

For YOU created  
my inmost being:  
you knit me together in  
my mother's womb.  
I praise you because I am  
fearfully and  
wonderfully  
made:  
your works are  
WONDERFUL  
I know that full well.  
Psalm 139:1-6

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall**  
Designated Minister

**JANUARY 14, 2018 – 10:00 A.M.**

## WELCOME!

We are grateful you chose to worship with us this morning.  
No matter who you are and where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.

For questions about our church and ministries,  
you may call the church at (440) 238-6697.  
Please complete your Attendance Card and place it  
into the offering plate. We hope to see you again soon!

† *Please stand as you are comfortable.*

## PRELUDE

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Irene Joyce

**CHORAL INTROIT** "Lead Me, Lord" Samuel S. Wesley

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** *From Psalm 139*

Leader: God, I'm an open book to you;  
even from a distance, you know what I'm thinking.

**People: You know when I leave and when I get back;  
I am never out of your sight.**

Leader: Is there any place I can go to avoid your Spirit?  
To be out of your sight?

**People: If I climb to the sky, you're there!  
If I go underground, you're there!  
If I flew on morning's wings to the far western horizon,  
you'd find me in a minute—  
You are already there waiting!**

Leader: You even see me in the dark!  
At night, I'm immersed in your light!

**People: This is too much, too wonderful—I can't take it all in!  
Thanks be to God!**

† **HYMN 655** "Sanctuary" Sing Twice

## SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

## PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE** "Amen" Besig

**CHORAL ANTHEM** "Come Home" arr. by Page and Shafferman

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## THE OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY

† **DOXOLOGY 815** Tune: *Old Hundredth*  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### † PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**SCRIPTURE READING** John 1:43-51

**SERMON** "Come and See"

† **HYMN 33** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

### † BENEDICTION

† **RESPONSE** "Lead Me, Lord" Samuel S. Wesley

### † POSTLUDE

## This morning's altar flowers are given—

*In Honor of Our January Birthdays for Rachel and Kennedy  
The Morgan and Zielinski Families*

*In Celebration of Kathie's Birthday  
Love, Gary*

*Happy Birthday to Our Daughter, Sharon Ritchie  
Love, Mom and Dad*

## Our steeple will light the sky this week—

*Happy Birthday to My Sister, Sharon Ritchie  
Love, Gina*

*Happy Birthday to Tony Tran on January 20  
With love, Grammy*

*In Honor of Chris Morgan on His 71st Birthday  
The Morgan and Zielinski Families*

**Today marks our last Sunday with Eli Manos as our regular choral  
accompanist.** Eli, a student at Cleveland State University, has had to step  
away from the position in order to pursue his degree requirements. In the  
months that he has played with us, we have been blessed with his  
expansive talent, kind spirit, and positive energy. He has promised that he  
will guest or substitute when his schedule allows, so we are not saying  
"Goodbye", but merely "until we meet again." The members of the Music  
Ministry, the Chancel Choir, and the Bell Choir wish Eli the best in his future  
endeavors, and we will always consider him a member of our musical  
family.

**Our love and prayers** are extended to two families on their recent losses:

to Mike Clotworthy and family on the passing of his father, Christopher,  
on December 21, 2017, in Florida.  
The funeral was held on January 12, 2018, in Florida.

to Pam Keenen and family on the passing of her mother, Audrey Curry,  
on January 4, 2018, in Friendship Village of Dublin, Ohio.  
A memorial service will be held in February at the place where she lived,  
Friendship Village of Dublin.

## Today after worship, Annual Reports will be collated in Pilgrim Hall.

When all reports are collated, we will enjoy lunch together. Please help if  
you are willing and able. Thank you!

**Diaconate will meet** on Tuesday, January 16, at 7:00 p.m.

**Joining the Church** – If you are interested in becoming a member of  
Strongsville UCC, please either inform Pastor Heidi or call the church office,  
(440) 238-6697. Thank you!

**Lenten Study** featuring the movie, *The Shack*, will be offered Sundays at  
noon, beginning February 18 in Pilgrim Hall. The first week will be simply  
viewing the movie; following weeks will be our chance to discuss, digest  
and explore together. A light lunch will be provided. Interested? Please let  
us know who and how many on the attendance card found in your bulletin.

**Nursery – Helpers are needed** because of the increase in number of  
children. A sign-up sheet is in Pilgrim Hall. For questions, please contact  
Amanda Hawk, Sarah Hayes, or Kelly Bickley.

**Photo Directory** – Please contact Sarah Hayes or Cathy Hawk today to get  
your picture re-taken **if your first picture was taken before September.**

**The Wednesday Lunch Program really needs volunteers** especially now  
when four regular volunteers went south for the winter. To help, please  
contact Betty Craig or call the church, (440) 238-6697. Thank you!

**The sign-up charts for Greeters, Ushers, and Coffee Hour for 2018** are  
posted on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board. Please sign up to help in these  
areas if you are able. Your help is greatly appreciated and needed!

**Thank you** to all of the generous folks who donated \$158.22 on the last  
Penny Sunday of 2017! The money will go to our Sunday School to  
replenish our donations to the National Youth Advocacy Program and  
Memorial School in Cleveland. The next Penny Sunday is January 28.

**Membership rosters** will be distributed at the Annual Meeting. Does the  
church have your current address and phone number? If not, please email  
that information to [strongsvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleucc@gmail.com) or call the church at  
(440) 238-6697. Thank you.

**Nominating Committee** – Many offices in the church are available for the  
coming year. Please consider saying yes when a member of the  
Nominating Committee asks you to serve.

## S E R V I N G

### January 14, 2018

Tom Gaumer / Aidan Hurtig  
Billie Jo Cantrell  
Chuck McDougall  
Cathy Hawk

**Liturgist**  
**Greeters**  
**Ushers**  
**Coffee Hour**

### January 21, 2018

Kelly Bickley  
Sharon Ritchie  
Chuck McDougall  
Myron Costin

**Adult Social Club** meets Wednesday, January 17, at 7:00 p.m.

**Tomorrow is the deadline for the February Church Newsletter.** You may want to leave your article in the church office today. Thank you!

**The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place on Sunday, January 28, 2018, at about 11:45 a.m.** In accordance with our church constitution and by-laws, the Board of Trustees are announcing a proposal requiring congregational approval during our church Annual Meeting. The Trustees are asking for a vote due to any costs which could cause each project to exceed \$5,000. Members must be present during this meeting to vote. The first item for consideration is painting of the church sanctuary. The sanctuary has not been painted since 1988 and is need of a complete paint job. The painting estimate is \$4,550. The second proposal is replacing the beige sanctuary carpet with matching cathedral red carpet. The beige carpet has lots of stains and is worn and in need of replacing. The carpet replacement estimate is currently \$5,045. Both projects will be financed through our church line of credit. There will be opportunity for questions leading up to the meeting and during the Annual Meeting. Please see a member of the Trustees with any questions. Thank you for your time and consideration.

**To make past services easier to view on the web,** the church has a YouTube channel. To access it, go to the <http://strongsvilleucc.com/> website. Click on WORSHIP and then SERVICE VIDEOS. Once you get to YouTube, search for the service you wish to see and click on it. Alternately, you can go directly to YouTube and search for "Strongsville UCC". Most services from the beginning of 2017 have already been uploaded. To see an older service, please contact Jim Heinrich to see if it is available.

**Updating Our Website and TVs** – If you have updates for our church Website or TV screens at church, please inform:

Michele Mihlack (216) 324-9799 or [m.mihlack@gmail.com](mailto:m.mihlack@gmail.com)  
or Irene Joyce (216) 267-5043 or [ij3e@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ij3e@sbcglobal.net)

*Strongsville UCC*

**ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT**

## **SWISS STEAK DINNER**

**Saturday – February 3, 2018**

**Seatings at 5:00 and 6:30 P.M.**

*Reservations Only: (216) 598-6198*

**Adults \$14.00    Ages 6-10 \$6.00    Under 6 Free**

***Tickets are available for purchase after worship.***

Help is needed – especially on Friday at 9:30 a.m. for browning meat.

The sign-up sheet is posted on Pilgrim Hall's board.

For safety reasons, no children under age 6 (with or without parent) can be helpers in any capacity during the serving hours of 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Children 6 to 10 must have a parent helping them.

**The Thrift Shop will be open.**

### **OFFERINGS RECEIVED**

Weekly Offering Needed    \$3,649.31  
Weekly Offering Received 1/7/2018    \$4,791.50  
Difference + \$1,142.19



## **2018 ALL-FAMILY WINTER RETREAT AT PILGRIM HILLS**

The Church's Annual All-Family Winter Retreat will return to Temple Hills this year and will take place on President's Day weekend 2018—February 16, 17 and 18. The sign-up sheet to attend is posted on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Please reserve your spot and room now, as rooms will be first-come, first-served. The cut-off to sign up—TODAY—will be strictly enforced this year. We will not have the same luxury as we've had in the past, in which we were able to take reservations up until the event weekend. Space is limited to 68 attendees. Also, please let us know if you have any special dietary needs. Finally, those that wish to come down on Saturday only—we would be happy to have you there, but we also need your reservation by TODAY, and the cost is \$10 per meal. Please contact Irene Joyce or Rachel Zielinski if you have any questions.

The cost breakdown is    **Adults** (12 and up): \$70  
  **Children** (6-11): \$15  
  **Children** (5 and under): FREE

Special dates for the retreat are:

**TODAY, January 14: Reservations close and money is due.**

January 28, 2018: All special dietary needs must be reported.

February 11, 2018: Retreat planning meeting in the church after worship

## **OUR PRAYER LIST**

*If you or a family member would like a visit, please call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please provide updates for this list. Thank you.*

**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Betty Bushea, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Dan Davis, Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt at Northwestern Health Care Center in Berea, Irene Jannsohn, Martha Liebert, Sandra Manos (mother of Eli), Sloane Masuga (daughter of Jake and Lauren), Bill Ritchie, Betsey Santomen (wife of Rev. Joe Santomen), Rev. Oommen Thomas, Leah Tressa Forget, Kyle Woodward

**Extended Church Family:** Luke Bazan (friend of Judi Pavisich's granddaughter), Donna Briggs (mother-in-law of Judi Pavisich's daughter), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Sue Grunenwald (friend of the Heinrichs), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), the Sink family (friends of Judy Pavisich's granddaughter), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Sheena Toth (mother of Dale), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga)

**Financial Officers of Church Groups:** Please turn in your financial statements to the Auditing Committee through the church office now. It is extremely important that all books be audited before the Annual Meeting on January 28, 2018. All organizations are required to submit:

1. ALL bank books (savings and/or checking).
2. ALL bank statements for each month for each account. Checking accounts statements should show completed reconciliation on the back.
3. ALL monthly recap forms.
4. ALL bank deposit slips, withdrawal slips and bank check receipts (if received), attached to monthly recap forms.
5. ALL receipts and bills paid.
6. Copy of Annual Financial Report (original provided to church office for Annual Report).

## **JANUARY 2018**

- 14 Sun Retreat Reservations close, and payment is due.  
Annual Reports are collated in Pilgrim hall, after church
- 15 Mon Newsletter Deadline
- 16 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 17 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-12:30pm  
Fit Club, 7pm  
Adult Social Club Meeting, 7pm
- 23 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm
- 24 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-12:30pm  
Men's Luncheon, 11:30am  
Fit Club, 7pm
- 28 Sun Annual Meeting of the Congregation, after worship  
(Traditional Pancake Breakfast will precede the meeting.)  
Special Dietary Needs for the Winter Retreat must be reported.
- 31 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm,  
Fit Club, 7pm

**When Strongsville City Schools are closed** because of the weather:  
**The Wednesday Free Lunch Program** will be "closed,"

*and*  
**The Thrift Shop** will be "closed."

## **MUSIC REHEARSALS DURING THE WEEK**

**Band** (Adults and Students in Grades 6-12) – 8pm on Wednesdays

**Bell Choir** – 7pm on Thursdays

**Chancel Choir** – 8pm on Thursdays

*For information about our church's music program, please see*  
**Elena Taylor, Director of Music**

