



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

(Congregational)

13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136

(440) 238-6697

[StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com](mailto:StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com)

[StrongsvilleUCC.com](http://StrongsvilleUCC.com)

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, March 31, 2024– 7 A.M.

Easter 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.

**WELCOME**

Pastor Heidi

**INTROIT**

"Agnus Dei"

Smith

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: This is the day of our Lord's Resurrection:

**People: The day our tears are wiped away, the day our hearts are healed. The day our fears are replaced with unbounding joy! Where, O Death, is your victory?**

Leader: This is the day of our Lord's Resurrection:

**People: The tomb is empty! Where now, O Death, is your sting?**

Leader: This is the day of the Lord's Resurrection:

**ALL: Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

† **OPENING SONG**

"Joy to the World"

**Joy to the World! The Lord is come;**

**Let earth receive her king.**

**Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room**

**And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing**

**And heav'n, and heav-en and nature sing!**

**Joy to the World! The Savior reigns;**

**Let men their songs employ,**

**While fields and floods, rocks hills and plains**

**Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,**

**Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow,**

**nor thorns infest the ground.**

**He comes to make His blessing flow**

**Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,**

**Far as, far as the curse is found.**

† **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

† **GATHERING SONG**

"Morning Has Broken"

**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.

**OFFERING**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**REFLECTION ON MARK 16** But wait—there's *more!* The Message

† **CLOSING SONG**

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

**Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!**

**Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!**

**Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!**

**Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!**

**Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!**

**Dying once, He all doth save, Alleluia!**

**Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!**

**Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!**

**Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!**

**Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia!**

**Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!**

**Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!**

**Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

† **BENEDICTION**

As you go out into God's world this week, be Easter people! Be those who say, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here. He is risen." Be ready to be surprised with what God will do next. Look for the risen Christ in those you meet. Let the Holy Spirit nudge you and guide you. The tomb is empty because Jesus is out in the world, and now we must go out into the world too! May the joy and wonder of that first Easter morning live in your hearts today, and every day. Amen.



Please join us for a complimentary breakfast in Pilgrim Hall following the service this morning.

Thank you to the breakfast crew!

**SERVING**

**10 A.M. – MARCH 31**

Judi Pavisich

Dale Hawk

Judi Pavisich

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Sharon Heinrich

Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich

Tom Nazelli, Bells, Choir

Ralph Heimburger, Carol Foley, Ken Mehalko

**Greeters**

**Liturgist**

**Ushers**

**Director of Music**

**Associate Director of Music**

**Organist**

**Video/Sound**

**Special Music**

**NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 7**

Linda Plain

Elaine Coffey

Volunteers needed

Tom Foley

Mike Elkins

Sharon Heinrich

Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich

Sandy O'Shea, Will Foley

**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.



**Our steeple** will light the sky this week—

*Happy Birthday to Rob Wentz on April 1<sup>st</sup>!*

With love, Grammy

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING-- LAST CHANCE**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world.

When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Envelopes are in the pews.



**FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL: PENNY SUNDAY THANK YOU!**

Last Sunday, we collected \$244.11 for

**Friendship APL** in Elyria to assist in the care of the animals at the shelter. The next Penny Sunday will be **April 28<sup>th</sup>**.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL— The children will have an Easter Egg Hunt during our Sunday School classes today during the 10 A.M. worship service. Kids of all ages are welcome to participate!**



**FROM OUR FRIENDS AT SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CHORUS**



SWCC will have a Spring Concert, "When I Hear Music," on **Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>** at 3 p.m. at the Berea United Methodist Church (170 Seminary Street in Berea). The Chorus is under the direction of **Tom Foley**, accompanied by **Carol Konet** and **Jarred Sorauf** some of the singers this season include **Craig Hardy, Sharon Maresco, Ingrid Dickson,**

**Irene Joyce, Pam & Bruce Keenen, and Sarah Keenen** and a few other familiar faces and voices. Tickets will be available at the door or from our own choir members who sing with the chorus.

**OFFERINGS RECEIVED**

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,617.01

Last Week's Offering Received \$ 2,169.00

Difference (-\$1,448.01)

*Thank you very much for your support.*

**PLEDGE CARDS RECEIVED TO DATE: 50**



**IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of long-time church member **Ruth Milidonis**, who died on March 20, 2024 at the age of 96. Ruth was an active member, serving on many boards and committees until she was no longer able to do so. She had three daughters and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The graveside service will be held on April 5, 2024 at Crown Hill Cemetery in Twinsburg at Noon. Donations in memory of Ruth may be given to our church's Memorial Fund. (Checks to UCC).





### OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Joan Beckwith, 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, Reggie McCray, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Peter Smith, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

**Extended Church Family:** Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldridge, Ron & Yvonne Adams (Judi Pavisich's friends), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Allison Emerson (Colette's sister), Ed Fabian (the Bagley's Grill girls' friend), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joanne Gariepy (Sally Herzog's friend), Kathy Ghetti (friend of Ginger Rothel), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel's parents), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel'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), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), Don Wills (friend of Judi Pavisich), 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

### FAMILY GAME GATHERING!



**SATURDAY, APRIL 6<sup>th</sup> 2 p.m. - ?**  
Couldn't make it to Retreat? Join us for a sample of the fun and games we enjoy at Templed Hills every year.

Bring a snack to share, your own beverage, and your favorite board games, card games, or craft project. We'll have trivia, food, fellowship, and fun for all ages!

**Mark your calendars now for the Diaconate's Annual Wing Night! Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at Grindstone Tap House in Berea—start thinking of your basket ideas now!**

### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP—Upcoming Events

On **Monday, April 1**, at 7pm at church, the Evening Group will trace and cut out fleece circles for Snuffleballs (treat holders) for dogs and cats at the Columbia Station animal shelter.

On **Wednesday, April 3**, at 1pm with Elaine Coffey, the Daytime Group will meet at church and then go to Kemper House for a sing-along with residents.

### BOOK STUDY--A YEAR OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

Continuing on **April 15<sup>th</sup>**, 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!



### To the Glory of God

*Easter flowers are given:*

In honor of all the lost souls in the world and those who are alone without families. Our hearts and God are with you all.  
Serena Abruzzino & Familia

In Honor and Remembrance of Seal Team #3 member  
Special Warfare Operator 1<sup>st</sup> Class Chris Chambers  
Diana Creecy

In Honor and Remembrance of Seal Team #3 member  
Special Warfare Operator 1<sup>st</sup> Class Cass Nathan Gage  
Diana Creecy

Happy Easter around the World!  
In Loving Memory of My Grandparents—  
Peter and Edna Lansell, LeRoy and Rasha Ritchie  
Gina Cathcart

In Memory of Gordon Cockrell,  
Harry and Kathryn Johnson, and  
Harold and Wava Cockrell  
Kathryn Cockrell and Family

In Loving Memory of Michael E. & Deborah M. Dickson  
Ingrid and Greg Dickson and Family

In Honor of Sarah Toth, Sally Herzog, & Brandi Garsteck  
In Memory of Steve Herzog  
Mary Fargo

In Honor of the Foley Family  
In Loving Memory of William J. Foley  
Carol Foley

In honor of Maureen Harrah  
Roz Fotos

In Loving Memory of Bill Fraunfelder  
Barb Fraunfelder

In Loving Memory of Betty and Don Bushea  
and Anita and Bill McKenna  
Barb Fraunfelder and Dennis Smith

In Loving Memory of Joyce and Beck Summers  
Judy Fox

In Loving Memory of Our Parents and Grandparents,  
Betty and Don Babics  
The Gigliotti & Kubancik Families

In Loving Memory of Our Parents and Grandparents,  
JoAnn & Louis Gigliotti  
The Gigliotti Family

In Loving Memory of Our Parents and Grandparents,  
Don and Lois Winch and Bill and Ruth Giuliano  
In Loving Memory of Mark Giuliano  
Bill and Beth Giuliano, Nicole and Brett Wade, and Luke Giuliano

In Loving Memory of Lois Anne Hampson  
Herb Hampson

In Memory of our Parents, Verna Vardiman and John Hattery, Sr.  
John and Martha Hattery

In Loving Memory of Charles and Thelma Hawk  
In Loving Memory of Richard and Sally Mack  
Dale and Cathy Hawk  
For the Love of our Grandchildren:  
Riley, Jack, Lacey, Ella, and Henry  
Cathy and Dale Hawk

Happy Easter, Everyone—with Love!  
Corinne Jackson

In Loving Memory of our Parents  
Frank and Beatrice Jefferis and Paul and Dorothy Jackson  
In Loving Memory of all our loved ones  
Frank and Pat Jefferis

In Loving Memory of Erik O. Jannsohn,  
James J. Joyce Sr. and Mary Joyce-Smith  
Eric R. Jannsohn, Aimee J. Jannsohn,  
and Brooke M. Akins  
Irene A. Jannsohn, Ingrid and Greg Dickson,  
Irene and Jim Joyce

In Memory of the Pastor's wife  
In Memory of the Pastor's mother  
In Honor of the Pastor's children & grandchildren  
Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall

Easter Blessings to our Family and Friends!  
Judi Pavisich

In Loving Memory of Family Members  
No longer with us. Miss them immensely!  
George and Joyce Reed

In Loving Memory of Our Grandparents,  
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Clements  
In Loving Memory of Our Parents,  
Roger and Lorna Robinson  
In Loving Memory of Our Aunt Rhea Clements  
Becky and Bill Robinson

In Loving Memory of our parents and grandparents, Jean and Joe Rung and  
Willie Mae and Jimmy Lee Cuyler  
In Loving Memory of Ruby Jean and Jimmy Lee Cuyler, Jr.  
Sam, Lora, Samuel, and Braxden

Happy Easter!  
Bill and Deborah Schneider

For our loved ones, church family and friends—a very Happy Easter to all of  
you—Peace and God Bless

Sandy O'Shea, Doug, Schyler, Devin and Leo Thorn

Easter Blessings to our Children and Grandchildren  
John and Barbara Toth

Love to our Children and Grandchildren  
Bev Wehr and Ken Mehalko

For our Grandchildren:  
Isaac, Jonah, Luke, Leila, and Hannah  
Mike and Mary Willis

In Loving Memory of Bob Zimmerman  
Mary Ellen Zimmerman



## 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

## FREE LUNCH FOR ALL-- Wednesdays

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

Thank you to all our faithful  
volunteers!

**Please note:** If the Strongsville City Schools are closed due to inclement weather on a Wednesday, the Free Lunch will not be served on that day.



**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.

**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.



## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



• The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **April 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

• The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **April 16<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the

Parlor

• The Official Board will meet on the fourth Sunday of the month, **April 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



## 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.

**MANY THANKS, AS ALWAYS, TO OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS!**

## 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 \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_