

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

May 8, 2016 9:45 A.M. Seventh Sunday of Easter

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Irene Joyce

INTROIT *"Praise the Lord in His Holy Temple"* Charles Yannerella

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Kenn Oerkfitz

One: God rules the Earth with justice:

Many: Earth and Earth's people rejoice!

One: All nature serves God:

Fire clears the way and lightening lights God's path:

Many: Earth and Earth's people rejoice!

One: The heavens proclaim God's righteousness;

All peoples behold God's glory:

Many: Earth and Earth's people rejoice!

One: Delight in God, O coastlands and heartlands;

Give thanks to God, O faithful ones:

Many: Earth and Earth's people rejoice!

† HYMN 425

"Bind Us Together"

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

CHORAL ANTHEM *"Go Ye into All the World"* Eugene Butler

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM *"Unto Thee, O Lord"* Charles Monroe

Children's Choir

Teddy Bickley, Russell Bickley, Anna Bickley

Luke Giuliano, Christian Habart-Scott

Kelly Bickley, Flute

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

† DOXOLOGY No. 166 *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*
Tune: *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† HYMN 450

"Lift High the Cross"

SCRIPTURES John 17:20-26 New Testament, p. 98

SERMON Rev. Dr. Rita Root, Guest Minister

† HYMN 446

"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"

† BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE *"Let Me Love"* Harlan Moore

† POSTLUDE

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 8, 2016

11:15 A.M.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE *"Breathe"* Marie Barnett

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GATHERING SONG *"Sanctuary"* Sing 2 times.

INTROIT *"Blessed Assurance"* Phoebe Knapp

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** Kenn Oerkfitz

One: God rules the Earth with justice:

Many: Earth and Earth's people rejoice!

One: All nature serves God:

Fire clears the way and lightening lights God's path:

Many: Earth and Earth's people rejoice!

One: The heavens proclaim God's righteousness;
All peoples behold God's glory:

Many: Earth and Earth's people rejoice!

One: Delight in God, O coastlands and heartlands;
Give thanks to God, O faithful ones:

Many: Earth and Earth's people rejoice!

† **OPENING SONG** *"Open the Eyes of My Heart"*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *"In the Name of the Lord"* Sandi Patty

† **DOXOLOGY** *"We Are an Offering"*

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SCRIPTURES John 17:20-26 New Testament, p. 98

MEDITATION Rev. Dr. Rita Root, Guest Minister

† **CLOSING SONG** *"Shout Hallelujah"*

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE**

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SERVING TODAY

Kelly Bickley – Flute
Christian Habart-Scott – Drum Pads
Gary Hackett – Acoustic Guitar, Vocalist
Kyra Krause – Vocalist
Ken Mehalko – Clarinet, Saxophone
Toni Newborn – Vocalist
Herbert Parker – Electric Guitar
Emily Phan – Clarinet, Vocalist
Julia Soltis – Violin, Acoustic Guitar, Clarinet
Mike Soltis – Drum Set
Jack Stephenson – Bass Guitar, Vocalist
Elena Taylor – Praise Band Director, Keyboard, Vocalist
Doug Thorn – Technical Setup and Operation, Sound System
Robert Toth – Mallet Percussion
Clay Williams – Vocalist
Jake Williams – Acoustic Guitar, Viola



Sunday – May 8, 2016 – 11:15 A.M.

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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. Please provide updates for this list. Thank you.*

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, Erla Mae Schultz at Hospice of Medina County

Church Family: Madison Bell, Betty Bushea, Richie McKenzie, Harvey Pincombe, Denzil Richards, Sharon Ritchie, Keith Sullen, 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), Phillis 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 Mhlack (mother of Allen) at Southern Hills, Dana Moran (sister of Ginny Dangelo), Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Ralph Sitko (friend of Dorothy Ritchie), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Kathleen Wickline (mother of Darla)

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – MAY 15, 2016

Liturgist	9:45 Gina Gigliotti	11:15 Dan Masuga
Morning Announcements		Natalie Daniels
Greeters	Gina Cathcart and Dorothy Ritchie	
Ushers	Volunteers Needed	
Coffee Hour	Sharon Heinrich	
Graphics Operation	Adria Bond	

ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAY 8, 2016

Welcome, visitors! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. All are invited for coffee and fellowship in Pilgrim Hall after worship today.

The altar flowers are given—

*Happy Birthday to My Mom, Dorothy Ritchie, and
Wishing All Moms a Happy Mother's Day
Gina Cathcart*

The steeple will light the sky this week—

*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*

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

Pastor Becky and Jack Stephenson are away today. We welcome our guest minister, Rev. Dr. Rita Root, who serves as the Associations General Minister for the Eastern Ohio and Western Reserve Associations. Prior to her accepting this call, Rev. Root served as the Interim Conference Minister in the New York Conference and as the Interim Association Minister of the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the Illinois Conference. Rev. Root has served in the local parish in urban, suburban and rural settings as well as at a campus ministry at a state university. She graduated summa cum laude from Minnesota State-Mankato with a BS in Psychology and Religious Studies, received her Masters of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Chicago, and her Doctor of Ministry from Chicago Theological Seminary.

SERVING TODAY

Worship Accompanist	Elena Taylor
Chancel Choir Director	Joshua Konow
Bell Choir Director	Barb Fraunfelder
Technical Setup and Operation	Doug Thorn
Sound System	9:45 Jim Heinrich
Liturgist	9:45 Kenn Oerkfitz
Morning Announcements	11:15 Doug Thorn
Greeter	11:15 Kenn Oerkfitz
Ushers	Irene Joyce
Coffee Hour	Ginny Oerkfitz
Graphics Operation	Volunteers Needed
	Ginny Oerkfitz
	Michele Mhlack

Ladies' Restroom in Gathering Area – To accommodate a wheelchair right now, the partition in the ladies' restroom was removed. A latch was put on the door, and the restroom is now a "family" restroom. We plan to have the restroom renovated soon to ADA standards for accessible design.

Wednesday Free Lunch – All are welcome to this free lunch, which is served every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.

Cookbook – For our church's 200th anniversary in 2017, Strongsville UCC will print a new cookbook! **Please return your recipe(s) by July 15** either in the basket in the Gathering Area, or use the envelope provided with your letter and mail your recipe. Thank you!

Pictorial Directory – We have begun taking pictures of families and church events for a Pictorial Directory. To schedule your photo time, please contact Cathy Hawk at (440) 781-7512 or Sarah Hayes at (440) 781-7513. We will make some day and evening times available.

Spring into Fitness is a FREE 8-week health and fitness program designed for ALL levels that runs to May 23. The weekly program is at 7:00 p.m. on Mondays at the church and includes various ways to get involved. Come to all events or just come to what fits your schedule. Please request to join on our Facebook Group to stay motivated and keep current on all events. There is no minimum or maximum level of involvement. Join the group at:

facebook.com/groups/SpringIntoFitnessProgram/

Classes are 35-50 minutes in length. For more information, please contact Kelly Bickley, Team Beachbody Coach – phone and text (330) 461-4624 or email mindbodysoulmama@beachbodycoach.com

Weekly Offering Needed	\$3,900
Weekly Offering Received on 5/1/2016	<u>5,353</u>
Difference	1,453

Southwest Community Chorus will present its 2016 Spring concert, "Moments of Remembrance," on Sunday, May 15, beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Berea Methodist Church at 170 Seminary Street in Berea. The chorus is directed by Tom Foley and accompanied by Carol Konet. UCC singers include Pam Keenen, Bruce Keenen, Jack Stephenson, Gary Hackett and UCC guest singer, Craig Hardy. Children 12 and under are free, and adult tickets are \$10. Tickets are available from chorus members or at the door the day of the concert. Please plan to attend. We love seeing church members in the audience.

Next Sunday, May 15, our Bell Choir will play and will be recognized during 9:45 worship.

On May 22, we will celebrate the 35th anniversary of our Thrift Shop.

"The Mystery of The Shroud of Turin" – St Joseph Church is hosting a presentation by David M. Onysko on Tuesday, May 24, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Church. His lecture will focus on the significance of the shroud: if it is authentic, the scientific issues of authenticity, and the historical and theological importance of the shroud. For more than 35 years, David Onysko has devoted his life to learning and lecturing on the shroud. His two life-size reprints of the shroud and his slide presentation give the audience in-depth knowledge to draw their own conclusions. All are welcome. This event is free. A freewill offering will be taken. No registration is required.

Women's Fellowship Spring Project is 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 items listed 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 is now until Sunday, June 5. Collection boxes and a list of items are under the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Travel size is best and can be found at Marc's or Target. **PLEASE DO NOT PROVIDE FAMILY-SIZE ITEMS.**

MAY 2016

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| 9 Mon | Spring into Fitness, 7pm |
| 10 Tue | Diaconate Meeting, 7pm |
| 11 Wed | Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm |
| 15 Sun | Methodist Confirmation Class Breakfast in Pilgrim Hall, 7:45-10am
Recognition of Bell Choir in 9:45 worship
Strengthen the Church Offering Received – See today's insert.
Newsletter Deadline |
| 16 Mon | Spring into Fitness, 7pm |
| 17 Tue | Advertising Committee Meeting, 7pm
Trustees Meeting, 7pm |
| 18 Wed | Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm |
| 21 Sat | Strategic Planning Meeting, 9am to 3pm in Pilgrim Hall
Spring into Fitness Healthy Potluck, 5pm at Kelly's Home |
| 22 Sun | Recognition of The Thrift Shop's 35 th Anniversary in 9:45 worship |
| 23 Mon | Spring into Fitness, 7pm |
| 24 Tue | Official Board Meeting, 7pm |
| 25 Wed | Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm
Men's Luncheon at European's Best Restaurant, 11:30am |
| 30 Mon | Memorial Day |