



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, June 23, 2024– 10 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 "Allegro from String Quartet K.157" Mozart

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

INTROIT "Nimrod from Enigma Variations" Elgar

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather in this place to worship our God:

People: Calm Presence in our times of confusion, Comforter in our nights of struggle.

Leader: We gather with fellow pilgrims, as we seek to follow Jesus:

People: Brother to those swamped by fears, Friend to all overwhelmed by loss.

Leader: We are brought together by the Spirit who lives in the depths of our souls:

People: The Serenity who travels with us on this up-and-down journey we call life.

† **HYMN 435** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 133 (New International Version)

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.

It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.

For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

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 "Caprice for Clarinets" Grundman

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Musica est nobis donum" Elkins

† **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 Mark 4:35-41 (New International Version)

A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

SERMON "Get in the boat, anyway."

† **HYMN 433** "Rise Up, O Church of God"

† **BENEDICTION**
You who are weary, sleepless, tired, depressed, discouraged: Do not be afraid! You who are fed up, hopeless, visionless, fearful, tearful: Do not be afraid! God is present with us in our suffering. God will calm the winds and waves of your soul! Go forth in confidence, knowing God goes with you, even through Life's strongest storms. Amen.

† **POSTLUDE** "Sevilla from Suite Española Op.47 #3" Albéniz

SERVING

TODAY – JUNE 23		NEXT SUNDAY – JUNE 30
Lynne McCray	Greeters	Pat & Frank Jefferis
Lynne McCray	Liturgist	Riley Marshall
Dan & Laura W., Bobbi & Wayne C.	Ushers	Judi P., Jan M. Barbara W., Colette E.
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 Venner Clarinets	Special Music	Lisa Heinrich
Colette Emerson	Summer Sunday School	Mary Ellen Zimmerman

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**, click on **Service Videos**.

A NOTE OF THANKS—We thank **The Venner Clarinets (David Ciucevich, Dick K. Ingersoll, Marc Paige, Caroline Stilwell, and Suzanne Taber)**, and of course, **Sharon Heinrich and Mike Elkins** for today's music!

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Are you interested in joining our congregation? Pastor Heidi will be offering a membership class following worship on **July 7th** and **14th**, and receiving new members into our church family on **July 21st**. Please contact her or write "new member" on the back of your attendance card if would like to become a member of the Strongsville UCC.



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.

The altar flowers are given—
My June Boys, Ken & Chris. Happy Birthday-Love, Mum
Remembering our Wedding Day, June 23, 1962
Irene A. Jannsohn



A 2024 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 a few Sundays left!

Our steeple will light the sky this week—
Happy Anniversary today to Rob & Sandra Wentz
With love, Grammy

Happy Birthday today to Jim Studer!



IT'S HAPPENING!
CHURCH GARAGE SALE

FRIDAY, JULY 12th
from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M. AND
SATURDAY, JULY 13th
from 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

Donations will be accepted now through July 11th.
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 to help sort donations either day or evening from July 7 - 12 (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 12th before 6 p.m. or Saturday, July 13th before 9 a.m.





SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Summer Sunday School continues! We are still looking for folks to teach a summer Sunday with our children. All lessons and materials will be provided in advance. Start thinking about which Sunday you're available for this special ministry! A sign-up sheet is posted in Pilgrim Hall.



PENNY SUNDAY— NEXT WEEK!



Get ready to bring your coins, dollars, and checks (to UCC) for our next Penny Sunday to benefit St. Theodosius Orthodox

Cathedral in Cleveland, which was severely damaged by fire in May. Our next Penny Sunday will be on **August 25, 2025.**

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

- The Official Board will meet via email this month.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Laurie Meister, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Maggie Struhar

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Judy Carte, Jennifer Cockrell, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Irene Jannsohn, Kay Konicek, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Jim Maresco, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfitz, Gary Paul, George & Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ember Schneider, Peter Smith, Linda Stepan, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Keana Dickson (Greg & Ingrid's daughter), 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 Rothe), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel's parents), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothe's sister-in-law), 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), The people of Ukraine, Gaza, and Israel, 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

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,617.01
Last Week's Offering Received \$ 1,675.00
Difference -(\$1,942.01)

Thank you very much for your support.

PLEDGES RECEIVED: 51



FREE LUNCH FOR ALL-- Wednesdays

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Thank you to all our faithful volunteers!

GOOD NEWS! Our Free Lunch Program received a Faith in Action Grant of \$1,549.31 from the UCC Living Water Association. Thanks to Pastor Heidi for writing and applying for this grant and to all of our wonderful volunteers who make the lunch happen every week!

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is OPEN every Thursday 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.



THE THRIFT SHOP WILL BE CLOSED ON THE 4TH OF JULY, but will be open during the Garage Sale on July 12th & 13th.

NO MORE RIVER VALLEY PAPER RECYCLING

River Valley Paper company is reducing its routes and will remove our paper/cardboard recycling bin. We will be contacting other companies to see about getting another bin. In the meantime, please bring your cardboard and paper elsewhere. Thank you to everyone who has supported this program.



MISSION OUTREACH NEWS: DEODORANT DRIVE!

Mission Outreach will be collecting OLD SPICE and DOVE

deodorant for **Snow**

School in Berea. The students who attend that school are in foster care, transitional care, or wards of the county



and while Ohio Guidestone provides hospital grade deodorant, having a name brand product makes a big difference to these young people. (These brands are the ones recommended by the school.)



DO MORE IN 2024! New 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.



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.



TELLERS NEEDED!

If you have less than 30 minutes to spare after worship periodically, we are in need of tellers. No experience is necessary. Please see Gary Zielinski or Rachel Zielinski if you can help.



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY BAND:

Grab your lawn chair and come to our free concert on **Friday, June 28th at 7:30 p.m.** on the Strongsville Middle School lawn (In case of rain, outdoor concerts will be at the Ehrnfeltd Center).

CHURCH OFFICERS IN 2024

*Elected January 28, 2024 **Appointed by the Official Board

Moderator: Greg Dickson* **Vice-Moderator:** Jen Barry*

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

Sunday School Co-Superintendents

Linda Elkins Mary Densmore

Board of Trustees

Bill Giuliano* Chris Goff Mike Elkins* Les Fox*
Herb Hampson* Cathy Hawk Sarah Hayes* Sandy Pogozelski*
Cheryl Sobek Dan Winrod Laura Winrod Rachel Zielinski*

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson* Dave Williams*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish* Jean Bittinger Elaine Coffey* Bobbi Cook Wayne Cook
Judy Davis Judy Fox* Carole Kapcar Susann Lerch* Cherie Teagno*
Barbara White Mary Ellen Zimmerman

Christian Education Committee

Serena Abruzzino Mary Densmore Linda Elkins*
Colette Emerson* 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

Sue Gigliotti* Judi Pavisich Bill Schneider Rob Toth* Mary Willis

Mission and Outreach Committee

Diana Creecy* Sarah Hayes* Lora Rung
Jennifer Sekorky* Peter Smith Bev Wehr* Mary Ellen Zimmerman

2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN --M.A.P.L.E.

- M- Making and moving**
- A- Accepting and Acknowledging**
- P- People**
- L- Learning and Loving**
- E- Encompassing**



Strongsville United Church of Christ 2024 Estimate of Giving

In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2024:

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 ____/____/____

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BOOK STUDY--A YEAR OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

Continuing next month, **July 15th**, Pastor Heidi and Linda Elkins are leading a monthly book study based on Rachel Held Evans's wonderful book, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*. The group will meet on the **third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.**, for one hour. It's not too late to join us!

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