

**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

**Worship at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday**

**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall**

Pastor

**MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER**

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

**WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**What does God see in *me*?**

Lent, by its very definition and nature, is a time for serious introspection. Many people take this season as a time to eliminate a bad habit (like smoking or overeating sweets) or undesirable activity (like swearing ☺) from our day-to-day life. That's really great, since doing something for forty days just may make it a permanent change.

The downside: with so much focus on sin and repentance, it can be easy to look in the mirror and only see the miserable sinner looking back. The negatives, it seems, are always easier to focus on; in so doing, if we are not careful, we can be really hard on ourselves. We can forget that God doesn't "score" us the same way we (or the world) score ourselves.

Remember that magic word, *grace*? The word that reminds us that God's Love is unconditional, and not based on what we deserve? God loves us because God is Love. **God's very nature is Love.** Nothing we have ever done diminishes God's Love for us. Not. One. Whit.

And don't forget: we were created in the image of the Almighty (*Genesis 1:26-27*). Within each one of us lies the perfect image of God. Some days, I think it's that warm sense of joy that just won't go away, even when things are going poorly.

So if you ever are wondering what God could ever see in you that's worth loving or dying for—it's *God*.

And *you* are loved, just because.

Peace and Blessing,  
Pastor Heidi



**SUNDAY – MARCH 1 – 10:00 A.M.**

*First Sunday in Lent*

**Sacrament of Communion**

**Liturgist:** Linda Ponstingle

**Greeter:** Elaine Coffey

**Ushers:** Linda Plain/Judi Pavisich

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteer needed

**Special Music:** Chancel Choir, band

**SUNDAY – MARCH 8 – 10:00 A.M.**

*Second Sunday in Lent—Baptism*

**Liturgist:** Betty Craig

**Greeter:** Judi Pavisich

**Ushers:** Volunteer needed

**Coffee Hour:** Elaine Coffey

**Special Music:** Chancel Choir



**SUNDAY – MARCH 15 – 10:00 A.M.**

*Third Sunday in Lent—Special Guest Rev. J. Longworth*

**Liturgist:** Tom Gaumer

**Greeters:** Sharon & Karl Kuhlenschmidt

**Ushers:** Elaine Coffey

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteer needed

**Special Music:** Choir, Band

**SUNDAY – MARCH 22 – 10:00 A.M.**

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

**Liturgist:** Judi Pavisich

**Greeter:** Mary Ellen Zimmerman

**Ushers:** Elaine Coffey

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteer needed

**Special Music:** Chancel Choir

**SUNDAY – MARCH 29– 10:00 A.M.**

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

**Penny Sunday**

**Liturgist:** Dan Masuga

**Greeter:** Linda Plain

**Ushers:** Volunteers needed

**Coffee Hour:** Volunteer needed

**Special Music:** Bell Choir



**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](http://strongsvilleucc.com), go to **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**.

## OUR PRAYER LIST

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



Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

**Long-Term Care or Homebound:**  
Janet Kato at Kemper House,  
Martha Liebert, Marge McKinney,  
Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Joan Beckwith, Elaine Coffey, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Robert Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Dan Davis, Jim Dettmer, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, George Kapcar, Debbie Krause, Karl and Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Lacey Marshall, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mihlack, Bill Ritchie, Alysha Rolland, Ginger Rothel, John and Maggie Struhar, Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

**Extended Church Family:** Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Hunter Colao (grandson of Mark & Barb Camp), Lyla Joy Crowley (great grand-niece of Irene Jannsohn), Elaine Fuelling (friend of Judi Pavisich), Rebecca Gordon (niece of Irene Jannsohn), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Dana Hardy (wife of Craig), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Rev. Kent Knife (retired pastor from MHUCC), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Linda McNabb (sister-in-law of Ginger Rothel), Mae O'Shea (mom of Sandy O'Shea), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Terry Robson (friend of the Camps), Mike Rung (brother of Lora), Amanda Shannon (friend of Sarah & Jon Hayes), Sherry Sheeks (sister of Mark Camp), Brad Williams (friend of Judi Pavisich), Daphne Wilson (niece of Irene Jannsohn)

**Our church has an e-mail prayer chain.**

**Please see Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others.**



Our love and prayers go out to **Dawn, Ken Alysha, and Ian, Rolland, and Emily Trill, Connor, and**

**Zacari Crosby**, on the passing of Dawn's father **Joseph Trill**, on February 1, 2020. A memorial service was held at our church on February 29.

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to **Dennis Smith**, whose stepdad, **Bill McKenna**, died on Monday, February 3, 2020. He's not been in good health for a while and had a major stroke early Sunday morning. Please remember him and **Barb Fraunfelder**, both of whom have lost their mothers within the six weeks prior.

**Just a reminder:** Pastor Heidi will never send out an email asking you to "do me a favor" or anything like that. There are a number of scams going around right now that ask folks to purchase gift cards or other such things. **Please do not be taken in by these scams.** (And if I do ask you to buy gift cards, be sure to get them on Sunday morning from Jim Joyce!)



## HOW CAN YOU HELP OUT?



**NEW** Sign-up sheets in Pilgrim Hall are waiting for **your name** to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, bread/pastry sorter, or nursery helper!

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. **Please sign up on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall to volunteer.**

## UNSUNG HEROES



Did you know that **Dale & Cathy Hawk, Pastor Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Erik Joyce, and Jim & Irene Joyce** loaded up 4 vehicles worth of paper products, non-perishable items, and frozen

food from the abandoned Bar Louie at Southpark Mall? The things they hauled, packed, and put away will be used at the church, for the Free Lunch for All Program, and to help others in the community. Thank you, friends!



## INTERESTED IN JOINING THE

**CHURCH?** Pastor Heidi will be offering a membership class soon. Contact the church office if you would like to join.



## FIT CLUB

We welcome any new participants, of any age or fitness level to join us and get moving on most Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. We went to see *Porgy & Bess* in February. The Flying Dutchman is slated for March!

**YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR  
FREE LUNCH FOR ALL  
WEDNESDAYS 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**





**THANK YOU**

From Jan Stough's daughter-in-law, **Cindy Stough:**

A day I was so sad about turned out to be one of the most amazing days ever and I owe it to you and your church. It was sooo beautiful:) I can't thank you enough 🍷 and the wine part was just perfect! I wouldn't change a thing. I am

so appreciative of you! ♥

To all of our beloved church family,

The family of **Allan Haberkorn** would like to thank all of our church family for their kind thoughts and prayers during our loss of Al. Love, **Betty Yarnell**

Thanks to the congregation for your thoughts, prayers, and many cards and notes I have received during my convalescence. Although I am a long way from returning to worship with you in person, I am making progress.

from Robert Craig

We wish to thank everyone for their cards and calls of sympathy upon the deaths of Dennis' mom, Anita McKenna, and stepdad, Bill McKenna in January and February. Your kindness and thoughts are truly appreciated.

Dennis Smith and Barb Fraunfelder

**YOU ARE INVITED**



Please join Pastor Heidi and interfaith leaders for the Annual Passover Seder at Anshe Chesed

Fairmount Temple on **Tuesday, March 24** at 7

p.m. If you are interested in attending this field trip, please write "Seder" on the back of your attendance card and place it in the offering plate.

**LENTEN STUDY!**

Pastor Heidi will be leading a five-week study during Lent entitled *Living in the Light*, by John Birch. We will gather on Wednesday at 1:00, beginning March 4. Please sign up with your name and "Lent Study" on the back of your attendance card. See you then!



**MUSIC COMMITTEE NEWS**

A D#7 bell was purchased for our bell choir in memory of long-time bell choir member Karen Morgan.



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING**

The annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received throughout the month of March. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, United Church of Christ members reach out in the name of Christ to:

- support self-help programs in more than 80 nations to build sustainable communities that enable people and communities to stand against and rise above hunger, disease, illiteracy, and other forces of injustice that deny and destroy dignity.
- provide emergency and long-term assistance to people in the aftermath of hurricanes, tornados, storms, floods, tidal waves, fires, explosions, technological disasters, civil strife, war, or other natural or human-caused events. On average, OGHS responds to a disaster once every 2.5 days.
- respond with advocacy and help, hope and hospitality for people who have been uprooted from their home of origin. More than 30 million of the world's people are uprooted at any given time.

In cooperation with Global Ministries, Church World Service, Action by Churches Together, Interchurch Medical Assistance, Foods Resource Bank, Oikocredit, Freedom from Hunger and hundreds of local partners around the world, One Great Hour of Sharing is part of a remarkable network of service and caring that is efficient, effective and faithful. Administrative costs are typically less than eight percent annually.

The United Church of Christ unites with Christians in eight other Protestant denominations and Church World Service in One Great Hour of Sharing, thus multiplying the effectiveness and extent of our witness many times over.

The partnership we share with nearly 6,000 United Church of Christ congregations across the United States and Puerto Rico is where this remarkable miracle connecting UCC members to the world truly begins. The UCC annually channels more than \$3 million dollars through One Great Hour of Sharing to humanitarian needs in the world.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is administered through Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ. Offering envelopes will be in the pew racks in the sanctuary at church.



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 26 at 3 P.M.! MUSIC BENEFIT CONCERT FEATURING THE SATORI WINDS AND BROADWAY BOUND III!**







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. **We earned another \$22.78 this past quarter. Every little bit helps!**



And since you're in a shopping mood...you can benefit the church even more by buying Amazon (or many other) **gift cards**

from Jim Joyce in Pilgrim Hall prior to whipping out that credit card. **Please keep us in mind for your everyday shopping and gift-giving needs!**

### THRIFT SHOP

**NEW WINTER HOURS:** The Thrift Shop is open on Thursdays, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., with a bonus Free Lunch for All sale day on Wednesdays once a month from 11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Thank you to everyone who donates to, helps at, or buys from the Thrift Shop! **Please note: The Thrift Shop will be closed on Thursdays, April 2 & 9 for changeover to spring merchandise .**



### SPONSOR CAROLINE IN INDIA

Thank you to everyone who signed up for 2020:

- January—The Sunday School
- February—Judy Carte
- March—Dorothy & Bill Ritchie
- April—The Hawks

- May—Gina Cathcart
- June—Richard & Mary Densmore
- July—Barbara & John Toth
- August—The Hawks
- September—Bill Robinson
- October—Bev Wehr
- November--Linda Plain
- December—Sharon & Jim Heinrich

The Child Sponsorship Program is a part of Global Ministries, United Church of Christ and the Disciples of Christ (Christian) Churches.

### STEEPLE LIGHTING

#### Week of February 2, 2020

*In memory of Cheri Reipel, who lived a life of love, compassion and joy. --The Sekorky Family*

#### Week of February 9, 2020

*Happy Birthday today to Walter McKane With Love, Grammy*

#### Week of February 16, 2020

*Happy Birthday to Barbara Craig on February 18<sup>th</sup> and Pam Craig on February 22<sup>nd</sup>! With love, Mom*

#### Week of February 23, 2020

*Happy Birthday to Larry Wentz on February 29<sup>th</sup> With love, Mom*  
*Happy Birthday to Mike Elkins on February 29<sup>th</sup> from the Music Ministry*

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.



† † † † † † †

### ALTAR FLOWERS

**February 2** – *In loving memory of Erik O. Jannsohn on his birthday--The Jannsohn-Joyce-Dickson Family Celebrating Rebecca Deertz's birthday today*  
Love, Grandmother Marty Winch

**February 9**– *Happy Birthday on February 14<sup>th</sup> to Baby A & Baby B! (Valerie & Vicky)*  
Love, Mom Lola Millhoane

**February 16**– *Retreat Sunday*

**February 23**-- *In honor of our mothers' birthdays: Carmella Norris on February 19<sup>th</sup> and Nadine Burnand on February 26<sup>th</sup>*  
Love, Ginger and Ron Rothel



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. 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 for worship.



**LOOKING AHEAD TO GOOD FRIDAY,  
APRIL 10, 2020:**



We will join our friends from the **Columbia United Methodist Church** for Joseph Martin's *Song of the Shadows* tenebrae service,

with orchestra, combined choir, readings, and soloists. Please plan to attend this meaningful worship experience.

**PENNY SUNDAY NEWS**



The **January Penny Sunday** collection of \$202.25 went toward providing relief for those affected by the Australian bushfires through the Salvation Army in Australia. On **February 23**, the children collected \$134.20 for the United Church of Christ's Outdoor Ministries. Our Annual Family Retreat is held at Temple Hills camp, through UCC Outdoor Ministries. The next Penny Sunday will be on **March 29**.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**



Women's Fellowship will meet Tuesday, March 3, at **10:30 a.m.** in the Parlor. We will make a bunny craft, make "puppy chow" for

people, and have lunch altogether. Sally Herzog will present devotions; and Sharon Heinrich will make coffee and tea, and provide dessert. Please bring your own bag lunch. *The meeting time is a half hour later so we have kitchen access to make puppy chow (after Tuesday morning AA meets).* As always, all ladies are welcome to all Women's Fellowship activities. You may want to mark your calendar for these upcoming meetings/programs:

April 7 – "Getting to Know You"  
"Tote Bags" Project

May 5 – "Fire Safety"

July 7 – "Outdoor Picnic in the Park"

September 1 – "Go to a Movie"

October 6 – "A Harvest Craft"

November/December – "Make Candy" as a fundraiser for the group

December – "Bring-a-Friend Christmas Tea"

**FROM THE KITCHEN:**

Don't forget to mention Strongsville United Church of Christ when making any purchases at GFS. We save \$203.00 in expenses at the Swiss Steak Dinner!



Please label any items that are placed in the refrigerators with your **NAME/GROUP and the DATE.**

**Also**, if you have any large plastic serving trays with domed covers, round or rectangular, that you do not need, please donate them to the kitchen for our Coffee Hour pastries. Also, we could use empty, clean large sour cream/cottage cheese/yogurt containers for the Altar Flowers and plastic grocery bags, too. **Kitchen users: please remember to take out the garbage after each use.**



Our church supports the Strongsville Emergency Food Bank. They are especially in need of

**peanut butter & jelly, soup, tuna, and canned fruit.** Please bring donations of non-perishable food items and place them in the collection box nestled in the corner of Pilgrim Hall next to the bulletin board. Thanks, as always, to everyone who donates and especially to **Sharon and Karl Kuhlenschmidt** who transport all the food to the Food Bank every week.

*Strongsville UCC All-You-Can-Eat*

*Strongsville UCC*

**ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT**

**ROAST PORK, KIELBASA + SAUERKRAUT DINNER**

**Saturday – March 7, 2020**

**Seatings at 5:00 and 6:30 P.M.**

*Reservations Only: (216) 598-6198*

**Adults \$12.00    Ages 6-10 \$5.00    Under 6 Free**

Help is needed. The sign-up sheet is posted on Pilgrim Hall's board. For safety reasons, no children under age 6 (with or without parent) can be helpers in any capacity during the serving hours of 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Children 6 to 10 must have a parent helping them.



**The Thrift Shop will be open.**

**Our Swiss Steak profit was \$1,538.89, which is very good for a small crowd. Thank you all!**



### STEWARDSHIP

To date for the Stewardship Campaign, we have received 75 pledges totaling \$155,384.00. (Last year, we received a total of 78 pledges for \$134,932.00)

### 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](http://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.

### 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

**February 2 through February 23, 2020.**

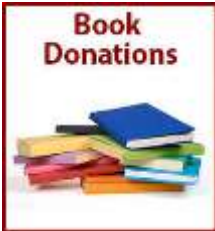
This information also appears on a weekly basis in our worship bulletin.

Offering Needed \$13,893.08 for 4 Sundays  
Offering Received 10,139.85  
Difference (-\$3,753.23)

Thank you to everyone for your faithful support!



### WEST PARK KIWANIS CHILDREN'S READING CENTERS IN NEED OF BOOK DONATIONS:

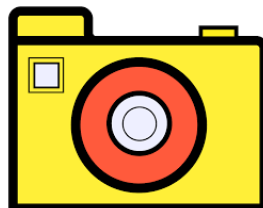


The West Park Kiwanis set up a few children's reading centers in our area and it's been going really well. It's encouraging children to read and they are allowed to take a book with them. The Kiwanis are getting low on books and are looking for anyone who has

children's books that would be willing to donate to their reading centers. If you have any to donate, please contact **Herb Hampson** at **216-287-3871** to arrange pick up or delivery. Thank you from our West Park Kiwanis and the kids in our area.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

A new **Congregational Photo** on **Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>** (Mother's Day) The last group picture of our congregation was taken in 2010. Please try to include this rare event in your Mother's Day plans.



### OUR PHOTO DIRECTORY!

Directories still available. If you were not photographed by Lifetouch, you may purchase a directory for \$5 through the church office. Folks who were professionally photographed at the photo sessions in August receive a copy at no charge.  
\*\*\*\*\*

### CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2020

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 Superintendent**  
Kristen Clotworthy

### Board of Trustees

Eddy Bond\* Greg Dickson Mike Clotworthy\*  
Myron Costin\* Bill Giuliano  
Dale Hawk Sandy Pogozelski  
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 Eddy Bond\*\*  
Sue Gigliotti\* Beth Giuliano Sharon Heinrich\*\*  
Judi Pavisich\*\* Bill Schneider\*\*

### Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte Bobbie Krisak Tony Koussa\*  
Michele Mihlack Gary Paul Lora Rung\*  
Jennifer Sekorky\*\* Bev Wehr

**Many thanks to the dedicated officers of our church, who serve so faithfully and make our church run smoothly as we strive to be like Christ in the world.**

**MEN'S LUNCH BUNCH** All men are invited the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. to Gourmé Deli & Restaurant. (15315 Pearl Road in Strongsville)





## CHURCH SECURITY

**Friendly reminder:** If you are the last person to leave the building, please make sure doors are locked and lights are turned off. Also, please push or pull on the doors to make sure they are securely CLOSED. Thanks!



## AED IS HERE

The church has purchased an AED with funds from the Memorial Fund. It is located just outside the interior entrance to Pilgrim Hall. Rachel Zielinski and Dale Hawk will soon be instituting a program to teach people how to use it to save someone's life.



## DIACONATE WING NIGHT

Mark your calendar for a terrific night of filling food, refreshing suds, basket raffles, side boards, and hanging out with the coolest folks around! **Friday, May 1, 2020** is the date. 6:30 p.m. will be the time. Grindstone Tap House in Berea will be the place. More information on tickets will be coming soon. As always, many volunteers will be needed for Wing Night to be successful and the committee will be recruiting helpers.

In the meantime, please be thinking of a themed basket you might like to donate to the event. Any and all donations will be gratefully accepted!

Please watch your newsletters and bulletins for more information in the coming months. Thank you in advance for supporting this important fundraiser for the Diaconate, which supplies all of the worship needs of our church.

## SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Summer Camp has made a lasting impression on everyone who attends. Your child is invited to make a lifetime memory at Temples Hills Camp this year. Registration for 2020 Summer Camp is now open! Register today to lock-in early bird prices (the early bird deadline is **April 15**) and to ensure your place at camp.

You will also have the opportunity to purchase a camp t-shirt (even if you don't plan on attending camp). The t-shirt is currently in the final stages of its design, but that design will be made public soon. The deadline to pre-order a t-shirt is **May 10**.

Here is the link to register:  
<https://heartlanducc.campbrainregistration.com/>



## MARCH 2020 DATES TO REMEMBER

- 1 Sun Worship 10am with Communion**  
Coffee Hour  
Children's Choir Rehearsal  
Worship Team
- 4 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**  
Lenten Study 1pm  
Fit Club 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 5 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm**  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 8 Sun Worship 10am**  
Coffee Hour  
Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 10 Tues Trustee Meeting 7pm**
- 11 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**  
Lenten Study 1pm  
Fit Club 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 12 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm**  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 15 Sun Worship 10am**  
Coffee Hour  
Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 17 Tues Diaconate Meeting, 7pm**
- 18 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**  
Lenten Study 1pm  
Fit Club 7:15pm  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 19 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm**  
Choir Rehearsal at Columbia UMC 7:45pm
- 22 Sun Worship 10am**  
Coffee Hour  
Children's Choir  
Easter Lily order deadline
- 24 Tues Official Board Meeting 7pm**  
**Interfaith Passover Seder 7pm**
- 25 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**  
Lenten Study 1pm  
**STOP THE BLEED TRAINING, Strongsville Fire Department 7pm**  
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 26 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-2pm**  
Men's Lunch 11:30am  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 29 Sun Worship 10am--Penny Sunday**  
Coffee Hour  
Children's Choir Rehearsal

**FROM OUR FRIENDS AT FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STRONGSVILLE:**



All are invited to Holden Evening Prayer on **March 24, 7:00 p.m.** hosted by First Lutheran Church (19419 Royalton Rd.) in Strongsville. This beautiful, meditative

service lends itself well to the Lenten season, and offers an opportunity to take a break in the middle of your week to center yourself in prayer, scripture and reflection.



River Valley Paper Company

**KEEP RECYCLING YOUR PAPER, MAGAZINES, AND CARDBOARD!** The church (and everyone else) benefits any time you recycle. Thank you!

**FROM OUR FRIENDS AT STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE**

**A Tribute to Broadway to benefit the Strongsville Community Theatre and celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**featuring Jim's Little Big Band and the Strongsville Community Theatre Singers**

Saturday, March 14, 2020  
at the Strongsville Recreation and Senior Complex  
Get tickets at  
[www.strongsvillecommunitytheatre.com](http://www.strongsvillecommunitytheatre.com)  
or call 440-879-8817



**LOST & FOUND**

Many items have been found around the church and are currently being stored on top of the coat racks adjacent to Pilgrim Hall. Please check and see if any of these things belong to you. Any objects not reunited with their rightful owners will be given to the Thrift Shop at the end of March. Thanks for checking!



**EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM**

Orders are now being accepted. Please complete this form and place it in the Church Office or offering plate with your cash or check payment by the deadline of **Sunday, March 22, 2020**. The cost is **\$8.00**.

Wording for bulletin:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by:

\_\_\_\_\_

Total number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

I will take my plant(s).  I will leave my plant(s) for someone who needs some cheer.

Please make your check payable to **Strongsville United Church of Christ**, and place your order (with payment) in the church office, or mail it to:

**The United Church of Christ  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, OH 44136**

*Thank you for placing a lily on the altar on Easter Sunday morning.*

Additional lily order forms are available in the weekly bulletins.

-----

**For Church Records**

**2020 Easter Lily**

Total number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Offering envelope number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cash/Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Order deadline is*  
**Sunday, March 22, 2020.**





## PROTOCOL FOR CANCELLATION OF ACTIVITIES

Approved by the Official Board on January 22, 2019

Let's face it: while we would all prefer to have Strongsville United Church of Christ open every Sunday for worship, things happen. Here is what Pastor Heidi is recommending for notifying folks:

**1. In the event of a building emergency** (no heat, fire, etc.), the decision will need to be made with little or no advance notice. Notification will go out via email and Facebook; in addition, we will need to have a specific list at hand of phone numbers for members and regular attendees who do not use the internet regularly. If the emergency occurs on Sunday morning, the pastor and/or moderator and/or secretary should plan to be at the church to inform people who do not receive word.

**2. Cancellation of scheduled meetings/rehearsals** (Trustees, Official Board, Choirs, etc.) for weather or other last-minute reasons will be at the discretion of the chairperson/ leader of the particular group, while informing the pastor immediately when a cancellation is being made. **The decision to cancel** should be made no less than two hours prior to the scheduled starting time (e.g., 5:00 for a 7:00 meeting). **It is the responsibility of the chairperson/ group leader to notify all members of the group.** All chairpersons and group leaders are responsible for having and maintaining an up-to-date list of members' contact information.

**3. Cancellation of Sunday Morning Worship** due to weather will, in a perfect circumstance, be a decision made by the Pastor, Moderator, Secretary and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees. The decision will be made based on forecast conditions, as well as what local authorities decide. **If a Level 2 or 3 Emergency is declared for Cuyahoga County, SUCC will not be open.** Additionally, given that Cuyahoga County rarely declares such emergencies, **if the surrounding counties declare Level 2 or 3 emergencies, depending on what's actually happening, SUCC may also close based on their declaration.**

**Decisions made regarding cancellation of Sunday Morning Worship** will be made as early as reasonably possible; however, the nature of

Northeast Ohio weather often makes such things difficult. After an official decision has been made:

- The Pastor and Secretary will have at hand a list of members' and regular attendees' contact information for those who do not frequent the internet, and will call or text as soon as the decision is made.
- An **email chain** for members and regular attendees will be activated to reach out as soon as a decision is made.
- The church's **Facebook page and website** will be updated to reflect the cancellation; members on Facebook are encouraged to share this information widely.
- **Channel 5** is the one station whose closing list is easily accessible by churches, therefore, folks should be encouraged to tune in there for information.
- The **contracted snowplow company** will need to be notified that we will not need priority plowing.

There may be a rare occasion when the church remains open for Worship, but the Pastor cannot get there. In such instances, worship may take the form of a hymn sing or other community activity. **When the church chooses *not* to close in the face of challenging conditions, it is the responsibility of every member to make the decision that's best for them, keeping their own safety and the safety of their families in mind.** God does not take attendance to worship; God only attends to our hearts.

