



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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StrongsvilleUCC.com



Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, August 20, 2023 – 10:00 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 welcome here.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" Paul Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

INTROIT "Sanctuary" Thompson/Scruggs

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Here we can come together, people searching for healing and hope.

People: Here we are met by the One who would bless us with abundant life.

Leader: Here we are called to gather as the family of God.

People: We may find those who are strangers, yet they are beloved siblings in Christ's family.

Leader: Here we discover the truth that God makes no distinctions among us.

People: Here we are welcomed and embraced by the One whose arms are open to all.

† HYMN 418 "Make Us One" (sing twice)

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 67
(New International Version)

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us—
so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you.

May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples with
equity and guide the nations of the earth.

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you.

The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us.

May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.

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 "Word of God Speak" Millard/Kipley

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Girl with the Flaxen Hair" Claude Debussy

† 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 Matthew 15:10-20
(New International Version)

Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and understand. What goes
into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their
mouth, that is what defiles them."

SERMON "Jesus said What???"

† HYMN 581 "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" vv. 1, 2, 4

† BENEDICTION World Day of Prayer 2022
We thank you, loving God, that we have gathered in your presence and
shared in worship. Now may we go forth into the world, confident that we
are your children, knowing that you have called us by name. In our daily life,
may we align ourselves to your will, seeking direction to follow the plans
you have for us which give us a hope and a future in Jesus Christ, and may
we have patience in the waiting. In the challenges and joys we face, may
we be assured that we do not face them alone. Let us go in peace, hope
and love, in the name of our compassionate and powerful God the Son our
Saviour, and the comforting Holy Spirit. Amen.

† RESPONSE/POSTLUDE "BWV 556" J.S. Bach

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 20	NEXT SUNDAY – AUGUST 27
Sharon Heinrich	Greeters Jean Bittinger
Herb Hampson	Liturgist Sharon Maresco
Volunteer needed	Ushers Roz Fotos
Tom Foley	Director of Music Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	Organist Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	Sound Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Megan Denman, Dave Williams	Special Music We3Ring/EKCO, Keenens
Sharon Heinrich	Summer Sunday School Colette Emerson

A NOTE OF THANKS—

We thank our special guest, Megan Denman
(daughter of Pastor Heidi) as well as Dave Williams,
Clay Williams, and Rob Toth along with Tom Foley,
and Mike Elkins for their music today.

The altar flowers are given—

Celebrating tomorrow's birthdays: Ingrid Dickson & Irene Joyce
Love, Greg & Jim



Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy Birthday to Ingrid & Irene on August 21st

With Love from the Heinrich Family

Happy Birthday to Madison Wentz on August 22nd and
to Joe Craig and Nate Johnson on August 24th

With Love, Grammy/Mom

Happy Anniversary today to Kay & Ken Konicek!

PANERA PALS

Are you able to give less than an hour of your time on a
Monday or Friday morning to pick up and/or sort Panera
bread, bagels, and pastries? Please contact the church
office if you can help with this worthwhile ministry.



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.



UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of
the month, August 22nd at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Are you interested in joining our
congregation? Pastor Heidi will be offering a
membership class after worship on August 27th
and September 10th, with new members being
received on September 17th. Please contact her or the church office
if you would like to become a member of the Strongsville UCC.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Summer Sunday School is underway-- Thank you to everyone
who has signed up to teach a lesson this summer!



PENNY SUNDAY-The next Penny Sunday will be on
August 27, 2023. Money collected will go to the UCC
Disaster Relief Fund for wildfire victims in Maui,
Hawaii. If you'd like to wear a Hawaiian shirt next
Sunday in solidarity with our brothers and sisters
who were affected by this tragedy, please do so!

RALLY DAY IS COMING!

Mark your calendar for September 10th, when we
begin a new Sunday School year of learning and
growing together!



ATTENTION SINGERS & RINGERS:
CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS BEGIN
AUGUST 24th & BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS
RESUME SEPTEMBER 7th.

Can you carry a tune? There's room in the choir
loft for YOU! Can you read music? Come ring
with us in Bell Choir! Please see Tom Foley or Mike Elkins if
you'd like to be a part of our Music Ministry.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Joan Beckwith, Mary Carey, Laurie Meister, Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Maggie Struhar



Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Barb Camp, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Irene Jannsohn, Carole Kapcar, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Bruce Lerch, Reggie McCray, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfritz, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Bill Schneider, Peter Smith, John Toth, Sharon Wilson, Dave Williams, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Angie Colosimo (Judi Pavisich's friend), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Kim Filiautraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joanne Garipey (Sally Herzog's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Vic Irelan (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Sylvia Pakish (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Jeff Peacock (former member), Zora Roundtree (FL4A volunteer), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Vicki Smith (Venner Clarinets), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), Don Wills (friend of Judi Pavisich), The people of Ukraine, victims of violence, those affected by natural disasters

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

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 being accepted during those hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry downstairs. **Thanks, as always, to our dedicated volunteers!**

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,617.01
Last Week's Offering Received \$ 3,253.00
Difference -(\$ 364.01)



Thank you very much for your support.



PLEASE BE AWARE: Due to a bank change, all checks to the church should be made out to **United Church of Christ or UCC or United Church of Christ (Congregational)**. Please do not use "Strongsville" or "SUCC" in the "Pay to the Order of" line. Thanks!

FREE LUNCH FOR ALL—

Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Our Free Lunch for All Program welcomes everyone to enjoy a nutritious meal and warm fellowship.



GIFT CARDS

PLEASE DON'T FORGET ABOUT THIS EASY, CONVENIENT PROGRAM THAT BENEFITS THE CHURCH. You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-346-4161 in advance with your order. **Limited stock is available for purchase on Sunday mornings.**



COMING IN THE FALL...

A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY!

It's time for a new photo-directory. Each family that is photographed for the directory will receive a free 8x10 of their photo and a free copy of the directory. So much has changed since our last pictorial directory and this is an excellent opportunity to have a studio portrait of you or your family. We would like **EVERYONE** to be included!



Do you know someone who would like their senior or engagement photos taken? There is NO COST except if you would like to purchase photos. Anyone can sit for portraits, even if they are not a part of the directory.

We will have in-person and online scheduling available so that you can come when it's convenient. Dates for photography will be:

Wednesday, September 20th 2 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 21st 2 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Friday, September 22nd 2 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 23rd 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

We need volunteers to help with the sign-up process for our families. Please see Irene Joyce if you can help.

ALSO, IF YOU HAVE ANY UPDATES TO YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, PLEASE MAKE SURE THE CHURCH HAS YOUR CURRENT INFORMATION—THANKS!

CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2023 *Elected January 29, 2023

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

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

Sunday School Co-Superintendents

Linda Elkins Mary Densmore*

Board of Trustees

Diana Creecy Chris Goff* Herb Hampson Cathy Hawk
Sarah Hayes Cheryl Sobek* Dan Winrod*
Laura Winrod* Rachel Zielinski

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson Linda Stepan Dave Williams*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish Jean Bittinger* Elaine Coffey
Bobbi Cook* Wayne Cook* Judy Davis*
Carole Kapcar* Sharon Maresco Linda Ponstingle Cherie Teagno
Barbara White* Mary Ellen Zimmerman*

Christian Education Committee

Serena Abruzzino* Mary Densmore*
Linda Elkins Amanda Marshall Lora Rung

Music Committee

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

Stewardship Committee

Judi Pavisich Bill Schneider* Richard Taylor
Rob Toth Mary Willis*

Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte* Sarah Hayes Bobbie Krisak Lora Rung*
Jennifer Sekorky Peter Smith* Bev Wehr
Mary Ellen Zimmerman*

ONLINE SCHEDULING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILY APPOINTMENT SETTING

- ✧ Go to the Universal Church Directories website (www.ucdir.com)
- ✧ Click on the box on the right side of the homepage entitled "photography appointment scheduling login"
- ✧ Enter your church code **oh2687**
Enter your church password **photos**
- ✧ Click on the Enter button
- ✧ Click on the desired photography date
- ✧ Click on the Reserve Time button beside the desired photography appointment time
- ✧ Enter the appropriate information in all required fields (indicated by the asterisk *)
- ✧ Click on the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the photography appointment time in your family's name
- ✧ If you have more than six family members being photographed, please reserve two appointments consecutively (such as 6:00 and 6:10)
- ✧ Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your family's photography appointment
- ✧ **Contact your church's online scheduling administrator to change or cancel your photography appointment.**

✧ **PLEASE NOTE: Online scheduling will be disabled on the weekends to allow for in-person sign-ups.**

BEE A BUSY BEE IN 2023—August - November

New sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area are waiting for your name to be added as a greeter or usher. No experience is necessary—we will show you everything you need to know! Everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.



IMPORTANT INFO—Do you know where the AED and First Aid Kit are located in the church? They are adjacent to the doorway in Pilgrim Hall, just to the right of the confirmation classroom.