

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
Minister

Worship at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday

JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

In some families of faith, the word I am about to use is almost seen as a dirty word:

Money. There; I said it. And I am glad I did.

Some might say that talking about money in church is a necessary evil; however, I believe that in order for a church to be effective in ministry, talking about money is actually a necessary *goodness*, and not just once a year.

Strongsville UCC has plans, as well as dreams. It takes *commitment* to make these dreams come true:

commitment of our time,
commitment of our talents,
and yes, commitment of our treasure.

Here's the problem. Somewhere along the line, we decided that in our efforts to be like Jesus, to be *in* the world but not *of* the world, that meant money belongs in the world. Therefore, while our church needs money to continue doing what we do, we don't want to hear anyone talk about money. (Which begs the question: how will folks know our needs if we don't talk about them?)

But here's a news flash: Jesus, after whom we are trying to model our lives, is recorded in the New Testament talking about money *more than any other single topic*. More than he spoke about heaven and hell—combined! In fact, in eleven of thirty-nine parables, the topic was money.

In fact, the only thing Jesus spoke about more than money was the Kingdom of God.

As summer draws nearer, your Stewardship Committee gently reminds you of the need to continue to be faithful in your giving. On May 13 following worship, each person present received three sweet reminders:

- Your church family and its leadership are grateful for your gifts; we received a chocolate *Hug* in appreciation.
- As Jesus is the *Lifesaver* of the world, we are called to be lifesavers in our own communities. (Mmmmmm . . . wintergreen!)

- And finally, the Stewardship Committee understands how busy summertime can be. Like any household, our expenses continue year-round. Please continue to be faithful in your support, both *Now & Later*, perhaps arranging to give electronically when you are out of town. (Did you know . . . those blue raspberry *Now & Later* taffies turn your whole mouth blue? Oliver learned; it's true!)

Talking about money is often challenging; our Stewardship Committee makes it fun. So as we journey together in Christian fellowship and love, remember your commitment. Talk the talk—and walk the walk. There is work to be done in the world, and the Strongsville United Church of Christ is called to do it. We need *your* help: your time, your talents—and *your* treasure.

Peace,
Pastor Heidi

(Are you curious about where Jesus speaks about money? See below to learn more!)

Things Jesus said about money and giving:

Matthew 6:19-24;
Luke 12:16-21;
Luke 12:22-34;
Luke 16:1-9, 10-13, 19-31;
Matthew 25:31-46;
Matthew 6:25-34;
Luke 18:24-30;
Matthew 25:14-30;
Luke 21:1-4

(and others, following Jesus' teachings, throughout the Old and New Testaments)



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY – JUNE 3 – 10:00 A.M.

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Recognition of Instrumentalists in Our Music Ministry



Sacrament of Communion



Liturgists: Tom Gaumer and Aidan Hurtig

Greeter: Linda Plain

Ushers: Linda Plain and Marty Winch

Coffee Hour: Michele and Allen Mihlack

SUNDAY – JUNE 10 – 10:00 A.M.

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Recognition of Vocalists in Our Music Ministry



Recognition of Graduates



Liturgist: Dan Masuga

Greeter: Chuck McDougall

Usher: Chuck McDougall

Coffee Hour: Ted and Kelly Bickley

SUNDAY – JUNE 17 – 10:00 A.M.

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Father's Day

Liturgist: Dale Hawk

Greeters: Eddy and Adria Bond

Usher: Chuck McDougall

Coffee Hour: Myron Costin

SUNDAY – JUNE 24 – 10:00 A.M.

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Penny Sunday

Liturgist: Sharon Heinrich

Greeters: Sarah Hayes

Ushers: Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour: Volunteer Needed

NEWS FROM "THE CORNER OFFICE"

After more than 26 years as our faithful Church Secretary, Sharon Heinrich will be retiring in June. We are indebted to her for her service and devotion as she completes her many years of employment with us. The Board of Trustees voted to hire Irene Joyce as her replacement at their May 8th meeting. Irene will be training with Sharon for the next few weeks to assure a smooth transition. Thank you for your patience and prayers during this upcoming period of adjustment.

FAMILY VILLAGE FARM

I was able to attend a presentation by Anita Grace Paul at our UCC building in downtown Cleveland. She was visiting here from India on behalf of the above facility where she is the Sponsorship Coordinator. More importantly, this is the location of the school in the village of Vellore, where our sponsored child lives.

I was the only attendee that was not an employee of the office, but I felt very welcome and was glad I attended. I learned so much about this project and its effect on so many lives in that area of India.

The children of neighboring Vellore receive their education alongside the orphan children who live in the Family Farm Village (Pannai). These children are not the only ones with sponsors. The Farm Village children are housed in small cottages where they are supervised, guided and nurtured by elderly people with no home or source of income.

All funds received from Sponsors are used directly for those sponsored. Administrative costs are paid by the UCC itself.

Judy Carte
Mission and Outreach Committee

PULPIT SEARCH UPDATE

Greetings from your Pulpit Search Committee! As we continue in our mission to place our settled pastor, it seems as if it is taking a very long time. Please keep in mind that a typical search usually lasts anywhere from 12 to 18 months, or more. Your committee has been diligently evaluating over 40 ministerial profiles. It is only fair and right to give each profile its due process and thorough investigation. This takes time. We are committed to follow the process set by the UCC, and to ensure that we are fulfilling our obligation with due diligence. The Committee is exceedingly grateful for your continued patience, support and prayers.

Many thanks,
Your Pulpit Search Committee
Ted Bickley, Judy Carte, Kristen Clotworthy,
Jim Dettmer, Ingrid Dickson, Sally Herzog, Bill Schneider

MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a member of Strongsville UCC, please contact Pastor Heidi or call the church office, 440-238-6697.



ALTAR FLOWERS

You may provide flowers on any Sunday you wish because multiple vases are accepted on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$15 for one vase, \$30 for two vases. As of this printing, below are dates when vases are still needed so that two vases are on the altar for Sunday worship.



June 24 – 2 vases
July 8 – 2 vases
August 12 – 1 vase
September 9 – 2 vases
September 16 – 1 vase
October 14 – 1 vase
December 2 – 1 vase
December 9 – 2 vases

Near the flower chart in Pilgrim Hall are forms for submitting your bulletin information and envelopes for enclosing your payment to the church office. Thank you for placing flowers on the altar.

THANK YOU

Dear Church Friends,

Thank you for all the cards and prayers after my knee surgery. I will be home for six weeks after the surgery, so I will not be back at church for a while. I am getting physical therapy at my home. Thanks again for your cards and prayers.
Lynne McCray

Dear Church Friends,

Thank you so much for the farewell party you gave us at our last Sunday at Church. We will miss all of you, but have happy memories of our more than 50 years of belonging to the Church. We had to go shopping to replace the furniture we left behind—but in smaller sizes. We will keep in touch via email.

Love, Lloyd and Barbara Bridle



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Summer Sunday School starts June 3 – Parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, friends are invited to sign up to teach a lesson for our combined class on a Sunday in the summertime. Materials are provided and no experience is necessary. Please add your name to our sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall if you are willing to help.



Thank you to everyone who participates in our Penny Sunday collections. Thanks to your generosity, on April 29 we collected \$129.65 for the Strongsville Food Bank plus a check for \$10, totaling \$139.65. The funds will help provide food assistance to those in need in the community. The Penny Sunday on May 27 will go toward our own Sunday School programs and scholarships.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

For our meeting on Wednesday, June 6, at 10:00 a.m.—we will discuss chapter 2 of the Book of Forgiving by Desmond Tutu. After the meeting, all are welcome to enjoy the Free Lunch for All program in Pilgrim Hall.



We are planning to change when Women's Fellowship meets so that more women can attend. It was suggested we alternate the meetings—one in the morning; the next in the evening. It was also suggested that women under 55 offer to drive a senior member when it is dark before 6:00 p.m.

DIACONATE WING NITE 2018 A SUCCESS!

The Diaconate would like to thank everyone who supported our annual "Wing Nite" fundraiser on Friday, May 4. A HUGE thank you to everyone who bought tickets, attended the event, donated baskets and purchased raffle tickets. Over \$4,000 was raised! This is the only fundraiser we have during the year.

Everyone enjoyed themselves at the Grindstone Tap House in Berea. The food was great, the location was great, but the people who attended were the best! Thank you so much for your support!



BENEFIT CONCERT RECAP

The May 6th concert featured the Satori Winds (aka 4 Guys with 4 Clarinets and 4 Saxes) and Broadway Bound, featuring Gillian Han and Jake Slater, with accompanist, Jason Aquila—all from BWU. The concert was a real crowd pleaser!



Many thanks to Ken Mehalko for arranging the concert and to Greg and Ingrid Dickson, Sharon and Jim Heinrich, Irene Jannsohn, Irene and Jim Joyce, and Sarah Toth for hosting the lovely reception and donating such top-notch delicacies. More thanks to Bruce and Pam Keenen for once again, donating the wine and cookies. Thank you to Jennifer Barry and Kristen Clotworthy for serving the wine. Much appreciation is also extended to Cherie Teagno for her delicious cheesecake, to Bonnie Khavaran for her tasty wraps, and to Sarah Keenen for her snack donations, as well. A total of \$522.00 was raised and will go to the ORC.

Your continued support of these benefit concerts assures that music continues to thrive in our church and in our community! Thank you!

THE THRIFT SHOP

June is a special month in the Thrift Shop. Need a wedding gift or card? What about graduations and Father's Day? We can help you with a nice selection of cards and gifts. Why pay \$5 for a card at Hallmark when you can buy a card from us for only 35 cents?

We will be open every Thursday in June from 10 to 4 and hope to see you to shop, donate, or just to say hello!

Do you receive Thrift Shop emails? If not, you are missing the information on our weekly sales and special events. Sign up online at the church website.

CHURCH KITCHEN

Please check with Betty Craig before you leave donations for the kitchen, but know that donating to the coffee hour jar is the best way to ensure that needed supplies are purchased. Thank you very much for your cooperation and support.

Cleaning of church freezers and refrigerator is continuing as of this printing. Items that are **not dated** and **marked** may disappear. Please take time to check the freezers and refrigerator for unmarked items that belong to you or your group. Thank you.



Save the Date!

Strongsville UCC

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND PICNIC

at Volunteer Park in Strongsville

12410 Lunn Road

just west of Prospect, between Prospect and Foltz

Sunday – JULY 22, 2018 – 10:30 A.M.

Outdoor Worship in the Pavilion

followed by Potluck Picnic Meal and Games

Pavilion with Picnic Tables and Electricity
Restrooms – Playground – Horseshoe Pits
Bocci Ball Courts – Baseball Fields
Batting Cages

Hot dogs, buns, beverages, paper plates and disposable silverware will be provided; please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share.



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, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields



Church Family: Eddy Bond, Rev. Larry Craig, Steve Herzog, Margot James, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Martha Liebert, Sandra Manos (mother of Eli), Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Lynne McCray, Laurie Meister, Karen Morgan, Joyce Reed, Barbara Toth at Fairview Hospital, Leah Tressa Forget, Sally Vetovitz, Dave Woodward, Kyle Woodward

Extended Church Family: Luke Bazan (friend of Judi Pavisich's granddaughter), Michele Cortese (friend of the Heinrichs), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Karen Greenway and daughters (friends of Judi Pavisich), Sam Harteis (friend of Reeds), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Muriel McKeever (mother of Pastor Heidi), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga)

ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The club meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Their next meeting is June 20.

Please note: We will carpool to these events. There will **not** be any buses.



June 24 – Sunday
Cleveland Aquarium

July 22 – Sunday
All Church Picnic at Volunteer Park on West Lunn Road

August 19 – Sunday
Botanical Gardens and Dinner in Little Italy

September 14 – Friday
The Platters (Dinner and Show) at Carrie Cerino's

September 16 – Sunday
Jilbert Winery & Brewery in Valley City

October 7 – Sunday
The Ohio Mart at Stan Hywet Mansion

November 13 – Tuesday
A Branson Country Christmas (Dinner & Show)
at Carrie Cerino's

December 12 – Sunday
Downtown Holiday Lights Tour

*To make reservations for any of these events,
please contact Linda Plain at (440) 668-4848*

For more information please contact Adria or Eddy Bond.

*As always, all adults are welcome
to the meetings and events!*

FREE LUNCH FOR ALL
will NOT be served on the Wednesday of the
Fourth of July Holiday



NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Adria Bond

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from

April 22 through May 13, 2018.

This information also appears on a weekly basis in our worship bulletin.



Offering Needed	\$14,597.24 for 4 Sundays
Offering Received	10,697.20
Difference	(\$3,900.04)

STEWARDSHIP

Just a reminder that the church still has expenses during the summer months when you may be away and church activities slow down. If possible, please continue your regular giving by mailing your offering to the church: Strongsville UCC, 13740 Pearl Road, Strongsville, OH 44136. For your convenience, church-addressed mailing envelopes are available in the Gathering Area on the cabinet.

Another option is electronic giving for anyone interested. You can customize your giving based on how, when, and how much through E-Offering. Log on to our church website at www.strongsvilleucc.com and click "Donate Now". You will be taken to the church's myEoffering page. Simply click on the "Sign-up" button and you will then fill in your personal information and "Register". Follow the prompts to set up your payment, one-time or ongoing.

You can also set up your giving through Bill Pay on your bank's website.



KIWANIS-SPONSORED CONCERT

Kiwanis Club of Strongsville, along with neighboring Kiwanis Clubs, will sponsor The Cleveland TOPS Swing Band in concert on Thursday, June 21, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Berea-Midpark High School Auditorium, 165 E. Bagley Road in Berea. The cost is \$20 per ticket, and tickets are available at the door.

Clay Williams

STEEPLE LIGHTING

Week of May 6, 2018

*Happy Birthday to
Hayley McKane on May 7, Debbie Wentz on May 9, and
Patti Johnson on May 11
With love, Grammy and Mom*

Week of May 13, 2018

*Happy Birthday, Dorothy
Love, Bill*

*Happy Birthday to Mom, Dorothy Ritchie
and Happy Mother's Day to All Moms
Gina Cathcart*

*In Loving Memory of John B. Millhoane
His Loving Family*

Week of May 20, 2018

*Happy Birthday on May 22 to Ryan Craig and Tracey Hill
and
Happy Anniversary on May 25 to
Adam and Kristina Craig and to Stacie and Dan Sauter
With love, Grammy*

Week of May 27, 2018

*Happy Birthday on May 28 to Sandra Wentz
With love, Grammy*

*In Loving and Fond Memory of Our Mom,
Lorna Robinson
on Her Birthday on May 29 – Miss you, Mom!
Becky and Bill Robinson*

To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00.
Donation forms are on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.
Multiple donations for the same week will be accepted.
For questions, please call the church, (440) 238-6697.
Thank you to all who light the steeple.



CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2018

Officers elected on January 28, 2018, have an asterisk
by their names.*

Moderator	Rachel Zielinski
Vice-Moderator	Bill Schneider
Treasurer	Lori Kovatich *
Clerk	Karen Morgan

Sunday School Superintendents
Irene Joyce Jamie Trinckes

Board of Trustees

Ed Bond *	Tom Gaumer *
Lloyd Bridle	Dale Hawk
Mike Clotworthy *	Jim Heinrich
Myron Costin *	Bob Kovatich *
Jim Dettmer	Kenn Oerkfitz
Greg Dickson	Ed Sobek

Endowment Fund Subcommittee
Irene Jannsohn * Joyce Reed *

Diaconate

Serena Abruzzino *	Judy Gaumer *
Jennifer Barry	Cathy Hawk *
Kelly Bickley	Sarah Hayes
Barbara Camp	Linda Plain
Gina Cathcart	Dawn Rolland *
Kristen Clotworthy	Marty Winch

Christian Education Committee

Kelly Bickley	Sandy O'Shea
Irene Joyce	Lora Rung
Jamie Trinckes	

Music Committee

Ingrid Dickson	Ken Mehalko
Pam Keenen *	Elena Taylor

Stewardship Committee

Rosemary Bechtel *	Sue Gigliotti *
Adria Bond	Beth Giuliano *
Ed Bond	Sharon Heinrich
Barbara Bridle	Laurie Meister

Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte	Gary Paul
Brandi Garsteck	Lora Rung *
Michele Mhlack	Bev Wehr

