

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 23, 2014 9:45 A.M. Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

† *Those who are able may stand.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Moment by Moment* Robert Hughes

† **HYMN 797** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: This place of worship has been prepared for us to come with songs of thanksgiving before our God. Bring your gifts to the altar and share your stories of blessings!

All: **God has provided so much—even this beautiful day. So let’s raise our voices and celebrate!**

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 *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* James Southbridge

ANTHEM *We Plough the Fields and Scatter* arr. John Rutter

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *All Earth Is Hopeful* arr. Anne Krentz

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 790** *We Gather Together*

SCRIPTURE Luke 17:11-19 New Testament, p. 70

SERMON *“The One Who Returned”*

† **HYMN 170** *Give Thanks*

† **BENEDICTION**

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

† **POSTLUDE** *Shepherd Thy People* Michael Shea

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
Betty Craig
Kenn and Ginny Oerkfitz
Gary and Kathie Paul
Sarah Herzog
Bev Wehr

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 23, 2014

11:15 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

OPENING SONGS

70 *Shout Hallelujah*
73 *Spirit Song*
80 *The River Is Here*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG

82 *Thy Word*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

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† PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

67 *Sanctuary*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(debts)*

OFFERING

Emmanuel

THE WORD OF GOD

Luke 17:11-19

New Testament, p. 70

MEDITATION

"The One Who Returned"

SONG

48 *Jesus, Name Above All Names*

† 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

Elena Taylor

Song Leaders

Kyra Krause, Clay Williams

Acoustic Guitar I

Jake Williams

Acoustic Guitar II

Eric Wroblewski

Electric Guitar

Herbert Parker

Bass Guitar

Jack Stephenson

Violin

Julia Soltis

Clarinet

Emily Phan

Drum Set

Mike Soltis

Drum Pads

Aidan Hurtig, Christian Habart-Scott

Liturgist

Betty Craig

Greeters

Kenn and Ginny Oerkfitz

Coffee Hour

Bev Wehr

November 2014

- 23 Sun Dedicate Thanksgiving Baskets
Mitten Tree Begins
Holiday Open House, 5:00 p.m.
- 24 Mon Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets in Pilgrim Hall. 9:00 a.m.
- 25 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. – deadline for groups to submit dates of fundraising events to Official Board
- 27 Thu Thanksgiving Day
- 30 Sun Advent Begins, Hanging of the Greens during 9:45 worship
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
- 9 Tue Women's/Church Christmas Luncheon at Pomeroy, 11:30 a.m.
- 12 Fri Swingin' Carols of Christmas Concert, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Sun Mission and Outreach Quilt Raffle Drawing between the services
- 19 Fri Blue Christmas Service of Remembrance and Hope, 7:30 p.m.
- 21 Sun Diaconate Cookie Sale
- 24 Wed Christmas Eve – 7:30 p.m. Family Service
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
- 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.

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 23, 2014

Liturgist	9:45 a.m. Bruce Keenen	11:15 Sarah Hayes
Greeter		Claire Wills
Ushers for 9:45 a.m.		Volunteers Needed
Nursery for 9:45 a.m.		Sarah Hayes
Graphics Operation for 11:15 a.m.		Michele Mihlack
Coffee Hour		Cathy Hawk

ANNOUNCEMENTS – NOVEMBER 23, 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—

*With Gratitude to Our Families
Ingrid and Greg Dickson*

*With Thanksgiving for All the Hard Workers in Our Church
The Hawk Family*

*Happy First Anniversary to Steve and Roxanne Woodward
Carol and Dave Woodward*

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

*Happy Anniversary to Debbie and Larry Wentz on November 24
Happy 16th Birthday to Stephen Popovich on November 28
Belated Happy Birthday to Katie Rower on November 18
Belated Happy Birthday to Adam Craig on November 20
Betty Craig*

Happy Anniversary today to Ed and Martha Powers and also to Greg and Ingrid Dickson!

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

Thanksgiving Baskets will be assembled tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. in Pilgrim Hall. If you volunteered to help, please come.



Strongsville United Church of Christ

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

and

LIVE NATIVITY

TODAY – 5:00 to 8:00 P.M.

Live Nativity with Live Animals, Music and Refreshments

Official Board will meet Tuesday, November 25, at 7:00 p.m. All groups are requested to submit their fundraising dates for the coming year.

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

Advent commences next Sunday, with the Hanging of the Greens during Traditional Worship at 9:45 a.m.

New Wednesday Free Lunch Program begins December 3, 2014. The lunch will be free to all who attend. Volunteers are asked to be at the church no later than 9:00 a.m. to prepare meals. Servers can arrive at 10:00 a.m. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Donations of canned good or dry goods will be accepted, and monetary donations will be appreciated.

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 for a variety of programs locally and globally. Raffle tickets prices are \$10 for one and \$15 for two, and they are available from Committee members: Kelly Bickley, Lora Rung, Elizabeth Snook, and Pastor Becky and in the Church Office. The queen-size quilt is on display in Pilgrim Hall. *Good friends are like quilts—they age with you, yet never lose their warmth.*

The Thrift Shop is giving away the 33 1/3 rpm records that are in boxes on the floor by the Royalton Road entrance door. Please feel free to help yourself!

Swingin' Carols of Christmas Concert

featuring the

Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band

under the direction of Ken Mehalko and Jim Wonnacott
with vocals by Kim Wasielewski and Polar Vortex

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

For tickets, please call (216) 598-6198.



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

Church Family: Betty Babics, Betty Bushea at Parkside Villa, Marie Bury at Parkside Villa, Rachel Kovatich, Dolores Matchett, Michele Mhlack at Southwest General, 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 (Goddaughter 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 Hagemeier (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

BLUE CHRISTMAS

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

A worship service remembering those who have passed away, while seeking hope for all of us during the Christmas season.



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

Please don't miss the Strongsville U.C.C. Sunday School

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & POTLUCK

Sunday, December 14 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the
Christmas Potluck and Visitor from the North

We have a part for you in our Christmas Pageant!

Rehearsals will be at 6:15 p.m. on
Thursday, December 4
Thursday, December 11

Yes! My child (or children) will participate in the Strongsville
U.C.C. Christmas Pageant for 2014.

I will bring him/her/them to our rehearsals on:
Thursday, December 4
Thursday, December 11

and on Sunday, December 14 at 4:30 p.m. for the performance.

Child's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

e-mail address: _____

Phone number: _____

Please return this form to your Sunday School teacher.

Thanks for being a part of this most holy season!



Dear church friends,

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and cards over the past five weeks regarding my brother, Tom, during his recent illness and passing on November 10.

You may remember Tom, as he sang at our church several years ago as a part of the "Studer Brothers Trio".

During his time at the hospital, Tom endured over 20 major and minor surgeries in his fight for life. He was given over 100 units of blood, as the medical staff at Akron City Hospital attempted to resolve his internal bleeding condition.

These procedures were covered by medical insurance; however, we all know there are limits to what insurance will cover.

With this in mind, I have a very simple but heartfelt request of you. Please consider going to the website below for information on how to make a donation to his family for this cause. Anything you can provide will be greatly appreciated, and I can assure you that his wife, Linda, and family will be eternally grateful for your gift.

Website: youcare.com

Go to "search for a fundraiser" and enter Thomas Paul Studer

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and kindness.

Jim Studer

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
- as a Greeter
- as an Usher
- at Coffee Hour

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.*