

**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

**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall**  
Pastor

**Worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (+online)**

## MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*Being alone and actually sitting with our own thoughts can lead to such growth and realizations that are rare in our everyday busy lives. –Kourtney Kardashian\**

#### Some really good dirt.

There is a parable in Scripture where Jesus tells of a farmer sowing seed. Depending on many factors, the seed may die or flourish. The most important variable seems to be the soil on which the seed is cast.

In other words, plant the seed as instructed using the best potting soil or fertilized dirt available, and the likelihood of success is much higher. True enough.

So if this is a parable about our lives, what, exactly, are the seeds? And the dirt? Good questions.

When I was teaching years ago, every spring we would plant sunflower seeds in a clear cup so the children could better understand this whole growing process. They watched as the taproot headed deeper and the two flat leaves first appeared. Sure enough, there really was a plant inside that seed! But without dirt, water and light, no plant.

And especially, with no little farmer child to tend the plants—they wither and die.

So what? What's this got to do with our lives? Only this:

We need good soil. And we need light and water. But what we really need, more than anything, is a community of caring "farmers" willing to water us when we are dry; to nourish our souls; and when darkness overcomes us, to turn us so we can see the light. We all share and celebrate when the harvest of Love is strong.

Peace, Good Soil and Deep Roots,  
Pastor Heidi

*\* Chosen to remind us that God's word can come to us from unexpected places!*

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**SUNDAY, MAY 2 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

**Sacrament of Communion**

**Special Music: SUCC Praise Players**

**Liturgists: Sharon Heinrich (9 a.m.),  
Sandy O'Shea (10:30 a.m.)**



**SUNDAY – MAY 9 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

**Sacrament of Baptism (online)**

**Special Music: Bell Choir**

**Liturgists: Beverly Wehr (9 a.m.),  
Judi Pavisich (10:30 a.m.)**



**SUNDAY—MAY 16 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

**Special Music: Satori Winds**

**Liturgists: Sharon Heinrich (9 a.m.),  
Dale Hawk (10:30 a.m.)**



**SUNDAY – MAY 23 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

*Pentecost Sunday*

**Special Music: Ken Mehalko**

**Liturgists: Irene Joyce (9 a.m.),  
Linda Ponstingle (10:30 a.m.)**

**SUNDAY – MAY 30 – 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

*Trinity Sunday-First Sunday after Pentecost*

**Special Music: Sharon Heinrich, Dave Williams**

**Liturgists: Irene Joyce (9 a.m.),  
Dave Williams (10:30 a.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](http://strongsvilleucc.com), go to **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**. Our YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCynOZfg4uKoX7HMnKORbXfQ/videos>



**IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES**

Starting Sunday, May 2, 2021  
9 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.  
(Reservations required—  
call 440-238-6697)

(Safety protocols will be in place.)  
A COMBINED SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS  
WILL BE OFFERED AT THE 10:30 A.M.  
SERVICE.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Please call the church if you would like to sign up to teach on one of the Sundays (supplies and lessons will be provided).

Recordings of the weekly worship service will still be available online later on Sundays or early on Mondays.

**BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to **Angelo James Joseph Diasio**, son of **Alicia Diasio**, who was baptized on April 3, 2021. Godparents are **Joseph Diasio** and **Erika Low**.



**BABY GIRLS!**

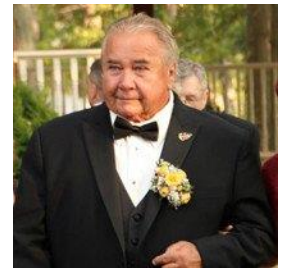


Congratulations to **Chase & Lauren Masuga** on the birth of their daughter, **Anastasia Lola Masuga**, who was born April 12, 2021. She was 9lbs 3oz, 18.5 inches. Congratulations also to grandparents **Vicky & Dan Masuga**, big sister **Audriana**, and great-grandmother **Lola Millhoane!**

Welcome to the world, **Isabella Sue Carnabuci!** She was born on April 19, 2021, checking in at 6 lbs, 8 oz and 18" long. Isabella's mother is **Brianna Rolland**; dad is **Ryan**, and big sisters are **Alayna and Cheyenne**. Proud grandparents are **Dawn & Ken Rolland**, along with aunts **Emily Trill** and **Alysha Rolland** and uncle **Ian Rolland!**



Our love and prayers are extended to **Betty Jacobson** on the death of her son, **Alan Robert Jacobson**, who passed away April 19, 2021. Our sympathies also to his wife, **Renee** and his children **Nathan (Mindy)**, **Eric**, **Matthew**, **Sarah (Chris)**, **Nicholas (Maddy)**, and to his many grandchildren. Alan was a long-time employee of the Strongsville Service Department and a long-term member of the Strongsville Community.



**THANK YOU NOTES**

Many thanks to **Sharon Heinrich, Brittany Fernandez, Eric Degne & Tom Nazelli (guest Easter Brass) Robert Foley, Carol Foley, Sarah Keenen, and The Venner Clarinet Quartet: Amy Dragga, Dick K. Ingersoll, Marc Paige, & Vicki Smith** for sharing their music with us in April for our recorded worship services.



**From our members and friends...**



Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the birthday wishes and greetings for my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday! I am grateful for my church family every day.  
**Irene Jannsohn (aka Oma)**

## IN-PERSON BOARD MEETINGS RESUME



- **The Board of Trustees** will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **May 11<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.
- **The Diaconate** will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **May 18<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.
- **The Official Board** will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **May 25<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.

Of course, the usual safety protocols will be in place at all in-person meetings.

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### HELP NEEDED!



Our Panera Bread ministry is a vital means of outreach to the community. We need a volunteer or two (or three) to pick up bread and pastries from the Panera Bread store on Royalton Road on Monday mornings at 9 a.m. The job only requires picking up the baked goods from the store and dropping them off at the church, where the volunteers sort the goodies for distribution. If we can get a few people to volunteer, we can have a rotating schedule.

Please contact the church by emailing [strongsvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleucc@gmail.com) or calling 440-238-6697 if you are willing to be a part of the important Panera Bread ministry.

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### UNSUNG HEROES

Did you know that **Linda Pinstingle** baked dozens of Easter cookies and bagged them with the help of Barbara Toth, as an Easter gift from the church? Thank you for the treat!



Did you know that **Ryan Heinrich** spent countless hours assisting in the transfer of the hosting company for our website? Thanks also to **Sally Herzog** for researching alternatives and to **Doug Thorn** for his help.

Did you know that the faithful bread transporters and sorters, **Judy Carte**, **Maria Graeff**, **Cathy Hawk**, **Sally Herzog**, **Linda Kapcar**, **Sharon & Jim Maresco**, **Sharon Lempner**, **Rick & Cherie Teagno**, **Sarah Toth**, and **Mary Ellen Zimmerman** continue to make the Panera Bread ministry possible? Won't you join them?

## OUR PRAYER LIST

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



**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Janet Kato, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Joan Beckwith, Adria Bond, Eddy Bond, Mary Carey, Elaine Coffey, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Linda Elliott, Don Gleichauf, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Elliott Joyce, Carole Kapcar, Tony Koussa, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Lacey Marshall, Brigitte Matchett, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Joyce Reed, Dorothy and Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, John & Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Jamie & Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

**Extended Church Family:** Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Judy Carte's son-in-law, Ryan, John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Pat Masuga (Dan's mom), 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), Carrol Riley (Marjorie Morrison's dad), Terry Robson (the Camps' friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Anneke Scholtz (Irene Jannsohn's sister), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Daphne Wilson (Irene Jannsohn's niece)

**Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain.**

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The Strongsville Emergency Food Bank will accept donations again starting in

March. **DONATIONS MAY BE TAKEN DIRECTLY TO THE FOOD BANK. It is located on Zverina Lane behind the Strongsville Communications Building.** They are only going to be open Tuesday through Thursday 9:30 a.m. -11:00 a.m. So if you need to drop off...earlier the better...they have to take time now to sanitize the food bank each shift. The needs for the food bank in May would be **SOUP, CANNED CORN, and BEANS!**

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### TRUSTEES UPDATE

- A new Financial Secretary has been hired to take over for **Adria Bond** as she steps back from the position she has held so ably for a number of years. We welcome **Tracy Seneff** as she trains with Adria.



## GIFT CARDS

**YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS PROJECT IN A SAFE WAY THAT BENEFITS OUR CHURCH!**



You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-267-5043 in advance with your

order. Limited stock is available, but special orders may be accommodated with advance notice. **Thank you to those who continue to support this project by purchasing gift cards!**



**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.

## STEEPLE LIGHTING

### Week of April 4<sup>th</sup>

*Happy Birthday on April 5<sup>th</sup> to Barb Fraunfelder!*

*Happy Birthday on April 8<sup>th</sup> to Betty "Grammy" Craig!*

### Week of April 11<sup>th</sup>

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

*With Love, Grammy*

*Happy Birthday to Charles Jannsohn on April 13<sup>th</sup>!*

### Week of April 18<sup>th</sup>

*Happy Birthday to Evan Joyce, Gabby Grace, and Lena Ashforth (her 1st) on April 20<sup>th</sup>!*

*Happy Anniversary, Rachel & Gary Zielinski on April 21<sup>st</sup>!*

*Congratulations to Chase & Lauren Masuga on the birth of Anastasia Lola on 4-12-21!*

Lola Millhoane's 12 great grandchild!

### Week of April 25<sup>th</sup>

*Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Irene Jannsohn on April 24<sup>th</sup>!*

*Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Judi Pavisich on April 29<sup>th</sup>!*

*In memory of John & Lois Hermann (Preidt)—ashes to be buried at Rittman Cemetery  
--Corrine Jackson and Families*



To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Thank you to all who light the steeple. **You**

**may still light the steeple even though we are not meeting in person. Please email the church at [strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com).**

**MEN'S LUNCH BUNCH** meets at 11:30 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at **Gourmé Restaurant** 15315 Pearl Rd. in Strongsville.



## KEEP RECYCLING YOUR PAPER, MAGAZINES, AND CARDBOARD!

The church (and everyone else) benefits any time you recycle. Thank you!

**PLEASE FLATTEN ALL BOXES WHEN RECYCLING CARDBOARD.**



River Valley Paper Company

## SPONSORSHIP OF CAROLINE IN INDIA

**Thank you to everyone who signed up for 2021:**

January—Dale & Cathy Hawk

February—Ginger Rothel

March—Judy Carte

April—Ginger Rothel

May—Sue Gigliotti

June—Dorothy & Bill Ritchie

July—Dale & Cathy Hawk

August—Dale & Cathy Hawk

September—Bill Robinson

October—Dale & Cathy Hawk

November—Barb & Mark Camp

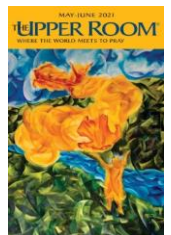
December—Gina Cathcart

Reaching The Unreached



## MAY/JUNE UPPER ROOM AVAILABLE—LARGE PRINT AND POCKET SIZE

Pick up your free copy at the church anytime during church office hours (9 a.m. – 4 p.m. M-F) or on a Sunday morning.



## ADDRESS CHANGES

To update your Church Directory:

**Chase, Lauren, Audriana, & Anastasia Masuga**

6792 Riverwalk  
Valley City, OH 44280



## THRIFT SHOP



The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with enhanced safety protocols in place and

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 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, May 17, 2021 — 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

(We're still open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

Also, the Thrift Shop is in need of volunteers to help out for a couple of hours—sorting, organizing, and selling on Thursdays. Please call Cathy Hawk (440-781-7512) if you can help!



### 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. You may also mail a check to

**Strongsville UCC**

13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136 or drop it off in the church's mailbox.

### NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**Adria Bond/Tracy Seneff**

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from April 4 through April 25, 2021. Thank you to everyone who supports our church and its ministries.

Offering Needed	\$14,597.48 for 4 Sundays
Offering Received	12,295.46
Difference	(- \$2,302.02)



### STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

The annual Strengthen the Church offering will be received throughout the month of May. It is a special mission offering Through Strengthen the Church, United Church of Christ members reach out in the name of Christ to support United Church of Christ ministries throughout the world. Envelopes are available at the church and with the printed copies of this newsletter.



## MAY AT TEMPLED HILLS CAMP!



Are you ready to get out of your house? Did you miss visiting Templed Hills last year? Are you sending a camper to summer camp for the first time this summer? These and many more are great reasons to Join us for a DIY Day in May at Templed Hills. Come out and enjoy the day hiking, exploring the property, bring your own ball or frisbee to play with or just a lawn chair and bring a sack lunch! Only \$5 per person with a maximum of \$15 per family.

If you want a whole weekend getaway, join us for a Parker Ridge Self-contained Camping weekend.

Or Join us for Spring Cleaning day on May 8th. We have a variety of projects to meet your skill level from simple cleaning or gardening, or more complicated to use your home repair or carpentry skills!

Please register through their events calendar.



From our friends at the **Strongsville Community Band: Preliminary 2021 Summer Concert Schedule...**

**Sunday, June 20 at 7:00 PM**

Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band at Hudson Band Stand  
**Friday, July 2 at 7:30** (Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)

**Monday, July 5 at 7:00 PM** Strongsville Community Band at Hudson Band Stand

**Friday, July 9 at 7:30 PM** – Strongsville City Jazz (Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)

**Friday, July 23 at 7:30 PM-** (Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)

**Friday, July 30 at 7:30 PM** (Strongsville middle School Front Lawn)

**Friday, August 6 at 7:30 PM** (Strongsville Middle School Front Lawn)

Please note that concerts scheduled on the Front Lawn of Strongsville Middle School will be moved indoors to the Ehrnfelt Sr./Rec Center in case of inclement weather

**Longtime church member Ramona Glaze is turning 101 on May 25<sup>th</sup>!**

If you'd like to send her a birthday greeting, her address is: 18036 Ledgepoint Place Strongsville, OH 44136



## CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2021

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 Co-Superintendents**  
Linda Elkins\*\* Serena Abruzzino\*\*

### Board of Trustees

Greg Dickson Mike Clotworthy\*  
Myron Costin\* Bill Giuliano  
Dale Hawk Sandy Pogozeleski  
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 Sue Gigliotti\*  
Beth Giuliano Judi Pavisich\*\* Bill Schneider\*\*

### Mission and Outreach Committee

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



### Acts 2:1-4 New Revised Standard Version The Coming of the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

## GRADUATES

Our church would like to recognize our graduates, so please let us know if someone is graduating within your family. We are interested to have an accurate list of graduates from high school, college, and schools of higher learning.

Name of graduate: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate's address: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date (month at least): \_\_\_\_\_

Church Family member: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to church member: \_\_\_\_\_

Activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Honors and Awards: \_\_\_\_\_

Diploma / Degree Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

Future Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Grandparents: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email the above information, along with a photo of the graduate, to the church office at [strongsvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleucc@gmail.com) by **Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**.



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