Affirmation of Welcome

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, welcoming all of God's children.

If you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are Asian, Hispanic, Black, or White,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are male, female, or transgender,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are 3 days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you've never been in a church, if you are Buddhist, Roman Catholic, agnostic, Or a life-long member of the UCC,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are straight, gay, lesbian, or bisexual,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person with differing abilities,

You Are Welcome Here!

Whoever we may be, wherever we are on our life's journey,

We welcome one another to this place, even as God welcomes us all in Jesus Christ!

WELCOME TO VISITING PARENTS

We offer several child care options and fun activities for kids during worship hour:

- ♦ Infants and toddlers will be cared for in the nursery.
- ♦ Kindergarten through seventh grade will go to class after the Word to Young Worshipers.
- ♦ Crayons and paper for children are also available from ushers.

Please sign our guest book in the narthex before you leave, and join us for refreshments in Pilgrim Hall downstairs following the service. If you are interested in learning more about our church, or becoming a member, please speak to our pastor.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for one. Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Williams Sound Personal PA receiver available for your use in the sanctuary. Pillows for your back support are also available.

Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 9:00 - 12:00

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoh@sbcglobal.net - web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

JUNE 29, 2014 - THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, we know that Jesus welcomed all people with open arms and invited them into community. We would do the same, but at times it seems so difficult. Open our hearts and minds to new ideas and renewed dedication for being your loving, welcoming people. Amen

Gathering in God's Presence

* Please Stand as you are able.

Prelude

You Shall Prophesy, All My People [Assisted by Percussion Group]

Macías (Mexico)

"Announce to all the peoples the covenant renewed: the promise of God's justice, blossoming forth in peace." Rosa Martha Zárate Macías, 1989

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

L: With the dawning of this new day, the Divine Gift of Life is renewed in you and me.

P: We give thanks for the Creative Spirit around us and within us!

L: Today we come to pray and reflect and to hear the Good News!

P: We rejoice that the Holy One is with us! We welcome in the Spirit!

L: Let us listen and respond to the Holy One, who encounters us in many ways.

P:Let us praise the Sacred One, who meets us throughout Life's journey.

L: May the Holy One inspire us, and guide our lives today;

All: That we might be empowered us to be God's faithful people, each and every day!

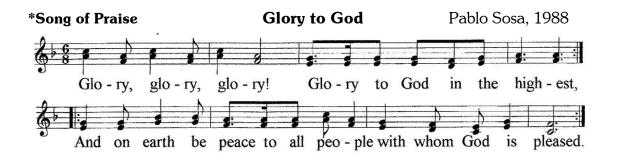
* Hymn of Praise

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

#73

* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

Eternal Holy One, in all our restless activity and our attempts to control, and secure our lives, help us to recognize our need for you. Come to us in Christ and show us the way to truly meaningful life. Empower us by your Holy Spirit, that we might work together to bring renewed hope and light to those places and people which are hurting. Enlighten us and your people throughout the world, to be a beacon of peace, welcome and hope. Amen.



The Old Testament
The New Testament
The Continuing Testament

Psalm 89:1-7; 14-17 Matthew 10:40-42; 11:1-6 by Alan Brehm Pew Bible, page 545 Pew Bible, page 11 in *The Waking Dreamer*

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering God's Eye Is on the Sparrow Gabriel [Diane Gressley, soprano]

Sermon We'll Keep The Lights On For You Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant? #539

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

Our Lord's Prayer [the additional use of "Mother" is optional, according to One's Theological understanding]

...Our Father-Mother, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

Organ Response

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

Offertory Moment Musical Schubert

*The Doxology

Praise God from whom all Blessings flow

Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

Eternal Holy One, you have created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing. We thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of Life itself. Accept now these gifts and offerings that they may help others in need and advance the work of your Realm. We pray in the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Going with God's Love

Hymn of Departure O For a World #575

Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Acolyte

* Circle of Community

As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah** (3 times) **Hallelujah**, **Hallelujah**. After the benediction is pronounced, we will sing it once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith.



*Benediction

Postlude

Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord

Praetorius

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Don & Eleanor Kusa, Lee Sanderson, Jill Black, Jim & Betty Kaul, Ruth Thorpe, Doug Lightbody, Kathleen Stewart, Tina Ortiz, Frank Ditzig, Mary D'Agostino, Shirley Duncan, Donn Whyte, Cindy Burton, people who are unemployed and under employed.

(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections or changes to our prayer lists.)

Attendance Sunday, June 22, 2014 – Adults: 76 Kids: 9 Total: 85

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshiping with us today. Please sign our Guest Book and join us downstairs in Pilgrim Hall for refreshments and conversation.

TO HELP KEEP OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS INFORMED about the Catholic Women Priests Movement, our developing relationship with them, and ways that we might work together in the future, Mary Collingwood and I will be available during Coffee Hour next Sunday, July 6^{th} for an open discussion. Both Mary and Ann Klonowski had their Ordination Services in our BUCC Sanctuary, and they offer a weekly Saturday evening Mass

here. Also, on Sunday, July 27th, Ann Klonowski will preach here and be available for Coffee Hour conversation while I'm on vacation. - Pastor Dave

SUMMER MUSIC SCHEDULE: The schedule is posted now in the narthex at the foot of the choir loft stairs. Dave will email schedule directly to volunteer musicians also. Many thanks to everyone who signed up to sing or play an instrument over the summer months! Musicians are welcome to choose their own pieces, or Dave D. can help you select music. Rehearsal(s) are scheduled to maximize each volunteer's comfort level.

BUCC BOOK CLUB Members have asked for a book discussion group at BUCC. For startup, the group will meet in the parlor @ 1:00 on July 7th. "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" is the first choice, and copies will be available for the next session. The current plan is to borrow copies available thru the library so that there will be no cost. The group is open to suggestions for books to discuss and format. For input or information, call Dot Bailey 440-526-4881 or e-mail dotnstu1@gmail.com.

WHAT A GREAT PROBLEM TO HAVE! Even with a good number of us regularly parking at Central School, we continue to have a bit of a parking "problem". In an effort to remain hospitable to our visitors and help those arriving late, we ask that others of you who can readily do so, park in the school lot next door. This is just another way in which we can signal our desire to be accessible and welcoming to all.

MISS MINDY'S CLASS: one person's trash is our treasure! Miss Mindy's class is looking for your old containers, jars, egg cartons, etc. Please bring in your old pudding, yogurt, butter containers, old pickle, and baby food jars. Please drop off items at Miss Mindy's Classroom.

THE BUCC LIBRARY calls your attention to some of our new books: Laugh Your Way to Grace: Reclaiming the Spiritual Power of Humor, by Susan Sparks; A Walk with Barnell: A Visit to Eternity, by John Ime (a modern parable); The Desiderata of Happiness: A Collection of Philosophical Poems, by Max Ehrmann; Safe Return Home: An Inspirational Book for Caregivers of Alzheimer's, by Tom Batiuk and Chuck Ayers (excerpts from the comic strip "Crankshaft"); Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life, by Richard Rohr; and, for your recreational reading, The Highly Suspicious Halo, by Eileen M. Berger (in the Church Choir Mysteries series). Look for these new books on the top shelf of the red book cart, along with new and older issues of Still Speaking magazine.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION come one, come all to Donn Whyte's house on Thursday, July 3 at 8 PM. Please bring an appetizer to share. BYOB. Special show begins at 10 PM. Bring a chair.

LOST AND FOUND please check the items in the Lost & Found box (on table in Commons area). There are many pairs of sunglasses, reading glasses, gloves and assorted items. These items have been in here for quite some time, and we will be donating them if no one claims them in the near future. Thank you!

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!

JUNE FOOD PANTRY: Powdered and canned Milk.

NAME TAGS are available for you to wear in the church and at coffee hour. These are helpful to visitors and members alike, to help us to get to know our people. If you are missing a name tag, please let the Office know.

THE READINGS

The Old Testament - Psalm 89:1-7; 14-17

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Holy One, forever! With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: 'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.'"

Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Majestic One, and your faithfulness be proclaimed in the assembly of the holy ones. For who in the skies can be compared to you? Who among the heavenly beings is like the Holy One, a God revered in the council of the holy ones, great and awesome above all others?

....Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you. Happy are the people who know the festal shout, who walk in the light of your

countenance. They exult in your name all day long, and extol your righteousness continually. For you are the glorious source of their strength; by your favor their souls are exalted.

The New Testament - Matthew 10:40-42; 11:1-6

Jesus says, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the One who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet, will receive a prophet's reward. Whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person, will receive the reward of the righteous. And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple - truly I tell you - shall not lose their reward."

....Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities. When John [the Baptist] heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, "Are you the One who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

The Continuing Testament - by Alan Brehm - in *The Waking Dreamer* [edited]

In the Hebrew Bible, holiness is essentially defined in terms of carefully conducted ritual sacrifices; and sin is defined in terms of staying pure by eating the right foods and having intimate relationships with the right kind of people. We may no longer believe that people have to offer ritual sacrifices in order to please God, or that having a plate of oysters somehow makes us unclean in God's sight. But many in our faith still insist that the essence of sin is having an intimate relationship with the wrong kind of person, even though the "wrong kind" of person for the Hebrews was anyone outside the family of Abraham! Do we really believe that marrying a person outside our faith, or marrying a person of another race somehow makes us sinful in God's eyes?

Whenever we make the essence of holiness a matter of following religious rules, it seems to me that we have missed the mark. Rigid religious rules always become obstacles to loving other people; which means they are obstacles to truly loving God. Jesus points the finger at religious perfectionists for ignoring their own sins and focusing on those of others. It's just an elaborate way of justifying myself by condemning someone else. Jesus has a way of cutting through all the hypocrisy and trivia and nonsense that we religious professionals generate. He says that true holiness is about loving God and loving others - all others - with no exceptions. He says that true spirituality is about embracing a child, caring for the weak and

outcast, feeding the hungry, visiting the sick and those who are in prison. For Jesus, a truly spiritual way of living is about giving someone a cup of cold water on a hot day. It's no more complicated than that. It's about having a heart that is willing to give to others the same grace, mercy, and unconditional love that we ourselves have received.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 6/29/2014	10 am 11 am 11:30 am	Worship Service Coffee Hour Adopt-a-Highway & Car Wash
Wednesday 7/2/2014	6 am	Early Birds
Thursday 7/3/2014	1pm	Bible Study
Friday 7/4/2014		Independence Day! *Office Closed*
Sunday 7/6/2014	10 am 11 am	Worship Service Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE JUNE 29, 2014

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs Head Usher: Jan Renovetz

Ushers: Kate Klonowski, Matt Wolbert

Heidi Spangler, Spencer Whyte

Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg

Peace Cndl: Ryan Stewart
Sound: David Pastor
Comm Grtr: Paul Nicholas
Narthex Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: Lenore Harris
Nursery: Peg Duffy

Counters: Mac Hoppel, Kathy Pastor

Servers: Sue Stenzel Clean-Up: Jill Zedan

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE JULY 6, 2014

Deacon: Diane Gressley
Head Usher Anne Melfo

Ushers: Tina Ortiz, Dan Stewart

Sue Stenzel, Fred Pesek

Acolyte Ben Rehling
Peace Candl: Drew Demko
Sound: Val Duffy
Comns Grtr: Dot Bailey
Narthex Grtr: Stu Bailey
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Shauna Bigelow

Counters: Mac Hoppel, Donn Whyte

Server: Dorie Gabor

Clean Kathy & David Pastor

Let's Pray Matt Fitzgerald

"Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?" - Psalm 139:7

Last Wednesday I took our two youngest kids out for dinner. We rode our bikes to a place halfway between the Hancock building and our home. I looked across the table at my kids who were all red cheeks and sweaty heads. And I felt overcome with gratitude.

At home we thank God before dinner. We join hands around the table and pray. Nothing elaborate, but it happens religiously.

But not in restaurants. I don't pray in restaurants. I've never thought "Why not?" Maybe I don't want anyone to feel awkward. Maybe I think religion is a private matter. Maybe I don't want to feel awkward myself. Maybe I believe God is only alive inside the church and at my dinner table? Maybe I have a problem.

None of these thoughts entered my mind on Wednesday night. I just felt grateful and full of love. So I said, "let's pray" and I closed my eyes and bowed my head and immediately regretted it.

The world's skepticism came roaring into my mind as I started mumbling a prayer. I felt embarrassed. And I heard "Dad!" I know, I know, you're mortified. I mumbled faster. A second voice, "Dad!" I opened my eyes and looked up. And here is what I saw: my two youngest children, holding hands, each with an arm stretched across the table waiting for my return grip.

These two little Christians, happily living out a truth they learned in church: God is alive and good and everywhere. Even inside the empire, even halfway downtown on a Wednesday night.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for following us everywhere, even out to dinner. Amen.