

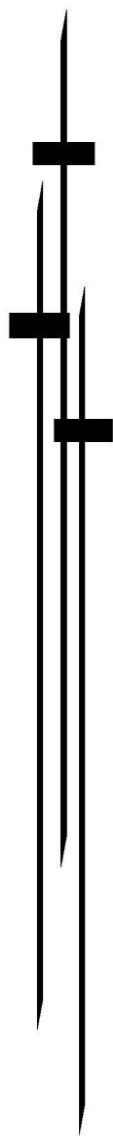
The *Pillar*

Brecksville United Church of Christ

SEPTEMBER 2020



***To Be Loving, Serving, and Accepting
Of All People
with God's Life-Changing Power and Grace***



Pastor's Ponderings.....

The School of Jesus

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me: for I am gentle and humble of heart and you will find rest for your souls." –Jesus, Matthew 11: 29

If Spring is about the smell of wet soil and blooming flowers, then surely Fall is about the smell of newly-sharpened pencils and fresh chalk on the blackboard. All around us we are accustomed to seeing the school buses making their practice runs empty, before making their actual runs full of kids. Even though nature is slowing down in anticipation of winter coming, human life is picking up again with fresh hope as the kids are back in school.

This year is different as the beginning of the school year smells of stress and worry. Decisions about in-person or online now may have consequences for years to come. Everyone is worried about kids, or grandkids, or neighbor kids. Everyone is concerned about the reopening of school becoming a super-spreader event.

Back in Jesus' day, things were simpler. School smelled like fish, when Jesus was teaching from a fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee. School smelled like incense, when Jesus was teaching in the Temple. School smelled like sweat and dust when Jesus was teaching as he walked along the road. School had many smells for Jesus' disciples, but they could learn from him wherever they were. He was always teaching, sometimes with his words, more often with the way he led his life and interacted with people.

The people who followed Jesus were known as his disciples, which in the original Greek simply meant 'students' or 'learners.' They were in the school of Jesus, and he was their teacher. But this teacher wasn't in a classroom teaching an academic subject. He was in the midst of life, teaching about how to really live.

The image of the yoke in our text is an image of teaching. It represents two oxen, yoked together. At first, the young ox would be yoked behind the older, more experienced one, following it, and learning what to do. The older ox showed the way.

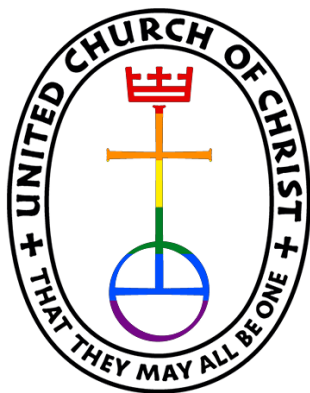
As the young ox matured, it would be yoked beside the older ox, taking more of the load, but the older ox was still there, continuing to pull along with it.

Jesus is saying that the load of life is lighter when he is yoked with you, showing the way or pulling beside you. Learn how to do this life thing from me, Jesus says, and then I'll stay with you to lighten the load the rest of the way.

As school starts for the kids again, it's important for us to remember that we are all students in the school of Jesus, and the lessons he wants to teach us are about joyous living. They will give us rest for our souls. Where Jesus is, there is the smell of life, full and rich and going on forever. Let us learn from him!

FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

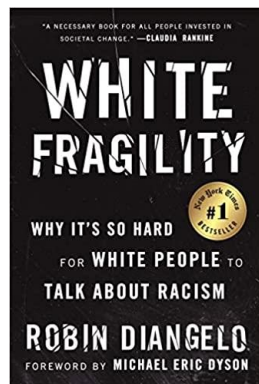
FINANCE



A check was sent to the Pension Board of the UCC in the amount of \$430 for the Christmas Fund (in July). The Generations of Service: Faith and Finance In Action Capital Campaign has asked for support in order to ensure UCBMA's capacity to provide compassionate care for UCC authorized ministers and lay church employees over the next decade.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & OCWM

OCWM and Christian Education (CE) are co-sponsoring a Social Justice Book Club! Our first title is "White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism" by Robin DiAngelo. We will meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 starting on Thursday, September 3rd at 7:00 PM. Please read the Forward by Michael Eric Dyson, the Author's Note, Introduction and Chapter 1 by the first meeting. Until such a time that we can meet in the parking lot, we will meet on Zoom (same account as our Sunday service). If you have any questions, please contact Kate Klonowski at keightykay@gmail.com or 216-534-3498.



HUNGER MEALS



BUCC's efforts to provide nourishment for those who are food challenged, especially in this time of the coronavirus epidemic

By the time you are reading this, the August hunger meal at Pearl Road UMC will have occurred. The next hunger meal is scheduled for Sunday, November First at Iglesia Emmanuel. Look for more details as the time comes closer. Thank you to all those who have been supporting

COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

Worshiping Together in a Virtual Way

Here are some further instructions for our current approach to online/dial-in worship, using the ZOOM conference service. There are two ways to join:

1. PHONE:

If you want to call in:

Dial-in Worship Service:

(our new phone number) 1-929-205-6099

then enter meeting ID (followed by the # sign):

478 070 5901 #

During the call, you can unmute yourself by pressing *6, to say something that all will hear. Then press *6 to mute yourself again. Hang up at the end of the service.

2. COMPUTER / SMARTPHONE / IPAD:

If you want to connect with your computer, follow this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/4780705901>

Or you can go to our upcoming services page:

<https://brecksvilleucc.org/services/upcoming-and-past-services/> and



*Join us
with Zoom*

press the button.

If you have not used Zoom before, you may have to download the app the first time you click on the link with your computer.

If you have a smart phone or iPad, you can go to the app store and search for Zoom Cloud Meetings:



When you click or the link from the email or start the Zoom app on your phone, you may not automatically go into our meeting. If so, press the Join a Meeting button, then you get a screen that asks you for the Meeting ID. Enter: 478 070 5901.



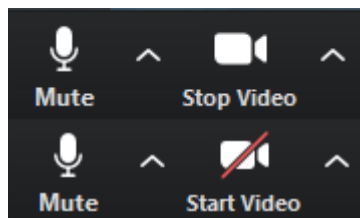
meeting.
button,

In general, you should use your computer/smartphone/iPad's audio. If you have turned on your video camera, it gives you a chance to see what others will see when you join the meeting.

In general, to ensure the best listening experience for everyone, you should be "on mute" most of the time, unless you have something specific to say to everyone.

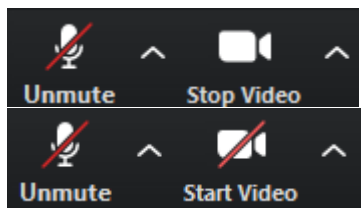
During the service, you should see these controls:

- on the lower left of your computer screen
- on the lower left of your smart phone
- on the upper right of your iPad



People can see and hear you

People cannot see you, but
they can hear you

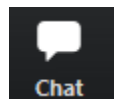


People can see you, but cannot hear you. *(Best for everyone else on the call)*

No one can see or hear you
x

The icons show you the current status. The words underneath says what will happen when you click on them. You toggle between “on” and “off” settings. On your smartphone & iPad, these controls also alternate between red and green.

You can type a note that anyone can see by Chat icon:



sing the

At the end of the meeting, or if you need to leave, you click on the Leave Meeting control, or exit the app.

Leave Meeting

We will be improving our Virtual Worship techniques as time progresses.

If you have further questions, please contact me or anyone else in the Communication & Outreach Ministry

Jim Duffy

jmorganduffy@gmail.com 216-644-2784

OPEN & AFFIRMING MINISTRY (ONA)

PFLAG - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. This is a local and national organization that has been in the Cleveland Area for 35 years. One of the services provided is a Monthly Support Group Meeting. The group is led by a licensed Psychologist and Social Workers. The purpose is to provide support and education to family and friends of people coming out Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bisexual or Questioning.



For more information, call Mark Lehman, LISW at 330.631.4415

NOTES AND ASIDES

A note was received from Jim Demko. "We don't make it out to Brecksville much now that we moved to Chagrin Falls, but we think about our BUCC family fondly".



It's never goodbye – but a see you soon! It has been an honor to serve you all for the last 8 years – I will miss you all! I pray that you all remain well, and happy!

If you see me around town – please say hello, I'd love to chat!

Thank you so much for the very generous gift card! Hubby and I

will be using it soon!

Warmest Regards, Jeannette (Virtual hugs too!)



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

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

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

CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2020

Due to Social Distancing that we are practicing - there are no Meetings, or events planned for the month of SEPTEMBER If anything changes, we will let you know as soon as possible.

Tuesday, SEPT. 1

Wed., SEPT. 2

Thurs., SEPT.3

Friday, SEPT. 4
OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., SEPT. 5

Sunday, SEPT. 6
10 am Zoom Worship
Service

Monday, SEPT. 7

Tuesday, SEPT. 8

Wed., SEPT. 9
7 pm Council

Thurs., SEPT. 10

Friday, SEPT. 11
OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., SEPT. 12

Sunday, SEPT. 13
10 am Zoom Worship
Service

Monday, SEPT. 14

Tuesday, SEPT. 15
PILLAR DEADLINE

Wednesday, SEPT. 16

Thursday, SEPT. 17

Friday, SEPT. 18
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, SEPT. 19

Sunday, SEPT. 20
10 am Zoom Worship
Service

Monday, SEPT. 21

Tuesday, SEPT. 22

Wednesday, SEPT. 23

Thurs., SEPT. 24

Friday, SEPT. 25
OFFICE CLOSED

Sat. SEPT. 26

Sun. SEPT. 27
10 am Zoom Worship
Service

Mon., SEPT. 28

Tues., SEPT. 29

Wed., SEPT. 30

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

SEPT. 6, 2020

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Responder: Jan Renovetz
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: David & Kathy Pastor
Kathy Smith, Kim Wallis
Acolyte: Emily Lane
Peace Candle: Natalie Corrado
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comms Grtr: Valerie Tyler
Flowers: Dot Bailey
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E Teacher:
Counters: Nancy Stella, Matt
Wolbert

Sept. 13, 2020

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Responder: Jon Thompson
Head Usher: Sue Maier
Ushers: Wes & Evie Novak
Kathleen & Dan Stewart

Acolyte: Ian Stewart
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comms Grtr: Fred Pesek
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
C.E Teacher:
Counters: Dave Bernard,
Jon Thompson

SEPT. 20, 2020

Lay Reader: Diane Gressley
Responder: Betsey Wilson
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Ben Davis, Michelina
Fawcett, Carrie Coyer-
Westerberg, Nora
Gagliano
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Gabriella Gagliano
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr: Kathy Smith
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher:
Counters: Marge Culver, Jan
Renovetz

SEPT. 27, 2020

Lay Reader: David Pastor
Responder: Linda Kriynovich
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Dave & Julie Bernard,
James & Valerie Tyler
Joshua Anderson
Acolyte: Amelia Tyler
Peace Candle: Ben Tomlinson
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comms Grtr: Caroline Chandler
Flowers: Julie Bernard
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E. Teacher:
Counters: Jim Duffy, Kathy Pastor

The Pillar

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FIRST CLASS

