

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



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

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall  
Pastor

## DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible;  
and suddenly, you are doing the impossible.*  
—St. Francis of Assisi

#### Half-baked?

Lately, it seems as if I have been encountering things that weren't completely *done*. The baked potato must have been extra-large, because it took a lot longer in the microwave than I anticipated. The loaf of banana bread was decidedly gummy inside, and definitely could have used another five (or more) minutes in the oven. And even the project I thought I was wrapping up turned out to have an extra corner of stitching I hadn't yet completed. Yikes!

All these silly observations got me to wondering. What areas in my spiritual life could benefit from a little closer attention, a longer period of engagement? Or—where in my life might I be well-served by pulling back and doing *less*?

How long, for instance, should I spend reading my Bible? I try to spend some time each day, but sometimes . . . when I get bogged down in parts I simply don't like . . . I find myself turning away for a bit. And I think that's okay. God's Presence extends far, far beyond the pages on my NIV. We will find each other elsewhere.

You probably know, I love to walk. What about my life would be improved if I dedicated myself to walking *even one hundred steps* further than I had planned? But—when my back is tired, or the day is cold and windy, less becomes more. Taking it easy and being gentle with myself are healthy, vital practices.

Jesus reminds us that we are *salt* and *light* (Matthew 5:13-14). A dash of salt brings out the flavors of other things; too much salt can spoil a whole pot of stew, making it inedible to many hungry souls. A single candle in the darkness can help us find our way; barreling in with a 500-watt spotlight can literally be blinding and unbearable.

As we draw near the manger one more time, remember: there is a baby sleeping there! Approach with eyes wide with wonder and curiosity—but be soft and gentle in all you do. Shhhhhh. . .

I am grateful we are on this journey together.

Hope, Love, Joy and Peace,  
Pastor Heidi

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 – 10 a.m.**  
*Second Sunday of Advent*

**Sacrament of Communion**  
**All Saints Sunday**



**Greeter: Linda Plain**  
**Liturgist: Dale Hawk**  
**Ushers: Volunteers needed**  
**Special Music: Chancel Choir**



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 – 10 a.m.**

*Third Sunday of Advent*

**Greeter: Volunteer needed**  
**Liturgist: Linda Ponstingle**  
**Ushers: Roz Fotos, Bobbie Krisak**  
**Special Music: Bell Choir**



**Christmas Jazz Concert at 7 p.m.**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 – 10 a.m.**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

**Children's Christmas Pageant**

**Greeter: Judi Pavisich**  
**Liturgist: Dave Williams**  
**Ushers: Judi Pavisich, Roz**  
**Fotos, Bill Schneider**



**Special Music: Children's Choir**  
**Christmas Cantata at 7 p.m.**  
**Combined Choirs with the Columbia United Methodist Church, and guest musicians**

**SATURDAY – DECEMBER 24 – 7 p.m.**

**Family Christmas Eve Service**



**SATURDAY – DECEMBER 24 – 11 p.m.**

**Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 – 10 a.m.**

**Christmas Day**

**HYMN SING**

**Greeter: Elaine Coffey**  
**Liturgist: Irene Joyce**  
**Ushers: Elaine Coffey**  
**Special Music: Music team**



**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**. **HERE'S THE LINK TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCynOZfg4uKoX7HMnKORbXfQ/videos>



## MUSIC NOTES

Many thanks to the **Bell Choir** and the **Chancel Choir**, **Carol Foley**, **Ken**

**Mehalko**, **Sarah Keenen**, with **Tom Foley**, **Sharon Heinrich**, and **Mike Elkins** for their music last month.

**YOU ARE INVITED! Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

## PEACE

Our **Chancel Choir** and the **Columbia United Methodist Church choir**, under the direction of **Tom Foley**, accompanied by **Mike Elkins** and **Sharon Heinrich** with special guest musicians **Robert Foley**, **Brian King**, and **Bob Faulkner**, will be presenting **"Peace"** by **Joel Raney**, on **December 18<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in our sanctuary.

## SWINGIN' SOUNDS OF THE SEASON CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>**  
 at 7 p.m. **LIVE MUSIC** featuring **Strongsville's Jazz Band** and vocalist **Cindy Smith**. Tickets will be \$10 (\$5 for kids under 10) and we will have a reception following the concert.

## IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to **Roz Fotos** and family on the death of her sister, **Charlotte (Char) Mickovic**, who passed away on October 31, 2022 after a brief illness. Char was 78 years old.



Sending our deepest sympathy to **Brandi Garsteck** and family on the death of her grandfather, **Joseph Cook**, on November 13, 2022. Grandpa Joe was 81 years old.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF CHARLES (CHUCK) McDOUGALL



Thursday, December 29, 2022 at 11 a.m., followed by a luncheon and fellowship in Pilgrim Hall.

## Baby Congratulations

Welcome to the world, **Theodore Butler**, son of **Andrew** and **Victoria Butler** in New Orleans Louisiana! Theo was born on October 24, 2022. Proud sister is **Zoe** and proud grandparents are **Brian** and **Gail Butler**. Great-grandmother was the late **Millie Lafave**.



Congratulations to **Katelyn** and

**Vince Boden** on the birth of their daughter, **Emma Louise Boden**, on November 7, 2022. Congratulations also to big sister **Charlotte**, grandmother **Lori Deertz**, and great-grandmother **Marty Winch!**



We are so happy for the arrival of **August Lee Anderson**, son of **Erin** and **Chris Anderson** and first grandchild of **Linda** and **Mike Elkins!** Gus was born on his grandmother Linda's birthday, November 13, 2022.



**FROM OUR FRIENDS AT SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CHORUS:** Please mark your calendar for Sunday, **December 4<sup>th</sup>** at 3 p.m. for our Christmas

concert "In a Holiday Mood," at the Berea United Methodist Church (170 Seminary Street in Berea). After 2 years without a Christmas concert, we are back under the direction of **Tom Foley**, accompanied by **Carol Konet**. Many of our own SUCC Chancel Choir members also sing in the Southwest Community Chorus. We hope you will support our singers and celebrate the Christmas season with music! Tickets are \$15 at the door.



**RIVER VALLEY PAPER COMPANY RECYCLING** Please bring your clean paper and cardboard to the bin in the parking lot, and remember to break down boxes!

**THE CHRISTMAS FUND**

Formerly known as Veterans of the Cross, this special offering of the United Church of Christ provides direct financial assistance to retired and active United Church of Christ authorized ministers and lay employees and their surviving spouses, including pension and health premium supplementation, emergency assistance, and Christmas thank-you checks. A ministry of the Pension Boards, the offering is received throughout December. Offering envelopes will be in the pew racks.



**NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN**

**Reminder: For the safety of our volunteers and friends, when the Strongsville City Schools are closed on a Wednesday for the weather, the Free Lunch for All will not be serving lunch.**



**Did you know? The "tip jar" you see next to the coffee on Sunday mornings is there for a reason. The "tips" go directly to keeping the coffee, tea, sugar, creamer, etc., supplied. Your generosity is appreciated!**

**CHURCH CHRISTMAS MAIL BOX**



To send Christmas greetings to fellow members and friends, the church "mail box" will again be available in the Gathering Area. Please remember to check the box for greetings you receive.

Also, please do not put cards in the box for friends who are not in town for Christmas. The church office cannot mail your personal Christmas cards. Cards left after Christmas will be discarded. Thank you.

**DON'T FORGET!**



If you're doing your holiday shopping online, 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. To date, our church has received **\$516.12**.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

**PENNY SUNDAY**



Thank you to everyone who contributes to our Penny Sunday collection. In October, we collected \$246.35 for UCC Disaster Relief Ministries for



Hurricane victims in Florida and Puerto Rico. November's collection is for Together We Rise, helping youth transitioning out of foster care. Save those pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and yes, DOLLARS for our next Penny Sunday collection, **January 29, 2023!**

**GIFT CARDS**

**THE PERFECT WAY TO TAKE CARE OF UPCOMING HOLIDAY SHOPPING AND AN EASY WAY TO BENEFIT THE CHURCH. ORDER NOW!**



You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-267-5043 in advance with your order. **Limited stock is available for purchase on Sunday mornings.**

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IS DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>**

**ATTENTION FAMILIES:** Parents, please allow time after church on **December 11<sup>th</sup>** for our children to rehearse the Christmas pageant. Thank you!



**PANERA PALS**



Thank you so much to our faithful bread transporters and sorters: **Judy Carte, Neal Flowerman, Maria Graeff, Linda Elkins, Linda Kapcar, Sharon Lempner, and Rick & Cherie Teagno**, who continue to make

the Panera Bread ministry possible! Also, thanks to **Pastor Heidi, Cathy Hawk, Sally Herzog and Irene Joyce** for delivering the bread downtown when needed.

**The Mitten Tree...**

We will collect hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks for the needy this year. From **November 6<sup>th</sup> through December 4<sup>th</sup>**, bring your items to the church during office hours and they will be placed on the Mitten Tree. After the 4<sup>th</sup>, the items will be given to the homeless shelter and the tree will become the **Family of Faith tree**. If you have not donated an ornament for yourself/your family, you may bring it to the church office and your ornament will join the others on our tree!



## THANK YOU NOTES

Many, many thanks from Pastor Heidi and all the McDougalls for your kind notes, offers of love (in the form of food and other tangibles) and generosity of prayer as we continue our journey through grief together. You are each, truly, a gift from God.

From **Michele Mihlack**: "Thank you all for your prayers and support. I was tickled pink with Love from you all for the delicious chicken casserole and sugar cookies from Mary Ellen Zimmerman. I am healing well and started walking/ moving easier since the pain isn't as severe. Allen is a wonderful 'nurse' and takes good care of me.

### LIVE NATIVITY AND OPEN HOUSE:

**THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in the Live Nativity event! Charlie the Camel, Pete the Donkey, Anna the Sheep, and Rusty the cow were a big hit! Thanks to the kitchen crew, Live Nativity participants, our musicians, and especially, **Dale & Cathy Hawk** and **Rachel Zielinski** for organizing a terrific evening and providing food for the volunteers and CERT members!

Thank you to the Thrift Shop for purchasing new vinyl tablecloths for the tables in Pilgrim Hall!

### OUR PRAYER LIST

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

**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar

**Church Family:** Serena Abruzzino, Joan Beckwith, Lloyd Bridle, Mary Carey, Gina Cathcart, Kathy Cockrell, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sam Cuyler, Sr., Sue Hawk, Paul Hirt, Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Len Lane, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mihlack, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfitz, Gary Paul, Sandy Pogozeleski, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Tracy Seneff, Peter Smith, Maggie Struhar, Sharon Wilson, Dave Williams, Janis Williamson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Rachel Zielinski, Mary Ellen Zimmerman



**Extended Church Family:** Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Ron Colosimo (Judi Pavisich's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Jennifer Gleichauf (Don & Sandy's daughter-in-law), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Tiffany Hassel (Judi Pavisich's daughter-in-law), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Ed Kuhn (Sandy & Don Gleichauf's friend), Andrew Majoros (Michele Mihlack's cousin), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Zachary McKeever (Pastor Heidi and Chuck's great-nephew), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Heather Overman (friend of Judi Pavisich), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Jeff Peacock, Terry Robson (Barb & Mark Camp's friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Tina Serrano (Elliott Joyce's grandma), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Vicky Smith (Venner Clarinets), Bruce Unger (Sally Herzog's friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Weston (Chelsea Cathcart's friend's baby), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), The people of Ukraine, victims of violence, those affected by severe weather

## EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN—OPT IN

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

[h.e.denman@gmail.com](mailto:h.e.denman@gmail.com)



Did you know that **Richard Taylor** donated a whole box of coin wrappers for the Penny Sunday collections?

They are really coming in handy--thanks, Rick!

Did you know that **Herb Hampson** patched and painted the walls where the new blinds were installed and even painted a damaged spot on the north wall in Pilgrim Hall? We really appreciate your hard work, Herb!

Did you know that **Ed Sobek** climbed on the roof to vacuum the drain spouts and gutters to install protective covers over the roof drains? Thank you so much for performing this much-needed task, Ed!

## MISSION-OUTREACH COMMITTEE



The **Strongsville Emergency Food Bank** has always been supported by our congregation. Please remember, we do not accept expired goods. The needs for the food bank in December would be large sized peanut butter and jelly.

## SPONSORSHIP OF CAROLINE IN INDIA

Our church sponsors a child in India through the **United Church of Christ**. Cost is **\$30 per month**. Thank you to everyone who signed up for **2022**: Sign-ups for **2023** will be posted in Pilgrim Hall!

## CHRISTMAS FOR VETERANS—

Thanks to your generosity, the Mission Outreach Committee, with the help of our Sunday School kids, put together more than 30 gift backpacks for veterans in Cuyahoga County!



## IN OUR COMMUNITY



Girl Scout Troop #71363 has placed, and will be stocking and maintaining a weather-proof box with hygiene items on the church's property for people in need. The "Hygiene Library," is located on the lawn facing Royalton Road.

## ADDRESS CHANGES/ADDITIONS

If you move or change your phone number, please be so kind as to let the church office know—thanks!

**The Zielinski Family** 440-864-3209

**Sally Herzog** 440-212-4887

**Lloyd Bridle #201** **Barbara Bridle #228**

Aegis Living Dana Point  
26922 Camino de Estrella  
Dana Point, CA 92624





## THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. but we will have special bonus

hours in December. Come and see lots of interesting merchandise. Donations are being accepted during those hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry downstairs.

Thursday, December 1	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Friday, December 2	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Thursday, December 8	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Thursday, December 15	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Thursday, December 22	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Wednesday, December 28	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**CLOSED THURSDAY DECEMBER 29**

Friday, December 30 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Special thanks to all our dedicated volunteers!

## ALTAR FLOWERS FOR LAST MONTH

The altar flowers are given—

**November 6<sup>th</sup>**

*In loving memory of William A. Fraunfelder*  
Love, Barb Fraunfelder



**November 13<sup>th</sup>**

*In loving memory of Wilda Volchko. We miss you.*  
The Abruzzino-Krisak Familia

**November 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Anniversary to Ingrid & Greg Dickson on November 23<sup>rd</sup>!*

**November 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Gone but not forgotten. We miss you, Jay Jay. Rock out in heaven!--The Abruzzino-Krisak Familia*

**PLEASE NOTE: We will be using silk flowers until our florist's health improves.** If you have already paid for flowers, please contact the church office. Also, dedications in the weekly bulletins are still welcome.

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **December 13<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet on the **second Monday** of the month, **December 12<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **December 27<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

## FREE LUNCH FOR ALL

**Wednesdays**

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

We received a Making A Difference Grant of \$815 through the Heartland Conference of the UCC!



## STEEPLE LIGHTING

**Week of November 6<sup>th</sup>**

*Remembering Karen & Chris Morgan's 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary this week—the Zielinski family*

**Week of November 13<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Birthday today to Zach Craig and to Katie Lett on November 18<sup>th</sup>*  
—With love, Grammy

**Week of November 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Birthday today to Adam Craig and Happy Anniversary to Debbie & Larry Wentz on November 24<sup>th</sup>!*  
With Love, Grammy/Mom

**Week of November 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Birthday to Stephen Popovich on November 28<sup>th</sup>!*  
With love, Grammy

To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Multiple dedications are welcomed for each week.

Please email [strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com). Thank you to everyone who lights our steeple!



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP-- UPCOMING EVENTS

The Women's Fellowship will be selling homemade candy in December. We will make dark and light chocolate candies – chocolate with peanuts or raisins or coconut, pretzel bark, and pecan bark. We will sell candy after our worship services:

- Sunday, 12/4/22
- Sunday, 12/11/22

## ALL LADIES ARE INVITED TO OUR CHRISTMAS TEA

**Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m.**

(Please note change in date.) If you haven't already signed up, please see the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall or contact Sharon Heinrich or Elaine Coffey.



## PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

If you like to cook . . . or bake . . . or reach out to others in love . . . as winter and circumstances continue to make it hard to stay connected, your Diaconate is organizing a Pastoral Care Ministry Team and would LOVE to have you take part! (You do not need to be a member of the Diaconate to participate, and you may come and go as you are led.)



## PHONE A FRIEND!

Are you interested in praying for others, but don't use email? Your Church Family Care Team has a number of folks who are willing to call you, typically once a week, to share with you the prayer requests Pastor Heidi shares via email. Please let **Linda Pongstingle** know.



## CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2022

Elected January 30, 2022 \* = 1 year term

\*\*appointed by the Official Board

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

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

### Sunday School Co-Superintendents

Linda Elkins Serena Abruzzino

### Board of Trustees

Myron Costin Diana Creecy Bill Giuliano\*  
Herb Hampson Dale Hawk Sarah Hayes  
Sandy Pogozeleski\* Dave Sekorky Ed Sobek\*  
Rachel Zielinski

### Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson Linda Stepan Joyce Reed\*

### Diaconate

Teri Barbish Barbara Camp\* Elaine Coffey  
Cathy Hawk\* Linda Kapcar Bobbie Krisak  
Sharon Maresco Linda Ponstingle Cheryl Sobek\*  
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\* Rob Stepan  
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

### Stewardship Committee

Sue Gliotti\* Beth Giuliano\* Judi Pavisich  
Bill Schneider\*\* Richard Taylor Rob Toth

### Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte\* Sarah Hayes Bobbie Krisak Lora Rung\*  
Jennifer Sekorky Peter Smith\*\* Bev Wehr\*

\*\*\*\*\*

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place Sunday, **January 29, 2023**, and will be preceded by the traditional Pancake Brunch. All are

encouraged to attend this meeting.

### FINANCIAL OFFICERS OF CHURCH GROUPS:

Please turn in your financial statements to the Auditing Committee through the church office by January 8, 2023. It is extremely important that all books be audited before the Annual Meeting on January 29, 2023. All organizations are required to submit: **THANKS!**

1. ALL bank books (savings and/or checking).
2. ALL bank statements for each month for each account. Checking accounts statements should show completed reconciliation on the back.
3. ALL monthly recap forms.
4. ALL bank deposit slips, withdrawal slips and bank check receipts (if received), attached to monthly recap forms.
5. ALL receipts and bills paid.
6. Copy of Annual Financial Report (original provided to church office for Annual Report).

## WOULD YOU LIKE A WAY TO SERVE GOD AND SERVE YOUR CHURCH AT THE SAME TIME?

How about volunteering to serve on a church board or committee?



The Nominating Committee, through the Official Board, will be looking for church members to fill the many open positions on our boards. Please consider saying **YES** when a member of the Nominating Committee asks you to serve. Some of the

positions that are available include:

**Treasurer:** Manages the outgoing finances of the church in conjunction with the Financial Secretary

**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 and Memorial/Endowment.

**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

Remember the old but true saying, *Many hands make light work*. Plan to be a part of one of these boards or committees. Thank you for your consideration.

## GIVING OPTIONS



If you are interested in giving electronically, you can set up your giving through Bill Pay on your bank's website or on our church's website: [www.strongsvilleucc.com](http://www.strongsvilleucc.com). **You may also mail a check to Strongsville UCC 13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136 or drop it off in the church's mailbox.**

## FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY—Mike Elkins

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from **October 30 through November 20, 2022**. **Thank you to everyone who supports our church and its ministries.**

Offering Needed \$14,597.48 for 4 Sundays  
Offering Received 12,063.00  
-(\$ 2,534.48)

**Pledge cards received for 2023: 40**



**ANNUAL ALL FAMILY WINTER RETREAT**

**February 17-19,  
2023**

Templed Hills  
Camp  
in Bellville, Ohio



The Church's Annual All-Family Winter Retreat will take place on President's Day weekend 2023: The sign-up sheet to attend and the sign-up sheet for things to bring and to volunteer will soon be posted on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Please reserve your spot and room now, as rooms will be first-come, first-served. The cut-off to sign up—January 8<sup>th</sup>—will be strictly enforced. Space is limited to 14 families. Also, please let us know if you have any special dietary needs. Finally, those that wish to come down on Saturday only—we would be happy to have you there, but we also need your reservation by January 8<sup>th</sup>, and the cost is \$10 per meal. Please contact Irene Joyce or Rachel Zielinski if you have any questions.

**Here is the cost:**

ADULTS (12 and up): \$75  
CHILDREN (6-11): \$20  
CHILDREN (5 and under): FREE

**Important dates to remember:**

JANUARY 8, 2023: Reservations close; **MONEY DUE**  
JANUARY 8, 2023: Special dietary needs reported  
FEBRUARY 12, 2022: Retreat planning meeting in the church after the worship service

**2023 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN  
S.O.C.K.S.**

**Service Offering Community Kindness Sanctuary  
You may pledge anytime.  
Strongsville United Church of Christ  
2023 Estimate of Giving**

In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2023:

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 account.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP  
SERVICES**

**FAMILY SERVICE 7 P.M.**

**TRADITIONAL CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  
OF LESSONS AND CAROLS 11 P.M.**

**ALTAR POINSETTIA FOR CHRISTMAS EVE**

Order deadline is **Sunday, December 4, 2022**. Please complete this form and give it to the Church office with your cash or check payment. The cost is \$7.00.

Wording for bulletin: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants: \_\_\_\_ x \$7.00/plant = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to **Strongsville United Church of Christ**, and place it with your order in the offering plate, under the office door, or mail it to:

**Strongsville United Church of Christ  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, OH 44136**

*Thank you for placing a poinsettia plant on the altar!*

**For Church Treasurer's Records  
2022 Christmas Poinsettia**

Total number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Offering envelope number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cash/Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Order deadline is Sunday, December 4, 2022.**





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