On this special Sunday, we will have one worship service at 10 o’clock in the Sanctuary. Nursery care is available during the service. After worship, it’s a party on the square!

- Ride the Euclid Beach Rocket Car!
- Cool off with a sweet treat from the Kona Ice Truck.
- Enjoy hits from the 70’s through today with the City Lite Trio.
- Bounce in the bounce house and play lawn games.
- Delight in one of the longest potluck buffets around!

_Everyone’s welcome. Invite your friends!_
**Our Staff**

- **Pastor:** Rev. Clark Stein
  pastor@brecksvilleumc.com
- **Associate Pastor, Visitation:** Rev. Barbara Bartholomew
  associatepastor@brecksvilleumc.com
- **Dir. of Christian Ed:** Jenny Gee
  education@brecksvilleumc.com
- **Youth Director:** Dana Schwendeman
  youth@brecksvilleumc.com
- **Music Director:** Malik Khalfani
  music@brecksvilleumc.com
- **Church Treasurer:** Becky Paroda
  finance@brecksvilleumc.com
- **Office Manager:** Melanie Smith
  office@brecksvilleumc.com
- **Asst. Office Manager:** Leslie Miller
  leslie@brecksvilleumc.com
- **Church School Registrar:** Joan Olszko
  - **Facility Managers:** Jeff and Scott Hastings
  facilities@brecksvilleumc.com

Published monthly by
Brecksville United Methodist Church
65 Public Square, Brecksville, OH 44141

**Sunday Morning Worship**

- **September 2**
  8:30 Worship on the Lawn
  10:00 Worship in the Sanctuary

- **September 9** Fall Kick Off
  10:00 Worship in the Sanctuary

- **September 16 and Beyond**
  8:45 Contemporary Worship
  10:00 Classes for All Ages
  11:15 Traditional Worship

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**Fish Stories**

**Packed and Ready to Go**

Rev. Clark Stein, Senior Pastor

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit. —1 Corinthians 12:1-3

A Scottish atheist was spending a quiet day fishing when his boat was attacked by the Loch Ness monster. In one easy flip, the beast tossed him high into the air. Then it opened its mouth to swallow him. As the man sailed head over heels, he cried out, “Oh, my God! Help me!” All at once the scene froze in place and, as the atheist hung in midair, a booming voice came down from the clouds. “I thought you didn’t believe in me?” “Come on, God, a minute ago I didn’t believe in the Loch Ness monster, either.”

After a time of respite and revelry in the summer months, the time is upon us to be about our normal activities. I pray that you have found fun in your travels, a boost to your spirits in your reunions with family and friends, and an ease for your souls in times of relaxation and vacation. It has been fun to catch up with some of you from time to time throughout the summer months, and I look forward to seeing all of you as we get ready to get back to our routines.

As we enter into September, we will spend some time thinking about how we all are really “packed and ready to go” in many ways. I would challenge you to think about what Jesus asks us to do, and we will all ponder the many ways we are equipped to do the tasks before us.

I look forward to our celebration on September 9, as we will kick off our fall season with big festivities once again. Please make plans to be with us, as the rocket car makes its return along with the bounce house, and Kona Ice for all! Add to that one big worship experience, and a pot luck lunch, a return of our wonderful band in the gazebo, and we will be off and running in grand style.

We so often just go about our business, unthinking about all the ways we really are prepared for whatever may come our way. Let’s come together and rethink how our time in community strengthens us for the journey. We are prepared for any Loch Ness monster. Let’s regather and worship the God who knows us each by name, and hears us when we call…

**Peace,**

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**Sunday Morning Coffee Hour**

Returns Sept. 16 at 10 am

The Staff Parish Relations Committee are our hosts for September!

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**Beautify worship with Altar Flowers!** We have no flowers Scheduled in September. Contact Leslie to reserve your date. 440-526-8938

Thank you!
In the summer of 2017, I had the amazing opportunity to travel to Liberia, Africa on an educational mission trip with this church. It was life changing event for me. I learned about true poverty and gained an understanding of true need in the world. When I came back, I wanted to find a way to help those in need around the world. I stumbled across an organization called Soles4Souls, a nonprofit organization that helps give shoes to people in need around the world. My sister Sara and I organized a shoe drive at Brecksville UMC. Thanks to your support and generous donations from our church and Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School, we collected 615 pairs of shoes and raised $3,170. According to Soles4Souls, one dollar equals one pair of shoes. We helped provide 3,785 pairs of shoes to people in need all around the world. Thank you for your support! - Megan Louttit

Introducing Malik Khalfani

We are thrilled to welcome our new Music Director, Malik Khalfani. Malik is a talented musician who is studying Music Education at Cleveland State University and has music directing experience beyond his years, having worked with the Akron Civic Theater, Near West Theater, Olmsted Performing Arts, Ohio Youth Ensemble Stage, the Toledo Repertoire Theater, Cutting Edge Theater Company and several more! Malik joins us September 1. Choir rehearsals begin soon! Let’s give Malik a warm welcome!

Christiana Howell & Isaac Becker-Howell RECITAL

Sunday, September 16 at 3 pm

Let’s help Isaac’s sister, Christiana, raise funds to study choral conducting at Selwyn College in Cambridge, England! Featuring pieces by Beethoven, Schubert, Fauré, Copland, Rachmaninoff, Rutter, and Fred Rodgers (of Mister Rodgers’ Neighborhood). Admission is free. Free-will donations accepted during the recital.
Human Trafficking Happens Here

The Brecksville United Methodist Women are hosting a presentation by Suzanne Lewis-Johnson, the new Executive Director of RAHAB Ministries, an organization fighting human trafficking and helping its victims in Akron, Ohio. On Wednesday, September 5 at 7 pm, Ms. Lewis-Johnson will share her story of how she left her position as an FBI Special Agent to serve as RAHAB’s Executive Director. In the FBI, Suzanne led cases that made headlines. She coordinated a Child Exploitation Task Force and became a subject expert on human trafficking, civil rights and violent crimes against children. She said, “In my past profession, I watched prostituted women and children cry out to God for someone to see them. I sat in a hospital room with a trafficked child who begged for an abortion. I mourned when another, hooked by a trafficker, died from a heroin overdose. I listened to countless #metoo stories from girls and women who said they rejected the idea of ever being in a loving relationship with a man, because they’d only known men who treated them as commodities.” Lewis-Johnson resigned from the FBI to better share the Truth about trafficking: What you see in the news is only the tip of the iceberg.

RAHAB Ministries is making a difference in the lives of women by providing a drop in center, mentoring, safe housing, training and education for those who have been victims of human trafficking. They also partner with Restore Court, the first juvenile human trafficking docket certified by the Ohio Supreme Court. The Brecksville United Methodist Women have been supporting RAHAB since its first safe house for women opened about 5 years ago. Attendees are encouraged, if so moved, to bring a donation for the women of the safe house. Needed items include full sized shampoo and conditioner, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, coffee, sugar and paper products. All are welcome and refreshments will be served! To learn more about RAHAB, visit their website at www.rahab-ministries.org.

Help support the ministry of the Evening Circle by supporting their bake sale on September 30. Proceeds from the sale will buy Bibles for the residents of Rahab House. If you have questions or would like to become involved with the good work done by the women of the Evening Circle, call Lynn Hobzek at 440-526-6037 or email kezboh@aol.com.

Asbury Bremeth to Begin a New Year

United Methodist Women’s Asbury Bremeth Circle starts up again on Thursday, September 13 at 10:00. Join us for lots of great conversation, laughs, fellowship and refreshments. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to RSVP. Our study this fall will be Bill Hybels’ Just Walk Across the Room. This study will give us the opportunity to consider our willingness to step outside of our comfort zone and meet people where they are. Hybels will encourage us to love as Jesus did by taking simple (but not always easy) steps in faith.
All Youth Dinner  September 9th 5-7 pm
On the menu: Back to school lunches (sandwiches, fruit, veggies, chips). Come for a fun night of food, fellowship, and helping others! This year we will be partaking in a quick-time service project as a part of our All Youth Dinners.
Our project for September: Bring peanut butter and jelly for Brookside!

Point Fest  September 13th 1 pm– Midnight
We are partnering with Macedonia UMC and heading to Cedar Point for a fun time with new friends and new thrills! We will end our night at a concert featuring Tobymac, For King & Country, Crowder, and more! Follow us on our Instagram (@bumcyouthmin) to get in on all the fun that day!

Youth Group Starts Back Up!
We have heard your feedback and will be changing up our youth group schedule a little bit! We hope to help students feel more prepared for their week ahead and take some time away from the stress of school to grow in their relationship with God and one another. We will be offering a space where students are welcome to bring their friends and homework to study in a quiet, comfortable space with free WIFI! Snacks and drinks will be provided each week. Then follow up that study time with your friends at youth group! We hope you can join us on the fourth floor for our new times and activities:

- High School Homework Hour:
  - Sundays 6-7 pm in the Quiet Room
- Middle School Youth Group
  - Sundays 6-7 pm in the Youth Room
- High School Youth Group
  - Sundays 7-8 pm in the Youth Room
- Middle School Homework Hour (if needed due to sibling in high school)
  - Sundays 7-8 pm in the Quiet Room

Dana’s New Office Hours for Fall 2018
Dana will have open office hours from 10 am- 3:30 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday during the school year. Stop by for a visit and chat, chill out in the youth room, or get some homework done. The space will be open for students during these times!

Stay Connected!  Contact Dana Schwendeman 440-526-8938 ext. 237 or youth@brecksvilleumc.com
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—or to volunteer with the team!

United Methodists Stand for Justice T-Shirts Available

Let the world know that United Methodists stand for justice! Unveiled at the Young People’s Convocation this year, these t-shirts are 65% Cotton and 35% recycled plastic and are made by workers earning a fair wage. The front of the shirt says “living FAITH, seeking JUSTICE, pursuing PEACE.” Back pictured here. We’re placing a group order to save on shipping costs. $10 Each.

Return this order form to the church office by September 9

☐ Yes! I want a t-shirt! (List quantity and size below)

Name: ___________________________________________________

Best way to contact: __________________________________________

_____ S   _____M   _____L   _____XL   _____XXL

Amount Enclosed: $___________ Checks payable to BUMC
Classes for All Ages on Sunday Mornings at 10 am
New session begins September 16

CHILDREN and YOUTH
Children’s Sunday School is open, without charge, to all children from pre-school on up. Teachers are trained volunteers who love children, are committed to their spiritual nurture, and who serve as faith journey companions.

Preschool through 7th grade
Dig a little deeper into your Bibles and into the messages of Jesus. This year we will be focusing on families of faith in the Bible, in our community and our own homes! At BUMC we strive to take our Sunday morning lessons and keep them at the center of our lives the rest of the week. Join your friends to see how to live and love a little better.

Eighth grade Confirmation year
This is a great year! You, along with your teachers, mentors and parents will unpack much of what you have learned in Sunday school through the years and look at the lessons in a new way. We are not afraid of tough faith questions at BUMC… in fact we recognize that it is through the asking of questions that you grow in your faith and begin to claim it as your own. Dana and Jenny will meet with you and a parent individually before the school year begins. Give us a call to set up your time.

High School
Are you ready to travel the world without leaving Brecksville? Want to learn more about the faiths of the world? Join our high school exploration of world religions during the 10 o’clock education hour. It’s sure to be an enlivening, thought provoking study!

CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Book Study:
The Great Spiritual Migration, by Brian McLaren
September 16 - November 4
This was one of our summer book club books this year and it was such a great read we want to encourage many of you to take the time to read it. We will take it a small section at a time and meet Sunday mornings to unpack and discuss. If you have ever felt like you were on the outside looking in at a church or if you have ever struggled to make sense of your faith then this book is for you. Join Jenny and your faithful friends to read, discuss and share throughout these eight weeks. Books are available on the counter in the parlor—buy one to write in for $15 or borrow and return one at the end of the study.

Theology and the Arts
With Pastor Clark
Christians are made in the image of God the Creator, destined to create music, poetry, fiction, dance and other works of art. Please consider joining in our discussion as we examine how much our theology informs the arts of our popular culture. Please join with Pastor Clark and friends in room 301 during our Sunday School hour for a thought provoking study.

Everyone welcome, anytime!

Nursery Care Available on Sunday Mornings
Our Crib and Toddler Room provides a safe, warm, and comfortable environment for children ranging from newborn to five years old. Our Nursery is staffed with two reliable, responsible caregivers who have been through the Methodist Church’s child protection training, Safe Sanctuaries. We have lots of toys for the kids to play with as well as books to read and pages to color. You can bring your own diapers, wipes, bottle/sippy cup or anything else your child may need to be comfortable while in our care.
As people of faith, we find God's presence in those who have been blessings to us. At our weekly staff meetings over the last four weeks, the following people were lifted in prayer with thanks to God for the way lives are touched when we reach out to one another in service. People like Payton Schneider, who stepped in at the last minute to serve as a liturgist on a Sunday morning when there was a need; Jen Speith, who donated money from the yoga class she taught to the church as seed money for programs to help families with young children; Kristen Kubek who helps lead us in song in worship, and Kim Meyer, who has committed hours of his time to paint a large classroom on the third floor, saving the church hundreds of dollars. We are so thankful for each of you, named and unnamed, and for all of the ways that you serve as the hands and feet of Jesus!
**BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  www.brecksvilleumc.com

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<td>6:30 Liberia Missionary Presentation</td>
<td>First Day for Horizon’s Preschool 7 UMW Rahab Ministries Presentation</td>
<td>9:30 Asbury Breemth Mowing Team: Gee &amp; Gee</td>
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**Happy Birthday, Brecksville United Methodist Church! 1886-2018**

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**Fall Kick Off Sunday**  
Grandparents’ Day  
10 ONE WORSHIP Service  
11:30 Block Party on the Square  
5 All Youth Dinner

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<td>Fall Kick Off Sunday</td>
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**Fall Worship Schedule**  
Driver’s License Blessing  
8:45 Worship, w/ live band  
10 Classes for all Ages  
11:15 Worship, with hymns and Baptism  
3 Becker-Howell Recital  
6:30 Liberia Missionary Presentation

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<td>Fall Worship Schedule</td>
<td>6 Community Chorus</td>
<td>10 Staff Meeting</td>
<td>6:30 Breakfast</td>
<td>Mowing Team: Bloch &amp; Campbell</td>
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**3rd Grade Bible Sunday**  
8:45 Worship, w/ live band  
10 Classes for all Ages  
11:15 Worship, with hymns

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<tr>
<td>3rd Grade Bible Sunday</td>
<td>6 Community Chorus</td>
<td>10 Staff Meeting</td>
<td>6:30 Breakfast</td>
<td>Mowing Team: Landholm &amp; Herzing</td>
<td>9:30 UMW Mtg 5 Wedding Rehearsal</td>
<td>12:30 Church Wedding 6 Chapel Service at Chippewa Place</td>
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**Save the Date!**
- Church Council Meeting, Tuesday, October 2
- Clergy Appreciation Day, October 14
- Horizon’s Pre-School Parade, October 31

**30 Bake Sale for Bibles**  
8:45 Worship, w/ live band  
10 Classes for all Ages  
11:15 Worship, with hymns
Open Doors.

Welcoming all of God's children.

Brecksville United Methodist Church is called to the ministry of reconciliation. We embrace diversity as a gift. We celebrate our human family’s diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, faith history, economic status, marital status, physical and mental ability, and education. We affirm that all people are created in the image of God and as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God’s love and grace. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Brecksville United Methodist Church as we journey toward reconciliation through Christ.
LIBERIA
A CONVERSATION AND PRESENTATION
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Mary and Patrick Mantor,
GBGM missionaries to Liberia UMC,
will visit Brecksville United Methodist Church
on Sunday September 16th.
Join us for a presentation in the Sanctuary,
followed by refreshments in the Parlor.

Brecksville
United Methodist Church
65 Public Square, Brecksville
440-526-8938
www.brecksvilleumc.com
HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAPPENS RIGHT HERE.

Brecksville United Methodist Women and Evening Circle Present

Rahab
a ministry of hope

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 AT 7 PM
AT BRECKSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Suzanne Lewis-Johnson, Executive Director

Ms. Lewis-Johnson left her position as an FBI Special Agent to serve as Rahab’s Executive Director. In the FBI, Suzanne led cases that made headlines. She coordinated a Child Exploitation Task Force and became a subject expert on Human Trafficking, Civil Rights and Violent Crimes Against Children. Prior to joining the FBI, Suzanne worked as a journalist and for Habitat for Humanity. Come learn about Rahab Ministries!

PERSONAL HYGIENE COLLECTION FOR THE WOMEN SERVED BY RAHAB
If you’re moved to help, bring your donations to the presentation.

Full Sized Shampoo/Conditioner • Soap • Toothbrush/paste • Deodorant
Other needed items: Coffee • Sugar • Paper Products

65 PUBLIC SQUARE, BRECKSVILLE, OHIO
WWW.BRECKSVILLEUMC.COM
440-526-8938