



## JUNE 2016 NEWSLETTER

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

#### SUNDAY – JUNE 5

*Third Sunday after Pentecost  
The Sacrament of Communion*

♪♪ **Recognition of** ♪♪  
**Our Chancel Choir and Praise Band**

*Summer Sunday School Begins*

**Scriptures:** 1 Kings 17:8-24

**Sermon:** "God's Prophecy"

#### WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

**Liturgist:** Pam Keenen

**Morning Announcements:** Kim McKenzie

**Greeter:** Linda Plain

**Usher:** Linda Plain

**Coffee Hour:** Michele and Allen Mihlack

#### SUNDAY – JUNE 12

*Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Recognition of Graduates**



**Scriptures:** Galatians 2:15-21

**Sermon:** "Live by Faith, Not Law"

#### WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

**Liturgist:** Kelly Bickley

**Morning Announcements:** Irene Joyce

**Greeter:** Gina Cathcart

**Ushers:** Volunteers Needed

**Coffee Hour:** Cathy Hawk

#### SUNDAY – JUNE 19

*Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Father's Day**

**Scriptures:** Luke 8:26-39

**Sermon:**  
"Whoa! What Happened to My Pigs?"

#### WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

**Liturgist:** Lynne McCray

**Morning Announcements:** Natalie Daniels

**Greeter:** Linda Plain

**Usher:** Linda Plain

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteer Needed

#### SUNDAY – JUNE 26

*Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic**



**Scriptures:** 2 Kings 2:1-2,6-14

**Sermon:** "Pick Up the Mantle, Son"

#### OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

*Potluck Picnic Meal will follow the service.*

**Liturgist:** Ted Bickley

**Morning Announcements:** Denise Bell

**Greeter:** Sharon Heinrich

**Ushers:** Volunteers Needed

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteer Needed

## FROM THE PASTOR'S GARDEN

Spring has finally arrived. The days are growing longer, and the weather seems to be getting a bit warmer. As I go from place to place, I enjoy looking at all the flowers that are beginning to bloom. I especially like peonies. Having grown peonies for a long time, I can't help but see many similarities between their growth process and our church's growth process.

Peonies are a hearty plant that, once established, can withstand some of the worst weather conditions. They can take the cold of the Ohio winters being blanketed with snow for long periods of time. They don't need a lot of water to live during the heat of the summers either. Peonies are also plants that grow and spread from the root system. Over the years peonies will spread and quadruple in size with not much effort on our part. Peonies also have a life cycle that involves new and more flowers that sprout from the ground each spring, bloom with glorious flowers for a short time, then simply remain green for the remainder of the season

Peonies have large buds that appear at the end of a single stem. Unlike roses or others that have multiple buds, peonies only have a small number and bloom only once a year. One of the things people don't enjoy about this flower is the ants that accompany the plant. Inexperienced gardeners often make the mistake of trying to rid the plant of these ants. However, the plants and the ants have a symbiotic relationship. When the bud has grown to size and is ready to bloom, the ants come and eat a sticky substance that coats each bud. When the substance is gone, the flower can bloom. Without the ants, the peonies cannot produce their beautiful blossoms.

We in the church have many similarities with the peonies. First we grow from our roots. We have historical roots reaching back 200 years and we have continued to build on those roots.

Peonies when planted are bulbs. These bulbs are hardy and are often planted just before the winter frost where they lay dormant until the spring. We also tend to come to church when we are not at our most beautiful form—like bulbs—in search of a new place to plant ourselves and our families.

Great care must be taken when planting peonies. If you plant the bulbs too shallow, the animals will come and eat them. If you plant them too deep, they will grow, but will not produce blooms. Peonies must be planted just right. Also peonies usually don't produce blooms until the second summer after planting. They need time to establish themselves. We are the same in the church. Peonies will bloom for many years; but like us, they have a lifespan and will succumb to disease or time and will finally die. But when they live, they make the most glorious blooms.

As I look around the church, I see beautiful peonies. There are some that are blossoming every year with outstanding beauty. There are some who are growing, but not ready to bloom just yet. There are some who were planted incorrectly and will never bloom, and there are others who are beginning to show struggles with life. My frustration with my peony garden is getting them all to bloom at the same time.

Maybe we need some more ants among us who will gnaw at the stickiness of our lives and help us to bloom.

What a beautiful garden God has given us!

Pastor Becky

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-- Beginning June 5, 2016 --

### 1 SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

10:00 A.M.

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### DIACONATE NEWS

Wing Nite was held Friday, May 6, at Sidelines in Brunswick. The profit was \$2,183. The Diaconate thanks everyone who furnished baskets, bought tickets to the event, bought raffle tickets, and played the sideboard games.



### CONGRATULATIONS

to parents, Sam Cuyler and Sarah Richards, and to grandparents, Lora Rung and Samuel Cuyler, on the birth of Braxden Joseph Cuyler on Tuesday, May 3, 2016!

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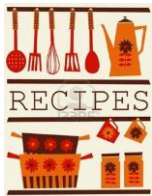
### KIDS FOR CHRIST Penny Sundays

From their Penny Sunday collections from January through April 2016, Kids for Christ received \$341.97, which was donated to Strongsville Food Bank. Thank you to all for your support.

Penny Sunday is the last Sunday of the month and for this month, the date is June 26 (Picnic Sunday).



## 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK



**your recipe(s) now or as soon as possible.**

Please return recipes by **July 15** either in the basket in the Gathering Area or by mailing the envelope you received. To date, we have only 31 recipes. **Because it takes time to load recipes into the automated system, please do not wait until the last minute—please submit**

You may submit multiple recipes. Additional recipe forms are by the recipe basket in the Gathering Area, but it is **not** mandatory that you use the form.

Thank you very much for your participation!

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### NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Barb Fraunfelder

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from April 24 through May 15, 2016. This information also appears on a weekly basis in our worship bulletin.

Offering Needed \$15,600 for 4 Sundays @ \$3,900/week  
Offering Received 19,791  
Difference +\$4,191



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### COFFEE HOUR

Volunteers are needed for Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings. If serving at Coffee Hour is new for you, the Diaconate will train you for the task! The signup sheet is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Your help will be **GREATLY** appreciated!



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### CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



We are now taking pictures of families and church events for a Pictorial Directory. Please contact Cathy Hawk at (440) 781-7512 or Sarah Hayes at (440) 781-7513 to schedule your photo session.

**Calling All Women!** The fourth annual Women's Retreat will be held Friday through Sunday, August 12-14, at Pilgrim Hills. All women are **WELCOME!** Come and enjoy a GREAT weekend!



Please contact Cathy Hawk (440) 781-7512 or Lori Kovatich (440) 238-3938 with questions or to sign up. A sign-up sheet is also on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.

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### IN SYMPATHY



Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to two families on their recent losses:

To the family of Barb Stayrook on the occasion of her passing on April 26, 2016. The funeral was held on April 30 at Baker Funeral Home in Berea.

And also to the family of Erla Mae Schultz on the occasion of her passing on May 9, 2016, in Medina. The funeral took place May 14 at Baker Funeral Home in Berea.

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### ALTAR FLOWERS



You may provide flowers on any Sunday you wish because multiple vases are accepted on Sunday mornings. As of this printing, the following are dates when vases are still needed in order to have two vases on Sunday:

July 3 – 1 vase  
July 10 – 2 vases  
July 17 – 1 vase  
July 24 – 1 vase  
August 28 – 1 vase  
September 4 – 2 vases  
September 11 – 1 vase  
September 18 – 1 vase  
October 2 – 2 vases  
October 23 – 2 vases  
October 30 – 2 vases  
November 6 – 1 vase  
November 27 – 2 vases  
December 4 – 1 vase  
December 11 – 1 vase

The signup chart for altar flowers is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Below the chart are forms and envelopes for submitting bulletin information and payment to the church office. Thank you for providing flowers.

## STEEPLE LIGHTING

**April 24, 2016**

*In Loving Memory of All My Loved Ones*  
Margot James

*A Big, Big, Big Thank You to Chris Minnick*  
*for bringing up the many, many bags from the basement*  
*on April 17, 2016*  
The Thrift Shop

**Week of May 1, 2016**

*Happy Birthday to Hayley Craig on May 7*  
With love, Grammy

**Week of May 8, 2016**

*Happy Birthday to Debbie Wentz on May 9*  
*and to Patti Johnson on May 11*  
With love, Mom

*In Loving Remembrance of Mark Kircher*  
The Kircher Family

**Week of May 22, 2016**

*Happy Birthday on May 22*  
*to Ryan Craig and to Tracey Hill,*  
*Happy Birthday on May 28 to Sandra Wentz, and*  
*Happy Anniversary on May 25*  
*to Adam and Kristina Craig and to Stacie and Dan Sauter*  
With love, Grammy

*Congratulations Richie, Ginny and Kevin*  
*on your achievements! We are very proud of you!*  
Mom and Dad

*In Celebration and In Honor of*  
*All the Thrift Shop Volunteers—*  
*Past, Present And Future—These Past 35 Years*  
*The Thrift Shop would not have survived without them.*  
*A big THANK YOU to them all!*

**Week of May 29, 2016**

*Happy Anniversary on June 3 to Patti and Nate Johnson*  
With love, Mom

To light the steeple for a week, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Information and donation forms are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Multiple donations for the same week are accepted. Thank you for lighting the steeple.



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

For their meeting on June 1, 2016, Women's Fellowship will visit Gardenview Horticultural Park in Strongsville. The ladies will meet at the church at 10:00 a.m. to carpool to the park.



**Tote Bags** – Women's Fellowship Spring Project will be to fill about 60 Tote Bags for the Strongsville Food Bank children, ages 5 to 12. The finished bag is about 11" x 12". Donations of any of the items listed below or monetary donations, so we may purchase items, would be appreciated. Monetary donations should be put into an envelope marked "Tote Bag Project" and placed in the church office. **Collection concludes on Sunday, June 5.** Travel size is best and can be found at Marc's or Target.

### PLEASE DO NOT PROVIDE FAMILY-SIZE ITEMS.

soap (facial size or smaller)	small tissue packets
shampoo	small cars or trucks
body lotion	decks of cards
deodorant	activity books
tooth brushes	coloring books
toothpaste (small tubes)	small stuffed toys ( <i>no bigger than 8"</i> )
wash cloths	blowing bubbles (small bottles)
combs or brushes	sidewalk chalk
pencils	
crayons (16 or 24 count)	

## ORGAN RESTORATION NEWS

Thank you to all who supported the Pancake Breakfast fundraiser for our pipe organ's restoration on April 24. The profit was \$1,000.



Thanks also to all helpers: Judy Gaumer, Bill Giuliano, Jim Heinrich, Sharon Heinrich, Aimée Jannsohn, Charles Jannsohn, Isabella Jannsohn, Nina Jannsohn, Bruce Keenen, Pam Keenen, Sarah Keenen, Bob Kovatich, Lori Kovatich, Rachel Kovatich, John Maringer, Sandy O'Shea, Ed Sobek, Devin Thorn, Doug Thorn, and Clay Williams.



## 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, (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

**Church Family:** Madison Bell, Betty Bushea, Betty Craig, Richie McKenzie, Pam Peacock, Harvey Pincombe, Denzil Richards, Sharon Ritchie, Keith Sullen, Elena Taylor, Leah Tressa Forget, Kyle Woodward

**Extended Church Family:** Elizabeth Arendt (granddaughter of Bev Wehr), Nancy Borchert (friend of Dorothy Ritchie), Ryan Brubeck, Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Pam DePierna (friend of Betty Kircher), Angie Dickinson (friend of Lola Millhoane), Edie Deitcher (friend of Barbara O'Boyle), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Amanda Hover (granddaughter of Betty Kircher), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Pat Kolba (mother of Kelly Bickley), Phyllis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Jessica Lane (granddaughter of Len and Bev), Luther (acquaintance of The Thrift Shop), Sue Mason, Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Dolores Mihlack (mother of Allen) at Southern Hills, Dana Moran (sister of Ginny Dangelo), Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Zora Roundtree, Trish Shields (friend of Pastor Becky) at O'Neill Healthcare, Ralph Sitko (friend of Dorothy Ritchie), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan) at Southern Hills, Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Kathleen Wickline (mother of Darla)

*Please call the church office to provide updates to this list, (440) 238-6697.*

*Thank you!*



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Summer Sunday School begins June 5.** 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.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

**June 5** – Summer Sunday School begins.

**June 12** – Graduates' Recognition

**June 26** – Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic, 10:00 a.m.

**July 23** – Free Family Fun Day

**September 11** – Rally Day



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Strongsville UCC

**FREE FAMILY FUN DAY**

Saturday – July 23, 2016

