

## **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](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)**

## FEBRUARY 15, 2015 –MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

### **Meditation Music**

Divine Source of Life and Love: today we raise our voices in thanks and praise for the beautiful colors of earth and sky, for the joyous sounds of music and laughter, for the exhilaration of youth and the wisdom of age, for nature's fantastic mystery and magic, and for your marvelous goodness that make it all possible! Amen.

### ***Gathering in God's Presence***

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

American folk song

#### **Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Life of Christ**

#### **\* Call to Worship**

L: A new day has dawned! God's gift of life is renewed in you and me.

**P: Praise God for today! Praise God for the Creative Spirit in our midst.**

L: Let us rejoice and knowing that the Holy One is here. Let us welcome in the Spirit.

**P: We come to Worship and Celebrate. We come to hear God's Good News.**

L: Let us listen and respond to the Holy One, who meets us in new ways:

**P: God who is with us today as we worship, and every day as we walk in this world.**

L: Inspire us, O God, and guide our lives;

**All: Empower us to be your people!**

#### **\*Hymn of Praise**

O When the Saints Go Marching In

1. O when the Saints go marching in,  
When the Saints go marching in.  
Lord, I want to be in that number  
When the Saints go marching in.

2. O when the sun begins to shine,  
When the sun begins to shine.  
Lord, I want to be in that number  
When the sun begins to shine.

3. O when the air is pure and clean...

4. O when our leaders work for peace...

5. O when we join our hands as one...

6. O on that hallelujah day...

**\*Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

**Eternal Holy One, we seek your Presence here today. Fill us with a sense of your Being; move us with the power of your Spirit; touch us with faith, hope and love. Come to us and be with us, that we may worship you in this place, and then be prepared to serve you in this world. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Light and our Salvation. Amen.**

<b>The Old Testament</b>	Psalm 150	Pew Bible, page 583
<b>The New Testament</b>	John 2:1-11	Pew Bible, page 93
<b>The Continuing Testament</b>	from <i>Faith and Worship</i>	by John Birch

**Time with Young Worshipers**

<b>Musical Offering</b>	Soon and Very Soon	Crouch
<b>Sermon</b>	<i>Let the Good Times Roll!</i>	Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**      This Little Light of Mine

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! [3x's]  
    Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
2. Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine! [3x's]  
    Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
3. Don't you try and blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine! [3x's]  
    Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
4. All around my neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine! [3x's]  
    Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
5. Everywhere the Spirit leads, I'm gonna let it shine! [3x's]  
    Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
6. Every day and every way, I'm gonna let it shine! [3x's]  
    Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!      [repeat verse 1]

***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**

What a Wonderful World

Weiss/Thiele

#### **\*Offertory Hymn**

**Winter has come, its taken hold.  
The days are short, the nights are cold.  
The poor need food and light and heat.**

We send our gifts, their needs to meet. Amen

#### **\* Prayer of Dedication** [Unison]

**We offer ourselves with these gifts, Gracious Holy One, confident that you have a purpose for them and for us. Expand our vision to see the signs of your love which surround us every day. Open our hearts to embrace new ways to serve you and others. Renew our compassion and inspire our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Hope and our Joy! Amen.**

### ***Holy Communion***

#### **Words of Institution**

#### **Prayer of Consecration**

#### **The Invitation**

## Receiving the Bread and Cup

1. Let us break bread together on our knees....
2. Let us drink wine together on our knees....
3. Let us give thanks together on our knees....
4. Let us praise God together on our knees....

**Refrain:** When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,  
O God have mercy on me.

## The Blessing

### *Going with God's Love*

\* Hymn of Departure

Time I Feel the Spirit

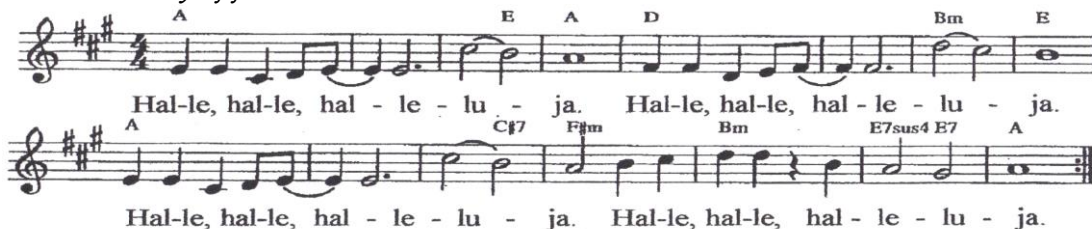
#282

## 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

Down by the Riverside

African-American spiritual

## **PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

The Family of Nancy Allenson, Cheryl Speith, Rudy Lorenzo, Dan Renovetz, Addy Baldwin, G. Wardlaw, Bill Harris, Doris Schmid, Don & Eleanor Kusa, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Doug Lightbody, Kathleen Stewart, 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, February 8, 2015 – Adults: 77 Kids: 16 Total: 93

## ***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 our Coffee Hour.

**WE WELCOME 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 are also available from ushers for children.

**FOR OUR COMMUNION SERVICE**, grape juice is used instead of wine for the purpose of showing solidarity with those among us who are in recovery from addiction.

**THIS WEDNESDAY IS ASH WEDNESDAY**, the first day of Lent. Lent is a time when Christians traditionally contemplate the journey of Jesus - from the mountaintop experience of the Transfiguration, through the valley of the shadow of Good Friday, to the glorious Good News of Easter. We will begin our Lenten Journey with our annual Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall, followed by a brief service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes. All are invited to come and to bring a friend! Those whose last name begins with a letter from A through L are asked to bring a loaf of bread to share. [The M through Z's will be asked to bring bread to our Maundy Thursday supper on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.]

**THIS YEAR'S LENTEN STUDY**, *THE ABC'S OF OUR FAITH* will be held on Tuesdays from 7:15-8:30 pm in Pilgrim Hall, beginning February 24<sup>th</sup>. We will look at some of the basic teachings and practices of Christianity, consider how they have evolved throughout the years, and share our thoughts about their meaning and relevance for our lives today. In our first session, we will deal with the simple [or not so simple] idea of Lent itself, and look at the entire Church Year. For those new to the Faith, when we talk about Epiphany, Lent, Maundy Thursday, Pentecost, etc. it can sound like a foreign language. And for longtime members,

our familiarity with these terms can make them easy to skip-over without much thought. In this study we will try to discover, or rediscover, the purpose and power of some of the fundamental components of Christianity. We will also share our questions, insights, and personal experiences that help make our Faith - and our lives - interesting, challenging and meaningful!

In addition to the topics listed here, we will also take time to discuss other areas of our Faith that are important to those who attend. Each week's session "stands alone" so feel free to participate in as many or as few as your schedule permits.

**February 24 - The Church Year**

**March 3 - The Bible**

**March 10 - The Gospel**

**March 17 - The Christ, Jesus**

**March 24 - The Sacraments**

**A SPECIAL WORD OF WELCOME AND THANKS** to our phenomenal Dixieland Band musicians for today's service. They are: Steve Ostrow on trombone, Steve Kraus on banjo, and Eric Seddon on clarinet. From our own ranks, that's Pastor Dave Shackle on trumpet, Dave Debick on piano, and the Youth Percussion Group, assisted by Bob Chandler, Donn Whyte, and Jim Demko. And of course, none of this would have happened if Ed Lusk hadn't presented the idea to Spiritual Life a few months ago. Thanks, Ed, for spearheading this colorful, toe-tapping event!

**ON SUNDAY MARCH 1 AT 4:00 PM**, BUCC will host the **Baldwin Wallace Brass Choir** as part of our free concert series. Under the direction of John Brndiar, the ensemble will perform works by Hindemith, Reynolds, Nelhybel, Lendvay and others. A free-will offering will be received, and a light reception will follow the program. We hope you can join us on March 1<sup>st</sup> for a first-rate program of brass music.

**SEASONAL CHOIR** will begin rehearsing for Holy Week this Thursday Feb. 19 from 7-8 pm. Holy Week is scheduled for March 29--April 5 this year. Listening CDs are provided. High school students are welcome.

**A CARE-GIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** for individuals caring for aging parents, spouse, or other family members will hold its initial meeting on Thursday, Feb. 26th at 7:00pm at Brecksville United Methodist Church, just across the Square from BUCC. Former BUCC Interim Pastor Barbara Bartholomew will facilitate this support group, which is open to all.

**NEXT SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22ND**, at 11:45, our BUCC Family will take some time to remember and celebrate Nancy's life among us. Members of her beloved BUCC Choir will sing, we will have a few brief readings, and people will have the opportunity to share some of their memories and stories of Nancy. Please continue to keep Nancy's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

**MORE NEW OFFERTORY WORDS!** Our Spiritual Life Ministry Team realized that the words we had been singing as we present our offerings, said little about our giving. Max Roha, who came up with the idea, gave us our first set of words. Bill Toneff then rose to the challenge and penned the words we used in Advent through Christmas. Today, we're introducing another one that Max wrote for the Winter months. Now we would like your contributions for additional options! You don't need to be a trained musician nor an accomplished poet. Just put your feelings into wording that reflects your own expressions of our Sunday morning offering. They could be suitable for any time of year, or they might be seasonal [Christmas, Easter, Spring, Fall, etc.] Please submit your ideas [or questions] to Pastor Dave or Dave Debick, who will share them with our Spiritual Life Ministry members. And, voila, you will have found new words of praise that will add depth to our BUCC worship experience!

**WOMEN UNITED** Judith Caster, LISW, will speak to the Women United group on Wednesday, Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m., in the parlor. She will talk about troubled students, how to help them identify issues and how to react appropriately to them. Bring your lunch, coffee and tea will be provided. All are welcome.

**TODAY A SPECIAL OFFERING** will be taken for the United Church of Christ Coalition for LGBT Concerns (LGBT is an abbreviation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered). The Coalition was founded in 1972. In 1985, the UCC General Synod passed a resolution encouraging individual congregations to declare themselves "Open and Affirming" of LGBT people. In the 30 years since, the Open and Affirming (ONA) Program has worked to encourage the welcome of LGBT people as full participants in the life of the Church. Brecksville UCC voted to become ONA in 1991, the third church in Ohio to do so and 58th in the UCC. Today there are more than 1200 ONA congregations in the UCC, about 23% of the denomination. While this is encouraging, there is still more work to be done. Your generous donation today can help make this happen!

**THE BLESSINGS JAR** is for your use to drop in a note and/or money in response to a special blessing you have received during the week. We would like to recognize your blessing in the Pillar if you wish.



**FEBRUARY – CRAFT CUPBOARD NEEDS** - School Supplies, Pencils, Paper, Glue, Crayons, etc

**PLEASE BE SURE** to enter your meeting and event schedule in the office calendar. This is used to list your times in both the ***Weekly Bulletin*** and in the ***Monthly Pillar***.

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

## ***The Readings***

### **The Old Testament** - Psalm 150

Praise the Holy One! Praise the Holy One in the sanctuary! Praise the Creative One throughout the heavens! Praise the Righteous One, whose deeds are awesome! Offer praise that is befitting of that Divine greatness! Praise the Holy One with the sound of trumpet! Praise your Creator with the lute and the harp! With tambourine and dance, let your praises arise! Ring-out your praise with strings and pipe! Praise the Maker of All with clanging cymbals and with loud crashing cymbals! Let everything that has life and breath praise the Holy One! Praise the Holy One, all you people!

### **The New Testament** - John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine ran out, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no wine." He said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from, he called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## **The Continuing Testament** - from *Faith and Worship* - by John Birch [edited]

Maybe you haven't realized this yet, but God has a sense of fun. God certainly has a sense of humor. Just look around the world at all the strange creatures we share this planet with. Or if you don't want to look that far, look around at the people seated beside you! This world was not created by a God who is a killjoy, a God who wants everyone to go around looking glum. It was created by a God who wants people to appreciate, care for, and enjoy this world.

There are some who think religious life should be somber, serious, and devoid of laughter and joy. That's not how I see it. There's a famous picture called *Laughing Jesus*. It's an image so full of life, light and expression that you can almost hear the sound of laughter coming from the open mouth. But to some, the thought of the Son of God laughing out loud seems almost heretical. I can't see why. Part of the excitement of the Christian faith, is the spontaneous joy of the One we follow. Wherever Jesus went and whenever he came into people's lives, it was like turning water into wine. Wherever lives were flat and lifeless, he brought sparkle and color. Into lives that were frail he breathed his strength. And to those lives that were dull and incomplete he brought light and wholeness.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday 2/15/2015</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	*ONA Free Will Offering*	
	11 am	Mardi Gras Reception
<b>Monday 2/16/2015</b>	1 pm	Bicentennial Quilt Committee
<b>Tuesday 2/17/2015</b>	10-11:30	CWRU
<b>Wed 2/18/2015</b>	<b>*Ash Wednesday*</b>	
	6 am	Early Birds
	11 am	Women United
	6:30 pm	Soup Supper
	7 pm	Service with Communion & Ashes

**Thurs 2/19/2015**

1 pm	Bible Study
5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
8 pm	Choir

**Sunday 2/22/2015**

10 am	Worship Service
11 am	Coffee Hour
11:45 am	Nancy Allenson Service
6 pm	Youth Ministry

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE****FEBRUARY 15, 2015**

Lay Reader:	Jill Zedan
Head Usher:	Caroline Chandler
Ushers:	Dan Stewart, Andrew Wilson Joe & Betsey Wilson
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Cndl:	Drew Demko
Sound:	Max Roha
Comns Grtr:	Kathy Pastor
Narthex Grtr:	Fred Pesek
Flowers:	Julie Bernard
Nursery:	Kara Reese
Counters:	Carole Snider, Jan Renovetz
Servers:	Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean-Up:	Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks:	Anne Melfo, Bridget Sproul
Snow Hldr:	Jim Farwell

**NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2015**

Lay Reader:	Jon Thompson
Head Usher:	Kathy Smith
Ushers:	Beth Rehling, David Ritchey Chad & Bridget Sproul
Acolyte:	Grace Hunt
Peace Candle:	Lily Hunt
Sound:	David Pastor
Comns Grtr:	Jane Cribbs
Narthex Grtr:	Ann Kelley
Flowers:	Marla Corrado
Nursery:	Marla Corrado
Counters:	Kathy Pastor, Dassie Matsuoka
Servers:	Joy Garapic, Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up:	Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey
Snacks:	Tina Ortiz, Lindsay Kriynovich
Snow Herder:	Dave Bernard