

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 21, 2014

11:15 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

OPENING SONG 41 *I Love You, Lord*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG 3 *Almighty*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Happy are those who revere God and delight in doing God's will.

All: **Abundance will fill their homes as gratitude fills their hearts.**

One: Their minds are centered in God, whom they trust with all their hearts.

All: **Their rising is like the sunrise, and their light fills heaven and earth.**

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG 67 *Sanctuary*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debts*)

OFFERING *Make Us One, Lord*

THE WORD OF GOD Psalm 105:1-5 Hebrew Scriptures p. 519

MEDITATION "Pray and Give Thanks" Kenn Oerkfitz

SONG 78 *The Mission*

† BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG 37 *How Majestic*

We thank Kenn Oerkfitz for leading us in worship today while Pastor Becky and Jack are away.

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

Music Director	Andrew Purdum
Keyboard	Elena Taylor
Song Leaders	Andrew Purdum, Barb Fraunfelder, Kyra Krause
Liturgist	Barb Fraunfelder
Graphics Operation	Michele Mhlack
Coffee Hour	Ginny Oerkfitz

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

September 21, 2014 9:45 A.M. Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE *Fanfare in C* Henry Purcell

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *This Is the Day*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Happy are those who revere God and delight in doing God's will.

All: **Abundance will fill their homes as gratitude fills their hearts.**

One: Their minds are centered in God, whom they trust with all their hearts.

All: **Their rising is like the sunrise, and their light fills heaven and earth.**

† HYMN 143 *This Is My Father's World*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

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 *On Wings of Song* Felix Mendelssohn

ANTHEM *Thanks Be to Thee* Handel

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

If you are seated in the alcove and would prefer sitting in the sanctuary, please feel free to move to the sanctuary after the Children's Sermon.

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Comfort for My Soul* Edward Broughton

† DOXOLOGY (No. 815)

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† HYMN 370 *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

SCRIPTURE Luke 17:20-21 New Testament p. 70

SERMON *"The Kingdom of God Is Like . . ."* Rev. James Ellison

† HYMN 665 *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

† BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE *Shaker Parting Song*

† POSTLUDE *My Comfort by Day* Gilbert Martin

We welcome Rev. James Ellison, who is filling in today while Pastor Becky and Jack are away. Pastor Jim recently retired from 31 years with the United Methodist Church, and has been active with the United Church of Christ for the past two years. He is a certified Montessori teacher, and he graduated with a PhD in Education in 2012. Pastor Jim enjoys swimming at the YMCA. He and his wife live in Akron. We thank Pastor Jim for being with us this morning.

SERVING TODAY

Director of Music	Andrew Purdum
Worship Accompanist	Elena Taylor
Liturgist	Tom Gaumer
Greeter	Lloyd and Barbara Bridle
Nursery	Dianne Maringer
Coffee Hour	Ginny Oerkfitz

Neighbors in Need Offering on October 5 – Our denomination supports the UCC’s ministries of justice and compassion throughout the U.S. through the special offering, Neighbors in Need. Two thirds of the gifts are used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries, funding a wide array of local and national justice initiatives and direct service projects. One third supports the UCC Council for American Indian Ministries, working with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, and Hidatsa in North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on Indian reservations. Please support this year’s Neighbor in Need generously.

September 2014

- 23 Tue Children’s Instruments Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m.
Children’s Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m.
Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Thu Men’s Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at European’s Best Restaurant
- 28 Sun ORC Pancake Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
KFC Penny Sunday and KFC Meeting
Kindred Spirit Singles Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 29 Mon Stewardship Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 30 Tue Children’s Instruments Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m.
Children’s Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m.

October 2014

- 1 Wed Women’s Fellowship Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
- 5 Sun Communion
Neighbors in Need Offering
Trustees Meeting, after 9:45 a.m. worship
- 7 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Wed Church Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.
- 12 Sun Church Anniversary Dinner
- 14 Tue Worship Team Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Wed Newsletter Deadline
- 18 Sat ORC Clambake at the Parsonage
- 19 Sun Congregational Meeting
- 20 Mon Women’s Prayer Group Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Tue Advertising Team Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 23 Thu Men’s Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at European’s Best Restaurant
- 26 Sun Sunday School Pumpkin Painting Party
Begin Collecting for Thanksgiving Baskets
Kindred Spirit Singles Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 28 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 28, 2014

Liturgist	9:45 a.m. Kelly Bickley	11:15 Rachel Zielinski
Greeters for 9:45 a.m.		Volunteers Needed
Nursery for 9:45 a.m.		Ginny Oerkfitz
Graphics Operation for 11:15 a.m.		Rosemary Bechtel
Coffee Hour		Tom Gaumer

ANNOUNCEMENTS – SEPTEMBER 21, 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 flowers are given—

*Happy 2nd Birthday to Our Grandson Weston on September 24
Grandparents, George and Joyce Reed*

*In Celebration of the Birthdays of My Daughters,
Sarah and Chelsey, this weekend
Gina*

The steeple will light the sky this week—

*In Celebration of Our Parents, Bill and Dorothy Ritchie’s
62nd Anniversary on September 26
Love, Gina and Sharon*

*Happy Birthday Today to Abby Craig
With love, Grammy*

Happy Belated Anniversary last Sunday, September 14, to Lou and Sue Gigliotti and to Jon and Sarah Hayes!

Happy Birthday today to Abigail Craig and to Nina Jannsohn!
Happy Anniversary today to Ross and Allison Martin!

The Wine Tasting fundraiser on September 12 raised \$2,950.00. Thank you to all for your support!

Fall clean-up – Today after the Contemporary Service, we will work on cleaning the Sanctuary for the Fall and Advent seasons. We will offer a pizza lunch and beverages, so please join us. Please bring rags or buckets if you can and a set of old clothes! If you have questions, please see a Diaconate member.

Official Board will meet Tuesday, September 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Men’s Luncheon will meet Thursday, September 25, at 11:30 a.m. at European’s Best Restaurant & Bakery. As always, all men are welcome.

Church Photos Needed – We are collecting photos for a “Year-in-Review” presentation at the Church Anniversary Dinner on Sunday, October 12. Please bring in your photos or email them to the church

office, Cheryl Sobek, or Rachel Zielinski. Dinner details will be forthcoming.

Communications – On Sunday, **October 19**, there will be a **Congregational Meeting to discuss plans/costs for installing an electronic message sign** in front of the church. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending, for your input is important in resolving and moving forward with this project. More details will be forthcoming.

A Facilities Visioning Team is being formed. This team will begin the process of visioning what our church facilities might look like in the future. Perhaps it will include expanded parking, new Sunday School rooms, more storage space or a larger sanctuary. If you're interested in being part of the Facilities Visioning Team, please talk with Pastor Becky.

Mission and Outreach – A beautiful **quilt**, handmade by Ha Bennett, will be raffled off on Sunday, **November 16**. Proceeds from ticket sales will be used by the Mission and Outreach Committee (of which Ha is a member) for a variety of programs we are supporting in mission work locally and globally. Raffle tickets prices are \$10 for one and \$15 for two, and they are available from members of the Committee: Kelly Bickley, Lora Rung, Elizabeth Snook, Erv Koch, and Pastor Becky. Tickets are also available in the Church Office. The queen-size quilt will be on display each Sunday morning.

Mission and Outreach Committee – If you could find time in your busy schedule to serve on the Mission and Outreach Committee, you would be appreciated! There are just four now, and two more would make a difference. The Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Please speak with Kelly Bickley, chair, (330) 461-4624 or Lora Rung, secretary, (440) 823-1703 if you are interested or have questions. *"The Church doesn't have 'missions.' It IS mission."* Thanks!

Attention Children! Children can play instruments with the Praise Band on Sunday mornings! Elena will work with those interested at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. In addition, a Children's Choir is being formed, and choir rehearsals are at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. All children are welcome!

Choir, Bell Choir and Praise Band members are needed! Please see Music Director, Andrew Purdum, or Worship Accompanist, Elena Taylor today for more information. Strongsville UCC's Music Ministry welcomes and wants YOU!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Fundraiser for the Pipe Organ Restoration Fund

Sunday – September 28, 2014 – 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

All You Can Eat

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

\$8.00 Adult – ages 13 and over

\$5.00 – ages 6-12

Free – Children under 6 years

Tickets are available for purchase today.



SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:45 a.m. Traditional Service

11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service

Paper Recycling – River Valley Paper Company has a Back-to-School **Bonus Week for September 21-27**. The church will receive an additional \$5 per ton! Please bring your paper to our bin during this time. Thank you for your support.

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

Church Family: Dolores Matchett, Barbara Morgan

Extended Church Family: Marianne Allwood (niece of Dale Hawk), 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 Hagemeyer (niece of Betty Craig), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), 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)