



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 (Congregational)
 13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136
 (440) 238-6697
StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com
StrongsvilleUCC.com



Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor
Sunday, July 3, 2022 – 10:00 A.M.
Sacrament of Holy Communion

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 "Breathe" Barnett

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elaine Coffey

INTROIT "Sanctuary" Thompson/Scruggs

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children of God, lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the One who sets us free for lives of service and hope.

Leader: God's children: let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: We will sing our songs of freedom to the One who calls us to new life.

Leader: As we sing of those who have gone before us, as we remember how they lived as sisters and brothers:

People: As you called them to live, may we so order our lives in faithful obedience to you.

† **HYMN 182** "For the Beauty of the Earth"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 66: 1-9
(New Revised Standard Version)

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!
 Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.
 Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
 Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.
 All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you;
 sing praises to your name."
 Come and see what God has done:
 He is awesome in his deeds among mortals.
 He turned the sea into dry land;
 they passed through the river on foot.
 There we rejoiced in him, who rules by his might forever,
 whose eyes keep watch on the nations—
 let the rebellious not exalt themselves.
 Bless our God, O peoples!
 Let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the
 living and has not let our feet slip.

Leader: The Word of God, for us, the people of God;

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYING IN SILENCE

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,
ALL: Hear our prayers. Amen.

ANTHEM "Amazing Grace" Traditional Tune

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. Thank you. To give online, please go to:
<https://www.myoffering.com/eonline/index.php/dashboard/login/5027>

OFFERTORY "Softly and Tenderly" Thompson

† **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 OLD TESTAMENT 2 Kings 5:1-14
(The Message)

Elisha the man of God . . . sent word to the king, "Why are you so upset, ripping your robe like this? Send him to me so he'll learn that there's a prophet in Israel."

SERMON "Nothing Ordinary About It"

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Unlike our anger, God's anger does not last. But God's favor, God's grace, and God's forgiveness are for us, not just in this moment, but forever. How can we not want to confess to such a One who has already healed and forgiven us? Let us pray together, with one voice:

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Holy One, why is it that we can grow so weary of doing what is right, yet always energetically do that which we know brings pain, to ourselves and others? We sow seeds of hurt and anger, and wonder why we harvest so much bitterness. We spend too much time following after those labeled successful in the world, and too little time following Christ's loving example.

Healing God, open our hearts to your mercy and grace. As you heal us with your forgiveness, may we humbly embrace your love, your mercy, your grace for our lives. As you fill us with your Spirit of gentleness, may we offer the peace of the Living Christ to all the world. (silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Lift up your voices to praise God! God has heard our prayers and made us whole.

People: We will not be silent, but will sing joyful thanksgiving to the One who has forgiven us and made us a new creation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC "Hymn Tunes" Elkins

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.

† **HYMN 799** "America the Beautiful"

† **BENEDICTION** A Celtic Blessing (John Rutter)
 Deep peace of the running wave to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you. Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you. Deep peace of the gentle night to you. Moon and stars pour their healing light on you. Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you. Amen.

† **POSTLUDE** "Semper Fidelis" Sousa

The altar flowers are given—
Happy Independence Day!

Our steeple will light the sky this week—
Happy 4th Birthday to Alaya Hitchens on July 4th!
 With love, The Joyces



SERVING		
TODAY—JULY 3		NEXT SUNDAY—JULY 10
Linda Plain	Greeters	Barbara & John Toth
Dale Hawk	Liturgist	Cherie Teagno
Volunteers needed	Ushers	Bill Schneider
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
The Foley Family	Special Music	Cindy Smith
ON HIATUS	Summer Sunday School	Cathy Hawk

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**.

A NOTE OF THANKS—
 Many thanks to Jackie Foley, Jimmy Foley, Sharon Heinrich, Tom Foley, and Mike Elkins for sharing their music with us today.

PLEASE NOTE: The Church Office will be closed on July 4th & 5th.



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.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL is on hiatus today. Children, please remain in the worship service this morning.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Janet Kato, 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., Linda Elliott, Sue Hawk, Bob Heddleson, Steve Herzog, Bruce Keenen, 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 Rothel, Tracey Seneff, Peter Smith, Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Doug Thorn, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Carol Woodward, Gary Zielinski, 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 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), 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

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. with lots of interesting merchandise. Donations are being accepted, but you must call the church first to arrange a time for drop-off. The Shop made an extra \$127.50 during the two days of the Garage Sale! This amount was in addition to our over \$400 day on the Thursday prior to the sale.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! 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.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,649.37
Last Week's Offering Received \$2,218.00
Difference -(\$1,431.37)



Thank you very much for your support.

PLEDGE CARDS RECEIVED TO DATE: 65

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.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- **The Board of Trustees** will meet VIRTUALLY in July. Please be aware of emails and respond when prompted.
- **The Diaconate** will meet on the SECOND Tuesday of the month, July 12th at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **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.



THANK YOU!

CHURCH GARAGE SALE



BAKE SALE

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU--

Whether you helped set up, donated, sorted, priced, worked the sale, cleaned up, bought something, or all of the above; we truly

appreciate the support of our church members and friends! The Garage Sale earned \$3,120.00 and the Sunday School Bake Sale made \$683.00!

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.



COME ONE, COME ALL! OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP DAY JULY 16th at 9 a.m.



Our church property needs a little attention, so we're looking for volunteers to do a little yard work. If you can spare an hour or two, come and help. Cold beverages will be provided.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP



Are you interested in joining our congregation? Pastor Heidi will be offering a membership class in the near future. Please contact her or the church office if you would like to become a member of the Strongsville UCC.

From our Friends at Strongsville Community Band 2022 Concert Schedule

- Friday, July 8 7:30 p.m. Strongsville Middle School Lawn
- Friday, July 22 7:30 p.m. Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band Strongsville Middle School Lawn
- 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



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP



Because of the return of the Free Lunch for All meals on Wednesdays from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., Women's Fellowship will now hold their meetings at 1:00 P.M. in Pilgrim Hall, instead of 10:00 A.M.

July 6 – Program on Pets – 1:00 P.M.

Continuation of "Getting to Know You" for ladies who were not able to make presentations at the May or June meetings

September 7 – 11:00 A.M.

Outdoor Picnic at East River Park in Olmsted Falls

October 5 – Program on Medical Ministry – 1:00 P.M.

November 2 – 1:00 P.M. – Plan Our Christmas Tea, Plan Programs for Next Year, Elect Officers

December 4 – Sunday – Christmas Tea

As always, all ladies are welcome to attend all our events.

FOR SALE

To benefit the church One pick-up truckload of Seasoned Firewood DELIVERED! Make offer (Retail Value \$90) Contact the Church Office



It's time to stock up for those late-night summer bonfires or fall marshmallow roasts!

Many Thanks to Austin Eggert for this generous donation!

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 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*

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. Strongsville UCC has received \$433.77 from Amazon to date.

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.)