



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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StrongsvilleUCC.com



Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor
Sunday, June 5, 2022 – 10:00 A.M.
The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Pentecost Sunday

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 "Blessings" Story
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elaine Coffey
INTROIT "Come, Now is the Time to Worship" Doerksen

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, with your language of wonder:

People: May our words mingle together to scatter the gospel of grace to all around us.

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, with the music of your heart:

People: May we sing songs filled with memories, and listen to the new carols sung by God's children.

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, to rattle the windows of our souls:

People: May you burst through the closed doors of our hearts, and ignite within us the fire of renewal.

ALL: Come, Holy Spirit, we pray! Come, Holy Spirit, to us this day!

† HYMN 29 "Begin, My Tongue, Some Heavenly Theme"

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS Acts 2:1-13
(New International Version)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken... Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Leader: The Word of God, for us, the people of God;

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYING IN SILENCE

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy, **ALL: Hear our prayers. Amen.**

ANTHEM "I Will Sing Praise" Barnhouse

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

Thank you for your continuing commitment to giving freely of your talents and your treasure, as you are able, in service to Christ in the world. Thank you. To give online, please go to:

<https://www.myoffering.com/eonline/index.php/dashboard/login/5027>

OFFERTORY "On a Wing and a Prayer" 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 OLD TESTAMENT **Genesis 11:1-9**
(New International Version)

The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and confuse their language, so they will not understand each other." So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city.

SERMON "Beautiful Babbling"

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Pastor: We still don't get it, this gift called grace, this mercy of forgiveness. So, we want more signs, more proof-- more evidence that God loves us. All we have to do is do what Jesus did: trust in God, completely, foolishly, with our whole hearts. Let us pray, confessing to God how hard such trust is for us, hoping that God's gracious Spirit will dance in our hearts.

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

People: God of Pentecost, we look for tongues of fire to dance upon us, but hold tight to the ashes of our past. We long to speak of your love, simply and clearly, so that everyone, everywhere, might understand, but our words are carried off in the wind, meaningless, as we fail to care for others. We beg you to reveal the secrets of your kingdom, never noticing them all around us: in the songs of children, the memories of our elders, the dreams of all around us. Have mercy on us, and pour out your Spirit, O God. When we pull the shutters of our souls shut tight, fling them open with your breath of wonder. When we turn out all the lights and huddle in the shadows of fear, illumine our hearts with dancing flames of the Spirit's joy. When we find it impossible to come up with words of love, pour your Word, Jesus Christ, into our emptiness, so we may fill others. (silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news for us. God pours the Spirit upon us in these moments - the Spirit which comforts us, which encourages us, which transforms us through God's grace.

All: Thanks be to God! The Spirit brings us peace, comforts our hearts, and fills us with hope. We are forgiven and made new. Amen.

A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC "Hymn Tunes" Elkins

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.

† **HYMN 21** "O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing" (vv. 1, 2, 3, 5)

† **BENEDICTION** Joanna Harader, "Spacious Faith"
As you go forth from this place, may the wind of the Spirit startle your senses and blow through your life. May the fire of the Spirit scorch your complacency and light your way. And may the blessing of the Holy One—Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer—rest with you now and forever more. **Amen.**

† **RESPONSE** "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Lutkin

† **POSTLUDE** "Movement II from Suite *Gothique*" Boellmann

SERVING

TODAY—JUNE 5	NEXT SUNDAY—JUNE 12
Linda Plain	Greeters Bobbie Krisak/Serena Abruzzino
Linda Ponstingle	Liturgist Dave Williams
Judi Pavisich	Ushers Bobbie Krisak/Serena Abruzzino
Chris Abruzzino/Riley Hawk	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	Video/Sound Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Sarah Keenen, Chancel Choir	Special Music Richard Densmore, Dave Williams

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**.



A NOTE OF THANKS—

Many thanks to our Chancel Choir (Bruce Keenen, Dave Williams, Richard Densmore, Clay Williams, Rob Toth, Kristen Clotworthy, Dawn Rolland, Jackie Foley, Sarah Keenen, Irene Jannsohn, Irene Joyce, Ingrid Dickson, Pam Keenen, Sandy O'Shea Sarah Toth, Sharon Maresco, and Thursday singer Bobbi Cook), Tom Foley, Sharon Heinrich, Mike Elkins, and Sarah Keenen for their music with us today. The choir begins its summer hiatus after today.

PENNY SUNDAY

Thank you to everyone who contributed to last week's Penny Sunday. The money will go to **World Central Kitchen** in war-torn **Ukraine**.



The altar flowers are given—

Happy 98th Birthday to "G.G." Phyllis Kurz on June 11th!
The Zielinski Family



Our steeple will light the sky this week—

In remembrance of those lost to violence

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

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



Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Joan Beckwith, Eddy Bond, Mary Carey, Gina Cathcart, Kathy Cockrell, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Robert Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sam Cuyler, Sr., Linda Elliott, Sue Hawk, Bob Heddleson, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Tracey Seneff, Peter Smith, Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Doug Thorn, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Carol Woodward, Gary Zielinski, Mary Ellen Zimmerman

Extended Church Family: Dorene Baldrige, Fred Beba (Theresa's husband), Jerry Carleton (Judi Pavisich's friend), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Mary Ann Csory (Judi Pavisich's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiautraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Andrew Majoros (Michele Mhlack's cousin), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), 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), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Terry Robson (Barb & Mark Camp's friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Tina Serrano (Elliott Joyce's grandma), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Bruce Unger (Steve & Sally Herzog's friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Weston (Chelsea Cathcart's friend's baby), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), The people of Ukraine

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

FREE LUNCH FOR ALL

Every Wednesday

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

Starting June 8, 2022!

(Call (440) 238-5389 for To-Go meals.)

CARRY OUT ONLY will be offered on June 22, because of Garage Sale set-up.

PLEASE NOTE: The kitchen fridge will be cleaned this week. Any unlabeled items will be discarded.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed	\$3,649.37
Last Week's Offering Received	\$2,377.00
Difference	-\$1,272.37

Thank you very much for your support.

PLEDGE CARDS RECEIVED TO DATE: 65

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

SUNDAY, JULY 31st

On our church grounds following outdoor worship. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert—the main dish and beverages will be provided.



THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with 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 Thursday of the month, June 16, 2022 — 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

HELP WANTED: Do you know anything about collectibles and/or antiques? If so, we need you! From time to time, donations come into the Thrift Shop that may be worth selling online or in a consignment shop. If you have any knowledge in this area, please contact Cathy Hawk about how you can help.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- **The Board of Trustees** will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, June 14th at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **The Diaconate** will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, June 21st at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **The Official Board** will NOT meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month in June. Members will be asked to email monthly reports.



IDEAS WANTED!



The Long Range Planning Committee is interested in your ideas on ways to make improvements for our Church. Some feedback already provided includes an extension of our parking lot and a new structure on the Royalton Road lot that could house outdoor gatherings. If you have any ideas, please email them to Sandy Pogozelski at pogoze5@gmail.com. All ideas will be discussed at the Board of Trustees meeting for feasibility, funding and prioritization. Projects exceeding \$5,000 require approval by our Congregation.

IT'S HAPPENING!

CHURCH GARAGE SALE

FRIDAY, JUNE 24th

from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M. AND

SATURDAY, JUNE 25th

from 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.



Donations will be accepted starting today.

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 in 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 7 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 June 19-24 (or just show up)!

WE ALSO NEED DONATIONS OF LARGE MARC'S SHOPPING BAGS.



BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

At the Garage Sale

Please bring your wrapped/bagged baked goods on **Friday, June 24th** before 6 p.m. or **Saturday, June 25th** before 9 a.m.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Who Do YOU Say I Am?

Investigating the Mystery of Jesus Using Detective Work and Mystery Solving

We have a couple of openings for teaching; please sign up on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Lesson plans and materials provided and no experience is required. Please contact **Linda Elkins, (440) 655-8891** with questions.



GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE TODAY at NOON.

From our Friends at Strongsville Community Band--2022

Concert Schedule

Friday, June 24 7:30 p.m.

Strongsville Middle School Auditorium

Friday, July 1 7:30 p.m.

Strongsville Middle School Lawn

Friday, July 8 7:30 p.m. Strongsville Middle School Lawn

Friday, July 22 7:30 p.m.



Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, July 29 7:30 p.m. Rotary Senior Center Cookout/Band Concert
Ehrnfelt Event Center
Friday, August 5 7:30 p.m. Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, August 12 7:30 p.m. Strongsville Middle School Lawn
Friday, August 19 7:30 p.m. Bad Weather Make-up Concert SMS Lawn

DON'T FORGET!

Are you shopping online? 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. Strongsville UCC has received \$433.77 from Amazon to date.



GIFT CARDS

AN EASY WAY TO BENEFIT THE CHURCH!

You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-267-5043 in advance with your order. Limited stock is available for purchase on Sunday mornings.





WE STILL NEED YOU IN 2022!

Sign-up sheets are waiting for **your name** to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, or bread/pastry sorter. Don't know how to do any of those things? No worries—we will show you everything you need to know! No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life. 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 Committee is organizing a **Church Family Care Ministry Team** and would LOVE to have you take part! (You do not need to be a member of the Diaconate to participate, and you may come and go as you are led.) **Please complete and turn in this response form:**

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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 PRAY, 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

_____ I WOULD BE WILLING TO...



PLEASE JOIN OUR CARB CREW!

WE NEED A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS! Just a little bit of your time can make a huge difference in feeding people. Please see Linda Kapcar or contact the church office if you can pick-up bread on a Monday or Friday morning. We will

fill you in on all the details!

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