

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
Pastor

Worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (+online)

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Me, me, ME!

Every now and then, I have this experience during quiet time, when I am supposed to be focusing on God, and I realize there's a problem. That problem-- is *me*.

For me, the easiest way to quieting my spirit is to first allow it to get a little noisy with God, to give words to what's really bugging me. (Truth be told? That's often what drives me to quiet time in the first place: the need to unburden myself of the world's *stuff*.)

Some days, it's politics; other days, my family. But the conversation is always pretty much the same, and goes something like this:

God, I am so tired of this. I cannot believe they're still not getting it. God, can you *please* change their hearts? I really can't take much more!

My child. You know I love you. But it isn't always about you. In fact, when you come to me, it shouldn't be about you at all.

But God, I *need* this! Hear my prayer.

Child. Listen to my words! It's not about you. Oh, God. But—

Heidi. Beloved child. Be still. Be still, and know that I am God.

And about that time, when I stop for breath, God's presence settles, and I realize: of course, God is right. It's *not* about what *I* want or what *I* think is best. It is about opening my heart and my life to *God's* wisdom and judgment—and then becoming part of *God's* direction and guidance. Right?

Yes. You got it. (Now what are you going to do with it?)

Peace and Quiet Within,
Pastor Heidi

Being contented with God in my everyday life is a focused attitude. It is always available. It means letting go of my obsession with how I'm doing. It means training myself to learn to actually be present with people, and seeking to love them. —John Ortberg

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY, JUNE 6 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Sacrament of Communion

Special Music: Richard Densmore

**Liturgists: Herb Hampson (9 a.m.),
Sharon Maresco (10:30 a.m.)**



SUNDAY – JUNE 13 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Special Music: Bell Choir

**Liturgists: Cherie Teagno (9 a.m.),
Jim Studer (10:30 a.m.)**

Recognition Sunday

SUNDAY—JUNE 20 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Special Music: Carol Foley

**Liturgists: Lynne McCray (9 a.m.),
Barb Fraunfelder (10:30 a.m.)**



SUNDAY – JUNE 27 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Special Music: Carol Konet

**Liturgists: Chuck McDougall (9 a.m.),
Carol Konet (10:30 a.m.)**

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**, go to **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**.
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCynOZfg4uKoX7HMnKORbXfQ/videos>



Would you like to contact Pastor Heidi in person or by phone?

Her regular Pastoral Care Drop-in Hours: Tuesdays 10 a.m. – Noon
Thursdays: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. Of course, you may call, text, or email *anytime*.
(216) 235-2562 or

h.e.denman@gmail.com

IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 9 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

(Reservations required—
call 440-238-6697)

(Safety protocols will be in place.)
A COMBINED SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS WILL BE OFFERED AT THE 10:30 A.M. SERVICE.

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED! Please call the church if you would like to sign up to teach on one of the Sundays (supplies and lessons will be provided).

Recordings of the weekly worship service will still be available online later on Sundays or early on Mondays.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD!



Congratulations to Schyler Thorn and Amanda Stefanik on the birth of their son, Leo James Thorn, who was born May 6, 2021. He was 6lbs 4oz. and almost a month early. Congratulations also to grandparents Doug Thorn and Sandy O'Shea and uncle Devin Thorn!

BABY GIRL!

Welcome to **Iris Eve Craig**, born on May 21st to parents **Ryan and Tony Craig** in New York. Our heartiest congratulations also to grandparents **Joe and Barbara Craig** and of course, great grandma **Betty Craig**.



Love one another, as I have loved you.
—John 13:34

For the safety and comfort of everyone, please continue to wear a mask in the Gathering Area and when entering or leaving the Sanctuary. When you are seated in the pews, you may lower your mask if you wish, while maintaining social distancing. If you are not yet fully vaccinated, we ask that you continue to wear a mask at all times. The Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ has written suggested guidelines for reopening and resuming in-person worship. If you would like to read more, please visit our website, strongsvilleucc.com, where you will find a link. (Don't have internet access? Irene Joyce can provide you with this information.) Questions? Direct them to your **Moderator, Rachel Zielinski**, or **Pastor Heidi**.

THANK YOU NOTES

Many thanks to **Rob Toth, Clay Williams, Sharon Heinrich, Ken Mehalko, the Satori Winds: Dick K. Ingersoll, Dick E. Ingersoll, Brian Maskow, and Ken Mehalko, and Dave Williams** for sharing their music with us in May for our worship services.

MUSICIANS NEEDED!

Would you like to be a part of the summer music program? **Instrumentalists and vocalists are needed for our worship services in July and August. If you are interested in joining us and sharing your talent, please contact Tom Foley or Mike Elkins!**



IN-PERSON BOARD MEETINGS

- **The Board of Trustees** will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **June 8th** at 7 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.
- **The Diaconate** will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **June 15** at 7 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.
- **The Official Board** will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **June 22nd** at 7 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.

Of course, the usual safety protocols will be in place at all in-person meetings.

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BREAD BUDDIES!

Thank you so much to our faithful bread transporters and sorters: **Judy Carte, Jim Dettmer, Maria Graeff, Mike Elkins, Cathy Hawk, Sharon Heinrich, Sally Herzog, Linda Kapcar, Sharon & Jim**



Maresco, Pastor Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Sharon Lempner, Rick & Cherie Teagno, John Toth, and Mary Ellen Zimmerman who continue to make the Panera Bread ministry possible!

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UNSUNG HEROES

Did you know that **Jim Heinrich** repaired the broken thermostat in the Gathering Area and the sticking kitchen door? Much appreciated, Jim!



Did you know that **Linda Elkins** and her crack team of workers: **Mike Elkins, Sharon Heinrich, and Herb Hampson** (with his carpet cleaning machine) spent an afternoon cleaning the carpet in the Sunday School/Bell Choir rehearsal space upstairs? Thank you all for performing this much needed task!

Did you know that **Barb Camp** and **Linda Ponstingle** baked and packaged dozens of treats to celebrate the birthday of the Christian church—Pentecost? Thanks so much for helping us to celebrate!

KEEP RECYCLING YOUR PAPER, MAGAZINES, AND CARDBOARD!

The church (and everyone else) benefits any time you recycle. Thank you!

PLEASE FLATTEN ALL BOXES WHEN RECYCLING CARDBOARD.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office. Thank you.



Long-Term Care or Homebound: Janet Kato, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Joan Beckwith, Adria Bond, Eddy Bond, Mary Carey, Elaine Coffey, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Linda Elliott, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, Pam Keenen, Tony Koussa, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Lacey Marshall, Brigitte Matchett, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy and Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, John & Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Jamie & Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Dorene Baldrige, Fred Beba (Theresa's husband), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Judy Carte's son-in-law, Ryan, John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Jeff & Tiffany Hassel (Judi Pavisich's son & daughter-in-law), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Pat Masuga (Dan's mom), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Kay McGinty (Judi Pavisich's aunt), Zachary McKeever (Pastor Heidi and Chuck's great-nephew), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Carrol Riley (Marjorie Morrison's dad), Terry Robson (the Camps' friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Amanda Stefanik (Schyler Thorn's friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Daphne Wilson (Irene Jannsohn's niece)

Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain.



The Strongsville Emergency Food Bank will accept donations again starting in

MARCH. DONATIONS MAY BE TAKEN DIRECTLY TO THE FOOD BANK. It is located on Zverina Lane behind the Strongsville Communications Building. They are only going to be open Tuesday through Thursday 9:30 a.m. -11:00 a.m. So if you need to drop off...earlier the better...they have to take time now to sanitize the food bank each shift. The needs for the food bank in June would be **PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, AND SOUP!**

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MEN'S LUNCH BUNCH meets at 11:30 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at Gourmé Restaurant 15315 Pearl Rd. in Strongsville.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP 2021

At our meeting on Tuesday, May 4, we scheduled the programs listed below.

As always, all ladies are welcome to all activities.

Please feel free to do what YOU want to do!



Tuesday – June 1 – 10:00 A.M. – Pilgrim Hall “THE GREAT AND NOT-SO-GREAT CHURCHES OF EUROPE”

A Power Point presentation by Linda Ponstingle with devotions by Sally Herzog

Tuesday – July 6 – 10:00 A.M. – Pilgrim Hall “SOCIALIZE WITH FRIENDS”

Sit, relax, and chat with friends – or – bring and do your own craft like knitting, crocheting, counted cross stitch, mending, coloring, etc., while chatting with friends!

Tuesday – August 3 – 10:00 A.M. – Pilgrim Hall “AGING GRACEFULLY”

with tips from Judy Carte

Tuesday – September 7 – 10:00 A.M. “OUTDOOR PICNIC AND WALKING”

at a park – venue to be determined

Tuesday – October 5 – 10:00 A.M. – Pilgrim Hall VIEW THE MOVIE, “YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN”

and dress up for Halloween – or – wear PJ's!

Tuesday – Nov. 2 – 10:00 A.M. – Pilgrim Hall “PREPARE FOR OUR CHRISTMAS TEA”

and make centerpieces with Joyce Reed

Sunday – December 5 – Pilgrim Hall (12:00 or 12:30 P.M. – time to be determined) “CHRISTMAS TEA”

and ring tonechimes with Barb Fraunfelder

GIFT CARDS

YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS PROJECT IN A SAFE WAY THAT BENEFITS OUR CHURCH!



You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-267-5043 in advance with your

order. Limited stock is available, but special orders may be accommodated with advance notice. **Thank you to those who continue to support this project by purchasing gift cards!**

amazonsmile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.

Are you an online shopper? 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.

STEEPLE LIGHTING

Week of May 2nd

Happy Birthday to Sharon Maresco on May 1st
Happy Anniversary to Jennifer & Dave Sekorky on May 5th --Your Church Buddies

Happy Birthday to Greg Dickson on May 6th
Love, Ingrid

In loving memory of John B. Millhoane's 91st birthday
We love and miss you!

The Millhoane/Hopkins/Masuga Family
Happy Birthday to Hayley (Craig) McKane on May 7th
With Love, Grammy

Week of May 9th

In Honor of all mothers—past, present, & future
Lola Millhoane

Happy Birthday to Debbie Wentz on May 9th
and to Patti Johnson on May 11th
With Love, Mom

Week of May 16th

Happy Birthday to Ryan Craig & Tracey Hill on May 22nd
With Love, Grammy

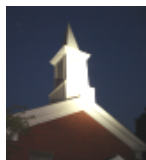
Week of May 23rd

Happy Anniversary to Adam & Kristina Craig and to Stacie & Dan Sauter on May 25th
Happy Birthday to Sandra Wentz on May 28th
With Love, Grammy

Happy (Belated) Birthday to Cathy Hawk on May 17th!
Thanks for all you do!

Week of May 30th

Happy Anniversary to Patti & Nate Johnson on June 3rd
With Love, Mom
Remembering our Mom on her birthday, May 29th
Becky Robinson & Bill Robinson

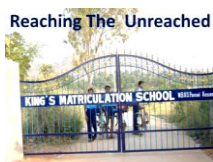


To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Thank you to all who light the steeple. **You may still light the steeple even though we are not meeting in person.** Please email the church at strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com.

SPONSORSHIP OF CAROLINE IN INDIA

Thank you to everyone who signed up for 2021:

January—Dale & Cathy Hawk
February— Ginger Rothel
March—Judy Carte
April— Ginger Rothel
May—Sue Gigliotti
June—Dorothy & Bill Ritchie
July—Dale & Cathy Hawk
August—Dale & Cathy Hawk
September—Bill Robinson
October—Dale & Cathy Hawk
November—Barb & Mark Camp
December—Gina Cathcart



CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR REV. LARRY CRAIG

Saturday, July 10th at Noon
At Sunset Memorial Park

6265 Columbia Rd,

North Olmsted, OH 44070.

Christina has invited all of their SUCC friends to remember Larry.



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 25 through May 16, 2021**. *Thank you to everyone who supports our church and its ministries.*

Offering Needed \$14,597.48 for 4 Sundays
Offering Received 14,751.46
\$ 153.98



ADDRESS CHANGES

To update your Church Directory:

Schylar Thorn, Amanda Stefanik, & Leo Thorn

5591 Bowland Place #312
North Dublin, OH 43016



POSITION AVAILABLE

Adria Bond is set to retire as our church's Financial Secretary after many years of exemplary service. Consequently, the church is in need of a person who is familiar with Excel and other financial software and who has some bookkeeping experience to fill her shoes. This is a compensated, part-time position. If you are interested, or know of someone who is looking for supplementary employment, please contact Greg Dickson, chair of the Trustees, at gdickson2009@gmail.com for a detailed job description or to apply.

THRIFT SHOP



The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with enhanced safety protocols in place and

lots of interesting merchandise. Donations are being accepted, but you must call the church first to arrange a time for drop-off.

THRIFT SHOP BONUS HOURS

The 3rd Monday of the month,
June 21, 2021 — 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

(We're still open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
Also, the Thrift Shop is in need of volunteers to help out for a couple of hours—sorting, organizing, and selling on Thursdays. Please call Cathy Hawk (440-781-7512) if you can help!

GIVING OPTIONS



If you are interested in giving electronically, Here's how: 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. You may also mail a check to

Strongsville UCC

13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136 or drop it off in the church's mailbox.



From our friends at the
Strongsville Community Band:
Preliminary 2021 Summer Concert Schedule...

Sunday, June 20 at 7:00 PM

Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band at Hudson Band Stand
Friday, July 2 at 7:30 (Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)

Monday, July 5 at 7:00 PM Strongsville Community Band at Hudson Band Stand

Friday, July 9 at 7:30 PM – Strongsville City Jazz (Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)

Friday, July 23 at 7:30 PM- (Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)

Friday, July 30 at 7:30 PM (Strongsville middle School Front Lawn)

Friday, August 6 at 7:30 PM (Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)

Please note that concerts scheduled on the Front Lawn of Strongsville Middle School will be moved indoors to the Ehrnfelt Sr./Rec Center in case of inclement weather

CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2021

Officers elected on Jan. 26, 2020, have an asterisk by their names.
** = appointed by the Official Board*



Moderator Rachel Zielinski
Vice-Moderator Rob Toth*
Treasurer Sally Herzog
Clerk Judy Gaumer*

Sunday School Co-Superintendents
 Linda Elkins** Serena Abruzzino**

Board of Trustees
 Greg Dickson Mike Clotworthy*
 Myron Costin* Bill Giuliano
 Dale Hawk Sandy Pogozeleski
 Ed Sobek Linda Stepan Rob Stepan

Endowment Fund Subcommittee
 Irene Jannsohn* Joyce Reed

Diaconate
 Jennifer Barry Barbara Camp Gina Cathcart*
 Kristen Clotworthy Elaine Coffey* Cathy Hawk*
 Sarah Hayes Linda Plain Linda Ponstingle
 Nicole Stevens Dawn Rolland* Marty Winch
 Barbara White* Mary Ellen Zimmerman*

Christian Education Committee
 Serena Abruzzino* Kristen Clotworthy Mary Densmore
 Linda Elkins Suzi Foley Sandy O'Shea
 Lora Rung

Music Committee
 Richard Densmore* Ingrid Dickson
 Ken Mehalko Pam Keenen*
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee
 Serena Abruzzino* Rosemary Bechtel Sue Gigliotti*
 Beth Giuliano Judi Pavisich** Bill Schneider**

Mission and Outreach Committee
 Judy Carte Bobbie Krisak Tony Koussa*
 Michele Mihlack Gary Paul Lora Rung*
 Jennifer Sekorky** Bev Wehr

IT'S HAPPENING!

CHURCH GARAGE SALE

FRIDAY, JULY 23rd

FROM 6 P.M. – 8 P.M. AND

SATURDAY, JULY 24th FROM 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

**Donations will be accepted
 Starting June 25th.**

**We'll need lots of volunteers, too--
 Please see Irene Joyce if you can help!**



GRADUATES—LAST CHANCE!

Our church would like to recognize our graduates, so please let us know if someone is graduating within your family. We are interested to have an accurate list of graduates from high school, college, and schools of higher learning.

Name of graduate: _____

Graduate's address: _____

School: _____

Graduation Date (month at least): _____

Church Family member: _____

Relationship to church member: _____

Activities: _____

Honors and Awards: _____

Diploma / Degree Earned: _____

Future Plans: _____

Parents/Grandparents: _____

Please email the above information, along with a photo of the graduate, to the church office at strongsvilleucc@gmail.com ASAP!



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