

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 4, 2015 9:45 A.M. Second Sunday after Christmas

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Stralsund Gesangbuch

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **HYMN 280** *One Small Child*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Look! A king is coming!

People: He comes bringing a chest of gold.

Leader: Look! A king is coming!

People: He comes bringing frankincense.

Leader: Look! A king is coming!

People: He comes bringing myrrh.

Leader: These are gifts for The King.

People: Let us bring Him a gift.

Let us give Him our hearts!

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.

PIANO RESPONSE *Spirit Song* John Wimber

ANTHEM *Do You Hear What I Hear?* Regney/Shayne,
arr. David Kay

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *It Is Well*

Philip Bliss

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 288** *We Three Kings*

SCRIPTURES Matthew 2:1-12 New Testament, p. 1

SERMON *"What Gift Shall I Bring?"*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All are welcome to come forward, or Pastor Becky will come to you.

DEDICATION OF PLEDGES **HYMN 678** *We Are An Offering*

† **HYMN 431** *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE**

† **POSTLUDE**

Serving Today

Worship Accompanist	Elena Taylor
Choir Director	David Kay
Bell Choir Director	Barbara Fraunfelder
Liturgist	Ted Bickley
Greeters	Lloyd and Barbara Bridle
Ushers	Lloyd and Barbara Bridle, Gary and Kathie Paul
Nursery	Sharon Heinrich
Coffee Hour	Dianne Maringer

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 4, 2014

11:15 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

SONGS

*Majesty
Almighty
Blessed Be the Name of the Lord*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONGS

*Change My Heart, O God
Mighty Is Our God*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Look! A king is coming!
People: He comes bringing a chest of gold.
Leader: Look! A king is coming!
People: He comes bringing frankincense.
Leader: Look! A king is coming!
People: He comes bringing myrrh.
Leader: These are gifts for The King.
**People: Let us bring Him a gift.
Let us give Him our hearts!**

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

Sanctuary

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(debts)*

OFFERING

It Is Well

THE WORD OF GOD

Matthew 2:1-12

New Testament, p. 1

MEDITATION

"What Gift Shall I Bring?"

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All are welcome to come forward, or Pastor Becky will come to you.

DEDICATION OF PLEDGES

SONG

We Are An Offering

SONG

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord

† 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

Praise Band Director

Elena Taylor

Song Leaders

Barb Fraunfelder, Kyra Krause, Clay Williams

Keyboard

Elena Taylor, Robert Toth

Acoustic Guitar I

Jake Williams

Acoustic Guitar II

Eric Wroblewski

Electric Guitar

Herbert Parker

Bass Guitar

Jack Stephenson

Violin

Julia Soltis, Frank Toth

Viola

Jake Williams

Clarinet

Emily Phan

Mallet Percussion

Robert Toth

Drum Set

Mike Soltis

Drum Pads

Aidan Hurtig, Christian Habart-Scott

Liturgist

Lora Rung

Graphics Operation

Michele Mhlack

Coffee Hour

Dianne Maringer

January 2015

- 4 Sun Communion at both worship services
Trustees Meeting, after 9:45 worship
- 6 Tue Mission and Outreach Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (*Interested members are encouraged to attend!*)
Worship Team Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 7 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 8 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- 11 Sun Collate Annual Reports in Pilgrim Hall
KFC Meeting between the worship services
- 13 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 15 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Newsletter Deadline
- 18 Sun Retreat reservations close and payment is due.
- 20 Tue Advertising Team Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 22 Thu Men's Luncheon at European's Best Restaurant, 11:30 a.m.
Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- 24 Sat Prepare for Pancake Breakfast in Pilgrim Hall, 9:00 a.m.
- 25 Sun Pancake Breakfast and Annual Meeting of the Congregation
KFC Penny Sunday
Newsletter Pickup
- 27 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 29 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- 30 Fri Prepare for Swiss Steak Dinner
- 31 Sat Swiss Steak Dinner

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – JANUARY 11, 2014

Liturgist	9:45 Jim Studer	11:15 Michele Mhlack
Greeter		Prudence Richards
Ushers for 9:45 a.m.		Needed
Nursery for 9:45 a.m.		Cathy Hawk
Graphics Operation for 11:15 a.m.		Rosemary Bechtel
Coffee Hour		Sharon Heinrich

ANNOUNCEMENTS – JANUARY 4, 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 others to get to know you.

This morning's altar flowers are given—

In Loving Memory of Michael E. Dickson
The Dickson – Jannsohn – Joyce Family

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Wishing My Church Family and Friends a Healthy, Happy New Year
God Bless You All
Love, Lola

Happy Birthday today to Wendy Hudecek!

The Board of Trustees will meet after the 9:45 worship service today.

January Church Newsletter – For those who get paper copies, please pick up yours today in the Gathering Area.

Official Board will meet tomorrow—Monday, January 5, at 7:30 p.m.

Mission and Outreach Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 6, at 7:00 p.m. Interested members are encouraged to attend also.

Worship Team will meet on Tuesday, January 6, at 7:00 p.m.

The Wednesday Free Lunch Program is in operation. All are welcome to attend this free weekly lunch. Volunteers who prepare meals are asked to be at the church no later than 9:00 a.m. Servers can arrive at 10:00 a.m. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., and lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Donations of canned or dry goods will be accepted, and monetary donations will be appreciated.

Membership Class – Pastor Becky will again teach a 12-week *Journey in Faith* class that will meet on Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the church, beginning this week on January 8, 2015. Members, as well as potential members, are welcome and encouraged to attend. Topics covered include: *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. Both members and nonmembers will enjoy the camaraderie and the knowledge that Pastor Becky shares. To sign up, please mark the back of your Attendance Card, or see the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area.

The Thrift Shop is giving away the 33 1/3 rpm records that are in boxes on the floor by the Royalton Road entrance door. Please feel free to help yourself!

MISSING: 2 LARGE PINK LAUNDRY BASKETS that are used at church dinners for towels and aprons. One has been gone since before the Turkey Dinner; and the other, since the Turkey Dinner. Please return them. Thank you.

2015 All-Family Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills – Mark your calendars now and sign up TODAY for the Annual All-Family Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Hills. The Retreat will take place on 2015 President's Day weekend: February 13, 14 and 15. The sign-up sheet and the "I Will Bring" sign-up have been posted on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. We are getting an earlier start this time around, as the reservation and payment processes for Pilgrim Hills have changed. We now must have full payment to the camp by the end of January. Reservations will close on January 18, 2015; and payment in full will also be due that day. We won't have as much wiggle room as in years' past, so please sign up early. We will have our regular planning meeting on Sunday, February 8, at the Church at a time and place to be determined. If you have any questions, please contact Charles Jannsohn.

Financial Officers of Church Groups: Please submit your financial statements to the Auditing Committee via the Church Office now. It is important that all books are audited before the Annual Meeting on January 25, 2015. Please turn in:

- 1) All bank books (savings and/or checking).
- 2) All bank statements for each month for each account. Checking account statements should show completed reconciliation on the back.
- 3) All monthly recap forms.
- 4) All bank deposit slips, withdrawal slips and bank check receipts (if received), attached to monthly recap forms.
- 5) All receipts and bills paid.
- 6) Copy of Annual Financial Report (original provided to Church Office for Annual Reports booklet).

Thank you for your cooperation. For questions or concerns, please call the Church Office at (440) 238-6697.

Sign-up Charts for Altar Flowers, Greeters, and Ushers for 2015 are posted on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Please take a moment to assist in these areas if you are able. Thank you!

Annual reports are due in the church office **NOW**.

A Big Thank You to the Thrift Shop for paying for our new red carpeting in the sanctuary!

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 Southwest Commons, Betty Kovach at Parkside Villa, Debbie Krause, Connie Rebar, Erla Mae Schultz at Medina Village

Church Family: Betty Babics, Betty Bushea, Rachel Kovatich, Dolores Matchett, Barbara Morgan, Ann Sullen at Parkside Villa, Rachel Zielinski

Extended Church Family: Bob Allwood (brother-in-law of Dale Hawk), Marianne Allwood (niece of Dale Hawk), Don Antos (friend of Judy Carte), June Brewer (niece of Ed Powers), Ryan Brubeck, Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Nicole Dangelo (daughter of Ginny), Sister-in-Law of Ginny Dangelo, Rebecca Deeb (Godddaughter of Lora Rung), Victor DiChiro (father-in-law of Rob Wentz), Pam Doubell (friend of Sue Gigliotti), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Christine Knudsen (friend of Lora Rung), Nancy Leasure (friend of Pastor Becky), Lily (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Paul Mhlack (father of Allen) at Southwest General, Barbara Sommers (mother of Sheri Martin), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Donna Wadden (friend of Gayle Sperber), Marilyn Woodward (mother of David and Carol)