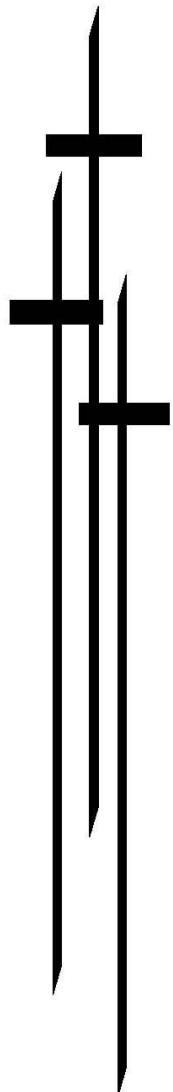


# The Pillar

Brecksville United Church of Christ

**APRIL, 2016**



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



*...So let us not grow weary  
in doing what is good  
[Galatians 6:9]....*

As I ponder this month's *Pillar* article, I think about all the Good News that has been proclaimed and experienced in this very spot over the past 200 years. Year after year - even in the midst of a Civil War, two World Wars, a decade of severe economic

Depression - our extended Family of Faith found ways to continue to celebrate Christ's Good News of Divine Love and Renewed Life. Just trying to envision how this faith community made it through so many dark and disturbing chapters of our nation's history, is itself overwhelming. They were certainly made of tougher stuff than !! Or maybe they didn't fully realize how bad things actually were at the time [just as we sometimes forget how relatively good we have it]. No matter how difficult or dire the circumstances around them became, our forebears somehow were able to trust that the redemptive power of God would ultimately turn the tide.

Each generation is presented with its own new set of challenges, and opportunities. We currently live in a culture where a person can garner acclaim for literally carrying-out a campaign of intolerance and disrespect for minorities, promote sexism and misogyny, openly mock individuals with disabilities, and encourage ridicule and violence against those who dare to disagree. We also live in a world where technology allows people to widely disseminate their impulsive, random ramblings of hatred, bigotry, and unchecked anger. Additionally, our 24 hour news cycle informs us of local and worldwide acts of violence, terror and disaster even as they are happening. Maybe this is why many people today tend to romanticize and pine for "the good old days!"

In a world that often seems overrun with negativity, fear, and bad new, it is critically important for us as people of faith to remember the amazing amount of love and kindness, grace and Good News that is also present. For me, one of the best ways to face today's growing negativity, narcissism and nihilism without being overwhelmed, is to allow myself to be inspired by the many positive things that we share together as a community of faith. Brecksville United Church of Christ is a place - and a people - through which good things regularly happen, and affirmative attitudes and actions are both encouraged and celebrated. The Easter Message - which we proclaim throughout the year - reminds us that even when things seem completely hopeless and lost, our Holy Source of Life will, in time, turn the tide. Knowing and trusting this Good News can give us the encouragement and strength we need to do our part in helping make that happen!

CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!  
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.



## FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

### **MEMBERSHIP**

**BOWLING** Sunday April 3rd will be our annual Bowling outing at Northwoods Lanes in Macedonia at 1-3 pm. Cost is \$6 per person which includes 2 games, rental shoes, pizza, goodies and prizes. Please see David Pastor to sign up or contact David at 440.552.4403 or email at [ridave@hotmail.com](mailto:ridave@hotmail.com).





**SAVE THE DATE** for Sunday, May 1st for the Akron Rubber Ducks game. Game time 2:05 pm. \$6 per seat and there is free parking in the garage across the side street from Canal Park. May 1st is MS Awareness day, with a 1K fun run, \$2 hot dogs, and kids can run the bases. We'll have sign-up sheets during coffee hour in April.

The Membership Committee would like to thank everyone for attending and sharing their delicious contributions at our annual St. Patrick's Day potluck. We would also like to extend a special thanks to Sue and Cliff Stenzel for their generosity and expertise in making the corned beef and vegetables.



## NEWS FROM OCWM



The next hunger meal is set for Sunday, April 17, 2016 at Pearl Road United Methodist Church. The menu is not determined at this writing, but about 150 meals are anticipated. The usual sign – up board will be set up in the narthex. We could use the help of 6 to 8 persons at 2:30 PM to set up and prepare the meal, and the help of 6 to 8 persons at 4:00 PM to serve and clean up.

## STEWARDSHIP



### BEGINNINGS Max Roha

It was 1816. The fledgling United States had won its independence and had reconfirmed it by also winning the War of 1812. To acknowledge their valuable service, most soldiers were given land in the western states, better suited for farming than the rocky land of New England. The land west of the Cuyahoga River in Ohio had just recently been opened up; it was no longer Indian Territory. Connecticut was actively selling this reserve land, west of Pennsylvania, to settle people in the frontier.

Ohio had become a state in 1803. Robert Breck of Massachusetts had purchased a part of the Connecticut Western Reserve. He did not live long enough to visit here but his heirs were active in Brecksville which was established in 1811. Many, new attractive areas were now open to other new settlers. One of the first people to come to Brecksville would be Lemuel Bourne, who first walked from Savoy, Massachusetts to check out the land; then returned to his home, married his sweetheart, Delia Waite, and returned in 1812, walking along the side of his horse which carried his new bride and their worldly possessions. The Erie Canal would not be completed until 1825 but, when finished, would make travel west, especially for those coming from Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont, less arduous than that experienced by Lemuel Bourne and the other early settlers. By 1816, Brecksville was a thriving village of mostly farmers and small merchants. They were busy clearing land, building log houses and

protecting their crops and farm animals from the wild animals which roamed the area. The Great Hinkley Animal Hunt, to rid the area of predators, would not happen until 1825. The population had grown enough so that the Methodists would start a church when Lemuel Bourne invited a missionary to hold a service in 1813. In 1815, they hired their first preacher who held regular services starting in 1823.

Rev. William Hanford, a Connecticut missionary serving the Hudson Congregational Church, met in Esq. Bradford's house in Brecksville with 13 Congregationalists who adopted Articles of Regulation on July 13-4, 1816 and formed the Brecksville Congregational Church. Rev. Hanford continued to include the Brecksville Congregational Church under his care for about seven more years, preaching there once a month. They initially met in Deacon Hannum's log cabin but in 1831 the Congregationalists built their first church building, a log cabin, on Highland Drive, west of the present cemetery.

The Presbyterians and Congregationalist in the East had come to an agreement to minimize competition for the limited membership in the frontier areas with a "Plan of Union". Under this agreement, the Brecksville church flipped back and forth several times between being Congregational and being Presbyterian. Early, on January 4, 1817, the church placed itself under the care of the Grand River Presbytery. But in 1854, it voted to become an independent Congregational church. Then in 1874, it again became a Presbyterian church. By 1889, the Plan of Union agreement had become unraveled since the top-down structure of the Presbyterians permitted them to reap most of the advantages of the Plan. Our Brecksville church was finally received into the fellowship at the Congregational Conference held at Dover, Ohio, in October, 1889.

In 1832, the Methodists began to erect a new church building on the north side of Public Square in the middle of Brecksville. The Congregationalists also acquired land on the south side of the square after resolving some controversy as to whether the site, then occupied by a saloon operated by Isaac Packard, was no longer suitable for a church building. Thus, the first of our present 7 contiguous pieces of land was acquired.

The Congregationalists now began building their new church building. Although they started later, delays in the Methodist's project, allowed the Congregationalists to complete theirs first, that building also used for funerals, etc. for the Methodists when needed. The Breck family, as promised, donated the Congregational bell. With the two churches facing each other on the square, Mrs. Anson Norville, a member of the Methodist Church, and a musician, made sure that the bells were selected so that, when rung together on a Sunday morning, the sounds of the bells from both churches complimented each other.

The first regular pastor of the Congregational Church, after several missionary ministers, was Rev. Newton Bartlett. Thus began a succession of about 40 pastors, plus a similar number of interim pastors, leading up to our present, the Rev. David Shackle.

During this time, the church has met many exciting changes in our world and our community and has faced them creatively. The Brecksville United Church of Christ is proud to celebrate its 200 years of serving. While we continue to savor our historical past, we continue to look forward to the future. An "Opening Doors" project was initiated to raise funds for the 2001 addition of our new, welcoming South entrance, incorporating the historical stained-glass windows saved from the 1965 fire. This addition faces onto our parking area, providing improved visibility, availability of convenient parking, easier accessibility, an elevator and new handicapped washrooms.

Now after our 200 years of an exciting history and with the continuing growth of our church and our community, we reach out with a warm welcome to everyone under the theme "You Are Welcome Here." We seek to extend this friendly, loving outreach to the broader local and to the world-wide communities.

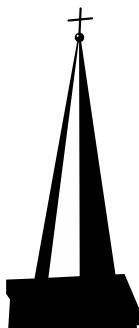
We believe "God is Still Speaking." We try to embrace new understandings of the Christian mandate, seeking to do as Jesus would do. We were the first church in Brecksville with a woman pastor and with openly gay senior staff members. We strive to continue this past history of being on the cutting edge of the continuing evolution. We believe that this is our Christian imperative.

## NOTES AND ASIDES

### BICENTENNIAL MINISTRY



**PHOTOS WANTED!** Please take photos of ALL events this year so we might add them to the new pictorial directory this fall, ie. Ministry meetings, event set-up/tear down, donation delivery, hospital visits (with permission), choir practices, Sunday School classes, you get the idea! Post them on our Facebook page, email to [BetseyWilson10@gmail.com](mailto:BetseyWilson10@gmail.com) or leave hard copies in the office Attn: Bicentennial Ministry. Thank you!



*Brecksville United Church of Christ*

CELEBRATING  
200  
YEARS

Enter, Rejoice & Come In!

We are now taking orders for the BUCC polo shirts and t-shirts with our 200 year anniversary logo. These high quality polo shirts are gray with an embroidered red, white and black BUCC logo. Sizes s-xl are \$25.00. 2xl and larger are \$27.00.

Gray, logo screened t-shirts sizes s-xl are \$15.00 with an additional \$2.00 for larger sizes. Children's t-shirts are also available.

Samples will be available for you to see and try on during coffee hour. A representative of the bicentennial committee will be available during coffee hour to take your order.

Deadline for orders is April 3.



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

April 5:	Phyllis Molnar
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 25:	Sebastian Albenze
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!

## FACEBOOK



If You Are New to BUCC? Find out all about us at [BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://BrecksvilleUCC.org) or join our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/groups/47415019263/](http://Facebook.com/groups/47415019263/) (or type in Brecksville United Church of Christ in the top search bar on your FB page). On our website you'll find current announcements, details of our 200 year history, photos and our Affirmation of Welcome. Our Facebook page is just plain fun!



## FOOD PANTRY

**APRIL - Rice and Tuna**

## ILCU (INTENTIONAL LOVING CARING UNIT)



**HAPPY SPRING!!** Though it hasn't been a bad winter in northeastern Ohio, it is still heartwarming to see the lawns turning green and the flower stems poking through the earth. Soon we will be surrounded by the bright, beautiful colors of spring....yellow daffodils and forsythia, red tulips, blue and purple hyacinths and irises. Let's all try to get out and enjoy.

Our prayer list is in the Bulletin each week and I am including their names here so you may send them a cheery card, make a phone call or pay a visit. Addresses may be found in your directory. IF you do not have the newest directory, please call me (Jan @ 330-467-9357) and I will get one for you.

New address: Jill Black, Elmcroft, 997 W. Aurora Rd., #524, Sagamore Hills, OH, 44067.

March hospitalizations: Caroline Chandler, Mary D'Agostino, Lenore Harris, Jim Kaul, Jan Rahnenfuehrer.

Prayer list: Jim Kaul, William Zmich (Marla Corrado Father), Lenore Harris, Cindy Burton, Shirley Duncan, Bill Harris, Phyllis Hassler, Doug Lightbody, Dassie Matsuoka, Tina Ortiz, Kirk and Lee Sanderson, Doris Schmid, Jan and G Wardlaw, Mary D'Agostino, Anne Toneff, Kathleen Stewart, and Donn Whyte, and our office manager, Jeannette Kroeger.

If you know of someone who needs to be included, please call the church office 440-526-4364.

## MUSIC

On Sunday, April 10 at 4:00 PM, Brecksville UCC will host the **Brecksville Broadview Heights Community Chorus**, directed by Joy Parker. The free concert will feature settings of early American hymns, folk tunes and spirituals along with several secular pieces. The program was chosen to help us celebrate our bicentennial year as a congregation. A free-will offering will be received, and a light reception will follow the concert. Plan on joining us April 10 for an inspiring program of choral music.



BUCC's staff and adult choir request that you ***kindly refrain from applauding*** after the adult choir anthem is presented at Sunday service - not only during Lent, but throughout the church year. We understand that people like to express their appreciation, but many find this applause disruptive to their worship experience. Thank you. As for the Joyful Noise Choir: please feel free to affirm them with applause as the Spirit moves you!

## A NOTE OF THANKS

*Thank You*  
  
*for your Kindness*

Bob and I would like to thank our friends of BUCC for all the lovely cards etc. that we received during the past few weeks after my surgery.

Blessings, Caroline Chandler

Thank you to the Stenzels and their helpers for providing the delicious corned beef dinner.

Thank you, Bill & Ann Toneff

## WOMEN UNITED

Our next meeting will be April 20 at 11:30 am.  
Hope to see you there!

At our March gathering we made, and delivered  
130 sandwiches to St. Herman's!



## 2016 Easter Flower Dedications

Anonymous

*In Memory of the Lost but Not Forgotten.*

Julie Bernard &  
Linda Kriynovich

*In Memory of Tony, Julie & Lori Gorenc.*

Jill Black

*In Memory of my Son, Harry K. Tucker III.*

Community of  
St. Bridget

*With Gratitude from the Community of St. Bridget.*

Jeanne Cowden

*In Memory of James W. Cowden, and Parents  
Dr. Harry & Ella Robinson.*

Jane & Cliff  
Cribbs

*In Memory of Loved Ones.*

Dorothy Faust

*In Memory of Mother and Father, Clinton & Caroline  
Tallant.*

Anna Mary Fisher

*In Memory of Lance & Mandy.*

Shelley Forbes

*In Memory of Elmer & Mildred Wright, and  
Benjamin & Lucille Forbes.*

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<u>Joy Garapic</u>	<i>In Memory of William Garapic, Loving Husband, Father, Grandfather.</i>
<u>Diane Gressley</u>	<i>In Memory of my Parents, Evan &amp; Emma.</i>
<u>The Hunt Family</u>	<i>In Memory of Loved Ones who can't be with us today.</i>
<u>Mark Lehman</u>	<i>In Memory of my Father, Ralph Lehman.</i>
<u>Dassie Matsuoka</u>	<i>In Memory of James Matsuoka.</i>
<u>Phyllis Molnar</u>	<i>In Memory of Edward Molnar, and Parents Bertha &amp; George Ulsenheimer.</i>
<u>Bettina Ortiz</u>	<i>In Honor of my Children, Rachel Kubic &amp; Daniel King; My Grandchildren, Stephanie &amp; Steven Hough; Grace, Julianne &amp; Jenna Kubic; and my Great-Grand Children, Lyndsey &amp; Bradley Joseph Hough.</i>
<u>Eric Rahnenfuehner</u>	<i>In Honor of Jan &amp; Marjorie Rahnenfuehner.</i>
<u>Pat Rehm &amp; Carol Miller</u>	<i>In Honor of Robert Miller.</i>
<u>Max Roha</u>	<i>In Loving Memory David J. Roha, Mary C. Roha, and Lois L. Wallin.</i>
<u>Mariam R. Rosewicz</u>	<i>In Memory of Loved Ones.</i>
<u>The Stella Family</u>	<i>In Honor of those whose life journeys have touched this Church.</i>
	<i>In Celebration of our Church as it begins its next 200 years.</i>
<u>Bill &amp; Ann Toneff</u>	<i>In Memory of Elizabeth &amp; C.C. Thorton, and Vera &amp; Milan Toneff.</i>
<u>Donn Whyte</u>	<i>In Memory of my Father, Wayne White.</i>
<u>The Wilson Family</u>	<i>In Memory of Norinne F. &amp; John M. Brownslow, Sr.</i>

## BUCC CALENDAR

APRIL , 2016

**Friday, APRIL 1**

**Saturday, APRIL 2**

9 am Facilities

**Sunday, APRIL 3**

10 am Worship

11 am Coffee Hour

1 pm Bowling

**Monday, APRIL 4**

**Tuesday, APRIL 5**

10-11:30 C.W.R.U

**Wednesday, APRIL 6**

6 am Early Birds

7 pm Spiritual Life

No Dulcimer/Recorder

**Thursday, APRIL 7**

1 pm Bible Study

5:30 pm Joyful Noise

7:30 pm Choir

**Friday, APRIL 8**

**Saturday, APRIL 9**

**Sunday, APRIL 10**

10 am Worship

11 am Coffee Hour

4 pm BBH Chorus Concert

**Monday, APRIL 11**

**Tuesday, APRIL 12**

10-11:30 C.W.R.U

**Wednesday, APRIL 13**

6 am Early Birds

4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer

7 pm Council

**Thursday, APRIL 14**

1 pm Bible Study

5:30 pm Joyful Noise

7:30 pm Choir

**Friday, APRIL 15**

**PILLAR DEADLINE**

**Saturday, APRIL 16**

**Sunday, APRIL 17**

10 am Worship

11 am Coffee Hour

2 pm Hunger Meal

PRUMC

**Monday, APRIL 18**

**Tuesday, APRIL 19**

10-11:30 C.W.R.U

**Wednesday, APRIL 20**

6 am Early Birds

11:30 am Women United

4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer

7 pm Bicentennial

**Thursday, APRIL 21**

1 pm Bible Study

5:30 pm Joyful Noise

7:30 pm Choir

**Friday, APRIL 22**

**Saturday, APRIL 23**

**Sunday, APRIL 24**

10 am Worship

11 am Coffee Hour

5:30 pm Youth Percussion

6 pm Youth Ministry

**Monday, APRIL 25**

**Tuesday, APRIL 26**

**Wednesday, APRIL 27**

6 am Early Birds

4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer

**Thursday, APRIL 28**

1 pm Bible Study

5:30 pm Joyful Noise

7:30 pm Choir

**Friday, April 29**

**Saturday, April 30**

## PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

### APRIL 3, 2016

Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul  
 Head Usher: Jon Thompson  
 Ushers: Vicki Szabo, Cliff Cribbs  
 Kathy Smith, Bob Chandler  
 Acolyte: Garrett Demko  
 Peace Candle: Drew Demko  
 Sound: Tim Wallis  
 Comns Grtr: Marge Culver  
 Narthex Grtr: Sue Stenzel  
 Flowers: Kathy Pastor  
 Nursery: Gina Cook  
 Counters: Bruce McCain, Jan Renovetz  
 Servers: Julie Bernard, Joanne Cook  
 Clean Up: Anne Melfo, Doug Fawcett  
 Snacks: Marla Corrado, Kate Klonowski  
 Snow Herder: Doug Fawcett

### APRIL 10, 2016

Lay Reader: David Ritchey  
 Head Usher: Kathy Smith  
 Ushers: Dave & Julie Bernard  
 Fred Peseck, Joanne Cook  
 Acolyte: Grace Hunt  
 Peace Candle: Lily Hunt  
 Sound: Doug Fawcett  
 Comns Grtr: Cliff Cribbs  
 Narthex Grtr: Jane Cribbs  
 Flowers: Carole Snider  
 Nursery: Marla Corrado  
 Counters: Donn Whyte, Sue Stenzel  
 Servers: Dottie & Jim Farwell  
 Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul  
 Snacks: Beth Rehling, Tia Began  
 Snow Herder: Joe Wilson

### APRIL 17, 2016

Lay Reader: Jon Thompson  
 Head Usher: Evie Novak  
 Ushers: Bridget & Chad Sproul  
 Wes Novak, Beth Rehling  
 Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski  
 Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski  
 Sound: Max Roha  
 Comns Grtr: Matt Wolbert  
 Narthex Grtr: Joanne Cook  
 Flowers: Julie Bernard  
 Nursery: Jon Cook  
 Counters: Nancy Stella, Kathy Pastor  
 Servers: Marge Culver, Dorie Gabor  
 Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs  
 Snacks: Annie Demko, Rob Grow

### APRIL 24, 2016

Lay Reader: Kathy Smith  
 Head Usher: Jill Zedan  
 Ushers: Linda Kriynovich, Ed Lusk  
 Joe & Betsey Wilson  
 Acolyte: Carli Began  
 Peace Candle: Lucy Brown  
 Sound: Kevin Smith  
 Comns Grtr: David Pastor  
 Narthex Grtr: Kathy Smith  
 Flowers: Dorie Gabor  
 Nursery: Kate Klonowski  
 Counters: Carole Snider, Jon Thompson  
 Servers: Sue Stenzel, Joy Garapic  
 Clean-Up: Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey  
 Snacks: Peg Duffy, Marilyn Wrights

# *The Pillar*

is published monthly by the

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