

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

**SUNDAY – APRIL 9, 2017 – 10:00 A.M.**

**Rev. Rebecca Stephenson, Pastor**



**WELCOME!**

*We are grateful you chose to worship with us this morning.  
No matter who you are and where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.*

*For questions about our church and ministries, you may call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please complete your Attendance Card and place it into the offering plate. We hope to see you again soon!*

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

**PIANO PRELUDE** Joe Williams, Pianist

**PALM PROCESSIONAL** "Hosanna! Jesus is the Rock"

The congregation is invited to stand and join the choir and the children in singing the Palm Processional:

*Hosanna! Jesus is the Rock! Jesus is the Rock of my salvation.  
Hosanna! Jesus is the Rock! Jesus is the Rock of my salvation.*

*I will magnify the Lord, for He is worthy to be praised.  
I will magnify the Lord, for He is worthy to be praised.*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We gather together in this place,  
**People: Joining all who wish to see Jesus, eager for a healing touch, a blessing received.**  
Leader: We gather together in this place,  
**People: Joining all who wish to hear Jesus, longing for a message of welcome and acceptance on our journey.**  
Leader: We gather together in this place,  
**People: Wondering if we are able to walk with Jesus through anguish, accusations, despair.**  
Leader: We gather together in this place,  
**All: Walking toward the Cross, and the empty tomb.**

† **HYMN 297** Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

**SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Pastor: Let us, the members of Strongsville United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**People: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

**THE PASTORAL PRAYER**

**OUR LORD'S PRAYER** (in unison)  
**Our Father, 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.**

**RESPONSE** Amen David Young

**CHORAL ANTHEM** The King of Glory! Lloyd Larson

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** The Holy City Stephen Adams

† **DOXOLOGY 817** Tune: Lamb of God  
O bless the gifts our hands have brought;  
And bless the work our hearts have planned.  
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;  
The rest, O God, is in your hand.

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SCRIPTURES** Luke 19:28-40

**SERMON** The Stones Will Sing

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**  
All are welcome to come forward to partake of the Lord's Supper, or Pastor Becky will come to you, if you wish.

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION** Joe Williams, Pianist

† **HYMN 300** All Glory, Laud and Honor

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** Alleluia from Concerto on "Strife Is O'er"

† **POSTLUDE** Hosanna Carl Tuttle

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

In Celebration of Bill and Beth Giuliano's 23th Wedding Anniversary Today

Happy Birthday today to Bruce Keenen!

**Happy Anniversary** today to Bob and Lori Kovatich and also to Bill and Beth Giuliano!

**The children will meet in Pilgrim Hall at 9:45 today** to prepare for the processional. Next Sunday on Easter, the children will have class and also enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt, which is sponsored by the Sunday School.

**We welcome our new church members** this morning:  
Serena Abruzzino, Mike Clotworthy, Myron Costin,  
Brittany Johnson, Chad Johnson, Bobbie Krisak,  
Rebecca Oerkfitz-Garcia, Dawn Rolland, Josh Trinckes

**Jesus and the Movies II** is a Lenten Study on Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. that includes a light meal of soup and bread. The study concludes TODAY. Together we are exploring the life of Jesus as portrayed in the movies. We are comparing the movies with the Gospel accounts and our life experiences. All are welcome.

**Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy** to two families on their recent losses:

to Donna Munson and family on the passing of her husband and our former church member, Dennis Munson, on Saturday, March 25. A memorial service and catered dinner were held yesterday at our church.

to Donald and Donna Dickinson and family on the passing of their daughter, Linda Nicksick, on Sunday, April 2. A memorial service will take place in our sanctuary tomorrow—Monday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m.

**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 13, 2017**

7:00 p.m. Worship in Pilgrim Hall includes a full meal and the Sacrament of Communion. Reservations are required; please sign up or call the church, (440) 238-6697.



 **GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 14, 2017**

7:30 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
Tenebrae Service

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE – APRIL 16, 2017**

6:30 a.m. Worship Outdoors in the Worship Garden  
The Worship Garden will be dedicated.



**EASTER BREAKFAST**

Scrambled eggs and ham will be served between the two worship services.

**EASTER WORSHIP – APRIL 16, 2017**

10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
Children will have class and enjoy an Easter egg hunt!



**Celebration of Ministry Open House for PASTOR BECKY STEPHENSON**

on the occasion of her retirement

**Sunday - April 23, 2017 - 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.**  
**at Strongsville United Church of Christ**

**Appetizers and hors d'oeuvres will be served. All are welcome.**

**New Choir Robes** – Thanks to the generous support of our congregation, today marks the debut of the new choir robes. The listing of all the donors and for whom they were dedicated is located in the choir room.

**The May Church Newsletter Deadline** is Saturday, April 15. You may want to leave your article(s) in the church office today. Thank you.

**The Bell Choir will be recognized on Sunday, April 30**, during worship; and the Bell Choir will play for the service.

**Renewal of Wedding Vows** will take place during Sunday worship on April 30, 2017—Pastor Becky's last Sunday with us. There is no signup; all are invited. Pastor Becky will ask participating couples to come forward, and the couples will recite their vows. Special attire is not required—although anyone wishing to wear their wedding clothes may do so!

**Wing Nite is Friday, May 5, 2017**, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Grindstone Tap House, 826 Front Street in Berea. It is on one floor and includes pizza, pasta, wings, salad, 5 types of domestic beer, well drinks, and wine. Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased from any Diaconate member. To donate a basket to auction, please see the sign-up sheet in Pilgrim Hall.

**ARTS IN STRONGSVILLE and STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**CONCERT SERIES**

**SUNDAY – MAY 7, 2017 – 3:00 P.M.**

**The Venner Clarinet Choir**

*a 12-piece clarinet choir led by Ted Johnson, former clarinetist with the Cleveland Orchestra  
This is the choir's second appearance at our church.*



**The Baldwin Wallace Alumni Brass Collective**

*a brass quintet led by Jim Wonnacott*

**Freewill Offering ~ Reception Following Concert ~ All Are Welcome!**

*Donations of refreshments for the concert are appreciated.  
If you can bring something, please let Ingrid Dickson or Pam Keenen know. Thank you.*

**Adult Social Club** will visit the Cleveland Museum of Art Sunday, May 21. A minimum of 10 people are required for a group, with a maximum of 25. Cost is \$25 per group. The cost is divided by the number of people that go. Anything above 25 people requires a new group. Two weeks' notice is needed for making reservations, so please sign up by Thursday, May 4, on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Thank you.

**200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbooks** – 45 cookbooks are still available for purchase. Cost is \$12.00 each. We also have six old church cookbooks that were published in 2006—they cost \$10.00 each. Anyone who took a current cookbook and did not yet pay, please give your payment to Joyce Reed or Dianne Maringer, or put your payment under the church office door. Thank you!

**OFFERINGS RECEIVED**

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,865  
Weekly Offering Received 4/2/2017 \$4,191  
Difference \$326

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP TOTE BAGS PROJECT**

Women's Fellowship Spring Project will be to fill about 60 Tote Bags for the Strongsville Food Bank children, ages 5 to 12. The finished bag is about 11" x 12". Donations of any of the items listed below or monetary donations, so we may purchase items, would be appreciated. Monetary donations should be put into an envelope marked "Tote Bag Project" and placed in the church office.

Collection will begin the Sunday after Easter, April 23, and will continue until Sunday, June 5. **Collection boxes will be under the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.** Travel size is best and can be found at Marc's or Target.

**PLEASE DO NOT PROVIDE FAMILY-SIZE ITEMS.**

soap (facial size or smaller)	small tissue packets
shampoo	small cars or trucks
body lotion	decks of cards
deodorant	activity books
tooth brushes	coloring books
toothpaste (small tubes)	small stuffed toys ( <i>no bigger than 8"</i> )
wash cloths	blowing bubbles (small bottles)
combs or brushes	sidewalk chalk
pencils	
crayons (16 or 24 count)	

**OUR PRAYER LIST**

*Hospitals no longer provide names of members who are patients. If you or a family member would like a visit, please call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please provide updates for this list. Thank you.*

**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Betty Bushea, Margot James, Ethyl Jeglie at Elmcroft of Sagamore Hills, Janet Kato at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Harvey Pincombe, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields, Doris Soucie

**Church Family:** Steve Herzog, Carol Lesiak, Martha Liebert, Pam Peacock, Jan Stough, Leah Tressa Forget, Kyle Woodward

**Extended Church Family:** Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Sue Mason, Jean Mlincek (sister of Joyce Reed), Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga)

**SERVING TODAY**

Greeter: Cathy Hawk  
Morning Announcements: Irene Joyce  
Liturgist: Bruce Keenen  
Coffee Hour: Cathy Hawk  
Director of Music – Elena Taylor  
Bell Choir Director – Barb Fraunfelder  
Accompanist – Joe Williams

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 16, 2017**

Greeters: 6:30 Gina Cathcart, 10:00 The Kovatich Family  
Morning Announcements: Rachel Zielinski  
Liturgist: 6:30 Betty Craig, 10:00 Jim Studer  
Ushers: 10:00 Bobbie Krisak, Serena Abruzzo

**Thank you to our Thrift Shop ladies** for the extra hours they volunteered the past couple weeks to get the shop cleaned and ready for selling the new spring/summer line of merchandise!

**Drug Induced Chaos** is an outreach group for families dealing with drug addiction. The group meets the third Monday of the month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall. Meetings are open to anyone dealing with drug-related problems in their family. There is no charge to attend the meetings. More information is on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board.

**APRIL 2017**

- 9 Sun Palm Sunday  
New Members Received  
The Sacrament of Communion  
Final Lenten Study, 5:30pm
- 12 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm
- 13 Thu Thrift Shop, 9am-4pm  
Maundy Thursday Worship, 7pm
- 14 Fri Good Friday Worship, 7:30pm
- 16 Sun Easter Sunday  
Sunrise Service, 6:30am  
Easter Breakfast of scrambled eggs and ham  
Traditional Easter Worship, 10am
- 18 Tue Advertising Committee Meeting, 7pm  
Diaconate Meeting, 7pm  
Trustees Meeting, 7pm
- 19 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm,  
Fit Club, 7pm  
Adult Social Club Meeting, 7pm
- 23 Sun Celebration of Ministry Reception for Pastor Becky,  
12noon to 4pm in Pilgrim Hall
- 25 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm
- 26 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm,  
Men's Luncheon, 11:30am  
Fit Club, 7pm
- 30 Sun Children's Choir sings; children must be at church 9:30am to practice.  
Bell Choir plays  
Bell Choir Recognition  
Renewal of Vows  
Pastor Becky's Last Sunday with us

**Reservations are needed for Maundy Thursday's dinner on April 13.** Please sign up on Pilgrim Hall's board or call the church, (440) 238-6697.



**STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Church Telephone (440) 238-6697  
Website strongsvilleucc.com  
Email strongsvilleucc@gmail.com