



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, July 9, 2023 – 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 "When the Saints Go Marching In" arr. Niehaus

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Joyce Reed

INTROIT "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child" arr. Graef

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: With joy and celebration, God welcomes us to this place.

People: How good it is to gather in God's house!

Leader: With joy and celebration, we welcome one another.

People: We greet each other by name; we are equal in God's Kingdom.

Leader: We open our hearts, to welcome God's love; we open our arms, to welcome God's people.

People: Here, every single one of God's children is welcome. Love is love, and all means all. Thanks be to God!

† HYMN 719 "Children of the Heavenly Father"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 145:8-14
(New International Version)

The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.
The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.
All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people extol you.
They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,
so that all people may know of your mighty acts
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures through all generations.
The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.
The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

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 "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" arr. Graef

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Oh, Freedom" arr. Graef

† 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 EPISTLES Romans 7:14-25
(The Message)
What I don't understand about myself is that I decide one way,
but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise.

SERMON "Say what??? (Sounds true!)"

† HYMN 405 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

† BENEDICTION World Day of Prayer 2022
Loving God, we have gathered in your presence and shared in worship. Now we go forth into the world, confident that we are your children, knowing that you have called us by name. Every day, may we align ourselves to your will, seeking to follow the plans you have for us, and having patience in the waiting. In the challenges and joys we face, may we know that we never face them alone. May we go in peace, hope and love, in the name of our compassionate and powerful God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

† RESPONSE/POSTLUDE "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" arr. Graef

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.



ATTENDANCE CARDS ARE IN YOUR BULLETIN!
Please take a moment to complete the card that is in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate.
You may write prayer requests on the reverse side, if you wish to have us pray for someone and add a name to the prayer chain.

SERVING	
TODAY – JULY 9	NEXT SUNDAY – JULY 16
Jean Bittinger	Greeters Judi Pavisich
Tom Gaumer	Liturgist Mary Ellen Zimmerman
Teri Barbish, W. & B. Cook	Ushers Judi Pavisich
Chris Abruzzino/Riley Marshall	Acolytes Aidan Hurtig/Luke Giuliano
Tom Foley	Director of Music Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	Organist Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	Sound Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
The Satori Winds	Special Music The Venner Clarinets
Mary Ellen Zimmerman	Summer Sunday School Cathy Hawk



A NOTE OF THANKS—We thank The Satori Winds (Dick E. Ingersoll, Dick K. Ingersoll, Don Kubec, and Ken Mehalko), Mike Elkins, and Sharon Heinrich for their music today.

The altar flowers are given—
In celebration of Geoffrey Reed and Nina Toro Perez, who were married on July 3rd in New York City--George & Joyce Reed
Happy Birthday to my mom, Jan Cogley, on July 7th!
Denise Ashforth
Happy Birthday to my lovely wife, Bev!
Ken Mehalko



Our steeple will light the sky this week—
Happy Anniversary to Joe & Barbara Craig on July 14th!
With love, Mom

FRESH FLOWERS EACH WEEK! Please sign up for 2023 altar flowers on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. We still have some Sundays available to honor a special date or loved one.

Happy Birthday today to Bev Wehr and Ross Martin!

Happy Anniversary today to Manar & Spencer Falvo!

Graveside Memorial Service for Paul E. Hirt
Saturday, July 15th at Strongsville Cemetery
Meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. and we will proceed to the gravesite.

Paul, a United States Army Veteran, died January 4, 2023 and his ashes will be buried with military honors. He was a 63 year member of our congregation.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Summer Sunday School is underway! We are still looking for folks to commit to teaching a single Sunday with our children. All lessons and materials will be provided in advance. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in Pilgrim Hall.



PENNY SUNDAY-The next Penny Sunday will be on August 27, 2023

MARRIAGE CONGRATULATIONS!

Our best wishes for a long and happy marriage to **Geoffrey and Nina (Toro Perez) Reed**, who were married in New York City on July 3, 2023! Geoff is the son of **Joyce & George Reed**.



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **July 11th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **July 18th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will have an email meeting in July, with reports due **July 25th**.



**FROM OUR FRIENDS AT THE
STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY BAND—
Summer Concert Schedule**

Friday, July 21: 7:30 p.m. Strongsville Middle
School Lawn
Friday, July 28: 7:30 p.m. Strongsville Rotary
(Ehrnfelt Center)
Friday, August 4: Strongsville City Jazz 7:30 p.m.
SMS Lawn

Friday, August 11: 7:30 p.m. Strongsville Middle School Lawn

BRING A LAWN CHAIR!

***Concerts will be held at the Strongsville Senior Center in case of rain.**

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OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Joan Beckwith, Mary Carey,
Laurie Meister, Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Maggie
Struhar

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Barb Camp, Sam Cuyler Jr.,
Sue Hawk, Irene Jannsohn, Carole Kapcar, Bobbie & Wayne
Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Bruce Lerch, Reggie McCray, Roy Merkle,
Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfitz, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Bill
Schneider, Peter Smith, John Toth, Sharon Wilson, Dave Williams, Claire Wills,
Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends),
Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Angie Colosimo (Judi
Pavisich's friend), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Kim Filiatraut
(Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joanne Garipey
(Sally Herzog's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's
friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies'
friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy
O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Sylvia Pakish (Don & Sandy
Gleichauf's friend), Jeff Peacock (former member), Zora Roundtree (FL4A
volunteer), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes'
friend), Vicki Smith (Venner Clarinets), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Tom
(friend of Judi Pavisich), Don Wills (friend of Judi Pavisich), The people of Ukraine,
victims of violence, those affected by natural disasters

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

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**FREE LUNCH FOR ALL—Wednesdays
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**Our Free Lunch for All Program welcomes
everyone to enjoy a nutritious meal and warm
fellowship. SPECIAL THANKS TO MARY
DENSMORE FOR DONATING HOMEMADE COOKIES FOR DESSERT!**

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THRIFT SHOP

**The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from
10 a.m. until 4 p.m.** Come and shop lots of
interesting merchandise at amazing prices.
Donations are being accepted during those
hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry
downstairs. **Thanks, as always, to our dedicated volunteers!**



PLEASE NOTE:

The Shop will be CLOSED on July 13th.

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**Congregational photos have arrived! Please contact the
church office for pick-up if you have purchased one.**

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OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,617.01
Last Week's Offering Received \$2,336.00
Difference -(\$1,281.01)

Thank you very much for your support.



PLEASE BE AWARE: Due to a bank change, all
checks to the church should be made out to **United
Church of Christ or UCC or United Church of Christ
(Congregational)**. Please do not use "Strongsville" or
"SUCC" in the "Pay to the Order of" line. Thanks!



**ATTENTION TREASURERS!
MID-YEAR AUDIT**

**Please turn in your books, bank statements,
and receipts to the office by July 16th.**



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IT'S HAPPENING!



CHURCH GARAGE SALE

**FRIDAY, JULY 21st
from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M. AND
SATURDAY, JULY 22nd
from 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.**

Donations will be accepted through July 20th.

We accept household items, home décor, sporting equipment,
craft supplies, books, games, toys, small electronics, furniture,
kitchenware and dishes, plus clothing & shoes
(for the Thrift Shop)

**We DO NOT accept liquids of any kind, hazardous
materials, or large televisions.**

Please keep in mind: "If you wouldn't buy an item in the
condition it's in, please don't foist it on the church." Also,
please plan to carry your items yourself or bring a helper (or
two). Thanks!

We'll need lots of volunteers, too—

On the days of the sale and every evening the week before,
beginning around 6 p.m. and sorting until about 9 p.m.

**Please see Rachel Zielinski or Irene Joyce if you can give
a couple of hours of your time from July 16 - 20 (or just
show up)!**

WE ALSO NEED LARGE SHOPPING BAGS! (Marc's Bags) If
you can spare some, please bring them to the church office anytime.

**BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT
THE SUNDAY SCHOOL**

At the Garage Sale

Please bring your wrapped/bagged baked
goods on Friday, July 21st before 6 p.m. or
Saturday, July 22nd before 9 a.m.



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
OUTDOOR WORSHIP &
PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 30th**



On our church grounds

following outdoor worship.

**Please bring a lawn chair, and a salad, side dish,
or dessert—fried chicken, hot dogs, and
beverages will be provided.** Sign up with your side dish
in Pilgrim Hall.



**HAWAIIAN SHIRT CONTEST at the
Picnic—wear your best colorful/tropical
outfit! Prizes will be awarded!**

BEE A BUSY BEE IN 2023



Sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area are waiting for
your name to be added as a greeter or usher. No
experience is necessary—we will show you everything
you need to know! Everyone is welcome to be a part of
our church life.

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CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2023

**Elected January 29, 2023*

Moderator: Greg Dickson **Vice-Moderator:** Jen Barry
Treasurer: Sally Herzog **Clerk:** Judy Gaumer

Sunday School Co-Superintendents
Linda Elkins Mary Densmore*

Board of Trustees
Diana Creecy Chris Goff* Herb Hampson Cathy Hawk
Sarah Hayes Cheryl Sobek* Dan Winrod*
Laura Winrod* Rachel Zielinski

Endowment Fund Subcommittee
Greg Dickson Linda Stepan Dave Williams*
Diaconate

Teri Barbish Jean Bittinger* Elaine Coffey
Bobbi Cook* Wayne Cook* Judy Davis*
Carole Kapcar* Sharon Maresco Linda Ponstingle 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* Mike Willis*
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee
Judi Pavisich Bill Schneider* Richard Taylor
Rob Toth Mary Willis*

Mission and Outreach Committee
Judy Carte* Sarah Hayes Bobbie Krisak Lora Rung*
Jennifer Sekorky Peter Smith * Bev Wehr
Mary Ellen Zimmerman*