

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

March 22, 2015 9:45 A.M. Fifth Sunday in Lent

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLAYLET *On the Road with Jesus* Fifth Sunday in Lent

† **HYMN 435** *God of Grace* **Verses 1 and 4**

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Let us gather to worship.

All: O God, we wish to see Jesus!

One: We come to worship, to pray, and to learn.

All: We come looking for Jesus in scripture lessons, in our own life experiences, in helping our world, in prayers for each other.

One: We seek to follow in the way of Jesus.

All: We lay bare before God and one another our own wilderness journey, filled with some gladness and hope, with reluctance and sorrow, with fear and confusion.

One: O God, speak to us, show us, touch us with your presence!

All: Let our Lenten journey lead us to Jesus, so that we may show Jesus forth in our lives, our faith community, and our world. Amen.

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

BELL ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Lowell Mason, arr. Ronald Kauffmann

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SCRIPTURES John 12:20-33 New Testament, p. 93

SERMON *The Time Is Coming*

† **HYMN 416** *We're Marching to Zion* **Verses 1 and 4**

† **BENEDICTION**

† **BELL RESPONSE** *Open Our Eyes*
Bob Cull, arr. Peggy Bettcher

† **POSTLUDE**

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

SERVING TODAY

Worship Accompanist
Interim Choir Director
Bell Choir Director
Liturgist
Greeters
Ushers
Coffee Hour

Elena Taylor
Ken Mehalko
Barbara Fraunfelder
Jim Nicoulin
Tom and Judy Gaumer
Bill and Beth Giuliano, Sharon Heinrich
Ginny Basenback

MARCH 2015

- 22 Sun KFC CROP Walk skits and demonstrations, during Coffee Hour
Women's Fellowship Candy Sale, during Coffee Hour
Lenten Meal and Study, 6:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall
- 24 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Men's Luncheon at European's Best Restaurant, 11:30 a.m.
- 26 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- 29 Sun Palm Sunday – Communion at both services
Reception of New Members at both services
Penny Sunday
Lenten Meal and Study, 6:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall

APRIL 2015

- 2 Thu Maundy Thursday Service, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- 3 Fri Good Friday Service, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- 5 Sun Easter Worship Services 6:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m.
Easter Breakfast. 7:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.
- 19 Sun ORC All-You-Can Eat Pancake Breakfast, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- 25 Sat Strategic Planning Meeting, 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall

CHURCH MUSIC REHEARSALS

Wednesday Evening: Praise Band - 8:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Thursday Evening:

Children's Choir - 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Bell Choir - 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Children's Band - 7:15 to 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir - 8:00 to 9:30 p.m.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Palm Sunday – Traditional 9:45 a.m., Contemporary 11:15 a.m.
with Communion and Reception of Members at both services

Maundy Thursday – Communion Service – 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Good Friday – Tenebrae Service – 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunrise – 6:30 a.m. – outdoors, weather permitting

*Easter Breakfast of Scrambled Eggs and Ham – 7:30 to 9:15 a.m.
Donations of baked goods are requested.*

Easter Sunday Worship – 9:45 a.m. – in the Sanctuary
No Service at 11:15 a.m.

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – MARCH 29, 2015

Liturgist	9:45 a.m. Ted Bickley	11:15 a.m. Kenn Oerkfitz
Greeter		Ray Suttle
Coffee Hour		Tom Gaumer

ANNOUNCEMENTS – MARCH 22, 2015

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 Memory of Richard Craig and Bernard Roub
Betty Craig*

*In Loving Memory of Our Fathers, Paul Mhlack and Richard Veon
Allen and Michele*

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

*Happy Birthday to Bill Jr. today
With love, Bill and Dorothy, Gina and Sharon*

Happy Birthday today to Jean Straub and to Debra Heinzman!

Our congratulations to the Masuga family—parents Jake and Lauren, sister Adalyn Jill, grandparents Dan and Vicky, and great-grandmother (Banny) Lola Millhoane—on the birth of baby girl, Piper Dani, on Monday, March 16, 2015!

Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to Dorothy Ritchie and family on the passing of her brother, Wilson Lansell, on March 18 in Florida.

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,190
Offering Received 3/15: 2,646
Difference (\$544)

Lenten Study – Pastor Becky continues to lead a Lenten study on the book, Renegade Gospel, by Mike Slaughter on the Sundays of Lent through March 29. We will enjoy a meal at the church at 6:00 p.m., and the study will follow at about 7:00 p.m. The book presents Jesus and his challenging message to inspire us during Lent, Easter, and through the year. For the meal, the main course will be provided; please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Thank you.

Candy Sale – Women's Fellowship will sell candy in Pilgrim Hall between the two services this morning.

CROP WALK on Saturday, April 25 – For today--please be sure to stick around for or come early to Coffee Hour! The KFC Club (and helpers) will be performing short skits and putting on a demonstration to teach about Crop Walk and why we "Walk Because They Walk". Our fund-raising goal for the walk is \$1,000. Sponsored by Church World Service, CROP Hunger Walk is the oldest hunger-fighting fundraising event in the U.S. It involves more than 1,600 communities each year – a mix of faiths, community groups, individuals and schools. Around 25 percent of the money raised fights hunger in each of those communities, with the remainder supporting the life-saving work of CWS – helping people around the world have enough food to eat and clean water to drink – and allowing children to have the best start at life possible.

Sign up to be a walker or donate on our Team Page:

<http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/UCCCongregational>

There is also a sign up in the Gathering Area.

Child Safe Community Day – This afternoon everyone is invited to the 11th Annual Child Safe Community Day Fair from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center. The event, presented by the Rotary Club of Strongsville, offers free child fingerprinting and clinics for kids on Stranger Danger and other safety topics. The event also features an Easter egg hunt for pre-K to third grade, inflatables, pictures with the Easter Bunny, ice cream eating contest, dozens of vendor booths and more. Admission is free; there's a small donation for pictures and the ice cream contest. Be sure to visit the Strongsville UCC table also!

Official Board will meet on Tuesday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Free Lunch Program is in operation. All are welcome to attend this free weekly lunch, which is served 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Men's Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, March 25, at European's Best Restaurant at 11:30 a.m. As always, all men are welcome.

CALLING ALL WOMEN! The third annual Women's Retreat will be held August 14 through 16, 2015, (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) at Pilgrim Hills. Please join in for a GREAT weekend! Cost is \$93.60 due by Sunday, June 14, 2015. If you have any questions or want to sign up, please email Kim McKenzie at davekimmckenzie@cox.net or call Kim at (216) 401-8738. Look for the sign-up sheet in April.

Weekly Food Bank Donations – Judy Carte continues to be our liaison to the Strongsville Food Bank, and you will see that she lists items that the Food Bank needs most. We will be starting a weekly rotation of donations on the first through fourth Sundays of the month. The donation box will be located in the foyer as you walk in for services. This will allow

our church to more consistently give the Food Bank what they most need for the people who utilize it. The schedule will be as follows for now, until needs change. (We will notify you accordingly when they do.)

First Sunday	Canned fruit
Second Sunday	Pork and beans
Third Sunday	Family meals (such as chili, beef stew, ravioli)
Fourth Sunday	Toiletry items

Vehicle Needed – Our Mission and Outreach Committee has adopted two families, who were recommended by Kelly Kling, the Strongsville Food Bank administrator. One family needs a vehicle. If you have an old car or van that you are thinking of donating to a charity, you can donate your vehicle through our church. Our church will provide a tax donation receipt to the donor. For more information, please contact Judy Carte, Mission and Outreach Committee liaison for the adopted families, or Kenn Oerkfitz, Church Treasurer.

Help is needed on Sunday mornings with greeting, ushering, and serving at coffee hour. To help in these areas, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. If you are new to a task, we will arrange for a Diaconate member to assist you. Thank you for volunteering to help.

Coffee Hour Fund – Thank you to all who contribute to the Coffee Hour Fund. Besides Coffee Hour, these contributions will now also provide supplies for the Wednesday Free Lunch program. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Diaconate Sponsored Fundraiser

WING NITE

Friday – May 1, 2015 – 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at

Sidelines Sports Bar & Grill

1165 Pearl Road

Brunswick, Ohio



\$20.00 per person includes wings, penne pasta with marinara sauce, garden salad, hot dogs, pop, draft beer. Cash bar also available.

Additional fun events for the evening:

Chinese Auction, Side Boards / 50/50, Heads / Tails game

Tickets for this event will be available for purchase on Sunday mornings from Diaconate members. Anyone willing to provide theme baskets/gifts for the auction, please sign up on the board in Pilgrim Hall. Thank you!

THRIFT SHOP

March 26 BAG SALE – all bags \$6

April 2 FINAL BAG SALE – all bags \$5

April 9 Thrift Shop Closed for Changeover

The Thrift Shop is open on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Please hold your donations until April 16. Thank you!

Strategic Planning Meeting – Please join in for the Strategic Planning Meeting on Saturday, April 25, 2015, at noon in Pilgrim Hall at the church. Your opinion and ideas do count and will help the church to carry forward with goals to succeed!

Prayer Chains – If you wish to be part of an Email Prayer Chain or a Telephone Prayer Chain for special prayer requests that arise, please call the church, (440) 238-6697. To request prayers from the Email Prayer Chain and the Telephone Prayer Chains, please inform Pastor Becky or the church office.

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

Church Family: Betty Bushea, Rhea Clements, Charles Jannsohn, Irene Jannsohn, Jim Joyce, Carol Lesiak, Sandy Pogozeleski, Denzil Richards, Melinda Slavik, Doris Soucie, Ann Sullen, Leah Tressa Forget *

Extended Church Family: Ryan Brubeck, Marie Bury, Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Rebecca Deeb (Goddaughter of Lora Rung), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Brian Gogerty (friend of the Heinrichs), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Marjorie Tressa (mother of Rich), Shirley Wilson (mother of Sue Hawk), Marilyn Woodward (mother of David and Carol)

* If you wish to send Leah a card, her address is: Leah Forget
1604 Brentwood Street
Middletown, OH 44054

This list will be updated weekly. If you wish someone to remain on the list, please call the church office, (440) 238-6697.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS – MARCH 22, 2015

The Stewardship Committee held its first official meeting of the year on March 15. Co-chairs (Darla Wickline and Natalie Daniels) were selected, and the committee plans to meet each month. Also, expect to hear from us throughout the year! We will begin having articles in the monthly newsletter, and we plan to keep the church up to date on our planning, and on ways in which everyone can grow their stewardship! If anyone has any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to let us know.

An Ecumenical Softball Team is being formed. If you are interested to play on the team, please circle Softball Team on your Attendance Card; call the church office, (440) 238-6697; or tell Pastor Becky. Thank you!



You may provide flowers on any Sunday you wish because multiple vases are accepted on our altar on Sunday mornings. However, the following are dates when vases are still needed for Sunday worship:

March 29 - 1 vase
May 17 – 1 vase
May 24 – 1 vase
May 31 – 1 vase
June 7 – 2 vases
June 21 – 1 vase
July 5 – 2 vases
August 9 – 1 vase
August 16 – 2 vases
September 6 – 1 vase
October 4 – 1 vase
October 25 – 2 vases
November 8 – 1 vase
November 29 – 2 vases
December 13 – 2 vases

Please note: If you only attend the 9:45 a.m. service, you are welcome to take your flowers after that service. The Contemporary Service is casual, and it is okay if flowers are not on the altar.

The signup chart for altar flowers is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Below the chart are forms and envelopes for submitting your bulletin information and payment to the church office. Thank you very much for providing flowers for our worship services.



Sunday – March 22, 2015 – 11:15 A.M.

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