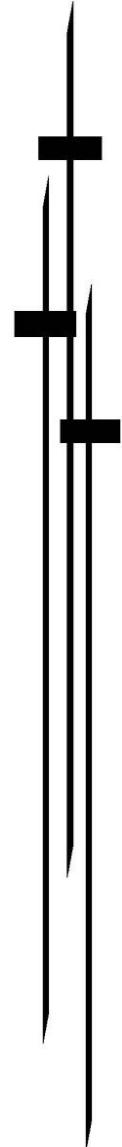


The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

October 2018



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

Pastor's Ponderings

...on Peace and Justice....

On a Wednesday evening last month, Pilgrim Hall was filled to capacity as people from throughout the area gathered for an event called *Teatime for Peace*. This gathering offered a wonderful opportunity for people of diverse communities to get to know one another, and to recognize and celebrate our shared humanity and dreams. Following a brief presentation on some of the basic facts [and fictions] about the Islamic Faith, the bulk of the evening was spent in guided conversations around the tables. Topics included each person sharing his or her family's journey to the U.S., values from their faith tradition that shape and guide them, ways that their faith inspires them to better our community, and things we all can do to promote mutual respect and understanding for those who are different from us.

Midway through the event, we were treated to a powerful and moving original poem by Kent State graduate student, Fatima Shendy. She did an amazing job of using words and rhythm, in comparing and contrasting the characteristics of Hate and Love. The evening concluded with a brief question and answer period, followed by a rousing singing of *Let There Be Peace on Earth*. Even though the event is over, I have a strong feeling that the seed of goodwill that was spread that evening will continue to grow and blossom throughout the community, and will lead to further positive conversations and contacts.

Of course, we couldn't host a "Teatime" without there being a tantalizing assortment of tea and coffee and treats! My thanks to Sue Stenzel, the members of our Welcome & Growth Task-force, and all the other BUCC members who did their usual fantastic job of graciously welcoming others here!

Now, for those of you who missed this event, or those who came and want more - two things: First, I will keep you informed of any upcoming *Teatime for Peace* events in our area. Second, we will continue to explore the theme of *Peace* at this month's Retreat on Saturday, October 13th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. ►

Our activities throughout the day will center around the importance of working to achieve peace in our hearts, our homes, our communities, and our world. As the song goes, "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with *me*!" We really can't expect genuine peace in our world, unless we ourselves are willing to take the steps to make peace an integral part of our own lives and relationships. Along with our planned activities that day, we will also take some time to simply get to know one another a bit better. Spending time in a relaxed and beautiful setting presents a great opportunity for us to do so. I hope that you will join us on the 13th - and as always, feel free to bring a friend!

Peace and Joy Be With You!

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.

Church Retreat - Saturday, October 13th

As one whose own faith was influenced in the serene seclusion Church Camp, I can attest to the value of spending time in the great outdoors. Even if it's only for a short time, getting away from our regular routine, to contemplate the beauty and wonder of Creation, can be both refreshing and rewarding. On Saturday October 13th from 10:00 am - 4:00 p.m. all BUCC Adults, teens and friends have the opportunity to join together for our annual Retreat at Ledge Lake Shelter in the Hinckley Reservation. This year's theme will be *Peace and Justice... You can't Have One Without the Other!*

Along with our planned activities, we will also share a noon meal and take some time to get to know one another a bit better. We ask that everyone bring something to add to the meal, or to share as a snack. [Jan Renovetz can offer suggestions, if needed - 330-467-9357] There will be a sign-up sheet circulating after worship services, or you can call the Church Office [440-526-4364] to let us know you're coming. Maps to the Shelter are also available in the office, and please feel free to call me if you have any questions. Pastor Dave

FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

FACILITIES

- A new drinking fountain will be located on the wall between the restrooms as you enter Pilgrim Hall. The fountain will be ADA compliant.
- Our elevator was inspected and passed by Gable Elevator on August 30. The new documentation book, required by state law, has been placed in the elevator mechanical room on the lower level.
- The dishwasher has been repaired but some additional plumbing to install a water turn-off valve is required. In addition, a pressure relief tank must be installed on the hot water heater. The faucet in the women's washroom on the lower level of the CW wing must also be replaced. The price for repairs and plumbing will be in excess of \$2000.
- The railing on the entrance ramp by the parlor is in need of repair/replacement and cement on the side of the ramp needs repairs.
- On August 14 a meeting was held with Neff & Associates to discuss a preliminary plan to assess the water run-off/flooding problem. Further details will be forthcoming in the next few months.
- The following future capital expenditures will need to be addressed between 2019 and 2020: (1) roof – definite expenditure for 2019; (2) water run-off; (3) Pilgrim Hall floor; (4) Lennox furnaces.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

in September and October, the Chairpersons of BUCC Ministries will be holding meetings to determine the needs and wishes of those members in their Ministries. It is important to try and find the right fit for each



person who is giving of his/her time to volunteer. We want you to be happy doing what you are doing to help with the work of Brecksville United Church of Christ.

Ministries

The Leadership Development Ministry will be talking with each of the Chairpersons to review these roles. We encourage Members of Ministries to reflect upon their present roles and speak with the Ministry Chair or someone associated with Leadership Development Ministry with any thoughts, improvements, or change. Also, if you know anyone who has expressed an interest in volunteering in any one of the Ministries, please let us know. Thank you for all the work you do to continue to make our church home welcoming & organized – a happy combination.

Kathy Smith, Cliff Cribbs, Julie Bernard, Bridget Sproul, Linda Kriynovich, Carole Snider – Leadership Development Ministry

MEMBERSHIP



.....November 11, Thanksgiving Dinner

NEWS FROM OCWM

The next hunger meal will be served on Sunday, October 7th at Iglesia Emmanuel Church (formerly Bethany UCC). We expect to prepare and serve about 30 to 50 meals. The menu will be mostaccioli and meatballs, salad, and homemade cookies for dessert. The sign-up board will be in the narthex for those persons willing to help with the meal to indicate their interest. ►



There will be opportunities on the early shift (2:30 PM to 4:00 PM to set up and prepare), and on the late shift (4:00 PM to 6:00 PM to serve and clean up). The sign-up board will have a space for the interested home baked cookies wizards to indicate their interest.

The next designated offering (Neighbors In Need) will be received on Sunday, October 7th, with the offering going to benefit justice, witness, and American native ministries. Further interpretive information appears elsewhere in this issue of the Pillar.

Thanks go to all BUCC members and friends who have been faithfully donating food items, and other items not covered by food stamps. These items are temporarily stored in the closet by the ramp until about 25 to 35 bags have been accumulated. Then they are delivered to either Brookside Hunger Center or to Community Corner Hunger Center.

STEWARDSHIP



Our annual **Stewardship 2019** is underway. Stewardship Sunday will be November 11. This year our theme is **What Shall We Bring?** and the scripture from Micah 6:6 is the focus of reflection. Please take a few moments to carefully consider what stewardship means to you and to our broader church family. We are all stewards, which means that you help manage resources. As stewards of God, we try to manage our resources so that they serve God's purposes to make the church and the world more like the communities God wants them to be. ►

What is stewardship? In 1 Corinthians, Paul writes that we are “stewards of the mysteries of God.” people who know the nature of our God and the love that God has for all of creation, a love that is more powerful even than death itself, we are called to share this story. We are stewards of the Gospel and as such we do not hoard this good news, but we offer it to others. Paul was radically devoted to God and the mission to tell the world of God’s loving intentions toward creation. His priority was to love and serve the God who could not be contained in any idol of wood, stone, silver, or gold. When you know this to be true, it puts everything else in its proper place. As we reflect on what it means to be a steward, we are invited to think both about our priorities and how well we have shared with others the real treasure we have in the story of our faith. How are you practicing this kind of stewardship? Who can you tell about God’s unconditional love?

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings? - Micah 6:6

Note that by the end of October, you should receive a letter from our moderator that includes a pledge card. On Sunday November 11, prior to our annual Thanksgiving dinner, we will collect the pledge cards during the worship service.

NOTES AND ASIDES

2018/2019 ADVENT BOOK

For this season's Advent Book, we will be starting off much earlier than we normally do. Jon Thompson will be passing out the Scripture Verses in early October, and the **Deadline will be Sunday, October 28.**
Please make sure you get on the sign-up sheet!



(Guidelines and Suggestions next page►)

ADVENT BOOK GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS 2018/2019

You have selected, read, and reflected upon a Bible verse.

In 200 words or less, write on pretty much whatever you wish. Here are some suggestions:

- Reflection on what the scripture you chose means to you. Don't worry about using the passage in its entirety. You may want to select a single thought from it and go from there.
- A Christmas memory that may hold special significance for others.
- Something going on the world and what scripture seems to say in response.
- Something you may have heard or read related to the scripture passage that has special meaning for you.
- Description of a special family (or church) tradition.
- The whole meditation may be written as a prayer.
- Sometimes a poem or the lyrics to a special carol works well.

Conclude your passage with a one or two sentence prayer.

Please **EMAIL** your piece to both the church office at buccoh@sbcglobal.net and to Jon Thompson at thompsj13@ccf.org You do not have to retype the Scripture verse.

THE ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR TURNING IN YOUR WRITING IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, THE SOONER THE BETTER, PLEASE.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

On Oct. 1 at 1:00pm in the Parlor, the book discussion group will be considering *EVICTED* by Matthew Desmond, a Harvard sociologist. *EVICTED* follows eight Milwaukee families in their struggles to keep roofs over their heads. The book provides outlooks about poverty and economic exploitation and provides ideas for solving one of America's most devastating problems.



FOOD PANTRY



October - Canned Soup, Baked Beans,
Chili, etc.



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

October 8:	Michelle Namitka
October 9:	Ashley Smith
October 15:	Indiria Bigelow
October 16:	Heather Hunt
October 21:	Joy Garapic
October 22:	Johnny Kolar
October 24:	Betsey Wilson
	Doris Schmid
October 25:	Jim Farwell
October 26:	Diane Lightbody
	Leroy Ford
October 30:	Jesse Wade

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

CALENDAR

OCTOBER, 2018

Monday, OCT.1
1pm Book Discussion

Tuesday, OCT 2

Wednesday, OCT 3

Thursday, OCT.4
1 pm Bible Study
4:30 pm Recorder/Dul/Guitar
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:30 pm Choir

Friday, OCT. 5
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, OCT. 6

Sunday, OCT. 7
10 am Worship
*Neighbors In
Need Offering*
11 am Coffee Hour
11am CE Library
Hunger Meal – Ialesia
Immanuel
***SEE JON THOMPSON**
FOR YOUR ADVENT
BOOK ENTRIES*

Monday, OCT.8
7 pm Facilities/Library

Tuesday, OCT.9

Wednesday, OCT. 10
7pm Council

Thursday, OCT. 11
1 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:00 pm Seasonal Choir
8 pm Choir

Friday, OCT. 12
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, OCT.13
10 – 4 Church Retreat
Ledge Lake
Lodge

Sunday, OCT. 14
10 am Worship Service
11 am Coffee Hour
5:30 pm Youth Percussion
6 pm Youth Ministry

Monday, OCT.15
PILLAR DEADLINE

Tuesday, OCT. 16

Wednesday, OCT. 17

Thursday, OCT. 18
1 pm Bible Study
4:30 pm Recorder/Dul/Guitar
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:00 pm Seasonal Choir
8 pm Choir

Friday, OCT. 19
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, OCT. 20

Sunday, OCT. 21
10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, OCT.22

Tuesday, OCT. 23

Wednesday, OCT., 24
4:30 pm Recorder/Dul/Guitar

Thursday, OCT., 25
1 pm Bible Study
4:30 pm Recorder/Dul/Guitar
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:00 pm Seasonal Choir
8 pm Choir

Friday, Oct. 26
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, Oct. 27
4-6pm Youth Halloween
Party in PH
(*SEE BELOW*)

Sunday, Oct 28
10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

***ADVENT BOOK**
DEADLINE*

Monday, Oct. 29

Tuesday, Oct. 30

Wednesday, Oct. 31

***Presented by our**
Youth – for all
Children and
Adults!
Come in Costume!
Join in on the fun! *

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

OCTOBER 7, 2018

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Head Usher: Jon Thompson
Ushers: Beth Rehling, Darlene, Kelly, Sam Koch, Matt Wolbert
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr: Dot Bailey
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E Teacher: Beth Rehling
Counters: Nancy Stella, Carole Snider
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Clean-up: Jan Renovetz, Jill Zedan
Snacks: Jane Cribbs, Erin Tomlinson

OCTOBER 14, 2018

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Dave & Julie Bernard, Joe & Betsey Wilson
Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Bruce McCain, Matt Wolbert
Servers: Joan Cook, Betty Kaul
Clean-Up: Dave & Kathy Pastor
Snacks: Dot Bailey, Gina Cook

OCTOBER 21, 2018

Lay Reader: Diane Gressley
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler, Matt Wolbert, Kate Klonowski
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Jim Duffy
Servers: Carole Snider, Joy Garapic
Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks: Beth Rehling, Marla Corrado

OCTOBER 28, 2018

Lay Reader: Betsey Wilson
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Kathy Smith, Betty Kaul, George & Carole Snider
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: David Pastor
Comns Grtr: Bettina Ortiz
Flowers: Dot Bailey
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E. Teacher: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Jan Renovetz, Dave Bernard
Servers: Julie Bernard, Marge Culver
Clean-Up: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Heidi Spangler

The Pillar

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