



# The Good Word



The Newsletter of Brecksville United Methodist Church, A Reconciling Congregation



Open Doors. Honest Worship. Determined Service.

AUGUST 2016 Issue ~ Published July 28, 2016

See it in color! Visit [www.brecksvilleumc.com/root/bumconline/Newsletter](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com/root/bumconline/Newsletter)

## Coming this Fall...

- On **September 11**, we celebrate the start of a new program year with our **Fall Kick Off Celebration**. Join us for **one worship service at 10 o'clock** and a potluck party on the square at 11 am! We'll also have special guests from Africa University. (See the article below right for details!)
- **The League of Women Voters** will hold a non-partisan town hall forum here on September 21 at 7 pm. Join us for a look at local and regional issues on the ballot this fall.
- **Facing Addiction: Knowledge, Resources, and Support** Do you know how to spot the signs of addiction and how you can help? Join us on Wednesdays, October 5, 19 and November 2. More information coming soon!



This is our last Lunch Bunch of the Summer, so we'll gather at the Harriet Keeler picnic shelter on Chippewa Creek Drive (across from the nature center) in the Metroparks.

**Tuesday, August 16  
Noon**

We'll provide hot dogs, veggie burgers, buns, condiments, beverages, and dessert. All we need is YOU! This is a time of relaxed food and fellowship with the staff, and ALL are welcome!

Please RSVP by Sunday, August 14 at the latest. Sign up on Sunday, or contact the church office: 440-526-8938 or [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)

## Fall Kick-off Worship & Celebration Sunday, September 11

10:00 am Worship ~ 11:00 am Potluck & Entertainment

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Cheryl L. Walker and Mrs. Angella Current-Felder, from Africa University, a school in Zimbabwe supported by the United Methodist Church. Dr. Walker and Mrs. Current-Felder will share about the mission and ongoing work of the university. There will be a short informational session at 9 am, followed by one worship service at 10:00 am. Please plan to be a part of it!

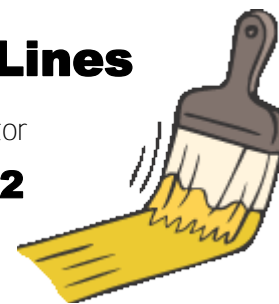
At 11:00 am, we'll gather on Brecksville Town Square for our annual picnic. You are invited to bring a main dish, side or dessert to share. Prepare for a feast! It will be a time of fun and fellowship with games and entertainment out on the square!



## Painting the Lines

Rev. Clark Stein, Senior Pastor

**Matthew 22:15-22**



Sunday Mornings  
*Through September 4*  
8:30 Worship on the Lawn  
10:00 Worship in the Sanctuary

### Our Staff

Phone: 440-526-8938

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Here is a story about a man who was fired from the highway department. He was hired to paint the lines down the middle of the highway, and the first day, when he painted 15 miles, his supervisor was ecstatic. Then the next day he only painted four miles, and the next day only a quarter of a mile, and the supervisor had to fire him.

“How come you only painted a quarter mile the last day?” his supervisor asked. “Well, to tell you the truth,” the man replied, “I just kept getting farther and farther away from the can.”

Summer has come and almost gone, and we have taken the opportunity to wander a bit. Some of us have traveled great distances and some have found solace and relaxation in the backyard. No matter, the time to rest, to enjoy ourselves, to reconnect with family and friends, all of it is important to our well-being. I find much of the idea of “Sabbath” in these activities.

As we ponder how we may while away the last of our leisure time, I want to encourage you to keep yourself close to the source of all that is. In fact, for the last few weeks of the summer, why don't you pick up the can and carry it with you? It may save you a long walk back and forth, and help to uncover beauty and meaning for you wherever you may be. A wise man once encouraged me to keep my tools close to my work. That advice has served me well, and opened my eyes to opportunities I would have missed in travels for tools I could have carried with me. I pray you keep the main thing the main thing, and stay close to the can.

See you in church,

*Pastor Clark*

Henderson Settlement in Frakes, KY is no longer collecting Campbells Soup Labels, but they are collecting Box Tops. You can help unlock a world of opportunity for their students. All you need is a pair of scissors. Clip the symbols from products and bring them to the collection bin in the coat room. Learn more at [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com).



**THE SUNDAY BLAST**  
A weekly e-mail Newsletter.  
*Sunday Song Titles, Scripture Readings, Announcements, Upcoming Events and More.* To subscribe, e-mail [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)



## Summer Choir – Last Opportunity for the Season!

Sunday, August 28

Gather in the Sanctuary at 9:15 am

We'll practice together and sing at the 10:00 worship service

This is a great chance for EVERYONE to sing,  
no experience needed! All are welcome, including kids!

## Welcome, Dana Schwendeman!



We are so thrilled to welcome Dana Schwendeman to our staff as the new Youth Director! Dana grew up at Mentor UMC and describes her years in the youth group there as formative in her life. She and her husband Jamie are excited to be returning to Northeast Ohio and just moved into an apartment in Parma. Dana is a recent graduate of Methodist Theological School in Ohio, where she completed a Master of Arts in Practical Theology with an emphasis in Youth and Young Adult Ministry. She describes herself as “passionate about teaching, supporting, and walking beside students in Christ’s love.” Dana is committed to inclusive ministry and values the unique attributes of each student. We are so excited to welcome her to Brecksville United Methodist Church!

## Fall Kick-off and Pool Party (Middle School)



Join us at the Eberhardt home for an awesome pool party including great food, sno-cones, and an opportunity to get know our new youth director, Dana!

Friday, August 19  
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Just bring your bathing suit and a towel. We'll do the rest! RSVP to the church office for directions.

440-526-8938 or [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)



## Fill The Truck for Easter Seals!

Can we fill a 26' Easter Seals truck with 500 bags of clothing donations? With your help, we can! The Easter Seals truck will be parked in our big parking lot on Saturday and Sunday, August 27 and 28 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. (Tell your friends to look for it in the parking lot located off of Route 21 – across the street from the Starbucks/Hallmark Plaza.)

Free up valuable closet space! Bring your donations of clothing, blankets, towels, shoes, purses, stuffed animals, cloth lunch boxes and backpacks and help fill the truck. Anything made of cloth, even stained or ripped items, will be accepted. All donated items will be reused, resold or recycled.

The Fill The Truck Fundraiser is a partnership between Brecksville United Methodist Women and Easter Seals Northern Ohio. Together, money will be raised to help local people with disabilities and to benefit the UMW Missions fund, which benefits programs serving women and children locally and worldwide.

All donations are tax deductible. Any type of bag can be used for donations.

Call 440-526-8938 or email  
[office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com)  
with questions!



United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION





Do you have news to share?  
 Contact Melanie!  
 office@brecksvilleumc.com or  
 440-526-8938

Diana Jacobs was welcomed to the world on July 13. Congratulations to mom and dad, Tiffany & Ian Jacobs, big sister Savannah, grandfather Steve Warth, Uncle Greg Warth, and Aunt Stephanie, Uncle Ian and cousin, Kaya Roberts.

*Notes of Thanks*

“Thank you to the church family for the cards, prayers and thoughts during my recent surgery. They are greatly appreciated and I know your support helped the surgery be a success.—Nancy Knowlton”

“Thank you for the many kind expressions of sympathy and prayers on the death of Carole’s father. Our church family has helped us through a difficult time with their loving support, and it is much appreciated. - The Brachna Family”

**ministries**  
 OF *Caring*



**The Caring Committee** is here for you and available to visit those who may be lonely and looking for support or someone to lend an ear. Contact Pastor Barbara, 440-799-3126, to arrange a visit for yourself or a loved one.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Daniel Jaszczak	1	Bob Tschannen	18
Sally Jones	1	Robin Engler	19
Tish Kwiatkowski	1	Joan Olszko	19
Skip Smith	1	Roger Wadsworth	20
John Galik	2	Grace Auble	21
Susan Hurst	2	Mark Robinson	21
Katrina Orr	2	Nathan Robinson	21
Nick Orr	2	Rebecca Urso	21
Kaitlyn Robinson	2	Jill Zawada	21
Chris Davis	3	Ann Zupanc	22
Bennett Eberhardt	3	Chelsea Croy	24
Karen Fisher	3	Andy Dorman	24
Jeff Hastings	3	Denise BonTempo	25
Gabriel Vastartis	3	Helen Lee	26
Steven Vastartis	3	Christopher Nurre	26
J.T. Zawada	3	Bridget Gee	27
Catherine Derry	4	Diane Pidwell	27
Kristi Eberhardt	4	Bryn Bisco	28
Joan Filips	4	Janet Nelson	28
Judy Novak	4	Don Southam	28
Karen Walburn	5	Kristin Bisco	29
Frank Pasek	6	Jamie Hocutt	29
Brooke Barnum	7	James Lesinski	29
Joan Martin	7	Marge Haseley	30
Mary Jane Opatrny	7	Pat Neville	30
Jeffrey Mihalich	8	Grant Palmer	30
Jim Rollins	8	Andrew Scott	31



As people of faith, we find God’s presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly Staff Meetings this month, we lifted up the following people in prayer, thanking God for them and the way they touch the lives of others. People like Kendra Simpson, a Facebook user who saw our call for a double stroller for the Refugee Center and answered it; Kathy

Goebel who has a knack for stepping up and helping when it’s most needed; Scott Campbell who helped the UMW with setting up their booth for Home Days and is helping with construction of a new console for the Sanctuary audio visual equipment; and the Aubles who are so generous with their time and talents, helping with the SummerFest Concerts, with VBS, with youth events, worship and more! We are thankful for you one and all, named and unnamed!



# BICYCLE RALLY

**Hosted by Brecksville United Methodist Church  
Co-Sponsored by Bike Brecksville**

Saturday, August 27

Ride 4, 10, or 14 miles

All rides depart from the Station Road entrance to the  
Tow Path in the Cleveland Metroparks, Brecksville Reservation

- ⚙ Free bike safety checks to all pre-registered riders.
- ⚙ Helmet Checks for all riders.
- ⚙ Free sno-cones and lemonade following the ride.

**Safety and helmet checks beginning at 9 am.  
Rides begin at 10 am.**

# 8.27.2016



## **Bikes Arrive in Liberia**

Several of the bikes you donated were repaired and sent to United Methodist pastors in Liberia, a country in West Africa. The bikes will help the pastors make visits between villages. Here's a note we received:

“We are thankful to you and all our friends who made available those bicycles for some of our pastors. The few of the pastors who received were very grateful and thank God for you all. We want to also let you know that the transportation need for the remaining pastors is still here. We have over 75 pastors that serve in the Gompa District but only nine could benefit from the nine bicycles. Here are still some pictures of pastors who received.

Remember the other pastors in your plans and prayers.”

## **OLD CELL PHONES WANTED**



Have an old cell phone collecting dust and using up space in your junk drawer? Why not recycle it?

Bring your old phone to the coat room collection bin for safe recycling, and earn money for our church Missions Fund!



# ALL ABOUT BAPTISM

Sunday, August 21  
11:00 am in the Parlor

**Interested in learning about baptism?**

**This one-time class will answer questions about this important step in faith for you or your child.**

**To register, contact 440-526-8938 or [office@brecksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@brecksvilleumc.com).**

***Care for children will be available during the class!***

What do Methodists Believe about Baptism?

[www.umc.org/what-we-believe/baptism](http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/baptism)

Baptism is one of only two sacraments in the Methodist Church, but many people still struggle to understand its significance. Parents of new babies often choose to have their children baptized but come with questions about what it means for their growing family.

This class offers the opportunity for individuals of all ages to come to a deeper understanding of how baptism fits into the larger framework of Christian discipleship and spiritual growth. Whether you are a young person with questions about a baptism experience you may not even remember or the parents of a young child recently—or soon to be—baptized, or if you are just curious about baptism, we welcome you to participate!

Sunday, August 21 at 11:00 am in the Parlor

Refreshments will be provided and child care will be available.

**Brookside Food Center** dispenses food and other necessities to local families in need. The success of their program depends on the kindness and generosity of people like you!

On the third Friday of each month, our United Methodist Women deliver our donations to Brookside and spend time working in the center. Let's send them there with a car full of items like:

Canned fruits and vegetables (pop tops are great!)

Apple Sauce and Dried Fruit

Grains (rice, barley, etc.)

Peanut Butter and Jelly

Bisquick

Complete meals in a box

Pasta and pasta sauce

Canned soups

Tuna and other canned fish

Other healthy non-perishable foods!



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**BROOKSIDE FOOD CENTER**

**LET'S FILL THE BIN!**

Paper products, such as napkins and paper towels, are also greatly appreciated. Your contributions make a world of difference to families in need.





## Vacation Bible School 2016 Was a Great Success!

We welcomed 103 kids, ages pre-school to fifth grade, for Surf Shack—that's a record! Thanks to the help of about 40 volunteers, the kids learned all about God's Amazing Love.

Our Middle School Camp SERVE (Students Enjoying Real Volunteer Experiences) had a group of ten students taught by Cathy Drescher. Together, they experienced a variety of ways to be of service in the community, from working in the MetroParks, to sorting clothes at Nehemia Mission, to visiting residents at the Oaks, to making cookies for the Kairos Prison Ministry, the kids experienced many ways that they could serve as the hands and feet of Jesus.



*At Surf Shack, each day started with singing and dancing, included fun games outside, and nice & messy science experiments!*



# AUGUST

BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH [www.brecksvilleumc.com](http://www.brecksvilleumc.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Senior High Overnight to Ohio State Fair	2 10 Staff Mtg 7 Evangelism	3	4  Gee & Gee mowing	5	6
7 Communion Sunday 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10:00 Worship	8	9 11 Staff Mtg 7 Council on Ministries	10	11  Bloch & Campbell Mowing	12	13  Cleveland Pride
14 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10:00 Worship 11 Music & Worship Board	15 6 Men's Ensemble Rehearsal 7 Staff Parish Relations Committee	16 10 Staff Mtg 12 Lunch Bunch Cook Out 7 Missions 7 Gifts & Mem 7:30 Trustees	17  BBHCS D	18  Brown & Sendrey Mowing	19  Middle School Pool Party! Food Delivery to Brookside	20
21 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10:00 Worship 11 Baptism Class 1 Music Dept. Picnic at Kleckner's	22	23 9:30 UMW Board 10 Staff Mtg 7 Finance  Revere	24  Independence, North Royalton & Nordonia	25  Parker & Spencer Mowing	26	27  Fill the truck 8 - 5 pm Bike Rally 10 am
28 Summer Choir 8:30 Worship on the Lawn 10:00 Worship  8—5 pm UMW Fill The Truck for Missions 	29	30 10 Staff Mtg	31			



When we join The United Methodist Church, we vow to support it with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. But sometimes, our good intentions get lost in the day-to-day hustle and bustle of life. As a church, how are we doing with our promises? Can you help fill in the blanks?

# PRAYERS

Do you know that Brecksville United Methodist Church has an active e-mail Prayer Chain? To be added to the e-mail list, or to submit a prayer request, please contact [Elro-wan33@aol.com](mailto:Elro-wan33@aol.com).

# PRESENCE

Date	First Service	Education Hour	Second Service
June 26	66		84
July 3	83		67
July 10	84		79
July 17	67		103
July 24	112		76

# GIFTS

If you have made a pledge or a contribution, you will receive a giving statement (either electronically or on the other side of this page with your mailed Good

Date	Offering
June 26	8086
July 3	8692
July 10	7707
July 17	10180
July 24	\$9,716

Word) which outlines your gifts to date this year. If you need additional information, or if you have not received your statement, please contact the church office.

This table outlines the offering received each Sunday since the last publication of the *Good Word*.

# SERVICE

At Charge Conference this year, we set a goal of serving 4,000 volunteer hours as a congregation this year.

At right are our totals so far (November through July.)

Do you have hours to add? Contact Ric Lesinski:

[rlatking@aol.com](mailto:rlatking@aol.com)

Committee or Group	TOTAL
<b>Administrative Board</b>	190
<b>Caring Committee</b>	0
Prayer Chain	70
<b>Closers</b>	96
<b>Council on Ministries</b>	4
<b>Church and Society</b>	0
<b>Counters</b>	224
<b>Education</b>	933
Sunday School Secretary	216
<b>Evangelism</b>	0
<b>Finance</b>	0
<b>Gifts &amp; Memorials</b>	0
<b>Men's Small Group Cleaning</b>	31
<b>Missions</b>	0
Habitat for Humanity	0
Bike Mechanics	0
Seeds of Literacy	16
<b>Music &amp; Worship Board</b>	65
Scholarship Golf	10
Choir	517
Bell Choir	207
Men's Ensemble	96
Praise Band/Musicians	300
Fridays @ 5	165
Concert Series Volunteers	40
Music w/a Mission-Performers	50
Music w/a Mission - Workers	0
Ushers	196
Communion Stewards	24
Worship Team - AV	80
<b>Project Learn</b>	172
<b>Staff Parish Relations</b>	0
<b>Trustees</b>	50
Closers	213
Mowing Club	20
<b>United Methodist Women</b>	1000
<b>Youth Board</b>	0
	<b>4985</b>



Social Media sites give us the opportunity to glorify God, connect with one another, and reach out into our community. Once you start interacting with the church on social media, your friends and followers will start noticing us as well! Our social media presence can be a subtle reminder of the Spirit's movement in your life, in our community and in the world. It's a subtle form of outreach anyone can do.

If you're on social media, take a minute to connect with us!  
Share a picture or post with #Brecksvilleumc

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## **In July, we learned about Instagram**

[instagram.com/BrecksvilleUMC](https://www.instagram.com/BrecksvilleUMC)

Instagram is our newest social media account. We opened it in mid-May and at the time of this printing we have 36 followers. (Thanks, followers!) Instagram is an online mobile photo sharing site. After learning about it all month, we ended the month of July with a fun, week long, Photo-a-Day challenge. (If you're reading this in July, there's still time to participate!) If you have a smart phone, download the app and connect with Brecksville UMC for photos of mission, worship, and community— and share your pics with your church family!

## **In August Our Focus will Be**



### **Twitter**

[twitter.com/BrecksvilleUMC](https://twitter.com/BrecksvilleUMC)

Tweet! Tweet! Twitter is an online social networking service that enables users to send and read short 140-character messages called "tweets". At Brecksville United Methodist Church, we use Twitter to share our news with the world. Every Thursday, we tweet a link to our e-newsletter, the Sunday Blast. Each week, we tweet links to the worship songs for the upcoming Sunday. Every month, we use it to share *The Good Word*, our monthly newsletter. We amplify news from the United Methodist Church by re-tweeting their posts. And we use Twitter to share news and events. We opened the account in 2012 and have shared 310 photos and videos! At the time of this printing, we have 228 followers! Follow us [@Brecksvilleumc](https://twitter.com/Brecksvilleumc)

