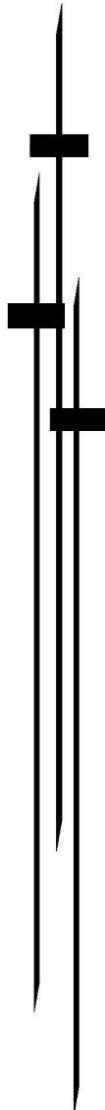
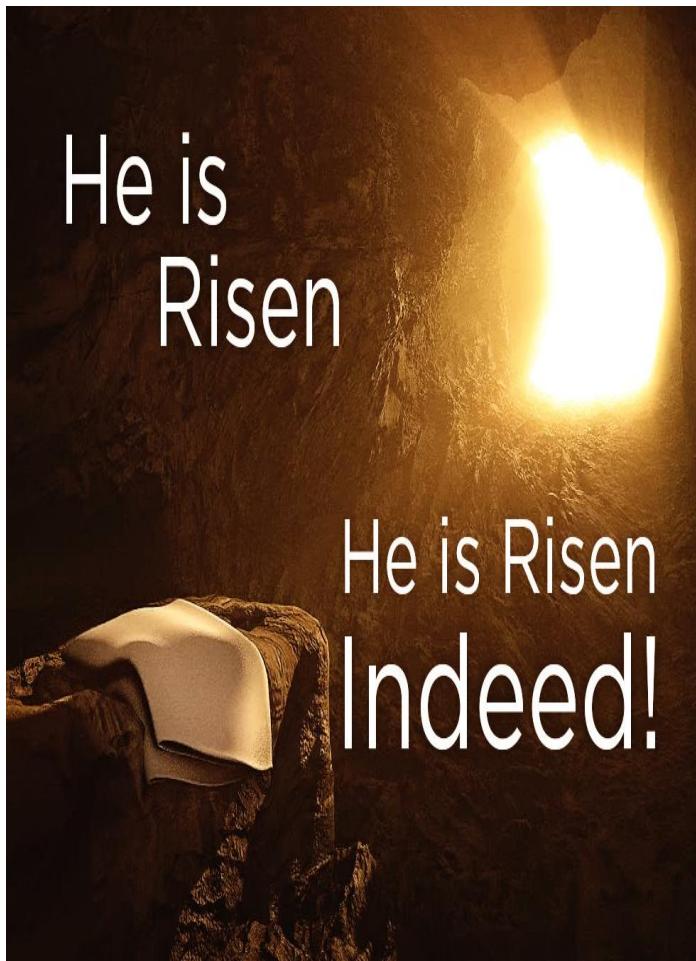


# The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

***April, 2017***



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

## ***Pastor's Ponderings***

### ***...on Keeping It Real...***

At our first session of this year's Lenten Study, Max Roha issued his annual warning to me about the perils of preaching on Easter Sunday. And as usual, Max raises a good point. Throughout the year, we liberal-leaning liturgists like to tread lightly when dealing with the "miraculous" stories of Scripture. We understand that a story doesn't have to be factual, in order to convey a profound truth. For example, did representatives of every creature on earth literally float together on a big boat for 190 days [40 days of raining and 150 days of draining]? It seems unlikely. Does human greed, pride and wickedness contribute to the destruction of life on our planet? It seems highly likely!

Max is right. It is problematic when preachers question the possibility of Divine intervention 51 Sundays of the year, and then insist upon it for one. In fact, Easter isn't just 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:**

April 9<sup>th</sup> - 10 am - Palm Sunday - Procession of Palms and Worship Service

April 13<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm - Maundy Thursday Soup Supper

7:00 - Holy Communion

7:30 - Tenebrae Service of Shadow

April 14<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Saint Bridget Good Friday Service

April 15<sup>th</sup> - 8:30 pm Saint Bridget Easter Vigil

*[The Community of Saint Bridget is the group that holds Mass here on Saturdays, led by Ann Klonowski and Mary Collingwood.]*

April 16 - 6:00 am - Easter Sunrise Service and Holy Communion at the Brecksville/Highland Cemetery [Highland Drive, just South of Rte. 82 - park at the water tower]

10:00 am - Easter Festival Celebration

## **FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC**

### **CHRISTIAN ED**

Church Members...please watch for the inspiring window sun-catchers to go on sale for the youth religion class Lenten sale. The children made these, and other items, over the past few weeks. They look terrific whether it's sunny or not! (We tested them on the classroom window). We hope you find them irresistible.



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And, thank you to the Chandlers for donating the Catans gift card for supplies for this project!

### **OCWM**

There will be a hunger meal served on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> (the first



Sunday in April) at Bethany UCC. A tentative menu will be mostaccioli and meatballs, salad and cookies for dessert. It would be appreciated if BUCC members and friends could make cookies for dessert. We plan on serving 50 or 60 meals. A few (five or six) persons will be needed to set up and prepare on the first shift, from 2:30 to 4:00. A few more persons will be needed to serve and clean up on the second shift, from 4:00 to 6:00. A sign-up board is in the narthex, as well as directions to Bethany UCC.

A big "thank you" goes to all BUCC members and friends who have been filling up the magic aluminum can barrel in the lower commons.

An even greater "thank you" goes to all those BUCC members and friends who have been so generously donating food items and other items such as dental things and personal hygiene things which are not covered by food stamps. The last delivery to a hunger center last month was about 50 bags.

The estimated value was \$250, but that in no way comes close to the real value to those people who have little or no food.

Looking ahead to May, an offering for the benefit of Edna House, a residence for women who are recovering from drug and alcohol addiction will be received on May 24<sup>th</sup>. This safe place to live is home for 40 women at present. This 501(c)3 organization receives no federal, state or local funding, but is dependent on donations to keep going. More interpretive material will be available later.

## **NOTES AND ASIDES**

### **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**



The Book Discussion Group will meet Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Parlor. Peg Duffy will lead the group as they discuss "Flight Behavior" by Barbara Kingsolver. This novel is about the discovery of an unexpected and miraculous congregation of Monarch butterflies that leads to a national sensation and biological mystery.

If you would like to join us for the discussion please call Caroline Chandler at [chandler9143@roadrunner.com](mailto:chandler9143@roadrunner.com) or 440-526-9714 for a book.

### **FYI**



To those of you who knew our former Pastor, Edie O'Donnell, she is having hip surgery on April 11. I thought she might enjoy receiving a call or note from you." From Jane Cribbs

Edie O'Donnell  
37 Filley St.  
Windsor, CT 06095  
860-688-8861

## MUSIC

### Holy Week Music



Our choir, seasonal choir and several BUCC instrumentalists will be presenting a diverse selection of music to highlight this year's celebration of Palm Sunday (April 9), Maundy Thursday (April 13) and Easter (April 16.) Here are brief descriptions of the pieces that will be presented:

**Palm Sunday** - The Palm procession music is a rousing piece by Lloyd Larson titled "Sing Hosanna!" It will be accompanied by guitar, flutes, trumpet and percussion. The first anthem, "Cloaks and Palm Branches," is a spirited, Spanish-style piece by Ruben Ruiz Avila that tells the story of Jesus' joyous entry into Jerusalem. The second anthem for Palm Sunday, "Sing to the Lord Hosanna!", was written by Patrick M. Liebergen; it features a driving rhythmic pattern accentuated by multiple percussion instruments.

**Maundy Thursday** - The anthem for our Communion service is "Jesus Took the Cup." The wonderfully reflective, humble arrangement is based on a Scottish tune; the lyrics recount the Last Supper and Jesus' institution of Holy Communion.

**Easter** - The Recorder/Dulcimer Ensemble, assisted by the Youth Percussion Group, will open the service with an energetic interpretation of the old French tune, "O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing." The Introit, sung by the adult and youth choirs, is Gregory Norbet's beautiful Alleluia setting, "Something Which Is Known." The first anthem, "With a Voice of Singing," was written by prominent English composer Martin Shaw; the dynamic piece proclaims the Good News that life and love have prevailed over the forces of death and evil through Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. The second anthem, "Triumphant Praise," by Mike Harland, features an exceptional melody line supported by strong harmonic progressions and instrumental accompaniment.

We hope to see you at this year's Holy Week services. Our dedicated volunteer musicians have been working hard to make your worship experience a meaningful, joyous one!

## WOMEN UNITED

Women United will meet Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor. Our speaker will be Andrea DeBiasio, executive director of Edna House.



Edna House is a safe place for about 40 women who are recovering from alcohol and drug dependency. Edna House offers long-term, structured sober living and education for women seeking recovery from addiction to drugs and alcohol. Join us to hear about this unique, safe place. Andrea, herself, is an alumnus of this program. Her story of this home is pertinent and timely, particularly since the opiate crisis is so prevalent these days.

In May BUCC will be taking a collection for the benefit of Edna House which does not receive Federal or state, or local funding.

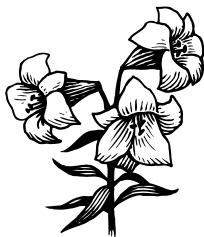


Happy, Happy April Birthdays to the following BUCC Members!  
Please share in their joy and wish them a Happy Birthday!

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!

## **CELEBRATE EASTER WITH FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY**



*Your Donation will buy plants which will be shared after Easter with those who are ill or shut-in, or have recently lost a loved one. Please fill out the form at the bottom of this page, and turn it in to the Church Office*

**DEADLINE – SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017**

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*I Enclose \$12.00 \_\_\_\_\_ or other \_\_\_\_\_ for Easter Plants*

*In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_*

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**Your Name**

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*I will keep the Flowers \_\_\_\_\_  
I will NOT keep Flowers \_\_\_\_\_*

*I will help Deliver Plants to shut-ins after Easter \_\_\_\_\_*

## BUCC CALENDAR

### MARCH, 2017

#### **Saturday, APRIL 1**

10-2 Leadership Development

#### **Sunday, APRIL 2**

10 am Worship  
11 am Coffee Hour  
\*Hunger Meal Bethany\*

#### **Monday, APRIL 3**

1 pm Book Club/Parlor  
7:30 pm Facilities

#### **Tuesday, APRIL 4**

7:15 pm Lenten Study

#### **Wednesday, APRIL 5**

6 am Early Birds  
7 pm Spiritual Life

#### **Thursday, APRIL 6**

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

#### **Friday, APRIL 7**

#### **Saturday, APRIL 8**

8 am Spring Clean-Up

#### **Sunday, APRIL 9**

10 am Worship  
11 am Coffee Hour  
5:30 pm Youth Percussion  
6 pm Youth Ministry

#### **Monday, APRIL 10**

#### **Tuesday, APRIL 11**

#### **Wednesday, APRIL 12**

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

#### **Thursday, APRIL 13**

1 pm Bible Study  
5:30 pm Joyful Noise  
6:30 pm Soup Supper  
7 pm Communion  
7:30 pm Tenebrae Service

#### **Friday, APRIL 14**

7 pm Passion Reading  
St. Bridget

#### **Saturday, APRIL 15**

#### **PILLAR DEADLINE**

10 am Choir Rehearsal  
8:30 pm Easter Vigil  
St. Bridget

#### **Sunday, APRIL 16**

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
6 AM Sunrise Service  
10 am Worship  
11 am Coffee Hour

#### **Monday, APRIL 17**

10 am Leadership Dev.

#### **Tuesday, APRIL 18**

#### **Wednesday, APRIL 19**

6 am Early Birds  
11:30 am Women United  
**4:30 pm NO RECORDER  
DULCIMER**

#### **Thursday, APRIL 20**

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

#### **Friday, APRIL 21**

3-6 PM Set-up Fabric  
Sale

#### **Saturday, APRIL 22**

9-12pm Fabric Sale

#### **Sunday, APRIL 23**

10 am Worship  
11 am Coffee Hour  
5:30 pm Youth Percussion  
6 pm Youth Ministry

#### **Monday, APRIL 24**

**Tuesday, APRIL 25**  
7:15 pm Lenten Study

#### **Wednesday, APRIL 26**

4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer

#### **Thursday, APRIL 27**

5:30 pm Joyful Noise  
7 pm Choir

#### **Friday, APRIL 28**

**Saturday, APRIL 29**  
**Sunday, APRIL 30**

## PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

**APRIL 2, 2017**

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs  
Head Usher: Jon Thompson  
Ushers: Diane Gressley, Sam Koch,  
Linda Kriyovich, Fred  
Pesek  
Acolyte: Jillian Davis  
Peace Candle: Ben Davis  
Sound: Kevin Smith  
Comns Grtr: Kathy Smith  
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz  
Nursery: Marla Corrado  
Counters: Nancy Stella, Carole Snider  
Servers: Marge Culver, Caroline  
Chandler  
Clean Up: Jill Zedan, Sue Stenzel  
Snacks: Jim Pay, Susan Snyder  
Snow Herder: Cliff Cribbs

**Nursery:**

Counters:

Servers:

Clean-Up:

Snacks:

Snow Herder:

Valerie Tyler

Jan Renovetz, Jim Duffy

Joy Garapic, Betty Kaul

Cliff & Jane Cribbs

Sue Stenzel, Gina Cook

Joe Wilson

**APRIL 23, 2017**

Lay Reader: Kate Klonowski  
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz  
Ushers: Jim Duffy, Betty Kaul  
Lindsey Maier, David  
Ritchey  
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart  
Peace Candle: Drew Demko  
Sound: Max Roha  
Comns Grtr: Sue Stenzel  
Flowers: Julie Bernard  
Nursery: Courtni Began  
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Dave Bernard  
Servers: Dottie & Jim Farwell  
Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul  
Snacks: Vicki Szabo, Tina Ortiz

**APRIL 9, 2017 PALM SUNDAY**

Lay Reader: Darlene Kelly  
Head Usher: Caroline Chandler  
Ushers: Tim & Kim Wallis  
Chad & Bridget Sproul  
Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg  
Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg  
Sound: David Pastor  
Comns Grtr: Max Roha  
Flowers: Palms  
Nursery: Gina Cook  
Counters: Donn Whyte, Sue Stenzel  
Servers: Joanne Cook, Carole Snider  
Clean-Up: Peg & Jim Duffy  
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Heidi  
Spangler  
Snow Herder: Doug Fawcett

**APRIL 30, 2017**

Lay Reader: Ed Lusk  
Head Usher: Jill Zedan  
Ushers: Beth Rehling, Darlene Kelly,  
Dan Stewart, Ian Stewart  
Michalina Fawcett  
Acolyte: Drew Demko  
Peace Candle: Kevin Smith  
Sound: Fred Pesek  
Comns Grtr: Carole Snider (*yellow  
flowers*)  
Flowers: Robin Coyer-Westerberg  
Nursery: Marge Culver, David Pastor  
Counters: Sue Stenzel, Julie Bernard  
Servers: David & Kathy Pastor  
Clean Up: Anne Melfo, Kathleen  
Stewart  
Snacks:

**APRIL 16, 2017 EASTER SUNDAY**

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy  
Head Usher: Bob Chandler  
Ushers: George & Carole Snider  
Matt Wolbert & Kate  
Klonowski  
Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski  
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski  
Sound: Doug Fawcett  
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul  
Flowers: Easter Lilies ►

# *The Pillar*

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FIRST CLASS