



THE *Pillar*
BRECKSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

JUNE 2026



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

Pastor's Ponderings...

Making Room for the New Life We Share

In our Mission Café conversations, many within the congregation have named BUCC as a place of warmth, welcome, friendship, care, shared worship, and acceptance. These are real gifts. They are part of the grace of this congregation.

Yet every congregation also has patterns it has grown used to. Some of those patterns serve the life of the church well. Others may quietly make the room smaller than we intend. A congregation can be kind and still be hard to enter. It can value participation and still leave people unsure where their voice, gifts, questions, or leadership belong. It can cherish community and still allow familiar ways of doing things to carry more weight than they should.

This is part of the work of transition: not simply to preserve what has been meaningful, but to ask what kind of shared life God is calling forth now.

That work asks something of all of us. It asks us to widen conversations, share responsibility, loosen our grip on what seems settled, and make room for gifts that may not arrive in familiar forms. It asks us to notice whether our habits invite people into ministry or only into helping maintain what has already been arranged.

The church is not at its best when it is carefully held by a few. It is at its best when the body is alive — many members, many gifts, one Spirit.

Making room is not only hospitality. It is discipleship.

Blessings,
Jeff



FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

PRIDE

Rock Painting- BBH Pride is coming up, we have a tradition of passing out painted rainbow rocks. This year we are hoping to paint 250 rocks together after church on June 7th. We are looking for tray donations to dry the rocks.



Cleveland March- BUCC will be participating in the Cleveland Pride March on Saturday, June 6th. We are hoping to March with the group of local UCC churches, but are still waiting to hear back from Living Waters about where to meet and who is organizing it. Please stay tuned for more information and save the date!

BBH Pride- More details forthcoming - but SAVE THE DATE - Saturday June 27 is the 4th annual BBH Pridefest at Broadview Heights City Campus & Amphitheater 9543 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights from noon to 7

<https://bbhpride.org/pride-events/pridefest-2026/>



Get your Swag!- Our BUCC T-shirt and apparel store is now open for orders! If you would like a T-shirt (long- or short-sleeved, v-neck or crew neck, 100% cotton or a blend), sweatshirt, hoodie, baseball cap, or bag featuring the BUCC logo and our message of welcome, you can place an order using the link below.

Items can be customized to your preference, and orders are typically processed within 3–5 days. Heidi will pick up orders each week and bring them to church for easy pickup. The deadline to place an order is June 30th, but if you order within the next week or two, your apparel should be ready in time to wear at community events throughout the summer, including Cleveland Pride and BBH Pride!

<https://brecksville-united-church.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>

Scoop, Sprinkle & Smile Ice cream tastes better with friends! After worship on JUNE 14, join us outside for chocolate and vanilla ice cream with all the toppings. Bring your family, bring a neighbor, and come enjoy some sweet fellowship together. Grab a scoop with us and CHILL after church!

Facilities

Cleaning- We are in the process of cleaning/clearing various storage spaces in the church. These include the:

Attic

Chancel closet

Educational wing

Discretion will be used before tossing anything. Ministries should label any items that they wish to keep.

Please Take One- Boxes of the old red hymnals, miscellaneous old bibles and commemorative Christmas ornaments are available to anyone that wants them, otherwise they will be recycled. These items will be available in the narthex for several Sundays.

Attic- No items should be placed in the attic without first checking with the Facilities Ministry. We will be cleaning this area and disposing of all items not labeled or noted to be kept. Any ministries with items in the educational wing should label them so they are retained.

Pianos- There are two pianos in the educational wing that are available to anyone that wishes to remove them.

Reminders: when leaving the church, all interior doors should be closed. All interior doors are designed as fire doors. And if you change a thermostat, please put it back to its original setting when you leave.

Study Group- Want to read a great book and discuss it with a group this summer? "The 4 agreements" by Don Miguel Ruiz is the book and Thursday night 7-8:30pm starting June 25th at church is the place to be! Allison Colbert is leading the group and the book focuses on self-awareness and helping to cope with the stress of life. We will meet for 6 Thursdays, June-July. Contact the church office or Allison if interested.

From the Communications & Outreach Ministry

The Communications & Outreach Ministry is focused on spreading the word about BUCC throughout the community. We recently held our craft fair and continue promoting church events on social media. An updated website is also on the way. We're working on promotional items for Pride events this summer and researching additional community events where we can be present and share the word about our amazing little church.

Even if you're not part of a ministry team, there are still many ways you can help bring new faces into our pews:

Personal Invitations:

Invite neighbors, coworkers, and friends to attend services or special events. Personal connection is one of the leading reasons people visit a new church. We have an Ice Cream Social coming up on June 14th — a perfect opportunity to invite a friend!

Leverage Social Media:

Follow our official Facebook page and share our events. Sharing, liking, and commenting on posts helps increase visibility within your local network. You can also share information directly from our website.

Write a Google Review:

Leave a positive review on our Google page. Genuine testimonials about your experience help others in our area discover BUCC when searching online.

Get Involved Locally:

Participate in church-sponsored activities and events, even if you can only attend for a short time. Your presence makes a difference.

Practice Radical Hospitality:

We really don't need to say much here — we are a friendly church, and we always make newcomers feel welcome.

Use Word of Mouth:

Talk enthusiastically about the sermons, community groups, and ways the church has positively impacted your life in everyday conversations.

We are always open to ideas from the congregation, so please reach out to Heidi Spangler if you have ideas for events or outreach opportunities that could help bring new people to our church. We'd love to hear from you!

In Memory

Marjorie K Culver February 8, 1937 — January 26, 2026

Marjorie K. Culver (nee Kelch), age 88, passed away January 26, 2026. Beloved wife of Richard (deceased). Dear mother of Leslie Cronebach (Michael) and Barbara (Wilfred) Vaughan (David). Cherished grandmother of Samantha Wilfred Franks, Justin Dieterich and Sarah Dieterich (Chase Hill). Dearest great-grandmother of Scarlett Elena and Jayden James Franks. Sister of Janet Lang, Donald Kelch, and Audrey Boughman (deceased).

The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks for the love and care they received from the staff at Renaissance of Richfield/Bath and Turas Hospice these past few days. Their compassion, support, and dedication provided comfort during a difficult time, and their kindness will always be remembered with deep gratitude.

Margaret "Midge" "Brillo" Cassidy April 27, 1930 — April 21, 2026

Margaret "Midge" "Brillo" Cassidy (nee Wood), age 95, passed away April 21, 2026. Beloved wife of Harold (deceased). Loving mother of Scott (deceased), Tracy Moffatt (Mark), and Rex (Carrie). Cherished grandmother of Blythe (fiancé Joe) and Lauren (fiancé Tyler). Sister of Betty Jo Elenz (nee Wood) (Jerry). Aunt of numerous loving families.

Midge had a long career as a registered nurse. She worked at Lutheran Hospital primarily in the emergency department for 32 years. In the 1970's she began work at the Richfield Coliseum as a head event nurse where she began a love affair with the Cleveland Cavaliers to go along with the Indians baseball team. She saw more concerts and sports events than most and always enjoyed writing her Christmas letter during the November circus visits. She transferred to the Gund Arena when the Coliseum closed and also worked at Jacobs Field and the Cleveland State arena.

She also worked with a group of nurses providing school physicals and flu shots for corporations. After her retirement in her late 80's she volunteered for her city running the blood pressure check program for seniors. She and Tracy loved to travel together visiting six continents and all 50 states. Grandma Brillo had wonderful adventures with Blythe and Lauren including New York City and Iceland and was always a special part of their lives. At 4:00 pm you could find her enjoying a Rum and OJ and many joyful evenings were spent dining with a caring group of Brecksville friends.

Lois Ann (nee Palermo) Lorenzo age 93

Lois passed away on Friday, May 9, 2026. Beloved wife of 49 years to the late Rudolph Lorenzo. Cherished mother to Shard (Julia), Bridget Sproul (Chad). Loving grandma to Spencer Whyte and Sophia Lorenzo. Devoted daughter to the late Joseph and Bridget (nee Armenti) Palermo. Cherished sister to the late Charles Palermo. Loving aunt to many nieces and nephews.

Lois grew up living with the Palermo family in the Little Italy neighborhood of Cleveland, Ohio. She graduated from John Hay High School. She had many secretarial jobs and finished her career 1997 as an Administrative Assistant for Tremco, Inc. Lois met her husband, Rudy, while working at TRW in the mid 1950s. The couple dated for many years and enjoyed music and dancing. They married at Holy Rosary Church on May 13, 1961. The children were born while they lived in East Cleveland. In 1966, the family moved to Mayfield Heights, where the couple remained until late 2005. After that, they enjoyed living in Broadview Heights with many wonderful neighbors for the rest of their lives.

Lois made friends wherever she went. She was known for her delicious baking and cooking. Her love language was feeding people. She also kept the US Postal Service in business by sending Christmas cards, Birthday cards, and Thank You notes to her many friends and family members. When Lois was young she dreamt of being a fashion designer. It combined her love of art and her flair for style. Since that wasn't a practical career, she continued painting and drawing as a hobby. Her home was filled with dozens of pieces of art. She had a knack for dressing up and loved to wear jewelry, scarves, and high heels.

Lois attended Brecksville United Church of Christ along with Bridget and Chad. She was loved for providing weekly bakery and appetizers that were enjoyed at Coffee Hour after Sunday service. She had many dear friends with which she enjoyed going to lunch and visiting.

Stewart Gordon “Stu” Bailey April 28, 1934 - May 10, 2026

Stewart Gordon “Stu” Bailey spent a lifetime showing up for others — students, athletes, neighbors, church members, friends, and most especially, his family. For nearly seven decades, Brecksville was blessed by his steady presence, generous spirit, and unwavering commitment to service. Beyond his many public contributions, Stu’s greatest joy was his family. He was the devoted husband of Dot Bailey; loving father of Curtis Bailey (1965–2020) and Karen Bailey Hernandez (Ron); proud grandfather of Ross Bailey (Kaitlyn), Christian Hernandez, and John Stewart Hernandez; and great-grandfather of Lainey Bailey. He was also a beloved uncle to Craig and Brad Ashbrook (Stefanie).

Stu’s presence could always be found at Grandparents Day, in the crowd at performances, or in the stands cheering at basketball, soccer, and lacrosse games, as well as at countless family gatherings and celebrations. Right to the end, he enjoyed church, reading, puzzles, sports, volunteering, spending time with loved ones.

Stu began his career in education in 1956 after earning his Bachelor’s degree in History and Secondary Education from Hiram College. That same year, he and Dot made Brecksville their home, beginning a remarkable 69.9-year partnership built on love, faith, family, and service. During his 38 years with Brecksville Schools, from 1956 through 1994, he served in many roles, including teacher, guidance counselor, coach, mentor, bus driver, and steadfast supporter of student activities. Stu was an unwavering advocate for educational support for youth, a supporter of AFS exchange students, drug and alcohol recovery programs, and an outspoken advocate for the LGBTQ+ community. Throughout his life, he served Brecksville United Church of Christ in many capacities.

Those who knew Stu best speak not only of his accomplishments, but of his character. He was the same person at home, at church, in school hallways, and on the sidelines of athletic events — honest, intelligent, compassionate, humble, kind and funny. His life stands as a testament to integrity, consistency, and service to others.



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

Bridget	Sproul	June 02
Lily	Hunt	June 04
Dot	Bailey	June 15
Giuliana	Gagliano	June 15
Maggie	McNamara	June 18
Marla	Corrado	June 19
Marilyn	Wrights	June 23
Chad	Sproul	June 24
Carole	Snider	June 25
Maureen	Stanley	June 26
Kimberly	Wallis	June 26
Bruce	McCain	June 27
Carli	Began	June 29
Evelyn	Seager	June 29
David	Wilson	June 29

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



CALENDAR

JUNE 2026

Mon., JUNE 1
7pm Facilities

Tue., JUNE 2
2 pm Spiritual Life
6:00pm AA in Pilgrim Hall
6:30pm Social Justice

Wed., JUNE 3
11am Mindfulness & Meditation

Thu., JUNE 4

Fri., JUNE 5
OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., JUNE 6
PRIDE IN THE CLE

SUNDAY, JUNE 7
10am Worship Service
Rock Painting

Mon., JUNE 8

Tue., JUNE 9
6:00pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

Wed., JUNE 10
11am Mindfulness & Meditation
1 pm Missions café
6 pm Missions café
7pm Council

Thu., JUNE 11

Fri., JUNE 12
OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., JUNE 13

SUNDAY, JUNE 14
10am Worship Service
Ice Cream Social

Mon., JUNE 15

Tue., JUNE 16
6:00pm AA in Pilgrim Hall
7:30pm Communications & Outreach

Wed., JUNE 17
11am Mindfulness & Meditation
6pm Braver Angels

Thu., JUNE 18
10:30 am Called to Care

Fri., JUNE 19
OFFICE CLOSED
JUNETEENTH
6:30pm Brecksville Squares

Sat., JUNE 20

SUNDAY, JUNE 21
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
10am Worship Service

Mon., JUNE 22

Tue., JUNE 23
6:00pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

Wed., JUNE 24
11am Mindfulness & Meditation

Thu., JUNE 25
7pm Study Group

Fri., JUNE 26
OFFICE CLOSED

Sat., JUNE 27
Noon BBH Pride

SUNDAY, JUNE 28
10am Worship Service

Mon., JUNE 29

Tue., JUNE 30
6:00pm AA in Pilgrim Hall



PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

JUNE 7, 2026

Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: TBD
Greeter: Jeff Thompson
Lay Reader: TBD
Flowers: TBD
Counters: TBD
TBD
A/V: Fred Pedersen
Snack: Carole Snider
Setup/Serve: Carole Snider
Cleanup: TBD
Communion Gayle Colbert
Bread:

JUNE 14, 2026

Head Usher: TBD
Ushers: TBD
Greeter: TBD
Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Flowers: TBD
Counters: TBD
TBD
A/V: David Pastor
Snack: TBD
Setup/Serve: TBD
Cleanup: TBD

JUNE 21, 2026

Head Usher: TBD
Ushers: TBD
Greeter: TBD
Lay Reader: TBD
Flowers: TBD
Counters: TBD
TBD
A/V: Jim Duffy
Snack: TBD
Setup/Serve: TBD
Cleanup: TBD

JUNE 28, 2026

Head Usher: TBD
Ushers: TBD
Greeter: Jeff Thompson
Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Flowers: TBD
Counters: TBD
TBD
A/V: TBD
Snack: Jenn Elting
Setup/Serve: Jenn Elting
Cleanup: TBD

The Pillar

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United Church of Christ

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FIRST CLASS

