

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

November 16, 2014 9:45 A.M. Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

† *Those who are able may stand.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Adagio, Opus 77* Johannes Brahms

INTROIT by Children's Choir *Mary Had a Baby*
Jake Williams, Guitar Accompanist

† **HYMN 45** *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sing the new day,

All: O God, we come.

One: Sing a new song,

All: Awakened, we come.

One: Sing to the light,

All: So beckoned, we come.

SHARING 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.

PIANO RESPONSE *Sortie* George Blake

ANTHEM *I Will Serve the Lord All My Days* Don Besig
Kelly Bickley, Flute

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *March Heroique* Kevin Kaisershot
David Kay, Laleen Kay, Ken Mehalko – Saxophones

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 669** *Make Me a Servant*

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 6:1-8 Hebrew Scriptures, p. 595

SERMON *"Whom Shall I Send?"*

† **HYMN 589** *Here I Am, Lord*

† BENEDICTION

† **RESPONSE** *Go Now in Peace* Natalie Sleeth

† **POSTLUDE** *Blessed Jesu, at Thy Word* Henry Kihlken

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

Serving Today

Worship Accompanist
Interim Choir Director
Liturgist
Greeters
Ushers
Nursery
Coffee Hour

Elena Taylor
Ken Mehalko
Ted Bickley
Kris Fischer and Michael
Gary and Kathie Paul
Tom Gaumer
Rosemary Bechtel

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 16, 2014

11:15 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

OPENING SONGS

58 *Mighty Is Our God*
48 *Jesus, Name Above All Names*
81 *This Is the Day*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG

62 *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sing the new day,

All: O God, we come.

One: Sing a new song,

All: Awakened, we come.

One: Sing to the light,

All: So beckoned, we come.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

67 *Sanctuary*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(debts)*

OFFERING

Ave Maria

THE WORD OF GOD

Isaiah 6:1-8

Hebrew Scriptures, p. 595

MEDITATION

"Whom Shall I Send?"

SONG

54 *Lord, Be Glorified*

† BENEDICTION

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

Songs are from the white *Contemporary Worship Songbook*.

Serving Today

Worship Accompanist

Song Leaders

Acoustic Guitar I

Acoustic Guitar II

Electric Guitar

Bass Guitar

Violin

Clarinet

Drum Set

Drum Pads

Liturgist

Graphics Operation

Coffee Hour

Elena Taylor

Kyra Krause, Clay Williams

Jake Williams

Eric Wroblewski

Herbert Parker

Jack Stephenson

Julia Soltis

Emily Phan

Mike Soltis

Aidan Hurtig, Christian Habart-Scott

Jack Stephenson

Vicky Masuga

Rosemary Bechtel

November 2014

- 16 Sun Diaconate French Toast Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
December Newsletter Deadline
- 18 Tue Advertising Team Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 23 Sun Dedicate Thanksgiving Baskets
Mitten Tree Begins
Stewardship Sunday – Dedicate Pledge Cards
Holiday Open House, 5:00 p.m.
- 24 Mon Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets in Pilgrim Hall
- 25 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Deadline for Submitting Dates of Fundraising Events
- 27 Thu Thanksgiving Day
- 30 Sun Advent Begins, Hanging of the Greens
KFC Penny Sunday
December Newsletter Distribution / Pickup

December 2014 – a brief listing only

- 3 Wed Free Lunch Program begins.
- 7 Sun KFC Meeting to make Christmas cards between the worship services
Trustees Meeting, after 9:45 a.m. worship
- 12 Fri Swingin' Carols of Christmas Concert, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Sun Mission and Outreach Quilt Raffle Drawing, between the two worship services
- 19 Fri Blue Christmas Service of Remembrance and Hope, 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Sun KFC Penny Sunday
January Newsletter Distribution / Pickup

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.** *

Children's Band – **7:15 to 8:00 p.m.** *

Bell Choir for Beginners – 6:45 p.m.

Bell Choir for All – 7:05 to 8:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir – 8:00 to 9:30 p.m.

*** Please note changes in times.**

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 23, 2014

Liturgist	9:45 a.m. Betty Craig	11:15 Betty Craig
Greeters	Volunteers Needed for Both Services	
Ushers for 9:45 a.m.	Volunteers Needed	
Nursery for 9:45 a.m.	Sarah Herzog	
Graphics Operation for 11:15 a.m.	Vicky Masuga	
Coffee Hour	Bev Wehr	

ANNOUNCEMENTS – NOVEMBER 16, 2014

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 Honor of Jim Joyce's Birthday, and
In Honor of Ingrid and Greg Dickson's 6th Wedding Anniversary
The Jannsohn–Joyce–Dickson Family*

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

*To celebrate 66 wonderful years together since November 20, 1948
John and Maggie Struhar*

Strongsville UCC Diaconate ALL YOU CAN EAT! FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST

Fundraiser for Church Worship Programs

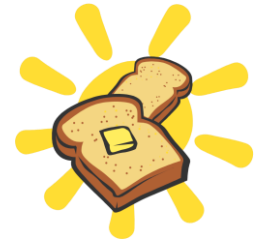
TODAY – 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

\$8.00 – 13 years and older

\$4.00 – 5 to 12 years

Free – 4 years and under

French Toast – Eggs – Sausage – Bakery – Juices – Coffee – Tea



Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to Jim Studer and family on the passing of his brother Tom on Monday, November 10. Visitation is today in Wooster, Ohio. The funeral is tomorrow in West Salem, Ohio. For additional information, please see the obituary that is posted on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.

Today is the December Church Newsletter deadline. Please place your article(s) in the church office today. Thank you!

Advertising Team will meet Tuesday, November 18, at 7:00 p.m.

Food collected for the Thanksgiving Season will be dedicated next Sunday during the worship services.

The Free Lunch Program will begin on Wednesday, December 3, 2014. To help, please indicate so on your Attendance Card.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP CANDY SCHEDULE

Make Candy at 9:00 A.M. Monday, November 17
Wednesday, November 19

Package Candy at 10:30 A.M. Friday, November 21

Sell Candy after Traditional Worship Sunday, November 30
Sunday, December 7

Candy will be sold after the Traditional Service during Coffee Hour on November 30 and December 7. **No candy will be sold before those dates, and no advance orders will be taken.**

The Thrift Shop has an assortment of 33 1/3 rpm records that are free for the taking. The records are in boxes on the floor by the Royalton Road entrance door. Please feel free to help yourself to those you would like!

Sunday, November 23, is our annual Open House with Strongsville's Lighting Ceremony on the Square. We will again have a Live Nativity with Charlie the camel. **To donate toward the cost of the live animals, please see Rachel Zielinski.** We will also have organ music, DFS Singers, bell ringing, and more! We need lots of help with this church-wide event! We see more than 300 visitors come through our doors. We have lots of places for you to help. Please sign up on the back of your Attendance Card or on the sheet in Pilgrim Hall.

Church Fundraising – In an effort to better understand and coordinate all church fundraising activities/events, a Calendar is being developed by the Official Board. In support of this effort, **all boards, committees or groups planning a fundraising event in 2015 are asked to submit a list of months and dates to the Official Board by November 25.** For questions pertaining to this request, please contact Joyce Reed.

Mission and Outreach – A beautiful **quilt**, handmade by Ha Bennett, will be raffled off on Sunday, **December 14 – between the worship services.** Proceeds from ticket sales will be used by the Mission and Outreach Committee (of which Ha is a member) for a variety of programs we are supporting in mission work locally and globally. Raffle tickets prices are \$10 for one and \$15 for two, and they are available from members of the Committee: Kelly Bickley, Lora Rung, Elizabeth Snook, and Pastor Becky. Tickets are also available in the Church Office. The queen-size quilt will be on display each Sunday morning. *Good friends are like quilts—they age with you, yet never lose their warmth.*

THANKSGIVING BASKET FOOD COLLECTION – 2014

Our goal is to prepare 75 baskets for needy families in our community. Each week we will bring to church the following items, which will be placed in our sanctuary

Oct. 19 cans of green beans, cans of corn
Oct. 26 boxes of stuffing (like Stove Top) and jars of gravy
Nov. 2 dessert mixes (like brownies, cake mixes, or cookie mixes) and
 cans of icing
Nov. 9 cans of cranberry sauce, boxes of corn muffin mix
Nov. 16 boxes of instant mashed potatoes or a 5-pound bag of fresh
 potatoes, canned or fresh yams
Nov. 23 turkeys or hams

To make a cash donation instead, please make your check payable to **Strongsville United Church of Christ.** On the memo line, write **Thanksgiving Basket.** Thank you! All financial donations will be accepted. \$20 covers the cost of the turkey or ham; \$40 covers the cost of a whole basket.

To suggest a recipient for a Thanksgiving Basket, please provide the information on the back of your Attendance Card; and put the card into the offering plate. Thank you.

Mark your now calendars for . . .

Swingin' Carols of Christmas Concert

featuring the

Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band

under the direction of Ken Mehalko and Jim Wonnacott

Friday – December 12, 2014 – 7:30 p.m.

in our Sanctuary

\$10 – 13 years and older

\$4 – 6 to 12 years

Free – 5 years and under



Here I am, Lord . . .

As a member of the church, I would like to serve

- ☐ on the Christian Education Committee
 - ☐ on the Diaconate
 - ☐ on the Mission and Outreach Committee
 - ☐ on the Music Committee
 - ☐ on the Stewardship Committee
 - ☐ on the Trustees
-

As a friend or member of the church, I would like to serve

- ☐ on the Advertising Team
- ☐ in the Bell Choir
- ☐ in the Chancel Choir
- ☐ on the Free Lunch Program Team
- ☐ with Kids for Christ (KFC)
- ☐ in the Praise Band
- ☐ with Sunday School
- ☐ on the Worship Team
- ☐ with the Youth Group

Name _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email Address _____

*Please place your completed form in the box in the Gathering Area.
You will be contacted with more information about your opportunity to serve.*

A TIME TO GROW – MISSION & OUTREACH

We, individually and as a church, are skilled at doing mission and outreach. We give money to charities, donate food and clothing, volunteer at soup kitchens—you name it. After all, we're Christians, called to do unto others, to help the underprivileged have a safer place to call home . . . or a fuller belly . . . or a heavy coat collar to turn up against the biting winter wind. Why? We believe everyone has a right to food, clothing, and shelter. Things we are privileged enough (thank God) to take for granted.

Would it surprise you to know that 1 in 5 adults lacks the basic reading skills beyond a fourth-grade level? That means they are probably unable to complete a job application, read a bus schedule, or follow the instructions on their prescription bottle. Talk about things we take for granted!

Did you know that almost 85% of all young people in the juvenile court system are illiterate? What will become of them when they're released from prison and try to start over with their life? How will they be able to if they can't even read? How will the school-to-prison pipeline ever close in this state of affairs?

Sure, we may not know an adult or a juvenile prisoner who can't read, but that doesn't mean they aren't out there, even in our own communities—the statistics indicate otherwise. In fact, this complicated social injustice touches on many other issues that at first might not seem obvious, like economic justice, racial justice, gender inequality, criminal justice, and public education, to name a few.

Limited literacy skills are a major contributor to poverty. Yes, there will always be people who are in need of food, clothing, and shelter—and you are already helping with that. But what if we as Christians took it a step further? What if you could change the course of someone's future by teaching them to read? You can. You already meet one of the criteria. (Hint: If you're reading this, then you have the power to do it.)

We're fortunate that the United Church of Christ, our very own denomination, is already taking steps to eradicate illiteracy. We can join in at any time. The Reading Changes Lives program

acknowledges that literacy issues reside in all communities and that there's a need for faith communities to get involved, and provides numerous ideas and ways to make it happen. Go to Reading Changes Lives (www.uccfiles.com/literacy) to learn more. If Reading Changes Lives is the kind of mission and outreach you feel you can get behind, let's pull together and help make a difference. See Aimée Jannsohn of the Stewardship Committee if you're interested.

Have a great week,
The Stewardship Committee
Kris Fischer, Barb Fraunfelder, Aimée Jannsohn,
Irene Jannsohn, Kenn Oerkfitz

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

Church Family: Betty Bushea at Parkside Villa, Marie Bury at Parkside Villa, Dolores Matchett, Barbara Morgan, Betty Yarnell

Extended Church Family: Bob Allwood (brother-in-law of Dale Hawk), Marianne Allwood (niece of Dale Hawk), Don Antos (friend of Judy Carte), June Brewer (niece of Ed Powers), Ryan Brubeck, Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Rebecca Deeb (Godddaughter of Lora Rung), Victor DiChiro (father-in-law of Rob Wentz), Pam Doubell (friend of Sue Gigliotti), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Christine Knudsen (friend of Lora Rung), Nancy Leasure (friend of Pastor Becky), Lily (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Barbara Sommers (mother of Sheri Martin), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Donna Wadden (friend of Gayle Sperber), Marilyn Woodward (mother of David and Carol)

Strongsville United Church of Christ

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE and LIVE NATIVITY

**Sunday, November 23, 2014
5:00 to 8:00 P.M.**

Live Nativity with Live Animals, Music and Refreshments



Strongsville United Church of Christ

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Friday, December 19, 2014, 7:30 p.m.

A worship service of remembrance and hope,
remembering those who have passed away,
while seeking hope for all of us
as we enter this Christmas season.

*You are not alone . . . we welcome you.
Come, join us in fellowship.*

