

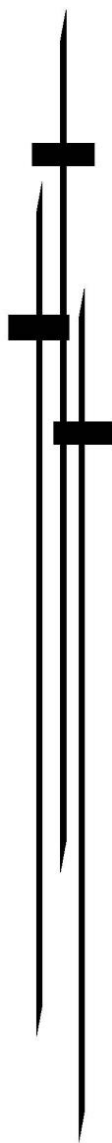
The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

September 2019



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



Pastor's Ponderings.....

As the interim pastor, I'm going to be spending the next 12-18 months or so with you, and I'm going to be doing my best to get to know you. It's only fair that you should know a little about me as well. I was born in Toronto in 1963, and my earliest memories are being afraid of the Klingons on Star Trek, celebrating the Toronto Maple Leafs winning the Stanley Cup (they haven't since), and watching Neil and Buzz take "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

I grew up in Toronto from Kindergarten through graduating from the University of Toronto with a dual major degree in Linguistics and German. On the way through high school, I learned French, German, Latin and Classical Greek, went to Germany on a three-month exchange, and then traveled around Europe for six weeks on a bus tour with other young people.

After University, I headed down to the United States, to Princeton, NJ, where I got my M.Div. degree. I stayed on to do a Ph.D. in early church history. I spent a summer in Rome improving my Latin (both reading and speaking!) with the papal Latinist since I was reading so much Latin for the dissertation. But before I could finish the dissertation, a car accident intervened. For a few years, my concentration and focus were shot, and I couldn't continue. I never got the degree.

I moved back to Toronto, studied Presbyterian Church in Canada history and polity at Knox College (the major Canadian Presbyterian seminary), and took my first call as the minister of Coldstream Presbyterian Church in Toronto.

I was there for nine years before I met my wife, Kate, on eHarmony.com. I checked the box saying I would move for love, thinking whoever they matched me with would actually be the one to move, but in the end, I followed her to Cincinnati to be the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Batavia in 2006. I found myself not far from where my great-great-grandfather was born in Indiana in 1841, the family having circled through Montana and Alberta and Ontario before arriving back south near the border with Indiana in the intervening 165 years.

Noah and Emily were born one minute apart in August, 2009, and Adam came 2.5 years later in February, 2012. By 2016, Kate was itching to be closer to her family in New London, OH, and so we moved to Middleburg Heights when Kate took a job as Professor of Math Education at Baldwin Wallace. It wasn't until 2017 that I became the interim pastor at Christ United, a joint PCUSA and UCC congregation in Berea/Olmsted Falls, OH. In order to honor the UCC side of the church, I took UCC polity and history, and sought dual standing within the UCC. I also spent a week at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico taking formal training in becoming an interim minister.

In August, 2019, I answered a call from God and the Brecksville UCC to become their interim minister, and I look forward to seeing what the next paragraph of my life will hold!

It's a blessing to be here, and I can't wait to see how the story we will write together with God will unfold. Pastor Allan Lane

If you would like to have a pastoral visit in your home, or simply need to talk, please call Pastor Allan Lane at the church office [440-526-4364] or call him on his cell at [513-417-1537] Please leave a message if he doesn't answer as he may be driving. He will be glad to meet with you



FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

FACILITIES MINISTRY

We are pleased to announce that the sanctuary roof project will begin on or about September 2. As previously noted the gutters on the education wing will be cleaned during the roofing project. Thanks to Doug Fawcett for securing the contractor and bid for this important job.

We now have a paper recycling bin located in the right rear area of the parking lot. ►



We encourage everyone to bring all their paper, cardboard, junk mail, etc. to fill the bin. While we may make little money on this endeavor, we will be making a positive environmental impact. Thanks to Dan Stewart for making the arrangements.

The rear entrance doors are scheduled to be painted in the near future. This project will be handled by our custodian, Sam Alai.

Tim Wallis continues documenting the various mechanical systems, such as HVAC, sound and electrical.

The Facilities Ministry would like to encourage the congregation to inform us of any facilities issues that they become aware of at any time. While we try to be cognizant of issues, we may miss something.

As a reminder to the congregation, the members of the Facilities Ministry are: Dave Bernard, Cliff Cribbs, Marge Culver, Doug Fawcett, Dan Stewart and Tim Wallis. We welcome anyone that wishes to join our ministry.

CHRISTIAN ED/MEMBERSHIP **RALLY DAY!**



Rally Day! September 8th - Join us at service September 8th for Rally Day, our traditional kickoff for school year and ministry activities! We will accept school supplies for donation to the Thomas Jefferson Newcomer's School in Cleveland (the school serves immigrant children who are newly arrived to the US). A potluck social will follow the service. Please bring a favorite entrée, side dish, or dessert!

NEWS FROM OCWM

The last hunger meal served was at Iglesia Emmanuel. Things went pretty much as planned, and there was no food left over. Thanks to BUCC members who set up, prepared, served, and cleaned up. Also thanks to those who supplied cookies. ►



The next hunger meal will also be at Emmanuel Iglesia, on Sunday, December first. Look for the sign-up board in the narthex to indicate your interest in participating.

The next dedicated offering will be received on Sunday, October 6th to benefit Neighbors in Need. Look for interpretive information in the Pillar and in Sunday bulletins.

Thanks go to all who have been quietly dropping food and other items in the basket outside the church office. These items are continually being delivered to Brookside Hunger Center and to Community Corner Hunger Center. They make a large difference in the lives of other persons, especially in view of the changes in the food stamp program.

OPEN & AFFIRMING MINISTRY (ONA)

Bisexual+ Awareness Week

In 2014, BiNet USA declared the seven days surrounding Celebrate Bisexuality Day to be Bi Awareness Week, also called Bisexual+ Awareness Week. In 2019 this is September 22nd – 28th.

According to co-founding organization GLAAD, the goals of Bisexual+ Awareness Week include accelerating acceptance of the bisexual+ community, drawing attention to the experiences of this community, and celebrating the resiliency of the community. Both allies and bisexual+ individuals are encouraged to spend the week learning about the "history, culture, community, and current policy priorities of bi+ communities." Bisexual+ Awareness Week can be also potentially be an important opportunity for bisexual+ individuals to help fight feelings of isolation, create more visibility for others who may be exploring their sexuality, meet other bisexual+ people, and become an integral member of the bisexual+ community by coming out or sharing their personal experiences. ►



Celebrate Bisexuality Day

September 23rd - This day is a call for the bisexual community, their friends and supporters to recognize and celebrate bisexual history, bisexual community and culture, and all the bisexual people in their lives. First observed in 1999 at the International Lesbian and Gay Association Conference in Johannesburg South Africa, Celebrate Bisexuality Day is the brainchild of three bisexual rights activists: Wendy Curry of Maine, Michael Page of Florida, and Gigi Raven Wilbur of Texas. Wilbur said "Ever since the Stonewall rebellion, the gay and lesbian community has grown in strength and visibility. The bisexual community also has grown in strength but in many ways, we are still invisible. I too have been conditioned by society to automatically label a couple walking hand in hand as either straight or gay, depending upon the perceived gender of each person."

This celebration of bisexuality in particular, as opposed to general LGBT events, was conceived as a response to the prejudice and marginalization of bisexual people by some in both the straight and greater LGBT communities. Wendy Curry said: "We were sitting around at one of the annual bi-conventions, venting and someone – I think it was Gigi – said we should have a party. We all loved the great bisexual, Freddie Mercury. His birthday was in September, so why not Sept? We wanted a weekend day to ensure the most people would do something. Gigi's birthday was Sept 23rd. It fell on a weekend day, so, poof! We had a day."

In its first year, an observance was held during the meeting of the International Lesbian and Gay Association, which occurred during the week of the 23rd. On September 18, 2012, Berkeley, California became what is thought to be the first city in the U.S. to officially proclaim a day recognizing bisexuals. The Berkeley City Council unanimously and without discussion declared Sep 23 as Bisexual Pride and Bi Visibility Day.

In 2013, on Celebrate Bisexuality Day, the White House held a closed-door meeting with almost 30 bisexual advocates so they could meet with government officials and discuss issues of specific importance to the bisexual community; this was the first bi-specific event ever hosted by any White House. ►

On September 23, 2013, in the UK, government minister for Women and Equalities Jo Swinson MP issued a statement saying in part, "I welcome Bi Visibility Day which helps to raise awareness of the issues that bisexual people can face and provides an opportunity to celebrate diversity and focus on the B in LGB&T."

Many individuals and organizations, including GLAAD, currently refer to this holiday as Bisexuality+ Day, with the inclusion of the "+" sign intended to include the broader bi+ community of people who prefer to use terms to describe their sexual orientation such as pansexual, polysexual, omnisexual, fluid, or queer.

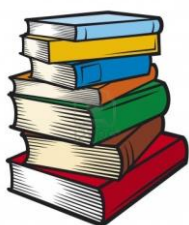
NOTES AND ASIDES

FOOD PANTRY

SEPTEMBER - Cereal



BOOK DISCUSSION



Book Discussion Group will meet at 1:00 p.m. on September 9th in the parlor to discuss PACHINKO by Min Jin Lee. The saga follows several generations of one Korean family in Japan whose parents sacrificed and whose offspring were unable to value. A page-turner! The group is flexible and welcomes additional readers.

MESSAGES FROM BUCC OFFICE



All Members, and Ministries, kindly write your upcoming meetings, events, or plans on the main *Church Calendar* in the Office.

Also, please send me an email when you would like correspondence to be published in our Bulletin, Pillar, or for an email blast. buccoh@sbcglobal.net

The above will be so helpful, and I appreciate your time!!!!!!

Kindly let the Office know if you are leaving/donating items to the Church. Please call Jeannette. We appreciate your thinking of the Church, but we will let you know if there is a need for your items. **Please call me at 440-526-4364.** Thank you!



COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour with Snacks on Sunday's will returning in September.



We use 6 volunteers each Sunday, 2 servers, 2 for clean-up, and 2 to provide snacks. These folks also lend a hand when we provide a Light Reception to support our Music Program. All schedules are based on everyone's availability.

We are in need of reinforcements.

Our Congregation is an active group; the more volunteers we have – the better. We work to keep the schedule flexible 4-5 weeks apart.

To Volunteer contact Sue Stenzel at stenzelsj@sbcglobal.net or call my cell 216-695-1899

HEAD USHERS

Head Ushers: Please be sure all the doors are locked, including the side door which can be difficult to lock at times. Also be sure the air conditioning in the Sanctuary, Pilgrim Hall, and Office is turned up to 78 degrees.

MUSIC

BRECKSVILLE UCC MUSIC MINISTRY -

Rehearsals for our music ensembles at BUCC will begin the first two weeks of September. Here is the schedule of starting dates and times:



Joyful Noise Choir (K through 5th grade): First practice is Thur. Sept. 5 from 5:30 to 6:15. Fun songs are learned about living Jesus' message of love and respect for others. Singing usually followed by activities, including drawing, games, playground, etc.

Adult Choir (high school students welcome): First rehearsal is Thur. Sept. 5 from 7:00-8:30 PM. Adult choir is a good way to prepare spiritually for Sunday services, and provides an enjoyable opportunity for choral singing and fellowship in a relaxed, affirming environment.

Youth Percussion Group (6th grade and up): Practices will be announced when Youth Ministry schedule is more settled. Middle school and high school students learn rhythm patterns to accompany music at services, including preludes, offertories, communion and postludes, as well as occasional choir anthems. Adults often lend a hand. An ancient form of music-making, playing percussion can help relieve stress while being a gateway to meditation.

Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar Ensemble (all ages welcome): First practice scheduled for Thur. Sept. 12 from 4:30-5:00. This group plays prelude music for services about once a month. Listening CDs are provided to make the learning process easier. Sheet music features both musical notes and musical letters. Contact Dave if you're interested in taking (free!) soprano recorder or dulcimer lessons.

Seasonal Choir (high school students welcome): Seasonal choir members reinforce the regular choir in presenting BUCC's annual Christmas cantata. Cantata rehearsals will begin on Thurs. Oct. 10 from 7-8:00 PM.

Instrumentalists (all ages welcome): If you play a musical instrument and would be comfortable playing a piece for the congregation (or accompanying choir for an anthem), please let Dave D. know so he can keep you in mind during scheduling process.

Private piano lessons (all ages welcome): If you studied with Dave last spring, he will be in touch about this year's schedule. If you would like to start taking lessons, contact Dave to schedule.

As we begin our new church season, give some prayerful thought to participating in BUCC's music program. J. S. Bach wrote, "Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with (God's) gracious presence." And it's fun! Check out a rehearsal or two this fall. All are welcome! Dave Debick

TWO GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRACTICAL LEARNING:



What are ADVANCE DIRECTIVES?

When any adult over 17 is admitted to a hospital they will be asked if they have Advance Directives. We will review the four components of Advance

Directives- The Living Will, Health Care Power of Attorney, Organ Donation and Guardian Designation. Let's get the care that you desire for yourself!

The presentation will be on Tuesday, September 17 from 7pm-8:30pm in Pilgrim Hall. ►

Discharge Planning Options after a hospital stay

Care decisions for yourself or loved on comes very quickly. It is important to understand the options available to you after a Hospital stay or if someone is struggling in the community. This education session will provide you information on what options are available and you're your insurance will and will not cover.

The presentation will be on Tuesday, September 24 from 7pm-8:30 pm in Pilgrim Hall.

ElizArt Ministries— Autumn Series



Brecksville United Church of Christ

Thursday Evenings, 7-8:30 pm

September 19– October 10

23 Public Square

Brecksville, Ohio

Ages 12-112!

SEE FLYER FOR MORE DETAILS

Registration

Name_____

Phone_____

Email_____

Week 1- _____ Marbled paper and origami

Week 2_____ Alcohol ink Fun

Week 3_____ Watercolor cards

Week 4 _____ Felting

Total Classes_____ Total payment_____

If your bringing a guest, please note how many_____

Registration Due Sept. 5th



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

September 1:	Phyllis Hassler Dan Renovetz
September 3:	Joanne Cook
September 6:	Erika Kolar
September 7:	Betty Kaul
September 10:	Ryan Smith Gabriella Gagliano
September 11:	Kathy Smith
September 12:	Jill Zedan
September 14:	Rebecca Anderson Marjorie Rahnenfuehrer
September 15:	Jane Cribbs
September 17:	Natalie Corrado Valerie Tyler Holden Paul Esser
September 22:	Nancy Stella
September 23:	Carrie Coyer-Westerberg Matt Wolbert
September 26:	David Debick Annie Demko
September 28:	Jayden Kolar
September 29:	Nichole Smith

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

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2019

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 1

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, SEPTEMBER 2

***LABOR DAY – OFFICE
CLOSED***

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 3

Wed, SEPTEMBER 4

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 5

1 pm Bible Study
5:30-6:15 pm
Joyful Noise
7-:30 pm Adult Choir

Friday, SEPTEMBER 6

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat, SEPTEMBER 7

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 8

10am Worship Service/
RALLY DAY
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, SEPTEMBER 9

1 pm Book Discussion
7 pm Facilities/Lib.

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 10

Wed., SEPTEMBER 11

7 pm Council

Thurs., SEPTEMBER 12

1 pm Bible Study
4:30-5 pm Recorder/
Dulcimer/Guitar
5:30-6:15 pm
Joyful Noise
7-:30 pm Adult Choir

Friday, SEPTEMBER 13

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., SEPTEMBER 14

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 15

10 am Worship Service
11 am Coffee Hour
PILLAR DEADLINE

Monday, SEPTEMBER 16

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 17

7-8:30 pm Advance
Directives

Wed., SEPTEMBER 18

Thurs., SEPTEMBER 19

Jeannette Off
1 pm Bible Study
4:30-5 pm Recorder/
Dulcimer/Guitar
5:30-6:15 pm
Joyful Noise
7-8:30 pm ElizArt PH
7-:30 pm Adult Choir

Friday, SEPTEMBER 20

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., SEPTEMBER 21

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 22

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, SEPTEMBER 23

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 24

7-8:30 pm After Hospital
Stay - PH

Wed., SEPTEMBER 25

Thurs., SEPTEMBER 26

1 pm Bible Study
4:30-5 pm Recorder/
Dulcimer/Guitar
5:30-6:15 pm
Joyful Noise
7-8:30 pm ElizArt PH
7-:30 pm Adult Choir

Friday, SEPTEMBER 27

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., SEPTEMBER, 28

Sunday, SEPTEMBER, 29

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, SEPTEMBER 30

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

Lay Reader: Kathleen Stewart
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Dan Stewart, Kathy Smith
Dave & Julie Bernard
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Evelyn Kucmins
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: Dot Bailey
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher:
Counters: Nancy Stella, Sue Stenzel
Servers: Betty Kaul, Cliff Stenzel
Snacks: Beth Rehling, Marla Corrado
Clean-up: Jill Zedan, Jan Renovetz

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Head Usher: Anne Melfo-Fawcett
Ushers: David Ritchey Nora
Gagliano, Carrie Coyer-
Westerberg, Sam Koch
Acolyte: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Amelia Tyler
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Bruce McCain, David Pastor
Servers: Julie Bernard, Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Susan Snyder
Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul

SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

Lay Reader: Sam Koch
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Kim Wallis, Cliff Cribbs
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Cameron Ward
Sound: Kevin Smith ►

Comns Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: Julie Bernard
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
C.E Teacher: Beth Rehling
Counters: Jim Duffy, Stu Bailey
Servers: Joy Garapic, Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Pat Rehm, Maureen Stanley
Clean-Up: Dave & Kathy Pastor

SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel
Ushers: Dot & Stu Bailey, Beth Rehling, Michelina Fawcett
Acolyte: Joshua Anderson
Peace Candle: Peter Kucmins
Sound: David Pastor
Comns Grtr: Valerie Tyler
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E. Teacher: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Marge Culver, Jon Thompson
Servers: Kathy & Leroy Ford
Snacks: Diane Gressley, Heidi Spangler
Clean-Up: Jim & Peg Duffy

SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

Lay Reader: Ben Tomlinson
Head Usher: Sue Maier
Ushers: David & Kathy Pastor,
Joe & Betsey Wilson
Acolyte: Olivia Klonowski
Peace Candle: Natalie Corrado
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E. Teacher: Anne Melfo
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Dave Bernard
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Anne Melfo Erin Tomlinson
Clean-Up: Cliff & Jane Cribbs

The Pillar

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United Church of Christ

23 Public Square

Moderator: Jim Duffy

Brecksville, Ohio 44141

jmorganduffy@gmail.com

Phone: 440-526-4364

Pastor: Pastor Allan Lane

buccpastor@sbcglobal.net

E-mail:

bucccoh@sbcglobal.net

Web:

www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

Director of Music:

Dave Debick

buccmusic@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours: (Mon – Thur.)

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Financial Secretary: Joy Garapic

buccfinance@sbcglobal.net

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FIRST CLASS

