



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136
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StrongsvilleUCC.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor
Sunday, July 24, 2022 – 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 "Agnus Dei" Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Greg Dickson

INTROIT "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" Spiritual

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: It is in this place of holiness that we can come with our fears, our doubts, all the questions of our hearts.

People: We come to this place, to hear the words of peace, of hope, of joy God speaks to us.

Leader: It is in this place of discovery that we can come searching.

People: We come to this place, to find the One who has been looking for us.

Leader: It is in this place of openness that we can come knocking.

People: We come to this place, to be embraced by the One whose heart is never locked.

† HYMN 640 "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 138
(New International Version)

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;
before the "gods" I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name
for your unfailing love and your faithfulness,
for you have so exalted your solemn decree
that it surpasses your fame.

When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.

May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord,
when they hear what you have decreed.

May they sing of the ways of the Lord,
for the glory of the Lord is great.

Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;
though lofty, he sees them from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life.
You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes;
with your right hand you save me.

The Lord will vindicate me; your love, Lord, endures forever—
do not abandon the works of your hands.

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 "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" Townend

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

Thank you for your continuing commitment to giving freely of your talents and your treasure, as you are able, in service to Christ in the world. You are the Hands and Feet of Jesus in the world.

OFFERTORY "Orgelstück" Knecht

† 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 11:1-13
(New International Version)

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

SERMON "Bread, Stones, and Answered Prayer"

† HYMN 38 "Ye Servants of God" (vv 1, 2, & 4)

† BENEDICTION (Franciscan prayer)

May God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we really can make a difference in this world; so that we are able, with God's grace, to do what others claim cannot be done. In the Name of Jesus, who so freely gave His life for others. Amen.

† RESPONSE "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" Traditional

† POSTLUDE "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" Traditional

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/UCqWz8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8), select Worship, and click on Service Videos.

SERVING

TODAY – JULY 24 NEXT SUNDAY – JULY 31

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bobbie Krisak/Serena Abruzzino | Greeters | Elaine Coffey |
| Rick Teagno | Liturgist | Herb Hampson |
| Bobbie Krisak/Serena Abruzzino | Ushers | Elaine Coffey |
| Aidan Hurtig/Luke Giuliano | Acolytes | Oliver & Matilda Sekorky |
| 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 |
| Bernie Parker, Ken Mehalko | Special Music | Music Team |
| Mary Ellen Zimmerman | Summer Sunday School | Church Picnic |

The altar flowers are given—
Happy B-Day to my B-Day Buddy, McKenzzi!
Serena Abruzzino

In loving memory of my fellow alto and dear friend, Karen K. Morgan
Irene A. Jannsohn

Our steeple will light the sky this week—
Happy Birthday today to Frankie McKane!
Happy Birthday to Joey McKane on July 28th!
With love, Grammy



A NOTE OF THANKS—

Many thanks to our guest vocalist **Bernie Parker**, and to **Ken Mehalko** and **Irene Joyce**, along with **Sharon Heinrich, Tom Foley**, and **Mike Elkins** for sharing their music with us today.

FREE LUNCH FOR ALL

Every Wednesday

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

We have room for YOU! Please join us for a nutritious meal and warm fellowship.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

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

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Joan Beckwith, Eddy Bond, Lloyd Bridle, Mary Carey, Gina Cathcart, Kathy Cockrell, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sam Cuyler, Sr., Lidiya Dordzhiyeva, Sue Hawk, Bob Heddleson, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothe, Tracey Seneff, Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Doug Thorn, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Mary Ellen Zimmerman



Extended Church Family: Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Mary Ann Csory (Judi Pavisich's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joyce Glasgow (friend of the church), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Ed Kuhn (Sandy & Don Gleichauf's friend), Andrew Majoros (Michele Mhlack'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 Rothe'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), Bruce Unger (Steve & 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 and victims of violence

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

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

- The Official Board will NOT meet on the fourth Tuesday of July. Members will be asked to email monthly reports. A reminder will be sent.

COMING NEXT WEEK! SUNDAY, JULY 31st



On our church grounds following outdoor worship.

Don't forget a lawn chair!

Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert—the main dish and beverages will be provided. The

worship service will take place on the church's "front porch" (weather permitting), followed by lunch in Pilgrim Hall, then lawn games for all ages outside.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,649.37
Last Week's Offering Received \$2,015.25
Difference -(\$1,634.12)

Thank you very much for your support.

PLEDGE CARDS RECEIVED TO DATE: 65



IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends of church member **Janet Kato**, who passed away on July 15, 2022. Services were held on July 21, 2022 at St. Paul in Valley City. She was 89 years old.

Marriage Congratulations

Congratulations to **Nick & Courtney Gigliotti**, who were married on July 16, 2022 in Cleveland! Congratulations also to proud parents of the groom **Lou & Sue Gigliotti**!



IDEAS WANTED!



The Long Range Planning Committee is interested in your ideas on ways to make improvements for our Church. Some feedback already provided includes an extension of our parking lot and a new structure on the Royalton Road lot that could house outdoor gatherings. If you have any ideas, please email them to Sandy Pogozelski at pogoze5@gmail.com. All ideas will be discussed at the Board of Trustees meeting for feasibility, funding and prioritization. Projects exceeding \$5,000 require approval by our Congregation.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Have you been thinking about becoming a member of Strongsville United Church of Christ? Pastor Heidi will be holding a New Member Orientation class **Sunday, August 7** and **Sunday, August 14**, right after worship. Those wanting to join will be officially introduced and brought in on **Sunday, August 21**, during worship. Please mark these dates on your calendar and let Pastor Heidi or the church office know you will be attending.



Become Part of Our Church Family



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 Ponstingle** know.

GIFT CARDS

WITH THOSE GRADUATION PARTIES COMING UP, YOU CAN GIVE GIFT CARDS TO YOUR FAVORITE GRAD AND BENEFIT THE CHURCH!

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.



THANK YOU! OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP DAY

Thank you so much to the folks who came out to help tidy up our church grounds. Your efforts are much appreciated!

From our Friends at Strongsville Community Band 2022 Concert Schedule

Friday, July 29 7:30 p.m.
Rotary Senior Center Cookout/Band Concert
Ehrnfelt Event Center
Friday, August 5 7:30 p.m.
Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, August 12 7:30 p.m.
Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, August 19 7:30 p.m.
Bad Weather Make-up Concert
Strongsville Middle School Lawn



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL is underway!

Who Do YOU Say I Am?

Investigating the Mystery of Jesus
Using Detective Work and Mystery Solving
We have a couple of Sundays still available to teach—please sign up in Pilgrim Hall. Call **Linda Elkins, (440) 655-8891** with questions.



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.

THE THRIFT SHOP WILL BE CLOSED FOR VACATION

ON AUGUST 4th & 11th.

(Donations will NOT be accepted during those 2 weeks.)

HELP WANTED: Do you know anything about collectibles and/or antiques? If so, we need you! From time to time, donations come into the Thrift Shop that may be worth selling online or in a consignment shop. If you have any knowledge in this area, please contact Cathy Hawk about how you can help.



THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who contributed, donated, or helped fill the Disaster Relief trailer with 26 Clean-up Kits, 34 School Kits, and 31 Hygiene Kits. Special thanks to Dale & Cathy Hawk for hauling the trailer, to the Thrift Shop and Diaconate for funding, to the Penny Sunday givers in March, and to the UCC for our matching grant!

DON'T FORGET!

Are you shopping online? 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.

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 Pogozelski* 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 Gigliotti* Beth Giuliano* Judi Pavisich
Bill Schneider** Richard Taylor Rob Toth

Mission and Outreach Committee

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