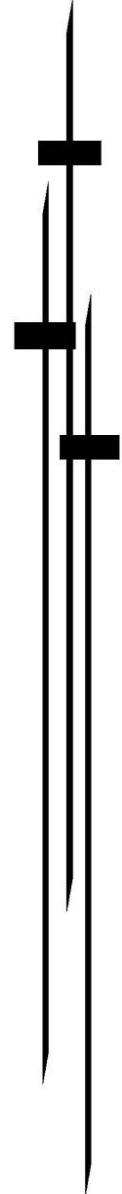


The Pillar

Brecksville United Church of Christ

July, 2018



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

Pastor's Ponderings

...On Four Activities for the Fourth...

By declaring their independence from Great Britain, our ancestors sought to create a new nation based on the noble ideal that all people “are created equal.” Of course our nation, like every nation, hasn’t always lived up to its ideals. Back then, women and people of color weren’t considered part of that “equality”. Our nation’s story includes the shameful treatment of Native Americans, the horrible sin of slavery, as well as ongoing struggles with racism and sexism, corruption and greed. Yet there are also so many wonderful things to celebrate about this great nation, including the fact that we are free to talk about its faults, and to share in the responsibility of working to correct them.

In this month when we celebrate our nation’s independence, there are four specific things that you and I can do in gratitude for this gift and heritage which is ours. The first, is to give thanks to God *for* this country, and for all those who contributed to its birth and growth - our founding fathers *and* mothers, our brave soldiers *and* courageous pacifists, the unknown slaves who labored to build our nation’s capital and the public servants who have worked there to advance our nation’s highest ideals. The second thing we can do, is to pray for our current national leaders. And I mean pray for *all* of them - that they find the wisdom and courage to transcend personal and party interests, in order to do what is right and just and fair. [Even if we can’t think of anything positive about them, we can at least heed Jesus’ command to ‘Love our enemies, and pray for those who persecute us!’]

The third thing that we can do, is to be grateful for the marvelous diversity of our nation - to recognize it as both a gift and a blessing. I believe that affirming and celebrating the richness of our diversity, goes to the very heart of our ancestors’ notion of “liberty and justice for *all*.” And in this time of heated debate over immigration, I think it’s important to remember that we are *overwhelmingly* a nation made up of immigrants! So unless we happen to be Cherokee or Lakota, we might want to dial-down the rhetoric about protecting our borders from “outsiders” and “strangers”. ►

Finally, as we celebrate our nation's independence, we can also acknowledge and affirm our global *inter*dependence. All life on this planet is interconnected; we are all children of the One Divine Source and Spirit. And genuine love for our country *requires* that we strive to work together with world-wide partners in a greater cause: a safer and saner world. The citizens of this nation and of all nations must learn to work together on the really big issues that threaten and challenge us all. So, if July 4th is a day in which we truly hope and dream for a better nation, it must also be a day when we hope and dream - work and pray - for a better world.

Wishing you a happy Independence Day and a great summer!
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

FACILITIES



A big "thank you" to Doug Fawcett for spearheading the restoration of our last large stained-glass window by Art 5 Glass. The window has been framed and back-lighted and installed in the upper commons.

New paper towel and toilet paper dispensers have been installed by our custodian, Sam. The ordering of church supplies on-line, by Sam, will provide an efficient system that will enable us to more effectively track our costs.

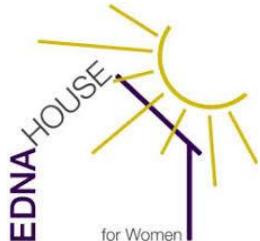
The Spring Grounds Clean-up was conducted on May 5 & 12. The area to the west of the parking lot by the school will have the stumps removed and ground cover planted.

All of our vacant class rooms have now been rented. Further details will be forthcoming. ►

The drinking fountain located in the hallway into Pilgrim Hall is unrepairable. A replacement is being considered.

The roof of the sanctuary is in need of replacement in 2019. Discussions of this project will be brought before the Council.

FINANCE



The amount sent to Edna House for Mothers' Day was \$1,042. According to their web site, Edna House for Women offers long-term, structured sober living and education to women seeking recovery from addition to drugs and alcohol. A thank you letter is posted in the Commons area.

MEMBERSHIP

SAVE THE DATE!

WHEN: The Annual Church Picnic is on August 5 at noon.

WHERE: 9257 Highland Drive
Brecksville.

*Please get your name on the signup sheet or call Kathy Smith at 440-343-6354.

*There will be swimming fishing and games.

*We are bringing back the pie baking contest with wonderful prizes.

*Mark your calendar for this date and we will see you at the picnic!



NEWS FROM OCWM

The last hunger meal was served on June 3rd at Bethany UCC. The usual menu of mostaccioli, salad and cookies was prepared for 50 meals, and only 30 people showed up. No food was wasted, as many second and takeaways were distributed.

Members of OCWM will meet with Brookside Community Meal board in June or July to select dates and locations for hunger meals at Bethany UCC or at Pearl Road United Methodist Church for the next few months. When the dates and locations have been selected, the sign-up board for BUCC members and friends to indicate their desire to help with the meals.



By the time you read this, the Strengthen The Church offering will have been received. The next offering will be on October 7th and will benefit Neighbors In Need. Look for the interpretive material about the uses for this offering in the coming months.

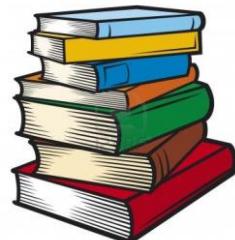
The collection of aluminum cans continues unabated. A redemption recycler is still being searched for.

The food donations for the hunger centers at Brookside and at Community Corner also continues, thanks to the generosity of BUCC members and friends and the efforts of the BUCC member who delivers these items to the food centers.

NOTES AND ASIDES

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Our book this month is *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. A former POW comes home from the Vietnam War a changed and volatile man. He impulsively moves his family to mid-1970's Alaska to live off the land. His daughter Leni and her mother are forced to confront the dangers of their lack of preparedness in the wake of a dangerous winter season. Our discussion will take place in the Parlor on Monday, July 9th at 1 p.m.



CLEVELAND ROOTS

Cleveland Roots would like to extend a huge and heartfelt thank you to the entire BUCC congregation – the goal was \$3,000 and you gave us \$6,000! Not only have we been able to install fencing around 1 square acre, we have also cleared some additional acres for future planting.



We struggle to find words to express how much we appreciate the support of the members of BUCC. However, your financial support is only part of why we're so thankful. The spiritual and emotional support offered to us has been invaluable and continues to inspire us daily. Thank you for your enthusiasm and love, we couldn't do it without you!

On Sunday July 1st, we are inviting any and all to the farm for a tour. It will be after that Sunday's service, so bring your boots with you that morning! If you have concerns about your ability to navigate irregular terrain, don't be dissuaded – we can drive folks around the property as well.

With love and gratitude,

Doug, Anne and the entire Cleveland Roots crew

FOOD PANTRY



July - Toothpaste, Shampoo, and Toilet Paper

WOMEN UNITED

On Wednesday July 18 at 11:30AM we will meet for lunch in Pilgrim Hall and afterward will prepare 100 sandwiches for St Hermans House. The sandwiches are not a meal but a snack for the residents and also for walk-ins. If you would like to donate a bag of apples or oranges, mustard and catsup it will be quite welcome. Bring your lunch. Coffee is provided.



DIRECTORY

We will be publishing a new up-to-date BUCC Member Directory in the very near future. If you have any change of address, phone number, email address, or to add birthday, please contact Jeannette at 440-526-4364, or buccoh@sbcglobal.net





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

July 3:	Andrew Lightbody
July 11:	Dottie Farwell
July 12:	Ryan Stewart
July 13:	Mary D'Agostino
July 14:	Jim Demko
	Evie Novak
July 15:	Dorie Gabor
July 21:	Joshua Tyler Anderson
	Nora Smith-Gagliano
July 22:	Mira Corrado
July 25:	Cindy Burton
July 26:	Carol VanDuyne
July 27:	Anne Melfo
July 28:	Mac Hoppel
Other July Birthdays	Joe Began

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

The Pillar

Would you enjoy receiving quicker access to the Pillar?

Would you enjoy seeing the Pillar in color?

Would you enjoy having the Pillar on your computer or device for quick reference?

If you said “YES” to any of the questions above, please call or email Jeannette to be added to the Pillar Email List! 440-526-4364, or buccoh@sbcglobal.net

Please support our commitment to conserving paper, and postage.

You'll Love it!

CALENDAR

JULY, 2018

Sunday, JULY 1 10 am Worship Service 11 am Coffee Hour 11:30 am Cleveland Roots Farm	Thursday, JULY 12 1 pm Bible Study	Thursday, JULY 26 1 pm Bible Study
Monday, JULY 2 7 pm NO FACILITIES	Friday, JULY 13 *OFFICE CLOSED*	Friday, JULY 27 *OFFICE CLOSED*
Tuesday, JULY 3	Saturday, JULY 14	Saturday, JULY 28
Wednesday, JULY 4 *Independence Day* *OFFICE CLOSED*	Sunday, JULY 15 PILLAR DEADLINE 10 am Worship 11 am Coffee Hour	Sunday, JULY 29 10 am Worship Service 11 am Coffee Hour
Thursday, JULY 5 1 pm Bible Study	Monday, JULY 16	Monday, JULY 30
Friday, JULY 6 *OFFICE CLOSED*	Tuesday, JULY 17	Tuesday, JULY 31
Saturday, JULY 7	Wednesday, JULY 18 11:30 am Women United	
Sunday, JULY 8 10 am Worship 11 am Coffee Hour	Thursday, JULY 19 1 pm Bible Study	
Monday, JULY 9 1 pm Book Discussion	Friday, JULY 20 *OFFICE CLOSED*	
Tuesday, JULY 10	Saturday, JULY 21	
Wednesday, JULY 11 7 pm NO COUNCIL	Sunday, JULY 22 10 am Worship Service 11 am Coffee Hour	
	Monday, JULY 23	
	Tuesday, JULY 24	
	Wednesday, JULY 25	

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

JULY 1, 2018

Lay Reader: Jon Thompson
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Darlene Kelly, Sam Koch
David & Kathy Pastor
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Ben Davis
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr: Caroline Chandler
Flowers: Dot Bailey
Nursery: Jess Barnes
C.E Teacher: Gina Cook
Counters: Nancy Stella, Dave Bernard
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Clean-up: Lynne Struck, Jill Zedan

JULY 8, 2018

Lay Reader: Dot Bailey
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel
Ushers: Kathy Smith, Jill Zedan
Dave & Julie Bernard
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Julie Bernard
Nursery: Valerie Tyler
C.E Teacher: Gina Cook
Counters: Stue Bailey, Kate Konowski
Servers: Joy Garapic, Julie Bernard
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs

JULY 15, 2018

Lay Reader: Bettina Ortiz
Head Usher: Jon Thompson
Ushers: Jess Barnes, Cliff Cribbs
Diane Gressley, Ed Lusk
Acolyte: Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Drew Demko
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E Teacher: Anne Melfo
Counters: Matt Wolbert, Jim Duffy ►

Servers:

Joanne Cook, Caroline Chandler
David & Kathy Pastor

JULY 22, 2018

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Betty Kaul, Dan Stewart & Ian Stewart, Kate Klonowski
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Heidi Spangler
Counters: David Pastor, Bruce McCain
Servers: Carole Snider, Sue Stenzel
Clean Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul

JULY 29, 2018

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Matt Wolbert, Ben Tomlinson
Acolyte: David Ritchey, Beth Rehling
Peace Candle: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Sound: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Comns Grtr: David Pastor
Flowers: Kathy Pastor
Nursery: Dottie Faust
C.E Teacher: Erin Tomlinson
Counters: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Servers: Jon Thompson, Marge Culver
Clean-up: Leroy & Kathy Ford
Cliff & Sue Stenzel

The Pillar

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United Church of Christ

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FIRST CLASS

