

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CONGREGATIONAL)**

13740 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136

Rev. Rebecca Stephenson, Pastor Church (440) 238-6697

Website strongsvilleucc.com Email strongsvilleucc@gmail.com

**February 15, 2015 9:45 A.M. The Transfiguration**

† *Those who are able may stand.*

**PRELUDE** *Let the Redeemed* Ward L. Ellis

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT** *Day by Day* from *Godspell*  
Gary Hackett and Craig Hardy

† **HYMN 384** *Spirit Song*

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Gathering in this sacred place, we anticipate new wonders each week.

**All: Wherever two or three are gathered to worship, a holy spirit is present.**

One: Open our eyes to witness the fantastic love and wondrous joy waiting to be revealed, even this day, even in this place.

**All: We will want to linger and camp in this sanctuary; but when we leave today, may our hearts be open to all the wonders of God's beautiful world.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**OUR LORD'S PRAYER** (*debt*s) – 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.**

**PIANO RESPONSE** *The Sweetest Name of All*

**ANTHEM** *Folk Song Medley* arr. Dunkel and Dunford  
Gary Hackett and Craig Hardy

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** *Amazing Grace* Traditional

Rachel Kovatich, vocalist

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**HYMN 563** *Open My Eyes that I May See*

**SCRIPTURES** Mark 9:2-9 New Testament, p. 38

**SERMON** *Open My Eyes . . . That I May See* Rev. Mendle Adams

† **HYMN 231** *Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Hearts* **Sing Twice**

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** *God Be with You till We Meet Again*

† **POSTLUDE** *For All the Saints* Ralph Vaughan Williams

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

**Retreat** – Sixty people in our church family, including Pastor Becky and Jack Stephenson, are attending the annual Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills this weekend. **We welcome our guest minister, Rev. Mendle Adams.** (His bio is included on the bulletin insert.)

**We thank Gary Hackett, Craig Hardy, and Rachel Kovatich** for their special music this morning.

**SERVING TODAY**

Substitute Minister	Rev. Mendle Adams
Worship Accompanist	Elena Taylor
Interim Choir Director	Ken Mehalko
Bell Choir Director	Barbara Fraunfelder
Liturgist	Jim Nicoulin
Greeters	Joyce Reed and Dianne Maringer
Usher	Bob Kovatich
Nursery	Ginny Oerkfitz
Coffee Hour	Joyce Reed

# THE TRANSFIGURATION

February 15, 2015

11:15 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

## SONGS

3 *Almighty*  
95 *Above All*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SONG

33 *Holy Is the Lord*

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

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One: Open our eyes to witness the fantastic love and wondrous joy waiting to be revealed, even this day, even in this place.

**All: We will want to linger and camp in this sanctuary; but when we leave today, may our hearts be open to all the wonders of God's beautiful world.**

### † PASSING OF THE PEACE

### GATHERING SONG

*Sanctuary*

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER *(debt)*

### OFFERING

### THE WORD OF GOD

Mark 9:2-9

New Testament, p. 38

**MEDITATION** *Open My Eyes . . . That I May See* Rev. Mendle Adams

### SONG

62 *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

### † BENEDICTION

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No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Songs are from the white *Contemporary Worship Songbook*.

**Retreat** – Sixty people in our church family, including Pastor Becky and Jack Stephenson, are attending the annual Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills this weekend. **We welcome our guest minister, Rev. Mendle Adams.** (His bio is included on the bulletin insert.)

### SERVING TODAY

**Substitute Minister** – Rev. Mendle Adams

**Praise Band Director** – Elena Taylor

**Vocalists** – Barb Fraunfelder, Kyra Krause,  
Toni Newborn, Clay Williams

**Keyboard** – Elena Taylor

**Acoustic Guitar I** – Jake Williams

**Electric Guitar** – Herbert Parker

**Bass Guitar** – Jack Stephenson

**Violin** – Julia Soltis

**Viola** – Jake Williams

**Clarinet** – Emily Phan

**Mallet Percussion** – Robert Toth

**Drum Set** – Mike Soltis

**Drum Pads** – Aidan Hurtig, Christian Habart-Scott

**Greeter** – Ginny Dangelo

**Liturgist** – Tom Gaumer

**Graphics Operation** – Vicky Masuga

## February 2015

13-15 Retreat at Pilgrim Hills  
15 Sun Newsletter Deadline  
17 Tue Advertising Team Meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
18 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Ash Wednesday Evening Worship, 7:30 p.m.  
19 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
22 Sun Lenten Meal and Study, 6:00 p.m.  
24 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.  
25 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
26 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
27 Fri Prepare for Roast Pork Dinner  
28 Sat Roast Pork Dinner

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## CHURCH MUSIC REHEARSALS

### Wednesday Evening

Praise Band - 8:00 to 9:30 p.m.

### Thursday Evening

Children's Choir - 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.  
Children's Band - 7:15 to 8:00 p.m.  
Bell Choir - 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Chancel Choir - 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

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## SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 22, 2014

Liturgist	9:45 a.m. Sarah Hayes	11:15 a.m. Barb Fraunfelder
Greeter		Roy Merkle
Usher for 9:45 a.m.		Needed
Nursery for 9:45 a.m.		Rosemary Bechtel
Coffee Hour		Bev Wehr
Graphics Operation for 11:15 a.m.		Rosemary Bechtel

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – FEBRUARY 15, 2015

**Welcome, visitors!** We are so glad you have chosen to worship with us this morning. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. **Members, please wear your nametags** to assist others to get to know you.

**This morning's altar flowers** are given—

*Happy Belated Birthday to My Daughters,  
Valerie Hopkins and Vicky Masuga, on February 14, 2015  
With love, Mom*

**Deadline for the March 2015 Church Newsletter is TODAY.** You may leave your article(s) in the church office today. Thank you!

**Advertising Team** will meet on Tuesday, February 17, at 7:00 p.m.

**The Wednesday Free Lunch Program is in operation.** All are welcome to attend this free weekly lunch, which is served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Ash Wednesday** – We will begin the season of Lent this Wednesday, February 18, at 7:30 p.m. with a worship service in our sanctuary and the imposition of ashes. Nursery care will be available.

**Lenten Study** – Pastor Becky will lead a Lenten study on the book, Renegade Gospel, by Mike Slaughter on the Sundays of February 22 through March 29. We will enjoy a meal at the church at 6:00 p.m., and the study will follow at about 7:00 p.m. The book presents Jesus and his challenging message to inspire us during Lent, Easter, and through the year. Please call the church office (440-238-6697) to sign up for the study, so we have enough books for all participants.

**An Ecumenical Softball Team is being formed.** If you are interested to play on the team, please circle *Softball Team* on the front of your Attendance Card today. Thank you!

**Thrift Shop** – Due to the water in the church basement this past week, please hold your donations until The Thrift Shop is cleaned up. Thank you.

**Strongsville Food Bank** especially needs canned fruit, pork and beans, and family meals—like ravioli, chili, and beef stew. Thank you for helping those in need.

The LifeShare Community Blood Drive at our church, originally scheduled for Sunday, March 1, is postponed.

Sign-up Charts for Altar Flowers, Greeters, and Ushers for 2015 are posted on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. **Help is needed.** Please assist in these areas if you are able. Thank you.

Join Us for a  
**BABY SHOWER**  
for  
**Rachel and Gary Zielinski**

Next Sunday – February 22, 2015 – 2:00 to 5:00 P.M.  
at Strongsville UCC in Pilgrim Hall

Rachel is registered at Target, Kohl's, and Babies R Us.

RSVP by TODAY – February 15, 2015  
on the sign up sheet in Pilgrim Hall.

\* If you bring a package of diapers, \*  
your name will be entered into a drawing for a gift.



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Offering Needed	\$3,190
Offering Received 2/8: Traditional	\$1,952
Contemporary	\$764
	<u>2,716</u>
Difference	(\$474)

## 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 inform the church of updates to this list.*

**Long-Term Care or Homebound Members:** Janet Kato at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Sandra Kornick at Falling Water, Betty Kovach at Parkside Villa, Debbie Krause, Connie Rebar, Erla Mae Schultz at Medina Village

**Church Family:** Barbara Bridle, Betty Bushea, Rhea Clements, Ann Sullen, Leah Tressa Forget \*, Rachel Zielinski

**Extended Church Family:** Ryan Brubeck, Marie Bury, Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Rebecca Deeb (Godaughter of Lora Rung, Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Paul Mhlack (father of Allen) at Parkside Villa, Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Marilyn Woodward (mother of David and Carol)

\* If you wish to send Leah a card, her address is:  
Leah Forget  
1604 Brentwood Street  
Middletown, OH 44054

*This list will be updated weekly. If you wish someone to remain on the list, please call the church office, (440) 238-6697.*

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Strongsville UCC

## ROAST PORK DINNER

Saturday – February 28, 2015

Seatings at 5:00 and 6:30 P.M.

Reservations Only: (216) 598-6198

Adults \$10.00      Ages 6-12 \$5.00      Under 6 years Free

***Tickets are available during coffee hour between the two services.***

Help is needed. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. For safety reasons, no children under age 6 (with or without parent) can be helpers in any capacity during the serving hours of 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Children 6 to 10 must have a parent helping them. The Thrift Shop will be open.

## Mendle Adams, vitae

Rev. Dr. Mendle Adams is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ. His undergraduate degree is from Indiana Wesleyan University; his seminary degree is from Christian Theological Seminary. He has done post graduate studies at Aquinas College and Harvard University. He received his doctorate of sacred letters from Temple Bible College & Seminary of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Reverend Adams has pastored churches in Indiana, North Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Kentucky and Ohio. While serving as Ecumenical Campus Minister at Oklahoma State University, Professor Adams received training and certification from the Supreme Court of Oklahoma for training of Mediators for the Oklahoma Justice System. His ministries have included travels to Palestine/Israel, The Philippines, Nicaragua, and the Ukraine. He is a published co-author of a confirmation/pastors class text book, Touching Center: Adventures in Christ Consciousness.

In 1975, Mendle received the Indiana Council of Churches Honored Legislator recognition while serving in Indiana's House of Representatives. Mendle has been a leader in civil rights, equal rights, death penalty abolition, and other progressive causes over the years.

While in Cincinnati, Mendle was an adjunct professor at Cincinnati State Technical & Community College, and moderator of an interfaith dialogue "Religion Beyond Dogma" at the Blue Ash campus of the University of Cincinnati.

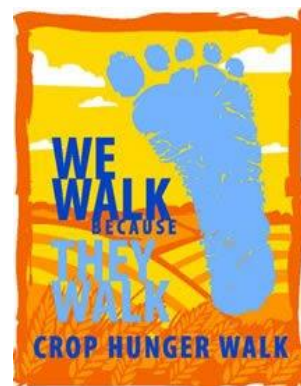
He taught "Practical Ministry" at the United Church of Christ and Presbyterian Church's School for Lay Ministers in 2012.

Dr. Adams now resides in Richmond Heights, Ohio, with his daughter, Vicki Werneke, and her husband, Ron.

After 50 years in the ministry, upon retirement in 2007, he taught at Temple Bible College & Seminary.

Mendle is a member of ACLU, SLPC, and the Masonic Lodge. He is a member Plymouth Church of Shaker Heights, and the board of directors of Ohioans to Stop Executions.

His interests include Interfaith Dialogue, Evolution and Religion, and Human Rights.



As you take each step in the CROP Hunger Walk, imagine that you're in Kenya, walking to get water that you'll carry back home in a 5-gallon can balanced on your head. Your family needs this water for drinking, bathing, preparing meals or watering the garden or livestock. Whatever the reason, 5 gallons of water weighs about 42 pounds, and you may have to walk miles to get it. Having to use so much of your valuable time to carry water, keeps you from growing more vegetables, raising more livestock or developing a business. There is only so much time in a day.

Join the Kids For Christ Club as we participate in the **Berea Crop Walk on Saturday, April 25, 2015!** There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Please mark your calendars and consider walking or supporting our walkers!

**We have a team page where you can sign up and make donations:**

<http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/UCCCongregational>