



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor
Sunday, August 10, 2025– 10 A.M.

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 always welcome here.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE “Day of Arising” arr. A.D. Miller

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

INTROIT “Dona Nobis Pacem” Traditional

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are people who have been called to follow where God leads us.

People: By faith we can obey, even when asked to walk into an unknown future.

Leader: We are people who have been challenged to tell God's story to others.

People: By faith we have the ability to share the good news.

Leader: We are God's children who are invited to feast at the Table of grace.

People: By faith we will embrace our sisters and brothers in Christ.

† HYMN 404 “Faith of Our Fathers”

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 33:13-22
(New International Version)

From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all humankind;
from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—

he who forms the hearts of all,
who considers everything they do.

No king is saved by the size of his army;
no warrior escapes by his great strength.

A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;
despite all its great strength it cannot save.

But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him,
on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,

to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.
We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

May your unfailing love be with us, Lord,
even as we put our hope in you.

Leader: The Word of God, for us, the people of God;

People: Thanks be to God.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.

ANTHEM “Andante Tranquillo” Mendelssohn

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Be Thou My Vision” arr. Manz

† 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.

† DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS Luke 12: 32-40
(New International Version)

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father
has been pleased to give you the kingdom. . . .
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

REFLECTION “Are You Ready?”

† HYMN 563 “Open My Eyes that I May See”

† BENEDICTION James E. Janecek
As we go forth to proclaim and live the Good News, may our hearts remain set on an unfailing treasure in heaven where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. Wherever we are, may we know your treasured love in our hearts, and be always ready to open a door as soon as we hear Jesus coming and knocking. Let us follow the footsteps of Christ into the world, and like our Savior, may we unconditionally serve in love all who dwell on this home called earth. Amen.

† POSTLUDE “Arabesque No. 2” Debussy

ATTENDANCE CARDS ARE IN YOUR BULLETIN!

Please take a moment to complete the card that is in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate. You may write prayer requests on the reverse side, if you wish to have us pray for someone and add a name to the prayer chain.



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, select **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**.

SERVING	
TODAY – AUGUST 10	NEXT SUNDAY – AUGUST 17
Mary Ellen Zimmerman	Greeters Lynne McCray
Mike Willis	Liturgist Sharon Maresco
Judi Pavisich	Head Usher Teri Barbish
Tom Foley	Director of Music Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	Organist Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	Video/Sound Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Megan Denman	Special Music Praise Band/EKCO Ringers
Sharon Heinrich	Summer Sunday School Cathy Hawk

Today’s altar flowers are given—

Happy Birthday, Dear Katelyn!
Love you forever, Grandma Marty xoxo
Happy Birthday today to Bryana Joyce!
Irene & Jim Joyce



A 2025 SIGN-UP SHEET FOR ALTAR FLOWERS IS POSTED IN PILGRIM HALL.

Please note: the cost of flowers is \$18 for 1 vase and \$36 for 2 vases.
We still have a few Sundays available in 2025!

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

*In loving memory of Aimée J. Jannsohn
and Erik O. Jannsohn*
The Jannsohn-Dickson-Joyce Family



*In loving memory of John McKeever, Pastor Heidi’s father,
who lived to tell the tale of having raised five ornery kids*
Pastor Heidi

Happy Birthday today to Bob Pogozeleski, Bryana Joyce, and Autumn Schneider!

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 4,359.00
Last Week’s Offering Received \$ 5,435.50
Difference +\$1,076.50

Thank you very much for your support.

PLEDGES RECEIVED: 61



A NOTE OF THANKS

We thank **Megan Denman** for providing our music today. Megan is a freelance pianist, organist, and instructor. She is also Pastor Heidi’s daughter!



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Summer Sunday School needs YOU! We still have a couple of Sundays left to sign up to teach in August. All lessons and materials will be provided in advance.

Please sign up for a Sunday you're available for this special ministry—a sign-up sheet is posted in Pilgrim Hall!



PENNY SUNDAY!

Please start saving your coins and dollars for the next Penny Sunday, which will be on **August 24, 2025** (*note date change*) for Berea Animal Rescue Friends (Berea ARF).



BOOK STUDY--SISTERHOOD!

On Monday, August 18th at 7 p.m., Our **Sisterhood Book Study** will continue. All are welcome!





OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Irene Jannsohn, Connie Rebar

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Mark Camp, Judy Carte, Elaine Coffey, Betty “Grammy” Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Bruce Keenen, Erv Koch, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Roy Merkle, Amanda Moulton, Ginny & Kenn Oerkfitz, George & Joyce Reed, Dorothy Ritchie, Ron Rothel, Jennifer Sekorky, Tracy Seneff, Peter Smith, Bruce Sperber, Linda Stepan, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Amorie Acevedo (Dennis Smith’s daughter), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch’s sister), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf’s friend), Allison Emerson (Colette’s sister), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen’s friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung’s friend), Joanne Gariepy (Sally Herzog’s friend), Kathy Ghetti (friend of Ginger Rothel), Jennifer Gleichauf (Don & Sandy’s daughter-in-law), Sarah & David Gleichauf (Don & Sandy’s grandson & wife), Karen Greenway (Judi Pavisich’s friend), Michaelene Hanrahan (Jim Joyce’s sister), Dana Hardy (Craig’s wife), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel’s parents), Glenn Kossin (Jane Kossin & Mary Lou Shuey’s brother), Diane Mason (Lora Rung’s friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel’s sister-in-law), Sylvia Pakish (Don & Sandy Gleichauf’s friend), Mike Pavisich (Judi’s step-son), Jeff Peacock (former member), The Price Family, Mike Rung (Lora’s brother), Jim Schock (Judi Pavisich’s friend), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes’ friend), Vicki Smith (Venner Clarinets), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung’s friend), Brad Wilkson (Susan Lerch’s friend), The people of Ukraine, Sudan, Gaza, and Israel, victims of violence, those affected by natural disasters, First Responders

OPT-IN: Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain. h.e.denman@gmail.com

FREE LUNCH FOR ALL--

Wednesdays

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Special thanks to our young helpers, who give their time during their summer vacation!



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **August 12th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet via email this month.
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **August 26th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Come and shop lots of interesting merchandise at amazing prices.

Donations are accepted during our Thursday sale hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry downstairs yourself.

Please do not abandon items outside the church doors.



THREE WITH GLEE!

Capital Campaign: We have collected just over \$49,955.00 so far for our capital campaign. The new kitchen door has just been painted (thanks, Les Fox!). We are working on the

handicap openers and are moving forward with contractors for that project. We are on the schedule for the important tuck and point of the church building in early August. The next project will be improving the acoustics in Pilgrim Hall and the Trustees are reviewing the proposals that have been submitted. Also, some general maintenance around the church and its property is being addressed, including new light fixtures in the hallway adjacent to Pilgrim Hall. Make sure you designate your donation for “*Capital Campaign*.” Yellow pledge cards are available in the Gathering Area. Thank you for your continuing support.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR A WONDERFUL EVENT—The return of Sanyuka Children’s Choir from Uganda to Strongsville UCC!

Sunday, August 24th at 2 p.m.

The Sanyuka Children’s Choir will return to our church and present their high-energy music and movement program. This performance is part of their ministry to support more than 60 orphaned and vulnerable children in Uganda. A free-will offering will be received for their ministry. Please join us in our sanctuary for this joyful celebration of culture and compassion!



Following their presentation, a meal will be served to the Sanyuka choir in Pilgrim Hall. Donations of food are requested from the congregation, and there is a list of items on the sign-up sheet in Pilgrim Hall. There are about 25 people in their group. Thank you very much for helping feed the choir!

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS:

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation is a charitable organization that honors the legacy of Stephen Siller, a New York City firefighter who died on 9/11, by supporting America's heroes. The foundation focuses on providing mortgage-free homes to families of fallen first responders and catastrophically injured veterans, as well as helping to eradicate veteran homelessness.

We would like to sponsor 2 veterans/first responders a month.

The cost is \$11 for 1 and \$22 for both. Please sign up for a month on the sign-up sheet in Pilgrim Hall. (Checks to UCC)



OUTDOOR WORK PARTY—COMING SOON!

Please watch this space for the new date!

Join us for a bit of much-needed work in the area outside the kitchen door. Come and give an hour or two and stay for lunch, which will be provided. Bring garden tools and a can-do attitude. See Rachel Zielinski with questions.



SAVE THE DATE! THE OFFICIAL BOARD WILL BE HOSTING A PIG ROAST FUNDRAISER AT THE CHURCH ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH! BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR DETAILS!



CHURCH OFFICERS 2025

**Elected January 26, 2025 ** appointed by Official Board*

Moderator: Greg Dickson **Vice-Moderator:** Jen Barry

Treasurer: Sally Herzog **Clerk:** Judy Gaumer

Sunday School Superintendent: Linda Elkins

Board of Trustees

Bill Giuliano Chris Goff* Mike Elkins
Les Fox Herb Hampson Cathy Hawk*
Sandy Pogozelski Bill Schneider* Cheryl Sobek*
Alex Tomoff* Mike Willis* Rachel Zielinski

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson* Dave Williams*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish Jean Bittinger* Elaine Coffey*
Bobbi Cook* Wayne Cook* Judy Davis*
Judy Fox Pam Heimburger* Lynne McCray*
Linda Ponstingle* Lora Rung* Cherie Teagno

Christian Education Committee

Linda Elkins Colette Emerson Dale Hawk*
Sarah Hayes* Amanda Marshall Lora Rung*

Music Committee

Karen Bates Ingrid Dickson
Pam Keenen* Ken Mehalko* Mike Willis*
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee

Ingrid Dickson* Sue Gigliotti Linda Stepan*
Rob Toth Sarah Toth* Dave Williams*

Mission and Outreach Committee


Gina Cathcart* Bobbi Cook** Myron Costin*
Diana Creecy Cathy Hawk* Sarah Hayes
Lora Rung* Peter Smith Mary Willis*
Mary Ellen Zimmerman

YES! I'D LIKE TO BE PART OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY CARE TEAM.

NAME

PHONE

EMAIL



I AM INTERESTED IN:

OFFERING OR RECEIVING COMMUNION AT HOME

CALLING FOLKS WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN PRAYER CHAIN, BUT DON'T USE EMAIL

PREPARING AN EXTRA MEAL AND DELIVERING IT TO SOMEONE WHO'S HOMEBOUND

HELPING COOK A DISH AND OR SERVE MEALS AT FUNERAL LUNCHEON

BECOMING A "PHONE BUDDY" AND PERIODICALLY CHECK IN WITH SOMEONE WHO'S HOMEBOUND

OFFERING AN OCCASIONAL RIDE TO TAKE MEMBERS TO APPOINTMENTS

OFFERING AN OCCASIONAL RIDE TO OUR CHURCH SERVICES

BE PART OF A CARD CREW TO SEND CARDS TO FOLKS ON HEIDI'S PRAYER LIST AND OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

I WOULD BE WILLING TO...

UCC 2025 Estimate of Giving

In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2025:

Name

Address

I plan to give \$ each

week

month

other


to be used for

Our Congregation's Ministries and Operations

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

I would like to talk with someone from the Endowment Committee about including the church or church-related institution in my Will.

I would like to talk with someone about using the automatic deduction plan from my checking/savings account.



STEWARDSHIP

WHAT DO YOU BRING TO THE CAMPFIRE?