



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor
Sunday, June 21, 2026– 10 A.M.
Father's Day

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 "Piano Sonata, II. Andante" Price

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elaine Coffey

INTROIT "Prelude in A Major" Chopin

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: On an ordinary Sunday, we come to worship God:

People: We come, trusting God will speak to us; we come, hoping God will surprise us.

Leader: On this day, like every other day, we seek to follow Jesus:

People: We follow, believing Jesus will be with us; we follow, hoping Jesus will work through us.

Leader: On this day, we lift our souls to God's Spirit:

People: We open our hearts, that the Spirit may fill us; we open our hands, that we might be a gift to others.

† HYMN 8 "Come Thou, Almighty King"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 86: 1-6
(New International Version)

Hear me, Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.
Guard my life, for I am faithful to you; save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long.
Bring joy to your servant, Lord, for I put my trust in you.
You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.
Hear my prayer, Lord; listen to my cry for mercy.

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 "Song Without Words No. 20" Mendelssohn

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Praise to the Lord" arr. Manz

† 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 Matthew 10:24-31
(The Message/New International Version)
"Don't be intimidated. Eventually everything is going to be out in the open, and everyone will know how things really are. So don't hesitate to go public now.
Don't be bluffed into silence by the threats of bullies.
There's nothing they can do to your soul, your core being."

REFLECTION "How Much More?"

† HYMN 638 "I Need Thee Every Hour"

† BENEDICTION

Now may the peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Know that wherever you are, God is with you. Amen.

POSTLUDE "Spinning Song" Mendelssohn

A NOTE OF THANKS—We thank **Megan Denman**, Pastor Heidi's daughter, for today's worship music. Megan holds a Bachelor's in Piano Performance from Baldwin-Wallace University and a Master's from University of Akron. She is an adept collaborative pianist, having served on staff at Baldwin-Wallace, the University of Akron, Cleveland State University, Kent State University and more. She maintains a thriving private piano studio and enjoys the shared challenge of guiding each student along their unique musical journey. Megan studied jazz piano with top musicians in the field and her working knowledge of jazz and improvisation permeates her teaching and playing. Megan has served as pianist for Windsong, Cleveland's Feminist Chorus since August, 2023. She seeks out intentional musical projects that coincide with her values and spark creative connection. In her spare time, Megan enjoys gardening, reading, social justice activism, and spending time with her family.

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**.

SERVING

TODAY—JUNE 21		NEXT SUNDAY—JUNE 28
Cindy Hurley	Greeters	Roger & Judy Davis
Lynne McCray	Liturgist	Sharon Maresco
Carole Kapcar	Head Usher	Judi Pavisich
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
Megan Denman	Special Music	The Venner Clarinets
Sandy O'Shea/Schlyer Thorn	Summer Sunday School	Ingrid Dickson

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

meeting • The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **June 23rd** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

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.



MINISTER SURVEYS can be found on the greeters' table in the Gathering Area. Please take a few moments to complete yours and return it to the black collection box located in the Gathering Area today. It is a responsibility of the Board of Trustees to conduct employee reviews periodically and your input will assist in this important task.



FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL: PENNY SUNDAY NEXT WEEK

Save your coins, cash, and checks to UCC! The next Penny Sunday will be **June 28th** and will go to Ohio Guidestone, formerly known as Berea Children's Home, offering hope and caring to foster children and their families. **OhioGuidestone** is a faith-based agency that provides a range of mental health and substance use disorder services for children and adults.



A SIGN-UP FOR TEACHING SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE SUMMER IS POSTED IN PILGRIM HALL!
Join the fun! We still have some slots left!



In honor of Father's Day, the children of our Sunday School have a special gift for the men of the church today.



The altar flowers are given—
Celebrating our 62nd Wedding Anniversary!
Jim & Linda Dettmer

Happiest Birthday to my youngest, hitting that 16 notch.
Chris, here's to you, kid! Love You!
Love mom, Serena Abruzzino



A 2026 SIGN-UP SHEET FOR ALTAR FLOWERS IS POSTED IN PILGRIM HALL. Please note: the cost of flowers is \$18 for 1 vase and \$36 for 2 vases. We still have some Sundays available!

Our steeple will light the sky this week—
Happy Anniversary to Rob & Sandra Wentz on June 27th!
With love, Grammy

Happy Birthday today to Lauren Raymond!
Happy Anniversary today to Linda & Jim Dettmer and to Beth & Harold Lewis!

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 5,212.00
 Last Week's Offering Received \$ 3,162.00
 Difference -(\$ 2,050.00)



Thank you very much for your support.
PLEDGES RECEIVED: 62



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY BAND:

Mark your calendar for **SUMMER CONCERTS 2026:**
June 26th, July 3rd, July 10th, July 24th (new date, Rotary cookout) and **August 7th**. Concerts will be held on the

Strongsville Middle School lawn. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for outdoor concerts. In case of inclement weather, the location will be moved to the Ehrnfelt center.

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 accepted during our Thursday sale hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry downstairs. **Please do not abandon items outside the church doors.**



IT'S HAPPENING!

CHURCH GARAGE SALE

FRIDAY, JULY 17th from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M.

AND

SATURDAY, JULY 18th from 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

Donations will be accepted now through July 17th.

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 day the week before, sorting the items. Come in the morning, afternoon, or evening.

Please see Rachel Zielinski or Irene Joyce if you can give a couple of hours of your time to help sort donations either day or evening from July 12 - 16 (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 17th before 6 p.m. or Saturday, July 18th before 9 a.m.



AN EASY WAY TO HELP OUR CHURCH AND ENJOY QUALITY MEATS!

When you shop at **Smitty's Meats** (12966 Prospect Road Strongsville), mention the church's phone number--**440-238-6697** and 10% of your bill will be donated to our church at the end of the year!

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Irene Jannsohn, Connie Rebar

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Jen Barry, Jean Bittinger, Mark Camp, Judy Carte, Elaine Coffey, Diana Creecy, Sam Cuyler Jr., Roger Davis, Colette Emerson, Roz Fotos, Sue Hawk, Frank Jefferis, Jim Joyce, Pam & Bruce Keenen, Erv Koch, Jill Kundtz, Carol Konet, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Jim Maresco, Jan Meier, Amanda Moulton, Ginny & Kenn Oerkfitz, Joyce Reed, Dorothy Ritchie, Ron Rothel, Jennifer Sekorky, Tracy Seneff, Peter Smith, Sandy Smith, Bruce Sperber, Linda Stepan, Debbie Thomas, John Toth, Heather Williams, Jan Williamson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Jim Wonnacott

Extended Church Family: Teresa Beba (Free Lunch friend), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Allison Emerson (Colette's sister), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joanne Gariepy (Sally Herzog's friend), Kathy Ghetti (friend of Ginger Rothel), Jennifer Gleichauf (Don & Sandy's daughter-in-law), Sarah & David Gleichauf (Don & Sandy's grandson & wife), Ellen Harrison (Linda Elkins' friend), Michaelene Hanrahan (Jim Joyce's sister), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), McKenna Hassel (Judi Pavisich's granddaughter), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel's parents), Ben Hoty (Tony & Jo-Ann Hoty's son), Helen Leckwatch (Dale Parson's mother-in-law), George Love (friend of the church), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Sylvia Pakish (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Jeff Peacock (former member), Bob Ritchie (Dorothy's grandson), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Vicki Smith (Venner Clarinets), Jeaneane Steinmeyer (Greg Dickson's aunt), Don & Pauline Wills (Judi Pavisich's friends), the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Gaza, Iran, and Israel, victims of violence and natural disasters, First Responders

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

THREE WITH GLEE!



Capital Campaign: We currently have \$63,764.72 in our capital campaign account. The acoustic tiles in Pilgrim Hall are scheduled to be installed after the Garage Sale. A new roof for Pilgrim Hall and the church building may be on the horizon. Things are happening, but we still have more projects on the list. Please make sure you designate your donation for "*Capital Campaign*." Thanks for your continuing support.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP—

Members of Women's Fellowship had a wonderful time at their combined daytime/evening group picnic on June 1st.



Our Daytime group will meet on Wednesday, July 1st, at 1 p.m.
Our Evening group, Monday, July 6th, at 7 p.m. All ladies are welcome.



IMPORTANT INFO—Do you know where the AED and First Aid Kit are located in the church? They are adjacent to the doorway in Pilgrim Hall, just to the right of the confirmation classroom.



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

A reminder: Donations are welcomed to support the increasing costs of this valuable program.

Thank you to all of our faithful volunteers!

CHURCH FAMILY CARE 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 would LOVE to have you be a part of our team! (You don't need to be a member of the Diaconate to participate, and you may come and go as you are led.)

YES! I'D LIKE TO BE PART OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY CARE TEAM.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

I AM INTERESTED IN:

_____ OFFERING OR RECEIVING COMMUNION AT HOME

_____ CALLING FOLKS WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN PRAYER CHAIN, BUT DON'T USE EMAIL

_____ PREPARING AN EXTRA MEAL AND DELIVERING IT TO SOMEONE WHO'S HOMEBOUND

_____ HELPING COOK A DISH AND OR SERVE MEALS AT FUNERAL LUNCHEON

_____ BECOMING A "PHONE BUDDY" AND PERIODICALLY CHECK IN WITH SOMEONE WHO'S HOMEBOUND

_____ OFFERING AN OCCASIONAL RIDE TO TAKE MEMBERS TO APPOINTMENTS

_____ OFFERING AN OCCASIONAL RIDE TO OUR CHURCH SERVICES

_____ BE PART OF A CARD CREW TO SEND CARDS TO FOLKS ON HEIDI'S PRAYER LIST AND OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

_____ I WOULD BE WILLING TO...





WE NEED YOUR HELP!

If you are the last or almost the last person to leave the church building on any given day, please make certain that all the lights are off, no water is running, and most importantly, that the door to the kitchen and the parking lot doors are locked and "undogged" using the Allen key provided. Thanks in advance for your diligence.

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CHURCH OFFICERS 2026

**Elected February 1, 2026*

Moderator: Rachel Zielinski *

Vice-Moderator: Herb Hampson*

Treasurer: Sally Herzog* **Clerk:** Judy Gaumer*

Sunday School Superintendent: Linda Elkins

Board of Trustees

Karen Bates Jen Barry* Greg Dickson*
Bill Giuliano* Chris Goff Les Fox* Cathy Hawk
Sandy Pogozeleski* Bill Robinson * Cheryl Sobek
Alex Tomoff Mike Willis

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Linda Stepan* Dave Williams*

Diaconate

Jean Bittinger Elaine Coffey* Diana Creecy*
Bobbi Cook Wayne Cook Judy Davis
Judy Fox* Marsha Hemphill*
Cindy Hurley* Lynne McCray*
Linda Ponstingle Lora Rung

Christian Education Committee

Linda Elkins* Colette Emerson* Dale Hawk
Sarah Hayes Amanda Marshall* Lora Rung

Music Committee

Karen Bates* Ingrid Dickson*
Pam Keenen Ken Mehalko Mike Willis
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee

Ingrid Dickson Sue Gigliotti* Linda Stepan
Rob Toth* Sarah Toth Dave Williams

Mission and Outreach Committee

Jen Barry * Gina Cathcart Bobbi Cook*
Cathy Hawk Sarah Hayes* Lora Rung
Mary Willis Mary Ellen Zimmerman

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THERE'S STILL TIME TO PLEDGE FROM YOUR H.E.A.R.T.!

Hospitality, Engagement, Activities, Resources, Time, Talent, & Treasure

United Church of Christ 2026 Estimate of Giving

In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2026:

Name _____

Address _____

I plan to give \$_____ each

week month other _____ to be used for

Our Congregation's Ministries and Operations \$_____

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) \$_____

I would like to talk with someone from the Endowment Committee about including the church or church-related institution in my Will.

I would like to talk with someone about using the automatic deduction plan from my checking/savings account.

Signed _____ Date ____/____/____

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. *Matthew 6:21*

