

The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

October 2019



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

Pastor's Ponderings.....

It's an ancient ritual, to pass the peace of Christ to each other. It probably comes originally from the Gospel According to St. John, chapter 14, verse 27: Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

In the Middle Ages, the Latin-speaking monks continued the practice, and would greet each other with a similar phrase: "*Pax vobiscum*", "peace be with you." And so, it has gone through the ages, with the Christian community wishing each other peace.

But it struck me recently that this was rather odd. Why did we choose the peace of Christ as the most important thing to share? Surely there are other qualities of life in Jesus Christ which are just as important as peace, maybe even more so.

Why don't we share the love of Christ with each other? "The love of Christ be with you, brother! The love of Christ be with you, sister!" That would be just the word that someone who was feeling alone, left out, forgotten, unlovable, needs to hear. That's a word that Christian communities would do well to remember when we're dealing with each other and with visitors among us. No matter what happens, we are the family of God, the people of Christ, and we say to each other, "The love of Christ be with you." That's important!

Or why don't we share the forgiveness of Christ with each other? "The forgiveness of Christ be with you, sister! You are forgiven. The forgiveness of Christ be with you, brother! Your sins are forgotten!" That would be a powerful word to those who are feeling guilt-plagued, who are overpowered with memories of things done, or said, or left undone, or unsaid when they needed to be. Forgiveness is hard to come by in this world, and congregations that offer forgiveness to each other offer a real blessing. Sometimes the word we need to hear is, "The forgiveness of Christ be with you!"

In reality, of course, we need all of them: the peace of Christ, the love of Christ, the forgiveness of Christ – not to mention the mercy of Christ, the grace of Christ, the acceptance of Christ, the gifts of Christ, and the presence of Christ. And that doesn't even begin to exhaust the riches which are ours in Christ Jesus our Lord!

So today I offer you more than peace. Sisters and Brothers, the love and forgiveness and mercy and grace and acceptance and gifts and presence of Christ be with you, now and always. Amen.

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

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

During the months of September through November, the Leadership Development Ministry will be holding meetings to determine the needs and wishes of the church's ministries. The goal is to assist in filling each ministry with members who feel called to serve. It is important to try to find the right fit for each person who is giving his/her time to that individual's calling. We want members to be happy doing their ministries' work for the Brecksville United Church of Christ.



The Leadership Development Ministry will be contacting each of the chairpersons to discuss the ministries' needs.

We encourage ministry members to reflect upon the present roles and speak with the ministry chairpersons or someone in the Leadership Development Ministry with any thoughts about improvement or change.

If you or anyone you know is interested in taking part in any of the ministries, please let us know.

Thank you for all the work you do to continue to make our church home welcoming and organized.

Leadership Development:

Julie Bernard and Bridget Sproul (Co-Chairs)

Cliff Cribbs, Linda Kriynovich, Sue Maier (Members)

NEWS FROM OCWM



The next dedicated offering will be received on Sunday, October 6th to benefit Neighbors In Need. Ministries of justice and compassion will be supported by funds raised in this offering. Look for more interpretive information in this Pillar and in Sunday bulletins.

The next hunger meal will be served on Sunday, December 1st, 2019 at Iglesia Emmanuel. The sign-up board will be in the narthex, indicating the menu. Spaces to indicate interest in participating will be included.

It is planned for this ministry to meet in early December to review the membership of this ministry, review the ministry budget for 2020, review the designated offering dates in 2020, and review the dates and sites for the hunger meals between now and the summer of 2020.

The budget includes funding for the three hunger meals at Iglesia Emmanuel, and two hunger meals at Pearl Road United Methodist Church. It also includes the payment to the Association. Traditionally, the payment is ten percent of the amount pledged by BUCC members to BUCC at the most recent stewardship effort.

If anyone is interested in joining in the discussion of these topics, remember that BUCC ministry meetings are open meetings. So, come join us if you wish. Your ideas and discussion would be welcome.

OPEN & AFFIRMING MINISTRY (ONA)

LGBT History Month

LGBT History Month is an annual observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. LGBT History Month provides role models, builds community, and represents a civil rights statement about the contributions of the LGBTQ+ community. In the United States and Canada, it is celebrated in October to coincide with National Coming Out Day on October 11.



Ally Week

Ally Week is a national effort encouraging people to be allies with the LGBT members of their community in standing against bullying, harassment and name-calling. It takes place in K-12 schools and colleges. It was created by the Gay Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN) National JumpStart Student Leadership Team. The event started in October 2005 and has grown since.

During Ally Week people are encouraged to sign an ally pledge "taking a stand for a safe and harassment-free school for all students", and that they will not use anti-LGBT+ language and slurs, they will intervene if possible to stop bullying and harassment and support safer schools efforts.

National Coming Out Day

National Coming Out Day (NCOD) is an annual LGBTQ+ awareness day Founded in the United States in 1988.

The initial idea was grounded in the feminist and gay liberation spirit of the personal being political, and the emphasis on the most basic form of activism being coming out to family, friends and colleagues, and living life as an openly lesbian or gay person – this has expanded over time to include bisexual, transgender, genderqueer or other non-mainstream gender identity/sexual orientation. The foundational belief is that homophobia (and fear in general) thrives in an atmosphere of silence and ignorance, and that once people know that they have loved ones who are LGBTQ+, they are far less likely to maintain homophobic or oppressive views.

Spirit Day

Spirit Day is an annual LGBTQ+ awareness day observed on the third Thursday in October. Started in 2010 by Canadian teenager Brittany McMillan, it was initially created in response to a rash of widely publicized bullying-related suicides of gay school students in 2010, including that of Tyler Clementi. Promoted by GLAAD, observers wear the color purple as a visible sign of support for LGBTQ+ youth and against bullying during National Bullying Prevention Month, as well as to honor LGBTQ+ victims of suicide. Millions of Americans wear purple on Spirit Day as a sign of support for LGBT youth and to speak out against bullying.

Intersex Awareness Day

Intersex Awareness Day is observed on October 26, 2019 designed to highlight the challenges faced by intersex individuals. IAD is an international day of grass-roots action to end shame, secrecy and unwanted genital cosmetic surgeries on intersex children.

The event marks the first public demonstration by intersex people in North America on October 26, 1996, the venue where the American Academy of Pediatrics was holding its annual conference. Intersex activists Morgan Holmes and Max Beck participated for the (now-defunct) Intersex Society of North America. Holmes states that Beck and Holmes had intended to deliver an address, "on long-term outcomes and to challenge their still-prevailing opinion that cosmetic surgery to "fix" intersexed genitals was the best course of action", but were "met, officially, with hostility and were escorted out of the conference by security guards". The group only later demonstrated, carrying a sign saying, "Hermaphrodites with Attitude".

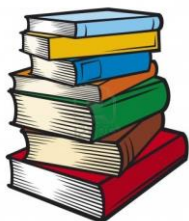
NOTES AND ASIDES

FOOD PANTRY

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



BOOK DISCUSSION



This month's book is a "Gentleman in Moscow" by Amor Towels. Please join us for our discussion of this book.

We will be meeting on October 7 at 1:00 pm in the Parlor.

MESSAGES FROM BUCC OFFICE

If you could kindly refrain from eating or drinking at my desk, I would really enjoy that! When I arrived to work this past Monday, there were crumbs, and coffee spills on my desk.

Our Stewardship Campaign is beginning this month – if there are any corrections or updates to your mailing address, please let me know.



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

I am so honored to work for such a kind, and loving Congregation, thank you for all you do! Jeannette

MUSIC

SEASONAL CHOIR - On Thursday October 10 from 7-8 PM, seasonal choir will begin preparing for this year's Christmas cantata. Titled *Emmanuel--God with Us!* the work features traditional and contemporary music telling the ancient story of Christ's miraculous birth among us. If you enjoy singing in a group setting but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir provides a great opportunity for fellowship, music, and spiritual preparation for Christmas. Listening CDs for each choral part are provided. High school students are welcome to participate. Contact Dave D with any questions.



FREE CONCERT - On Sunday November 3 at 4:00 PM, Brecksville UCC will host a free concert featuring cellist Adam Willson, and pianist Charlotte Hill. These musicians hail from Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Their repertoire will be announced in November's Pillar. A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow the program.

A NOTE OF THANKS



Anna Mary Fisher wishes to thank everyone for their prayers & cards sent to her. She is very appreciative.

Anna Mary is doing well – a little better every day.

We appreciate your kindness, Becky Bartlett (Anna Mary's daughter).



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
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 2019

Tuesday, OCTOBER 1

Wed, OCTOBER 2

Thursday, OCTOBER 3

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

Friday, OCTOBER 4

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat, OCTOBER 5

Sunday, OCTOBER 6

10am Worship Service/
**NEIGHBORS IN
NEED OFFERING**
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, OCTOBER 7

1 pm Book Discussion
7 pm Facilities/Lib.

Tuesday, OCTOBER 8

Wed., OCTOBER 9

7 pm Council

Thurs., OCTOBER 10

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

Friday, OCTOBER 11

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., OCTOBER 12

Sunday, OCTOBER 13

10 am Worship Service
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, OCTOBER 14

Tuesday, OCTOBER 15

PILLAR DEADLINE

Wed., OCTOBER 16

Thurs., OCTOBER 17

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

Friday, OCTOBER 18

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., OCTOBER 19

Sunday, OCTOBER 20

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, OCTOBER 21

Tuesday, OCTOBER 22

Wed., OCTOBER 23

Thurs., OCTOBER 24

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

Friday, OCTOBER 25

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., OCTOBER, 26

Sunday, OCTOBER, 27

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, OCTOBER 28

Tuesday, OCTOBER 29

Wednesday, OCT. 30

Thursday, OCT., 31

Happy Halloween

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

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

OCTOBER 6, 2019

Lay Reader: Dot Bailey
Head Usher: Kathy Smith
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler,
Carrie Coyer-Westerberg,
Dan Stewart
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Peter Kucmins
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Matt
Wolbert
Servers: Carole Snider, Julie
Bernard
Snacks: Dorie Gabor, Kathleen
Stewart
Clean-up: Jill Zedan, Jan Renovetz

OCTOBER 13, 2019

Lay Reader: David Ritchey
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Beth Rehling, Kim Wallis
Chad & Bridget Sproul
Acolyte: Olivia Klonowski
Peace Candle: Amelia Tyler
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comms Grtr: Valerie Tyler
Flowers: Betty Gifford
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
C.E Teacher: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Jan Renovetz, Sue
Stenzel
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Miriam Rosewicz, Beth
Rehling
Clean-Up: Anne Melfo, Doug
Fawcett

OCTOBER 20, 2019

Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul
Head Usher: Dot Bailey
Ushers: David Ritchey, Dave &
Julie Bernard, Matt
Wolbert
Acolyte: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Natalie Corrado
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comms Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Carole Snider, Stu Bailey
Servers: Joy Garapic, Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Betsey Wilson, Betty Kaul
Clean-Up: Cliff & Jane Cribbs

OCTOBER 27, 2019

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Ben Tomlinson, Michelina
Fawcett, Sam Koch,
Kathy Smith
Acolyte: Joshua Anderson
Peace Candle: Evelyn Kucmins
Sound: David Pastor
Comms Grtr: Dave Bernard
Flowers: Dot Bailey
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E. Teacher: Marla Corrado
Counters: Marge Culver, Kathy
Pastor
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Jane Cribbs, Erin
Tomlinson
Clean-Up: Bob & Caroline Chandler

The Pillar

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FIRST CLASS

