

The Congregational Church in Strongsville

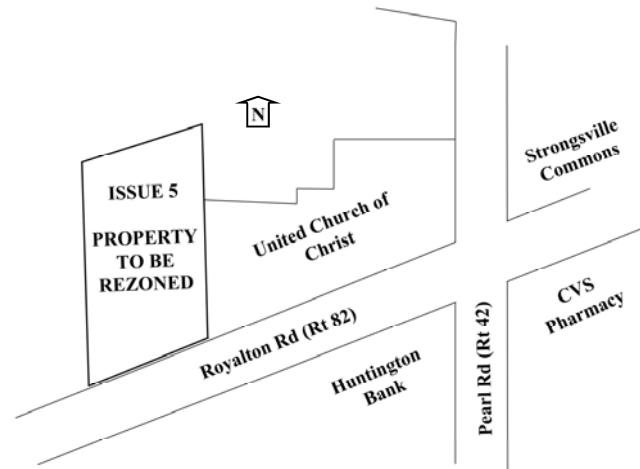
The Church on the Commons

The Congregational Church was established in Strongsville nearly 200 years ago. The existing church structure on the town square pre-dates the Civil War. We are proud of our heritage and hopeful for the future.



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

In 1957 the Congregational Church became part of the United Church of Christ (UCC). Our faith is 2000 years old, but our thinking leans forward. We believe in Jesus Christ and the power of his Word. We listen to hear God still speaking today. We welcome intelligent exploration of diverse ideas. We believe in the importance of compassionate service to a world in need. All are welcome, no matter who they are or where they are on their faith journey.



Strongsville United Church of Christ

Congregational

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Vote "YES" On Issue 5



**Honor our history.
Preserve our future.**

Vote "YES" on Issue 5

Election Day - March 6, 2012

Brief Overview

On March 6 we ask citizens to vote "Yes" on Issue 5. This will change the zoning of a property owned by the Strongsville United Church of Christ (Congregational). The property is to the west of the church on Royalton Road. A YES vote will change zoning from "Residential" to "Public Facility." This will help ensure that the historic "Church on the Commons" will remain positioned for future growth and avoid relocation.

Issue 5 – What's going on?

In 1985, the Strongsville UCC acquired the property and residence at 19130 Royalton Rd. (parcels 392-36017 and 392-36018). Inspections revealed that structural repairs would be required to bring the aging residential structure up to code. In June, 2010, the congregation made the difficult decision that it was no longer cost-effective to retain the existing residence on the property. These parcels, currently owned by the church, are now vacant. As there is no longer a residence on these church properties, the congregation considers it proper to modify its zoning classification from "Residential" to "Public Facility."

How will the property be used?

Foreseeable future

The property will remain essentially unused for now. The church will cut the grass and maintain the site. We hope to beautify the grounds with additional trees and shrubs around the perimeter. We may add a garden or gazebo. The congregation will occasionally have activities such as church picnics and outdoor worship on the property.

Growth potential

The property will be retained by the church to accommodate growth in the long-term future. We have observed how area churches have outgrown their facilities and property, compelling them to relocate. Passage of this ballot issue prudently ensures the retention of our historic landmark on the Strongsville Commons.

Parking

There are no plans to expand to another parking lot at this time. We simply have neither the need nor resources for that. But our congregation is growing; we hope that growth will continue. More parking space might be needed in the long-term future.

Summary

The Congregational UCC has deep roots in Strongsville. A YES vote on Issue 5 will help us to ensure our presence at this corner for future generations. We ask our fellow citizens to vote YES on Issue 5. "Honor our history – Preserve our future."

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