

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 20, 2014

8:30 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

OPENING SONG

6 *Better Is One Day*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG

40 *I Love to Praise Him*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come to celebrate God's blessings to us.

All: **Surely God is in this place!**

One: We come to open ourselves to God's guidance and love.

All: **Surely God is in this place!**

One: We come to see more clearly God's presence in our lives.

All: **Surely God is in this place!**

One: We come to see God in this community of seekers.

All: **Surely God is in this place!**

One: We come to pray, praise, and offer ourselves to God.

All: **Surely God is in this place! Let us worship!**

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

67 *Sanctuary*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(debts)*

OFFERING

Thank You, Lord

THE WORD OF GOD

Matthew 13:24-30

NT, p. 12

MEDITATION

"Weed"

SONG

42 *I Will Celebrate*

† BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG

3 *Almighty*

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*.

This morning we welcome and thank our guest song leaders, who are students of Sharon Metivier. **Alyssa Emery** is a 2014 Brunswick graduate and will be majoring in Vocal Music Education at the College of Wooster this fall. **Ian Hager** is a 2014 Brunswick graduate and will be entering the Bachelor of Arts Vocal Music Program at Baldwin Wallace in the fall.

Serving Today

Music Director

Andrew Purdum

Keyboard

Elena Taylor

Guitar

Sean Patrick

Bass Guitar

Jack Stephenson

Drums

David Cola

Song Leaders

Andrew Purdum, Kyra Krause

Alyssa Emery, Ian Hager

Liturgist

Jack Stephenson

Graphics Operation

Sharon Heinrich

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

July 20, 2014 10:00 A.M. Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

† Those who are able may stand.

PRELUDE *He Leadeth Me* Mary McDonald
Brittany Gettle, Vocalist

INTROIT *If You but Trust in God to Guide You* Gerald Peterson

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come to celebrate God's blessings to us.

All: Surely God is in this place!

One: We come to open ourselves to God's guidance and love.

All: Surely God is in this place!

One: We come to see more clearly God's presence in our lives.

All: Surely God is in this place!

One: We come to see God in this community of seekers.

All: Surely God is in this place!

One: We come to pray, praise, and offer ourselves to God.

All: Surely God is in this place! Let us worship!

† HYMN 225 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

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.**

PIANO RESPONSE *Into My Heart* Harry Clarke
Alyssa Emery, Vocalist

ANTHEM *He Loved Me* Tom Fettke
Duet – Ian Hager and Alyssa Emery

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 *Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth* Mendelssohn
from "Elijah"

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 624** *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

SCRIPTURE Matthew 13:24-30 NT, p. 12

SERMON "Weed"

† **HYMN 602** *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** *Let There Be Praise* Melodie Tunney
Ian Hager, Vocalist

† **POSTLUDE** *Consider and Hear Me* Carl Pflueger

This morning we welcome and thank our guest vocalists, who are students of Sharon Metivier. **Brittany Gettle** is an incoming senior honor student at Brunswick High School and is very active in the Brunswick Choral Program. **Alyssa Emery** is a 2014 Brunswick graduate and will be majoring in Vocal Music Education at the College of Wooster this fall. **Ian Hager** is a 2014 Brunswick graduate and will be entering the Bachelor of Arts Vocal Music Program at Baldwin Wallace in the fall.

SERVING TODAY

Director of Music
Worship Accompanist
Liturgist
Greeters
Coffee Hour

Andrew Purdum
Elena Taylor
Ted Bickley
Lola Millhoane and Linda Plain
Sharon Heinrich

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

Church Family: Holly Elkins at Century Oak Care Center, Janet Kato at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Margot James, Vicky Masuga, Dolores Matchett, Ruth Milidonis, Barbara Morgan, Eileen Pincombe, Margaret Stayrook

Extended Church Family: Marianne Allwood (niece of Dale Hawk), June Brewer (niece of Ed Powers), Ryan Brubeck, Audrey and Gene Curry (parents of Pam Keenen), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), 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), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Kate Heisler (friend of Lora Rung), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Cyndi Klein (step-daughter of Jim Studer), Mary Ann Kreutzer (mother of Ginny Dangelo), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), 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)

July 2014

22 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
24 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
27 Sun Kindred Spirit Singles Group Meeting, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
31 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Serving Next Sunday – July 27, 2014

Liturgists	8:30 a.m. Kenn Oerkfitz	10:00 a.m. Kenn Oerkfitz
Graphics Operation for 8:30 a.m. Worship		Rosemary Bechtel
Greeters for 10:00 a.m. Worship	Jim Nicoulin and Claudia Bader	
Nursery for 10:00 a.m. Worship	Sharon Heinrich	
Coffee Hour	Vicky Masuga	

ANNOUNCEMENTS – JULY 20, 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 flowers are given—

*In Loving Memory of My Husband, William C. James
Margot James*

*Happy Birthday Today to Karen
The Morgan and Zielinski Families*

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

*Happy 30th Anniversary to Joe and Barbara Craig on July 14
With love, Mom*

*For Paul Hirt's 70th Birthday on Monday, July 21 – Love you, Paul!!
John and Dianne, Devan and Lindsay, Jonathan, Rachel and CJ*

*In Loving Memory of Jiggs and Edith Graves' Wedding Anniversary
on July 25
Dan and Roberta Carpenter*

Happy Birthday today to Betty Kovach, Kyra Krause, and Karen Morgan!

Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to church member Steve Martin, wife Aurelia, and family on the passing of Steve's father, Albert Martin, on Thursday, July 10.

Official Board will meet on Tuesday, July 22, at 7:30 p.m.

ATTENTION LADIES! If you are looking for a little getaway, come and join in for a spiritual and fun weekend at our second annual **Women's Retreat Weekend** from August 22 through August 24, 2014, at Pilgrim Hills. The cost of \$93.60 includes room and meals. Please contact Kim McKenzie to sign up or for questions: davekimmckenzie@cox.net or call (216) 398-1462.

A Planning Meeting for the Women's Retreat will take place Sunday, July 27, at 9:30 a.m.

Thank you to all who participated in the church cleanup yesterday!

St. Joseph Parish invites us and other church communities to their annual picnic on Sunday, July 27, 2014, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at their church, 12700 Pearl Road in Strongsville. There is no admission charge, but food, drink, and games are available for a small charge. St. Joseph wishes to make this a community event, as they will welcome back Father Joe Mamich after his kidney transplant.

Travel Presentation for the 2015 Trip to Israel will take place on Tuesday, August 12, 2014, 7:00 p.m. at the parsonage, 2214 Substation Road in Medina. RSVP: (440) 238-6697.

Interested in furthering the mission of the church, locally and beyond? The Mission and Outreach Committee extends an invitation to one or two people to join us in this area of the Christian faith. Please speak with Kelly Bickley, (330) 461-4624.

“God Is Still Speaking” Embroidery – In the Gathering Area are sample shirts with the logo. To have your shirt embroidered, the cost is \$8.00. The shirt's left chest area must be free of seams, embroidery, and pockets. Shirts made of cotton, polyester or a blend are ideal. Leather and silk are not good fabrics for embroidering. To order embroidery, please provide your own shirt, your name, your phone number, and payment (cash or checks payable to *Excellence in Embroidery*) to the church office. For questions or special requests, please email: excellenceinembroidery@gmail.com

Women's Fellowship's summer project will be to fill 60 tote bags for the Brookside children, ages 5 to 12. The finished tote bag size is 12" x 12". Donations of any of the items listed below or a monetary donation so we can purchase items would be appreciated. Monetary donations should be put into an envelope marked "Brookside Project" and placed in the church office. **Collection will be now through August 10. Please do not bring in family-size items.**

soap (facial size or small)	small tissue packets
shampoo	small cars or trucks
deodorant	decks of cards
toothbrushes	books
toothpaste (small tubes)	activity books
combs or brushes	coloring books
wash cloths	small stuffed toys
sidewalk chalk	crayons
pencils	blowing bubbles – small bottles

West Park UCC invites us to celebrate with them as they honor Rev. Lawrence H. Craig by bestowing on him the title of Pastor Emeritus, on Sunday August 3, at 10:00 a.m. during worship with communion, with a reception following in Barter Hall. Letters of congratulations may be sent to their church by Monday, July 28:

West Park United Church of Christ
3909 Rocky River Drive
Cleveland, OH 44111.

THANK YOU . . .

Deepest thanks to everyone who came together last Sunday to help celebrate my retirement from Strongsville UCC. The worship service was beautiful, the music excellent, and the "sweet, sweet spirit" truly was there among us. Thanks to the Andrew Purdum and the choir for singing an upbeat Alan Pote song, and to Jim Heinrich for playing trumpet. I also appreciate the Keenen ladies and Sandy O'Shea so expressively singing two of my own songs during the worship service, "Psalm 51" and "Kaeno". I was also very pleased to meet your new organist/pianist, Elena Taylor. It was nice to sit in the pew and listen to the worship service! I'm sure there were many folks involved in helping make the day a successful time together, and please accept my deepest thanks for all you did.

I have 30+ years of wonderful memories from my time in Strongsville UCC's Music Ministry, and I will cherish them always. I am honored and blessed to have served at Strongsville UCC, and welcomed into the church family with your friendship and fellowship. Your cards, email, package, visit, meals, and other ways you compassionately reached out to me in faith will never be forgotten. I wish you all the best – Strongsville UCC is an awesome and wonderful church with unlimited potential.

*Soli Deo Gloria,
Susan Stevenson Tressa*

