



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136  
(440) 238-6697

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[StrongsvilleUCC.com](http://StrongsvilleUCC.com)



**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall**  
Pastor

**Sunday – November 18, 2018 – 10:00 A.M.**  
**Thanksgiving Sunday**

**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** "Breathe" Barnett

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rachel Zielinski

**INTROIT** "Make a Joyful Noise" Whitworth

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** We gather together to praise the One who strengthens the weak, and hears the prayers of the forgotten.

**People: Come, let us give thanks to God!**

**Leader:** We gather together to sing of the One who calls us to serve those who are hungry and alone at this time of year.

**People: Come, let us give thanks to Christ Jesus!**

**Leader:** We gather together to exalt the One who provokes us to love not only our family and friends, but the guest among us.

**People: Come, let us give thanks to the Spirit! In all things, let us give thanks!**

† **HYMN 797** "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

**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** "Hear Our Prayer, Lord" Foley

**ANTHEM** "Awake, My Heart" Marshall

**DEDICATION OF THANKSGIVING BASKETS**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** "Meditation on Gratitude" Elkins

† **DOXOLOGY** **HYMN 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** Matthew 6: 25-33

**SERMON** Thanks in All Things

† **HYMN 788** "Now Thank We All Our God"

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** "Go Forth in Peace" Whitworth

† **POSTLUDE** "Trading My Sorrows" Evans

**SERVING**

| <b>TODAY – NOVEMBER 18</b> | <b>NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 25</b>        |
|----------------------------|---|
| Greg Dickson               | Liturgists Ted Bickley                  |
| The Clotworthy Family      | Greeters The Hawk Family                |
| Volunteers needed          | Ushers Volunteers needed                |
| Myron Costin               | Coffee Hour Ginny & Kenn Oerkfitz       |
| Tom Foley                  | Director of Music Tom Foley             |
| Mike Elkins                | Associate Director of Music Mike Elkins |

**The altar flowers** are given—  
*For the Chancel Choir --Doris Soucie*

*With thankful appreciation of all of our staff and volunteers that make this church a family-- with love from the Hawk family*

**Our steeple** will light the sky this week—  
*Happy Birthday today to Katie Lett, to Adam Craig on Tuesday, and Happy Anniversary to Debbie & Larry Wentz on November 24<sup>th</sup>!*  
With Love, Grammy/Mom

**The Diaconate** will meet Tuesday, November 20 at 7 p.m.

**Happy Birthday** today to Kaitlyn Lett!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Our worship services are videotaped each week and posted on our YouTube channel for all to enjoy.



**IT'S TODAY!**  
**It's not too late to sign up for the Open House and Live Nativity!**

Be a part of our church's extravagant hospitality and keep the Christ in Christmas! **There is a place for everyone to help! Don't want to dress up as one of the Magi or the Virgin Mary? You can still donate cookies for the reception or make a monetary donation toward the rental of the animals, too.**

(Write your check to SUCC and write "Nativity" on the memo line.)

**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, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Betty Babics, Marie Bury, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Steve Herzog, Margot James, Evan Joyce, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Phyllis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Martha Liebert, Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Laurie Meister, Karen Morgan, Joyce Reed, Bill Ritchie, Doris Soucie, Linda Stepan, Barbara Toth, Sally Vetovitz, Kyle Woodward  
**Extended Church Family:** Luke Bazan (friend of Judi Pavisich's granddaughter), Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Michele Cortese (friend of the Heinrichs), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Sam Harteis (friend of Reeds), Margaret Haught (mother of Jen Barry), 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), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Mary Joyce-Smith (mother of Jim Joyce), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga)



**ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Wednesday, November 21 at 7 p.m. Our church is hosting this year! Five Strongsville churches are participating in the service, including clergy and a combined choir, and the mayor of Strongsville. Please join the Strongsville faith community as we offer worship, praise, and thanks for the many gifts that God has given us.**



**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. **Also, an additional person is needed to work with us for 2 hours on the second Wednesday of the month. Please contact the church office if you can help either on Wednesdays or Thursdays.**



**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! **Help is especially needed to pick up the donations from Panera on Monday or Friday mornings.** No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.



**MARRIAGE BLESSINGS**

Congratulations to **Lisa (Khavaran) and Paul Oslin**, who were married yesterday, November 17, 2018 in Columbus.



**NOVEMBER 2018 DATES TO REMEMBER**

- 18 Sun** **Worship 10am--Dedicate Thanksgiving Baskets**  
Children's Choir  
**Open House & Live Nativity 5pm**
- 19 Mon Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets 9am
- 20 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 21 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm  
**Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service 7pm**
- 22 Thurs Thanksgiving Day  
(Thrift Shop Closed)
- 25 Sun** **Worship 10am--Penny Sunday**  
Children's Choir
- 27 Tues Official Board Meeting 7pm
- 28 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm  
Fit Club, 7pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 29 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-4pm  
Men's Luncheon 11:30am  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm



**THANKSGIVING BASKETS**

We have been gathering cans of green beans, cans of corn, boxes of stuffing (like Stove Top) and jars of gravy, dessert mixes (like brownies, cake mixes, or cookie mixes), cans of icing, cans of cranberry sauce and boxes of corn muffin mix, boxes of instant mashed potatoes or a 5lb bag of fresh potatoes, canned or fresh yams **TODAY IS THE FINAL DAY:** turkeys or hams

To make a cash donation instead, please make your check payable to **Strongsville United Church of Christ**. On the memo line, write **Thanksgiving Basket**. \$20 covers the cost of the turkey or ham; \$40 covers the cost of a whole basket. All financial donations will be gratefully accepted, whatever the amount. If you know someone who would appreciate a basket, please write the information on your attendance card, or tell Rev. Heidi. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile project. **Baskets will be assembled tomorrow morning, November 19 at 9 a.m. Please stop by and help if you are available during that time.**

**OFFERINGS RECEIVED**

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,649.31  
Last Week's Offering Received \$3,201.95  
(Difference -\$ 447.36)



**3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP. THANK YOU FOR SAVING THE CHURCH THE COST OF POSTAGE!**

**FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Many offices in the church will be available for the coming year. Please consider saying **YES** when a member of the Nominating Committee asks you to serve. Some of the positions that are available include serving on the:

**Moderator**, who presides over the Official Board and represents the church in the community  
**Vice-Moderator**, who works in tandem with the Moderator, serves on the Nominating Committee, and enlists volunteers for dinners and other Official Board events.



**Diaconate**, which oversees the worship operations and church services. The committees of the Diaconate are Acolytes, Altar, Coffee Hour, Funeral, Greeters, Membership, Nursery, Pastoral Relations, Special Events and Ushers.

**Board of Trustees**, which oversees the finances and physical plant of the church. The committees of the Trustees are Building and Grounds, Finance, and Long-Range Planning.

**Mission & Outreach**, which sponsors projects and our church's benevolence in the local, national, and international communities, including the 5 for 5 offerings through the United Church of Christ

**Stewardship**, which administers a yearly campaign to assess and inspire giving of time, talent, and treasure

**Christian Education**, which oversees the Sunday School and Adult Education programs

**Music Committee**, which supervises all aspects of the Music Ministry



**MITTEN TREE ~ FAMILY OF FAITH TREE**

The **Mitten Tree** will be in the Gathering Area until December 8 for collecting hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for Strongsville Food Bank. .

On December 8, the hats, gloves, mittens and scarves will be removed, and the tree will become the **Family of Faith Tree**, which we will decorate with Christmas ornaments donated by members and friends. **If you have not yet donated an ornament – or – if you'd like to donate an additional ornament, please bring it to the church office and include your name.** Official Board will prepare a tag with your name, attach the tag to your ornament, and hang the ornament on the Family of Faith Tree. Please know that **your ornament will NOT be returned to you**, but it will become part of the Christmas decorations each year. **Please do not bring expensive heirloom ornaments.**

Thank you for celebrating with your church family in the Mitten Tree, as well as the Family of Faith Tree!

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**



As of this printing, 51 Estimate of Giving cards have been received for a total of \$86,484. Thank you for being an apple in our church pie for God. All of us together make the BEST pie possible!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR THESE DECEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS HERE AT SUCC!**



**Blue Christmas Service of Remembrance**

Come for a quiet, contemplative time of reflecting, remembering, and healing on **Sunday, December 9 at 7 p.m.**

**Swinging Sounds of Christmas by the Strongsville Community Jazz Band on Friday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m.**

Tickets, which benefit our Music Ministry, are only \$10, \$5 for kids ages 6-12, and free for kids under 6. Tickets will be available for purchase in advance next week in Pilgrim Hall and at the door.



**Christmas Pageant and Reception**

**Sunday, December 16** during worship, the Sunday School will present their annual Christmas Pageant, followed by a reception in Pilgrim Hall. Plus...a visitor from the North may make an appearance.



**CHRISTMAS VILLAGE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

The Strongsville Food Bank oversees a display of Mrs. Perciak's Christmas village collection at South Park Mall. They are looking for folks to sit with the collection and accept donations for the Food Bank in the coming weeks. Please see Judy Carte if this is something in which you may be interested.



**SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2018**

The **Southwest Community Chorus** and Chamber Singers will present their 2018 Christmas concert, "Carol Me Sweetly," on **Sunday, December 2, at 3:00 p.m.** in the United Methodist Church at 170 Seminary Street in Berea.

This year's performance features our Music Director, **Tom Foley** as director, accompanist **Carol Konet**, and church singers: **Ingrid Dickson, Gary Hackett, Irene Joyce, Bruce Keenen, Pam Keenen, Sarah Keenen, Sharon Maresco, Dave Williams,** and UCC guest singer, **Craig Hardy**.

Tickets are available in advance at a cost of \$12.50 for adults, \$15 at the door and free for children 12 and under. Save a few bucks by purchasing your tickets from any of the above choir members! You'll enjoy the music, and we'll get you in the Christmas mood. We like looking into the audience and seeing our fellow church members. So, please attend. Thank you!



**CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2018**

Officers elected on Jan. 28, 2018, have an asterisk\* by their names.

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>Moderator</b>      | Rachel Zielinski |
| <b>Vice-Moderator</b> | Bill Schneider   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | Lori Kovatich*   |
| <b>Clerk</b>          | Karen Morgan     |

**Sunday School Superintendents**

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Kristen Clotworthy | Jamie Trinckes |
|--------------------|----------------|

**Board of Trustees**

|                  |              |               |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Tom Gaumer*      | Eddy Bond*   | Dale Hawk     |
| Mike Clotworthy* | Jim Heinrich | Myron Costin* |
| Bob Kovatich *   | Jim Dettmer  | Kenn Oerkfitz |
| Greg Dickson     | Ed Sobek     |               |

**Endowment Fund Subcommittee**

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Irene Jannsohn* | Joyce Reed * |
|-----------------|--------------|

**Diaconate**

|                   |                    |                |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Serena Abruzzino* | Judy Gaumer*       | Jennifer Barry |
| Cathy Hawk*       | Kelly Bickley      | Sarah Hayes    |
| Barbara Camp      | Linda Plain        | Gina Cathcart  |
| Dawn Rolland*     | Kristen Clotworthy | Marty Winch    |

**Christian Education Committee**

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Kelly Bickley      | Sandy O'Shea |
| Kristen Clotworthy | Lora Rung    |
| Jamie Trinckes     |              |

**Music Committee**

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| Ingrid Dickson | Ken Mehalko |
| Pam Keenen*    | Tom Foley   |
| Mike Elkins    |             |

**Stewardship Committee**

|                   |               |                 |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Rosemary Bechtel* | Sue Gigliotti | Adria Bond      |
| Beth Giuliano *   | Ed Bond       | Sharon Heinrich |
| Laurie Meister    |               |                 |

**Mission and Outreach Committee**

|            |                |                 |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Judy Carte | Gary Paul      | Brandi Garsteck |
| Lora Rung* | Michele Mhlack | Bev Wehr        |