

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)
13740 Pearl Road
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

SUNDAY – JUNE 18, 2017 – 10:00 A.M.

Rev. Mendle Adams, Guest Minister



WELCOME!

We are grateful you chose to worship with us this morning. No matter who you are and where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

For questions about our church and ministries, you may call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please complete your Attendance Card and place it into the offering plate. We hope to see you again soon!

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE *Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho* Traditional

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** Betty Craig

L: Raise your voices in response to God's goodness.

P: We praise you, O Lord, for all the blessings you have given us.

L: Lift your hearts in sweet surrender to God's mercy.

P: We thank you, O Lord, for hearing the prayers of our hearts.

L: God is good; Praise be to God!

P: The love and mercy of God never fails. Amen.

† **HYMN 809** *God of Our Fathers*

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 Native American Flute Ken Mehalko

SPECIAL MUSIC *Oh Freedom* Traditional

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Mrs. Irene Joyce

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Go Down, Moses* Traditional

† **DOXOLOGY 815** Tune: *Old Hundredth*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURES Excerpts from Genesis 18 and 21

SERMON *Is Anything Impossible with God?* Rev. Mendle Adams

† **HYMN 404** *Faith of Our Fathers*

† BENEDICTION

† **PIANO RESPONSE** *Grace, Love and Fellowship* Tom Fettke

† **POSTLUDE** *When the Saints Go Marching In* Traditional

The flowers on the altar this morning are given—

*In Loving Memory of My Father, Mother, Step-father,
and the Wilson Family
Doris Soucie*

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

*In Loving Memory of My Nephew, Donald Szucs
Lola Szucs Millhoane*

Happy Birthday today to Jim McGuire!

Happy Father's Day to all dads in our congregation!

This morning we welcome and thank . . .

Rev. Mendle Adams (our guest minister) and his wife Charlene

The Satori Saxes for their worship music:
Dick Ingersoll, Ed Lichtenberg, Brian Maskow, Ken Mehalko

Summer Sunday School – Parents, Grandparents, Uncles, Aunts: Please sign up to teach one Sunday during the months of June, July, and August. The signup sheet is posted on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board. No experience is necessary, and all materials are provided. Please see Irene Joyce if you have questions. We thank Mrs. Irene Joyce and Mr. Dan Davis for teaching the class this morning.

UPDATE FROM YOUR PULPIT SEARCH COMMITTEE

We have been meeting every week to begin the multi-layered process in finding a new settled pastor for our church. There are specific procedures and guidelines set by the UCC, which we are following. The UCC dictates that the search may not even begin until the current pastor has totally vacated the position. The Diaconate is charged with placing an interim minister while the search process progresses.

One of the most important and time consuming steps in the procedure is the first big step: creating our church profile. We are on track to complete this phase of our mission by the end of July. Creating this profile involves prayerfully and carefully completing a very detailed and thorough series of essay questions and tables that will allow any perspective minister seeking a call to get a sense of who we are as a church, and if this place is a possible fit for him or her. Our church profile is a minimum of thirty pages long and requires quite a bit of research. This profile is very different than the one we completed over five years ago, so we aren't able to simply "cut and paste"! This document is extremely important and we are working hard to get it right! (To this end, we would very much appreciate your prompt return of your completed surveys, regarding our church's demographics). Once all the information is gathered and collated, the profile can go out into the world for ministers to consider. If one is interested and believes that our church may be a fit, he or she sends us his or her profile, which is anywhere from twenty to forty pages in length. The committee will then carefully and prayerfully review each profile and discern whether or not this person may be a fit for us, and an interview is warranted. This process takes several months.

Your Pulpit Search Committee realizes that we are instruments of God's will and take our mission very seriously. We as a church must continue to be strong and carry out our mission of Christian love and extravagant welcome whilst the search continues. Most importantly, your prayers and support are needed and gratefully welcomed. Please do not hesitate to ask any one of us your questions pertaining to the call process or other concerns you may have.

Thank you!

Your Pulpit Search Committee:

Ted Bickley, Judy Carte, Kristen Clotworthy,
Jim Dettmer, Ingrid Dickson, Sally Herzog, Bill Schneider

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,865
Weekly Offering Received 6/11/2017 \$3,301
Difference (\$564)



To make past services easier to view on the web, we have started a YouTube channel. To access it, go to the <http://strongsvilleucc.com/> website. Click on WORSHIP and then SERVICE VIDEOS. Once you get to YouTube, search for the service you wish to see and click on it. Alternately, you can go directly to YouTube and search for "Strongsville UCC". Most services from the beginning of 2017 have already been uploaded. To see an older service, please contact Jim Heinrich to see if it is available.

Strengthen the Church is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. Shared at the conference and national levels, Strengthen the Church largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC voice has not been heard. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Offering envelopes are in the pew racks. Our congregation will receive this offering throughout the month of June. Thank you for your support.

Next Sunday, June 25, is our Annual Church Picnic on our own grounds. The outdoor service is at the normal worship time of 10:00 a.m. A potluck lunch and games will follow. **Hot dogs and buns will be provided; please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share.** You may also want to bring a lawn chair. All are welcome!



Garage Sale Postponed – The Garage Sale, originally scheduled for July 8, 2017, has been postponed. Please hold on to your treasures for a little while longer. We appreciate your patience and understanding. Thank you very much.

Kitchen Supplies – Please check with Betty Craig or Ginny Oerkfitz before assuming we need a certain product. We do not need drinking straws or toothpicks. We can always use luncheon napkins, 9 oz. cold cups, lemonade or punch mix, coffee, tea bags, Ziploc plastic bags (sandwich, quart or gallon sizes), paper towels. These things are used weekly for coffee hour and the free lunch program. Thank you for your donations.

Updating Our Website and TVs – If you have updates for our church Website or TV screens at church, please inform:

Michele Mihlack 216-324-9799 or m.mihlack@gmail.com or
Irene Joyce 216-267-5043 or ij3e@sbcglobal.net
Thank you!

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 provide updates for this list. Thank you.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Betty Bushea, Margot James, Ethyl Jeglie at Elmcroft of Sagamore Hills, Janet Kato at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Betty Babics at Concordia Rehab, Steve Herzog, Irene Jannsohn, Don Kovach, Bev Lane, Martha Liebert, Pam Peacock, Jan Stough, Leah Tressa Forget, Shirley Weinhold, Kyle Woodward, Rachel Zielinski

Extended Church Family: Logan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Sue Mason, Piper Masuga (granddaughter of Dan and Vicky and great-granddaughter of Lola Millhoane), Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga)



JUNE 2017

18	Sun	Father's Day
21	Wed	Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm Fit Club, 7pm Adult Social Club Meeting, 7pm
25	Sun	Picnic Sunday: Worship at 10am outdoors, followed by potluck picnic lunch and games
27	Tue	Official Board Meeting, 7pm
28	Wed	Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm, Men's Luncheon, 11:30am Fit Club, 7pm

STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Telephone (440) 238-6697

Website strongsvilleucc.com

Email strongsvilleucc@gmail.com



Our church is celebrating its 200th Anniversary this year. As part of that celebration, we are planning an **Anniversary Luncheon on October 15**, right after the church service that Sunday. The luncheon will be held at the Strongsville Recreation Center Banquet room. If you think you may attend the luncheon, please let Joyce Reed know or sign up on the sheet on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board, where you can indicate your preliminary attendance and number of guests coming. Thank you.

The 200th Anniversary Committee

200th Anniversary Cookbooks – 45 cookbooks are still available at a cost of \$12.00 each. We also have six old church cookbooks from 2006 at a cost of \$10.00 each. If you got a cookbook and did not yet pay, please give your payment to Dianne Maringer or Joyce Reed, or place payment under the church office door. Thank you!

SERVING TODAY

Greeters: The Bickley Family

Morning Announcements: Irene Joyce

Liturgist: Betty Craig

Ushers: Ted and Kelly Bickley

Summer Sunday School Teacher: Dan Davis and Irene Joyce

Coffee Hour: Ginny Churnega

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – JUNE 25, 2017 - OUTDOORS

Greeters: Volunteers Needed

Morning Announcements: Irene Joyce

Liturgist: Lynne McCray

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Allen and Michele Mihlack