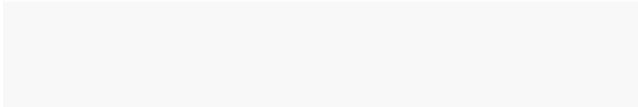
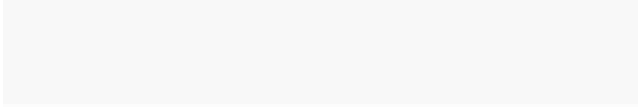




THE *Pillar*  
BRECKSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

JULY 2026



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

## PASTORS PONDERINGS...

### Praying Our Way Into the Next Focus Areas

Through the Mission Café and Wisdom Café process, seven areas have emerged as important values and hopes for our life together as a faith community. These are not simply tasks to complete or programs to launch. They are movements of growth we are discerning together — places where the Spirit may be inviting Brecksville UCC to become more fully what we already say we value.

I have gathered each focus area into a single word — not to simplify it, but to give us something spacious enough to pray with, wonder about, and carry into our shared discernment:

**Hearth** — welcome becoming belonging

**Tapestry** — multiple generations becoming shared life

**Circles** — leadership becoming shared participation

**Candor** — communication becoming trustworthy

**Enough** — ministry becoming sustainable

**Porchlight** — neighborliness becoming visible

**Rooted** — identity becoming embodied future

My hope is that you will begin to pray these words. Carry them with you. Hold them before God. Listen for what they stir in you — hope, challenge, resistance, imagination, grief, courage, or clarity.

Hearth may invite us to wonder what helps people feel truly at home here. Tapestry may ask how different generations become part of one shared life. Circles may call us toward leadership shared more widely, rather than carried by too few. Candor may help us practice communication honest enough to build trust where anxiety has lingered. Enough may teach us to tell the truth about capacity without losing heart. Porchlight may ask how our welcome becomes visible to our neighbors. Rooted may remind us that the future does not ask us to become someone else, but to embody our identity more faithfully.

As we continue growing into these next focus areas, your prayers will help lift this process beyond planning alone. Together, we are listening for the life God is calling to rise among us — not only in what we decide, but in who we are becoming.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Jeff



## FROM THE MINISTRIES OF BUCC

### **Film Screening: 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture**

Join us on **July 24** for a screening of 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture.

This feature-length documentary follows researchers as they investigate the origins of anti-gay theology in Christianity, tracing it to a significant Bible translation change introduced in 1946. Through newly uncovered archival materials from Yale University, the film presents evidence that challenges interpretations often used to justify LGBTQIA+ exclusion. Featuring insights from biblical scholars, pastors with differing viewpoints, and the filmmakers themselves, 1946 offers a thoughtful exploration of faith, history, and inclusion.

### **Event Details**

- Date: July 24
- Doors Open: 6:30 PM
- Film Begins: 7:00 PM
- Runtime: Approximately 95 minutes

Because our screening license limits attendance, advance registration is required.

**Tickets:** \$2.50 each

To reserve your seat, please purchase your ticket through Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1946-the-mistranslation-that-shifted-culture-tickets-1991735691068>

### **Volunteers Needed**

We are also seeking volunteers to help make this event a success.

Opportunities include:

- Welcoming guests
- Checking tickets
- Serving snacks
- Assisting with setup
- Helping with cleanup

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Heidi Spangler.

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**Community Meal-** The next Community Meal will be held Sunday July 26 from 4pm to 6pm at the Wholeness Project located at 3389 Fulton Road Cleveland. We will be serving hamburgers and hotdogs and salads. We usually serve about 15-25 persons. Please look for the sign up link in July.

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**Worship In the Park-** On August 30, our worship in the park will include a Blessing of Friendships. We invite you to begin thinking about the friendships that have carried you, surprised you, steadied you, or helped you become more fully yourself. Some of those friends may be present with us. Some may be far away. Some may be remembered with gratitude. Together, we will give thanks for the holy gift of companionship.

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On Sunday, June 14, Carol Miller shared a reading of two poems she had written. We thought they were too wonderful not to share, and we hope you'll enjoy reading them here.

**Let's Go, Let's Grow**

Circles and cycles  
And cycles and bicycles  
And cycles like spring, summer, fall, winter  
Trees in their cycles  
Leafing in spring  
Greening in summer  
Leaving in fall  
Resting in winter  
Beginnings and endings  
Round and round we go  
It's spring becoming  
Becoming another year  
Another round  
Round and round we go  
Let's go  
To the beginning  
Because it's an ending of winter  
Let's green and flower  
Throughout our gardens  
Throughout our neighborhoods  
Throughout our parks, and our land, and our world  
To celebrate and share the cycles  
Let's grow

---

**Round and round, and up and down, and on solid ground**

My seasons they go round and round  
Like riding a painted pony on the carousel  
Going up and down with the happy tunes  
I could ride the merry go round forever  
But not really forever  
The bell clangs loud, it's time to get off  
My feet flat on the ground

But I want to go round and round again  
So I ride the Ferris wheel  
Going up and down and in the air  
Watching the sunset golden on the horizon  
Next time up and down the sun is fading  
Half round ball sinking into the water  
Then next time around the golden is gone beneath the lake  
And I could go round and round up in the air forever  
But soon the wheel stops and I need to get off  
And walk on solid ground again

But I want to keep going round and round  
So I ride a bike  
All through the park  
First I ride a tricycle and find my balance  
Then I learn to ride a bicycle, all by myself

But this is lonely, so I ride a tandem bike with someone very special  
And together we ride round and round all through the world  
And I discover that I like riding a bicycle built for two  
But then after a very long while it's time for them to get off  
And nobody else goes round and round with me  
So I walk on solid ground to the carousel  
Where around I go again and again with the happy music  
And all the others on the merry go round  
Who want to ride forever

But then the bell clangs loud  
And it's time to walk on solid ground  
To find my next round

**CLE PRIDE-** On June 6, members of BUCC participated in the Cleveland Pride March and joined thousands in celebrating Pride throughout the community. It was a wonderful day filled with joy, fellowship, and a shared commitment to justice and inclusion.



Thank you to everyone who came out to march and represent Brecksville United Church of Christ. Your presence reflected the love, welcome, and affirmation that are at the heart of our congregation. We are grateful for the opportunity to stand alongside our LGBTQIA+ neighbors and friends and to witness God's inclusive love in action.



**Flowers-** Did you know that you can purchase Sunday morning sanctuary flowers from Three Girls Flower Farm owned by BUCC member Marla Corrado. Marla can be reached at 440-382-5493 or through her Facebook page for orders. She is also out doing farmer's markets every Thursday evening (4p-7p) in Seven Hills and Sunday mornings (9a-1p) in Independence (July through

September). She is available anytime, for any occasion, bouquets or vased arrangements, just give her a day's notice or so beforehand.

Check out her social media pages here: Facebook page -

<https://www.facebook.com/threegirlsflowerfarm>

Instagram Page -

<https://www.instagram.com/threegirlsflowerfarmohio/?hl=en>



# CALENDAR

## JULY 2026

**Wed., JULY 1**  
11am Mindfulness & Meditation

**Thu., JULY 2**  
7pm Study Group

**Fri., JULY 3**  
\*OFFICE CLOSED\*

**Sat., JULY 4**



**SUNDAY, JULY 5**  
10am Worship Service

**Mon., JULY 6**  
7pm Facilities

**Tue., JULY 7**  
2:00 pm Spiritual life  
6:00pm AA in Pilgrim Hall  
6:30pm Social Justice

**Wed., JULY 8**  
11am Mindfulness & Meditation  
7pm Council

**Thu., JULY 9**  
7pm Study Group

**Fri., JULY 10**  
\*OFFICE CLOSED\*

**Sat., JULY 11**  
Noon Celebration of Life  
Lois Lorenzo

**SUNDAY, JULY 12**  
10am Worship Service

**Mon., JULY 13**

**Tue., JULY 14**  
6:00pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

**Wed., JULY 15**  
11am Mindfulness & Meditation

**Thu., JULY 16**  
10:30am Called to Care  
7pm Study Group

**Fri., JULY 17**  
\*OFFICE CLOSED\*  
6:30pm Brecksville Squares

**Sat., JULY 18**

**SUNDAY, JULY 19**  
10am Worship Service

**Mon., JULY 20**

**Tue., JULY 21**  
6:30pm AA in Pilgrim Hall  
7:30pm Communication and Outreach

**Wed., JULY 22**  
11am Mindfulness & Meditation

**Thu., JULY 23**  
7pm Study Group

**Fri., JULY 24**  
\*OFFICE CLOSED\*

**Sat., JULY 25**

**SUNDAY, JULY 26**  
10am Worship Service  
3pm Community Meal

**Mon., JULY 27**

**Tue., JULY 28**  
6:30pm AA in Pilgrim Hall

**Wed., JULY 29**  
11am Mindfulness & Meditation

**Thu., JULY 30**

**Fri., July 31**  
6:30pm Brecksville Squares

# *The Pillar*

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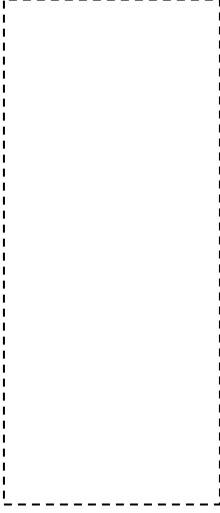
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FIRST CLASS



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