

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 31, 2015 9:45 A.M. Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE *This Is Our Day* Wright, arr. Westney
Gary Hackett – Acoustic Guitar, Ken Mehalko – Saxophone,
Mike Soltis – Drum Set, Jack Stephenson – Bass Guitar,
Elena Taylor – Keyboard, Rob Toth – Mallet Percussion

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT *Praise the Lord in His Holy Temple* Yannerella

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We have come to worship the living God,

All: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

One: We have come to praise the almighty God,

All: Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

One: We have come to worship our all-gracious God,

All: Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope. All glory to God!

† **HYMN 716** *Jehovah Jireh* **Sing 2 times**
with Strongsville UCC Band

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG *Sanctuary* **Sing 3 times**
with Strongsville UCC Band

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

CCLI Song # 24140

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**

RESPONSE *Surely, Surely* Wright, arr. Westney
Elena Taylor – Soprano, Gary Hackett – Tenor, Jack Stephenson – Bass

SPECIAL MUSIC *Be Not Afraid* Lindsey and Lovelace, arr. Frazier
Elena Taylor – Soprano, Sarah Keenen – Alto, Joshua Konow – Tenor,
Jack Stephenson – Tenor, Gary Hackett – Bass,
Ken Mehalko – Saxophone, Sharon Heinrich – Organ,
and the Strongsville UCC Band

Choir and Congregation join in "Trust and Obey" at the end:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Do You Love God?* Wright, arr. Westney
Elena Taylor – Soprano Gary Hackett – Tenor

* **DOXOLOGY** *What Gift Can We Bring* – on insert

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN** on insert *Awesome God / Humble Thyself*

SCRIPTURES Jeremiah 1:4-10 Hebrew Scriptures, p. 657

SERMON *It Isn't Easy Being Green*

HYMN 602 *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*
with Strongsville UCC Band

† BENEDICTION

† **CHORAL RESPONSE** *Go, Ye Who Bear the Word*
Albin C. Whitworth

† **ORGAN POSTLUDE** *Trust and Obey* Sammis and Towner

ANNOUNCEMENTS – JANUARY 31, 2016

Welcome, visitors! We are so pleased you joined us this morning. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

All are invited to enjoy coffee and baked goods in Pilgrim Hall after worship today.

This morning's altar flowers are given in celebration of our church family! As you leave the sanctuary this morning, please feel free to take a flower from the vase for yourself or to give to someone who needs some cheer.

Our congratulations to parents Jon and Sarah Hayes, grandparents Dale and Cathy Hawk, aunt Amanda Hawk, and cousin Riley Hawk on the birth of Jack Emerson Hayes on January 23!

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place today. We will have only one service today at 9:45 a.m. The traditional Pancake Brunch will follow worship, and the meeting will commence at about 11:45 a.m. All are encouraged to attend the meeting.

Tuesday Meetings: Mission and Outreach Committee at 7:00 p.m.
Worship Committee at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Free Lunch – All are welcome to this free lunch, which is served every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.

		Weekly Offering Needed	\$3,190
Offering 1/24/16	Traditional	\$1,379	Contemporary \$645
			2,024
		Difference	-\$1,166

SERVING TODAY

Worship Accompanist
Chancel Choir Director
Bell Choir Director
Technical Setup and Operation
Sound System
Greeters
Liturgist
Morning Announcements
Coffee Hour

Elena Taylor
Joshua Konow
Barbara Fraunfelder
Doug Thorn
Jim Heinrich
The Bickley Family
Jim Nicoulin
Kim McKenzie
Tom Gaumer

2016 All-Family Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills – All rooms are full for the 2016 All-Family Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills on President's Day Weekend: February 12, 2016 – February 14, 2016. We will have a planning meeting in the pre-school Sunday School classroom (old pastor's office near Pilgrim Hall) next Sunday – February 7, 2016 – after the Traditional Worship Service. Those that are attending the retreat should plan to be at the meeting or contact Charles Jannsohn (440.364.4932) beforehand.

Pastor Becky is again teaching a Journey in Faith Membership Class, which began on January 21. Class is held at the church from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday evenings. Members, as well as potential members, are welcome and encouraged to attend. To register, please mark your Attendance Card, tell Pastor Becky, call the Church Office, or see the signup sheet on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.

Food Bank – KFC (Kids for Christ) are collecting cans of soup through Sunday, February 7. This is a great project for the children and one we can all easily support. A special collection area is in our Gathering Area, or the cans be placed in the Food Bank container in Pilgrim Hall.

Signup Charts for 2016 for Greeters, Ushers, and Altar Flowers are posted on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board. Please help in these areas if you are able. Thank you.

Strongsville UCC

SWISS STEAK DINNER

Saturday – February 6, 2016

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

Reservations Only: (216) 598-6198

Adults \$13.00 Ages 6-12 \$5.00 Under 6 years Free

Tickets are available for purchase after 9:45 a.m. worship.

Help is needed. The sign-up sheet is on Pilgrim Hall's board.

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.

Bake Sale – At the Swiss Steak Dinner on February 6, a Bake Sale will be set up in the Sunday School room across from the Parlor to raise money for my Girl Scout Gold Award project. Later this year I plan to build a worship garden for the church with the money I earn. I appreciate the support.

Gina Gigliotti

Altar Flowers – If you want to provide flowers on a Sunday morning, the following are dates within the next three months when **no one** has signed up: March 6 and 13, April 3 and 10. If those dates are not suitable to you, multiple vases are accepted on all Sunday mornings. Please see the Altar Flower chart in Pilgrim Hall to sign up. Thank you to all who place flowers on the altar.

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. This list is updated weekly. If you wish someone to remain on the list, 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, Erla Mae Schultz at Medina Village

Church Family: Jim Davis at Falling Water, Betty Kircher, Eileen Pincombe, Denzil Richards, Sharon Ritchie, Barb Stayrook, Pastor Becky Stephenson, Keith Sullen, Judy Thurn, Leah Tressa Forget, John Wood at Altenheim

Extended Church Family: Elizabeth Arendt (granddaughter of Bev Wehr), Ryan Brubeck, Emelyn Carels (sister of Irene Jannsohn), Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Rebecca Deeb (Goddughter of Lora Rung), Angie Dickinson (friend of Lola Millhoane), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Kay Gritti (friend of Lola Millhoane), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Amanda Hover (granddaughter of Betty Kircher), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Pat Kolba (mother of Kelly Bickley), Jessica Lane (granddaughter of Len and Bev), Lily (student of Lora Rung), Maggie (friend of the Bickleys), Sue Mason, Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Dolores Mhlack (mother of Allen) at Southern Hills, Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Kathleen Wickline (mother of Darla)

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 7, 2016

Liturgist	9:45 Bruce Keenen	11:15 Bill Schneider
Greeter		Linda Plain
Usher		Linda Plain
Morning Announcements		Kim McKenzie
Coffee Hour		Dianne Maringer

FEBRUARY 2016

- 2 Tue Mission and Outreach Committee, 7pm
Worship Committee, 7:30pm
- 3 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30-1pm
- 4 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7-9pm
- 5 Fri Swiss Steak Dinner Preparation, 9am
- 6 Sat Swiss Steak Dinner and Bake Sale Fundraiser
- 7 Sun Installation of New Church Officers during worship
Retreat Planning Meeting, after 9:45 worship
KFC Souper Bowl Sunday – last day for soup collection
- 9 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 10 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30-1pm
Ash Wednesday Worship, 7:30pm
- 11 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7-9pm
- 12-14 Annual Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills
- 16 Tue Advertising and Technology Committee Meeting, 7pm
Trustees Meeting, 7pm
- 17 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30-1pm
- 18 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7-9pm
- 23 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm
- 24 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30-1pm
- 25 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7-9pm

Wednesday Rehearsals: Children's Choir at 7:30 p.m.
Praise Band at 8:00 p.m.

Thursday Rehearsals: Bell Choir at 7:00 p.m.
Children's Instrumental at 7:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir at 8:00 p.m.

Officers elected at today's Annual Meeting will be installed during our worship services next Sunday, February 7, 2016.

Ash Wednesday – The season of Lent will begin on February 10, when we will have an evening worship service at 7:30 p.m.

Communion during Lent – At our 11:15 a.m. worship service, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion every Sunday during Lent. So if you want communion on a Lenten Sunday morning, please join us at the 11:15 service.