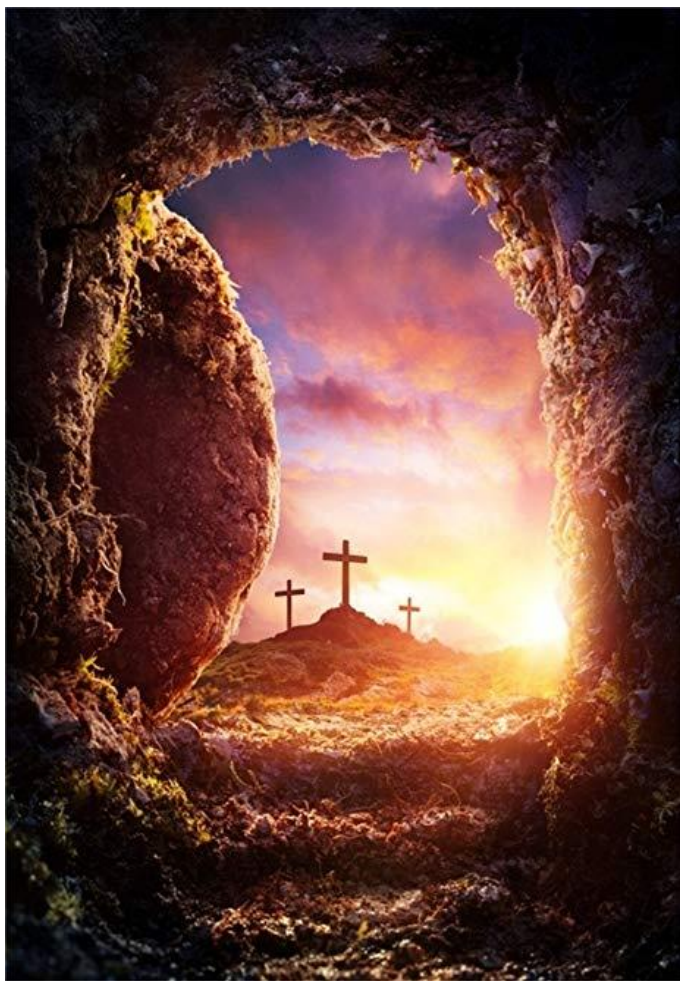
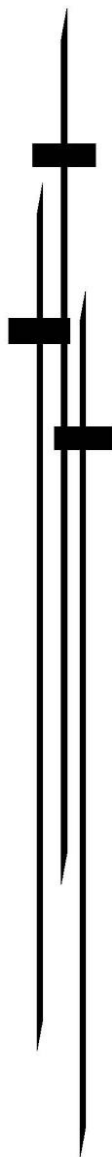


The *Pillar*
Brecksville United Church of Christ

April 2019



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



Pastor's Ponderings

...on Dying and Rising...

"Truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." [John 12:24]

While a botanist might tell us that a seed doesn't actually die before it germinates, our own Life experience tells us that Jesus is actually on to something here! Life itself consists of a series of changes - letting-go of one stage or chapter, so that we can move forward to the next. Easter is the ultimate example of how letting go - in a self-giving way - can "bear much fruit." Jesus' loving example has inspired countless people to give of themselves for a greater good. And this giving of self means more than dying for the sake of others. It means a willingness to *live* for others as well.

Easter isn't just about our believing that Jesus was raised from death to life. It's also about allowing Christ's power of love and life to overcome the forces of hatred and fear which we encounter in our day-to-day living. Easter is about standing-up for what is fair and compassionate, especially in the face of criticism or persecution. It's about honoring Christ's teaching - that we treat *all* people as our sisters and brothers, and that we love our neighbor as ourselves. Doing these things can require that we give-up something of value: our time, our effort, or our money; our sense of self-importance, or our egocentric need to feel that we are completely in control.

In order for change to happen, in order for something new and different to emerge, often necessitates the letting-go of something old. And while that might seem like [and *be* like] and "end" or even a "death", it is often the only way to discover a new life and a new beginning. This is essentially the story of Easter. This is the Good News that brings us new life.

Peace and Joy,
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.

HOLY WEEK/EASTER OPPORTUNITIES AT BUCC:

April 14th - 10 am - Palm Sunday - Procession of Palms and Service of Confirmation

April 18th - 6:30 pm - Maundy Thursday Soup Supper
7:00 - Holy Communion

April 20th - 8:30 pm Saint Bridget Easter Vigil [The Community of Saint Bridget is the group that holds Mass here on Saturdays]

April 21st - 6:15 am - Easter Sunrise Service and Holy Communion at the Brecksville/Highland Cemetery [Highland Drive, just South of Rte. 82 - park at the water tower]

10:00 am - Easter Celebration and Holy Communion

FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

LAST-MINUTE MART: On Saturday, May 11th, 2019 from 10:00am - 3:00pm, BUCC is hosting our spring LAST-MINUTE MART in Pilgrim Hall, just in time for Mother's Day! This event is very special because



Christian Education is joining forces with OCWM and the Communications & Outreach Ministry to raise funds for this year's Lenten Project to support refugee families in Cleveland.

Our students will be selling handmade craft items to raise funds for these families. We are excited to welcome crafters, bakers, and vendors of all kinds (both parishioners and other community members) to join us! You may request a full 8' table for \$25, or half table/card table (~4') for \$15.

Please submit your request for a table to Heidi Spangler at hspanglerads@gmail.com. We are also requesting that each vender supply one item to donate to our raffle. Concessions will be available! All table, concession profits and raffle proceeds will go to support our Lenten Project. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Klonowski at keightykay@gmail.com or 216-534-3498.

FACILITIES



The 'Fund the Roof Campaign' will kick-off on APRIL 30. We are asking all members of the congregation to prayerfully consider making a contribution to the campaign. We hope to have the new roof completed before the end of summer.

The Ministry is currently reviewing a proposal to convert all lighting in the church building to high efficiency bulbs. Will be reviewing the cost benefits at our April meeting. Preliminary indications show a significant reduction in our electrical bill. Please watch for future information.

The following items on our job list have been completed or are in progress: disposing of non-usable paint; documenting the sound system, HVAC system and other mechanical systems; cleaning the narthex fixture and glass panels; automate exterior front door lighting; shred old financial documents; remove old organ from Pilgrim Hall; replace old driveway signs; remove clutter from the CE banner room.

NEWS FROM OCWM

The amazing mitten tree has been cleared of its hats, scarves, and mittens yet another time (its fifth time). By the time this is being read, the items will have been relocated to the Brookside Hunger Center, which is now located at the corner of Pearl Road and Archwood Road.



The donation of food and other items is continuing. Recently, 35 bags and 2 boxes were delivered to the Brookside Hunger Center. ►

The center estimates its monetarily value to be over \$350.00, but its true value is greater than that. It is great to see that BUCC members and friends have not forgotten those who have little or no food and remember that the food stamp program does not cover toiletries and non-food items.

By the time this is being read, the hunger meal at Pearl Road United Methodist Church will have been prepared and served, in conjunction with the Independence United Methodist Church. The date of the next hunger meal will be on Sunday, May 19th at the Pearl Road United Methodist Church, again in conjunction with the Independence United Methodist Church. The usual sign-up board will appear in the narthex.

The next designated offering will be received on Sunday, May 13th for the benefit of Edna House. More details will be forthcoming in the Pillar and in Sunday bulletins as the date comes nearer.

Oh Yes! Almost forgot. The aluminum cans are still being collected. That magical can in the corner of the lower commons will still accept aluminum cans (no plastic, paper or trash, please).

OPEN & AFFIRMING MINISTRY (ONA)

April

GLSEN's Day of Silence

Day of Silence is a student-led national event where folks take a vow of silence to highlight the silencing and erasure of LGBTQ people at school that started in April 1996. Created by then-student Maria Pulzetti, the first event was organized by students at the University of Virginia. Pulzetti explained: "I wanted to do something for BGLAD week that would impact many people at the school and that would be very visible...I knew that if we held panel discussions and events like that, the only people who would come would be the people who already were fairly aware." ►

In 1997, Day of Silence went national, with almost 100 colleges and universities participating. In the last several years, over 10,000 participants have registered their participation with GLSEN each year. These participants attend middle schools, high schools, colleges, and universities. They include students from all 50 states in the U.S.A. as well as students from around the world, including New Zealand, Singapore, and Russia.

Lesbian Visibility Day

Lesbian Visibility Day is an annual awareness campaign held on April 26. Its origins are unknown, but the campaign is believed to have been launched in 2008 and has since spread across the world thanks to the Internet. Pride and visibility days dedicated to different groups that make up the LGBT community (lesbians, gay men, bisexual people, transgender and gender-nonconforming people, intersex people etc.) are extremely important because it is important to raise awareness of the specific struggles and needs of each of these groups.

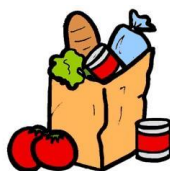
Lesbian Visibility Day celebrates lesbian role models and lesbian culture and diversity, as well as raises awareness of the issues that lesbians face.

In terms of medical issues, for example, many women who have sex with women neglect to see a gynecologist when they become sexually active and lack information about the prevention of STDs that can be transmitted during lesbian sex. As far as mental health issues are concerned, anxiety is more likely to appear among lesbian and bisexual women than heterosexual women. Depression is a significant problem among lesbians who hide their sexual orientation, experience religious or ethnic discrimination, or go through relationship problems with no support system.

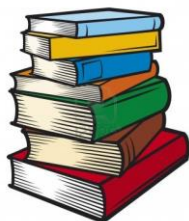
NOTES AND ASIDES

FOOD PANTRY

APRIL Rice and Tuna



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Our discussion book for April will be about **BEARTOWN**, a novel by Fredrik Backman, who is a New York Times bestselling author. It is about a small community in the forest with an ice rink that the community is hoping their junior hockey team will put on the map by winning big in the national semi-finals. We will meet in the Parlor at 1 p.m. on Monday, April 1st. All are welcome to join us.

SAVE THESE DATES!

PASSOVER BRUNCH: On Sunday, April 7, Christian Education is sponsoring an exciting educational opportunity that will begin during worship and extend into brunch at 12:00 noon for the community! We will welcome Lisa Kollins, the Director of the Social Justice Institute at Case Western Reserve University, to share the Jewish tradition of Passover with us and enjoy a deliciously diverse brunch after coffee hour that is friendly for all ages and diets! We will discuss some ancient and new ideas for how we remember past injustices and work to prevent future ones. Please invite your friends and families for this unique experience!



COMMUNITY EDUCATION DINNER SERIES: On Tuesday, April 30th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm Christian Education and OCWM welcome you and our neighbors to join us for a **FREE** community dinner and a presentation by Camille R. Gill, Associate Director of Immigration Legal Services in the Migration and Refugee Services department of Catholic Charities. She will present "Immigration 101: Defining Terms and Discussing Current Issues." All are welcome! Childcare will be provided on-site. This topic has been scheduled to coincide with the continuation of our Lenten Project to support refugee families in Cleveland.

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, APRIL 14, 2019

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_____



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

April 5:	Phyllis Molnar
April 6:	G Wardlaw
April 9:	Arthur Cook
April 10:	Jan Wardlaw
April 12:	Sandra Rooney
April 14:	Max Roha
April 17:	Lynne Struck
April 18:	Brian Esser
April 21:	Vickie Szabo
April 22:	Nate Hunt
	Evan Smith
April 25:	Sebastian Albenze
April 27:	Rob Grow
April 29:	Sherrill Witt
	Claire Esser
April 30:	Jeannette Kroeger

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

CALENDAR

APRIL 2019

Monday, APRIL 1

1 pm Book Discussion
7 pm Facilities

Tuesday, APRIL 2

7 pm Lenten Study PH

Wednesday, APRIL 3

Thursday, APRIL 4

1 pm Bible Study
4:30 pm Record/Dul/Guit.
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7 pm Choir

Friday, APRIL 5

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, APRIL 6

Sunday, APRIL 7

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour
Spiritual Life/Lib.
12 pm Passover Brunch

Monday, APRIL 8

Tuesday, APRIL 9

7 pm Lenten Study

Wednesday, APRIL, 10

7 pm Council

Thursday, APRIL 11

1 pm Bible Study
4:30 pm Record/Dul/Guit.
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7 pm Choir

Friday, APRIL 12

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, APRIL 13

Sunday, APRIL 14

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

Monday, APRIL 15

PILLAR DEADLINE

Tuesday, APRIL 16

Wednesday, APRIL 17

Thursday, APRIL 18

1 pm Bible Study
4:30 pm Record/Dul/Guit.
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
6:30 pm Soup Supper
7 pm Maundy Thursday
Holy Communion

Friday, APRIL 19

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, APRIL 20

10 am Choir Rehearsal for
Easter Sunday

Sunday, APRIL 21

6:15 am Sunrise Service at
Brecksville
Cemetery
10 am Easter Celebration
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, APRIL 22

Tuesday, APRIL 23

Wednesday, APRIL 24

Thursday, APRIL 25

1 pm Bible Study
NO Record/Dul/Guit.
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7 pm Choir

Friday, APRIL 26

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, APRIL 27

Sunday, APRIL 28

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

Monday, APRIL 29

Tuesday, APRIL 30

6-8 pm Community Dinner
Immigration 101

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

APRIL 7, 2019

Lay Reader: Ben Tomlinson
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: David & Kathy Pastor
Cliff Cribbs, Sam Koch
Acolyte: Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Cammie Ward
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Nancy Stella, Matt
Wolbert
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Clean-up: Sue Stenzel, Jill Zedan
Snacks: Beth Rehling, Marla
Corrado
Snow Hrdr: Wes Novak

APRIL 14, 2019

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel
Ushers: George & Carole Snider
David Ritchey, Kim Wallis
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: David Pastor
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: PALMS
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Gina Cook
Counters: Jan Renovetz, Jim Duffy
Servers: Julie Bernard, Joan Cook
Clean-Up: Jim & Peg Duffy
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Susan
Snyder
Snow Hrdr: Dave Bernard

APRIL 21, 2019

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Dave & Julie Bernard
Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr: Lenore Harris
Flowers: EASTER FLOWERS
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Marge Culver, Jon
Thompson
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks: Diane Gressley, Sue
Stenzel
Snow Hrdr: Cliff Cribbs

APRIL 28, 2019

Lay Reader: Bettina Ortiz
Head Usher: Sue Maier
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler
Matt Wolbert, Kate
Klonowski
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comns Grtr: Kathy Smith
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
Nursery: Jonathan Cook
C.E. Teacher: Beth Rehling
Counters: Dave Bernard, Carole
Snider
Servers: Joy Garapic, Betty Kaul
Clean-Up: Anne Melfo, Doug
Fawcett
Snacks: Kathleen Stewart, Gina
Cook
Snow Hrdr: Dan Stewart

The Pillar

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FIRST CLASS

