

The Pillar

Brecksville United Church of Christ

March, 2018



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

Pastor's Ponderings

...Beneath it all...

Even though the icy grip of winter seems to be holding-on quite tightly this year, our life experience tells us that it won't last forever. Buried beneath the snow and the earth's frozen surface, new life is already preparing to spring-forth. In the month of March, we will soon see increasing signs of this new life rising-up all around us. And with the rising of the sun [and the Son] on April 1st, we will once again celebrate the message of rebirth that Easter brings to us and to the entire world.

As you and I celebrate the Easter Event, we remember that Easter isn't simply one day of the year, or a seven-week season on the Church's calendar. Easter is an on-going, never-ending way of seeing and understanding Life. Easter signals a rising from death *to* life, and a transformation of the way we view them both. Easter helps free us from our fears and from the ultimate fear of death itself, and empowers us to see ourselves and those around us in a new light. Easter reminds us that the Good News Christ is for *everyone*, and that through our sharing it with others, that Good News deepens and grows.

The on-going power of Easter is found in the realization that Jesus being raised from death to life is just the beginning. Easter continues to break-forth *whenever* the strength of love and life overcomes the forces of hatred, fear, and death. Easter rises-up anew when people are willing to stand-up for what is fair and compassionate, even in the face of cruel criticism or severe persecution. The power of Easter shines brightly when people look for the best in one another, and thereby help bring-out the best in others and in themselves. That being said, 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 Divine Love and Grace.

The last week of this month, you and I will have a variety of opportunities to share the Good News of Easter, celebrate new Life, and to grow together in our faith. Holy Week begins with our 10 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship and our Procession of Palms, leading us into the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

On Maundy Thursday, we will gather in Pilgrim Hall for a soup supper at 6:30, and celebrate Christ's Last Supper at 7:00. Good Friday we will have a 7:00 pm. service in our Sanctuary, hosted by members of the 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 Communion Service at 7:00 in Highland Cemetery, and our festive Easter Celebration Service at 10:00.

On that first Easter morning, in spite of the confusion, fear, and doubt that surrounds them, the early Easter witnesses hurry from the tomb to share the Good News with their friends. Apparently, it's hard to keep Good News quiet; and there's really no reason to do so! I hope that each of us will take advantage of these opportunities to celebrate of gift of Divine Love which is revealed in Christ's life, death, and resurrection; and that we will invite 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.

OUR LENTEN STUDY, *How on Earth Can We be Spiritual?* continues on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:15 pm in Pilgrim Hall. The remaining topics are:

March 6 - Blessed are the pure in heart

March 13 - Blessed are the peacemakers

March 20 - Blessed are those who are persecuted

These are teachings from the "Beatitudes" which are found in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in *Matthew*, and in Jesus' "Sermon on the Plain" in *Luke*. In addition to comparing both Gospel accounts, we are using some fascinating insights from daily devotional readings by Franciscan priest Richard Rohr. Plus, we discuss the issues, questions, and ideas that all who attend want to bring to the table.

FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

FINANCE

A check was sent to the Western Reserve Association of the UCC in the amount of \$762 representing monies collected for the annual Christmas Fund.

Another check was sent to the LGBT Coalition in the amount of \$953.



MEMBERSHIP

*Save
the
Date*

SAVE THE DATE for Sunday March 18th St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage luncheon/pot luck.

NEWS FROM OCWM

Thanks to the generosity of BUCC members and friends, the mitten tree, food pantry donations, and aluminum can donations continue unabated.

The next hunger meal will be on Sunday, March 4th at Bethany UCC. (the church has been sold to Emmanuel Hispanic Church, so parking on west 41st street is tricky). The menu as well the opportunities to participate in the meal will be posted on a sign-up board in the narthex as usual.►



As usual, the supply of cookies for dessert by BUCC members and friends will be appreciated.

The next designated offering will be received on Sunday, March 18th for the benefit of One Great Hour of Sharing. This is one of the 4 special missions offerings the UCC participates in yearly. OGHS provides funds to those in places lacking health and educational resources and/or where disaster has struck. More information will be provided leading up to the offering on the 25th. Interpretive material can be found elsewhere, including in the Sunday bulletins.

NOTES AND ASIDES

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Our book for this month is *Underground Airlines* by Ben H. Winters. It is a novel that imagines a modern U.S. where slavery is still legal. Our discussion will take place in the Parlor on March 5th at 1 p.m. Betty Gifford will be our leader for this discussion.



March

FOOD PANTRY

Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta

ARTS RENAISSANCE TREMONT

3pm, Sunday, March 18

BACH Birthday Tribute: Mark
Kosower, *cello*

3pm, Sunday, April 15

Jaime Laredo, *violin*

3pm, Sunday May, 6

Cicilia Yudha, *piano*



PRESENTED AT PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2592 WEST 14TH ST.

CLEVELAND, OH 44113

A NOTE OF THANKS

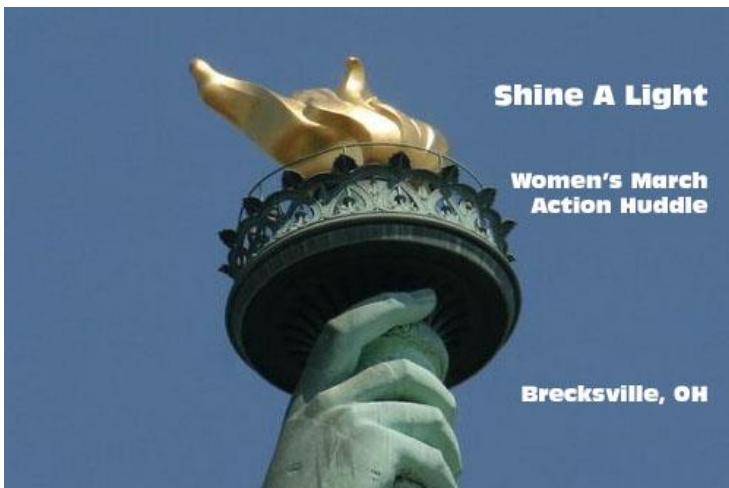
Thank You



To the Members of Brecksville United Church of Christ,

My thanks to all the many Members of our Church who sent their best wishes to me, and to Pastor Dave Shackle who made a special trip to see me.

Sincerely, Jeanne Cowden



**First and Third Wednesdays - 7:00pm
Fellowship Hall, BUC
March Meetings: 7th & 21st**

Fair Districts (End Gerrymandering)

- Update on progress
- How to Collect Signatures Training Review
- Sign Up for Collecting (so no one has to go alone!)

Voter Registration

2018 Elections - What Do These Mean to Us?

Eco-Updates – How we can protect the Earth?

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

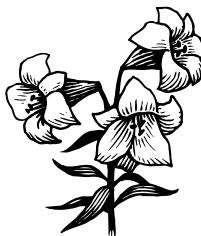


Happy, Happy March Birthdays to the following BUCC Members!
Please share in their joy and wish them a Happy Birthday!

March 3:	Lucy Brown
March 5:	Dorothy Faust
March 8:	Mindy Harris-Wade
March 9:	Celia Kelly
March 12:	Benjamin Rehling
March 14:	Kate Klonowski
March 16:	Olivia Klonowski
	Spencer Whyte
March 18:	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
Other March Birthdays:	Tia Began

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!

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, MARCH 20, 2018

I Enclose \$12.00 _____ for an Easter Plant

In Memory of _____

*In Honor of _____ or
Other _____*

Your Name

I will keep the Flowers _____

I will NOT keep Flowers _____

I will help Deliver Plants to shut-ins after Easter _____

CALENDAR

MARCH, 2018

Thursday, MARCH 1

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

Friday, MARCH 2

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, MARCH 3

Sunday, MARCH 4

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour
Hunger Meal – Bethany

Monday, MARCH 5

1 pm Book Discussion
7 pm Facilities –Library
7pm Spiritual Life

Tuesday, MARCH 6

7 pm Lenten Study PH

Wednesday, MARCH 7

4:30 pm Recorder Dulcimer
7pm Council
7-9 pm Shine a Light

Thursday, MARCH 8

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

Friday, MARCH 9

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, MARCH 10

Sunday, MARCH 11

10 am Worship Service
11 am Coffee Hour
11 am CE Mtg. Library
5:30 pm Youth Percussion
6 pm Youth Ministry

Monday, MARCH 12

7 pm Welcome & Growth
Task force

Tuesday, MARCH 13

7 pm Lenten Study PH

Wednesday, MARCH 14

4:30 pm Recorder Dulcimer
Guitar
7 pm Council

Thursday, MARCH 15

PILLAR DEADLINE

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

Friday, MARCH 16

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, MARCH 17

Sunday, MARCH 18

10 am Worship/OGHS
Offering
11 am Corned Beef &
Cabbage Potluck

Monday, MARCH 19

Tuesday, MARCH 20

7 pm Lenten Study
PH

Wednesday, MARCH 21

4:30 pm Recorder Dulcimer
Guitar
7-9 pm Shine a Light

Thursday, MARCH 22

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

Friday, MARCH 23

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, MARCH 24

Sunday, MARCH 25

Palm Sunday

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

Monday, MARCH 26

Tuesday, MARCH 27

Wednesday, MARCH 28

4:30 pm Recorder Dulcimer
Guitar

Thursday, MARCH 29

Maundy Thursday

1 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
6:30 pm Soup Supper
7 pm Maundy Thursday
Service

Friday, MARCH 30

OFFICE CLOSED

7 pm Good Friday
Service/Sanctuary

Saturday, March 31

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for
Easter

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

MARCH 4, 2018

Lay Reader: Betsey Wilson
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Bridget & Chad Sproul
Kim & Tim Wallis
Acolyte: Carli Began
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Kathy Pastor
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
C.E Teacher: Matt Wolbert
Counters: Nancy Stella, Kate Klonowski
Servers: Betty Kaul, Marge Culver
Clean-up: Lynne Struck
Caroline Chandler
Snacks: Susan Snyder
Snow Herder: Dave Bernard

MARCH 11, 2018

Lay Reader: Ed Lusk
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Beth Rehling, Cliff Cribbs, Diane Gressley, Jim Pay
Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound: David Pastor
Comns Grtr: Caroline Chandler
Flowers: Julie Bernard
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E Teacher: Kathleen Stewart
Counters: Marge Culver, Carole Snider
Servers: Julie Bernard, Carole Snider
Clean-Up: Cliff & Jane Cribbs
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Diane Gressley
Snow Herder: Matt Wolbert

MARCH 18, 2018

Lay Reader: Sam Koch
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: David Ritchey, Ben Tomlinson, Matt Wolbert, Jess Barnes
Acolyte: Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Drew Demko
Sound: Max Roha
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Beth Rehling
Counters: David Pastor, Jim Duffy
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up: CORNED BEEF &
Snacks: CABBAGE POTLUCK
Snow Herder: Chad Sproul

MARCH 25, 2018

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel
Ushers: Dave & Julie Bernard
Carole & George Snider
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Ben Davis
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: PALMS
Nursery: Courtney Began
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Bruce McCain, Matt Wolbert
Servers: Leroy & Kathy Ford
Clean Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks: Gina Cook & Chad Sproul
Snow Herder: Wes Novak

MARCH 28, 2018

Snow Herder: Cliff Cribbs

The Pillar

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