

The *Pillar*
Brecksville United Church of Christ

May, 2018



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

Pastor's Ponderings

...On Spring Cleaning...

HOPEFULLY, by the time this *Pillar* is published, Spring-like weather will have actually arrived! We'll finally be able to open-up the windows, sing-along with the Fifth Dimension, and *let the sunshine in!* [Sorry, young readers, for that old-time musical reference.] Weather-wise, we've gone through a longer-than-usual period of cold and dreary days; which is why many of us are looking forward to a nice stretch of warm and cheery days! Personally, I find a renewed level of energy and focus, as the world around us is refreshed and reborn. I also find an innate desire to delve into a kind of "Spring-Cleaning" that is both literal and figurative.

While I'm actively clearing the accumulated clutter from the inside of my condo and sweeping the old leaves and debris from my parking place, I'll also take time to clear-out some of the cobwebs and junk that has accumulated in my head and heart over this long winter. I'll get back to the routine of taking after-work walks and soaking-in the beauty of Nature, which helps me reflect on people I haven't seen for a while, and things I can do to remedy that. I'll likely smile a bit more, feel a bit better, and have an overall better attitude about the world around me.

If you, too, are prone toward the practice of "Spring Cleaning" - either literally or figuratively - here's a random list of some areas you might want to consider. I would offer a neater, more organized list, but I'm still in the process of cleaning it up:

Throw-out negative attitudes, and embrace better ones
Discard the discouragement, and restock your gratefulness
Junk the jealousy, and appreciate what you have
Purge the pessimism, and lighten-up
Can the excuses, and reclaim your can-do spirit
Go outside, blow-off the dust, and celebrate the day

I hope that, like me, this will help you put a little Spring in your step!

With you on the Journey,
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.

Teatime for Peace - Let's Check It Out!

On September 12th, BUCC will be hosting an Interfaith Dialogue called *Teatime for Peace*. This will be an inspiring evening, meant to deepen the understanding and relationship between our Muslim neighbors and ourselves, through guided discussion over tea and treats. This event will be co-hosted by the Community of St. Bridget [which holds Mass here on Saturdays], the Unity Center [Brecksville's local Muslim Community] and our area Ministerial Group.

To help better understand and prepare for this September event, I plan to attend an upcoming *Teatime for Peace* on May 10th at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in downtown Cleveland. For anyone who is interested in this event and would like to car-pool, I plan to leave BUCC at 6:00 pm. Please let me know if you'd like to ride together! Registration begins at 6:30, with the event scheduled from 7:00 - 9:00.

Teatime for Peace is an initiative that grew out of the political rhetoric of divisiveness and fear directed against American Muslims. The basic idea is to break through our misinformed stereotypes over a cup of tea, and to build bridges by focusing on our similarities, and celebrating our differences. Pastor Dave

OOPS! I Messed-up the Mugs!

Last December, when we received new members, I spaced-out and forgot to ask Joanne Cooke, our Artist-in Residence, to paint personalized mugs for those individuals. Fortunately, my error was noticed, and Joanne is doing her creative thing. She and I talked about using this as an opportunity to check to see if anyone else failed to get a personal mug over the years, or may have had a "Mug Mishap" and would like a replacement. Please notify the Church Office if that's the case. Pastor Dave

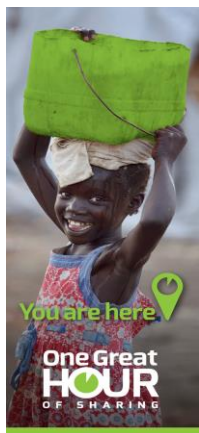
FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

FACILITIES MINISTRY



- The restoration of the last large stained glass windows is now expected to be completed in two weeks. We will then schedule the installation in the upper commons area.
- All ministry documentation has been organized into a folder system and will be kept in the office.
- Preliminary steps have begun to create a scaled building map that will show all major systems including water, electricity, heating/cooling, etc.
- Saturday, April 28th has been selected for spring clean-up with May 5th as the alternate date.
- The moderator's request for a property survey map and associated information has been made available.
- We are considering consulting an engineering firm to look at possible remedies to the ongoing flooding issues.
- Broadview Heating & Cooling will complete the temporary repairs made to the Commons Area thermostat on April 10th.
- Our tenant, Laife has requested permission to plant a vegetable garden. We are awaiting her proposed plan. ►

- Several minor repair issues on the rental property are on hold until warm weather.
- NJM Landscaping has again been contracted to cut the grass.



FINANCE

A check for \$890 was sent to the Western Reserve Association for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. These gifts will help provide nourishment and income in areas of need.

MEMBERSHIP

SAVE THE DATE

June 24, 2018

BUCC Day with the Akron Rubber Ducks

Canal Park, Akron, OH

\$7 per seat. First pitch 2 pm.



NEWS FROM OCWM

EDNA HOUSE OFFERING – MAY 13, 2018

Our Churches Wider Mission is excited to announce that we will be taking an offering again this year to benefit Edna House in Cleveland, Ohio. Edna House was founded in 2004. Its mission is to assist



women recovering from drug and alcohol addiction and to give them a chance at a new life by providing a safe, sober place to live. The only requirement for admission is the desire to get sober, regardless of their ability to pay. Edna House provides for a woman's basic needs of food, shelter and safety so that she can focus solely on her recovery with the support, direction and guidance of experienced members of the recovering community. Edna House is a

faith-based organization and is sustained only through donations from individuals and businesses in the communities they serve. They do not take private insurance nor government funding. An impressive 85% of the women who complete the program get sober and stay sober. Edna House has helped nearly 1,000 women to date. Please give generously on May 13.

On June 3rd, the last hunger meal before the summer will be prepared and served at Bethany UCC Church. An anticipated 50 meals will be served. It is hoped that Emmanuel Church, which has purchased Bethany's building, can participate in this meal with us. The sign-up board will be in the narthex, and the menu has not been decided. In later June or July, OCWM members will meet with other churches in the Brookside Cluster of Community Meals to select sites and dates for hunger meals later in 2018 and early in 2019.



The donation of food items and other items not covered by food stamps fortunately is continuing at a great rate. During February, March, and April, 90 bags of items were donated by BUCC members and friends, and were delivered to hunger centers by a BUCC member. Although the hunger centers value each bag at an estimated \$10.00, the true value is much greater than that.

NOTES AND ASIDES

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Our book for this month is *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly. It is historical fiction set in 1939 about three narrators (based on actual people) a New York Socialite, a Polish teenager and a young German doctor, whose destinies converged in and around Ravensbruck. Midge Cassidy will be our leader for this discussion in the Parlor on Monday, May 7th at 1 p.m.



FOOD PANTRY

May - Infant Formula, Baby Food, and Diapers

INTENTIONAL LOVING CARING UNIT

ILCU, spoken as if it were "I'll see you", has been a part of this congregation for many years. It is a ministry within a ministry, Spiritual Life. There is no monthly meeting to attend as information can be shared over the phone, texts and/or emails.



****When you don't see a regular member for several Sundays, it may be time to give a call and find out why. Perhaps they are just on vacation.**

****If you know a member who is ill or has had an accident or surgery, this may be the time for our prayers and cards of encouragement. ►**

**If you know a member who no longer comes to church, whether he or she is at home or in a care facility, it's important to get the word out. A phone call, card or visit lets them know we are thinking of them.

By just being aware of one another, we can keep the lines of communication open. The prayer list in our Sunday bulletin is a place to start. An up-to-date list in the office can be available. A call, a card are easy to do and always appreciated. Pick a name or two, someone you know, someone you have heard about, a new member and "go for it".

If you have any questions, you may contact anyone on Spiritual Life Ministry. Janet Renovetz, Co-chair Spiritual Life, Anne Melfo, Co-chair S.L.

MUSIC

SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM: During the second half of May, Dave Debick will be recruiting volunteer singers and instrumentalists to share their musical gifts with the congregation and our guests over the summer months (June 3 -Sept. 2.) Dave is glad to help you find music, and rehearses with each volunteer on an as-needed basis. If you've never volunteered before but are interested in singing or playing your instrument for a musical offering on a Sunday that's convenient for you, let Dave know so he can get your name on the schedule. Any questions or concerns, contact Dave.



ARTS RENAISSANCE TREMONT

3pm, Sunday May, 6
Cicilia Yudha, *piano*

**PRESENTED AT PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
2592 WEST 14TH ST.
CLEVELAND, OH 44113**

A NOTE OF THANKS



Max Roha thanks all of his BUCC friends for the many birthday wishes he received for his 95th birthday. He also wants to thank his friends for their hospitality to his out-of-town relatives and friends who joined him in church and the coffee hour.



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

May 7:	Lindsey Maier
May 9:	Michele Marcus
May 10:	Fred Pesek
May 12:	Gina Cook
May 18:	Terry Heiman
May 21:	Danyel Esser
	James Tyler
May 26:	David Ritchey
May 30:	Lenore Harris
	Peg Duffy

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

CALENDAR

MAY, 2018

Tuesday, MAY 1

Wednesday, MAY 2

4:30 pm Recorder Dulcimer
Guitar

Thursday, MAY 3

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

Friday, MAY 4

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, MAY 5

9 am Alternate Yard
Clean up

Sunday, MAY 6

10 am Worship Service
11 am Coffee Hour
11 am CE Mtg. Library
5:30 Youth Percussion
6:00 pm Youth Ministry

Monday, MAY 7

1 pm Book Discussion
7 pm Facilities/Lib.
7 pm Spiritual Life

Tuesday, MAY, 8

Wednesday, MAY 9

4:30 pm Recorder Dulcimer
7 pm Council

Thursday, MAY 10

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

Friday, MAY 11

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, MAY 12

Sunday, MAY 13

10 am Worship/
Edna House
Offering
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, MAY 14

7 pm Welcome &
Growth Task
Force

Tuesday, MAY 15

PILLAR DEADLINE

Wednesday, MAY 16

4:30 pm Recorder Dulcimer
Guitar

Thursday, MAY 17

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

Friday, MAY 18

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, MAY 19

Sunday, MAY 20

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour
5:30 pm Youth Percussion
6:00 pm Youth Ministry

Monday, MAY 21

Tuesday, MAY 22

Wednesday, MAY 23

4:30 pm Recorder Dulcimer
Guitar

Thursday, MAY 24

1 pm Bible Study
7:30 pm Choir

Friday, MAY 25

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, MAY 26

Sunday, MAY 27

10 am Worship Service
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, MAY 28

MEMORIAL DAY

OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, May 29

Wednesday, May 30

Thursday, May 31

1 pm Bible Study

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

MAY 6, 2018

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: David & Kathy Pastor
Tim & Kim Wallis
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Drew Demko
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comms Grtr: Caroline Chandler
Flowers: Maureen Stanley
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Nancy Stella, Carole Snider
Servers: Betty Kaul, Marge Culver
Clean-up: Lynne Struck, Jill Zedan
Snacks: Max Roha

MAY 13 2018

Lay Reader: Darlene Kelly
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Kate Klonowski, Kathy Smith
Acolyte: Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comms Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz
Nursery: Jess Barnes
C.E Teacher: Tia Began
Counters: Jon Thompson, Matt Wolbert
Servers: Sue & Cliff Stenzel
Clean-Up: Dave & Kathy Pastor
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Pat Rehm

MAY 20, 2018

Lay Reader: David Pastor
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Sam Koch, Jess Barnes
Carole & George Snider
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Ben Davis
Sound: Bem Tomlinson
Comms Grtr: Jill Zedan
Flowers: Dot Bailey
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Jan Renovetz, Dave Bernard
Servers: Joy Garapic, Carole Snider
Clean-Up: Bridget & Chad Sproul
Snacks: Beth Rehling, Erin Tomlinson

MAY 27, 2018

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: Darlene Kelly, Betty Kaul
Dave & Julie Bernard
Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Valerie Tyler
C.E Teacher: *No Scheduled Class (for upper elem. only - they are welcome to join the younger elementary to assist if they wish!)*
Counters: Jim Duffy, Kate Klonowski
Servers: Leroy & Kathy Ford
Clean Up: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Bridget Sproul, Betty Kaul

The Pillar

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23 Public Square

Brecksville, Ohio 44141
Moderator: Jim Duffy
jmorganduffy@gmail.com

Phone: 440-526-4364

Pastor: Rev. Dave Shackle
440-546-1193

E-mail:

buccoh@sbcglobal.net

buccopastor@sbcglobal.net

Web:

www.BrecksvilleUCC.org **Director of Music:**

Dave Debick

Office Hours: (Mon – Thur.)
9:00 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.

buccmusic@sbcglobal.net

Financial Secretary: Joy Garapic

buccfinance@sbcglobal.net

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buccoh@sbcglobal.net

FIRST CLASS

