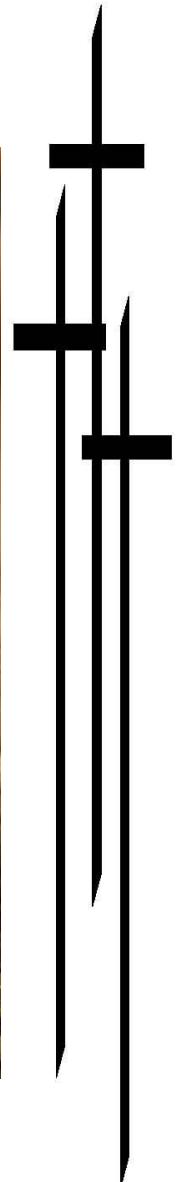


The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

October 2014



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



...A Continuing Confirmation...

Below are some thoughts I shared with some parents concerning our BUCC Confirmation Program:

"I agree with you that middle teen years are a good time for the Confirmation/Affirmation of a person's faith. An even better time would be in their later teens. I myself was Confirmed in

the Lutheran Church after three-years of classes from grades 7 through 9.... Interestingly, even though I had intellectually affirmed my faith in Jesus Christ - and really meant it - it wasn't until in college that I truly opened my heart to the fullness of Christ's Presence and Grace.

In the forty years since then, there have been a couple of other significant times when I have affirmed my faith, and the Holy Spirit has confirmed God's Presence in my life.

I'm not sure when BUCC's Confirmation of Faith program became a one-year class for seventh graders, but I do understand why. This is an appropriate age to "begin the process" of thinking about God, Jesus, Life, Faith and the Church. My approach, is to encourage each student to understand that his or her relationship with God, Jesus, and the Church is truly important, and will remain so, throughout their entire lives....Our youth can certainly take part in our Confirmation program whenever they and their parents feel it's best... Meanwhile, I invite them all to get involved with our Youth Ministry - one of the many important parts of an individual's life-long journey of faith."

How fortunate our children are to have parents who show as deep a commitment to their children's Spiritual education, as they do to their secular learning! With increasingly busy schedules, it takes conscientious planning and dedication to find time for our Faith-development. With that in mind, I encourage all BUCC members and friends (ages 12 to 102) to take part in our annual Retreat at the Hinckley Reservation on Saturday October 11th. Our theme is "Believe It or Not: Creating Our Own Creed." Regardless of what age or stage in Life, taking time to explore and affirm one's Faith is an important and revitalizing process. And spending a day together in a relaxing and beautiful setting presents a wonderful opportunity to connect more deeply to our Faith, and to those beautiful people we see every Sunday.

I hope you will all make a special effort to join us. It could turn-out to be just the right time for a renewed Confirmation of your Divine Connection!

With you on the journey,
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.

LOOKING AHEAD...

...OUR ANNUAL CHURCH RETREAT will be held on Saturday, October 11th at Hinckley Reservation from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm..Our theme is "Believe It or Not: Creating Our Own Creed." Due to inside space considerations, this year's Retreat will not include activities for young children. (Next year, we will book a venue with more room!) Anyone interested in helping coordinate the food, games, music or other activities for this event - or would like to know more about it - please talk with Pastor Dave.



FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

CHRISTIAN ED

The Christian Education Ministry

Adult Education Series:

**A Brief Introduction to
the Shamanic Journey**

at

Brecksville United Church of Christ

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

6:30 – 8:00 PM

with

Michelle Gilbert & Neal Szpatura

Shamanism has been called the first spiritual practice of humanity. The Shamanic Journey is a powerful meditative state. It takes us into a very special level of consciousness that helps us work more deeply with intuitive and spiritual guidance. Prolonged hypnotic drumming is used to promote relaxation and the experience of a trance-like visionary awareness. Through journeying, we may open the door to an awareness of other realms that are the sources of the energy, creativity, passion, and love that power the everyday world we know.

Michelle Gilbert is a Reiki Master, Shamanic coach, and certified aromatherapist. She holds multiple certificates in aromatherapy, Shamanism, Reiki, life transition coaching, yoga, and more. Using

her eclectic background, Michelle empowers clients to deepen their spiritual wisdom, let go of what's holding them back in life, heal their relationships with themselves, and discover true well-being.

Neal Szpatura is a shamanic practitioner, writer, Tarot reader and intuitive consultant. He has studied with the Foundation for Shamanic Studies and in independent study with its faculty, as well as with indigenous teachers from North and South America, Africa, and Australia. He teaches shamanic practice, dreamwork and intuitive development and works with clients on sacred path issues.

Dress comfortably in loose clothing and for the weather. Bring mats, wraps, eyeshades, etc. and be prepared to work on the floor (if you wish).

If you have questions or would like to sign up, please see Kate Klonowski during coffee hour or by email: keightykay@gmail.com or phone/text: 216-534-3498. Space is limited.

FACILITIES

Fall Yard Clean-up

Our fall leaf management and yard clean up date is Saturday morning, November 1. From 8:30 am. Until we finish about 11:00

am. Fellowship, exercise and refreshments will be provided. Please plan to come when you can and work for as long as you wish. Look for more information in October



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

INFORMATION TABLE

Have you ever felt that you would like more information on what is going on at BUCC? Sure, the table in the Narthex has lists of who serves on what ministry, and the mission statements of each ministry. But how many of us are familiar with the BUCC

constitution? Or what goes on behind the scene, such as how do the flowers get up behind the altar, or how do the communion elements arrive at the altar on communion Sundays? For all of the above information (and possibly more), join Leadership Development members in Pilgrim Hall on Sunday, October 26 after worship. Plans are to do the same on Sunday, November 2nd,

and on Sunday, November 9th. Members of the various ministries will be on hand to answer questions.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE AND WHEN?

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - OCTOBER 26TH; NOVEMBER 2ND AND NOVEMBER 9TH.

Leadership Development is planning to have information tables in Pilgrim Hall following services on the above noted dates. It is our hope all members of BUCC, old & new and friends thinking about joining BUCC will stop by the tables with questions for the representatives about the mission and activities of each group. There will be information packets available.

OCTOBER 26TH

Representatives of Christian Education, Stewardship, Facilities and Communication and Outreach will be in the hall to answer questions and listen to your suggestions.

NOVEMBER 2ND

Delegates from Spiritual Life, Membership and Personnel will be there to answer questions and listen to suggestions.



NOVEMBER 9TH

You will be welcomed to talk with representatives from OCWM, Leadership Development, Finance and Women United. Also on this date any other ministries who have not had the opportunity to participate will join us.

MEMBERSHIP



Come one, come ALL!!!!

Membership Ministry invites you to GAME NIGHT, Saturday, Oct 25th. Bring your favorite board game, cards, dominos, checkers, and chess. We will meet in Pilgrim Hall at 6:30. Bring a snack to share and we will provide the drinks...Hope to see you there.

STEWARSHIP

GOD'S BLESSINGS

By Jim Kaul

I am no longer on the Stewardship Committee, which consists of five Members along with Pastor Dave, but I am still involved with the committee.

In the beginning, God created the Heavens and the Earth. As the Creator, God has the absolute ownership over all things. The Biblical Doctrine of Stewardship identifies God as owner and man as managers, and God's Co-Workers. Stewardship is the

responsibility of us taking care of all the things God has created including all of God's creatures and all of God's people that inhabit this Earth.



A Stewardship theme this year is "Blessed to be a Blessing". God is able to provide us with every Blessing in abundance, so

that we always have enough of everything.

If you were made Light Bearers, you will not be hidden but will be put on a light stand that you may shine brightly! Be generous, and you will be opening up to God, and according to Saint Paul, you will receive God's Grace. *Corinthians 2:9:7* states "each man should give what is in the heart that he has decided to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves cheerful givers".

This Church building, and we the people who come here to Worship, make up our community of Faith. Our donations of money, time, and talent, help our Church, the Community, and even some parts of the world. You, the Congregation, have always been faithful to the commitment of our Church. This building has to be maintained for all of us to use. The Community also needs our support, and we are all blessed to be able to make out donations mean something. Every gift, no matter how large or small, is very important.

The Dedication Sunday this year is November 16. An appreciation dinner will be held this day and we will ask for your Pledge Cards at this time. Betty and I will be in Texas, but will be one of the first ones to sign up for next year's pledge. We thank you, and wish that all of God's Blessings will be upon you.

PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP

Each year in the fall we think about our personal stewardship of time and talent, and how and where we would like to participate in the activities of BUCC in the coming year. This year is not different. The table on the narthex holds mission statements and the makeup of BUCC ministries to help in making the decision. Also the information sessions mentioned in this issue of the Pillar can help. Or any ministry member can answer requests for further information.



NOTES AND ASIDES



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

HAVE YOU NOTICED how very messy our highways are? BE PART OF THE SOLUTION! Join us on Saturday, October 4, when we participate in our last Adopt-a-Highway of the year. We will meet at the church promptly at 9 am. Be a good steward of our precious earth!



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

October 8:	Michelle Nemitka
October 9:	Ashley Smith
October 15:	Indiria Bigelow
October 16:	Heather Hunt
October 21:	Joy Garapic
October 22:	Johnny Kolar
October 24:	Betsey Wilson
	Doris Schmid
October 25:	Jim Farwell
October 26:	Diane Lightbody
October 30:	Jesse Wade

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

BOOK CLUB

Book Discussion: Monday, Oct. 6 @ 1:00 in the Parlor. This month's book is a non-fiction choice, directly linked to many of the Common Core State Standards for English, Reading, Science, and Social Studies. It has been selected for more than sixty best of the year's book lists in 2010. **THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS** is a book you'll want to know.



FOOD PANTRY

October - Canned Soup, Baked Beans, Chili, etc.



THE NOVEMBER 4, 2014 GENERAL ELECTION

The November 4th General Election will include candidates for U.S. Congress, Governor, and statewide offices, the Ohio House and Senate, County Executive, County Council (in odd numbered districts), judicial seats, and issues.

To avoid lines on Election Day, and to allow extra time to study the ballot, all registered voters may Vote by Mail. Vote by Mail ballot applications are available at the Board of Elections website:

www.443VOTE.com, by calling the Board of Elections at 216-443-VOTE (8683), and at all public libraries.



The voter registration deadline is October 6th. New voters and those who have moved or changed their name since they last voted need to complete and return a

new Voter Registration Card on, or before, October 6th. Voter registration cards are available online at: www.443vote.com or by calling 216-443-VOTE (8683). Registration cards are also available at all public libraries. Voters have the option of updating their registration information online at: www.443vote.com.

It is important for all voters to be prepared to cast their ballots. Sample ballots are available on the Board of Elections website: www.443vote.com.

Election Day voting: The Polls Open at 6:30 a.m. and Close at 7:30 p.m.

Bring proper identification when voting: a current and valid photo identification card, driver's license or state issued identification, military identification, a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the voter's name and current address.

Voters need to know their ward, precinct, and voting location. Voters may check at: www.443VOTE.com. or call the Voter Information Hotline at 216-443-VOTE (8683).

Voters who are interested in serving as poll workers may call 216-443-VOTE (8683) or apply on-line at: www.443vote.com.

MUSIC

On Sunday October 19 at 4:00 p.m., BUCC will host the Case Concert Choir, comprised of students from Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Institute of Music. Under the direction of Dr. Matthew Garrett, the fifty-member ensemble will present a program titled "A Life in Music", which follows our life journey



through its many stages from birth through adulthood. The eclectic program includes works by a diverse group of composers, along with two songs from Africa. A free-will offering will be received, and a light meal will

be served following the concert. We hope you can join us for this unique choral presentation.

Seasonal Choir: It's almost time to start rehearsing for our annual Christmas cantata, scheduled for December 14 at Sunday morning worship. Weekly practices begin Thursday night, October 9 from 7-8 p.m. Seasonal choir provides a wonderful opportunity for music and fellowship as we prepare to commemorate the miracle of the Incarnation. If you enjoy singing in a choral setting but don't have time to commit to regular choir, consider giving seasonal choir a try. Feel free to attend a practice or two if you're interested but hesitant to commit. Adults and high school students are welcome to participate.

On Sunday October 19 at 4:00 p.m., Brecksville UCC will host the Case Concert Choir, comprised of students from Case Western



Reserve University and the Cleveland Institute of Music. Under the direction of Dr. Matthew Garrett, the fifty-member ensemble will present a program titled "A Life in Music." The program follows our life journey from birth through adulthood, and features works by several contemporary composers, as well as two traditional songs from Africa. A free-will offering

will be received, and a light meal will be served following the concert. We hope you will join us for this unique choral presentation. Bring a friend!

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Wouldn't it be nice to have a world without hunger, poverty, violence, discrimination, ignorance, and oppression? One way we can help overcome these things around the world is by participation in the UCC Neighbors In Need offering which will be

received on October 19th. Our support of the NIN offering will help provide education grants to address literacy issues for girls worldwide, will fund programs to address systemic injustices, and will help support ministries of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. In the next few weeks the Sunday bulletins will

provide further information on this effort to support a variety of education programs, justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and projects of direct service support in the U.S. and the world.



WINNING RECIPES FROM CHURCH PICNIC

24 Hour Salad *Miriam Rosewicz*



- 2 – Cans Water Chestnuts (drained)
- ½ - Head of Cauliflower (broken into small pieces)
- 1 – Head Iceberg Lettuce
- ½ - Large package of Frozen Peas defrosted (Don't cook)
- 2 – Bunches green onions/chopped
- 8 – Strips of Bacon (fried-crisp & crumbled)
- 2 packages of dry Ranch Dressing

1 – Pint of Hellman's Mayonnaise

Layer each of the following:

Lettuce
Cauliflower
Water Chestnuts
Peas
Onions
Bacon
Dry dressing
Mayo

keep repeating layers until ingredients are gone
Refrigerate overnight – toss when ready to serve

Caramel Apple Salad - Heidi Spangler

INGREDIENTS

2 green apples
2 red apples, chopped into 1-inch pieces
6 king size Snickers bars OR 12 snack size Snickers bars
1 5-ounce container instant vanilla pudding mix (not prepared)
18 ounces cool whip thawed
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup caramel ice cream topping
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped peanuts (optional)
2 tablespoons chocolate syrup

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix together cool whip and pudding mix until smooth.
2. Chop Snickers into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pieces. Add apples and snickers to whipped cream mixture and stir in.
3. Drizzle with caramel sauce and chocolate syrup and sprinkle with chopped peanuts. Chill at least 1 hour before serving.

SAVE THE DATES!
NORTH COAST MEN'S CHORUS

Organized in 1988, the North Coast Men's Chorus is entering its

27th season. This will be my 13th season. I have been so grateful for the support the Chorus has received over the years from my friends at BUCC. But there are many more songs to be sung, and lots more fun to be had!

This season will begin with our holiday concert which again will be in the beautiful Hanna Theatre at Playhouse



Square. "Baby It's Cold Outside" will take place on December 6th and 7th - three performances. You might want to get your tickets soon because this concert tends to sell out! You can order them on the Playhouse Square website, or I can get them for you which will help you avoid surcharges.

Our spring concert is titled 'Deliciously Wicked: The Music of Stephen Schwartz.' Schwartz' blowout hit has been the musical "Wicked", but he's also famous for "Godspell" and "Pippin." Should be a great show!

This concert will be held at Notre Dame College's Regina Auditorium in South Euclid in two performances on April 11th and 12th.

Our June concert is "Welcome to the 60s!" What a wealth of FUN material! We'll be back at our traditional performance home, Cleveland State's Waetjen Auditorium on June 20th and 21st.

Season tickets are available. Lots of information about the group and our season can be found at www.NCMChorus.org.

WOMEN UNITED

To ALL Members of BUCC

We will be meeting in the church parking lot to car pool to the

Cleveland Headquarters of the
United Church of Christ on OCTOBER
22, 2014, WEDNESDAY, 10:00 AM.

At 11:00 AM we will have a tour of
the Headquarters, at 12:15 we
attend a weekly service in their
Chapel. At 12:45 PM we will have
lunch at the Gateway Restaurant



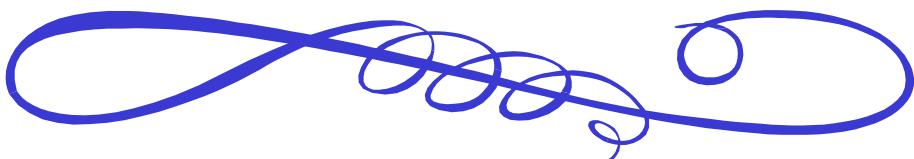
which is next to the Headquarters. Please know that ALL members of BUCC are invited. If you plan to attend please call Dorie Gabor at 440-237-9447 or the Church Office to make a reservation. Lunch will be at each person's cost and will be ordered off the menu. Let's make this a great event.

ENCORE



This month, due to Space considerations,
Pastor Dave's Sermons are available online at
buccoh@sbcglobal.net

They are also available on CD in the Office.



BUCC CALENDAR OCTOBER 2014

Wednesday, October 1

6 am Early Birds
4:30 Recorder/Dul.

Thursday, October 2

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

Friday, October 3

Saturday, October 4
9 am Adopt-A-Highway

Sunday, October 5

10 am Worship and Church School
11 am Coffee Hour
2 pm Mash – Valley View
6 pm Confirmation Class

Monday, October 6

1 pm Book Club – Parlor
7 pm Spiritual Life

Tuesday, October 7

10 am CWRU
6:30 Shamanic Journey
7 pm Membership

Wednesday, October 8

6 am Early Birds
4:30 Recorder/Dul.
7 pm Council

Thursday, October 9

1 pm Bible Study
5:30 Joyful Noise
7 pm Seasonal Choir
8pm Choir

Friday, October 10**Saturday, October 11**

10 am – 4 pm Retreat Hinckley

Sunday, October 12

10 am Worship and Church School
11 am Coffee Hour
5:30 pm Youth Perc.
6 pm Youth Ministry

Monday, October 13

7 pm Facilities

Tuesday, October 14

10 am CWRU

Wednesday, Oct 15**PILLAR DEADLINE**

6 am Early Birds
4:30 Recorder/Dul.

Thursday, October 16

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

Friday, October 17**Saturday, October 18**

Sunday, October 19
10 am Worship and Church School

Neighbors in Need Offering

11 am Coffee Hour
4 pm Case Concert
reception following

Monday, October 20

Tuesday, October 21
10 am CWRU

Wednesday, Oct 22

6 am Early Birds
10 am Women United Trip to UCC
4:30 Recorder/Dul.

Thursday, Oct 23

1 pm Bible Study
4:30 Crafters for Christ
5:30 Joyful Noise
7:30 Choir

Friday, October 24

Saturday, October 25
6:30 pm Game Night

Sunday, October 26

10 am Worship and Church School
11 am Coffee Hour
6 pm Confirmation

Monday, October 27

Tuesday, October 28
10 am CWRU

Wednesday, Oct 29

6 am Early Birds
4:30 Recorder/Dul.

Thursday, October 30

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

Friday, October 31
Halloween

Participants in Worship

OCTOBER 5, 2014

Lay Reader: Stu Bailey
 Head Usher: Caroling Chandler
 Ushers: Diane Gressley, Ed Lusk
 Dan Stewart, Sam Koch
 Acolyte: Michalina Fawcett
 Peace Cndl: Indira Bigelow
 Sound: Max Roha
 Commons Grtr: Ann Kelly
 Narthex Grtr: Kathy Smith
 Flowers: Dorie Gabor
 Nursery: Shauna Bigelow
 Counters: Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul
 Server: Sue Stenzel, Dorie Gabor
 Clean Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
 Snacks: Gina Cook, Sue Maier

OCTOBER 12, 2014

Lay Reader: Darlene Kelly
 Head Usher: Ann Melfo
 Ushers: Sue Maier, Wes Novak
 Jim Duffy, Dorie Gabor
 Acolyte: Ben Davis
 Peace Cndl: Olivia Klonowski
 Sound: Val Duffy
 Commons Grtr: Dot Bailey
 Narthex Grtr: David Ritchey
 Flowers: Betty Gifford
 Nursery: Gina Cook
 Counters: Kathy Pastor, Sue Stenzel
 Servers: Joanne Cook, Robin
 Coyer-Westerberg
 Clean-Up: Cliff & Jane Cribbs
 Snacks: Dot Bailey, Marilyn
 Wrights

OCTOBER 19, 2014

Lay Reader: Evie Novak
 Head Usher: Bridget Sproul
 Ushers: David & Kathy Pastor
 Heidi Spangler, Tina Ortiz
 Acolyte: Lindsey Maier
 Peace Cndl: Evan Merritt
 Sound: Kevin Smith
 Commons Grtr: George Snider
 Narthex Grtr: Max Roha
 Flowers: Jan Renovetz
 Nursery: Marla Corrado
 Counters: Stu Bailey, Donn Whyte
 Servers: Joy Garapic, Dottie
 Farwell
 Clean-Up: Kathy & David Pastor
 Snacks: Jon Thompson, Anne
 Melfo

OCTOBER 26, 2014

Lay Reader: Max Roha
 Head Usher: Evie Novak
 Ushers: Chad Sproul, George
 Snider Linda Kriyovich,
 Beth Rehling
 Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
 Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
 Sound: David Pastor
 Commons Grtr: Stu Bailey
 Narthex Grtr: Fred Pesek
 Flowers: Dot Bailey
 Nursery: Val Duffy
 Counters: Dassie Matsuoka, Mac
 Hoppel
 Servers: Caroline Chandler, Carole
 Snider
 Clean-Up: Jan Renovetz, Bob
 Chandler
 Snacks: Lenore Harris,
 Marianne Hoppel

"Who Makes Your Life More Lively?"
Matt Fitzgerald

"You are the salt of the earth." - Matthew 5:13

Over the years I have made this same mistake at least three times. It happens while I'm on vacation, confused in an unfamiliar grocery store. I grab a bag of chips and tear into them the moment I'm outside only to realize I bought the salt-free version. If chips have lost their taste they are no longer good for anything.

They aren't repulsive, they're just ... nothing. Where's a garbage can?

My sister is a chef. She tells me that salt doesn't have flavor. Instead, it elicits and enhances the essence of whatever food is salted. Oregano changes the flavor of a tomato. But salt makes a tomato taste more like itself. She once gave me her guild's secret to excellent food, wisdom handed down from one master to another through the ages: add more salt.

Jesus tells Christians that we are to be "the salt of the earth." I can't think of a Jesus dictum that has taken an odder turn in daily use. Sophisticates use it to describe and patronize small-town people. "You know Wally Smith. He runs a small engine repair shop down the road from our summer house. Always wears overalls. Salt of the earth."

I don't think that's what Jesus meant. He was calling us to elicit and enhance the essence of life. Who is the salt of the earth? Well, who makes your life more lively? Who makes you laugh more loudly, think more intently, love more boldly? Who was the last person who convinced you to jump into a lake on an overcast fall day and whooped with you as the cold, cold water made every fiber of your being sing?

Prayer

Dear God, I thank you for that person. They may not know it, but they're doing just what Jesus wants. Amen.

The Pillar

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Brecksville

United Church of Christ

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FIRST CLASS