



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44114

Affirmation of Welcome

We are an Open and Affirming
Congregation, welcoming ALL of
God's children.

Whether you are single, married,
divorced, separated, or partnered,
Whatever your race, ethnicity, or
age,

Whatever your gender identity or
sexual orientation,

Whatever your religious
background, creed, or spirituality,
Whatever your social or economic
circumstances,

Whatever your health conditions,
impairments, or mobility needs,
Whoever we may be, wherever we
are on our life's journey,

We welcome one another to this
place,

Even as God welcomes us all in
Jesus Christ!



Sunday September 6, 2026

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30am - 1:30pm

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: office@brecksvilleucc.org – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

Pastor

• Jeff Jackson

Financial Secretary

• Wes Novak

Office Manager

• Miranda Lacefield

Music Director

• Olivia Tassone

****LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST****

- Please sign our guest book in the narthex before you leave - if you are interested in learning more about our church, please feel free to speak to our pastor.
- Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use.

Announcements:

Please submit the announcements you would like to have printed in the bulletin by noon on Tuesday – Thank You!

Rally Day- Rally Day is Sunday, September 13—and this year, we're building a museum! Our BUCC Summer of 2026 Mini-History Museum will be a one-day collection of the things we did, made, learned, grew, visited, discovered, and enjoyed this summer. Maybe you went to camp, played a sport, took a trip, made something, grew an impressive tomato, played a lot of Minecraft, read a great book, went to a concert, learned something new, or had an adventure worth remembering. And this isn't just for the kids. Children, youth, and adults are all invited to add something to the museum. Your exhibit can be an object, photo, project, souvenir, ticket, creation, or something completely ordinary that helps tell the story of what you did this summer. So start looking around. What would you choose?

We are inviting children to participate in our upcoming Sunday service on Rally Day. There are many ways for them to get involved, including serving as readers, ushers, greeters, helping with the offering collection, or sharing a special musical piece or poetry reading.

If your child or grandchild is interested in participating, please sign up by contacting the church office or letting Mindy know.

Attention BUCC "Artists!" - Our spring Paint & Sip art event was such a hit that we're bringing it back this fall... with a spooky twist!

Save the Date- October 2nd 6PM! There's one thing you'll need to do now: start looking for a landscape or painting of a house (thrift stores and attics are a great place to look!) At the event, you'll transform your picture by adding a spooky guest and festive fall décor, creating a one-of-a-kind Halloween masterpiece you'll be proud to hang in your home! Truly, no two will be alike!

For those ladies who do Sunday Flowers here at BUCC- Kennicott Wholesalers is planning a special fall event / talk/ demonstration in October. Just follow them on Facebook & Instagram to be alerted to details when its announced. Or, email Tia Began saying that you'd like to be contacted. Our church has a non-tax# on file with them. Their programs are inspiring. Located near Granger Rd. and Transportation Blvd. brecksvillet@aol.com.

The Colony Cupboard is back for fall 2026! We will coordinate our next donation in early September. Items in need for back to school include: Notecards, Laundry Soap, Lotion, Chapstick, Athletic Socks (boys and girls) Undershirts (boys and girls), Tissues

Brecksville UCC Exploring Greater Cleveland Congregations Membership
Brecksville UCC is exploring the idea of joining Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC). To learn more about the organization, please visit their website: <https://greaterclevelandcongregations.org/>.
GCC is hosting a Judge Candidate Action event focusing on pre-trial justice on September 17th at 7:00 PM. The event will take place at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Shaker Heights.
If you would like to attend, you can register here:
Note: Since we are not yet listed as a member organization, please select "Other/NA" from the dropdown list and type "Brecksville United Church of Christ" on the next line. We can meet in the BUCC parking lot ahead of time for those who want to carpool. Please contact Heidi Spangler if you have any questions.



THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR includes the following

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|--------------|--|
| Mon. Sep 7 | Office Closed |
| Tue. Sep 8 | 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall) |
| Wed. Sep 9 | 11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation |
| | 6:00 pm -- Council |
| Thur. Sep 10 | 10:00 am -- PRC |
| | 7:00 pm – Choir Practice |

Volunteers:	<u>September 6, 2026</u>	<u>September 13, 2026</u>
Early Usher:	Volunteers Needed	Jill Zedan
Late Usher:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Jeff Thompson	Jeff Thompson
Reader:	Diane Gressley	Volunteers Needed
Flowers:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Counters:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
A/V:	Fred Pedersen	Volunteers Needed
Snack:	Armand Eusano	Jenn Elting
Set up:	Volunteers Needed	Jenn Elting
Clean Up:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Communion Bread:	Gayle Colbert	N/A

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Generous God, loosen my grip on what cannot last, and open my heart to the life that only love can give.

Prelude

Immortal, Invisible

arr. Marilyn Ham

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship and Bringing of the Light *Sanctuary*

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true;

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.

*Call to Prayer

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God; the earth bears witness to the work of God's hands.

People: We join the song of a creation alive with wonder.

Leader: Seas and skies, mountains and forests, creatures of earth and air give praise.

People: The whole earth is filled with the presence of God.

Leader: People of every place and nation, every gender and generation belong within this great chorus.

People: Many lives, many voices, one beloved creation.

Leader: From what is near and familiar to what lies far beyond our knowing—

People: God is present, and life is still unfolding.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God of all creation.

People: With all that lives, we worship God.

***Gathering Song**

Good Grace

Verse 1

People come together; Strange as neighbours, our blood is one
Children of generations, Of every nation of Kingdom come

Chorus

Don't let your heart be troubled, Hold your head up high don't fear no evil
Fix your eyes on this one truth, God is madly in love with you
Take courage hold on be strong, Remember where our help comes from

Verse 2

Jesus our redemption, Our salvation is in His blood
Jesus Light of heaven, Friend forever His Kingdom come **(Chorus, Bridge)**

Bridge

Swing wide all you heavens, Let the praise go up as the walls come down
All creation everything with breath repeat the sound
All His children clean hands pure hearts
Good grace good God His Name is Jesus **(2x, Verse 2)**

***Prayer of Openness [Unison]**

God of life and light, you meet us in ways familiar and surprising, within what we know and beyond what we can imagine. Open us to your presence in this moment. Loosen what has become too certain, awaken our curiosity, and make room within us for wonder. Through scripture, song, silence, and one another, help us notice where life is stirring and receive what you have yet to show us. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***Centering Song**

Glory to the Creator

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.

Continuing Testament: From Ohio Equal Rights

Continuing Testament: Enough

From Ministry to Sustainability

Enough is not a word of defeat. It is a word that releases us from believing that faithfulness requires endless activity, limitless energy, or the same people carrying every responsibility.

A sustainable ministry pays attention to the gifts, time, strength, and resources actually available. It chooses with care, shares responsibility, and allows rest to be part of faithful life rather than evidence of failure.

Enough names the hope that ministry will be both meaningful and possible to sustain. It asks not only, "What could we do?" but also, "What can we carry together with joy, health, and integrity?"

God does not ask one person to be the whole body. The work becomes lighter—and often better—when many hands contribute, priorities become clearer, and the congregation trusts that faithful ministry does not have to mean doing everything.

Second Reading: John 1: 1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

Anthem

Come, Sing Unto the Lord

Joseph M. Martin

Sermon

What Kind of Light Is This? By Rev. Jeff Jackson

Hymn of Reflection

I Come with Joy vs. 1, 2, 5

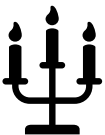
#349

Prayers of the Church In our Prayers

Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Tina Ortiz, Cindy Burton, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Chad Sproul, Dot Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Kathy Ford, Gabe Tassone, Carolyn Chandler, Allison Colbert, Gayle Colbert, Tony Cunningham, Pat Rehm, David Pastor, "Edna House", Search Committee

(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections, or changes to our prayer lists.)

Pastoral Prayer



The Savior's Prayer: [Unison]

Our Father-Mother, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

Hymn of Intention

The Church's One Foundation vs. 1, 4

#386

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Music

***Offering Response**

Be Still and Know

Be still and know that I am God. (3X)



***Prayer of Dedication: [Unison]**

God of abundant life, receive these gifts and the lives from which they come. Join what we offer with the gifts of others, and use them for work larger than any of us can accomplish alone. May what we share bring hope, nurture life, and serve your world with love. Amen.

Communion Invitation

ALL are welcome to receive communion. No exceptions.

Communion Hymn

Let us Break Bread Together

#330

Let us break bread together on our knees. (2x)

Refrain: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
My God, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. (2x) **(Refrain)**

Let us praise God together on our knees. (2x) **(Refrain)**

During the hymn, please come forward up the center aisle to gather a piece of bread and a cup and return to your seats via the outer aisles.

We will partake each together as directed. A gluten-free loaf is being used for communion today. To be welcoming to all, the cup(s) are grape juice (not wine).

Invitation to Share the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion [Unison]

God of grace, we give thanks for this table, for bread shared and cup received, and for Christ who gathers us into a life larger than our own. Nourished by this meal, send us into the world attentive to your presence, generous in love, and ready to share in the life you are already bringing forth among us. Amen.

***Circle of Community** Please join us in a circle around the sanctuary and lift your voices together and again after the benediction.

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the staff.

Chord symbols: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A.

Lyrics: Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

*Benediction

Postlude

To God Be the Glory

Go with open hands and courageous hearts, trusting that God's abundance is always greater than fear.