

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 (Congregational)
 13740 Pearl Road
 Strongsville, Ohio 44136
 Rev. Rebecca Stephenson, Pastor



Church Telephone: (440) 238-6697
Email: StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com
Website: www.strongsvilleucc.com
Contemporary Worship 9:00 A.M. Sunday
Traditional Worship 11:00 A.M. Sunday

OCTOBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

<p>CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 9 A.M.</p> <p>Liturgist: Jim Studer Nursery: Vicky Masuga Coffee Hour: Lora Rung Communion Servers: Sharon Heinrich, Lora Rung, Rachel Zielinski</p>	<p>SUNDAY – OCTOBER 6</p> <p>World Communion Sunday <i>The Sacrament of Communion will be observed at both services.</i></p>  <p>Neighbors in Need Offering</p> <p>Sermon: "Required" Scripture: Micah 6:6-8</p>	<p>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 11 A.M.</p> <p>Liturgist: Jim Studer Nursery: Gina Cathcart Coffee Hour: Lora Rung Greeter: Linda Plain Communion Servers: Beth Giuliano, Sharon Heinrich, Rachel Zielinski</p>
<p>CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 9 A.M.</p> <p>Liturgist: Rachel Zielinski Nursery: Sarah Hawk Coffee Hour: Rachel Zielinski</p>	<p>SUNDAY – OCTOBER 13</p> <p>Sermon: "Keep Up the Good Work" Scripture: Revelation 3:14-22</p> <p>Church 196th Anniversary Cake will be served during coffee hour.</p>	<p>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 11 A.M.</p> <p>Liturgist: Rachel Zielinski Nursery: Beth Giuliano Greeter: Lola Millhoane Coffee Hour: Rachel Zielinski</p>
<p>CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 9 A.M.</p> <p>Liturgist: Tom Gaumer Nursery: Rachel Zielinski Coffee Hour: Sharon Heinrich</p>	<p>SUNDAY – OCTOBER 20</p> <p>Sermon: "Only One" Scripture: Luke 17:11-19</p> <p>Anniversary Potluck Meal at 5 P.M. <i>Please bring a main dish and either a side dish, salad or dessert to share, plus your own table service. A birthday party for the church and games will follow the meal.</i></p>	<p>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 11 A.M.</p> <p>Liturgist: Tom Gaumer Nursery: Dianne Maringer Coffee Hour: Sharon Heinrich Greeters: John and Dianne Maringer</p>
<p>CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 9 A.M.</p> <p>Liturgist: Bruce Keenen Nursery: Sharon Heinrich Coffee Hour: Cathy Hawk</p>	<p>SUNDAY – OCTOBER 27</p> <p>Sermon: "Bear the Load" Scripture: Matthew 11:28-30</p> <p>Pumpkin Painting Party for Sunday School during class time.</p>	<p>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 11 A.M.</p> <p>Liturgist: Bruce Keenen Nursery: Sharon Heinrich Coffee Hour: Cathy Hawk Greeter: Volunteer(s) Needed</p>

MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Report to the Congregation 10/10/13

The Mission and Outreach Committee (MOC) meets every month throughout the year. Members include: Sandy Pogozeleski, Chairperson; Judy Gaumer, Vice Chairperson; Tom Gaumer; Erv Koch; Lora Rung and Ha Bennett.

Recent activities of the MOC include the following:

- Sponsorship of Keerthana at the Family Village Farm near the town of Vellore, India, for her education and supplies. She is sponsored through the rest of this year – Thank you!
- Building a relationship with the Deaconess Foundation – valuable resource for outreach opportunities and potential funding for local projects.
- Community fund raising through free-will parking donations at the Strongsville Homecoming and Rib Burn-off. \$422 in contributions were collected during these two events.
- New sponsorship of a local Strongsville family in need (identified through the Strongsville Food bank). This includes a mother, father, 3-year-old twins, an 8-year-old boy and their grandmother. Assistance will include trips to the Thrift Shop, school supplies, tickets to our UCC dinners, etc.

The Strongsville UCC currently provides generous mission outreach involving the following:

- **9 Local Projects:** Community Compassion Contributions, Strongsville Food Bank, a local adopted family, Zion UCC dinners, the Transitional House of Cleveland, Brookside Center of the West Side Ecumenical Ministries, Providence House, UCC Thrift Shop, and Church Street Ministries.
- **5 National Projects:** Neighbors in Need, Strengthen the Church/Spread the Love, Retired Minister Christmas Fund, Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM), and Chicago United Eden Seminary Fund - Midwestern Seminaries.
- **2 International Projects:** One Great Hour of Sharing and UCC Global Ministries Child Sponsorship of Keerthana M. at the Family Village Farm in India.

A full list is now posted on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.

We welcome anyone who has outreach ideas or comments, would like to donate to the MOC funds, or would like to participate with Committee activities. Just let one of the members know!

MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Sponsorship of Local Family

The Mission and Outreach Committee is pleased to announce the opportunity to assist a local family in need. It has come to our attention through the Strongsville Food Bank that there is a family in Strongsville currently experiencing difficult times and would benefit from some assistance.

The family consists of a mother and father, 3-year-old twins, an 8-year-old boy and their grandmother. Through the contributions of the Mission and Outreach Committee's summer fundraising, our adopted family has already made 2 trips to the Thrift Shop. They were also able to better prepare their son for school with a \$50 gift card. We will be providing Pancake Breakfast tickets for them and help them prepare for a joyful Thanksgiving and Christmas.

If you would like to make a donation to this effort or have ideas on how Strongsville UCC can positively impact this family, please contact one of the Mission and Outreach Committee members.

Sincerely,

Sandy Pogozeleski, Judy Gaumer, Tom Gaumer,
Erv Koch, Ha Bennett and Lora Rung

STRONGSVILLE FOOD BANK

Our church continues to collect donations for the Strongsville Food Bank. For this month **peanut butter, jelly, canned soups, canned fruit, pasta sauce, macaroni and cheese, toilet paper** (4 rolls/package), **and paper towels** are especially needed.

Thank you for your support.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Thanks to the following people who have sponsored Keerthana in the Family Village Farm and School in Vellore, India:

March – Sandy Pogozeleski
April – Ray and the late Florence Suttle
May – Gina Cathcart
June – Bill and Dorothy Ritchie
July – Judy Carte
August – Linda Plain
September – Lora Rung
October – Erv and Grace Koch

SERVING MEALS FOR THE POOR

Our congregation continues to serve meals for the poor at Zion UCC on Cleveland's West Side on the first Saturday of the month, and this month the date is **October 5**. To participate, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area and coordinate with others to carpool.

DIACONATE DAILIES

As Autumn is upon us, it begins a time of celebration for the Strongsville UCC. Our anniversary is celebrated each October. This year is our 196th anniversary! We have some great things planned. We will be using some old items in our services this month including oil lamps, communion sets, and offering plates. Usually we recognize 50-year members during our service, but this year on October 13 we will instead recognize all members—from old to new.

Also we will try something new with our Anniversary Potluck. We will hold it in the evening on Sunday, October 20, at 5:00 p.m. We will have a birthday party with games, trivia and prizes. Please see the announcement on this page (the next column) for more information. We hope you and your family can join us.

This year we will have a couple additional services, so please mark your calendars. On Wednesday, November 27, we will have a special Thanksgiving service on the evening before Thanksgiving. On Friday, December 13, we will have a Blue Christmas service to remember all who have passed this year. We will invite those in our community to join us.

As always we would love to have anyone join us to help with ushering, coffee hour, communion service, greeters or nursery. If you are interested in helping us, please see Rachel Zielinski or any Diaconate member.

Thank you!
Rachel Zielinski
Diaconate Chairperson

SUNDAY MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP

The Upper Room Group will resume on Sunday, October 13, between the two services – from 10:15 to 10:45. We will focus on prayer and the Psalms. The current issue of The Upper Room writes about this in the section between the two months. Please read that for an idea of what we will be doing, and join us if you can.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Just a reminder that it is the goal of the Church Office to have paper copies of the monthly church newsletter available for pickup on the last Sunday of the month. If you requested a paper copy, please remember to get it that Sunday. By doing so, you save the cost of first-class postage, and we thank you very much!

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY POTLUCK

You're invited to celebrate our church's 196th birthday! Please join us on Sunday, October 20, at 5 p.m. for our annual anniversary potluck. Please bring a main dish and side or dessert, along with your own table service. Drinks will be provided. We will have kids' games, trivia and maybe a thing or two for the adults! Presents are not necessary; but if you would like to bring the church a birthday present, a wish list is below. We hope you can join us to celebrate 196 and hope we can be around to celebrate 296!

Wish List:

8 oz. cups
7 oz. clear cups
disposable dinner plates
dish soap
dish clothes or towels
disinfecting wipes
coloring or reading books (Nursery)
storage bags (sandwich, quart or gallon)
napkins
plastic silverware
Kleenex
copy paper
cardstock for printing
coffee and tea bags
table clothes
paper towels
GFS, Home Depot or Lowes gift cards

ORGAN RESTORATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Organ Restoration Committee thanks everyone for their support of the End-of-Summer Party on September 21 at Pastor Becky and Jack's home. An extra special thank you to Pastor Becky and Jack for their hospitality and generosity in hosting the event. As of right now, the party generated \$2,130, and we are still receiving additional donations. The committee is happy to report that as of this writing, our cash on hand is \$28,841.80, which does not include the monies tied up in gift cards. With your help, we hope to begin Phase 3 of our pipe organ's renovation early in 2014. Thanks again for all your support.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Women's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Kelly Kling from the Food Bank. All are welcome.

Please bring your own lunch; dessert, coffee and tea will be furnished. Devotions will be given by Carol Merkle, and Karen Morgan will be the hostess.

STEEPLE LIGHTING

Week of September 8, 2013

*Happy Birthday to Stacie Sauter on September 9 and
Happy First Birthday to Eli Sauter on September 12
With love, Grammy*

Week of September 15, 2013

*Happy Birthday to Abby Craig on August 21
With love, Grammy*

*Happy Birthday to My Granddaughter, Violet
Barb Fraunfelder*

Week of September 22, 2013

*In Celebration and with Love to My Daughters
on Their Birthdays—*

*Sarah on September 20 and Chelsey on September 22
Gina Cathcart*

*Happy 25th Birthday on September 23 to My Grandson,
Cory Routch
Love ya! Love, Banny*

To light the steeple for a week, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Information and donation forms are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Multiple donations for the same week will be accepted.



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. Also, please inform the church of updates to this prayer list. Thank you.

Long-Term Care or Homebound Members: Bill Betz at Chapel Hill Community in Canal Fulton, Edith Graves at Century Oak Care Center, Debbie Krause, Connie Rebar, Louetha Rieth at Sunrise Assisted Living of Dresher in PA, Erla Mae Schultz

Church Family: Holly Manley Elkins, Reggie McCray (husband of Lynne), Dolores Matchett, Marjorie Morrison and parents, Bob Pogozeleski, Maggie Struhar, Rich Tressa

Extended Church Family: Betty Berk (mother of Mary Mortus), June Brewer (niece of Ed Powers), Audrey and Gene Curry (parents of Pam Keenen), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Tom Davern (relative of the Woodwards), Rebecca Deeb (Godaughter of Lora Rung), Victor DiChiro (father-in-law of Rob Wentz), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Kate Heisler (friend of Lora Rung), Janine Kaltenstein (cousin of Vicky Masuga), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Erik Kratky (friend of Sarah Hawk), Rick Mahon (friend of the Woodwards), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Erwin Roberts (nephew of Doris Soucie), James Smith (brother of Katie Renfro), Barbara Sommers (mother of Sheri Martin), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Marge Tressa (mother of Rich)

Our church member, Dolores Matchett, fell and broke her hip. She is recovering at a rehab center. Cards can be sent to her home:

902 Horizon Way, Martinsburg, WV 25403-1025.

*Our congratulations to
Sarah (Hawk) and Jon Hayes,
who were married on September 14, 2013!*



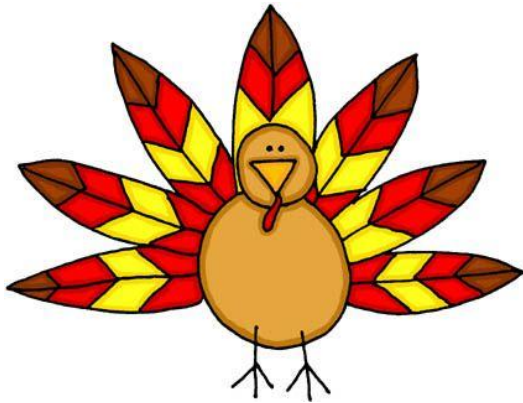
SAVE THE DATE!

Strongsville UCC

ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER

Saturday – November 2, 2013

Seatings at 4:30 P.M., 5:45 P.M., + 7:00 P.M.



THE THRIFT SHOP WILL BE OPEN.

CHURCHGOERS HEALTHY

Durham, NC – Older adults who attend religious services regularly are twice as likely to have strong, stable immune systems as those who don't, a new study said. Blood levels of the undesirable immune system protein interleukin-y (IL-6) were lower in people over age 76 who attended services at least once a week, according to the Duke University study of 1,718 older adults in North Carolina. "Those who go to church or synagogue regularly are physically healthier, mentally healthier and they have healthier immune systems," said Harold Koenig, a Duke psychiatrist and lead author of the study.

~The Plain Dealer

TO: SUCC CHURCH BOARDS and COMMITTEES and INDIVIDUALS
dealing with funds handled by the Church Financial Secretary and/or Treasurer

FROM: Kenn Oerkfitz, Treasurer and Barb Fraunfelder, Financial Secretary

SUBJECT: FORMS for DEPOSIT REQUEST and PAYMENT REQUEST

There are now forms to be completed when requesting money to be deposited and/or cash money to be withdrawn or a check to be written from our church accounts that are handled by our church Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

Barb will handle DEPOSIT REQUESTS.

Kenn will handle PAYMENT REQUESTS.

We are asking for at least 7 days' notice from TODAY's DATE to DATE DEPOSIT / PAYMENT is to be made. This allows us time to fit it in with our banking and processing days.

If you are not sure of an account number, tell us the account name or information about the account so we handle the funds correctly. If you need assistance, please discuss with whoever is involved with your request - Kenn or Barb.

If your PAYMENT REQUEST involves a bill payment, you may write the information that is listed on the form directly on the bill. Then the form is not needed. If there is a bill or receipt where there is not enough room to list all the information, then prepare the PAYMENT REQUEST form and attach the bill/receipt.

It may be necessary to complete 2 forms - for example, someone donates money (DEPOSIT REQUEST) to pay for a purchase (PAYMENT REQUEST). One form provides information about the donation/check and has included the check or cash. The other form requests a payment for the purchase. The bill/receipt should be attached to the form. Exception with the PAYMENT REQUEST form: you may note all information from the form onto the bill. Present both forms to Barb, who will pass along the PAYMENT REQUEST to Kenn.

We may be able to work with the PAYMENT REQUEST form via email and follow-up on the receipt. Work directly with Kenn on that request.

We want these forms to serve as documentation for our activities as well as providing a form of communication between us. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience as we all work through these new procedures. If you have questions or comments, please contact Kenn and/or Barb.

Copies of the forms are available by contacting Barb or Kenn. They will also be available at the Official Board meetings.

Kenn Oerkfitz - 440-238-3228 kennjoerk@yahoo.com
Barb Fraunfelder - 440-331-3673 bfraunfelder@ameritech.net

Thanksgiving Baskets



For the 2013 Thanksgiving season, we will prepare boxes of Thanksgiving foods for 50 needy families within our community. Collection will begin Sunday, October 20, and conclude Sunday, November 24, when we will dedicate the food during worship. Each week we will bring to the church designated items, which will be placed on and around our communion table. The display of food will grow bigger and bigger each Sunday! Requested foods are:

- October 20** 2 cans of green beans, 2 cans of corn
- October 27** boxes of stuffing (like Stove Top) and jars of gravy
- November 3** dessert mixes (like brownies, cake mixes, or cookie mixes) and cans of icing
- November 10** cans of cranberry sauce and boxes of corn muffin mix
- November 17** boxes of instant mashed potatoes or 5-pound bag of fresh potatoes, canned or fresh yams
- November 24** turkeys or hams

Should you prefer to make a cash donation, that is perfectly fine.

The baskets will be assembled at the church on Monday morning, November 25, and then picked up at the church by the family that afternoon. If the family cannot pick up their basket, we will arrange delivery of the food to them. To help assemble baskets or deliver food, please call the church office, (440) 238-6697.

If you know someone who would appreciate a box of Thanksgiving food, please provide Pastor Becky with the following information:

Thanksgiving Basket Distribution

Name of Family _____ Number of people in family: _____
Address _____
Telephone: (_____) _____

