

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 139:13-14

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 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
or Irene Joyce (216) 267-5043 or 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.

2018 ALL-FAMILY WINTER RETREAT AT PILGRIM HILLS

The Church's Annual All-Family Winter Retreat will return to Templd 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 grand-daughter), 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



OFFERINGS RECEIVED

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

