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## AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER

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### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**SUNDAY – AUGUST 6 – 10:00 A.M.**

*The Sacrament of Communion*



**Guest Minister:** Rev. Joseph Santomen

**Liturgist:** Michele Mihlack

**Greeter:** Linda Plain

**Usher:** Linda Plain

**Summer Sunday School** – Kelly Bickley

**Coffee Hour:** Judy Carte and Helper

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**SUNDAY – AUGUST 13 – 10:00 A.M.**

**Guest Minister:** Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall

**Liturgist:** Kenn Oerkfitz

**Greeters:** The Clotworthy Family

**Usher:** Roy Merkle

**Summer Sunday School** – Sharon Heinrich

**Coffee Hour:** Kenn and Ginny Oerkfitz

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**SUNDAY – AUGUST 20 – 10:00 A.M.**

**Guest Minister:** Rev. Joseph Santomen

**Liturgist:** Kelly Bickley

**Greeters:** The Bickley Family

**Ushers:** Ted and Kelly Bickley

**Summer Sunday School** – Ingrid Dickson

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteer Needed

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**SUNDAY – AUGUST 27 – 10:00 A.M.**

**Guest Minister:** Rev. Oommen Thomas

**Liturgist:** Sharon Heinrich

**Children's Message:** Volunteer Needed

**Greeter:** The Rolland Family

**Ushers:** Volunteers Needed

**Summer Sunday School** – Tom Gaumer

**Coffee Hour:** Joyce Reed

### UPDATE FROM YOUR PULPIT SEARCH COMMITTEE

Your Pulpit Search Committee has continued to meet weekly and is right on track to finish our church profile by the end of July. Thank you to all who completed the demographic survey; we received responses from approximately 68 family units. These responses have been tabulated and incorporated into the church profile. The Committee presented the completed profile for final review to the Official Board at its July meeting, and it was approved to send on. We will continue the process and submit our profile to the UCC Conference.

This process will be ongoing for many months and we would ask to renew our request for prayers as we diligently proceed in searching out God's will and finding our new minister to lead us. We are grateful for the very important task to which we have been entrusted. Our church continues to be strong and vibrant even in this time of transition, our deepest gratitude to all for being a part of that.

Please do not hesitate to bring any questions or concerns to any one of us.

#### Your Pulpit Search Committee:

Ted Bickley, Judy Carte, Kristen Clotworthy,  
Jim Dettmer, Ingrid Dickson, Sally Herzog, Bill Schneider

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### CHILDREN'S MESSAGES

If you are interested in providing Children's Messages during this time of substitute ministry, please call Diaconate chairman, Cheryl Sobek, at (440) 539-0394 or email her at Cherylsobek@gmail.com

Please leave a message that you are interested in doing a Children's Message, and Cheryl will contact you about what dates you are available, depending upon the ministers we have.

Thank you for your help.



## HEADLINE NEWS

### Present Day Church Has Undergone Many Repairs and Renovations Over Time

Many renovations and purchases of land have taken place to form the current Strongsville United Church of Christ property. The first addition south of the sanctuary was built to serve the Sunday School in 1912, which currently serves as the choir room and extended sanctuary. In 1928 the Ladies Aid Society erected a second addition to the church to be used as a dining room and kitchen. Many dinners were held to make the building debt free by 1933. The post war era saw growth in the church and community calling for the need to expand upon the Sunday School and dining hall. Pilgrim Hall was constructed for that purpose in 1953. It was then, and currently is used for holding many dinners. The previous dining hall built in 1928 was converted into Sunday School rooms. In 1960 the sanctuary of the church, last remodeled in 1913, was completely renovated to its present state. In 1978 the dining hall built in 1928 was razed and Friendship Hall was built to contain needed classrooms, offices, a parlor, a basement, and space for the pipe work of the church organ. The Baldwin House and property west of the church was purchased for \$100,000 in 1983; the house was sold to the Historical Society for \$1.00 and was moved to the Historical Village to make way for a parking lot. Properties west of the parking lot were purchased for future expansion for \$150,000 in 1985. Another adjacent property was purchased in 2013 for \$110,000 giving us approximately 5 acres in all.

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### 200<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON



Tickets for the 200th Anniversary Luncheon on October 15, 2017, at the Strongsville Recreation Center are now being sold in Pilgrim Hall by either Joyce Reed or Dianne Maringer each Sunday through September 10. Since there is

limited seating, it is recommended that you get your tickets as soon as possible. Tickets will only be sold until September 10, as the caterer needs a head count in September. Ticket prices are \$15 for Adults and \$10 for Children (6-12 years).

The 200th Anniversary Committee

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### 200TH ANNIVERSARY CHURCH COOKBOOKS

We still have cookbooks available for purchase. They make great gifts, and your purchase helps support the Anniversary celebration. The current cookbook costs \$12.00, but we also have some cookbooks from 2006 for \$10.00 each. Please contact either Dianne Maringer or Joyce Reed if you are interested in purchasing one or more of these books. Thank you!



## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY IN CELEBRATION OF OUR 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

In celebration of our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, the church is participating in an Outreach Opportunity to the Strongsville community. After much consideration, the Anniversary Committee contacted the Strongsville Food Bank with the idea of the church providing small \$5.00 Christmas gifts for distribution to those who come to the Food Bank.

Since the Food Bank has gifts for the children of families who come there, the Food Bank suggested we focus on gifts for adults. Therefore, from October 15, 2017, through November 19, 2017, we are asking your support in donating small \$5.00 wrapped Christmas gifts labeled for either a man or woman. A large wrapped Christmas Box will be in the Gathering Area for collecting all gifts.

During the week of November 20, the gifts will be sorted. A holiday greeting message from the church will be attached, along with the history of our church in recognition of our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The gifts will be taken to the Food Bank for distribution in December.

Some suggestions for types of gifts to buy are:

- For a man – a small can of shaving cream with a few disposable razors.
- For a woman – hand lotion with a brush or comb, or a small Christmas pin.

You can find other ideas at the local Dollar Store or stores where small samples of products at reasonable prices are available. Anything that is personal and usable would make a great gift.

We know that in the past our church has been very generous in donating items for Tote Bags and the Mitten Tree. As this is a one-time special event, we would greatly appreciate your support in filling the Christmas Box with gifts for adults who come to the Food Bank. Just think how special it will be for those adults to know they were remembered with a gift that was given with love from our church.

Thank you very much for your support of this outreach to the community.

The 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee



## STRONGSVILLE UCC



**Saturday, September 9, 2017  
9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.**

The church will accept Garage Sale donations beginning  
**Sunday, August 13, 2017.**

Thank you for your cooperation to hold on to your donations  
until then!

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### MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

The Mission and Outreach Committee has been exploring ways for our church to make a difference in our community. We have focused on our Veterans with the help of Church Street Ministries. Our church is a member of their Board and learned that they work with homeless Veterans transitioning to living independently. There are several options that we can choose from that will assist them that we will continue to learn more about.

We have created a fund-raising project that will affect our ultimate decision and how much we can do. After Labor Day we will launch our project. Our theme is "Around the World". Our Mission and Outreach members are creating gift baskets that focus on a country. The countries selected are: Mexico, Poland, Germany, China and Great Britain. Any committee or individual who would like to contribute one may contact any Committee member. It is fun to create one that incorporates a different culture! The value is optional at this point.

More information will be available as this project progresses.

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### THE THRIFT SHOP

Summer is always a busy time in the Thrift Shop. We are open every Thursday from 10 to 4. We have a variety of summer items from sandals for your feet to hats for your head. We have summer clothing and bathing suits for the entire family and reading material for summer afternoons. We have craft supplies to fill your time and household items for your home. Games and puzzles along with a variety of music formats are also available.

Sign up for the Thrift Shop email and know the sale of the week. Tax receipts are available whenever the shop is open.



Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy . . .

to the family of Don Kovach  
on the occasion of his passing on July 4, 2017.  
The funeral was held July 8 in our sanctuary.

to the family of Zachary Williams  
on the occasion of his passing on July 5, 2017.  
Zach is the son of Nancy Grabski and  
the older brother of Clay and Jake Williams  
A memorial service is tentatively planned at our church  
for Saturday, October 14, 2017.  
Details will be provided as the date draws near.

to Steve Herzog and family  
on the passing of his sister, Debbie Morey, on July 18.

to Dave Matchett and family  
on the passing of his mother Dolores  
on July 19, 2017, in West Virginia.  
A memorial service is being planned for a later date.

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*Dear Strongsville UCC members,*

*I want everyone to know that I am slowly recovering and have received the surgeon's OK to put weight on my broken hip, which means I can practice walking. It will still be a while before my recovery is complete, but at least the end is in sight.*

*I miss all of my Strongsville friends but am in a beautiful, restful place with friends and family and lots of visitors. Grandson Timothy and Catherin will be married September 23 with a very large wedding party and reception. There are no strangers here. The residents make everyone their friend, including me.*

*I miss all of the UCC congregation, but I know I now reside in the best possible place. I am surrounded by trees, beautiful flower gardens, birds, chipmunks, and love.*

*May the church have a fantastic 200<sup>th</sup> year celebration and go on to celebrate its 400<sup>th</sup> year. May God bless all of you.*

*Sincerely,*

*Martha Liebert  
P. O. Box 467  
Hammonton, NJ 08037-0467*

**If you would like Martha's phone number,  
please call the church, (440) 238-6697.**



### BELL CHOIR

It's time to plan to begin our year of Bell Ringing!!! We'll start on **THURSDAY, August 31, 2017 at 6:45 p.m.** We'll continue to practice at the CHURCH on the second floor.

Our schedule is like before: Weekly rehearsals on Thursday evenings, 6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

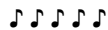
We present music at the 10:00 a.m. worship service on the 4th Sunday of each month.

We play the Anthem and Benediction Response

We also play for special occasions and services.

It is best if you have some experience in reading music – either instrumental or vocal. Learning to ring the bell is easy!!

Please let Elena Taylor know if you will be able to join us! We look forward to an exciting year of bell ringing!



### CHANCEL CHOIR

Our Chancel Choir has been on summer hiatus and will resume rehearsals on Thursday evenings at 8:00 p.m. beginning August 31, 2017.

The Chancel Choir provides music for worship on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Sunday mornings of the month. Their first Sunday singing in church is Rally Day, September 10.

Please let Elena Taylor know if you will be able to join us. We look forward to an exciting year of vocal singing!

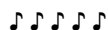


### CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Children's Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and will resume on August 30, 2017.

Children's Choir presents music during worship on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

All school age children are welcome to the children's music programs.



### STRONGSVILLE UCC BAND

Our schedule is like before: Weekly rehearsals on Wednesday evenings: 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

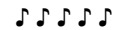
We present music during worship every Sunday.

We play the Prelude, Offertory, Postlude, and accompany the Choral Anthem, Prayer Response, and Benediction Response.

We also play for special occasions and services.

It is best if you have some experience in reading music – either instrumental or vocal – and have a musical instrument.

Please let Elena Taylor know if you will be able to join us. We look forward to an exciting year of playing!



### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Summer Sunday School continues in session. Parents, Grandparents, Uncles, Aunts: September 3 still needs a volunteer teacher. The signup sheet is posted on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board. No experience is necessary, and all materials are provided. Please see Irene Joyce if you have questions.

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

**August 6** – Kelly Bickley

**August 13** – Sharon Heinrich

**August 20** – Ingrid Dickson

**August 27** – Tom Gaumer

**September 3** – Volunteer Needed

**Rally Day** is September 10, when a new year begins for Sunday School.



### PENNY SUNDAY

Our children will have Penny Sunday on the last Sunday of the month, **August 27**, when the collection will be given, as usual, to the Strongsville Food Bank. Thank you for your support of this outreach to our community.





## ADULT SOCIAL CLUB



The Adult Social Club meets the third Wednesday of the month at the church. Their next meeting is Wednesday, August 16, at 7 p.m. All adults are welcome.

## THANK YOU

The outdoor worship area is now completed. I would like to thank Gina Cathcart for her time as well as donations for the garden. I also want to thank Dan Davis who helped.  
Gina Gigliotti

## 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.



**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Betty Bushea, Margot James, Ethyl Jeglie at Elmcroft of Sagamore Hills, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Betty Babics, Steve Herzog, Bev Lane, Martha Liebert, Eileen Pincomb, Jan Stough, Leah Tressa Forget, Shirley Weinhold, Kyle Woodward, The Grabski/Williams Family, Rachel Zielinski

**Extended Church Family:** Logan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega), Michelle Cika (friend of Bev Wehr), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Piper Masuga (granddaughter of Dan and Vicky and great-granddaughter of Lola Millhoane), 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)

Please provide updates to this list. Thank you.

## STEEPLE LIGHTING

### Week of July 2, 2017

Happy Anniversary to Rob and Sandra Wentz on June 27, and  
Happy Birthday to Josh Sauter on June 30  
With love, Grammy

### Week of July 9, 2017

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

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 questions, please call the church, (440) 238-6697. Thank you for lighting the steeple.



## VIEWING CHURCH SERVICES ON THE WEB

To make past services easier to view on the web, we have started a YouTube channel. To access it, go to the <http://strongsvilleucc.com/> website. Click on WORSHIP and then SERVICE VIDEOS. Once you get to YouTube, search for the service you wish to see and click on it. Alternately, you can go directly to YouTube and search for "Strongsville UCC". Most services from the beginning of 2017 have already been uploaded. To see an older service, please contact Jim Heinrich to see if it is available.

## UPDATING OUR WEBSITE AND TV's

If you have updates for our church Website or TV screens at church, please inform:

Michele Mhlack 216-324-9799 / m.mhlack@gmail.com  
or  
Irene Joyce 216-267-5043 / ij3e@sbcglobal.net

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Women's Fellowship thanks everyone for donating to the tote bag project. Sixty tote bags were taken to the Strongsville Food Bank the week of July 9, 2017.



Women's Fellowship does not meet in August. Their next meeting is Wednesday, September 6, at 10:00 a.m.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

You may provide flowers on any Sunday you wish because multiple vases are accepted on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$15 for one vase, \$30 for two vases.

As of this printing, the following are dates when vases are still needed so that two vases are on the altar for Sunday worship:

- August 13 – 1 vase
- August 27 – 1 vase
- September 10 – 1 vase
- October 15 – 1 vase
- October 22 – 2 vases
- October 29 – 2 vases
- November 5 – 1 vase
- November 19 – 1 vase
- December 10 – 1 vase

The sign-up chart for altar flowers is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Below the chart are forms and envelopes for submitting your bulletin information and payment to the church office.

Thank you for placing fresh flowers on the altar for worship on Sunday morning.

## NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**Adria Bond**

The following monthly report lists the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount actually received. This information also appears weekly in our Sunday bulletin.

### For June 25 to July 16, 2017

Offering Needed	\$15,460
Received: June 25 through July 16	12,470
Difference	(\$2,990)



## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

We thank the following people . . .

**Gina Gigliotti** for all her hard work on the beautiful outdoor worship area on our church property. This year the worship area was used for the Easter Sunrise Service and also for our Outdoor Worship Service on Picnic Sunday, June 25.

**Kathie Paul** (and sometimes her husband Gary) for maintaining the beautiful flowers on our church grounds.

**Bill Giuliano** for overseeing the huge project of the handicap-accessible bathroom.

**Ingrid Dickson** for filing music after it is sung by the Chancel Choir and rung by the Bell Choir in worship.

**Rachel Zielinski and Karen Morgan** for organizing our church's participation in the parade, and to all those who decorated the float and represented our church in the Strongsville Homecoming Parade on July 19.

If you know of someone who should be recognized for their efforts for our church, please email the information to:

[strongsvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleucc@gmail.com)

We are very happy to acknowledge those who use their talents to help the ministry of our church.

Thanks again to these individuals!



**Stewardship**  
*a way of life*



The charts for Ushers, Altar Flowers, and Coffee Hour still have openings for helping. The charts are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Please sign up if you are able to assist in these areas.

If you are new to a task, please call the church office, (440) 238-6697; and we will direct you to someone who will train you. Thank you!



Women's Retreat is Friday through Sunday, August 11-13, at Stanford House in Peninsula, Ohio. Thirty ladies are welcome to attend. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. For more information please contact Cathy Hawk.



**CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2017**

*Officers elected on January 29, 2017, have an asterisk\* by their names.*

**WEDNESDAY FREE LUNCH PROGRAM**

**NEW SERVING HOURS**

Begin Next Month: **SEPTEMBER 2017**

Lunch will be served from 11:30 A.M. to **12:30** P.M.



- Moderator** Rachel Zielinski\*
- Vice-Moderator** Bill Schneider\*
- Treasurer** Kenn Oerkfitz\*
- Clerk** Karen Morgan\*
- Sunday School Co-Superintendents** Jamie Habart\*  
Irene Joyce\*

**Board of Trustees**

- Ed Bond
- Greg Dickson\*
- Jim Heinrich\*
- Ed Sobek\*
- Lloyd Bridle\*
- Bill Giuliano
- Bob Kovatich
- Jim Dettmer\*
- Dale Hawk\*
- Ken Mehalko

**Endowment Fund Subcommittee**

- Irene Jannsohn\*
- Joyce Reed\*

**Diaconate**

- Jennifer Barry\*
- Barbara Camp\*
- Kristen Clotworthy\*
- Sarah Hayes\*
- Marty Winch\*
- Kelly Bickley\*
- Gina Cathcart\*
- Dan Davis
- Linda Plain\*
- Adria Bond
- Ginny Oerkfitz
- Cathy Hawk
- Cheryl Sobek

**Christian Education Committee**

- Kelly Bickley\*
- Sandy O'Shea\*
- Jamie Habart
- Lora Rung\*
- Irene Joyce

**Music Committee**

- Ingrid Dickson\*
- Barb Fraunfelder
- Pam Keenen
- Ken Mehalko\*
- Elena Taylor

**Stewardship Committee**

- Rosemary Bechtel
- Sharon Heinrich
- Barbara Bridle\*
- Laurie Meister\*
- Sue Gigliotti\*

**Mission and Outreach Committee**

- Judy Carte\*
- Gary Paul\*
- Brandi Garsteck\*
- Lora Rung
- Michele Mihlack\*
- Bev Wehr\*



**FAITH COMMUNITY COALITION FOR STRONGSVILLE DRUG / ALCOHOL FORUM AND AFTERWARD**

The City of Strongsville wants to bring education, awareness and resources to the community about drug and alcohol addiction. The Police Department, Fire Department and the City Management will come together in a three-part forum at the Strongsville Rec Center on the Tuesdays of September 12, 19 and 26, 2017, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. These groups will also consider ways they can help in an ongoing effort after the forum. Becky Zatezalo from Strongsville United Methodist Church is putting together a faith community of churches to help with the forum and to talk about ways to work together with ongoing resources for those affected by addiction -- both for the individual with the addiction and for their families and friends.

The next coalition planning meeting is tentatively scheduled for the beginning of August. Please see the 8/6/2017 bulletin for the date that is decided. **If you would like to represent Strongsville UCC in planning and participating in this forum and afterward, please call the church office, (440) 238-6697.**

Just a reminder that the support group, Drug Induced Chaos, meets at our church on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All who need support for dealing with drug addiction in their families are welcome to attend the Drug Inducted Chaos meetings.