

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

January 12, 2014

11:00 A.M.

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE *Comfort for My Soul* Broughton

INTROIT *Come Now to Worship the Lord* Besig

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on Psalm 29)*

One: Come, all who are gathered to worship God:

Many: Let us ascribe to our God glory and strength!

One: Let us ascribe to God the glory of God's name

Many: and let us worship God in holy splendor!

One: The voice of our God is over the waters.

Many: The God of glory thunders over mighty waters.

† **HYMN 399** *We Are God's People*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE *Hear Us, O Lord*

CHOIR ANTHEM *You Are the New Day* arr. Knight

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

If you are seated in the alcove and would prefer sitting in the sanctuary, please feel free to move to the sanctuary after the Children's Sermon.

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Herald Our King* Paxom

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 456** *Find Us Faithful*

SCRIPTURE Acts 10:34-43 New Testament, p. 113

SERMON *"We Are Family"*

† **HYMN 429** *They'll Know We Are Christians*

† **BENEDICTION**

† **BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *May the Lord Go with You*

† **POSTLUDE**

SERVING TODAY

Director of Music
Organist / Pianist
Liturgist
Greeters
Nursery
Ushers
Coffee Hour

Andrew Purdum
Susan Stevenson Tressa
Pam Keenen
John and Maggie Struhar
Lora Rung
Gary and Kathie Paul
Dianne Maringer

ANNOUNCEMENTS – JANUARY 12, 2014

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 visitors, our minister, and other members to get to know you.

Today's altar flowers are given in loving memory of Carol Studer from Kathy, Jeff and Jim.

The Sunday Morning Discussion Group, that was meeting during coffee hour, is now on hiatus and will not meet until further notice.

Annual Reports – You are invited to collate booklets today in Pilgrim Hall during coffee hour and/or after the 11:00 a.m. worship. When all collating is done, we will enjoy lunch together. All are welcome. Whether you collate or not, please make sure to go to Pilgrim Hall and get your booklet before you go home today. Thank you.

Trustees will meet today after 11:00 a.m. worship.

Deadline for the February Church Newsletter is this Wednesday, January 15. You may leave your article(s) in the church office today.

Moms Group is a new support group within the church for mothers with young children. It will meet once a month on Mondays. The first meeting is tomorrow, January 13, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. If you are interested, please see Beth Giuliano or Kelly Bickley.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place on Sunday, January 26, at about 12:45 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall. The meeting will be preceded by the Traditional Pancake Breakfast. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Membership Class – Pastor Becky will once again teach a 12-week membership class entitled *Journey in Faith*, beginning **on Thursday, January 16**. Members, as well as potential members, are welcome and encouraged to attend. Topics covered are *Establishing the Group, The Bible as Our Authority, Discovering Jesus, What We Believe and How We Got Here, The Nature of the Church, From the Early Church to Us, We Are ALL Gifted, Investigating the Local Church, Christian Giving, Understanding Different Levels of Living and Giving, The Meaning of Christian Covenant, and Investigating Worship*. Class dates are Thursday evenings—January 16, 23, 30; February 6, 13, 20, 27;

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3. The class will be held at the church from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Please call the church office at (440) 238-6697 to enroll in the class.

The Christian Ed Team will meet next Sunday, January 19, at 1:00 p.m. at the parsonage. In addition to the current "team," anyone else interested to be involved in Christian education is most welcome to attend. (The meeting includes lunch.)

Memorial Fund Donations for Music Chairs – The new chairs in the sanctuary were recently purchased after a search by Music Committee members. These 30 chairs are needed for the choir on a routine basis, for special programs, and can be used for extra sanctuary seating. Some key features are the neutral color, stackability (with a book rack in place), and comfort. The chairs are being paid for by the Memorial Fund and by contributions. \$50 supports the purchase of a chair. If you would like to help, please write a check to the *Strongsville UCC Memorial Fund*, and forward it to Greg Dickson, along with the information if you're purchasing it in memory of or in honor of someone. The Committee is investigating a way to label the chairs to recognize individual donations.

Boots Mixup – Two pairs of size 9 black boots that zip in the front were inadvertently swapped at Pastor Becky's party last Sunday. Please check that you have your own boots. If not, please bring the wrong boots to the church; the other pair is already at the church, waiting for its owner!

Paper Recycling – The paper bin from River Valley Paper Company is in our church parking lot. Please break down boxes before putting them into the bin. **Acceptable items:** brown paper bags, cardboard, catalogs, hard and soft bound books, magazines, mail, newspapers, office and school paper, phone books **Unacceptable items:** aluminum, glass, metal, plastic of any type, styrofoam, trash

Altar Flower Chart for 2014 is posted in Pilgrim Hall. Please indicate whether you want one or two vases on the date(s) you select. Thanks!

Greeters Chart for the 11:00 a.m. service and other special services is also posted in Pilgrim Hall. Please help if you are available. (The 9:00 A.M. service is casual worship and has no signup.)

Ushers are really needed and appreciated for Sunday worship at 11:00 a.m. Please sign up on the board in the Gathering Area. Thank you! (The 9:00 A.M. service is casual worship and has no signup.)

Strongsville UCC
SWISS STEAK DINNER

Saturday – February 1, 2014

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

Reservations Only: **(440) 238-8192 – Notice New Number !**

Adults \$9.00 Ages 6-12 \$5.00 Under 6 years Free

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 who are 6 to 10 years old must have a parent helping them. The Thrift Shop will be open during the dinner.

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: Bill Betz at Chapel Hill Community in Canal Fulton, Edith Graves at Century Oak Care Center, Debbie Krause, Connie Rebar, Erla Mae Schultz at Medina Village

Church Family: Dan Davis, Holly Elkins, Margot James, Janet Kato at ManorCare of Parma, Betty Kovach, Dolores Matchett, Barbara Morgan, Joyce Reed at University Hospitals

Extended Church Family: June Brewer (niece of Ed Powers), Logan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega), Audrey and Gene Curry (parents of Pam Keenen), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Tom Davern (relative of the Woodwards), Rebecca Deeb (Goddaughter of Lora Rung), Victor DiChiro (father-in-law of Rob Wentz), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Kate Heisler (friend of Lora Rung), Janine Kaltenstein (cousin of Vicky Masuga), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Erik Kratky (friend of Sarah Hawk), Rick Mahon (friend of the Woodwards), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), James Smith (brother of Katie Renfro), Barbara Sommers (mother of Sheri Martin), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Marge Tressa (mother of Rich)

Our Proposed Vision . . .

A world filled with God's love, where all are welcome at God's table.

Our Proposed Mission Statement . . .

Wherever you are on life's journey, the Strongsville United Church of Christ (Congregational) welcomes all to become passionate followers of Christ through Unconditional Love with Justice and Peace † Meaningful Prayer † The Celebration of Worship † Uplifting Music † Mutual Support † Joy of Service † Honoring Creation † the Giving Spirit, where all are welcome at God's table.

January 2014

- 12 Sun Collate Annual Reports
- 13 Mom Mom's Group Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 14 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Wed February Church Newsletter Deadline
Mission and Outreach Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 16 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Sun Christian Ed Team meeting and lunch at parsonage, 1:00 p.m.
- 22 Wed Worship Team Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
- 23 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 Sun Following 11:00 a.m. Worship – Pancake Breakfast and Annual Meeting of the Congregation
- 28 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 30 Thu Men's Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at European's Best Restaurant
Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 31 Fri Prepare for Swiss Steak Dinner
Memorial Service in Sanctuary, 11:30 a.m.

Serving Next Sunday – January 19, 2014

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| Liturgists | Dan Masuga at 9:00 a.m. | Jim Studer at 11:00 a.m. |
| Graphics | Operation for 9:00 a.m. service | Sharon Heinrich |
| Greeters | | Tom and Judy Gaumer |
| Nursery | | Gina Cathcart |
| Ushers | | Volunteers Needed |
| Coffee Hour | | Vicky Masuga |