

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 19, 2013

9:00 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONGS

36 *How Excellent Is Thy Name*

31 *Here I Am to Worship*

37 *How Majestic Is Your Name*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Psalm 40)

One: I waited patiently for God; who turned to me and heard my cry, who lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; and set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

All: **We sing a new song! Our mouths are full of the praise of God.**

One: Blessed are we when we make the Lord our trust; when we do not turn aside to false gods.

All: **We sing of all your many wonders, O God, too many to declare them all.**

One: Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but our ears you have pierced and a body you have prepared for us.

All: **We sing, "Here I am, I have come—I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is in my heart."**

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

54 *Lord, Be Glorified*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

Where Do I Go?
Tiffany Schmidt, Vocalist

† **BRING GIFTS FORWARD** 88 *We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise*

SCRIPTURE Psalm 40:1-11 Hebrew Scriptures, p. 476

MEDITATION "The Psalmist in Each of Us"

CLOSING SONGS

35 *Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)*

30 *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

58 *Mighty Is Our God*

† BENEDICTION

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*.

Serving Today

Music Director / Drums

Organist / Pianist

Song Leader

Bass Guitar

Sound System

Liturgist

Graphics Operation

Coffee Hour

Andrew Purdum

Susan Stevenson Tressa

Tiffany Schmidt

Jack Stephenson

Doug Thorn

Dan Masuga

Sharon Heinrich

Vicky Masuga

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 19, 2014

11:00 A.M.

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE Chant Powell

INTROIT *Come Now to Worship the Lord* Besig

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on Psalm 40)*

One: I waited patiently for God; who turned to me and heard my cry, who lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; and set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

All: We sing a new song! Our mouths are full of the praise of God.

One: Blessed are we when we make the Lord our trust; when we do not turn aside to false gods.

All: We sing of all your many wonders, O God, too many to declare them all.

One: Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but our ears you have pierced and a body you have prepared for us.

All: We sing, "Here I am, I have come—I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is in my heart."

† **HYMN 589** *Here I Am, Lord*

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 *With Grateful Heart I Thank You, Lord* Beall

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 *All You Sing Forth in Praise* Broughton

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 721** *Jesus Never Fails*

SCRIPTURE Psalm 40:1-11 Hebrew Scriptures, p. 476

SERMON *"The Psalmist in Each of Us"*

† **HYMN 526** *The Solid Rock*

† **BENEDICTION**

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

† **POSTLUDE**

SERVING TODAY

Director of Music
Organist / Pianist
Liturgist
Greeters
Nursery
Coffee Hour

Andrew Purdum
Susan Stevenson Tressa
Jim Studer
Tom and Judy Gaumer
Cathy Hawk
Vicky Masuga

ANNOUNCEMENTS – JANUARY 19, 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 Honor of Rachel's, Kennedy's and Chris' Birthdays
The Morgan and Zielinski Families*

*In Celebration of My Beautiful Wife Kathie's Birthday on January 18
and Our Meeting Here at Strongsville UCC on January 21, 2007
Gary Paul*

Happy Birthday today to Chris Morgan!

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

Deadline for the February Church Newsletter is now. You may leave your article(s) in the church office today.

The Christian Ed Team will meet today 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!)

Worship Team will meet this week, but the date and time have not yet been decided.

Membership Class – Pastor Becky is teaching a 12-week membership class entitled *Journey in Faith*. The class began this past Thursday, January 16, but members, as well as potential members, are still welcome to join the class. 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 in the Parlor at the church from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Please call the church office at (440) 238-6697 to enroll.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place next 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. Annual reports booklets are available on the greeters' table in the Gathering Area. Booklets will not be mailed. To have a copy mailed to you, please call the church office, (440) 238-6697.

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.

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 sign-up.)

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 sign-up.)

Next month is our church's annual winter retreat at a new location: Pilgrim Hills in Brinkhaven, Ohio. Pilgrim Hills is about 90 minutes south of Strongsville. The retreat will take place Friday, February 14 (arrive after 6pm) through Sunday, February 16 (departure at 2pm). We're happy to announce that the costs to attend will remain the same for the fourth year in a row: Adults: \$65 Children ages 9-12: \$20 Children ages 3-8: \$10 Children ages 2 and under: Free. These costs include 2 nights' lodging and 5 meals. The sign-up sheet is posted in Pilgrim Hall. Please sign up ASAP. Sleeping accommodations are as follows:

1] 4 double cabins (Boardwalk Cabins 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8) with

6 bunk beds and 1 single bed each. (Bunk beds do not have to be used as bunk beds.)

2] Fellowship Cabin, which has 6 separate rooms with 2 beds each and 1 larger room with 5 beds.

Both cabins are about a 2-minute walk from the main lodge where we will have meals and do our group activities. Be sure to join us for a semi-brief planning meeting on Sunday, February 9, in the sanctuary immediately following the 11am worship service. Although we held the previous 33 retreats at the same location, let's consider this a new adventure! Pilgrim Hills is larger (by 100 acres) than Tempel Hills and has more activities, indoor and out. And the staff is super-friendly and accommodating already! Questions? Call Charles and Aimée Jannsohn at (440) 895-1858 or email: jannsohn@cox.net. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to relax and spend quality time with church family and friends!

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

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 (Godddaughter 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), Barbara Sommers (mother of Sheri Martin), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Marge Tressa (mother of Rich)

Many, many thanks to all for your prayers, calls, thoughts and kind wishes after my fall and short hospital stay in November 2013!! The winter weather is keeping me at home, but please know that I appreciate all your kind thoughts. God's blessing to you all. Doris Soucie

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 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.

Serving Next Sunday – January 26, 2014

Liturgists	Kenn Oerkfitz
Graphics Operation for 9:00 a.m. service	Rosemary Bechtel
Greeters	Roy Merkle and Holly Elkins
Nursery	Sarah Hawk
Ushers	Volunteers Needed

January 2014

19	Sun	Christian Ed Team meeting and lunch at parsonage, 1:00 p.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.

February 2014

- 1 Sat Swiss Steak Dinner
- 2 Sun Communion at both services
Installation of new church officers
- 6 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Sun Retreat Planning Meeting, after 11:00 a.m. worship
- 10 Mon Mom's Group Meeting, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
- 11 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 14-15-16 Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills
- 20 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Fri Wedding Rehearsal
- 22 Sat Wedding
- 23 Sun Guest speaker
- 25 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 27 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.