

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)
13740 Pearl Road
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

Worship 10 a.m. (+online)



Church Telephone: (440) 238-6697

Email: StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com

Website: www.strongsvilleucc.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall
Pastor

AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has. –Margaret Mead

Sum of its parts

When I was in seminary, on the first day of one of my classes, the professor gave each of us a piece of a jigsaw puzzle. I still have mine; it's green like grass, I think—or maybe sky blue. It's been in my coin purse so long, the colors are scratched and faded. The layers have begun to pull apart, and the edges are wearing smooth. (Life can do that to you sometimes.)

Dr. K gave us the puzzle piece for a reason, of course. It's to remind us that we are each part of a much bigger picture, a picture that is incomplete without *me*. And even if my piece *seems* to look a lot like every other piece of sky or grass, in the Bigger Picture, each piece has its own unique place, its own special purpose. In God's Kingdom, no one is more (or less) important than I am. We all fit together. Perfectly.

But there's another reminder there, too: I don't need to be big or flashy, or try to do things in a big way, to make a difference. Whatever we do—a smile, a cup of coffee—can be a game-changer for a person in need.

What if, instead of wishing we could do *more*, we boldly and confidently *do what we can*? Can't afford to bring a whole case of food to the food drive? How about a couple cans of tuna or beans? Mission trips to Guatemala aren't your thing? Consider a donation to One World Mission or the Red Cross. Donate blood. Wherever you are, there are homeless, hungry people in need of the love and hope you have to offer. Little things can mean the world to someone who's struggling to make their way in the world.

Peace, Love and Hope,
Pastor Heidi

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1 – 10 a.m.
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Special Music: Lisa Heinrich and Sharon Heinrich
Greeter: Linda Plain
Liturgist: Linda Ponstingle
Sunday School: Mary Densmore
Special Guest Speaker: Sharon Lempner

SUNDAY – AUGUST 8 – 10 a.m.
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Sacrament of Communion
Special Music: Ken Mehalko
Greeter: Ginger Rothel
Liturgist: Cherie Teagno
Sunday School: Linda Elkins



SUNDAY—AUGUST 15 – 10 a.m.
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Special Music: Dave Williams
Liturgist: Dave Williams
Greeter: Judi Pavisich
Sunday School: Ginger Rothel

SUNDAY – AUGUST 22 – 10 a.m.
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sacrament of Baptism:
Brecken Raymond & Charlotte Boden
Special Music: Carol Foley
Liturgist: Herb Hampson
Greeters: Serena Abruzzino & Bobbie Krisak
Sunday School: Mary Densmore



SUNDAY – AUGUST 29 – 10 a.m.
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Special Music: Cindy Smith
Liturgist: Sharon Maresco
Greeters: Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt
Sunday School: Elaine Coffey

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCynOZfg4uKoX7HMnKORbXfQ/videos), go to **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**.
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCynOZfg4uKoX7HMnKORbXfQ/videos>

IT'S A BOY!

Steve and Roxy Woodward welcomed their second son, **Edison** Guinty Woodward, on June 28, 2021 in California. He was 9 lbs, 8 ounces. Big brother **Owen**, grandmother **Carol Woodward** and Uncle **Kyle Woodward** are thrilled!



IT'S ANOTHER BOY!



Francis (Frankie) Joseph McKane was born on July 24, 2021 at 8.5 lbs., 21" in California. Congratulations to parents **Hayley** and **Joey McKane**, big brother, **Wally**, grandparents **Joe** and **Barbara Craig** and of course,

great-grandmother **Betty (Grammy) Craig!** Frankie is Betty's 13th great-grandchild!

MARRIAGE CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Manar (Elkhaiat) and Spencer Falvo who were married at our church on July 9, 2021



Congratulations also to Audrey (Ellman) and Justin Mills who were married on July 11, 2021.



CELEBRATE A CENTURY!

Our own Betty Jacobson will turn 100 years old on August 27th! Want to send a card? 18800 Westwood Place #412 Strongsville, OH 44136



IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY Our most sincere sympathy is extended to **Toni Newborn** on the death of her son, **Arieson R. Newborn**, on July 2, 2021. He was 40 years old.



We were recently informed of the death of



Elizabeth (Liz) Snook on May 20, 2021. Liz passed away after a long battle with cancer. Our love and prayers are extended to her daughters **Sarah (Steve Jackson)** and **Erica (Wayne Grigsby)**, her son **Jim (Mary) Alexander**, and to everyone who knew and loved Liz.

MEMORIAL SERVICE TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF LONG-TIME MEMBER JEAN STRAUB

Jean joined our church in 1951 and was a member until her death on February 26, 2020. Because of the worldwide pandemic, her family was unable to celebrate her life with their Ohio friends and family. They are finally able to have a memorial service at our church on Wednesday, August 25th at 12:30 p.m., preceded by the interment at the Camden Cemetery (49840 Route 20, Oberlin, OH 44074) at 11 a.m. and followed by a luncheon in Pilgrim Hall. RSVP for luncheon attendance is requested at 775-742-3061 (Jean's daughter, Kathy Herzing).



KEEP RECYCLING YOUR PAPER, MAGAZINES, AND CARDBOARD!

The church (and everyone else) benefits any time you recycle. Thank you!
PLEASE FLATTEN ALL BOXES WHEN RECYCLING CARDBOARD.



River Valley Paper Company

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Our all ages Sunday School class will continue through September 5th. Thank you to everyone who has taught this summer!

RALLY DAY IS COMING SEPTEMBER 12th!

Hope to see you for a new, exciting year of Sunday School classes!



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



- **The Board of Trustees** will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **August 10th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **The Diaconate** will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **August 17th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **The Official Board** will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **August 24th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

THANK YOU NOTES



From **Christina Craig**, wife of the late **Rev. Larry Craig**: Seeing so many of Larry and my SUCC friends at his memorial service on July 10th warmed my heart so very much! Your thoughtfulness meant the world to me and my family. Thank you,

dear friends! Your presence was greatly appreciated. Those who were unable to attend, but had us in your thoughts and prayers, I do thank you. You are a warm and loving congregation and you made Larry and me feel very welcome the very first time we stepped into the church. Strongsville UCC has a special place in my heart. Thank you!

THANK YOU TO OUR GUEST MINISTER!



On July 25th, our congregation welcomed guest minister **Rev. Oommen Thomas** to lead worship during **Pastor Heidi's** vacation. **Rev. Thomas** and his wife, **Leela**, often attend our church and are considered a part of our church family. **Rev. Thomas** is a retired

Presbyterian minister, who has served St. Andrews and John Knox Presbyterian, among other churches. Oommen and Leela live in Strongsville.



Many thanks to **Ken Mehalko, Sharon Heinrich, Sarah Keenen,**

Craig Hardy, and Sharon & Alex Metivier, Rob Toth and Clay Williams for sharing their music with us in July for our worship services.

MUSICIANS NEEDED!

Would you like to be a part of the music program? Instrumentalists and vocalists are needed for our various music groups. If you are interested in joining us and sharing your talent, please contact **Tom Foley** or **Mike Elkins!**

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 at 8 p.m. We have room in the choir loft for any singers (Tenors, Altos, Sopranos, and Basses are welcome!).

BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 at 7p.m.

CARB CREW!



Thank you so much to our faithful bread transporters and sorters: **Judy Carte, Jim Dettmer, Maria Graeff, Mike Elkins, Cathy Hawk, Sharon Heinrich, Sally Herzog, Linda Kapcar, Sharon & Jim Maresco, Pastor Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Sharon Lempner, Rick & Cherie Teagno, John Toth, and Mary Ellen Zimmerman** who continue to make the Panera Bread ministry possible!

UNSUNG HEROES

Did you know that **Jim Studer** has been cleaning up around the outdoor church property, weeding and gathering debris? Thanks so much, Jim!



Did you know that our own **Mike Elkins** has agreed to take the position of Financial Secretary? He is currently training with **Adria Bond**. Thank you to both of these diligent workers for ensuring a smooth transition!

Did you know that **Linda Ponstingle** has completed the arduous process of steam cleaning all of the sanctuary pew cushions! Wow--Thank you very much, Linda!

Did you know that **Cathy Hawk**, and **Irene Joyce**, along with an anonymous helper, recently unloaded sixteen round tables and a rack from a semi-truck-- in the pouring rain? Then, later in the day, after the torrential rain stopped, **Dale Hawk**, **Jim Joyce**, **Mike Clotworthy**, and **Emma Clotworthy** joined Cathy and Irene to unpack the boxes and dispose of the cardboard and packing materials. Be sure to thank them, and take a look at these beautiful new tables in our Pilgrim Hall!



ADDRESS CHANGES

To update your Church Directory:

Sarah Snook
2910 Kent Road
Silver Lake, OH 44224

Erica (Snook) Page
172 Lakeshore Drive
Leesville, SC 29070

Steven, Roxy, Owen, & Edison Woodward
804 Ridgeview Terrace
Fremont, CA 94536

Richard Sullen
16175 John Morris Road
Fort Myers, FL 33908



The Strongsville
Emergency Food Bank
is accepting donations
of food. **DONATIONS**

MAY BE TAKEN DIRECTLY TO THE FOOD BANK. It is located on Zverina Lane behind the **Strongsville Communications Building.** They are only going to be open Tuesday through Thursday 9:30 a.m. -11:00 a.m. So if you need to drop off...earlier the better...they have to take time now to sanitize the food bank each shift. The needs for the food bank in August would be TUNA, SOUP, OR FRUITS AND VEGGIES!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP REGULAR MEETINGS NOW ON WEDNESDAYS!

To accommodate the Tuesday AA 10:00 A.M. group which will resume meeting in August, **Women's Fellowship is**



changing our monthly Tuesday meeting at 10:00 A.M. to the first Wednesday of the month, so we can continue to meet in Pilgrim Hall.

*As always, all ladies are welcome to all activities.
Please feel free to do what YOU want to do!*
Revised dates for our programs are:

Wednesday – August 4 – 10:00 A.M.
in Pilgrim Hall

“AGING GRACEFULLY” with tips from Judy Carte
Directions to next month's picnic will be distributed.

More info on future dates is coming soon!

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office. Thank you.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Janet Kato, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Joan Beckwith, Adria Bond, Eddy Bond, Mary Carey, Elaine Coffey, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Linda Elliott, Tom Gaumer, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, Pam Keenen, Tony Koussa, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, John & Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Jamie & Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Rachel Zielinski, Bob Zimmerman



Extended Church Family: Dorene Baldrige, Fred Beba (Theresa's husband), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Judy Carte's son-in-law, Ryan, John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Pat Masuga (Dan's mom), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Kay McGinty (Judi Pavisich's aunt), Zachary McKeever (Pastor Heidi and Chuck's great-nephew), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Carrol Riley (Marjorie Morrison's dad), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Sandra Wentz (Debbie's daughter-in-law), Daphne Wilson (Irene Jannsohn's niece)

Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain.

GIFT CARDS

YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS PROJECT IN A SAFE WAY THAT BENEFITS OUR CHURCH!



You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-267-5043 in advance with your

order. Limited stock is available, but special orders may be accommodated with advance notice. **Thank you to those who continue to support this project by purchasing gift cards!**



Are you an online shopper? If so, why not benefit the church while you make your purchases from Amazon? It's incredibly easy! Here's what you do:

1. Instead of typing amazon.com into your search bar, type in **smile.amazon.com**.
2. Select United Church of Christ Congregational Strongsville by clicking this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-1298100>
3. Shop as you would normally—that's it!

Your addresses, billing information, and shopping cart are still saved and your Prime membership privileges still apply. A small percentage of your purchase price will go toward supporting the church.

STEEPLE LIGHTING

Week of July 4th

In Celebration of our granddaughter, Alaya Hitchens's, 3rd Birthday today!

With Love, Jim & Irene Joyce

Week of July 11th

In Honor of the Wedding Anniversary of Mike and Linda Elkins on July 12th

*In Loving Memory of my son, Arieson Newborn
Toni Newborn*

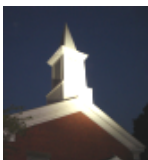
*Happy Anniversary to Joe & Barbara Craig on July 14th!
With Love, Mom*

Week of July 18th

Happy Birthday to Joyce Reed and Mike Clotworthy on July 16th

Week of July 25th

*Happy Birthday to Joey McKane on July 28th!
With Love, Grammy*



To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Multiple dedications are welcomed for each week. **Please email the church at**

strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com. Thank you to everyone who lights our steeple!

FRESH ALTAR FLOWERS

RETURNING SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Would you like to commemorate a special occasion, honor a loved one, or celebrate the memory of someone dear? Say it with flowers!

You may provide fresh 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 or better yet, email the church at



strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com. Envelopes for enclosing your payment to the church office are also available. Thank you for placing flowers on the altar.

The 2021 Flower sign-up chart is posted and almost all Sundays are available for this year!

SPONSORSHIP OF CAROLINE IN INDIA

Thank you to everyone who signed up for 2021:

January—Dale & Cathy Hawk

February—Ginger Rothel

March—Judy Carte

April—Ginger Rothel

May—Sue Gigliotti

June—Dorothy & Bill Ritchie

July—Dale & Cathy Hawk

August—Dale & Cathy Hawk

September—Bill Robinson

October—Dale & Cathy Hawk

November—Barb & Mark Camp

December—Gina Cathcart

Reaching The Unreached



MEN'S LUNCH BUNCH meets at 11:30 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at Gourmé Restaurant 15315 Pearl Rd. in Strongsville.



THRIFT SHOP



The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with lots of interesting merchandise.

Donations are being accepted, but you must call the church first to arrange a time for drop-off.

THRIFT SHOP BONUS HOURS

The 3rd **Thursday** of the month,

August 19, 2021 — 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

(We're still open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

Also, the Thrift Shop is in need of volunteers to help out for a couple of hours—sorting, organizing, and selling on Thursdays. Please call Cathy Hawk (440-781-7512) if you can help!

FINAL CLEARANCE BAG SALE

AUGUST 5th!

THE THRIFT SHOP WILL BE CLOSED THE WEEK INCLUDING AUGUST 12th

and REOPEN WITH ALL "NEW" MERCHANDISE ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 19th



GIVING OPTIONS

If you are interested in giving electronically, Here's how: You can customize your giving based on how, when, and how much through **E-Offering**.

Log on to our church website at www.strongsvilleucc.com and click "Donate Now". You will be taken to the church's myEoffering page. Simply click on the "Sign-up" button and you will then fill in your personal information and "Register".

Follow the prompts to set up your payment, one-time or ongoing. You can also set up your giving through Bill Pay on your bank's website. **You may also mail a check to**

Strongsville UCC

13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136 or drop it off in the church's mailbox.

NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Adria Bond/Mike Elkins

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from **July 4 through July 25, 2021. Thank you to everyone who supports our church and its ministries.**

Offering Needed \$14,597.48 for 4 Sundays

Offering Received 10,347.25

(-4,250.11)



From our friends at the

Strongsville

Community Band:

Last concert of 2021

Friday, August 6 at 7:30 PM
(Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)



Please note that concerts

scheduled on the Front Lawn of Strongsville Middle School will be moved indoors to the Ehrnfelt Sr./Rec Center in case of inclement weather

THANK YOU

TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH THE CHURCH GARAGE SALE!



Whether you donated, sorted, bought, sold, baked, or helped clean up, your efforts are appreciated!

We made **\$2,800.00** for the Official Board. The **BAKE SALE** made **\$619.00** for the Sunday School and the Thrift Shop made **\$303.00**. Extra special thanks to these hardworking folks who did the baking, selling, heavy lifting, difficult sorting of items, and interacting with unpredictable customers to make our sale a success:

Linda Allwood (Thrift Shop), Jen Barry & Myron Costin, Eddy Bond, Kristen Burgess & Brian Kohler, Janice Booth (Thrift Shop), Barb Camp, Judy Carte, Olivia & Emma Clotworthy, Elaine Coffey, Judy & Roger Davis, Mary Densmore, Jane Deutsch, Linda & Jim Dettmer, Ingrid & Greg Dickson, Linda Elkins, Tom Foley, Barb Fraunfelder & Dennis Smith, Brandi Garsteck, Judy & Tom Gaumer & Aidan Hurtig, Cathy & Dale Hawk, Sarah, Jon, Jack, Ella, & Henry Hayes, Sharon & Jim Heinrich, Sally Herzog, Irene Jannsohn, Irene & Jim Joyce with Elliott Joyce and Alaya Hitchens, Elena Joyce, Erik Joyce & Bryana Hitchens, Evan Joyce, Linda Kapcar, Pam Keenen, Sarah Keenen, Bonnie Khavaran, Phyllis Kurz (age 97!), Sharon Lempner, Dianne & John Maringer, John Marshall, Sr., Amanda, John, Riley, & Lacey Marshall, Pastor Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Michele & Allen Mihlack, Judi Pavisich, Sandy Pogozelski, Linda Ponstingle, Greta Rich & Doug Turnbull, Lora Rung, Tracy Seneff, Sandy Smith (Thrift Shop), Richard Taylor, Cherie Teagno, Barbara Toth, Sarah Toth, Barbara White, Clay Williams, Janis Williamson, Marty Winch, Rachel, Gary, Oliver, & Penny Zielinski

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