



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

(Congregational)

13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136

(440) 238-6697

[StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com](mailto:StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com) [StrongsvilleUCC.com](http://StrongsvilleUCC.com)

**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall**

Pastor

**Sunday – March 10, 2019 – 10:00 A.M.**

**First Sunday of Lent**



**WELCOME!**

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

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

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

**PRELUDE** "Breathe" Barnett

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Irene Joyce

**INTROIT** "Adoramus Te Christe" Palestrina

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** As Jesus began his ministry to the world, the Spirit led him into the wilderness.

**People:** As we begin our Lenten journey, lead us, as well, O Spirit, even into difficult places.

**Leader:** In those forty days in the wilderness, Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt, and temptation.

**People:** Lead us, as well, O God, as we seek to follow Jesus, even when facing difficult choices.

**Leader:** Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.

**People:** As our faith journey continues, may we be led by Christ, and rejoice in the Lord our God.

† **HYMN 75** "Holy is the Lord"

**READING FROM THE PSALMS** Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16

**SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE 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.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE** "Lord, Hear Our Prayer" Elkins

**ANTHEM** "Create in Me a Clean Heart" Mueller

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** "Be Thou My Vision" Traditional Irish Melody

† **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**

**READING FROM THE GOSPELS** Luke 4: 1-13

**SERMON** Wilderness

† **HYMN 344** "Grace Greater than our Sin" (v. 1,2 and,4)

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE/ POSTLUDE** "They'll Know We Are Christians"

**SERVING**

**TODAY – MARCH 10** **NEXT SUNDAY – MARCH 17**

Linda Ponstingle	<b>Liturgist</b>	Lynne McCray
Billie Cantrell	<b>Greeters</b>	Elaine Coffey
Bill Schneider	<b>Ushers</b>	Volunteer needed
Nicole Rachid	<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Volunteer needed
Tom Foley	<b>Director of Music</b>	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	<b>Associate Director of Music</b>	Mike Elkins

**The altar flowers** are given—

In honor of the Thrift Shop volunteers

(Please remember to take your altar flowers with you or give them to a friend after worship.)

**Our steeple** will light the sky this week—

*In memory of Frank Toth from the Music Ministry*

**Happy Birthday today** to Richard Sullen and Nicholas Greenland!

**The Trustees** will meet Tuesday, March 12 at 7 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Our worship services are video recorded each week and posted on our YouTube channel for all to enjoy. Just go to [strongsvilleucc.com](http://strongsvilleucc.com), go to Worship, and click on Service Videos.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP OUT?**

Sign-up sheets in Pilgrim Hall are waiting for **your name** to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, or nursery helper! Another fun job is sorting and packing the bread and pastry donations from Panera on Mondays. Please contact the church office and we will get you lined up with the right people! No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.



**STARTING TODAY...Lenten Study with Pastor Heidi.** Plan to participate in this meaningful 5-week course, *Interfaith: Being Love in the World*, beginning at noon. A light lunch will be provided each Sunday for those who attend the studies. You are welcome to participate even if you have not yet signed up.



**MUSIC REHEARSAL TIME CHANGE**  
Starting March 14, 2019, the Bell Choir will rehearse at 7 p.m. and the Chancel Choir will rehearse at 8 p.m. on Thursday Evenings.



Our deepest condolences to **Rob Toth** and family on the passing of his father, **Frank Toth**, on March 3, 2019. A memorial service was held on Thursday, March 7 at Busch Funeral Home in Parma.

† † † † †

Our love and prayers of sympathy are extended to **Jennifer Barry, Myron Costin**, and **Clara Barry** on the death of Jen's mom, **Margaret Haught** on Friday, March 8, 2019. Information on arrangements is forthcoming.

**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 at Danbury Senior Living in Brunswick, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Martha Liebert, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Betty Babics, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Dan Davis, Steve Herzog, Elena Joyce, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Phyllis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Fred and Kathe Lombardo, Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Laurie Meister, Michele Mihlack, Karen Morgan, Harvey Pincombe, Joyce Reed, Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Linda Stepan, Sally Vetovitz, Kyle Woodward

**Extended Church Family:** Adams Family (friends of Judi Pavisich), Luke Bazan (friend of Judi Pavisich's granddaughter), Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Michele Cortese (friend of the Heinrichs), Kim Filiaut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Sam Harteis (friend of Reeds), Rev. Erv Koch, Sandra Manos (mother of Eli), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Jeff Perrin (cousin of Barb Fraunfelder), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Mary Joyce-Smith (mother of Jim Joyce), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga), Brad Williams, (friend of Judi Pavisich)

**Our church has an e-mail prayer chain.**  
Please see Pastor Heidi if you would like to be added.

**Our church supports the Strongsville Emergency Food Bank. They are especially in need of peanut butter & jelly, soup, and family meals.** Please bring



donations of non-perishable food items and place them in the collection box nestled in the corner of Pilgrim Hall next to the bulletin board. Thank you to **Sharon and Karl Kuhlenschmidt** for delivering the donations to the Food Bank each week.



**THE THRIFT SHOP** is open for business on Thursdays, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., with a bonus Free Lunch for All sale day on Wednesdays once a month from 11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. WE NEED HELP! If you can spare a few hours on Thursdays to volunteer in our Thrift Shop, please consider helping at the

Thrift Shop. **We truly appreciate your usable donations to the Thrift Shop, but please do not place boxes, bags or items in the stairwells. (Strongsville Fire Dept. regulations) Doing so is a safety hazard.**

**MEN'S LUNCH BUNCH**

All men are invited the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. to Gourmé Family Restaurant. (15315 Pearl Road in Strongsville)

**YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR FREE LUNCH FOR ALL**



Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!**

*(If the Strongsville City Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the Free Lunch for All will not be served.)*

**MARCH 2019 DATES TO REMEMBER**

- 10 Sun **Worship 10am**  
**Lenten Study**  
**Starts today at Noon**  
Children's Choir
- 12 Tues Trustee Meeting 7pm
- 13 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm  
Adult Social Club Meeting 7pm  
Fit Club, 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 14 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-4pm  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 17 Sun **Worship 10am**  
**Lenten Study Noon**  
Children's Choir
- 19 Tues Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 20 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm  
Fit Club 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 21 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-4pm  
Men's Lunch 11am  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 24 Sun **Worship 10am—Guest minister**  
Children's Choir
- 26 Tues Official Board Meeting 7pm
- 27 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm  
Fit Club 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15 pm
- 28 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-4pm  
Men's Lunch at Gourmé Rest. 11:30am  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 31 Sun **Worship 10am--Penny Sunday**  
**Lenten Study Noon**  
Easter Lily order deadline



**OFFERINGS RECEIVED**

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,552.02  
Last Week's Offering Received \$3,553.25  
(Difference \$31.23)



**So far, we have received 76 pledges totaling \$129,432.00.**

**END-OF-THE-YEAR 2018 GIVING STATEMENTS** and the **March newsletter** for those who choose to receive the printed version are available in the Gathering Area in the Church Family Mail boxes following worship today. Please take yours. Thank you to everyone who supports the church with their gifts.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**



You may provide flowers on any Sunday you wish because multiple vases are accepted on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$15 for one vase, \$30 for two vases. Near the flower chart in Pilgrim Hall are forms for submitting your bulletin information and envelopes for enclosing your payment to the church office. Thank you for placing flowers on the altar.

**2019 Flower sign-up chart is posted and several Sundays are still available for this year!**

**STEEPLE LIGHTING**

To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Donation forms are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Multiple donations for the same week will be accepted. For questions, please call the church, (440) 238-6697. Thank you to all who light the steeple.



**From our friends at First Lutheran Church:**

**FREE LENTEN CONCERT**  
**With David Gooding, Organist and**  
**The Amethyst String Quartet**  
**Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.**  
19419 Royalton Road Strongsville

**CHURCH SECURITY**

**Friendly reminder:** If you are the last person to leave the building, please make sure doors are locked and lights are turned out. Also, please push or pull on the doors to make sure they are secure. Thanks!

**PLEASE SAVE YOUR PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS!**

A friend of Amanda Hawk is making a memorial bench constructed of plastic bottle caps. A container for collecting them will be placed in Pilgrim Hall next week.



**Thank you** to everyone who supported the Swiss Steak Dinner last Saturday, March 2. Profit was the second best in the 31 years of the dinner: \$1,963.82. Extra special thanks to Betty Craig for taking charge of these important and delicious fundraisers.



**INTERFAITH FIELD TRIP**

Members of our church are invited to the annual Interfaith Passover Seder at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple (23737 Fairmount Blvd. Beachwood, OH 44122) on **Tuesday, April 9** from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Space is limited to 30 attendees, so please indicate your interest to Pastor Heidi or on the back of an attendance card placed in the offering plate. Deadline for reservations is **March 24, 2019.**



**MISSING**

**2 Pink Plastic Rectangular Laundry Baskets** from the kitchen. Please return if you see them!

**PENNY SUNDAY**—The next Penny Sunday collection is **March 31**, and will go to Laura's Home, which serves women and children in crisis, through the City Mission in Cleveland.



**EASTER LILY ORDER FORM**

Orders are now being accepted. Please complete this form and place it in the Church Office or offering plate with your cash or check payment by the deadline of **Sunday, March 31, 2019.** The cost is **\$8.00.**

Wording for bulletin: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

I will take my plant(s).  I will leave my plant(s) for someone who needs some cheer.

Please make your check payable to **Strongsville United Church of Christ**, and place your order (with payment) in the church office, or mail it to: **The United Church of Christ**  
**13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136**

*Thank you for placing a lily on the altar on Easter Sunday morning.*

Additional lily order forms **and envelopes** are available in the Gathering Area.

**For Church Records** **2019 Easter Lily**

Total number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Offering envelope number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash/Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Order deadline is **Sunday, March 31, 2019.***

