

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
Website: www.strongsvilleucc.com
Traditional Worship 9:45 A.M. Sunday
Blended Worship 11:15 A.M. Sunday

AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

AUGUST 7 – SUNDAY
10:00 A.M.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sacrament of Communion



Scriptures: To Be Determined

Sermon: To Be Determined

Liturgist: Barb Fraunfelder

Greeter: Linda Plain

Announcements: Irene Joyce

Graphics Operation: Rosemary Bechtel

Sunday School: Irene Joyce

Ushers: Linda Plain

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

AUGUST 14 – SUNDAY
10:00 A.M.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Women's Retreat Weekend

Scriptures: To Be Determined

Sermon: To Be Determined

Liturgist: Dale Hawk

Greeter: Roy Merkle

Announcements: Irene Joyce

Graphics Operation: Michele Mihlack

Sunday School: Irene Joyce

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

AUGUST 21 – SUNDAY
10:00 A.M.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Bell Choir Plays for Worship

Scriptures: Luke 13:10-17

Sermon: "Time for Healing"

Liturgist: Jim Studer

Greeter: Barbara Bridle

Announcements: Natalie Daniels

Graphics Operation: Michele Mihlack

Sunday School: Volunteer Needed

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

AUGUST 28 - SUNDAY
10:00 A.M.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Scriptures: Jeremiah 2:4-13

Sermon: "The Choice"

Liturgist: Betty Craig

Greeters: The Bickley Family

Announcements: Denise Bell

Graphics Operation: Michele Mihlack

Sunday School: Irene Joyce

Ushers: Ted and Kelly Bickley

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

TENT REVIVAL RECAP

For the first time in the history of our church (and probably in the history of Strongsville), Strongsville UCC hosted a Tent Revival from Monday, July 18, through Thursday, July 21, 2016, on our own church grounds on Royalton Road. Worship began at 7:00 p.m. each night.

Worship leaders were our own Pastor Becky Stephenson on Monday, Father Joe Mamich from St. Joseph Catholic Church on Tuesday, Pastor Dave Scavuzzo from Strongsville United Methodist Church on Wednesday, and Bishop Mark Perry from Williams Chapel Church of God in Christ on Thursday.

Music – Our own Strongsville UCC Band played each evening. Guest musicians were The Zion Five on Monday, the Praise Team of St. Joseph Catholic Church and the Revival Dixieland Band on Tuesday, Carl Fernstum (Contemporary and Taizé Music Director) from Strongsville United Methodist Church on Wednesday, and two choirs from Williams Chapel Church of God in Christ on Thursday.

Offering – Each evening an offering was received for Laura's House for battered women. The total offering for the four nights was \$1,686.94.

Spiritual Care Team was available each evening to pray with individuals who wanted prayers.

Photographs were taken all four nights of the event.

Refreshments – Following worship each evening, refreshments were served under a small tent, where everyone also enjoyed fellowship.

Terry Brlas from The Post newspaper attended the event on Thursday evening. As of this writing, he is composing an article for the newspaper.

Preparation for the event included the following:

Pastor Becky met with the local clergy several times to coordinate the Revival and prepare a flexible order of worship. She also made supper for worship participants each evening of the Revival.

Grounds were leveled and sprayed for bugs. Location of the tent was decided, and a plan for how to park cars on the grassy area was made. First Evangelical Lutheran Church gave us permission to park in their lot, if we needed additional parking space.

Electrical needs were assessed, and the LARGE task of providing electricity for the sound system and lighting for the tent was accomplished.

Sound equipment and lighting was set up beforehand and torn down after the event.

Publicity – A huge banner was made (by Next Day Signs) and hung on the Tent. Revival flyers were made in-house and were given to church members, who displayed them

outside the church. Flyers were mailed to Strongsville and local churches. The Revival was advertised:

- in The Post newspaper in Strongsville, North Royalton, and Brunswick issues on July 9 and 16
- on two Christian radio stations
- on our outdoor lighted sign on the front lawn of the church
- on the Chamber electronic sign across the street from our church

Tent was set up by ABC Rental with some church members present on July 12. The tent will be taken down by our people when there is enough manpower available. Pastor Becky and Jack loaned us two small tent panels to use as backdrops for the stage area.

Platforms for the stage were borrowed from the city of Strongsville free of charge; picked up, set up and taken down by our people; and delivered by our people to St. Joseph Church, who will use the platforms next.

Refreshments – Signup sheets were prepared, and church members and friends donated cookies and baked goods. Bottled water, iced tea and lemonade mix were purchased.

Greeters and ushers were arranged to serve each evening.

Logo for the Revival was designed in-house:



Fans (100) were made in-house and were distributed each evening.

Song books (100) were made in-house. An additional 25 books were made during the week.

Music Ministry from our church coordinated the worship music with the other participating churches and music groups. A Dixieland band was formed for Tuesday evening.

Signs directing visitors to the restrooms were made in-house and were displayed inside the church.

Chairs were moved from Pilgrim Hall and set up under the tent, and the chairs were taken down and moved back to Pilgrim Hall after the Revival was over.

Funding – Expenses of the Revival were paid by individual donations within our church family and also by donations from the Diaconate, Official Board, and Women's Fellowship.

Offering envelopes were prepared from old Building Fund envelopes and placed in the sanctuary pew racks.

The Revival was an exciting opportunity to be with people from different denominations and to experience different styles of worship. It required the effort of many, many people. **THANK YOU TO ALL FOR YOUR VERY HARD WORK AND/OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.** *If you find errors in this report or if information is missing, please call the church, (440) 238-6697. Thank you.*



**Saturday – August 6, 2016
9 A.M. – 2 P.M. in Pilgrim Hall**

**Set up is Wednesday and Thursday – 7-9 P.M.
in Pilgrim Hall**

There is NO pricing for regular items.
Special items will be priced.

Proceeds go to Youth Ministries and Education.

**ALL HELP IS WELCOME
AND GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

Donations may be dropped off in Pilgrim Hall.
For questions, please contact
Cathy Hawk or Sarah Hayes.

ADULT SOCIAL GROUP

For anyone interested in being part of an Adult Social Group, we are meeting on Wednesday, August 10, at 7:00 p.m. Possible activities include bridge, golf, movies, plays, museums, dinners, etc. Please join us with ideas and suggestions. Please contact Eddy or Adria Bond at (440) 572-5871 for more information.



A brief meeting of the ladies attending the Women's Retreat will take place after church on Sunday, August 7.

Also, please consider driving; more drivers are needed. Thank you!

COFFEE HOUR

Volunteers are needed for Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings. If serving at Coffee Hour is new for you, the Diaconate will train you for the task! The signup sheet is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Your help will be **GREATLY** appreciated!



THE THRIFT SHOP

We'll be open during the church Garage Sale, so don't forget to stop in to visit or shop. While you are getting your donations ready for the Garage Sale, please remember to bring clothing, shoes and other items to the shop. We appreciate all your donations.

Speaking of donations, if you bring donations to the shop when we are open, we will help you bring them downstairs. Just ask us. Please do not leave them at the top of the stairs and not notify us.

Our 35 cent sales have been a great success. To learn about our sales, either check the church website or sign up for email notifications. We have almost 300 people on our email list.

IN SYMPATHY

Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to the family of our friend, Betty Kircher, on the occasion of her passing on Friday, July 22, 2016. A memorial service will take place at our church on Saturday, August 20, with visitation with the family from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., the service at 11:00 a.m., and a luncheon in Pilgrim Hall after the service.



Donations of baked goods would be appreciated. If you can provide bakery, please contact Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz at (440) 554-4367. Thank you.

CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



We continue taking pictures of families and church events for a Pictorial Directory. Please contact Cathy Hawk at (440) 781-7512 or Sarah Hayes at (440) 781-7513 to schedule your photo session. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER UPDATES

Change of Address and Phone

Mrs. Betty Bushea
127 N. Vine Street
Medina, OH 44256-1873
Phone: (330) 952-1514

Change of Phone

Kenn and Ginny Oerkfitz
(216) 789-6436

THANK YOU

We extend sincere thanks and appreciation to The Thrift Shop for paying \$2,900.00 for the cutting down of three trees on our Royalton Road property and for grinding down the stumps. The trees were cut down in preparation for the worship garden that will be created on the Royalton Road property.

Thank you once again, ladies, for your gracious generosity!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Thank you to all who donated to the Tote Bags and to those who helped fill them. We gave 60 Tote Bags to the Strongsville Food Bank.

Betty Craig
Tote Bags Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 21 – Volunteer Summer Sunday School Teacher is needed.

September 10 – Free Family Fun Day, 10am to 2pm

September 11 – Rally Day
Sunday School Offering Received
Box Lunch Auction after church



FREE FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday – September 10, 2016

(the day before Rally Day)

10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Crafts – Games – Music – Dancing
Face Painting – Refreshments



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, (440) 238-6697.

Long-Term Care or Homebound Members:

Ethyl Jeglie at Elmcroft of Sagamore Hills, Janet Kato at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Betty Kovach at Parkside Villa, Connie Rebar

Church Family:

Eric Brand, Betty Bushea, Steve Herzog, Betty Jacobson, Chris Morgan, Pam Peacock, Harvey Pincombe, Karen Rak, Denzil Richards, Keith Sullen, Elena Taylor, Leah Tressa Forget, Sally Vetovitz, Kyle Woodward

Extended Church Family:

Bri Brostek (friend of Gina Cathcart), Ryan Brubeck, Thom Cerny (friend of Bob Kovatich), Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Angie Dickinson (friend of Lola Millhoane), Edie Deitcher (friend of Barbara O'Boyle), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Amanda Hover (granddaughter of Betty Kircher), Nathan Johnson (father of Natalie Daniels) Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Pat Kolba (mother of Kelly Bickley), Sue Mason, Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Dolores Mihlack (mother of Allen) at Southern Hills, Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Trish Shields (friend of Pastor Becky), Ralph Sitko (friend of Dorothy Ritchie), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan) at Villa Camillus, Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Kathleen Wickline (mother of Darla)

*Please provide updates for this list – (440) 238-6697.
Thank you.*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our church is a busy place, where everyone is needed to help it run smoothly. Volunteers would be appreciated for these tasks:

*Coffee Hour
Greeting on Sunday Morning
Helping in the Church Office during the Week
Running the Projector on Sunday Morning
Ushering on Sunday Morning*

For information on how you can help, please call the church, (440) 238-6697. Thank you!

NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Barb Fraunfelder

STEEPLE LIGHTING



GIVING STATEMENTS

Giving Statements for the year, January through July, will be distributed at church after mid-August, 2016, to those who pledged. If you did not pledge but wish to have a statement, send an email or call. See information below.

GIVING

Did you know that you can donate electronically? You can do this through your bank or through our website.

Either way can be set up to send a payment just once or to send a check on a monthly basis.

To use our website, go to strongsvilleucc.com. Look for the box "DONATE NOW with my eOffering".

CHANGE in PERSONNEL

I will be stepping aside as your Financial Secretary, and Lori Kovatich will be taking my place. I will continue to work with Lori and share many of the responsibilities. This is effective August 1, 2016; and we will be transitioning work to her. Continue to send any email communications for church finances to the same email address, and either one of us will reply. If it's a phone call, continue to contact me for now. We will provide her phone number in a future newsletter. We will make this as transparent as we possibly can.

Thank you for your confidence and trust over these past few years as I've held this position. I'm not going anywhere! I'll still be working on the finances but not as directly! It's been a great experience (and sometimes a challenge!) and I appreciate the opportunity to serve the Strongsville United Church of Christ!

EMAIL:
succfinancialsecretary@gmail.com – Lori and/or Barb

PHONE: (440) 331-3673 – Barb

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from July 26 through July 17, 2016. This information also appears on a weekly basis in our worship bulletin.

Offering Needed \$15,600 for 4 Sundays @ \$3,900/week
Offering Received 11,955
Difference - \$3,645



WEEK OF JUNE 26, 2016

*Happy Anniversary to Rob and Sandra Wentz
on June 27
With love, Grammy*

*In Loving Memory of Bill Fraunfelder
Barb Fraunfelder*

WEEK OF JULY 3, 2016

*In Celebration of John Struhar's 88th Birthday
on July 1, 2016
Maggie*

*Congratulations and Hats Off to Our Rosemary Bechtel
on her retirement this week
from many, many years of nursing.
We love you, Rosemary, and wish you all the best.
Love and prayers, Your Thrift Shop Family and Friends*

WEEK OF JULY 10, 2016

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

*In Loving Memory of Red Kircher
The Kircher Family*

*Happy Birthday, Virginia
Irene Webb*

To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Donation forms are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Multiple donations for the same week will be accepted. For details, please call the church, 440-238-6697. Thank you to all who light the steeple.

TICKETS TO PLAYHOUSE SQUARE

I have tickets available for *The Jersey Boys* at Playhouse Square for Sunday, September 25, 2016, for the 1:00 p.m. Matinee. I sell the tickets for Rotary and receive no compensation, because I like to encourage art in its many forms. Cost is \$82.50 per ticket, with indoor parking available for \$13 per car. Please see me for more information.



Linda Plain