

THE *Pillar*
BRECKSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MARCH 2026



LOVING, SERVING, AND ACCEPTING
ALL PEOPLE
WITH GOD'S LIFE-CHANGING POWER
AND GRACE

Pastor's Ponderings.....

Mission Café Discoveries: The Words We Repeated Most

Grace and peace to you as we continue this shared work of listening and discernment,

We had a strong and faithful contingent at every Mission Café session. Thank you! You showed up. You gave your attention. You spoke honestly, and you listened carefully to one another. This kind of participation is how a congregation comes to understand itself with clarity and truth.

During these gatherings, you were invited to write out some ideas and to discuss the ways you have come to know and experience this congregation. You were not prompted to say the right things or given a list from which to choose best responses. What you offered was given freely and arose from memory, feeling, and from your lived participation in this shared life. When the responses were reviewed, five words appeared more often than any others:

Welcoming
Inclusive
Music
Hope
Caring

These words emerged from different tables and different voices, yet they were repeated with quiet consistency. Together, they offer a faithful description of how this congregation is known and experienced from within.

Welcoming and inclusive speak to the way people are received here. They reflect a community that has made space for one another, not perfectly, but sincerely and with intention.

Music stands among these words as a living thread that runs through your life together. It has given voice to faith across generations. It has helped carry meaning, especially in moments when words alone were not enough.

Hope and caring describe the posture of this congregation's heart. They reflect a people who continue to turn toward one another, and toward the future, with trust in what is still unfolding among you.

You may notice that none of these words describe programs or structures. They describe relationships. They describe the ways you have lived with one another and the spirit you have carried together over time.

Before we enter the Mission Café 2 phase, I will be sending a congregational survey. This survey grows directly from what you have already shared, and it also draws from the wisdom of those who have helped many congregations move through seasons of pastoral transition. This will help move us forward.

This transitional ministry time unfolds patiently. Each conversation adds clarity. Each response strengthens our shared understanding. And each step helps us see, with greater honesty and care, who we have been and who we are becoming together. I encourage you to take time with the survey when you receive it. It is not simply a way of gathering responses. It is also an invitation to reflection. It offers each person a chance to consider more deeply their own experience of this congregation.

We move forward gently, and we move forward together.

Blessings,
Jeff



FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering on Sunday

March 15- One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery. Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.



BUCC is glad to announce that we are now collecting plastic bread tags for recycling in partnership with SCARCE.



Plastic bread tags are those square clips commonly used to seal bags around a loaf of bread, bagels, or even produce. Plastic bread tags are not recyclable in your curbside recycling bin. Therefore, millions end up in landfills each year, adding to our disposable plastic problem.

Funds used by recycling our tags will provide wheelchairs for children in need! This win-win story has many steps. Peg Duffy will get the tags to Scarce, where they are collected in mass amounts and taken to Danielle Cares for Chairs. It takes about 260,000 tags to fund a wheelchair. So have fun and get your friends, family and neighborhood involved in this easy way to make a difference.

Look for the BREAD TAG COLLECTION container in our church entry way and drop yours in. No plastic bags please.

For more information about SCARCE, an award-winning environmental education nonprofit dedicated to creating sustainable communities, and the Bread Tag Project, talk to Peg Duffy and go to the website at:

<https://www.scarce.org/bread-tag-recycling-provides-wheelchair>



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

Mindy	Harris-Wade	March 08
Tia	Began	March 11
Benjamin	Rehling	March 12
Kate	Klonowski	March 14
Liv	Klonowski	March 16
Spencer	Whyte	March 16
Kathleen	Stewart	March 24
Joseph	Wilson	March 25
Kathy	Pastor	March 28
Mark	Rehling	March 29
Bill	Witt	March 29
Susan	Snyder	March 30

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



CALENDAR

MARCH 2026

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

10am Worship Service

Mon., MARCH 2

5pm Fellowship

7pm Facilities

Tue., MARCH 3

2pm Spiritual Life

6pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

6:30pm Social Justice

Wed., MARCH 4

11am Mindfulness & Meditation

1pm Missions Café

4pm Stewardship Leadership

Thu., MARCH 5

Noon Thriving Church

7pm Choir

Fri., MARCH 6

OFFICE CLOSED

6:30pm Paint and Sip

Sat., MARCH 7

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

10am Worship Service

11am Missions Café

Mon., MARCH 9

Tue., MARCH 10

6pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

Wed., MARCH 11

11am Mindfulness & Meditation

6pm Missions Café

7pm Council

Thu., MARCH 12

Noon Thriving Church

Fri., MARCH 13

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., MARCH 14

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

10am Worship Service

Mon., MARCH 16

Tue., MARCH 17

6pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

7:30pm Communication & Outreach

Wed., MARCH 18

11am Mindfulness & Meditation

6pm Braver Angels

Thu., MARCH 19

10:30am Called to Care

Noon Thriving Church

Fri., MARCH 20

OFFICE CLOSED

6:30pm Brecksville Squares

Sat., MARCH 21

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

10am Worship Service

Mon., MARCH 23

Tue., MARCH 24

6pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

Wed., MARCH 25

11am Mindfulness & Meditation

Thu., MARCH 26

Noon Thriving Church

Fri., MARCH 27

OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., MARCH 28

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

10am Worship Service

Mon., MARCH 30

Tue., MARCH 31

6pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

MARCH 1, 2026

Early Usher: Jill Zedan
Late Usher: TBD
Greeter: Sue Stenzel
Lay Reader: TBD
Flowers: Peg Duffy
Counters: Sue Stenzel
Jan Renovetz
A/V: TBD
Snack: TBD
Set up/Serve: TBD
Clean up: TBD
Communion
Bread: Gayle Colbert

MARCH 8, 2026

Early Usher: TBD
Late Usher: Annette Pedersen
Greeter: TBD
Lay Reader: Diane Gressley
Flowers: Peg Duffy
Counters: Sue Stenzel
Jan Renovetz
A/V: Fred Pedersen
Snack: TBD
Set up/Serve: TBD
Clean up: TBD

MARCH 15, 2026

Early Usher: TBD
Late Usher: TBD
Greeter: Carol Miller
Lay Reader: TBD
Flowers: Carol Miller
Counters: Kathy Pastor
Jan Renovetz
A/V: TBD
Snack: Sue Stenzel
Set up/Serve: Sue Stenzel
Clean up: Sue Stenzel
Communion
Bread: Gayle Colbert

MARCH 22, 2026

Early Usher: TBD
Late Usher: TBD
Greeter: TBD
Lay Reader: TBD
Flowers: Peg Duffy
Counters: Jan Renovetz
TBD
A/V: TBD
Snack: Sue Stenzel
Set up/Serve: Sue Stenzel
Clean up: Sue Stenzel
Snow Herder: TBD

MARCH 29, 2026

Early Usher: TBD
Late Usher: TBD
Greeter: TBD
Lay Reader: TBD
Flowers: Easter Flowers
Counters: TBD
TBD
A/V: TBD
Snack: TBD
Set up/Serve: TBD
Clean up: TBD

The Pillar

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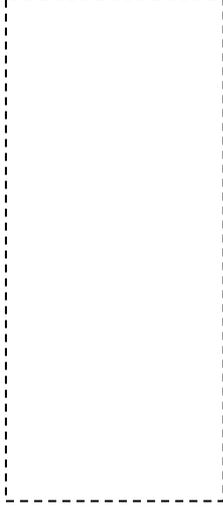
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FIRST CLASS



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