



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 31, 2019 – 10:00 A.M.
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Penny 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.

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 "What Wondrous Love is This?" Walker

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Sally Herzog

INTROIT "Jesus Loves the Little Children/Small Packages"

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Can you feel it? God's kingdom is springing up all around us.

People: **We live in a new creation, shaped by God's love, out of our brokenness.**

Leader: Can you feel it? God's reconciling love in Christ has shown us new ways of loving one another.

People: **No longer do we label or exclude our sisters and brothers; now, we welcome everyone with open arms.**

Leader: Do you believe it? God is making all things, including us, brand new!

People: **God now sends us forth to share this good news with everyone!**

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Joshua 5: 9-12

† **HYMN 340** "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" (sing twice)

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 "Lord, Listen to our Prayer"

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM "They'll Know We Are Christians" Spiritual

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Penny Sunday Collection

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "Were You There?" Traditional Spiritual

† **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 15:1-3; 11-32

SERMON Welcome Home

† **HYMN 575** "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** "O, Sacred Head, Now Wounded" Hassler/J.S. Bach

† **POSTLUDE** "Passion Chorale" Hassler/J.S. Bach

SERVING

TODAY – MARCH 31		NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 7
The Clotworthy Family	Liturgists	Judi Pavisich
Dan & Linda Ponstingle	Greeters	Linda Plain
Elaine Coffey/Teri Barbish	Ushers	Linda Plain
Judi Pavisich	Coffee Hour	Elaine Coffey/Teri Barbish
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins

The altar flowers are given—
Happy 40th Birthday to Diane Kuzmickas on March 25th!
Sarah, Pam, and Bruce Keenen
(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—
Happy Birthday to Rob Wentz on April 1st
Love, Grammy

Happy Birthday today to Mason Reed!

The Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, April 2 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.

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.



LENTEN STUDY WITH PASTOR HEIDI: RESUMES TODAY. 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.



PENNY SUNDAY—Today's Penny Sunday collection is will go to flood victims in Nebraska and the Midwest through **United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries.** (Checks can be made out to UCC.)

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. 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 are located in the pews. Today is the official special offering date.

WELCOME, BABIES!

Ginny Churnega and Kenn Oerkfitz became great-grandparents on March 26, 2019-- twice!

- **Allison Nicole** was born to **Kyra Krause & Justin Sieving**. Grandparents are **Debbie & Lee Krause**.
- **Carson James** was born to **Jenny Wahl and Dallas Brammer**. Grandparents are **Cheryl & Ed Sobek**.



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, Sam Cuyler Jr., 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 Mihlack, 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), 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.



OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,522.02
 Last Week's Offering Received \$1,542.00
 (Difference -\$1,980.02)



Have you been noticing that we are showing negative numbers a lot of weeks? It's true, our giving is behind, but if we all pull together, we will be able to pay our bills. Thanks for supporting your church!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Southwest General Hospital will be hosting a seminar on **Health Care Power of Attorney/Advance Directives**, on Thursday, April 4, 2 - 4 p.m. If you are interested in attending, contact **Chaplain Charissa Prunty**, 440-816-8648.



THE THRIFT SHOP will be closed on April 4 for spring change-over, then will resume their regular schedule and be 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 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.

Thank you to our friends at Papa John's Pizza in Strongsville donated pizza to our Free Lunch for All Program last week.



River Valley Paper Company

KEEP RECYCLING YOUR PAPER GOODS!

Four times a year, River Valley has bonus weeks, which earn even more money for our church. The next bonus week will be **April 14 - 20, 2019**. Thank you to everyone who deposits their paper, flattened cardboard, magazines, and newspapers in our bin!

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. **The April meeting of the Board of Trustees has been moved to April 2, 2019.**



MARCH 2019 DATES TO REMEMBER

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 8pm
- 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 8pm
- 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
- 23 Tues Official Board Meeting 7pm**
- 24 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm**
 Adult Social Club 7pm
 Fit Club 7:15pm
 Band Rehearsal 8pm
- 25 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-4pm**
 Men's Lunch Gourmé Restaurant 11:30am
 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8pm
- 28 Sun Worship 10am--Penny Sunday**
 Children's Choir



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
Today, 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.

DIACONATE WING NIGHT TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

Join us for this important fundraiser toward the weekly tasks of the church on **Friday, May 3** at Grindstone Tap House in Berea. Tickets are \$25 per person and available in Pilgrim Hall after worship.

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 **today, 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.

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 **Today, March 31, 2019**.

