

Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364

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

Good and Gracious God. you promise to fill us with every good thing. You, Loving Parent, know better than we what is best for us. Thank you for reminding us that your grace is always with us. especially when it feels so distant.



Sunday July 28, 2019 • 10:00 AM Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Director of Music Financial Secretary Ministers

• David Debick • Joy Garapic All of our Members

Office Manager – Jeannette Kroeger

Pastor

Affirmation of Welcome

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, welcoming all of God's children.

If you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered, **You Are Welcome Here!**

If you are Asian, Hispanic, Black, or White, You Are Welcome Here!

If you are male, female, or transgender, You Are Welcome Here!

If you are 3 days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old, You Are Welcome Here!

If you've never been in a church, if you are Buddhist, Roman Catholic, agnostic, Or a life-long member of the UCC,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or pangender You Are Welcome Here!

If you are fully abled, or a person with differing abilities, **You Are Welcome Here!**

Whoever we may be, wherever we are on our life's journey, We welcome one another to this place, Even as God welcomes us all in Jesus Christ!



Please sign our guest book in the narthex before you leave and join us for refreshments in Pilgrim Hall downstairs following the service. If you are interested in learning more about our church, please speak to our pastor.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Simply ask an usher. Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use. Pillows for back support are also available, if needed

Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 9:00 - 12:00

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoh@sbcglobal.net - web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

July 28, 2016 - Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Good and Gracious God, thank you for providing us the strength we need to live in interesting times. Thank you. Thank you. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

* Please Stand as you are able.

Prelude Improvisation on "Seek Ye First"

Lafferty

"You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." Matthew 4:4

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: We rejoice in knowing our God is good!

People: A goodness we don't always understand.

L: Our God is a mother hen!

P: She keeps us safe beneath her wings.

L: Our God is our shield and protection.

P: We give thanks to the One who holds us close!

L: We give thanks to the Spirit, who consoles us!

All: We give thanks to the Holy One, who loves us, protects us, and keeps us close.

* Hymn of Praise

Renew Your Church

#311

* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

Good and Gracious God, thanking you for blessing this nation and all who live here. Thank you for reminding us that to whom much is given, much is required. Thank you for reminding us of our responsibility to be critical thinkers, mindful of the values you have placed in our hearts, and loving members of this society. This we pray in the Name and Spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen.



The Old Testament
The New Testament
The Continuing Testament

Genesis 18:20-32 Luke 11:1-13 from Thomas Merton Pew Bible, page 14 Pew Bible, page 57 Thoughts in Solitude

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Because He Lives
[Jon Thompson, bass]

Gaither

Sermon

Search, and You Will Find

Andy Lang

Hymn of Reflection

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

#454

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

Our Lord's Prayer

[the additional use of "Mother" is optional, according to One's Theological understanding]

...Our Father-Mother, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

Organ Response

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

Offertory

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

Neumark

"God will not fail to guide and bless those who embrace God's faithfulness." Georg Neumark, 1641; trans. Catherine Winkworth, , 1863; alt.

*Offertory Hymn
We bring our gifts because we care,
They are a part of what we share.
Our love is strong, it heals, uplifts.
With hearts of joy we share our gifts. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]

Gracious and Holy One, thank you for blessing us so well and for calling us to share our blessings with this community and with those who most need our care. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

God of the Ages

#592

*Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Acolyte

* Circle of Community

As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (3 times) Hallelujah, Hallelujah.** After the benediction is pronounced, we will sing it once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith



Postlude

Sometimes a Light Surprises

Marshall, setting Parker

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Bill Toneff, The Family of Ed Lusk, Richard Sacher, brother of Jan Renovetz, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick, Niece of Kathy Smith, Pat Bailey, Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, Mary Dagostino, Cindy Burton, people who are unemployed and under employed.

(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections or changes to our prayer lists.)

Attendance Sunday, July 21, 2019 - Adults: 51 Kids: 3 Total: 54

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshiping with us today. Please sign our guest book and join us downstairs in Pilgrim Hall for our Coffee Hour.

WE WELCOME VISITING PARENTS - We offer several child care options and fun activities for kids during worship hour: Infants and toddlers will be cared for in the nursery. Kindergarten through seventh grade will go to class after the Word to Young Worshipers. Crayons and paper are also available from ushers for children.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Max Roha in Loving Memory of my wife Mary C. Roha (8/4/22-7/21/01), My Son David J. Roha (5/7/50-9/18/13), and My Friend Lois L. Wallin (3/29/23-7/21/06).

DIRECTORY The Office will be completing and distributing our Annual Church Directory in early August. Please contact Jeannette with any changes you may have. Thank you. 440-526-4364, buccoh@sbcglobal.net

BUCC is no longer accepting cans to recycle - ***It is recommended that BUCC members put their aluminum recyclables with their other recyclables in their respective municipal recycling areas.*** Thank you.

CHURCH PICNIC will be held August 18th from noon to 4pm, following Pastor Allan's first service with us! The cookout will take place at Nora's house (9256 Highland Drive), rain or shine. In case of heavy rain or lightning, we will move the party to Pilgrim Hall. Activities will include swimming and fishing (bring your own pole). The theme for the cooking contest will be "Dessert in a Muffin Tin". If you are not taking part in the cooking contest, please bring a side dish, preferably in a disposable container. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please sign up so we can get an accurate count (either sign up at church, or contact Matt Wolbert or Tia Began). Hope to see you there!

Matt Wolbert: mjwolbert@hotmail.com

Tia Began: brecksvillet@aol.com

Office: buccoh@sbcglobal.net

ALTAR FLOWERS are a good way to celebrate an event or person or to remember a loved one. Our flower chart in the narthex has many open slots awaiting your name. Please select the date you wish to reserve now. Please fill out the dedication sheet from the pocket and drop it into the collection plate or leave it in the office.

There are several open Sunday's this Fall ...take a look

PILLAR CORRECTION - On August 4, additional Ushers are Dan Stewart, and Kim Wallis.

NAME TAGS are available for you to wear in the church and at coffee hour. These are helpful to visitors and new members to get to know our people. If you are missing a name tag, please let the Office know.

AFTER WORSHIP LUNCH BUNCH - All are welcome to join this spirited group of BUCC worshipers after coffee hour for brunch and some great conversation. We meet at a restaurant most Sundays around Noon. If you are single, widowed, a couple, or a family – anyone that just doesn't want to cook or dine alone, please join us. You'll be glad you did! We usually call in reservations around 11:30, to give the restaurant fair warning. Jon Thompson, Susan Snyder, Dave Debick, Bridget & Chad Sproul, Kathy Smith, and Marge Culver are regulars. Ask any of us how much fun we have!

PAPER RECYCLING BIN – You may have noticed that we now have a Paper Recycling Bin in the Parking lot. Please bring your paper recyclables and help us fill it up!

The Readings

The Old Testament - Genesis 18:20-32

Then our God said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

So the travelers turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before our God. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And our God said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to our God, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking?

Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And God said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there."

Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." God answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let our God be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." God answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there."

He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to our God. Suppose twenty are found there." God answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let our God be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." God answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

The New Testament - Luke 11:1-13

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Abba God, hallowed be your name. May your reign come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, a neighbor, and you go to your neighbor at midnight and say, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for friends of mine have arrived, and I have nothing to set before them.' And your neighbor answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though your neighbor will not get up and give you anything out of friendship, at least because of your persistence your neighbor will get up and give you whatever you need.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, with all your sins, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will our heavenly Abba give the Holy Spirit to those who ask!"

The Continuing Testament – Thomas Merton, Thoughts in Solitude

"My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.

And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, July 28 10:00 am Worship Service

11:00 am Coffee Hour

Thurs., August 1 1:00 pm Bible Study

Sunday, August 4 10:00 am Worship Service

11:00 am Coffee Hour

2:00 pm Hunger Meal - Iglesia

Emmanuel

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

JULY 28, 2019

Lay Reader: Bettina Ortiz Head Usher: Dot Bailey

Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler,

Diane Gressley, Betty Kaul

Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Amelia Taylor
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Valerie Taylor
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Marla Corrado

C.E. Teacher:

Counters: David Pastor, Matt Wolbert

Servers: Sue Stenzel

Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

AUGUST 4, 2019

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs Head Usher: Anne Melfo

Ushers: Dot & Stu Bailey

Kim Wallis, Dan Stewart

Acolyte: Joshua Anderson

Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg

Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Sue Stenzel
Flowers: Dot Bailev

Nursery: Kathy Pastor

C.E Teacher:

Counters: Jon Thompson,

Nancy Stella

Servers: Leroy & Kathy Ford Clean-up: Bob & Caroline

Chandler



Exploring the Beauty of God's Creation!

Nondenominational Vacation Bible School

All Children Ages 3-12

Monday - Friday, 9 am to Noon

August 5th - 9th

Independence United Methodist Church

6615 Brecksville Road

Call **216-524-6054** for more info and to register!

