



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

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall
Designated Minister

NOVEMBER 19, 2017 – 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 "Organ Prelude in C"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** *from Psalm 96* Kelly Bickley

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Sing to the Lord, praise God's name; proclaim God's salvation day after day!

Leader: Declare God's glory among the nations, God's marvelous deeds among all peoples!

People: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised! He is to be revered above all gods!

† **HYMN 790** "We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing"

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 in B Flat Major" Don Besig

ANTHEM "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" Anthony J. Showalter

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND FOOD DEDICATION

THE OFFERING "Fugue in E Minor" J. S. Bach

† **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 Luke 17:11-19

SERMON "What do you say, dear?"

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

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** "May the Lord Go with You" Don Besig

† **POSTLUDE** "Spirit of the Living God" Daniel Iverson

This morning's altar flowers are given . . .

In Celebration of Johnny's 30th Birthday
The Hawk Family

In Honor of Virginia Churnega's 74th Birthday
Ed and Cheryl Sobek

Our steeple will light the sky this week . . .

Happy Birthday to Adam Craig on November 20
Happy Anniversary to Debbie and Larry Wentz on November 24
With love, Grammy/Mom

Celebrating 69 Wonderful Years Together
John and Maggie Struher

Our congratulations to parents Jake and Lauren Masuga on the birth of their third daughter Sloane on Tuesday, November 14, 2017. Congrats also to grandparents, Vicky and Dan Masuga, and great-grandmother, Lola Millhoane!

Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to Mary Carey on the recent passing of her brother in California.

We welcome Charles Fernandes as our guest choral accompanist today. The choral anthem, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms", was purchased in honor of Sharon Heinrich.

Diaconate meets this Tuesday, November 21, at 7:00 p.m.

Appreciation is extended to all who supported and served at last Sunday's Pancake Breakfast, which earned \$1,068 for our pipe organ's restoration. Thank you very much to everyone.

Thank you to all who helped to decorate the church yesterday.

Holiday Open House is today from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Donations of cookies are needed. Thank you to all who will help and to all who will provide cookies.

Thanksgiving Baskets – We will assemble baskets tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. **HELP IS NEEDED from about 9:00 a.m. to noon.**

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will take place on Wednesday, November 22, at 7:00 p.m. at St. John Neumann Catholic Church at 16271 Pearl Road in Strongsville. All are welcome.

Women's Fellowship Cheeseball Fundraiser – Tasting and ordering are next Sunday, November 26, after church; delivery is Sunday, December 10.

Attention Fellow Church Members and Attendees: I am collecting Christmas gift (or money) donations for an inner-city Cleveland school. 90% of the students are below poverty level. The grades are Pre K through 3rd. If you would like to donate or would like more information, please see me after church or feel free to call me at (216) 598-6198. Beth Giuliano

Hurricane and Earthquake Relief – Please see the poster board of information in the Gathering Area. Also, the UCC denomination has this link for helping with the relief programs:

http://www.ucc.org/disaster_hurricane_2017_relief

200th Anniversary Outreach – Today is the final day that we are collecting small Christmas gifts for adults who use the Food Bank. Please use the paper bags by the Christmas wrapped box in the Gathering Area to provide new gift items not exceeding \$5.00 for either a woman or man. Please indicate on the tag whether your gift is for a man or woman. This week, we will attach a Christmas message and a brief history of our church to each bag. The gifts will then be taken to the Food Bank for distribution in December. **Thank you to everyone who graciously contributed to this Outreach Opportunity.** With your support, a number of adults will receive a special Christmas gift from our church this year. We are sure your gifts will be appreciated. 200th Anniversary Committee

The Mitten Tree will be in the Gathering Area from now until December 3 for collecting donations of hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for Brookside Center. Brookside is an ecumenical center that provides clothing and necessities to the poor and needy and is located on Pearl Road in Cleveland. After worship on December 3, the Mitten Tree items will be removed. 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 be part of the Christmas decorations each year. **Please do not bring expensive heirloom ornaments.** Thank you for celebrating with your church family in both the Mitten Tree and the Family of Faith Tree!

Adult Social Club will go to Stan Hywet Hall on Thursday, December 14, for "Deck the Hall 2017." **Today is the last day to sign up.** The group rate is \$13.50 per person. Checks should be made payable to Adria Bond. We will meet at church to carpool at 4:00 p.m. Admission of \$13.50 per person includes tree lighting at 5:30 p.m.; live music in the Music room – courtesy of area choirs and musicians; self-guided tour of Manor House; freshly baked gingerbread cookies, warm pretzels, cocoa, hot cider, beer and wine for purchase in the Courtyard; animated gingerbread bakeshop window; a 20-foot poinsettia tree in Corbin Conservatory; shopping for holiday gifts in Molly's Shop. A signup sheet is on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board or contact Adria Bond for more information, (440) 227-8410.

Giving Statements – For a year-to-date statement on the status of your pledge, please call Financial Secretary, Adria Bond, at (440) 227-8410 or email her at succfinancialsecretary@gmail.com. Year-end statement will be mailed in January.

UPDATE FROM YOUR PULPIT SEARCH COMMITTEE

The work of your Pulpit Search Committee continues. We recently met with the Rev. Gary Halstead, the new person at the association office assisting churches with their Search and Call process. He gave us some more insights into the process and the pool of potential ministerial candidates. We will receive more profiles to discern and hope that God will guide us to find the right leader for our congregation. As our Designated Minister, Rev. Heidi is eligible to apply for the Settled Pastor's position, if and when she chooses to do so. The Committee appreciates the ongoing prayers and support of our Church Family.

Your Pulpit Search Committee

Ted Bickley, Judy Carte, Kristen Clotworthy,
Jim Dettmer, Ingrid Dickson, Sally Herzog, Bill Schneider

Thanksgiving Baskets – Our goal is to prepare 75 baskets for needy families. Each week we will bring to church the following items:

- Oct. 15 cans of green beans, cans of yams
- Oct. 22 boxes of stuffing (like Stove Top) and jars of gravy
- Oct. 29 dessert mixes (like brownies, cake mixes, or cookie mixes) and cans of icing
- Nov. 5 cans of cranberry sauce and boxes of corn muffin mix
- Nov. 12 boxes of instant mashed potatoes or a 5-pound bag of fresh potatoes or fresh yams
- Nov. 19 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 recipient's name, address and phone number on the back of your attendance card, or tell Rev. Heidi. Thank you for your benevolence.

Mission and Outreach appreciates the wonderful support from our congregation in our fundraiser in honor of Veterans Day. A total of \$640.00 was raised. Once the committee agrees on distribution, we will have the news in the Sunday Bulletin. Hopefully the information on display in the Gathering Area the past two Sundays was as helpful to you as it was for us. Many thanks to all!

Stewardship Update – 51 Estimate of Giving Cards have been received so far for a total of \$82,750. If you have not yet done so, you may still submit your card into the offering plate. Thank you very much for your support.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,865
Weekly Offering Received 11/12/2017 \$2,739
Difference (\$1,126)



SERVING TODAY

Director of Music: Elena Taylor
Liturgist: Kelly Bickley
Greeters: The Rolland Family **Ushers:** Jim and Linda Dettmer
Coffee Hour: Ted and Kelly Bickley

STRONGSVILLE CITY JAZZ SWING BAND CONCERT

SWINGIN' CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS!

Fundraiser for Our Music Ministry



Friday – December 8, 2017 - 7:30 p.m. in Our Sanctuary
\$10.00 Adults \$4.00 Ages 6-12 years Free Age 5 and under

A reception in Pilgrim Hall will follow the concert.



BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

of Remembrance and Healing

Friday, December 15, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Come, rest in the arms of Jesus as we pause to rest, remember and celebrate our loved ones together. All are welcome—especially you.

Poinsettia Orders for Christmas Eve are now being accepted, and the order deadline is Sunday, December 3. The cost is once again \$6.00. Order forms (with envelopes) are on the cabinet in the Gathering Area. Thank you for placing a poinsettia plant on the altar for Christmas Eve.

The Sunday School will present their Christmas Pageant during worship on Sunday, December 17. Brief rehearsals will take place on the Wednesdays of December 6 and 13 at 7:00 p.m., followed by Children's Choir rehearsal with Elena Taylor at 7:30 p.m. for the pageant music

The Thrift Shop is back to accepting donations. Thank you for your support!

Wednesday Lunch Program really needs volunteers—especially in January when four regular volunteers will go south for the winter. If you can help, please see Kenn Oerkfitz or Betty Craig, or call the church at (440) 238-6697. Thank you!

Women's Christmas Tea will take place on Wednesday, December 6, at 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor. If you would like, please bring a tea cup and share a Christmas tradition you have enjoyed in your home. Refreshments, coffee, and an assortment of tea bags will be available for this casual event. All ladies are welcome!

Picture Re-take – Please contact Sarah Hayes or Cathy Hawk today to get your picture re-taken for our photo directory. Thank you.

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 26, 2017

Liturgist: Bill Schneider
Greeter: Marty Winch
Ushers: Volunteers Needed
Coffee Hour: Myron Costin

STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Telephone (440) 238-6697
Website strongsvilleucc.com
Email strongsvilleucc@gmail.com

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, Margot James, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Betty Babics, Gordon Cockrell, Dan Davis, The Grabski/Williams Family, Lacey (daughter of Amanda Hawk), Steve Herzog, Martha Liebert, Michele Mhlack, Betsey Santomen (wife of Rev. Joe Santomen) at Parkside Villa, Jan Stough, 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), the Brlas family, Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Sue Grunenwald (friend of Sharon Heinrich), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Piper Masuga (granddaughter of Dan and Vicky and great-granddaughter of Lola Millhoane), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), the family of Logan Sink (friends of Judi 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)

NOVEMBER 2017

- 19 Sun Dedicate Thanksgiving Baskets
Deadline for 200th Anniversary Outreach Project Christmas Gifts
Holiday Open House with the City's Lighting, 5-8pm
- 20 Mon Assemble and Distribute Thanksgiving Baskets, 9am
- 21 Tue Advertising Committee Meeting, 7pm
Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 22 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-12:30pm
Men's Luncheon, 11:30am
Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 7pm
- 23 Thu Thanksgiving Day
- 26 Sun Hanging of the Greens in Worship
Penny Sunday
Women's Fellowship Cheese Ball Tasting and Ordering
- 28 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm
- 29 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-12:30pm
Fit Club, 7pm

DECEMBER 2017

- 3 Sun First Sunday in Advent, Communion
Poinsettia Order Deadline
- 6 Wed Women's Christmas Tea in the Parlor, 12:30pm
Children's Pageant Rehearsal, 7pm
Children's Choir Rehearsal for pageant music, 7:30pm
- 8 Fri Strongsville City Jazz Concert, 7:30pm
- 10 Sun Delivery of Cheeseballs by Women's Fellowship
- 12 Tue Trustees Meeting, 7pm
- 13 Wed Children's Pageant Rehearsal, 7pm
Children's Choir Rehearsal for pageant music, 7:30pm
- 15 Fri Blue Christmas Service of Remembrance and Healing, 7:30pm
- 17 Sun Sunday School Christmas Pageant during worship
Advent Potluck Meal after church
- 24 Sun Christmas Eve Worship at 10am and 11pm (**No** 7:30 service)

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