

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



SUNDAY – APRIL 2, 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.

PRELUDE *Breathe* Marie Barnett

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The prophet asks: Can our soul-weary bones live again?

People: **O God, you know!**

Leader: We ask: Can we dance again after mourning, loss and grief?

People: **O God, you know!**

Leader: The gift is sure and unmistakable:

People: **God's breath poured out as new life for weary souls!**

Leader: Let us celebrate the gift of God's new life,

People: **And come to worship God in laughter and dancing!**

† HYMN 382 *Come, Holy Spirit*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

ANTHEM *O Lord, Most Holy (Panis Angelicus)* Cesar Franck

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Crucified* Chris Gasson

† 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 Ezekiel 37:1-14

SERMON *Flesh and Bone*

† HYMN 384 *Spirit Song*

† BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* Robert Jackson

† POSTLUDE *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* Frederick Atkinson

This morning's altar flowers are given—

*In Memory of Our Dad, Roger Robinson, on His Birthday, April 7
Becky and Bill*

Happy Birthday today to Gordon Cockrell and to Jamie Habart!

Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to the family of our church member, Shirley Brand, on the occasion of her passing on Saturday, March 25. A memorial service and luncheon were held yesterday at the church.

Worship Committee will meet this morning after church.

Church Membership – If you completed the Journey in Faith Membership Class in the past but did not yet join the church, you may join on Palm Sunday, April 9, when we will take in new members. Please call the church, (440) 238-6697.

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 continues TODAY and goes through April 9. 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. Please sign up on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall if you plan to attend. All are welcome.

Women's Fellowship will meet on Tuesday, April 4, at 10:00 a.m. Strongsville Police Department will present a program on phone scams. Please bring a lunch; dessert, coffee and tea will be provided. As always, all ladies are welcome.

REHEARSALS FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

Tuesday - April 4 - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday - April 8 - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday School – Next Sunday, April 9, is Palm Sunday, when the children will process with palms and sing "Hosanna! Jesus is the Rock." The children will meet in Pilgrim Hall at 9:45 a.m. to prepare for the processional. On Easter Sunday, April 16, the children will have class and also enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt, which is sponsored by the Sunday School.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP



PALM SUNDAY – APRIL 9, 2017

Reception of Members and Communion
10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
Children meet in Pilgrim Hall at 9:45 a.m. for Palm Processional.

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
in Pilgrim Hall 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!



Master's Recital – Our wonderful choral accompanist, Joe Williams, will hold his final Master's recital Wednesday, April 5, at 6:30 p.m. in Drinko Hall at Cleveland State University. All are invited! The school will reimburse parking fees from the garage on 21st Street nearby. Please see Joe for details.



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.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,865
Weekly Offering Received 3/26/2017 \$1,870
Difference -\$1,995

Bell Choir Recognition will be 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.

THE 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.*



The Baldwin Wallace Alumni Brass Collective

a brass quintet led by Jim Wonnacott

Freewill Offering ~ Reception Following Concert ~ All Are Welcome!

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 go until Sunday, June 5. **Collection boxes are 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 <i>bottles</i>)
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: Eric Brand, 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, Michele Mhlack, Pam Peacock, Denzil Richards, Lora Rung, Melinda Slavik, Jan Stough, Leah Tressa Forget, Kyle Woodward

Extended Church Family: Bri Brostek (friend of Gina Cathcart), Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Edie Deitcher (friend of Barbara O'Boyle), Hollie Paine Dodge (friend of Betty Craig), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Matthew Geletka (grandson of Barbara O'Boyle), Sue Mason, Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), 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: Linda Plain

Morning Announcements: Rachel Zielinski

Liturgist: Bill Schneider

Usher: Linda Plain

Coffee Hour: Ed and Cheryl Sobek

Director of Music – Elena Taylor

Accompanist – Joe Williams

The Chancel Choir

Clarinet/Native American Flute/Saxophone – Ken Mehalko

Acoustic Guitar – Gary Hackett

Bass Guitar – Jack Stephenson

Electric Guitar – Jake Williams

Mallet Percussion – Rob Toth

Drum Set – Mike Soltis

Sound System – Jim Heinrich

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – PALM SUNDAY – APRIL 9, 2017

Greeter: Cathy Hawk

Morning Announcements: Irene Joyce

Liturgist: Bruce Keenen

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Cathy Hawk

APRIL 2017

2 Sun	Worship Committee Meeting, after church Lenten Study, 5:30pm
4 Tue	Women's Fellowship Meeting, 10am Rehearsal for Maundy Thursday Service, 7pm
5 Wed	Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm Fit Club, 7pm Journey in Faith Class, 7pm
6 Thu	Thrift Shop REOPENS, 10am to 4pm
7 Fri	Pipe Organ Tuning, 1:30pm
8 Sat	Rehearsal Maundy Thursday, 6pm
9 Sun	Palm Sunday New Members Received, Communion Lenten Study, 5:30pm
12 Wed	Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm Fit Club, 7pm
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, 7pm
23 Sun	Celebration of Ministry Reception for Pastor Becky, 12noon to 4pm
25 Tue	Official Board Meeting, 7pm
26 Wed	Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm, Men's Luncheon, 11:30am Fit Club, 7pm
30 Sun	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 or call the church, (440) 238-6697.

STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Telephone (440) 238-6697

Website strongsvilleucc.com

Email strongsvilleucc@gmail.com