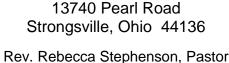
# THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CONGREGATIONAL)

13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136





SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 20, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.

## **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, vou 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!

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE

**HYMN 779** "I'll Fly Away"

Albert E. Brumley

(2 verses)

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away; To a home on God's celestial shore. I'll fly away. I'll fly away, Oh Glory. I'll fly away; (in the morning) When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away/.

When the shadows of this life have gone, I'll fly away; Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away. I'll fly away, Oh Glory. I'll fly away; (in the morning) When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away/.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† HYMN 790

"We Gather Together"

# **† CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name. People: Make known God's deeds among the people!

Leader: God blesses us with gifts of love:

People: With food and clothing, home and family.

Leader: Therefore, we offer thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

People: O Lord our God, we give thanks to you forever.

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

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

George Whelpton

CHORAL ANTHEM "I Will Give Thanks to the Lord" Lloyd Larson

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### THE OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** "Therefore the Redeemed of the Lord" Ruth Lake

† DOXOLOGY 166

Tune: "Lasst uns erfreunen"

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

**SCRIPTURES** 

SERMON

Psalm 105:1-4 Philippians 4:4-7 Hebrew Scriptures, p. 519 New Testament, p. 175

"Be Thankful"

† HYMN 788

"Now Thank We All Our God"

† BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE

"In All Things Give Him Thanks" Claire Cloninger

† POSTLUDE

"The King Is Coming"

William Gaither

#### This morning's altar flowers are given—

In Honor of Ginny Churnega's Birthday With love from her family

In Memory of Dr. Frank L. Weakley Peg Weakley

# Our steeple will light the sky this week-

Happy Birthday Today to Adam Craig and Happy Anniversary to Debbie and Larry Wentz on November 24 With love, Grammy/Mom

> *In Celebration of Our 68<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary* John and Maggie Struhar

Happy Anniversary today to John and Maggie Struhar!

Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to three families on their recent losses-

to Sharon Wilson and family on the passing of her husband Howard on Saturday, November 12. A memorial service will be held in the spring at their farm.

to Janet Kato and family on the passing of her husband Bill on Tuesday, November 15. A memorial service will be held Friday, November 25, at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel at the Western Reserve Masonic Community, 4931 Nettleton Road in Medina.

to Marjorie Morrison on the passing of her mother, Betty Riley, on Wednesday, November 16, in Athens, Ohio. The funeral was Friday, November 18. in Athens. Ohio.

Just a reminder that the memorial service for Chris Morgan is this Saturday. November 26, at 11:30 a.m. in our sanctuary. After the service a catered luncheon in celebration of Chris' life will be held in Pilgrim Hall. After the luncheon, fellowship will continue at Grant's home, 2463 Twelve Oaks Circle in Medina. Donations of desserts would be appreciated for the luncheon. Please contact Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz at (440) 554-4367 or email her at anchormate1@yahoo.com if you will provide a dessert.

Last call for December Newsletter articles! Please leave your article(s) in the Church Office today.

Thanksgiving Baskets will be assembled tomorrow morning. Help is needed. Helpers need to be at church at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow. Thank you!

Orders for poinsettia plants on the altar for Christmas Eve are due next Sunday, November 27. Order forms (with envelopes) are on the rectangular table in the Gathering Area.

Thanksgiving Food Collection concludes today, November 20. Each week we provided the following items:

- Oct. 16 cans of green beans, cans of corn
- Oct. 23 boxes of stuffing (like Stove Top) and jars of gravy
- Oct. 30 dessert mixes (like brownies, cake mixes, or cookie mixes) and cans of icing
- Nov. 6 cans of cranberry sauce and boxes of corn muffin mix
- Nov. 13 boxes of instant mashed potatoes or a 5-pound bag of fresh potatoes, canned or fresh yams
- Nov. 20 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. \$20 covers the cost of the turkey or ham; \$40 covers the cost of a whole basket. All financial donations will be gratefully accepted, whatever the amount. If you know someone who would appreciate a basket, please complete the information on the back of your attendance card. Thank you for your support of this benevolent project.

Church Mail - If you did not yet get your Stewardship mail and/or your giving statement through October 31, please pick them up today in the Gathering Area after church. Thank you.

> Weekly Offering Needed \$3,900 Weekly Offering Received 11/13/2016 4,170 Difference + \$ 270

#### **THIS WEEK**

**Monday:** Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets in Pilgrim Hall, 9 a.m.

Deliver/Pick Up Baskets, after 12 noon

**Wednesday:** Free Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fitness Club will NOT meet at 7 p.m.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, 7:30 p.m. at Strongsville United METHODIST Church

**Thursday:** Thanksgiving Day – Church Office Closed

Friday: Church Office Closed.

**Women's Luncheon** is Tuesday, December 6, at 11:30 a.m. upstairs at Pomeroy Restaurant. Please see or call Lola Millhoane, (440) 238-3037, by Sunday, December 4, to make your reservation. All ladies are welcome!

Gift Cards – CHRISTMAS IS COMING! You can easily get your Christmas gift-giving handled while helping your church by purchasing gift cards from the Organ Restoration Fund. We have a large variety of cards from restaurants, department stores, grocery stores, home improvement stores, clothing stores, sporting goods stores, and even hair salons. We are trying a new participant in the program: Honey Baked Ham. We have a limited amount to see if they sell, but we can easily order more for your holiday celebrations. We can also order from hundreds of other retailers, even if we don't ordinarily carry them in stock. Come to the table in Pilgrim Hall to see the list and place your order with Jim Joyce. Please don't wait until it's too late--get a jump start on your Christmas shopping. You'll be glad you did! Christmas special orders need to be placed no later than December 4.

**Thank you** to all who decorated the church for Christmas this past week.

**Official Board** – Profit from the Turkey Dinner on November 5 was \$2,006.39. Thank you to all who bought tickets and to all who worked on Friday and/or Saturday. It was nice to see new faces helping along with our regulars.

## **SERVING TODAY**

Greeter - Roy Merkle Morning Announcements - Sally Herzog Liturgist – Gina Gigliotti Ushers – Volunteers Needed Coffee Hour - Volunteer Needed Director of Music – Elena Taylor Bell Choir Director – Barb Fraunfelder The Chancel Choir Choir Accompanist – Sharon Heinrich Bass Guitar – Jack Stephenson Acoustic Guitar - Gary Hackett Electric Guitar – Jake Williams Mallet Percussion – Rob Toth Drum Set – Mike Soltis Technical Setup and Operation – Doug Thorn Sound System – Jim Heinrich

# **SERVING NEXT SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 27, 2016**

Greeters – Lynn McCray, Sharon Heinrich Morning Announcements – Irene Joyce Liturgist – Kelly Bickley Ushers – Volunteers Needed Coffee Hour – Volunteer Needed



# HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE TODAY ~ 5:00 to 8:00 P.M.

The Mitten Tree will collect hats, gloves, mittens and scarves until December 4 for Brookside Center, which provides clothing and necessities to the poor and needy. After worship on December 4, the Mitten Tree items will be removed. The tree will become the Family of Faith Tree, which is decorated with Christmas ornaments donated by members and friends. If you have not yet donated an ornament or to donate an additional ornament, please bring it to the church office and include your name. Official Board will prepare a tag with your name, attach the tag to your ornament, and hang the ornament on the Family of Faith Tree. Your ornament will NOT be returned to you. Also, please do not bring expensive heirloom ornaments. Thank you!

**New Choir Robes** – The Music Committee, along with the Endowment and Memorial Fund, is having a drive to purchase new choir robes. To support this drive, please pick up a Sponsorship Form from the rectangular table in the Gathering Area. Thank you for your support.

If you are donating for a choir robe, a separate check should be written to the UCC Memorial Fund as these funds are handled separately. Thank you.

Lori Kovatich, Financial Secretary

**200th Anniversary Church Cookbooks –** Please see Dianne Maringer to get your copy. Price per book is \$12; mailing the book is an additional \$3.

Church Christmas Mail Box – To send Christmas greetings to fellow members and friends, the church "mail box" will again be available in Pilgrim Hall. Please remember to check the box for greetings you receive. Also, please do not put cards into the box for those who are not in town for Christmas, because the church office cannot mail personal Christmas greetings. Cards left in the box after Christmas will be discarded. Thank you.

**Adult Social Club** is changing their meeting day from the second Wednesday of the month to the third Wednesday of month at 7:00 p.m. at the church. All are welcome to the meetings. Please mark your calendar for the Adult Social Club Game Night on Saturday, January 14, at the church.

"Reap What You Sow" Basket Raffles – The drawings for the two "Reap What You Sow" baskets will take place on Sunday, December 4, in the sanctuary after the last hymn of the worship service. The congregation is requested to take their seats after the last hymn.

The Southwest Community Chorus and Chamber Singers will present their 2016 Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 4, at 3:00 p.m. in the United Methodist Church at 170 Seminary Street in Berea. This year's performance, entitled *Count Your Blessings*, features former church choir leader Tom Foley as director; Carol Konet, accompanist; and church singers—Irene Joyce, Ingrid Dickson, Pam Keenen, Gary Hackett, Jack Stephenson, Bruce Keenen and UCC guest singer Craig Hardy. You'll enjoy the music, and we'll get you in the Christmas mood. We like looking into the audience and seeing our fellow church members. So, please attend. Thank you! Tickets are available at the door and cost \$10 for adults and free for children 12 and under.

## **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: Eric Brand, Betty Bushea, Margot James, Ethyl Jeglie at Elmcroft of Sagamore Hills, Janet Kato at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Dolores Mihlack at Southern Hills, Harvey Pincombe, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields, Doris Soucie, Trudie Taylor at Royal Oak Nursing and Rehab Center

**Church Family**: Pam Peacock, Denzil Richards, Melinda Slavik, Leah Tressa Forget, Kyle Woodward

**Extended Church Family**: Bri Brostek, Thom Cerny, Dylan Churnega, Zachary Crouse, Audrey Curry, Edie Deitcher, Hollie Paine Dodge, Kim Filiatraut, Elizabeth Fulford, Matthew Geletka, Dan Karoly, Sue Mason, Pat Masuga, Debbie Morey, Tonette Putrino, Carrol Riley, Keith Stewart

## **NOVEMBER 2016**

20 Sun Dedication of food collected for Thanksgiving

Holiday Open House, 5-8pm

21 Mon Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets in Pilgrim Hall, 9am

Distribute Baskets in the afternoon

23 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Methodist Church, 7:30pm

24 Thu Thanksgiving Day

26 Sat Memorial Service for Chris Morgan, 11:30am in our sanctuary Funeral luncheon at VFW Hall, 25742 Royalton Road in

Columbia Station at 1pm

27 Sun First Sunday in Advent – Hanging of the Greens

Bell Choir plays for worship Poinsettia Order Deadline December Newsletter Pickup

29 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm

30 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm

Men's Luncheon, 11:30am

## **DECEMBER 2016**

4 Sun Deadline for Women's Luncheon Reservations

Deadline for Special Orders for Gift Cards for Christmas

9 Fri Blue Christmas Worship Service of Remembrance, 7:30pm

16 Fri Strongsville City Jazz Christmas Concert, 7:30pm

18 Sat Children's Christmas Pageant with potluck afterward, 5pm

24 Sat Christmas Eve Worship, 7:30pm and 11pm

25 Sun Christmas Morning Worship, 10am

27 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm

31 Sat Annual Reports are due!

# MUSIC REHEARSALS DURING THE WEEK

Children's Choir - 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays
Band (for adults and children) – 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays
Bell Choir – 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays
Chancel Choir – 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays

# STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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