

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136  
**Rev. Rebecca Stephenson, Pastor**



**Church Telephone: (440) 238-6697**  
**Email: StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com**  
**www.strongsvilleucc.com**

**Worship at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday**

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## **AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER**

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### **From the Pastor's Desk**

Although we are in summer mode right now, our church has been very busy. On July 21, about 70 of us enjoyed a relaxing Saturday evening of great fellowship and delicious food at the home of Chris and Karen Morgan. We thank the Morgans, the Zielinskis, and all who helped and/or purchased dinner tickets for this Diaconate fundraiser.

During these summer months the church boards, committees and I have been planning for the Fall. Because the most requested goal at our Visioning Retreat this past April was to have a Contemporary Worship Service, our church will offer a Contemporary Service beginning on September 8, 2013.

The Contemporary Service will be similar to our Lenten Evening Services. Music will be provided by our Praise Band of piano, drums, guitar, and bass guitar. If you have not yet experienced a Contemporary Service at our church, I strongly urge you to attend our August 18 Contemporary Service at 10:00 a.m.

So what this means to you is that beginning on Rally Day, September 8, we will have a new Sunday morning schedule:

9:00 a.m. – Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary

10:00-11:00 a.m. – Coffee Hour and Fellowship in Pilgrim Hall

11:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary, when our Chancel Choir will sing and Sunday School classes will be held after the Children's Message

Because this is a big change for all of us, it is important that we communicate together, as we work through the challenges that this new schedule presents. Please feel free to discuss your concerns with me.

On another subject, our Christian Ed Team will host a "Free Fun Family Day" on the day before Rally Day. This carnival-like Saturday will show our community what our church and Sunday School have to offer. We hope you will be part of this welcoming celebration, when we open our doors wide to our community.

This is an exciting time in the life of our church! Each of us is a unique creation of God, and we each have special gifts and talents to offer. I truly appreciate

and thank each and every one of you who is working so diligently for our church.

Pastor Becky

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### **WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **SUNDAY – AUGUST 4, 2013 – 10:00 A.M.**

*Crazy Hat Sunday – Please wear a crazy hat to worship!*

*Reception of New Members*

*The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated.*

**Sermon:** "Do All Things in Christ"

**Scriptures:** Colossians 3:1-17

**Liturgist:** Barb Fraunfelder

**Greeter:** Linda Plain

**Nursery:** Sarah Hawk

**Coffee Hour:** Rachel Zielinski

**Summer Sunday School Teacher:** Ingrid Dickson

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#### **SATURDAY – AUGUST 10 – VESPER SERVICE**

**5:00 P.M. at Greenbrier Lake – off Drake Road**

You are invited to join church family and friends for an evening of fellowship and informal worship at Greenbrier Lake in Strongsville on Saturday, August 10. We will gather for a picnic in the Pavilion at 5:00 P.M. A picnic supper will begin about 5:45. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and cold drinks (lemonade, iced tea and water) will be provided. Please bring:

- your own table service
- a side dish and/or dessert to share
- your own lawn chair
- a flashlight

Following the picnic, we will gather at the lake for a vesper service. Please join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, and worship. Maps are available at church.

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#### **SUNDAY – AUGUST 11, 2013 – 10:00 A.M.**

**Sermon:** "The Door"

**Scriptures:** Hebrews 11:1-3 and 8-16

**Liturgist:** Lynne McCray

**Greeter:** Corrine Jackson

**Nursery:** Beth Giuliano

**Coffee Hour:** Gina Cathcart

**Summer Sunday School Teacher:** Irene Joyce

**SUNDAY – AUGUST 18, 2013 – 10:00 A.M.**

*Contemporary Worship Service*

**Sermon:** "Unclean Really!!!"

**Scriptures:** Acts 10:9-16

**Liturgist:** Jim Studer

**Greeter:** Greg and Ingrid Dickson

**Nursery:** Dianne Maringer

**Coffee Hour:** Bev Wehr

**Summer Sunday School Teacher:** Sharon Heinrich

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**SUNDAY – AUGUST 25, 2013 – 10:00 A.M.**

*Hymn Sing Sunday*

**Liturgist:** Tom Gaumer

**Greeter:** Roy Merkle

**Nursery:** Sharon Heinrich

**Coffee Hour:** Sarah Hawk

**Summer Sunday School Teachers:**

Charles and Aimée Jannsohn

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**FREE FAMILY FUN DAY !**

**Saturday - September 7, 2013 - 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.**

Christian Ed will sponsor this fun event, which will take place on our church grounds, **rain or shine**, on the Saturday before Rally Day. The church will provide free hot dogs, games, face painting, crafts, and other fun things. We hope you will join us in this celebration, as we invite the community to our church and Sunday School.

Help is needed. Please sign up on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.



Strongsville United Church of Christ  
**Sunday School**

# RALLY DAY

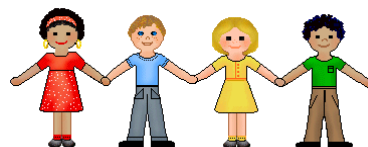
**Sunday – September 8, 2013**

Children and teachers will meet in Pilgrim Hall at **10:45 A.M.** and will sit together during the worship service.

The annual Sunday School offering will be received. This special offering will help defray the cost of for our Sunday School curriculum.

Enclosed with the paper copy of this newsletter is a Rally Day offering envelope. Envelopes are also in the pew racks for those who receive their newsletter by email.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE START OF  
A NEW, EXCITING SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR!**



**TREASURER / FINANCIAL SECRETARY NEWS**

We will complete the transitioning of the Treasurer responsibilities as of August 1, 2013. Members of our congregation, Kenn Oerkfitz and Barb Fraunfelder, will share the responsibilities. Kenn will be our Treasurer, and Barb Fraunfelder the Financial Secretary. What this means to you— Kenn will handle any questions about expenses and bill payments, and Barb will handle questions about income and contributions/donations. If you are not sure who to contact with your question or concern, then contact either of us and we will see that it gets to the right person.

Kenn Oerkfitz

Home phone: 440-238-3228

Email: [kennjoerk@yahoo.com](mailto:kennjoerk@yahoo.com)

Barb Fraunfelder

Home phone: 440-331-3673

Email: [bfraunfelder@ameritech.net](mailto:bfraunfelder@ameritech.net)

We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we begin our new roles.

We extend a special THANK YOU to Claudia for not only her nine years as our Treasurer and Financial Secretary, but also for her patience and time spent in training and transitioning these responsibilities to Kenn and Barb.

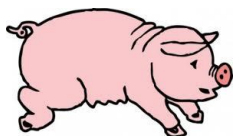
## SECOND MILE REPORT

THANK YOU to members, future members, and friends of Strongsville UCC for their contributions to the Second Mile. These contributions, which total \$1,210 to date, and the members who paid ahead on their pledges have helped the cash flow during the summer doldrums. Have you thought about making your giving by auto-pay with your bank so you do not have write that check each week?



The retreat will be held August 23 to 25, 2013, at Temple Hills. The cost is \$93.60 per person and includes 2 nights, 3 meals on Saturday, and 2 meals (breakfast and lunch) on Sunday. We will be in Memorial Hall, and meals will be in Skipper. If you are interested to attend but have not yet signed up, please email Kim McKenzie at [davekimmckenzie@cox.net](mailto:davekimmckenzie@cox.net) or call her at (216) 401-8738.

## PIG ROAST



We thank Chris and Karen Morgan and Rachel and Gary Zielinski for all their hard work and hospitality in hosting the Diaconate Pig Roast on July 21. Thanks also

to the Diaconate for their help and for providing desserts; to Ken Mehalko and Bev Wehr for sharing their Corn Hole game, to Jim and Ryan Heinrich for parking cars, and to everyone who helped clean up. It was truly a wonderful evening of fellowship, delicious food, S'mores, Gator rides, and bonfire. Thank you to all who attended and supported this Diaconate fundraiser. The Diaconate raised about \$870 for its projects for our church.

## STRONGSVILLE HOMECOMING PARADE

Thank you to all who decorated our "Fishers of Men" float on Saturday, July 13, and to all who participated in the Strongsville Homecoming parade on July 17, 2013. We were #14 in the parade lineup, and the weather was hot! Special thanks to the walkers for their effort to distribute candy, and also to Rachel Zielinski for coordinating the event and for pulling the float with her SUV.

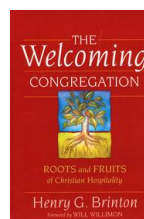
## ALTAR FLOWERS

As of this writing, altar flower vases are still available for purchase on the following Sundays:

August 11 – 1 vase  
September 8 – 1 vase  
October 20 – 1 vase  
October 27 – 1 vase  
November 17 – 1 vase  
December 22 – 1 vase

The signup chart is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. The cost is \$15 for one vase.

Thank you to all who provide altar flowers on Sunday morning.



## THE WELCOMING CONGREGATION

If you have a church copy of this book, please return it to the church office, so that others can read it. Thank you.

## OUR PRAYER LIST

Hospitals no longer inform churches of members who are patients. If you or a family member would like a visit, please call the church, (440) 238-6697.

**Long-Term Care or Homebound Members:** Bill Betz at Chapel Hill Community in Canal Fulton, Edith Graves at Century Oak Care Center, Debbie Krause, Louetha Rieth at Sunrise Assisted Living of Dresher in PA, Erla Mae Schultz

**Church Family:** Holly Manley Elkins and family, Gary Fischer, Hank Klink, the Purdum family, John Maringer, Elizabeth Snook, Ann Sullen, Keith Sullen

**Extended Church Family:** Dolores Banach (friend of Betty Craig), Betty Berk (mother of Mary Mortus), June Brewer (niece of Ed Powers), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Audrey and Gene Curry (parents of Pam Keenen), Victor DiChiro (father-in-law of Rob Wentz), Tom Davern (relative of the Woodwards), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Charlene Gideon (friend of Karen Rak), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Sally Joseph (friend of Karen Rak), Mary Joyce-Smith (mother of Jim Joyce), Janine Kaltenstein (cousin of Vicky Masuga), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Erik Kratky (friend of Sarah Hawk), Cyrila Kribel (friend of Betty Craig), Rick Mahon (friend of the Woodwards), Rick Pfuhl (former custodian of Strongsville UCC), James Smith (brother of Katie Renfro), Barbara Sommers (mother of Sheri Martin), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek)

*Please call the church with updates, (440) 238-6697.*

*Save the Date!*

**Sunday – September 29, 2013**

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

*All You Can Eat!*

Sponsored by the  
Organ Restoration Committee



## THE THRIFT SHOP

Our congratulations to Betty Babics and Corrine Jackson, who each won a scarf from our raffle on Sunday, June 30.

Summer in The Thrift Shop is a very busy time. Many people who frequent garage sales stop in the shop for bargains. If you have not been in The Thrift Shop lately, please stop in to see what we have.

We can always use donations of puzzles, craft items, fabric, sewing notions, and linens. Clothing for the entire family is always a welcome donation. Tax receipts are available.

We will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 1. The rest of the Thursdays in August, our hours will be the 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. We hope you will stop in to visit, shop, and/or donate.

Thank you for your support.



## SERVING MEALS AT ZION UCC

Church members and friends continue to serve meals for the poor on Cleveland's west side at Zion UCC on the first Saturday of each month, and the date for this month is **Saturday, August 3**. If you are available to help, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Thank you!

Volunteers are needed.



## PRAYER CHAINS

Our church has email and telephone prayer chains that are notified when special prayers are needed. If you have not yet responded to participate, please call the church office, (440) 238-6697. To request prayers, please contact the church office, and both the Email and the Telephone Prayer Chains will be notified.



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## MISSING FOLDING CHAIRS

Several chairs are missing from Pilgrim Hall. If you or someone you know borrowed them, please return them to the church. We need them! Thank you.



Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to the following three families on their recent losses:

Holly Manley Elkins and family on the passing of her brother, Garry "Corky" Manley, on July 1 in Florida. A memorial service will take place in our sanctuary on Sunday, August 4, at 2:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Austin Eggert and family  
on the passing of his brother David  
on June 25, 2013, in Florida.

Sara Grega and family  
on the passing of her uncle, Michael Grega, on July 7.  
The funeral took place on July 12.

## STEEPLE LIGHTING

### Week of July 7, 2013

*Happy Birthday to Matt Rower on July 12*  
With love, Gram

*Happy Birthday to my granddaughter, Heidi Rouch,*  
*on June 30*

*Happy Birthday to my granddaughter, Kyra Masuga,*  
*on July 6*

Love ya both, Banny Lola

### Week of July 14, 2013

*Happy Anniversary to Joe and Barbara Craig on July 14*  
With love, Mom

### Week of July 21, 2013

*In memory of Grace, whose journey over the*  
*Rainbow Bridge came too soon—*  
*Always in my heart—miss you,*  
Gina

To light the steeple for a week requires a minimum \$5.00 donation. Information and donation forms are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Multiple donations for the same week will be accepted.



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*What we are is God's gift to us.*  
*What we become is our gift to God.*

~Eleanor Powell

