

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 28, 2014

11:15 A.M.

† Those who are able may stand.

OPENING SONG 52 *Let the River Flow*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG 42 *I Will Celebrate*

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Watch and listen for the wonders of our God.

All: Our God is among us.

One: Watch and listen for the goodness of our God.

All: Our God moves among us.

One: Watch and listen, for God is here.

All: Our God dwells among us.

† **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING SONG 67 *Sanctuary*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debts*)

OFFERING *Great Is the Lord*

THE WORD OF GOD Matthew 21:23-32 New Testament p. 20

MEDITATION "By Whose Authority?"

SONG 78 *The Mission*

† **BENEDICTION**

CLOSING SONG 37 *How Majestic*

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	Rachel Zielinski
Graphics Operation	Rosemary Bechtel
Coffee Hour	Tom Gaumer

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 28, 2014 9:45 A.M. Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE *Prelude in Eb Major* Einar Lindblom

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *This Is the Day*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Watch and listen for the wonders of our God.

All: Our God is among us.

One: Watch and listen for the goodness of our God.

All: Our God moves among us.

One: Watch and listen, for God is here.

All: Our God dwells among us.

† **HYMN 526** *The Solid Rock*

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 *Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire*

ANTHEM *The Folk 23rd*

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 *Song without Words*

† **DOXOLOGY** (No. 815)

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 456** *Find Us Faithful*

SCRIPTURE Matthew 21:23-32 New Testament p. 20

SERMON *"By Whose Authority?"*

† **HYMN 528** *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place*

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** *Shaker Parting Song*

† **POSTLUDE** *Hymns*

SERVING TODAY

Director of Music
Worship Accompanist
Liturgist
Nursery
Coffee Hour

Andrew Purdum
Elena Taylor
Kelly Bickley
Ginny Oerkfitz
Tom Gaumer

Neighbors in Need Offering on October 5 – Next Sunday provides an opportunity to make a difference through the UCC-sponsored special offering, Neighbors in Need. Ministries of justice and compassion are made possible through our gifts – ministries such as are described in today's bulletin insert, *"Imagining another world – where educating women and girls is a priority."* Malala Yousafzai, Pakistani education activist, who was shot by the Taliban in an assassination attempt, speaking at the U.N. on her 16th birthday, said, *"Weakness, fear and hopelessness died. Strength, power and courage was born."* She knows the power which lies in women's education. So does the UCC. Please support this year's NIN offering generously.

September 2014

- 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.
- 2 Thu Journey in Faith Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Sun Neighbors in Need Offering
Trustees Meeting, after 9:45 a.m. worship
- 7 Tue Worship Team Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Wed Church Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.
- 12 Sun Communion
Church Anniversary Dinner, 5:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall
- 13 Mon Heaven is For Real, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Wed Newsletter Deadline
- 18 Sat ORC Clambake at the Parsonage, 5:00 p.m.
- 19 Sun Begin Thanksgiving Food Collection
- 20 Mon Women's Prayer Group Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Heaven is For Real, 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
- 25 Sat Decorate Sanctuary for Fall Season, 9:00 a.m.
- 26 Sun Kindred Spirit Singles Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 27 Mon Heaven is For Real, 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 31 Fri Prepare for Turkey Dinner in Pilgrim Hall

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – OCTOBER 5, 2014

Liturgist	9:45 a.m. Bruce Keenen	11:15 Lora Rung
Greeter for 9:45 a.m.		Jim Studer
Ushers for 9:45 a.m.		Needed
Nursery for 9:45 a.m.		Rosemary Bechtel
Graphics Operation for 11:15 a.m.		Sharon Heinrich
Coffee Hour		Allen and Michele Mhlack

ANNOUNCEMENTS – SEPTEMBER 28, 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—

*Anniversary Wishes to Our Parents, Bill and Dorothy Ritchie – #62!
Love, Gina and Sharon*

*Happy Anniversary to Our Daughter Holly and Her Husband Marty
on September 27
George and Joyce Reed*

Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to three families on their recent losses:

To member Lori Kovatich and family on the passing of her grandmother, Ethel Schuch, on September 13 in Cincinnati. The funeral was held yesterday in Cincinnati.

To member Michelle Szasz and family on the passing of her mother, Marsha Rossey, on September 19. The funeral was held on September 23 in Bedford, Ohio.

To our church friend Dave Whitely and family on the passing of his mother, Karen Whitely, on September 21. Her funeral was held on September 25 at the Chapel at Sunset Memorial Park.

For those who get paper copies, **please pick up your October Newsletter today.** Thank you to all who receive their newsletter by email.

Stewardship Team will meet tomorrow, September 29, at 7:00 p.m.

Women's Fellowship will meet Wednesday, October 1, at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor. The program will be Fun Day: Bunco with Rosemary Bechtel and a Craft Project with Pam Polansky. Barb Fraunfelder is the hostess, and Betty Bushea will lead devotions. Please bring your own lunch; coffee, tea and dessert will be provided. As always, all ladies are welcome!

Journey in Faith Class – Pastor Becky will again teach a 12-week Journey in Faith membership class beginning Thursday, October 2. Members, as well as potential members, are welcome and encouraged to attend. Class is held at the church from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Area.

Pastor Becky will lead a study on ***Heaven Is for Real*** on the Mondays of October 13, 20, and 27 at 7:00 p.m. The movie is based on the book of the same name and will be shown during the study time, with discussion to follow. All are welcome.

The First Annual Strongsville UCC Clambake will be held Saturday, October 18, at the home of Pastor Becky and Jack Stephenson. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m., and the meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$25 for adults, \$5.00 for children (for hot dog / hamburger meal). Dale and Cathy Hawk will host this event, which is a fundraiser for the pipe organ restoration. The dinners will be provided and prepared by Strongsville Seafood. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-12 (for a hot dog / hamburger). For questions you may contact Sandy at (440) 840-0639. The event will feature a pirate theme including "treasure hunting" (games of chance). Pirate costumes and pirate talk are encouraged! We need a minimum of 50 dinner reservations. So, plan to bring some buckos (that means friends, land lubber)!

Church Photos Needed – We are collecting photos for a "Year-in-Review" presentation at the Church Anniversary Dinner on Sunday, October 12 at 5:00 p.m. Please bring in your photos or email them to the church office, Cheryl Sobek, or Rachel Zielinski. Dinner details will be forthcoming.

Meeting Canceled – The Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sunday, October 19, is canceled

Altar Flowers – We expanded our flower chart to accommodate multiple vases on Sunday mornings. To provide an additional vase (or more) on a Sunday that was already reserved for two vases, please write your name by the date you want on the new charts in Pilgrim Hall. (Previous reservations were transferred to the new charts.) Thank you for providing flowers.

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!

Paper Recycling – Please collapse boxes before placing them into the recycling bin. Thank you!

All You Can Eat

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Fundraiser for the Pipe Organ Restoration Fund

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

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

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: Marie Bury, Nancy Cochran, 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)

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.