

The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

JUNE, 2017



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

Pastor's Ponderings

... A Time to Welcome, and a Time to Grow...

In the Book of *Ecclesiastes*, the Teacher writes, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven...a time to sow and a time to reap...." Sowing and reaping are certainly critical steps in yielding a harvest; yet there's another indispensable part of that process: the season of *growth*. It's a time-span that requires patience and trust, as we wait to see how Nature and Divine Providence will bless and multiply our efforts. And while there are certain things we can do to enhance the chance for a successful harvest [like weeding and watering], we really can't speed-up the growth process. That's where patience and trust come into play.

Summer is just around the corner, and we are entering that long Church Season of Pentecost - which is distinguished by the liturgical [and eco-friendly] color, green. This is a good time to take the time to think about our own growth as individuals and as a family of faith. In response to feedback from our Congregational Survey and our "Where Do We Go from Here?" roundtable discussions, our Church Council has established a "Welcome & Growth" task-force. Throughout the next 12 months, this group will work with our various Ministries and members to develop and implement programs, tasks, and events specifically aimed at increasing our public visibility, welcome, and [subsequent] growth.

Pentecost Sunday [June 4th this year] is considered the "Birthday of the Christian Church" - the day when the Holy Spirit is graciously poured-out upon Jesus' followers in Jerusalem. With that event, those previously timid believers suddenly found themselves publically proclaiming their faith in new and bold ways, and the Church began to take-off and grow. As the Spirit-filled Body of Christ, we at BUCC have experienced some modest and steady growth over the past decade. However, there is still much more for us to do in carrying forward our stated mission of "Loving, Serving, and Accepting All People with God's Life-Changing Power."

There are things that will require our resourceful planning and our active participation. There are other things that will require our steady patience and our unwavering trust in Holy One's wisdom and impeccable timing. Discovering that mature and healthy balance between our working and our waiting, is very much a part of this Season of Pentecost. It can also be a good sign of our genuine and continuing growth - both as individuals, and as a community of faith.

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.

FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Christian Ed will be organizing a group to march in the Cleveland Pride Parade on June 24th. This is a great opportunity for the whole congregation to participate in welcoming all people in the community to BUCC. Please see Anne Melfo or Heidi Spangler to sign up to participate in the parade.

FACILITIES MINISTRY REPORT – 5/1/2017

1. The spring clean-up was completed on April 22. Trimming, weeding, bed cleaning and mulching resulted in improved landscape.
2. An additional 3 handicapped parking spots will be added when weather permits. ►



3. The new exterior furnace room door has been installed. The lock will be re-keyed to accept the exterior master key.
4. The stained glass restoration is underway.
5. Windows in the sanctuary have been cleaned.
6. The side sanctuary door closer has been repaired.
7. A door closer will be added to the lower bathroom door across from the library.
8. Arlington property – gutter extensions will be added to direct water away from the foundation.
9. A repair to the aluminum cladding on the front of the church will be done ASAP.
10. The lower level of the church flooded during the last major rainstorm. Sam did a fantastic job with a very speedy clean-up.

FINANCE



Attention Counters: When you run tapes, make one of the envelopes and one of the checks. Lately there have been instances where items are missed or the tapes are incorrect. Put the checks in the envelopes so that the amount and number are visible. Then it is possible to run two independent tapes. Thank you for volunteering to count!

PARISH-STAFF RELATIONS/PERSONNEL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

"We on the PSR and Leadership Development ministries are happy to announce the survey has been completed and was handed out on Sunday, May 4. ►



If you weren't in church to get one, they will be available on the bookcase in the upper commons.

Several comments/questions were posed in the survey answers and it was decided we would try to get some discussion and/or answers to you. A survey response session will take place on Sunday, June 25 in the parlor following the service. Go down to Pilgrim Hall, get your cup of coffee and a goodie and meet with us in the parlor. We will pick out a few of the questions and let you know in the Bulletin a week or two in advance which questions will be taken care of on the 25th. Hope to see you there."

MEMBERSHIP

SAVE THE DATES!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL Sunday, June 11
after Service. Please get on sign-up sheet so we know what is needed.

CHURCH PICNIC Sunday, July 9 at 2:00pm. Swim, fish, games, fun!
Hamburgers & Hotdogs provided. Watch for Sign-up sheet for side dishes!



NEWS FROM OCWM

Last month, over 30 bags of food were delivered to Brookside Hunger Center. Thanks go to those BUCC members and friends for their generosity.



Also last month, a box of medical supplies, clothing and other items was sent to the Good Shepherd Orphanage in the Ukraine. Those BUCC members and friends who have been donating aluminum cans participated, because the money for the shipping cost came from redemption of the aluminum cans so generously provided. ►

The shipping cost was about sixty dollars, and each can redemption yields about twenty dollars, thus indicating the value of the can donations.

On Sunday, May 14th, an offering was received to benefit Edna House, a safe house for women who are struggling to recover from alcohol and drug dependence.

The money received totaled over one thousand dollars, and clothing, household items, and other items were also received. Thanks to BUCC members and friends for their generosity.

The next hunger meal will be on Sunday, June 4th at Bethany UCC. The menu has not been selected at this writing, but the sign-up board will appear in the narthex, as usual for persons to indicate their interest in serving on the early shift (2:30 to 4:00 PM) or the late shift (4:00 to 6:00 PM). The hunger meal after will not be until August 27th at Pearl Road UMC.

EDNA HOUSE

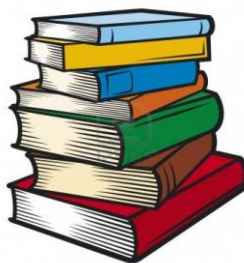
WAY TO GO! The collection for the benefit of Edna House was a spectacular success. \$1477.74 was collected when all the sources were totaled up. In addition, about 25 bags of clothing and other items were donated. Thank all who so generously supported this worthwhile effort to help women overcome dependence on opiates and alcohol.



NOTES AND ASIDES

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Book Discussion Group will meet Monday, June 5th in the Parlor at 1 p.m. June's book; "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins is a psychological thriller. The main character is riding a commuter train observing her former neighborhood. Then she realizes that some strange things are occurring. Carole Snider will be leading the discussion. If you are interested in reading the book and joining the group contact Caroline Chandler (440-526-9714).



FOOD PANTRY

June - Powdered and Canned Milk



MUSIC

SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM - We are now recruiting volunteer singers and instrumentalists to share their musical gifts with the congregation over the summer months while the choir is on break (June 11 through September 3.) Dave Debeck is happy to help you choose music and rehearse with you before your scheduled Sunday. High school students and youth are welcome to participate. If you've never volunteered before but are interested, please let Dave know so he can put you on the schedule.



A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear BUCC Family,

I will be retiring and moving to Florida in a few weeks. I wanted to say thank you to this wonderful, loving congregation for the welcoming way you greeted Vic and I nearly 4 years ago. We felt at home right away. In the years that followed, you gave me strength and love when I needed it most and for that I will always be grateful. I am sad to be leaving BUCC but excited to begin the next chapter of my life.



A special thank you to the patient and compassionate BUCC members who volunteer their time and talents at my school, The International Newcomer's Academy @ Thomas Jefferson. You embody the true spirit of serving others in God's name.

I wish you peace, grace and all of God's blessings, Vicki Szabo

WOMEN UNITED

It is Picnic Time! On June 28th at 11:30 AM we will meet at the Metroparks Pavilion across from the Nature Center off Rt 82. Bring a salad or sandwich or perhaps a dish to share. For further info and directions call Dorie Gabor at 440-552-4029. All church women and friends are welcome.





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

June 2:	Bridget Sproul
June 4:	Lily Hunt
	Gail Moore
June 6:	Don Seager
June 15:	Dot Bailey
	Giuliana Gagliano
June 19:	Marla Corrado
June 20:	Sam Koch
June 24:	Max VanDuyne
June 25:	Carole Snider
	Cameron Rose Ward-
	Rogers
	Steve Albenze
June 26:	Maureen Stanley
	Kim Wallis
June 27:	Bruce McCain
	Evelyn Seager
June 29:	David Wilson
Other June Birthdays:	Carli Began

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

BUCC CALENDAR

JUNE, 2017

Thursday, June 1

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

Friday, JUNE 2

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, JUNE 3

Sunday, JUNE 4

10 am Worship/Pentecost
11 am Coffee Hour
HUNGER MEAL PRUMC

Monday, JUNE 5

1:00 pm Book Discussion
7 pm Spiritual Life
7:30 pm Facilities

Tuesday, JUNE 6

Wednesday, JUNE 7

6 am Early Birds
Recorder/Dulcimer-
OFF FOR SUMMER

Thursday, JUNE 8

1 pm Bible Study
CHOIRS OFF FOR SUMMER

Friday, JUNE 9

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, JUNE 10

Sunday, JUNE 11

10 am Worship
11 am ***ICE CREAM SOCIAL***

Monday, JUNE 12

Tuesday, JUNE 13

Wednesday, JUNE 14

6 am Early Birds
7:00 PM Council

Thursday, JUNE 15

PILLAR DEADLINE

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, JUNE 16

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, JUNE 17

Sunday, JUNE 18

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, JUNE 19

Tuesday, JUNE 20

Wednesday, JUNE 21

6 am Early Birds

Thursday, JUNE 22

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, JUNE 23

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, JUNE 24

Sunday, JUNE 25

10 am Worship/
Strengthen the Church Offering
11 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am **Survey Response Session**

Monday, JUNE 26

Tuesday, JUNE 27

Wednesday, JUNE 28

6 am Early Birds
11:30 am Women United –
Lunch in the Park

Thursday, JUNE 29

1 pm Bible Study

Friday, JUNE 30

OFFICE CLOSED

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS HAVE NOW STARTED. THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS THROUGH LABOR DAY.

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

Summer months are busy. This is a fact. If you know when you will not be available to be included in the schedule please email me at stenzelsj@sbcglobal.net with the details. Sue Stenzel

JUNE 4, 2017

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel
Ushers: Darlene Kelly, Kate Klonowski, Sam Koch, Beth Rehling
Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comms Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Kathy Pastor
Nursery: Valerie Tyler
Counters: Nancy Stella
Servers: Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean Up: Lynne Struck, Jill Zedan
Snacks: Jim Pay, Susan Snyder

JUNE 11, 2017

Lay Reader: Diane Gressley
Head Usher: John Thompson
Ushers: Stu & Dot Bailey
Dan & Ian Stewart
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Ben Davis
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comms Grtr: Lenore Harris
Flowers: Betty Gifford
Nursery: Courtni Began
Counters: Bruce McCain, Marge Culver
Servers: Joanne Cook
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Kathleen Stewart

JUNE 18, 2017

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Joanne Cook, Fred Pesek
Jess Barnes, Wes Novak
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: David Pastor
Comms Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Donn Whyte, Dave Bernard
Servers: Joy Garapic, Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up: Bridget & Chad Sprou
Snacks: Beth Rehling, Gina Cook

JUNE 25, 2017

Lay Reader: Kathy Smith
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: Jill Zedan, Betty Kaul
Tim & Kim Wallis
Acolyte: Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Drew Demko
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr: Dave Bernard
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
Counters: David Pastor, Sue Stenzel
Servers: Julie Bernard, Carole Snider
Clean-Up: Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks: Bettina Ortiz, Heidi Spangler

The Pillar

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FIRST CLASS

