

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
Worship at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday
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OCTOBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

OCTOBER 2 – 10:00 A.M. WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



Neighbors in Need Offering
will be received throughout the month.
Please see page 3.

Scriptures: 2 Timothy 1:1-7

Sermon: “Diving Training”

Liturgist: Betty Craig

Greeter: Linda Plain

Announcements: Sally Herzog

Graphics Operation: Lori Kovatich

Ushers: Linda Plain

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

OCTOBER 9 – 10:00 A.M. ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

Our Church’s 199th Anniversary
Recognition of New 50-Year Members
Anniversary Brunch after worship—
please see page 2.

Scriptures: Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon: “Our Founders’ Commission”

Liturgist: Lora Rung

Greeter: Gina Cathcart

Announcements: Irene Joyce

Graphics Operation: Michele Mihlack

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

OCTOBER 16 – 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY

Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets
begins. Please see page 4.



Scriptures: Genesis 37:5-11

Sermon: “Hey, Joseph”

Liturgist: Tom Gaumer

Greeter: Ray Suttle

Announcements: Natalie Daniels

Graphics Operation: Lori Kovatich

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

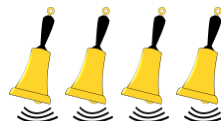
OCTOBER 23 – 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for
Our Pipe Organ’s Renovation
Bell Choir plays for worship.
Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets—
please see page 4.

Scriptures: Luke 18:9-14

Sermon: “Just Worship”

Liturgist: Jack Stephenson



Greeters: The Bickley Family

Announcements: Denise Bell

Graphics Operation: Michele Mihlack

Ushers: Ted and Kelly Bickley

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

**OCTOBER 30 – 10:00 A.M.
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

Sacrament of Communion

Dedication of Memorials

Newsletter Pickup

Sunday School Pumpkin Painting Party

Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets

Scriptures: Psalm 32:1-7

Sermon: "Transforming Love"

Liturgist: Pam Keenen

Greeters: Lynne McCray, Sharon Heinrich

Announcements: Sally Herzog

Graphics Operation: Michele Mhlack

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

**HEADLINE
NEWS**

**'FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF STRONGSVILLE FORMED!'**

The founding and early years of the church and early years of Strongsville are inseparable. The same individuals were involved with, and responsible for both. The tract of land (now Strongsville) was purchased originally by the Connecticut Land Co. in the state of Connecticut in the sum of \$1,200,000. Proceeds from this sale were used and continued to be used by the state of Connecticut for the operation of its public schools. By the fall of 1817, the original 8 people who came to Strongsville soon grew to 75 in number, including children. October 12, 1817, the First Congregational Church of Strongsville was formed by young missionaries of the Connecticut Missionary Society. Members met in each other's homes for the first 2 years. Sermons were read when an itinerant minister was not available.

Because of our church's milestone 200th anniversary in 2017, tidbits of church history will be shared during the year in our newsletter and also in our Sunday bulletin.



DIACONATE BRUNCH ON OCTOBER 9



To kick off our church's 200th Anniversary in 2017, our Diaconate will furnish a brunch in Pilgrim Hall Sunday, October 9, after our worship service. All are welcome to partake of this free meal.

FALL DECORATING

We will decorate the church for the fall season on Saturday, October 1, at 10:00 a.m. Help is needed. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.



BABY SHOWER



A shower for the upcoming arrival of twin baby boys in the Bell Family will be held on Sunday, October 2, 2016, in Pilgrim Hall immediately after the worship service. Everyone is invited to attend. Denise and Erhardt are registered at Babies R Us.

NEW TESTAMENT STUDY

Pastor Becky is leading a five-week study on the New Testament. The study will take place at the church at 12:00 noon on the five consecutive Tuesdays from September 27 through and including October 25. **Please bring your Bible and your lunch.**



BOX LUNCH AUCTION RESULTS



Thanks to our members' generosity, the Box Lunch Auction made \$1,243 for Sunday School programs, events, scholarships, and activities. We sincerely appreciate the efforts of everyone who donated, bid on, or ate lunches on Rally Day. Special thanks to our auctioneer extraordinaire, Charles Jansohn, and his helpers for helping to make this fundraiser a success!



**200th ANNIVERSARY
CHURCH COOKBOOKS**

The cookbooks are in! Please see Joyce Reed, Dianne Maringer, or Marty Winch on Sunday morning to get your copy. Price per book is \$12; mailing the book is an additional \$3 per book.

STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

All You Can Eat!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

A Fundraiser for Our Pipe Organ Restoration

Sunday – October 23, 2016 – 9 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

*Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,
Coffee, Tea, Milk, Juice*

\$8 Adults \$5 Ages 6-12 Free under 6 years

*Tickets can be purchased at the church Sunday morning,
or you may call the church at (440) 238-6697.*



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.

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, Betty Kovach at Parkside Villa, Dolores Mhlack (mother of Allen) at Southern Hills, Harvey Pincombe, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields (friend of Pastor Becky), Doris Soucie, Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan) at Royal Oak Nursing and Rehab Center

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

Extended Church Family: Bri Brostek (friend of Gina Cathcart), Ryan Brubeck, Thom Cerny (friend of Bob Kovatich), Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Angie Dickinson (friend of Lola Millhoane), Edie Deitcher (friend of Barbara O'Boyle), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Matthew Geletka (grandson of Barbara O'Boyle), Dan Karoly (friend of The Thrift Shop), Sue Mason, Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Kathleen Wickline (mother of Darla)

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.

Most UCC congregations will receive the NIN offering on October 2, 2016, as part of their World Communion Sunday observance. Our congregation will receive the offering throughout the month of October. Enclosed in the paper copy of this newsletter is an NIN envelope. NIN envelopes are also available in the pew racks in the sanctuary.



ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

CLAMBAKE

Saturday – October 15, 2016 – 4:00 to 9:00 P.M.

at the home of

Pastor Becky and Jack Stephenson

2214 Substation Road in Brunswick Hills

(Southwest Corner of Substation and Sleepy Hollow Roads)

Please watch Sunday bulletins for more details.

CHILDREN'S HARVEST PARTY



Come one, come all to celebrate fall! Strongsville UCC will host the second annual Harvest Party on Saturday, October 29, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at church. This family-friendly event is for the whole family to have fun. We're looking for volunteers to donate baked goodies or candy and also to help man the activities. Spread the word! All kids in the community are invited!

NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Lori Kovatich

RALLY DAY OFFERING

The special Rally Day offering as of September 19 is \$669.50.

GIVING STATEMENTS

Giving Statements for the year, January through July, have been mailed to those who pledged. Please contact me if you did not receive yours. If you did not pledge but wish to have a statement, send an email or call. See information below.

GIVING

Did you know that you can donate electronically? You can do this through your bank or through our website.

Either way can be set up to send a payment just once or to send a check on a monthly basis.

To use our website, go to strongsvilleucc.com. Look for the box "DONATE NOW with my eOffering".

GRATITUDE

I want to express sincere gratitude to Barb Fraunfelder. She is generous and patient in sharing her knowledge. She has my appreciation and thanks during this job transition.

CONTACT

I may be contacted at the email and phone number listed below.

EMAIL: succfinancialsecretary@gmail.com

PHONE: 440-238-3938 – Lori

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from August 28 through September 18, 2016. This information also appears on a weekly basis in our worship bulletin.

Offering Needed	\$15,600 for 4 Sundays @ \$3,900/week
Offering Received	10,707
Difference	- \$ 4,893



SUNDAY SCHOOL PUMPKIN PAINTING

This annual event will take place Sunday, October 30, in Pilgrim Hall for the children during Sunday School class time.



STEEPLE LIGHTING

Week of September 4, 2016

*Happy Birthday to Stacie Sauter on September 9
With Love, Grammy*

*In Honor of Don and Betty Kovach's
66th Wedding Anniversary on September 2, 2016*

Week of September 11, 2016

*Happy Birthday to Eli Sauter on September 12
With Love, Grammy*

*Happy Birthday to Pastor Becky on September 13
With Love, Grammy*

*Happy Birthday to Maggie Struhar on September 16
John Struhar*

Week of September 18, 2016

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

To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Donation forms are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Multiple donations for the same week will be accepted. For details, please call the church, 440-238-6697. Thank you to all who light the steeple.



THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Our goal is to prepare 75 baskets for needy families within our community. Collection begins Sunday, October 16. Each week we will bring to church the following designated items, which will be placed in our sanctuary:

- Oct. 16 cans of green beans, cans of corn
- Oct. 23 boxes of stuffing (like Stove Top) and jars of
- Oct. 30 dessert mixes (like brownies, cake mixes, or
- Nov. 6 cans of cranberry sauce and boxes of corn
- Nov. 13 boxes of instant mashed potatoes or a 5-
- 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 your attendance card, or tell Pastor Becky. Thank you for your support of this benevolent project.



NEW CHOIR ROBES

The Music Committee, along with the Endowment and Memorial Fund, is beginning a drive to purchase new choir robes. As you know, the music ministry is an integral part of our worship here at Strongsville UCC. 1975 (over four decades ago) was the last time our church purchased choir robes. Over the years, like any garment or fabric, the choir robes have reached a state where having them cleaned and mended is no longer an option. With the 200 year anniversary of the Strongsville United Church of Christ fast approaching, we have researched and found a new source to purchase new affordable choir robes. The new robes will also be machine washable and will save hundreds of dollars in future dry cleaning costs. We are looking for sponsors to purchase one or more choir robes in memory or in honor of a loved one. The cost for each robe is only \$50.00. Your generous tax deductible gift will also be acknowledged as an addition to your pledge or planned giving. We will have more information in the coming weeks as well. Please contact Ingrid or Greg Dickson for more information.

If you wish to sponsor a new choir robe please use the following form.

CHOIR ROBE SPONSORSHIP FORM

IN HONOR (living) or in MEMORY of _____

FROM: (Include address if not listed in the church directory) _____

ADDRESS: _____

AMOUNT: _____ (Please make check payable to United Church of Christ Memorial Fund and please indicate "choir robes" on the memo line).

Cash also accepted. Please make sure to include sponsorship form.

If you wish, we will notify the family or loved one honored and remembered of your generous gift. Please include a name and address and we will notify them.

NAME OF FAMILY MEMBER OR LOVED ONE TO BE NOTIFIED _____

ADDRESS: STREET _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

THANK YOU!

THE THRIFT SHOP

Fall has arrived in The Thrift Shop, and we're well stocked with fall décor, Halloween costumes, sweaters, coats and jackets. Why spend \$20 for a costume when you can buy one for \$5.00 or less in the shop?

We'll be open every Thursday in October from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., and we have lots of bargains!

Please remember the shop when you are cleaning out your closets. Tax receipts are available . . . just ask us!

When you bring donations and the shop is open, please do not leave them at the top of the stairs. Just let us know, and we'll help you bring donations down the stairs.

