

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

Rev. Joseph Santomen, Guest Minister



**PICNIC SUNDAY – JUNE 25, 2017 – 10:00 A.M.**

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### 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!**

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† *Please stand as you are comfortable.*

**PRELUDE** *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* Doris Akers

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** Lynne McCray  
Leader: God expressed confidence in Jacob even though Jacob  
was a sinful man.

**People: As Jacob was running from his sin, God came to him  
with the assurance of God's protection.**

Leader: God renewed the covenant he had made with Abraham,  
promising Jacob he would be blessed with God's  
faithfulness.

**People: Like Jacob, may we realize God's presence in our lives  
and commit our ways to God. Amen.**

† **HYMN** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise His name—I'm fixed upon it—  
Name of God's redeeming love.

Hitherto Thy love has blest me;  
Thou hast brought me to this place;  
And I know Thy hand will bring me  
Safely home by Thy good grace.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Bought me with His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it;  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

### 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** *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus* Stead/Kirkpatrick

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *Redeemer* Nicole Coleman-Mullen

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** Rev. Santomen

#### THE OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** *His Eye Is on the Sparrow* Charles H. Gabriel

† **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** Genesis 28:10-17

**SERMON** *Are We Climbing?* Rev. Joseph Santomen

† **HYMN** *We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder*

We are climbing Jacob's ladder. We are climbing Jacob's ladder.  
We are climbing Jacob's ladder, Soldiers of the cross.

Ev'ry round goes higher higher. Ev'ry round goes higher higher.  
Ev'ry round goes higher higher, Soldiers of the cross.

Sinner, do you love my Jesus? Sinner, do you love my Jesus?  
Sinner, do you love my Jesus? Soldiers of the cross.

If you love Him, why not serve Him?  
If you love Him, why not serve Him?  
If you love Him, why not serve Him? Soldiers of the cross.

We are climbing higher, higher. We are climbing higher, higher.  
We are climbing higher, higher, Soldiers of the cross

#### † BENEDICTION

† **RESPONSE** *Till We Meet Again* Kirk Franklin

† **POSTLUDE** *Days of Elijah* Robin Mark

This morning we welcome and thank . . .

**Rev. Joseph Santomen** (our guest minister) and his wife **Betsey**  
**Deborah Lewis**, Guest Vocalist

**We also thank Ken Mehalko** for his special music, **Sharon Heinrich** for  
playing keyboard, and **Jim Heinrich** and **Ryan Heinrich** for running the  
sound system.

**After our outdoor worship today, all are welcome to the Picnic Lunch  
in Pilgrim Hall.**

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### 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

Official Board will meet Tuesday, June 27, at 7:00 p.m.

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.

**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.

**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.

**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](mailto:m.mihlack@gmail.com)  
or

Irene Joyce 216-267-5043 or [ij3e@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ij3e@sbcglobal.net)

Thank you!

### PENNY SUNDAYS

**July 2** will be a Penny Sunday because Penny Sunday will not take place today on Picnic Sunday, June 25. The collection on July 2 will be given to the Wink Foundation, in honor of Annette Karr and her dog Wink's being with us on June 11, 2017, for the Children's Message.

**July 30** (the last Sunday of the month) is our regular Penny Sunday, when the collection will be, as usual, for the Strongsville Food Bank. Thank you for your support.

### OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,865  
Weekly Offering Received 6/18/2017 \$1,696  
Difference (\$2,169)



### 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, Steve Herzog, Irene Jannsohn, Don Kovach at Parkside Villa, 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

- 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 UCC 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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

**200<sup>th</sup> 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 NEXT SUNDAY – JULY 2, 2017

**Greeter:** Linda Plain

**Morning Announcements:** Irene Joyce

**Liturgist:** Jim Studer

**Usher:** Linda Plain

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteers Needed

### STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Church Telephone** (440) 238-6697

**Website** [strongsvilleucc.com](http://strongsvilleucc.com)

**Email** [strongsvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleucc@gmail.com)