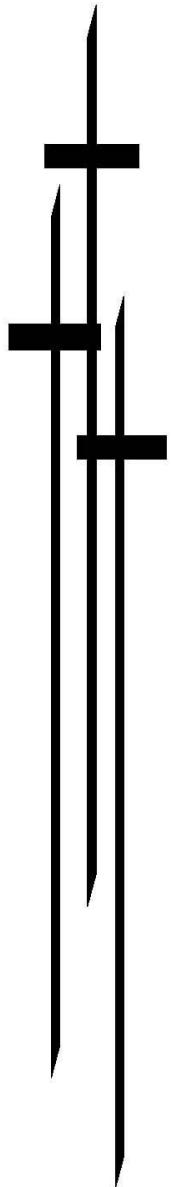


# The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

**MARCH 2015**



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



## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS...

*...Marching to a  
Different Beat...*

The month of March is named for Mars, the Roman God of War. Invincible in his impenetrable armor, Mars relentlessly overcomes his enemies with swift and brutal force. This March, we

follow the path of a completely different kind of conqueror - One who seeks to capture the hearts of all people, friend and foe alike, with compassionate grace and humble service. This conqueror's remarkable strength is found in his willingness to be gentle, vulnerable, and openly welcoming to all those he meets.

By standing-up for the poor and downtrodden, Jesus Christ reveals the true nature of Divine love and mercy. By laying-down his life for the sake of humankind, Jesus shows us the tremendous power that can be found through self-giving sacrifice and service. This March will take us to the middle of Holy Week - a week which begins with what appears to be Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and ends with his tragic exit on Good Friday. But as we know, that's not where the story ends. The Resurrection of Easter shows us that Death is not the final conqueror. The abiding power of Divine Life and Love will always have the final say! And by raising

Christ from death to life, God confirms the everlasting value of a life dedicated to justice, forgiveness and peace.

Throughout the month, we have a variety of opportunities to remember Christ's life, and to grow together in faith. Our Adult Study on *THE ABC'S OF OUR FAITH* continues on Tuesdays evenings from 7:15-8:30. Holy Week then begins with our festive Procession of Palms at our March 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning worship service. On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Maunday Thursday, we will gather in Pilgrim Hall for our Soup Supper at 6:30, and celebrate Christ's Last Supper with a service at 7:00. This year, we will also have a 7:00 pm. Good Friday Service, along with the members of the Catholic Community of Saint Bridget. (This is the group that holds Mass here on Saturdays, led by Ann Klonowski and Mary Collingwood.) Then, on Easter morning, we will have our annual Sunrise Service at 6:45 at Highland Cemetery and our glorious Easter Celebration Service at 10:00.

On that first Easter morning, in spite of the confusion, fear, and doubts that surround them, the early Easter witnesses hurry from the tomb to share the Good News with their friends. It is difficult to keep Good News quiet, and there's really no reason to do so! I pray that each of us will make an effort to come together in celebration of God's amazing love for us and for our world; and that we will all invite and welcome others to join us in the celebration!

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.

I want to extend a big THANK YOU to the individuals who anonymously contributed a bonus for me this year. I certainly appreciate the extra income, but appreciate even more the generosity that they, and so many others here at BUCC, consistently demonstrate. And also THANKS to all those who helped me celebrate another birthday! Your encouraging support and spirit of fun and festivity helps keep me young(ish)!

Pastor Dave

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OUR LENTEN STUDY ON *THE ABC'S OF OUR FAITH* continues on Tuesdays from 7:15-8:30 pm in Pilgrim Hall. We are looking at some of the basic teachings and practices of Christianity, and how they have evolved throughout the years. We also share our thoughts about their meaning and relevance today, as well as our questions and personal experiences that help make our Faith - and our lives - interesting, challenging and worthwhile! Each week's session "stands alone", so feel free to participate in as many as your schedule permits. Our remaining sessions are:

**March 3 - The Bible**

**March 10 - The Gospel**

**March 17 - The Christ, Jesus**

**March 24 - The Sacraments**



## FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

This year's Lenten project will again be about raising money to donate to Brookside Hunger Center. Due to budget cuts, the need is greater than ever. The kids will be doing two things towards this during lent - making crafts (including more beaded lanyards) to sell on Palm Sunday and collecting

toiletries for donations.

Toiletries will be collected every Sunday in a basket by the mitten tree.



Crafting will occur during Sunday School during lent. The Junior and High School kids are asked to meet in the Middle

School room for Sunday School. They will then split up and help with crafting in the elementary and secondary classes.

If you have any questions, please contact Sue Maier at 440-915-4988 or [Eyerienne@aol.com](mailto:Eyerienne@aol.com)

### MEMBERSHIP



We will be having our Annual Bowling outing on Sunday, March 8 at 1:00 pm. More info to follow! Hope to see you there!

## 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

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*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.

## STEWARDSHIP

### Purposeful De-Cluttering

*by Betsey Wilson, Stewardship Committee Member*

It's becoming a tradition in the Wilson household. The tree comes down, the ornaments get packed away, and I go into feverish spring-cleaning mode. Don't get me wrong; during the holidays I love the cozy comfort of knickknacks and twinkling lights. The long winter nights leave barely enough daylight to see the gathering dust bunnies anyway. But come cold, bright January mornings, I want it ALL gone.

The Bible encourages us to release our grip on possessions. Hebrews 12:1 instructs, *"let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles."* It's liberating to

cast off our dependence on "things," and in some cases, it's even easy. I happily plow through the plastic container cupboard, the boys' closets and the junk drawer. It's the sentimental items that get tricky. Currently I'm sifting through old photos. If it's blurry, a duplicate or co-stars my bad '80's perm, no problem –

into the circular file. But I MIGHT just need a dozen of David's 1<sup>st</sup> grade wallet-sized photos. And what about when Drew's a major league baseball player? Those little league snapshots could be worth a fortune! Baby steps, Betsey, baby steps.

What are the benefits of paring down? Well, obviously the less stuff you own, the less time you need to clean it, move it or think about it. Also, it's easier to stay organized when you have less to organize. And the big one for me; the more I de-



clutter, the more thoughtful I become about the purchases I make. Do I really need it/love it, and is there a place for it? My humble suggestion if you're thinking of diving it? Keep it simple. While the internet offers myriad organizing ideas, it can also overwhelm. Search 'Declutter 365' for daily 15-minute, manageable tasks. [Flylady.net](http://Flylady.net), a support and self-help group that offers housekeeping advice, is also a valuable tool.

In 2015 I encourage you to expand your understanding of the stewardship of possessions. *Permission to keep and permission to toss/recycle* is the essence of stewardship. My family is unburdened at the very same time another family is being blessed. Win/win! And as we're reminded in the 24<sup>th</sup> Psalm "*The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.*" Let's be good stewards of our possessions, even if it means un-possessing them.

### SAVE THE DATE



There will be a Corned Beef and Cabbage Meal on Sunday, March 15 following Service. Hope to see you there!

## NOTES AND ASIDES



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

March 3:	Lucy Brown
March 5:	Dorothy Faust
March 8:	Mindy Harris-Wade
March 9:	Celia Kelly
	Chris Fas
	Tia Began
March 12:	Benjamin Rehling
March 14:	Kate Klonowski
March 16:	Olivia Klonowski
	Spencer Whyte
	Matthew Walters
	Vonda Ward
March 18:	Philip Fas
	Barbara Gartland
March 20:	Emma Novak
March 22:	Ann Kelley
March 23:	Emily Kelly
March 24:	Kathleen Stewart
March 25:	Joe Wilson
March 28:	Pat Bailey
	Kathy Pastor
March 29:	Mark Rehling
	Bill Witt
March 30:	Susan Snyder

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

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Holy Week begins with our festive Procession of Palms at our March 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning worship service. On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Maunday Thursday, we will gather in Pilgrim Hall for our Soup

Supper at 6:30, and celebrate Christ's Last Supper with a service at 7:00. This year, we will also have a 7:00 pm. Good Friday Service, along with the members of the Catholic Community of Saint Bridget. (This is the group that holds Mass here

on Saturdays, led by Ann Klonowski and Mary Collingwood.) Then, on Easter morning, we will have our annual Sunrise Service at 6:45 at Highland Cemetery, and our glorious Easter Celebration Service at 10:00.



FOOD PANTRY  
March - Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta

## LETTER OF THANKS

Lee and I want to thank so many of you for your prayers,

  
cards, and visits, as we struggled a bit with health. I am now on dialysis three times a week and Lee's pain is mostly under control.

We are happy to be settled in at Chippewa Place, 7005 Stadium Drive

#222 in Brecksville. The same old telephone number - 440-526-4132.

Kirk Sanderson

## LIBRARY

THE BUCC LIBRARY calls your attention to some of our new books: The Power of Parable: How Fiction by Jesus Became Fiction About Jesus, by John Dominic Crossan; The Faith Instinct: How Religion Evolved and Why It Endures, by Nicholas Wade; Without Buddha, I Could Not Be a Christian, by Paul F. Knitter; Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening, by Albert

Nolan; What Money Can't Buy: The Moral Limits of Markets, by Michael J. Sandel; Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha and Mohammed Cross the Road?: Christian Identity in a Multi-Faith World, by Brian D. McLaren; Evolution of the Word: The New Testament in the Order the

  
Books Were Written, by Marcus J. Borg; When "Spiritual But Not Religious" Is Not Enough: Seeing God in Surprising Places, Even the Church, by Lillian Daniel; An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith, by Barbara Brown Taylor; and

The Magician's Nephew, by C.S. Lewis (prequel to The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe). Look for these on the top shelf of the red book cart, along with issues of Still Speaking magazine.

## MUSIC



Seasonal Choir – On Thursday Feb. 19 at 7:00 pm, seasonal choir will begin rehearsing for Holy Week, which is scheduled for March 29-April 5 this year. If you enjoy singing in a group setting, but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir provides a great opportunity for music, fellowship, and spiritual preparation for Holy Week. High school students are welcome. Rehearsals run from 7-8 pm on Thursdays during Lent. Listening CDs are provided to help learn the music.

On Sunday March 1, Brecksville UCC will host the Baldwin Wallace Brass Choir, directed by John Brndiar. The Choir will play several works involving full ensemble, as well as pieces written for smaller quartets, quintets, etc. A free-will offering will be received, and a light reception will follow the program. We hope you can be present with us on March 1 to enjoy these outstanding brass players.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing responds to disasters every 2.5



days on average, and changes lives 365 days each year. One Great Hour of Sharing is at work in 138 countries, including the U.S.A. We will receive an offering

for One Great Hour of Sharing on March 15<sup>th</sup>. This will make us a partner in refugee relief, disaster relief, and community development efforts. Along with other United Church of Christ churches. One example of community development is improved access to clean and safe drinking water.

## WOMEN UNITED



Women United will meet Wednesday, March 18, 11:30. The program will be announced soon. Bring a sandwich. Coffee and tea will be 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, or also available to listen to on DVD in the Office. Thank you.



## BUCC CALENDAR MARCH, 2015

### **Sunday, March 1**

10 am Worship and Church School  
11 am Coffee Hour  
11:30 am OCWM  
4 pm BW Brass Choir

### **Monday, March 2**

1 pm Bicentennial Quilt Group

### **Tuesday, March 3**

7 pm Membership  
7:15 - 8:30 Lent Study  
Pilgrim Hall

### **Wed, March 4**

6 am Early Birds  
4:30 pm Recorder/  
Dulcimer

### **Thursday, March 5**

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

### **Friday, March 6**

### **Saturday, March 7**

### **Sunday, March 8**

### **\*Daylight Savings**

### **Time Begins!\***

10 am Worship and Church School  
11 am Coffee Hour  
1 pm Bowling

### **Monday, March 9**

### **Tuesday, March 10**

7:15 - 8:30 Lent Study  
Pilgrim Hall

### **Wed., March 11**

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

### **Thursday, March 12**

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

### **Friday, March 13**

### **Saturday, March 14**

### **Sunday, March 15**

10 am Worship and Church School  
\*OGHS Offering\*  
11 am St. Patrick's Corned Beef Meal  
6pm Youth Ministry

### **PILLAR DEADLINE**

### **Monday, March 16**

### **Tuesday, March 17**

7:15 - 8:30 Lent Study  
Pilgrim Hall

### **Wednesday, March 18**

6 am Early Birds  
11:30 am Women United  
4:30 pm Recorder/  
Dulcimer

### **Thursday, March 19**

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

### **Friday, March 20**

### **Saturday, March 21**

### **Sunday, March 22**

10 am Worship and Church School  
11 am Coffee Hour Service  
11:30 am Spiritual Life

### **Monday, March 23**

### **Tuesday, March 24**

7:15 - 8:30 Lent Study  
Pilgrim Hall

### **Wednesday, March 25**

6 am Early Birds  
4:30 pm Recorder/  
Dulcimer

### **Thursday, March 26**

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

### **Friday, March 27**

### **Saturday, March 28**

### **Sunday, March 29**

10 am Worship/Palm Sunday/  
Church School  
11 am Coffee Hour  
6pm Youth Ministry

### **Monday, March 30**

### **Tuesday, March 31**

7:15 - 8:30 Lent Study  
Pilgrim Hall

## Participants in Worship

### MARCH 1, 2015

Lay Reader: Diane Gressley  
 Head Usher: Jon Thompson  
 Ushers: Dave & Julie Bernard  
 Cliff & Jane Cribbs  
 Acolyte: Ben Davis  
 Peace Cndl: Evan Merritt  
 Sound: Kevin Smith  
 Comns Grtr: Joanne Cook  
 Narthex Grtr: Kathy Pastor  
 Flowers: Jan Renovetz  
 Nursery: Kate Klonowski  
 Counters: Nancy Stella, Dassie Matsuoka  
 Server: Marge Culver, Caroline Chandler  
 Clean Up: Jill Zedan, Jon Thompson  
 Snacks: Kate Klonowski and Kathleen Stewart  
 Snow Hldr: Joe Wilson

### MARCH 8, 2015

Lay Reader: Evie Novak  
 Head Usher: Jill Zedan  
 Ushers: Lindsey Maier, Sue Maier  
 Kathy Smith, Dan Stewart  
 Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski  
 Peace Cndl: Olivia Klonowski  
 Sound: David Pastor  
 Comns Grtr: Ann Kelley  
 Narthex Grtr: Linda Kriyovich  
 Flowers: Dorie Gabor  
 Nursery: Marla Corrado  
 Counters: Bruce McCain, Carole Snider  
 Servers: Sue Stenzel, Julie Bernard  
 Clean-Up: Cliff & Jane Cribbs  
 Snacks: Sue Maier, Beth Rehling  
 Snow Herder: Jim Demko

### MARCH 15, 2015

Lay Reader: Kate Klonowski  
 Head Usher: Ann Melfo  
 Ushers: Linda Kriyovich, Sam Koch  
 Carole & George Snider  
 Acolyte: Michalina Fawcett  
 Peace Cndl: Garrett Demko  
 Sound: Max Roha  
 Comns Grtr: Jane Cribbs  
 Narthex Grtr: Cliff Cribbs  
 Flowers: Sue Stenzel  
 Nursery: Shauna Bigelow

### Counters:

Servers:  
 Clean-Up:  
 Snacks:  
 Snow Herder:

Donn Whyte, David Pastor

Chad & Bridget Sproul  
 Dave & Kathy Pastor  
 Tina Ortiz, Mary Ann Hoppel  
 Doug Fawcett

### MARCH 22, 2015

Lay Reader: Spencer Whyte  
 Head Usher: Jan Renovetz  
 Ushers: Ian Stewart, Dan Stewart  
 David Pastor, Tina Ortiz  
 Ryan Stewart  
 Peace Candle: Indira Bigelow  
 Sound: Mike Westerberg  
 Comns Grtr: Chad Sproul  
 Narthex Grtr: Bridget Sproul  
 Flowers: Kathy Pastor  
 Nursery: Kara Rees  
 Counters: Kathy Pastor, Sue Stenzel  
 Servers: Robin Coyer –Westerberg, Vicki Szabo  
 Clean-Up: Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey  
 Snacks: Diane Gressley, Heidi Spangler  
 Snow Herder: Matt Wolbert

### MARCH 29, 2015

Lay Reader: David Pastor  
 Head Usher: Evie Novak  
 Ushers: Spencer Whyte, Matt Wolbert  
 Darlene Kelly, Heidi Spangler  
 Acolyte: Courtney Began  
 Peace Cndl: Carli Began  
 Sound: Doug Fawcett  
 Comns Grtr: Wes Novak  
 Narthex Grtr: Kathy Pastor  
 Flowers: PALM SUNDAY  
 Nursery: Peg Duffy  
 Counters: Jim Duffy, Jan Renovetz  
 Servers: Carole Snider, Joanne Cooke  
 Clean-Up: Anne Melfo, Doug Fawcett  
 Snacks: Beth Rehling, Susan Snyder  
 Snow Hldr: Wes Novak

# *The Pillar*

is published monthly by the

## Brecksville United Church of Christ

**23 Public Square  
Brecksville, Ohio 44141** [Betseywilson10@gmail.com](mailto:Betseywilson10@gmail.com)

**Phone:** 440-526-4364    **Pastor:** Rev. Dave Shackle  
**E-mail:** 440-546-1193  
[buccoh@sbccglobal.net](mailto:buccoh@sbccglobal.net)

**Web:**

[www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org) **Director of Music:**

**Office Hours:** (Mon – Fri)  
9:00 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.  
**Financial Secretary:** Joy Garapic  
[buccfinance@sbccglobal.net](mailto:buccfinance@sbccglobal.net)

**Deadline for copy:** The  
fifteenth day of the month  
prior to publication. Editor  
reserves the right to edit for  
content and space.

## FIRST CLASS