at our morning worship service. If you are interested in joining, learning more about membership - or about our congregation or denomination - please talk with Pastor Dave.

PILLAR

PILLAR EMAIL - Please consider getting your Monthly Pillar through your email. Our number of printed/mailed copies is going up. Please join the effort to help us conserve our resources. Please call or email Jeannette at the office if you are willing to switch from Paper to Email. **440-526-4364 or buccoh@sbcglobal.net** - Thank you.



DIRECTORY

We will be publishing a new up-to-date BUCC Member Directory in the very near future. If you have any change of address, phone number, email address, or to add birthday, please contact Jeannette at **440-526-4364, or buccoh@sbcglobal.net**



ENCORE

A Family Resemblance
(Text - Matthew 3:13-17)
Pastor Dave Shackle
May 18, 2014

"When Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened and he saw the

Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Child, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

It is truly significant that at his baptism, Jesus discovers the depth of his intimate relationship with his Heavenly Parent. With his baptism, Jesus humbly gets wet and gritty in the Jordan River, and

fully claims his humanity. Through his Baptism, he is acknowledging his connection with every other child of God. And in doing so, Jesus shows you and me that we, too, can be completely human, as well as being completely beloved children of our One Heavenly Parent.

Unfortunately, many religious leaders in First Century Israel (and in Twenty-first Century America) don't like the notion that the Messiah - God's Anointed One - could be so down-to-earth. And they certainly don't like the fact that he chooses to identify so closely with the outcasts of society. Yet this is precisely how Jesus claims and *realizes* - makes *real* - his call and ministry as the Messiah (the Christ). He is willing to rub elbows with society's so-called "untouchables". He raises-up those who religion routinely put-down. He eats and drinks and joyfully celebrates Life with any and all who will receive him.

Sadly, it is Jesus' relentless, all-inclusive outreach of Divine Love and Grace, that ultimately brings about the fear-filled response by others to crucify him. Jesus' complete acceptance of his - and our - humanity, causes a chain reaction of fear, anger, hatred, and violence on the part of the religious establishment. Of course, that can be one of the great dangers of being true to oneself: you're going to make some people angry and afraid. However, one of the great gifts that God gives to us, is the gift of our own individual personality. Each person on earth is endowed with particular gifts and talents, strengths and weaknesses, abilities and even disabilities, which makes that person unique.

It therefore seems reasonable that one of the great gifts you or I can offer to God - and to one another - is the gift of our authentic selves. Jesus says it does no good to hide our Light under a bushel; instead, we should let it shine-forth for all to see! What sometimes keeps us from doing this, is the fear that when we put ourselves out there, our human flaws and frailties will also show. Fortunately, this is where the Sacraments of Holy Baptism - and Holy Communion - can prove extremely helpful for you and me today.

In and through Holy Baptism, you and I acknowledge our total dependence on Divine Grace to save and sustain us. We admit that we cannot make it on our own. We need God, *and* we need a viable connection to the imperfect and diverse - yet inclusive and Divine - Family of Faith. And regardless of when or where or how you and I receive that Baptism, it serves as an unshakable sign of our inseparable relationship with God and with one another. We are One Family! And our Baptism is the physical sign of our being immersed and embraced within this earthly - yet Eternal - Community of Divine Love and Grace. The more clearly you and I understand this, the more willing we are let go of those doubts and fears that keep us from seeing ourselves and others as truly beloved children of God.

Here at Brecksville United Church of Christ, we believe that the invitation to come to the Waters of Holy Baptism, and to partake of the Bread and Cup of Holy Communion, is an invitation extended to *all*. Our Sacramental Celebrations truly are "come as you are" parties - where Christ is our gracious and welcoming Host. We understand that Jesus Christ never turns-away anyone because they aren't pious or pure enough. In fact, he seems rather turned-off by those who feel that their own piety or purity puts them above others. The Good News that Jesus proclaims, is that God's Gracious Holy Spirit is available to us all - bringing us Light and Hope out of our darkness and despair; Unity and Wholeness out of division and dissension; Life and Love out of destruction and death.

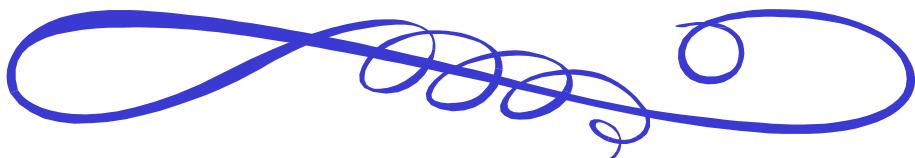
As the Living, Loving Body of Christ, you and I have the awesome privilege - and responsibility - of sharing that Good News with others. Fortunately, we aren't alone in this endeavor, because that same Holy Spirit is also at work in you and me, molding us into a compassionate and supportive Family of Faith - a family where all are welcome, all are included, and each one is valued as a unique child of God. And that Divine Spirit which lives and grows among us, also helps you and me grow and develop more and more into the compassionate image and likeness of Jesus Christ.

Some people say that after a while, those who live together start to acquire similar habits, features, and even looks. And while developing a physical resemblance to those around us may be O.K. (particularly when you hang around such a good looking group as *this*), it's actually our similarity of inner character and core values that is truly significant. People also say, "You are what you eat." Today, you and I eat a simple meal that fully represents our shared identity as the Body of Christ. This Sacrament, along with Holy Baptism, reminds us that we truly are children of God, and brothers and sisters to one another. Hence, the remarkable family resemblance!

So, my beautiful family and friends, let's get busy and spread the Good News!

That those around us may know that they are *also* treasured children of God.

That they may truly believe that God is with them and for them. That may know without a doubt - or even *with* their doubts - that they are truly welcome within this peculiar, yet precious, Family of Faith.



BUCC CALENDAR MAY 2014

Sunday, June 1
10 am Worship/Church School
11am Fellowship Hour
2 pm Akron Rubber Ducks Game

Monday, June 2

Tuesday, June 3

10 am CWRU
7 pm Membership

Wednesday, June 4

6 am Early Birds
5 pm Recorder/Dul

Thursday, June 5

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

Friday, June 6

Saturday, June 7

Sunday, June 8

10 am Worship/Church School - **Strengthen The Church- Pentecost – Music Appreciation**
11am Fellowship Hour

Monday, June 9

Tuesday, June 10

10 am CWRU

Wednesday, June 11

6 am Early Birds
7 pm Council

Thursday, June 12

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, June 13

Saturday, June 14

Sunday, June 15

10 am Worship/Church School –**Father's Day**
11am Fellowship Hour
PILLAR DEADLINE

Monday, June 16

Tuesday, June 17

10 am CWRU

Wednesday, June 18

6 am Early Birds

Thursday, June 19

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, June 20

Saturday, June 21

Sunday, June 22

10 am Worship/Church School

11am **Strawberry Social**
7 pm Concert – Sanctuary

Monday, June 23

Tuesday, June 24

10 am CWRU

Wednesday, June 25

6 am Early Birds

Thursday, June 26

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, June 27

Saturday, June 28

Sunday, June 29

10 am Worship/Church School
11am Fellowship Hour
Car Wash

Monday, June 30

Participants in Worship

JUNE 1, 2014

Lay Reader: Stewart Bailey
 Head Usher: Jill Zedan
 Ushers: Julie & Dave Bernard
 Kathy & David Pastor
 Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
 Peace Cndl: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
 Sound: Mike Westerberg
 Commons Grtr: Jane Cribbs
 Narthex Grtr: Chad Sproul
 Flowers: Dorie Gabor
 Nursery: Marla Corrado
 Counters: Nancy Stella, Dassie Matsuoka
 Server: Caroline Chandler
 Clean Up: Bob Chandler

JUNE 8, 2014

Lay Reader: Ed Lusk
 Head Usher: Bob Chandler
 Ushers: Dorie Gabor, Diane Gressley
 Sam Koch, Fred Pesek
 Acolyte: Grace Hunt
 Peace Cndl: Lily Hunt
 Sound: Dave Bernard
 Commons Grtr: David Pastor
 Narthex Grtr: Max Roha
 Flowers: Betty Gifford
 Nursery: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
 Counters: Stewart Bailey, Kathy Pastor
 Servers: Dottie Farwell
 Clean-Up: Pat Bailey

JUNE 15, 2014

Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul
 Head Usher: Caroline Chandler
 Ushers: Paul & Janet Nicholas,
 Jill Zedan, Sue Maier
 Acolyte: Lindsey Maier
 Peace Cndl: Garrett Demko
 Sound: Kevin Smith
 Commons Grtr: Dot Bailey
 Narthex Grtr: Jon Thompson

Flowers: Tina Ortiz
 Nursery: Kate Klonowski
 Counters: Kathy Pastor, Betty Kaul
 Servers: Dorie Gabor
 Clean-Up: Jan Renovetz

JUNE 22, 2014

Lay Reader: David Pastor
 Head Usher: Jon Thompson
 Ushers: Joanne Cook, Val Duffy
 Sue Stenzel, Max Roha
 Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski
 Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
 Sound: Doug Fawcett
 Commons Grtr: Ann Kelley
 Narthex Grtr: Fred Pesek
 Flowers: Kathy Pastor
 Nursery: Bruce McCain, Jan Renovetz
 Counters: Janet Nicholas
 Servers: Chad & Bridget Sproul

JUNE 29, 2014

Lay Reader: Ruth Morris
 Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
 Ushers: Kate Klonowski, Matt
 Wolbert
 Heidi Spangler, Spencer
 Whyte
 Acolyte: Courtni Began
 Peace Cndl: Ryan Stewart
 Sound: David Pastor
 Commons Grtr: Paul Nicholas
 Narthex Grtr: Marge Culver
 Flowers: Lenore Harris
 Nursery: Peg Duffy
 Counters: Mac Hoppel, Donn Whyte
 Servers: Sue Stenzel
 Clean-Up: Jill Zedan

Call My Name
Dawson B. Taylor

*"But now thus says the Lord...who created you...do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." -
Isaiah 43:1-3*

A few years ago I was attending a continuing education event with my father, who is also a minister. On the morning we left, we were at Dallas-Ft. Worth International Airport making our way to our gate.

From my experience it was a typical Monday morning at a busy airport with many people moving quickly to where they are supposed to be. Dad and I had arrived in plenty of time so we were not in a rush.

I decided to stop and buy a magazine to read on the plane while my dad waited patiently outside. Evidently it took me too long to decide on my purchase because by the time I exited the store, Dad had gotten bored and moved away from where I had left him.

I wasn't panicked, but with my dad's 5'6" height, he doesn't exactly tower over crowds. I began scanning the people racing by and could not find him. Suddenly I heard him call my name. Although I couldn't see him, I was able to find him because I recognized his voice calling my name as he has so many times.

I believe that is also what happens when we lose our way. Through the crowds and the hustle and bustle of life, God quietly and patiently calls our name until we see God's face. If you find yourself straining to see the face of God, listen quietly for God to call your name.

Prayer
Loving God, help me hear your voice. Amen.

The Pillar

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Brecksville

United Church of Christ

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FIRST CLASS