



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136
(440) 238-6697

StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com
StrongsvilleUCC.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall
Pastor

Sunday – March 24, 2019 – 10:00 A.M.
Third Sunday of Lent



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.

For questions about our church and ministries, please call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please complete your Attendance Card and place it in the offering plate. We hope to see you again soon!

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE "El Shadai" Caro/Thompson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Joyce Reed

INTROIT "Christ Before Me" Chisum et al

† CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 63

Leader: You, God, are my God; earnestly I seek you.

People: I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

Leader: I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

People: Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.

Leader: I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.

People: I will be fully satisfied, as with the richest of foods; with singing lips, my mouth will praise you.

READING FROM THE PROPHETS Isaiah 55:1-3

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

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE "Serenade" Haydn

BELL ANTHEM "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" Spiritual

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Mary Densmore

THE OFFERINGS

BELL OFFERTORY "Homage to Handel" arr. Herbek

† 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.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING FROM THE GOSPELS Luke 13: 1-9

SERMON Rev. Mendle Adams

† HYMN 139 "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

† BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE/POSTLUDE "Gift of Love" Hopson

SERVING

TODAY – MARCH 24		NEXT SUNDAY – MARCH 31
Kenn Oerkfitz	Liturgist	The Clotworthy Family
The Rolland Family	Greeters	Dan & Linda Ponstingle
Volunteers needed	Ushers	Volunteer needed
Nicole Rachid	Coffee Hour	Judi Pavisich
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins
Rev. Mendle Adams	Guest Minister	

The altar flowers are given—

In loving memory of James Habart on the anniversary of his death, from his family who misses him and loves him dearly.

Jamie, Josh, and Christian

(Please remember to take your altar flowers with you or give them to a friend after worship.)

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Thank you to our church family for their love and support

Jim, Irene, Erik, Evan, and Elena Joyce

Happy Birthday today to Don Meister and Jessica Haney!

The Official Board will meet Tuesday, March 26 at 7 p.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.



We joyfully welcome the return of Rev. Mendle Adams and his wife, Charlene, to our worship service this morning! Rev. Adams is a retired UCC minister who has served our congregation several times prior to the selection of our settled pastor.

HOW CAN YOU HELP OUT?

Sign-up sheets in Pilgrim Hall are waiting for your name to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, or nursery helper! No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.



CHURCH SECURITY

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



LENTEN STUDY WITH PASTOR HEIDI: will resume on March 31. The audio series, *Interfaith: Being Love in the World*, begins at noon. A light lunch will be provided each Sunday for those who attend the studies. You are welcome to participate even if you have not yet signed up.

MUSIC REHEARSAL CHANGES

The Bell Choir will rehearse at 7 p.m. and the Chancel Choir will rehearse at 8 p.m. on Thursday Evenings. Church. On **April 4**, The Bells will practice at 6:30 p.m. and the Chancel Choir will meet at 7:45 p.m. at Columbia UMC.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



This special offering through the United Church of Christ goes to provide relief in areas of need throughout the United States and abroad, most particularly in areas that have been affected by natural disasters. Special envelopes will be located in the pews through March 31.

OUR PRAYER LIST

If you or a family member would like a visit, please call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please provide updates for this list. Thank you.



Long-Term Care or Homebound: Betty Bushea at Danbury Senior Living in Brunswick, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Martha Liebert, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Betty Babics, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Dan Davis, Steve Herzog, Elena Joyce, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Phyllis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Fred and Kathe Lombardo, Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Karen Morgan, Joyce Reed, Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Linda Stepan, Sally Vetovitz, Kyle Woodward

Extended Church Family: Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Sam Harteis (friend of Reeds), Rev. Erv Koch, Sandra Manos (mother of Eli), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Jeff Perrin (cousin of Barb Fraunfelder), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga), Brad Williams, (friend of Judi Pavisich)

Our church has an e-mail prayer chain.
Please see Pastor Heidi if you would like to be added.

Our church supports the Strongsville Emergency Food Bank. They are especially in need of peanut butter & jelly, soup, and family meals. 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. Thank you to Sharon and Karl Kuhlenschmidt for delivering the donations to the Food Bank each week.



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



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

THE THRIFT SHOP is open for business on Thursdays, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., with a bonus Free Lunch for All sale day on Wednesdays once a month from 11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **WE NEED HELP!** If you can spare a few hours on Thursdays to volunteer in our Thrift Shop, please consider helping at the Thrift Shop. **We truly appreciate your usable donations to the Thrift Shop, but please do not place boxes, bags or items in the stairwells. (Strongsville Fire Dept. regulations) Doing so is a safety hazard.**

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR FREE LUNCH FOR ALL



Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

NEXT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, our friends at Papa John's Pizza in Strongsville will be donating pizza to our Free Lunch for All Program. Hope to see you there!



(If the Strongsville City Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the Free Lunch for All will not be served.)

MARCH 2019 DATES TO REMEMBER

- 24 Sun** **Worship 10am—Rev. Mendle Adams**
No Lenten Study
Children's Choir
- 26 Tues** Official Board Meeting 7pm
- 27 Wed** Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm
Fit Club 7:15pm
Band Rehearsal 8:15 pm
- 28 Thurs** Thrift Shop 10am-4pm
Men's Lunch at Gourmé Rest. 11:30am
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 31 Sun** **Worship 10am—Penny Sunday**
Lenten Study Noon
Easter Lily order deadline



APRIL 2019 DATES TO REMEMBER

- 2 Tues** **Trustee Meeting 7pm**
- 3 Wed** Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm
Fit Club, 7:15pm
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 4 Thurs** Thrift Shop **CLOSED** for change over
Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal at CUMC 7:45pm
- 7 Sun** **Worship 10am**
Communion
Worship Team Meeting 11:30am
Children's Choir
- 9 Tues** **Interfaith Field Trip Passover Seder**

- 10 Wed** Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm
Adult Social Club Meeting 7pm
Fit Club, 7:15pm
Band Rehearsal 8pm
- 11 Thurs** Thrift Shop 10am-4pm
Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 14 Sun** **Worship 10am**
Palm Sunday
Children's Choir
- 16 Tues** Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 17 Wed** Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm
Band Rehearsal 8:15pm
- 18 Thurs** Thrift Shop 10am-4pm
Maundy Thursday Worship 7pm
- 19 Fri** **Good Friday Worship 8:15pm**
"Song of the Shadows"
at Columbia United Methodist Church
- 21 Sun** **Sunrise Easter Service 7am**
Easter Breakfast 8am
Traditional Easter Worship 10am

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,522.02
Last Week's Offering Received \$2,570.25
(Difference -\$951.77)

So far, we have received 76 pledges totaling \$129,432.00.



ALTAR FLOWERS



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.

2019 Flower sign-up chart is posted and several Sundays are still available for this year!

STEEPLE LIGHTING

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.



From our friends at First Lutheran Church:
FREE LENTEN CONCERT
With David Gooding, Organist and
The Amethyst String Quartet
Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.
19419 Royalton Road Strongsville

PLEASE SAVE YOUR PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS!

A friend of Amanda Hawk is making a memorial bench constructed of plastic bottle caps. There is a red can adjacent to the coffee pots in Pilgrim Hall for the caps.



INTERFAITH FIELD TRIP

Members of our church are invited to the annual Interfaith Passover Seder at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple (23737 Fairmount Blvd. Beachwood, OH 44122) on **Tuesday, April 9** from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Space is limited to 30 attendees, so please indicate your interest to Pastor Heidi or on the back of an attendance card placed in the offering plate. Deadline for reservations is **today, March 24, 2019**. The April meeting of the Board of Trustees has been moved to April 2, 2019.



PENNY SUNDAY—The next Penny Sunday collection is **March 31**, and will go to flood victims in Nebraska and the Midwest through United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries.



EASTER LILY 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 31, 2019**. 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 **and envelopes** are available in the Gathering Area.

For Church Records

2019 Easter Lily

Total number of plants: _____ Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Offering envelope number: _____ Cash/Check No. _____

Name: _____

*Order deadline is **next Sunday, March 31, 2019**.*

