



MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY – MAY 7 – 10:00 A.M.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Strongsville Methodist Church uses Pilgrim Hall
from 7:30 to 10:00 a.m.
for their annual Confirmation Breakfast.*

Greeter: Linda Plain

Ushers: Linda Plain

Coffee Hour: Ted and Kelly Bickley

Concert Series – 3:00 P.M. with reception afterwards

SUNDAY – MAY 14 – 10:00 A.M.

*Fifth Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day*

Greeters:

Dorothy Ritchie, Gina Cathcart, Sharon Ritchie

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Volunteers Needed

SUNDAY – MAY 21 – 10:00 A.M.

*Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday School Ice Cream Party after church*

Greeter: Roy Merkle

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Cathy Hawk

SUNDAY – MAY 28 – 10:00 A.M.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Greeter: Volunteer Needed

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Volunteers Needed



PULPIT SEARCH UPDATE

As we say our goodbyes to Pastor Becky and Jack, we begin our search for a new minister. Although we are all very sad about our loss, we must think about the future of our journey with God. Our Search Committee has been selected, and the following will be serving:

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

They will be beginning this journey with us and with the Transition Team will work to find a pastor that will guide us to our next calling with God.

The Transition Team has completed their report and will be making it available to the congregation over the next few weeks. We as members must keep focused on the work we are doing now and look for other ways to spread the word. I know this transition is hard, but together we will make it through.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, and remember the Transition Team will be here to help us through the entire process.

Serving with you in Christ's name,
Rachel Zielinski, Moderator

DIACONATE NEWS

WING NITE is Friday, May 5, 2017, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Grindstone Tap House at 826 Front Street in Berea. It is on one floor (no steps to a dark basement), and will include pizza, pasta, wings, salad, 5 types of domestic beer, well drinks, and wine. Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased NOW from any Diaconate member.



We are looking for donations of theme-based baskets to auction at this event. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall for you to write your name and the type of basket you will provide.

Thank you for your support of this fundraiser.

HEADLINE NEWS

Ladies Benevolent Society of Strongsville Formed!

The Ladies Benevolent Society of Strongsville was formed in March 1848 and was associated with the Free Congregational Church. It was a very important and influential part of the church. It adopted a constitution which states: "Any person may become a member of the society by subscribing to the constitution and paying the sum of 1 shilling annually. The society provided clothing and other items for the needy. They supported Oberlin Ojibway Mission (this mission was an outreach of Oberlin Seminary to provide missionaries to the Ojibway Indians). They supported them financially and sent clothing and other items they made. Meanwhile, June 1953, the female charitable association of the First Congregational Church of Strongsville was formed. Dues were to be 25 cents per year. However, gentlemen may become members of this association by paying 50 cents annually.



SAVE THE DATE!

Our church is celebrating its 200th Anniversary this year. As part of that celebration we are planning on having an **Anniversary Luncheon on October 15, 2017**, right after the church service that Sunday. The luncheon will be held at the Strongsville Recreation Center Banquet room.

We are currently working on finalizing all the details pertaining to special guests, menu, and out-of-pocket costs, if any. Once those are completed, we will provide you with more information.

In the meantime, we request that if you think you may attend, please let Joyce Reed know by May 15. There is a sign-up sheet in Pilgrim Hall, where you can indicate your preliminary attendance and number of guests coming. Thank you.

The 200th Anniversary Committee

200TH ANNIVERSARY CHURCH COOKBOOKS



Please see Dianne Maringer to get your copy – 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 payment to Dianne Maringer or Joyce Reed, or place payment under the church office door. Thank you!

ARTS IN STRONGSVILLE and STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CONCERT SERIES

SUNDAY – MAY 7, 2017 – 3:00 P.M.

The Venner Clarinet Choir

is a 12-piece clarinet choir led by Ted Johnson, former clarinetist with the Cleveland Orchestra.

This is the choir's second appearance at our church.



The Baldwin Wallace Alumni Brass Collective

is a brass quintet led by Jim Wonnacott.

Freewill Offering ~ Reception Following Concert All Are Welcome!

Donations of refreshments for the concert are appreciated.

If you can bring something, please let Ingrid Dickson or Pam Keenen know. Thank you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, May 21, is Sunday School Student / Teacher Appreciation Day! After the worship service, everyone is invited to join us for ice cream in Pilgrim Hall.

Thank you to all the dedicated people who make our Sunday School the success that it is!



ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

Mark your calendars now for these events!

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

Sunday – May 21

Required minimum 10 people, maximum 25 people
\$25 per group

The cost is divided by the number of people that go.
Anything above 25 people requires a new group.

Two weeks' notice is needed;
so please sign up on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board
by Thursday, May 4.

LOLLY THE TROLLEY

Tour of Lake View Cemetery

Saturday – June 17

We need 30 people.

Total cost of tour is \$895.00 + tax (\$32.22/person).

We will be picked up at SUCC and will get a
1 to 1-1/2 hour tour of Lake View Cemetery then return
to SUCC. Reservations and money are due by June 1.

BLOSSOM MUSIC CENTER

Salute to America

Sunday – July 2

\$18.50 per person includes
fireworks, pavilion seating and parking pass.

INDIANS GAME

Cleveland vs. Los Angeles Angels

Thursday – July 27 – 12:30 Game

\$25.00 each for a minimum of 16 people.
More people means a larger discount.

WOLF CREEK WINERY

Thursday – August 17

Bring your own food.

They only have snack foods like pretzels and chips.
Indoor shelter is first come/first serve. No cost.

CLEVELAND METROPARKS ZOO

Sunday – September 10

Tram makes two stops—

at top of hill and at bottom of hill

Adults \$13.25 Seniors (62 and over) \$11.95

THISTLEDOWN

Saturday – October 7

STAN HYWETT MANSION:

December – Details to follow.



Thank you to our Thrift Shop ladies for the extra hours they volunteered the past couple weeks to get the shop cleaned and ready for selling the new spring/summer line of merchandise!

Thank you for all the birthday cards and well wishes. You are all very special to me. I have enjoyed being a member for over 70 years.

God bless you all.

*Betty "Grammy" Craig
April 10, 2017*

A big "Thank You" to my dear church family for the beautiful, meaningful birthday card that you all signed. I can't believe you did this without me seeing it being done. It was totally a wonderful surprise. Thank you again for my making my 75th so special. I hope we are together for many more years. Bless You All.

*Linda Plain
April 20, 2017*

DRUG INDUCED CHAOS MEETINGS

Drug Induced Chaos is an outreach group for families dealing with drug addiction. The group meets the third Monday of the month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall. Meetings are open to anyone dealing with drug-related problems in their family. There is no charge to attend the meetings. More information is on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

Support for our child in India is covered for all months of 2017. Bev Wehr will remind our monthly donors. Please place cash or your check into an envelope marked *Child Sponsorship* and place it into the first weekly offering of your month. Please make your check payable to *Strongsville UCC*, with *Child Sponsorship* written on the memo line. Sincere thanks to all of you for your support.

*Judy Carte
for the Mission Outreach Committee*



STEEPLE LIGHTING

Week of April 9, 2017

*In Celebration of Bil and Beth Giuliano's 23rd Anniversary
on April 9*

To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Donation forms are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Multiple donations for the same week will be accepted. For questions, please call the church, (440) 238-6697. Thank you for lighting the steeple.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

On Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017, the following members were received into our congregation:

Serena Abruzzino
Mike Clotworthy
Myron Costin
Brittany Johnson
Chad Jahnsen
Bobbie Krisak
Rebecca Oerkfitz-Garcia
Dawn Rolland
Josh Trinckes

We extend a warm welcome to them all!



The charts for Greeters, Ushers, Altar Flowers, and Coffee Hour still have openings for helping. The charts are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Please sign up if you are able to assist in these areas.

If you are new to a task, please call the church office, and we will direct you to someone who will train you.

Thank you for your help.

ALTAR FLOWERS

You may provide flowers on any Sunday you wish because multiple vases are accepted on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$15 for one vase, \$30 for two vases.

As of this printing, the following are dates when vases are still needed so that two vases are on the altar for Sunday worship:

May 21 – 1 vase
June 11 – 1 vase
July 9 – 2 vases
August 6 – 2 vases
August 13 – 1 vase
August 27 – 1 vase
September 3 – 2 vases
September 10 – 1 vase
October 8 – 2 vases
October 15 – 2 vases
October 22 – 2 vases
October 29 – 2 vases
November 5 – 2 vases
November 19 – 1 vase
November 26 – 2 vases
December 10 – 1 vase

The sign-up chart for altar flowers is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Below the chart are forms and envelopes for submitting your bulletin information and payment to 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 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, Harvey Pincombe, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields, Doris Soucie

Church Family: Steve Herzog, Carol Lesiak, Martha Liebert, Pam Peacock, Jan Stough, Leah Tressa Forget, Kyle Woodward

Extended Church Family: Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Sue Mason, 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)

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Meeting – Women's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, May 3, at 10:00 a.m. After the meeting, the ladies are welcome to enjoy the Free Lunch Program in Pilgrim Hall. As always, all ladies are invited to the meeting.



CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2017

Officers elected on January 29, 2017, have an asterisk by their names.*

Moderator Rachel Zielinski*
Vice-Moderator Bill Schneider*
Treasurer Kenn Oerkfitz*
Clerk Karen Morgan*
Sunday School Co-Superintendents Jamie Habart*
 Irene Joyce*

Board of Trustees

Ed Bond	Lloyd Bridle*	Jim Dettmer*
Greg Dickson*	Bill Giuliano	Dale Hawk*
Jim Heinrich*	Bob Kovatich	Ken Mehalko
Ed Sobek*		

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Irene Jannsohn* Joyce Reed*

Diaconate

Jennifer Barry*	Kelly Bickley*	Adria Bond
Barbara Camp*	Gina Cathcart*	Ginny Oerkfitz
Kristen Clotworthy*	Dan Davis	Cathy Hawk
Sarah Hayes*	Linda Plain*	Cheryl Sobek
Marty Winch*		

Christian Education Committee

Kelly Bickley*	Jamie Habart	Irene Joyce
Sandy O'Shea*	Lora Rung*	

Music Committee

Ingrid Dickson*	Pam Keenen	Elena Taylor
Barb Fraunfelder	Ken Mehalko*	

Stewardship Committee

Rosemary Bechtel	Barbara Bridle*	Sue Gigliotti*
Laurie Meister*		

Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte*	Brandi Garsteck*	Michele Mihlack*
Gary Paul*	Lora Rung	Bev Wehr*



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 continues until Sunday, June 4. **The collection box is under the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.** Travel size is best and can be found at Marc's or Target.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING 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)	

NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Adria Bond

The following monthly report lists the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount actually received. This information also appears weekly in our Sunday bulletin.

For March 26 through April 16

Offering Needed	\$15,460
Received: March 26 through April 16	14,549
Difference	(\$911)

