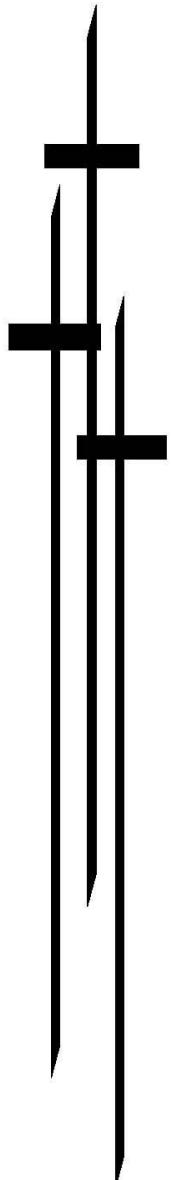


The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

APRIL, 2015



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



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS...

*...on the Non-stop
(Good) News Cycle...*

This year's Lenten Study began with a session on "The Church Year". We looked at how our Church Calendar, much like our own lives, consists of joyful times and somber times, highs and lows,

celebrations and challenges, metaphorical feasts and fastings. As we now enter Holy Week, we begin a transition from the solemn Lenten journey, to the joyous Easter celebration. Like the Lenten Season, Easter is also a *Season*: a fifty-day period that begins with the rising of the sun on Easter morning, signifying the rising of the Son of God. The Easter Season continues for seven Sundays, until Pentecost (from the Greek *pentekoste* - literally "fiftieth day"). However, even though the Easter Season officially ends, the Easter Message will continue to permeate our entire Church Year and our entire lives.

As we celebrate and contemplate the Good News of Christ's Resurrection, we are reminded that Easter isn't simply one day of the year, or a seven-week Season of the Church Year. Easter is an on-going event that impacts the way in which we see and understand Life. Easter proclaims a rising from Death to Life, and a transformation of the way in which we view them both. Easter helps us free us from our fears, and from

that ultimate fear of death itself. It inspires and empowers us to see ourselves and all those around us in a new light.

The continuing power of Easter isn't found simply in our believing that Jesus was raised from death to life. It is discovered whenever you and I allow Christ's power of love and life to overcomes the destructive forces of hatred and fear which we encounter. Easter happens when people are willing to stand-up for what is fair and compassionate, even in the face of severe criticism or persecution. Easter is about honoring Christ's call that we recognize and treat all people as our brothers and sisters, and that we love our neighbor as we love ourselves. The power of Easter shines brightest when people look for the brightest and best in one another, and thereby help bring it forth. Easter isn't about looking at the world through rose colored glasses - it's about seeing the world with all its problems and pain, yet trusting that there is no pain or problem that can ever separate us from the Divine love and grace which is embodied in Jesus Christ.

The message of Easter is that - try though we might - humankind cannot bury or entomb the truth of God's amazing and everlasting love. It will always find a way to rise again! This is why the story of Easter can never be merely the retelling of an event that took place two thousand years ago. It is a living reminder of how the Divine Source of Life and Love continues to touch and transform our lives with Good News. On the first Easter morning, in spite of the confusion, fear, and doubt that surround them, those first witnesses hurry from the tomb to share the Good News with their friends, their enemies, and eventually, the entire world:

CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! This is the Good News that inspires our lives. This is the Good News that brings us new life.

Peace and Joy, 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.



HOLY WEEK/EASTER OPPORTUNITIES AT BUCC:

***March 29th - 10 am - Palm Sunday Procession of Palms and reading of the Passion Story**



April 2nd - Maunday Thursday Soup Supper at 6:30.
7:00 Celebration of Christ's Last Supper and reenacting Christ's example washing his disciple's feet.

April 3rd - 7:00 pm. Good Friday Service in the Sanctuary

April 4th - Holy Saturday - Saint Bridget Easter Vigil at 8:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
(The Community of Saint Bridget is the group that holds Mass here on Saturdays, led by Ann Klonowski and Mary Collingwood.)

April 5th - Easter morning Sunrise Service at 6:45 at Highland Cemetery, and our Easter Celebration Service at 10:00.



FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

The Communication and Outreach Ministry will be making a video presentation of our Affirmation of Welcome along with some testimonies from parishioners about why they love BUCC on Palm/Passion Sunday and Easter Sunday! We will be using these for our website. No need to sign up...just be at church and be your amazing self. You will not be included unless you have signed a media waiver (available in the narthex or from the office) Look for Kate Klonowski (she will have forms available as well) and her trusty iPhone to become an internet ambassador for our great community!



FACILITIES



Stained glass windows to match the ones on the east side of the sanctuary will be finished and installed in the small west windows by about June 1. These will be constructed of new glass to match, as closely as possible, the original antique glass in the east windows.

Please take a look at the newly refurbished visitor chairs in the church office.

Jim Demko and Dave Bernard are replacing our many EXIT signs with new, improved and efficient ones as the original ones develop problems. Please be careful in the parking area at night. The frigid temperatures have taken out four of the six lights.

A BIG who have stepped up to help clear snow from the front walk, front steps, and the entries in frigid weather this winter.

FINANCE

Money was sent to the UCC Coalition for LGBT concerns in the amount of \$593. This will help strengthen their mission "to build a church and a world where all of God's children are welcome."



OUR ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING offering was \$832.00. Our gifts provide disaster relief and refugee aid, as well as helping people whose lives are in turmoil, by supplying many of their basic needs such as food, shelter, and clean drinking water. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS!

NEWS FROM OCWM

During January and February, BUCC members and friends donated food and other items in larger numbers than ever

before. This includes food items, dental items, toiletries (food stamps do not include toiletries and soaps), school supplies, clothing, afghans, and hats and mitten from the mitten tree. The number of items is just a detail, but the Brookside Center and Country Corner assigned a dollar value of over \$1000 to these items. We all know that the true value lies in the food value and meeting the needs of those people less fortunate than we are.



The next hunger meal will be on Sunday, April 19th at Pearl Road United Methodist Church, in partnership with St. Peter UCC, who have experience in preparing and serving hunger meals. A meeting was held with the contact from St. Peter, and it was agreed that BUCC will provide the entrée (yet to be determined) and the milk, and St. Peter will provide the salad (the dressing has been donated), the bread and butter, and the dessert. Of course, if BUCC members just happened to make cookies, they will be well received. A sign – up board will appear in the narthex soon.

Family Promise (formerly known as Interfaith Hospitality Network) has changed their program for helping families with housing and other needs. Families will not be rotating from church for shelter each week, but will use a central location. OCWM members are studying ways for BUCC members and friends to assist with this new program.

MOTHER'S DAY COLLECTION



On Sunday, May 10th, 2015, we will be collecting donations for Womankind, an organization who provides comprehensive prenatal care to pregnant women in need.

Your family can pick up a baby bottle in the narthex to take home and collect loose change (or a check would be lovely!) Your financial donations go a long way:

- Every dollar donated generates four dollars in services to women in need.
- \$500 sponsors prenatal care for one mom
- \$400 provides internet access, e-mail and phone service for one month.
- \$250 supplies us with 100 pregnancy test kits
- \$100 supports one hour of counseling
- \$50 toward client educational materials

Other helpful donation items in high demand include:

- Office Max gift cards
- Giant Eagle Gift Cards
- Sam's Club gift cards
- Diapers-all sizes
- Baby Wipes
- Similac Advance with Iron (this type of formula only please)
- "Forever" postage stamps

Womankind provides all of their services at no cost to the mother. Other donations of baby clothes, maternity clothes and furniture (no toys, please!) will be collected as well.



Thank you so much for your generosity! If you have any questions or concerns or need to arrange a large pickup, please contact Kate Klonowski at 216-534-3498 or keightykay@gmail.com.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

ILCU (Intentional Loving Caring Unit)

This ministry tries to keep up with members who have had surgery, are in recovery or just can't get to our Sunday services. A note, a phone call, a prayer....a way to keep in touch and let them know we are thinking of them.



Kirk and Lee Sanderson - by the time you read this, they will be moved into Chippewa Place, 7005 Stadium Pl. #222, Brecksville, OH 44141

Cheryl Spieth - at home following by-pass surgery, 8977 Highland Rd., Brecksville, OH 44141

Doris Schmid - following a fall, Legacy Place, 9528 Vail Dr., Twinsburg, OH 44087



Bill Harris - 6818 Hidden Lake Trail, Brecksville, OH 44141

Shirley Duncan - Summit Pointe, 9633 Valley View Rd., #2507, Macedonia, OH 44056

Cindy Burton - 7645 Winding Way, Brecksville, OH 44141

If you know of someone who needs to be remembered, please give me a call at 330-467-9357. Thank you, Janet Renovetz.

NOTES AND ASIDES

PLEASE ADOPT BUCC'S ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY PROGRAM!



FIFTEEN YEARS AGO . . . I attended our church's Early Birds book discussion group for the first time. The subject of their current book was the environment, and I listened to their comments for some time before asking if anyone knew much about "Adopt-a-Highway." As I recall, no one did, and then someone suggested I investigate and report back the following week.

I did, the group was interested, and we scheduled an organizational meeting with Ed Rahel, Horticulturist for ODOT. We were first assigned to the Wallings Road & I-77 area. After a short time, the Rt. 82 & I-77 interchange became available. During our 15 years with this project, believe it or not, we've had ONE HUNDRED (plus or minus) individuals participate!

The time now seems right for the changing of the guard, so to speak. I still intend to participate when I can, but would appreciate one or two volunteers to take over the scheduling

and facilitating of our Adopt-a-Highway program and coordinating with ODOT. If I've piqued your interest, feel free to call me at home (440-526-4728) or speak to me at Fellowship Hour on Sunday. Jane Cribbs



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

April 5:	Phyllis Molner
April 6:	G Wardlaw
April 9:	Arthur Cook
April 10:	Jan Wardlaw
April 12:	Sandra Rooney
April 14:	Max Roha
April 17:	Lynne Struck
April 18:	Brian Esser
April 21:	Vickie Szabo
April 22:	Nate Hunt
	Evan Smith
April 27:	Rob Grow
April 29:	Sherrill Witt
	Claire Esser
April 30:	Jeannette Kroeger

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

BICENTENNIAL QUILT

The planning for the Bicentennial Quilt is moving along and we (fantastic Caroline Chandler and her brilliant cohorts, aka



"the Quilt Committee Members) respectfully request your attendance downstairs after Service on April 12, 2015.

We will have a table set up with carefully crafted Muslin (fabric) squares, quilt samples for you to admire, Quilt Committee Members to greet you, talk with you about our humble expectations, and best of all, a SIGN-UP sheet. Awesomel



FOOD PANTRY

Rice and Tuna

MUSIC



On Sunday May 3, BUCC will host a student string quartet from Oberlin College Conservatory of Music. More information about this event will be found in May's Pillar

WOMEN UNITED

Our Next Meeting is April 15th in the Parlor at 11:30 A.M. The speaker, David Gabor, will demonstrate spinning yarn on both the drop spindle and the spinning wheel to make knitting yarn. Bring a sandwich and a friend. Coffee and tea are provided



ENCORE

In the interest of space/resource conservation, we will no longer be printing an Encore Sermon.



All of Pastor Dave's Sermons are online at our Church Website and also available in the office on audio CDs for listening at home or in your car. Thank you.



BUCC CALENDAR APRIL, 2015

Wednesday, April 1 6 am Early Birds 4:30 pm Recorder/ Dulcimer	Friday, April 10	Wednesday, April 22 6 am Early Birds 4:30 pm Recorder/ Dulcimer
Thursday, April 2 1 pm Bible Study	Saturday, April 11	Thursday, April 23 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Joyful Noise 7 pm Choir
Maunday Thursday 6:30 pm Soup/Supper 7 pm Service	Sunday, April 12 10 am Worship and Church School 11 am Coffee Hour/ Quilt Showing 6pm Youth Ministry	Friday, April 24
Friday, April 3 7 pm Good Friday Service	Monday, April 13	Saturday, April 25 * Talent Show – Info to Follow*
Saturday, April 4 9 am Facilities 8:30 Easter Vigil	Tuesday, April 14 10:30 am CWRU	Sunday, April 26 10 am Worship Church School 11 am Coffee Hour 6pm Youth Ministry
Sunday, April 5 EASTER SUNDAY 6:45 am Sunrise Service 10 am Worship and Church School 11 am Coffee Hour	Wednesday, April 15 PILLAR DEADLINE 6 am Early Birds 11:30 am Women United	Monday, April 27
Monday, April 6 7pm Spiritual Life	Thursday, April 16 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Joyful Noise 7 pm Choir	Tuesday, April 28 10:30 am CWRU
Tuesday, April 7 10:30 am CWRU 7 pm Membership	Friday, April 17	Wednesday, April 29 6 am Early Birds
Wednesday, April 8 6 am Early Birds 4:30 pm Rec/Dul. 7 pm Council	Saturday, April 18	Thursday, April 30 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Joyful Noise 7 pm Choir
Thursday, April 9 1 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Joyful Noise 7 pm Choir	Sunday, April 19 10 am Worship and Church School 11 am Coffee Hour Service 11:30 am Spiritual Life *Hunger Meal*	
	Monday, April 20	
	Tuesday, April 21 10:30 am CWRU	

Participants in Worship

APRIL 5, 2015

Lay Reader: David Ritchey
 Head Usher: Max Roha
 Ushers: Sam Koch, Ed Lusk
 Carole & George Snider
 Acolyte: Courtni Began
 Peace Cndl: Carli Began
 Sound: Doug Fawcett
 Comns Grtr: Chad Sproul
 Narthex Grtr: Joanne Cook
 Flowers: EASTER LILIES
 Nursery: Marla Corrado
 Counters: Nancy Stella, Anna Mary Fisher
 Servers: Joy Garapic, Caroline Chandler
 Clean Up: Kathy & David Pastor
 Snacks: Justin Smith, Jon Thompson
 Snow Hldr: Cliff Cribbs

APRIL 12, 2015

Lay Reader: Tia Began
 Head Usher: Bridget Sproul
 Ushers: Tina Ortiz, Heidi Spangler
 Fred Pesek, Cliff Cribbs
 Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
 Peace Cndl: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
 Sound: Mike Westerberg
 Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
 Narthex Grtr: Dorie Gabor
 Flowers: Carole Snider
 Nursery: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
 Counters: Kathy Pastor, Bruce McCain
 Servers: Sue Stenzel & Joanne Cook
 Clean-Up: Jon Thompson, Jill Zedan
 Snacks: Marla Corrado, Marilyn Wrights
 Snow Herder: David Pastor

APRIL 19, 2015

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
 Head Usher: Kathy Smith
 Ushers: Julie & Dave Bernard
 Kathy & David Pastor
 Acolyte: Ben Rehling
 Peace Cndl: Indira Bigelow
 Sound: Max Roha
 Comns Grtr: Caroline Chandler
 Narthex Grtr: Jill Zedan
 Flowers: Dorie Gabor
 Nursery: Peg Duffy
 Counters: Sue Stenzel, Jim Duffy
 Servers: Dottie & Jim Farwell
 Clean-Up: Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey
 Snacks: Anne Melfo, Betsey Wilson
 Snow Herder: Billy Harris

APRIL 26, 2015

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
 Head Usher: Jon Thompson
 Ushers: Joe & Betsey Wilson
 Drew Wilson, Lindsey Maier
 Michalina Fawcett
 Acolyte: Drew Demko
 Peace Candle: David Pastor
 Sound: Ann Kelley
 Comns Grtr: Kathy Smith
 Narthex Grtr: Julie Bernard
 Flowers: Shauna Bigelow
 Nursery: Donn Whyte, Dassie
 Counters: Matsuoka
 Servers: Carole Snider, Marge Culver
 Clean-Up: Peg & Jim Duffy
 Snacks: Bridget Sproul, Tia Began
 Snow Herder: Jesse Wade

The Pillar

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