

**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

church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

**March 29, 2015**                      **9:45 A.M.**                      **Palm Sunday**

† *Those who are able may stand.*

**PRELUDE**                      *Hosanna*                      Carl Tuttle

**PALM PROCESSIONAL**                      *Hosanna! Jesus is the Rock*

The congregation is invited to stand and join the choir and the children in singing the Palm Processional:

*Hosanna! Jesus is the Rock! Jesus is the Rock of my salvation.  
Hosanna! Jesus is the Rock! Jesus is the Rock of my salvation.*

*I will magnify the Lord, for He is worthy to be praised.  
I will magnify the Lord, for He is worthy to be praised.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PLAYLET**                      *On the Road with Jesus*                      Sixth Sunday in Lent

† **HYMN 297**                      *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Look, your King is coming to you riding on an ass.

**People: Hosanna to the Son of David!**

Leader: They are laying their coats at his feet.

**People: Hosanna to the Messiah!**

Leader: They're waving palm branches.

**People: Hosanna to the King of Kings! Hosanna!**

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Pastor: Let us, the members of Strongsville United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**People: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the**

### PASTORAL PRAYER

**OUR LORD'S PRAYER** (*debts*) – 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**                      *Lord, Be Glorified*                      Bob Kilpatrick

**ANTHEM**                      *Enter He, Triumphantly*                      Davenport

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### THE OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY**                      *Give Thanks*                      Henry Smith  
Ken Mehalko, Clarinet

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SCRIPTURES**                      Mark 11:1-11                      New Testament, p. 41

**SERMON**                      *Here He Comes*

### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*All are welcome to come forward to partake of the Lord's Supper, or Pastor Becky will come to you, if you wish.*

**SPECIAL MUSIC** during Communion                      *Let Us Break Bread Together*  
Ken Mehalko, Clarinet

† **HYMN 300**                      *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE**                      *We Will Glorify*                      Twila Paris

† **POSTLUDE**                      *In the Name of the Lord*                      Sandi Patty



**iSACRA** – I will be walking the 5K on Saturday, May 15, in Fairfax, Virginia, to support the **iSACRA**. I was born with sacral agenesis, which is a rare birth condition characterized by the absence of the lower spine and spinal cord. This fundraiser will support families and parents of children to put out more information to doctors and hospitals regarding this rare birth condition. Please help me raise funds by sponsoring me and donating funds – any amount is appreciated – cash or check payable to **iSACRA**. A signup sheet is on the Gathering Area's bulletin board. Thank you for your support.  
Michele Mihlack

**MARCH 2015**

29 Sun Palm Sunday – Communion at both services  
Reception of New Members at both services  
Penny Sunday  
Lenten Meal and Study, 6:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall

**APRIL 2015**

2 Thu Maundy Thursday Service, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
3 Fri Good Friday Service, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
5 Sun Easter Worship Services 6:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m.  
Easter Breakfast. 7:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.  
19 Sun ORC All-You-Can Eat Pancake Breakfast, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
25 Sat Strategic Planning Meeting, 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall

**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP**

**Maundy Thursday** – Communion Service – 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
**Good Friday** – Tenebrae Service – 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
**Easter Sunrise** – 6:30 a.m. – outdoors, weather permitting  
*Easter Breakfast of Scrambled Eggs and Ham – 7:30 to 9:15 a.m.*  
*Donations of baked goods are requested.*  
**Easter Sunday Worship** – 9:45 a.m. – in the Sanctuary  
**No Service at 11:15 a.m.**

**SERVING TODAY – 9:45 A.M.**

Worship Accompanist	Elena Taylor
Interim Choir Director	Ken Mehalko
Bell Choir Director	Barbara Fraunfelder
Liturgist	Ted Bickley
Greeter	Ray Suttle
Coffee Hour	Tom Gaumer

**SERVING EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 5, 2015**

Liturgist	6:30 a.m. Betty Craig	9:45 a.m. Kelly Bickley
Greeter		Linda Plain

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – MARCH 29, 2015**

**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 Loving Memory of Richard Saylor*  
The Fischer and McKenzie Families

*Celebrating the March Birthdays of*  
*Our Son-in-law Marty and Grandson Mason*  
George and Joyce Reed

*In Celebration of Ed Sobek's Birthday on March 25*  
Cheryl, Dallas and Dakota

**Our steeple will light the sky this week—**

*Happy Birthday on April 1 to Rob Wentz*  
With love, Grammy

*In Remembrance of the Birthday of My Dad, Nicholas Paul, on March 31*  
Gary Paul

	Offering Needed	\$3,190
Offering Received 3/22	Traditional \$1,948	Contemporary \$35 <u>1,983</u>
	Difference	(\$1,207)

**Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy** to Jamie Habart and son Christian on the passing of Jamie's father, James Habart, on Wednesday, March 25. Visitation is today at Jardine's from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m., and the funeral is tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. at Jardine's. After the funeral, a luncheon will be held in our Pilgrim Hall.

**April Church Newsletter** – For those who get paper copies, please pick up yours today in the Gathering Area. Thank you.

**The Sunday School** will gather today in Pilgrim Hall to line up at 9:40 a.m. for the Palm Processional, and next Sunday they will have an Easter Egg Hunt during class time.

**Lenten Study** – This evening Pastor Becky will lead the final Lenten study on the book, Renegade Gospel, by Mike Slaughter. We will enjoy a meal at the church at 6:00 p.m., and the study will follow at about

7:00 p.m. The book presents Jesus and his challenging message to inspire us during Lent, Easter, and through the year. For the meal, the main course will be provided; please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Thank you.

**Child Safe Community Day** – This afternoon everyone is invited to the 11th Annual Child Safe Community Day Fair from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center. The event, presented by the Rotary Club of Strongsville, offers free child fingerprinting and clinics for kids on Stranger Danger and other safety topics. The event also features an Easter egg hunt for pre-K to third grade, inflatables, pictures with the Easter Bunny, ice cream eating contest, dozens of vendor booths and more. Admission is free; there's a small donation for pictures and the ice cream contest. Be sure to visit the Strongsville UCC table also!

**Women's Fellowship** will meet Wednesday, April 1, at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Betty Craig will lead devotions and be the hostess, and the Strongsville Police Department will present the program. All ladies are invited to attend the meeting. After the program, all are invited to the Wednesday Free Lunch in Pilgrim Hall.

**Wednesday Free Lunch Program is in operation.** All are welcome to attend this free weekly lunch, which is served 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### THRIFT SHOP

April 2 FINAL BAG SALE – all bags \$5 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

April 9 Thrift Shop **CLOSED** for Changeover

**Please hold your donations until April 16. Thank you!**

**The Church Office will be closed Monday, April 6 – the day after Easter Sunday.**

**CROP Walk on Saturday, April 25** – Walk with us! Our fund-raising goal for the walk is \$1,000. Sponsored by Church World Service, CROP Hunger Walk is the oldest hunger-fighting fundraising event in the U.S. It involves more than 1,600 communities each year – a mix of faiths, community groups, individuals and schools. Around 25 percent of the money raised fights hunger in each of those communities, with the remainder supporting the life-saving work of CWS – helping people around the world have enough food to eat and clean water to drink – and allowing children to have the best start at life possible. **A sign up is in the Gathering Area or sign up to be a walker or donate on our Team Page: <http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/UCCcongregational>**

**Strategic Planning Meeting** – Please join in for the Strategic Planning Meeting on Saturday, April 25, 2015, at noon in Pilgrim Hall at the church. Your opinion and ideas do count and will help the church to carry forward with goals to succeed!

**Calling All Women!** The third annual Women's Retreat will be held August 14 through 16, 2015, (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) at Pilgrim Hills. Please join in for a GREAT weekend! Cost is \$93.60 and is due by Sunday, June 14, 2015. If you have any questions or want to sign up, please email Kim McKenzie at [davekimmckenzie@cox.net](mailto:davekimmckenzie@cox.net) or call Kim at (216) 401-8738. Look for the sign-up sheet in April.

**Weekly Food Bank Donations** – Judy Carte continues to be our liaison to the Strongsville Food Bank, and you will see that she lists items that the Food Bank needs most. The schedule is as follows for now, until needs change. (We will notify you accordingly when they do.)

First Sunday	Canned fruit
Second Sunday	Pork and beans
Third Sunday	Family meals (such as chili, beef stew, ravioli)
Fourth Sunday	Toiletry items

**Vehicle Needed** – Our Mission and Outreach Committee has adopted two families, who were recommended by Kelly Kling, the Strongsville Food Bank administrator. One family needs a vehicle. If you have an old car or van that you are thinking of donating to a charity, you can donate your vehicle through our church. Our church will provide a tax donation receipt to the donor. For more information, please contact Judy Carte, Mission and Outreach Committee liaison for the adopted families, or Kenn Oerkfitz, Church Treasurer.

**Help is needed on Sunday mornings with greeting, ushering, and serving at coffee hour.** To help in these areas, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. If you are new to a task, we will arrange for a Diaconate member to assist you. For more information, please contact Denise Bell or Cheryl Sobek.

**The Stewardship Committee** held its first official meeting of the year on March 15. Co-chairs (Darla Wickline and Natalie Daniels) were selected, and the committee plans to meet each month. Also, expect to hear from us throughout the year! We will begin having articles in the monthly newsletter, and we plan to keep the church up to date on our planning, and on ways in which everyone can grow their stewardship! If anyone has any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to let us know.

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

**Church Family:** Betty Babics at Akron City (Summa) Hospital, Betty Bushea, Irene Jannsohn, Jim Joyce, Denzil Richards, Melinda Slavik, Doris Soucie, Ann Sullen, Leah Tressa Forget \*

**Extended Church Family:** Ryan Brubeck, Marie Bury, Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Rebecca Deeb (Goddaughter of Lora Rung), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Ruth Fraley (relative of the Jannsohn family), Brian Gogerty (friend of the Heinrichs), Irene Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Pat Kolba (mother of Kelly Bickley), Lily (student of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Marjorie Tressa (mother of Rich), Kathleen Wickline (mother of Darla), Shirley Wilson (mother of Sue Hawk), Marilyn Woodward (mother of David and Carol)

\* **Leah's address is:** Leah Forget  
1604 Brentwood Street  
Middletown, OH 44054

*This list will be updated weekly. If you wish someone to remain on the list, please call the church, (440) 238-6697.*

**Prayer Chains** – If you wish to be part of an Email Prayer Chain or a Telephone Prayer Chain for special prayer requests that arise, please call the church, (440) 238-6697. To request prayers from the Email Prayer Chain and the Telephone Prayer Chains, please inform Pastor Becky or the church office.

*I want to thank my Strongsville UCC family for your prayers, cards and get-well wishes during my recent illness. I have appreciated your caring thoughts over the past several weeks and am glad to be finally feeling back to normal.*  
Sandy Pogozeleski

*Diaconate Sponsored Fundraiser*

## WING NITE

**Friday – May 1, 2015 – 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at**

**Sidelines Sports Bar & Grill**

1165 Pearl Road  
Brunswick, Ohio



**\$20.00 per person** includes wings, penne pasta with marinara sauce, garden salad, hot dogs, pop, draft beer. Cash bar also available.

Additional fun events for the evening:

Chinese Auction, Side Boards / 50/50, Heads / Tails game

Tickets for this event will be available for purchase on Sunday mornings from Diaconate members. Anyone willing to provide theme baskets/gifts for the auction, please sign up on the board in Pilgrim Hall. Thank you!

**Coffee Hour Fund** – Thank you to all who contribute to the fund. Besides Coffee Hour, these contributions now also provide supplies for the Wednesday Free Lunch program. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**An Ecumenical Softball Team** is being formed. If you are interested to play on the team, please circle Softball Team on your Attendance Card; call the church office, (440) 238-6697; or tell Pastor Becky. Thank you!

**Altar Flowers** – Multiple vases are accepted on Sunday mornings. However, the following are dates when vases are still needed in order to have two vases on the altar for Sunday worship:

June 21 – 1 vase  
July 5 – 1 vase  
September 6 – 1 vase  
October 4 – 1 vase  
October 25 – 2 vases  
November 29 – 2 vases  
December 13 – 2 vases

*If you only attend the 9:45 a.m. service, you are welcome to take your flowers after that service. The Contemporary Service is casual, and it is okay if flowers are not on the altar.*

The signup chart for altar flowers is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Below the chart are forms and envelopes for submitting your bulletin information and payment to the church office.

Thank you very much for providing flowers for our worship services.