



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136

(440) 238-6697

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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall

Pastor



Sunday – January 20, 2019 – 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, please call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please complete your Attendance Card and place it in the offering plate. We hope to see you again soon!

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

BELL PRELUDE "Prelude" Chopin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Sally Herzog

INTROIT "Lord, I Need You" Stanfill, Maher

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 36

Leader: Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the skies.

**People: Your righteousness is like the highest mountains,
your justice like the great deep. You, LORD, preserve both
people and animals.**

Leader: How priceless is your unfailing love, O God!

**People: People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them
drink from your river of delights.**

Leader: For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

**People: Continue your love to those who know you,
your righteousness to the upright in heart. Amen.**

† **HYMN 10** "Majesty"

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 55: 1-3

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL 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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE "Lord, Listen to our Prayer" Foley

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

INTRODUCTION AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Friends, do you profess Jesus as the center and cornerstone of your faith? **We do.**

Will you be faithful to these new friends as they join this congregation and begin the next leg of their journey of faith?

We promise our faithful companionship to these new members of our family.

Will you challenge them to strive to become the very best versions of themselves, upholding them in Christian love and holding them accountable to the Way of the Christ?

We will lovingly challenge these new members to strive to become the very best versions of themselves, guiding them to live into the faith they profess.

Will you allow yourself to be challenged and changed, shaped and transformed by these new members, together seeking God's will for our lives together?

With the help of God's Spirit, we will allow ourselves to be challenged and changed, shaped and transformed, living even more fully into our called identity as the family of faith, Strongsville United Church of Christ.

Let us pray together:

O God, we give you thanks, first for calling us to believe, then leading us to join together and gather into this church, the Body of Christ. We give you thanks for this Family of faith, and rejoice that you have led these newest members into our midst, adding their gifts and talents to ours. Together, may we live more fully in the Spirit, building one another up in Love, sharing in the life and worship of the church, and serving the world for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Amen.

BELL ANTHEM "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" Spiritual

THE OFFERINGS

BELL OFFERTORY "Vesper Hymn" Bortniansky

† **DOXOLOGY** **HYMN 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

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS John 2: 1-11

SERMON Radical Hospitality

† **HYMN 56** "To God Be the Glory"

† BENEDICTION

† **RESPONSE/POSTLUDE** "She Did" Farren/Wiseman
Arranged by Gary Hackett in Memory of Rita Budd

SERVING

TODAY – JANUARY 20

Greg Dickson

Betty Craig

Marty Winch

Volunteer needed

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Liturgist

Greeters

Ushers

Coffee Hour

Director of Music

Associate Director of Music

NEXT SUNDAY – JANUARY 27

Dan Masuga

Roy Merkle

Roy Merkle

Volunteer needed

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Please remember to lock doors and turn out lights
if you are the last person to leave the building. Thank you!

The altar flowers are given—

From the Sekorky Family: Jennifer, Dave, Oliver, and Tilly

*In loving memory of our beloved cousin, Gerald Thompson, who
went to be with God on January 12. We love you; rest in peace.*

From The Abruzzino-Krisak Family

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy Birthday today to Tony Tran. With Love, Grammy

In memory of Rev. Ken Morris

Happy Birthday today to Sandy Pogozelski and Chase Masuga!

The Official Board will meet on Tuesday, January 22 at 7 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: *Our worship services are video recorded each week
and posted on our YouTube channel for all to enjoy.*

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 at Danbury Senior Living in Brunswick, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Betty Babics, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Dan Davis, Steve Herzog, Margot James, Elena Joyce, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Phyllis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Martha Liebert, Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Karen Morgan, Harvey Pincombe, Joyce Reed, Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Linda Stepan, Ray Suttle, Barbara Toth, Sally Vetovitz, Kyle Woodward



Extended Church Family: Adams Family (friends of Judi Pavisich), Luke Bazan (friend of Judi Pavisich's granddaughter), Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Michele Cortese (friend of the Heinrichs), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Sam Harteis (friend of Reeds), Margaret Haught (mother of Jen Barry), Sandra Manos (mother of Eli), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Jeff Perrin (cousin of Barb Fraunfelder), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga)



Our Deepest Sympathy is extended to the family, friends, and congregation of **Rev. M Kenneth Morris**, who passed January 10. Rev. Morris served our church from November 1999 until October 2010. Please keep his wife, **Linda**, their

four grown children and eight grandchildren in your prayers. Here is the address if you would like to send a card: **6436 Westshore Drive Kent, OH 44240**

If you would like to make a contribution to the Memorial Fund in memory of Rev. Morris, please place your donation in an envelope labeled "Memorial Fund" and return in the offering plate or to the church office.

HOW CAN YOU HELP OUT?

Sign-up sheets in Pilgrim Hall are waiting for **your name** to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, or nursery helper! No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.



THE THRIFT SHOP is open for business on Thursdays, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., with a bonus Free Lunch for All sale day on Wednesdays once a month from 11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. WE NEED HELP! If you can spare a few hours on Thursdays to volunteer in our Thrift Shop, please consider helping at the Thrift Shop. **Also, an additional person is needed to work with us for 2 hours on the second Wednesday of the month. Please contact the church office if you can help either on Wednesdays or Thursdays.**



CHILD SPONSORSHIP

Our church sponsors Caroline Y. in India. For only \$30, you can provide for her for a month, through the UCC Global Ministries. Please sign up on the yellow sheet on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall if you can support this important international outreach.



FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Many offices in the church will be available for the coming year. Please consider saying **YES** when a member of the Nominating Committee asks you to serve. Some of the positions that are available include serving as/on the:

Moderator, who presides over the Official Board and represents the church in the community
Vice-Moderator, who works in tandem with the Moderator, serves on the Nominating Committee, and enlists volunteers for dinners and other

Official Board events.

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, non-clergy staff, and physical plant of the church. The committees of the Trustees are Building and Grounds, Finance, and Long-Range Planning.

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

ANNUAL REPORTS will be available in the Gathering Area following worship today. Please take one per family.

SWISS STEAK DINNER has been rescheduled to **Saturday, March 2**. If you have paid for tickets, you may either receive a refund or use your ticket on the new date in March.



ALL FAMILY WINTER RETREAT

February 15 - 17, 2019 Templed Hills Camp in Bellville, Ohio

Sign up is now closed. If you are one of the few attendees who has not yet paid, please turn in your payment immediately in order to hold your reservation. Thanks!

FEBRUARY 10, 2019: Retreat planning meeting in the church after the worship service.



PENNY SUNDAY--Next week's Penny Sunday, January 27 will go to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary in Ravenna.



ANNUAL MEETING



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place **Next Sunday, January 27, 2019**, and will be preceded by the traditional Pancake Brunch. All are encouraged to attend this meeting and be a part of our family of faith. (You do not have to be a member to attend the meeting, but only members are entitled to cast a vote.)

FROM THE KITCHEN:

If you have any large plastic serving trays with domed covers, round or rectangular, that you do not need, please donate them to the kitchen for our Coffee Hour pastries. Thanks!



JANUARY 2019 DATES TO REMEMBER

20	Sun	Worship 10am New Members welcomed Children's Choir
21	Mon	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
22	Tue	Official Board Meeting, 7pm
23	Wed	Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm Fit Club 7:15pm Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
24	Thurs	Thrift Shop 10am-4pm Men's Lunch 11am Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm
27	Sun	Worship 10am--Penny Sunday Annual Meeting & Pancake Brunch
30	Wed	Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm Fit Club 7:15pm Band Rehearsal 8:15 pm
31	Thurs	Thrift Shop 10am-4pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR FREE LUNCH FOR ALL



Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Thank you to all of the volunteers and especially, Betty Craig, for making Free Lunch for All so successful!

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,552.02
 Last Week's Offering Received \$2,753.95
 (Difference -\$798.07)



It is not too late to submit an Estimate of Giving card and place it in the plate. Thank you very much for your support. We have 70 cards turned in so far for a total of \$112,192.00.

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Teri Barbish attended Strongsville UCC as a child, and as a go-go boot wearing teen, accompanying her grandmother. She and her husband, Gary, truly enjoy their 5 grandchildren, plus one on the way. She is joining us because she found a welcoming home here after having attended University Circle United Methodist Church in Cleveland for a number of years. Her fellowship friend is Bev Wehr.

Elaine Coffey has recently returned to the Cleveland area after having lived in Kentucky, then Florida for 30 years. She has a grown son named Casey. She grew up in Strongsville and has found our church to be a friendly place where she fits right in. Today marks her debut in the Bell Choir; we are thrilled to ring with her. Ken Mehalko is her fellowship friend.

Mary Densmore is a Strongsville resident. She and her husband, Richard, who retired from Baldwin Wallace University, have three sons: Ken, Ben, and Alex and three lovely daughters-in-law. Mary was on staff at the Middleburg Heights Community Church for 16 years. She is a member of our Bell Choir and has already volunteered to fold bulletins along with her fellowship friend, Irene Joyce.

Carole Kapcar began worshipping here as a child with her mother. She and her husband, Frank, have two grown children, two grandchildren, and a lot of extended family. Carole was a member at University Circle United Methodist Church, as was her sister-in-law Linda Kapcar. She shares her fellowship friend, Bev Wehr, with her daughter, Teri Barbish.

Linda Kapcar and her husband, George had been married for over 55 years. She attended University Circle United Methodist Church. Linda worked at the Strongsville City Schools and got to know Ken Mehalko, who is serving as her fellowship friend. He invited Linda and George to the Free Lunch and now they have been drafted to pick up the baked goods at Panera on Mondays. The Kapcars have three adult children, Elaine (Coffey), Brad, and Greg as well as one grandson.

Nicole Rachid was invited here by her fellowship friend, Tony Koussa. She and her fiancé, Lewis Stevens, felt welcome here. Nicole said that she has found a church home here after having attended Arabic Church and School as she was growing up. She has been bringing Lewis's nieces, **Lily** and **Anna** and nephew, **Richard** to worship here as well.

Patty Sasala moved to Strongsville from Parma and lives in the Olympia development, where many of our members reside. She first attended Strongsville United Methodist Church, but found it too big for her taste. Prior to moving, she had not worshipped in church in nearly 40 years, but now has found a place to fill the missing piece she had in her life. She has 5 adult step children, 12 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren. Janis Williamson is her fellowship friend.

Jennifer and David Sekorky had been attending Lakewood Congregational UCC, but were looking for a church upon moving to Strongsville. Jennifer and Dave have two children who are a part of our Sunday School: **Oliver**, a 5th grader, and **Tilly**, a 3rd grader. The Sekorky family has already contributed to our worship, lighting the Advent candles on Christmas Eve. Their fellowship friend is Kristen Clotworthy.

Mary Ellen and Bob Zimmerman come to us by way of University Circle United Methodist Church, where they were very dedicated members. It was there they met Pastor Heidi and Chuck McDougall. Chuck will be their fellowship friend. The Zimmermans live in Berea and have four adult children and seven grandchildren.