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, November 1, 2026– 10 A.M.
All Saint's Sunday
Sacrament of Holy Communion

W E L C O M E!

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 always welcome here.

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† *Please stand as you are comfortable.*

PRELUDE "Blessed Assurance" Knapp

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Ingrid Dickson

INTROIT "Steal Away" Traditional Spiritual

† CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: On this All Saints' Sunday, we pause to remember the tender touch of loved ones, the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts of fearless ones.
People: We remember and give thanks, O God. (*pause*)
Leader: For the loyalty of friends; the kindness of strangers; the gentle strength of grandmothers; the sacrifice of parents; the joy of children.
People: We remember and give thanks, O God. (*pause*)
Leader: For the supreme, unconditional love of Jesus; for the gift of his Spirit that shines brightly in the lives of all his disciples, throughout the ages and still today.
People: We remember in every time and in every place the saints of God who reveal God's heart to us. (*pause*)
All: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses… let us worship God with joy!

† HYMN 170 **"Give Thanks"**

READING FROM THE PSALMS **Psalm 34:1-10**
(New International Version)

I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.
I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.
Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt God's name together.
I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.
Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.
This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;
He saved him out of all his troubles.
The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.
O taste and see that the Lord is good!
Blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.
Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.
The lions may grow weak and hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Leader: The Word of God, for us, the people of God;
People: Thanks be to God.

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE / TOLLING OF THE BELL
Our family of faith has gathered this morning to worship, to praise, to remember, and to pray. We know and believe that we are joined in spirit by those whom we have loved and lost in this life, joined in ways we do not yet understand but in which we hope. On this All Saints Sunday, we remember those who have been a part of this church, related in important ways to the life of this church who have gone on to meet their Lord this past year:

Richard M. Roenn 01/01/2026
Steve J. Gall 01/02/2026*
Barbara Joan Bridle 01/09/2026*
Amelia (Amy) Carroll 04/03/2026 *(Marty Winch's sister)*
Elroy (Roy) Merkle 04/15/2026*
George Mellon Reed 06/09/2026*
Cynthia Ann Lipson 06/24/2026 *(Jeff Buchdrucker's sister)*
Janice Lorene Meier 07/25/2026*
Dr. Beth Kay Remaly 07/28/2026 *(Lori Kovatich's step-mother)*
Shelly Lynn Plasky 08/25/2026
Sheena Toth 10/14/2026 (*Dale Toth's mother*)

*indicates church member/attendee or former church member/attendee

PRAYING IN SILENCE
Pastor: Lord, in your mercy, **ALL: Hear our prayers. Amen.**

ANTHEM "Always Remember" Sewell

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DEDICATION OF MEMORIALS Greg Dickson

GENEROSITY MOMENT Sarah Toth

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "We'll Understand It Better By and By" Tindley

† 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.

† DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

READING FROM THE EPISTLES **Philippians 4: 1-9**
(The Inclusive Bible)

For these reasons, my kinfolk—you whom I so love and long for, you who are my joy and my crown—continue, my dear ones, to remain firm in Christ Jesus. I implore Euodia and Syntyche to come to an agreement with each other in Christ. And I ask you, my loyal companion, to be a true comrade and help these coworkers. These two women struggled at my side in defending the Good News, along with Clement and the others who worked with me. Their names are written in the Book of Life. Rejoice in Christ always! I say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to everyone. Christ is near. Dismiss all anxiety from your minds; instead, present your needs to God through prayer and petition, giving thanks for all circumstances. Then God's own peace, which is beyond all understanding, will stand guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloveds, your thoughts should be wholly directed to all that is true, all that deserves respect, all that is honest, pure, decent, admirable, virtuous or worthy of praise. Live according to what you have learned and accepted, what you have heard me say and seen me do.
Then will the God of peace be with you.

REFLECTION "Marching Orders" Rev. Paula Womack

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

CALL TO RECONCILIATION
Pastor: Here in this community of those who seek God, we know we are not saints. We are wrapped in those strips of words, of thoughts, of actions which bind us to sin, not to God. But our God has promised us new hope, new life, fresh mercy, if we will but confess. I invite you to join me, as we pray together:

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS
ALL: We come to you, Listener of our broken lives, with our hands soiled with the pain we have caused, with our ears stuffed with the words of those who speak falsely, with our hearts stained with those lusts and hungers we would be embarrassed for others to know.
Forgive us and have mercy on us, Wiper of our tears. As we seek to journey from the baptismal waters towards the feast you prepare in glory, may we turn our faces toward you in every moment, listen to your words in the depths of our hearts, and follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, every step of the way. (*silent prayer*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Pastor: Lift up your heads, saints of God! Your sin is forgiven, your hands, once filled with the foolish things of this world, are now empty, waiting to be filled again from God's bounty. God has clothed you with garments of joy to wear to the feast.
ALL: Our former life has passed, our new life in Christ has begun. All things are made new, including us! Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP
"As We Gather at the Table" Hatch

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.

† HYMN 767 **"For All the Saints" (vv 1,2, 4, & 5)**

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" Luther

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A N O T E O F T H A N K S—We thank our **Chancel Choir,** and our music team: **Mike Elkins, Tom Foley,** and **Sharon Heinrich** for today's music. We welcome **Rev. Paula Womack** and the Pulpit Search Committee of Brecksville UCC.

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OUR GUEST SPEAKER

Rev. Paula Womack is a UCC minister serving at an urban church in North Carolina. She has served as a hospice chaplain and as a facilitator of a community grief support group for parents who have had a child die. She and her wife of many years, Jane, love watching hockey, trips to the ocean and sharing life with their spicy orange cat, Milo.



SERVING

TODAY – NOVEMBER 1		NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 8
Linda Plain	**Greeters**	Marsha Hemphill
Pastor Heidi	**Liturgist**	Sharon Maresco
Bill Robinson	**Head Usher**	Wayne Cook
Tom Foley	**Director of Music**	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	**Associate Director of Music**	Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	**Organist**	Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	**Video/Sound**	Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Chancel Choir	**Special Music**	Chancel Choir



Today's altar flowers are given—
In loving memory of Bill Fraunfelder
Love, Barb
In loving memory of Kelly and Lil Gubics, Ova and Ray Dick
The Schneiders

THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2027 IS POSTED IN PILGRIM HALL. Please sign up for fresh flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one or just for yourself. Cost is $36 for two vases; $18 for one.

SIGN UP EARLY AND GET YOUR FIRST CHOICE OF DATES!



Our steeple will light the sky this week—
In loving memory of William A. Fraunfelder, Jr.
We miss you, Bill! --The Music Ministry

***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**, select **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**.*

ATTENDANCE CARDS ARE IN YOUR BULLETIN!
Please take a moment to complete the card that is in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate. You may write prayer requests on the reverse side, if you wish to have us pray for someone and add a name to the prayer chain.



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PENNY SUNDAY THANK YOU!

We collected $576.40 for our Thanksgiving "Basket" program. **November 29th** will be the last Penny Sunday of 2026 and will go to the City Mission.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR TRUNK OR TREAT LAST WEEK!





THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IS COMING!

Rehearsals will take place during and after Sunday School classes each week prior to December 13th—OUR PAGEANT DAY, when we will have our pageant during the worship service!

OFFERINGS RECEIVED



Weekly Offering Needed	$ 5,212.00
Last Week's Offering Received	$ 3,756.75
Difference	-($ 2,362.00)

Thank you very much for your support.
2026 PLEDGES RECEIVED: 62

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LIVE NATIVITY AND OPEN HOUSE:



For this year's Open House on **Sunday, November 22nd,** we are planning to celebrate outside with the community, but have live music indoors. We will have all the favorite live animals, except the late Charlie the Camel, who died last September! We need volunteers to participate in the Live Nativity (in shifts). Easy to wear costumes are provided and all ages are encouraged to be a part of this wonderful tradition.

SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN PILGRIM HALL.

We are also accepting donations to defray the cost of renting the animals. Please mark your donation "animals" and give checks to UCC or cash to the church office.

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OUR PRAYER LIST



Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Irene Jannsohn, Connie Rebar

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Jen Barry, Jean Bittinger, Mark Camp, Judy Carte, Betty Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Roger Davis, Colette Emerson, Roz Fotos, Sue Hawk, Cindy Hurley, Charles Jannsohn, Carole Kapcar, Pam & Bruce Keenen, Bonnie Khavaran, Erv Koch, Jill Kundtz, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Jim Maresco, Ken Mehalko, Barbara Morgan, Amanda Moulton, Ginny & Kenn Oerkfitz, Joyce Reed, Dorothy Ritchie, Ron Rothel, Jennifer Sekorky, Tracy Seneff, Peter Smith, Sandy Smith, Bruce Sperber, Linda Stepan, John Toth, Heather Williams, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Teresa Beba (Free Lunch friend), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Derek Denman (Pastor Heidi's son), Allison Emerson (Colette's sister), David Fargo (Sally Herzog's brother), Dr. Natalie Feagin (Pentecostal Church of Christ), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend, David Gleichauf (Don & Sandy's grandson), Ellen Harrison (Linda Elkins' friend), Michaelene Hanrahan (Jim Joyce's sister), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel's parents), Ben Hoty (Tony & Jo-Ann Hoty's son), Tami Klammer (principal of Snow School), Dave Lempner (Sharon's husband), George Love (friend of the church), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Michael & Judy Richter (Roz Fotos' friends), Bob Ritchie (Dorothy's grandson), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Don & Pauline Wills (Judi Pavisich's friends), Julia Wright (Sandy & Don Gleichauf's granddaughter), the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Gaza, Iran, Venezuela and Israel, victims of violence and natural disasters, First Responders

OPT-IN: Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain. **h.e.denman@gmail.com**

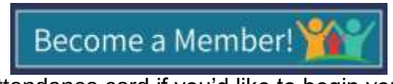
OUR BIBLE STUDY GROUP CONTINUES!



Join us, **Monday, November 16th**—at 7 p.m. It will be an in-depth look at The Lord's Prayer which is an integral part of our weekly worship services. And there will be a bit of fun involved too. Attendees are encouraged to bring a Bible to the sessions.

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NEW MEMBER CLASS COMING SOON!



Please contact Pastor Heidi or write "membership" on the back of your attendance card if you'd like to begin your Strongsville UCC membership journey!

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS:



We are still Accepting Donations for our Thanksgiving "Basket" project

We will not be collecting actual food items for those in need, but we still want to provide food assistance to those who may require it, so we will be accepting monetary donations or donations of food gift cards for the families on our list. If you would like to contribute, you may purchase gift cards via the church office or place a check in the offering plate, labeled "THANKSGIVING." **Also, if you know of someone in need, please contact Pastor Heidi or the church office.**

And the Mitten Tree…



We will collect hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks for the needy this year. From **November 8th through December 6th**, bring your items to the church during office hours and they will be placed on the Mitten Tree. After the 1st, the items will be given to the homeless shelter and the tree will become the **Family of Faith tree**. If you have not donated an ornament for yourself/your family, you may bring it to the church office and your ornament will join the others on our tree!

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UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Mission Outreach Committee will meet on the second Sunday of the month, **November 8th** following the worship service.
- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **November 10th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **November 17th** at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **November 24th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

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THREE WITH GLEE!



Capital Campaign: We currently have $33,978.43 in our capital campaign after paying for the glass block windows in the Pearl Road basement.Several projects have been completed and several are underway. We started in March 2025, so September 2026 was the halfway point of the campaign. Please make sure you designate your donation for "*Capital Campaign*." Thanks for your continuing support.

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BE A GREETER! A new sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area is waiting for your name to be added as a greeter. No experience is necessary—we will show you everything you need to know. Being a greeter is a wonderful way to get to know people and welcome them to worship.

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THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Come and shop lots of interesting merchandise at amazing prices. Donations are accepted during our Thursday sale hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry downstairs. **Please do not abandon items outside the church doors.**

2027 GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN
THE B.R.E.A.D. OF LIFE

Be Present
Relationships
Engagement
Activities
Donate



Strongsville United Church of Christ
2027 Estimate of Giving

In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2027:

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 our church in my will.

☐☐I would like to talk with someone about using the automatic deduction plan from my checking account.

Signed _____

Date ____/____/____ ***I am the bread of life. John 6:48***

ALTAR POINSETTIA FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Order deadline is **Sunday, December 6, 2026**. Please complete this form and give it to the Church office with your cash or check payment**.** The cost is $8.00 per plant.

Wording for bulletin: _____

_____

_____

Given by: _____

Number of plants: ___ x $8.00/plant = $_____

I WILL: TAKE MY PLANT(S) ☐
LEAVE FOR A SHUT-IN ☐

Please make your check payable to ***United Church of Christ,*** *and* place it with your order in the offering plate, under the office door, or mail it to*:*

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

For Treasurer's Records 2026 Christmas Poinsettia

Total number of plants: _____

Amount enclosed: $_____

Envelope number: _____ Cash/Check #_____

Name: _____



Order deadline is Sunday, December 6, 2026.

ALL SAINTS DAY REMEMBRANCE 2026

In Loving Memory

Rebecca Joy Oerkfitz-Garcia
Elvera J. "Ellie" Heinrich
Thomas Gaumer
Carrie Dianne Skrant
Barbara Bridle
Elroy "Roy" Merkle
Amelia "Amy" Carroll
Donald and Betty Babics
George Reed
Janice Meier
Erik O. Jannsohn
Aimée Jannsohn
William A. Fraunfelder Jr.

2025-2026 Donors

Kenn and Virginia Oerkfitz
Donna and Stanley Skrant
Laura Jean Swartz Bridle Family Trust
Ingrid and Greg Dickson
Irene and James Joyce
Carolyn Kohler
Judith L. Pavisich
Cathleen and Dale Hawk
Neal A. Haug
Robert and Sandra Pogozelski
Doug Thorn and Sandy O'Shea
James and Sharon Heinrich
Tom and Jan Michelson
Barbara Fraunfelder
The Gigliotti Family
Strongsville Rotary Club
Diane Maringer
Sally Herzog
Ms. Patricia Sasena
Michael and Linda Elkins
Mary Ellen Zimmerman
Barbara Fraunfelder
Strongsville UCC Thrift Shop
The Estate of Tom Gaumer

Dedicated to the Glory of God

Bell Choir Music Stands
Bell Choir Folders
Bell Choir Music
Bell Choir polishing cloths
Bell Choir gloves – Gift from the Elkins family
Altar Candles
Altar Flowers in memory of Lloyd and Barbara Bridle



FREE LUNCH FOR ALL—Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

We have been serving around 100 lunches every week, thanks to our dedicated volunteers!

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SAFE SPACES IN THE CHURCH



In the case of a weather or other emergency, designated safe spaces in the church include the basement, the Parlor, the restrooms, and other spaces without windows such as interior hallways. In the event of an emergency, we will proceed in an orderly fashion to these areas.

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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

If you are the last or almost the last person to leave the church building on any given day, please make certain that all the lights are off, no water is running, and most importantly, that the door to the kitchen and the parking lot doors are locked and "undogged" using the Allen key provided. Thanks in advance for your diligence.

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CHURCH OFFICERS 2026

**Elected February 1, 2026 ** appointed by the Official Board*

Moderator: Rachel Zielinski *
Vice-Moderator: Herb Hampson*
Treasurer: Sally Herzog* **Clerk**: Judy Gaumer*
Sunday School Superintendent: Linda Elkins

Board of Trustees
Karen Bates Jen Barry* Greg Dickson*
Bill Giuliano* Chris Goff Les Fox* Cathy Hawk
Sandy Pogozelski* Bill Robinson * Cheryl Sobek
Alex Tomoff Mike Willis

Endowment Fund Subcommittee
Linda Stepan* Dave Williams*

Diaconate
Jean Bittinger Elaine Coffey* Diana Creecy*
Bobbi Cook Wayne Cook Judy Davis
Judy Fox* Marsha Hemphill* Lynne McCray*
Linda Ponstingle Lora Rung Cherie Teagno**

Christian Education Committee
Linda Elkins* Colette Emerson* Dale Hawk
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
Ingrid Dickson Sue Gigliotti* Linda Stepan
Rob Toth* Sarah Toth Dave Williams

Mission and Outreach Committee
Jen Barry * Gina Cathcart Bobbi Cook*
Cathy Hawk Cindy Hurley** Sarah Hayes*
Lora Rung Mary Willis Mary Ellen Zimmerman

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BE A GREETER! A new sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area is waiting for your name to be added as a greeter. No experience is necessary—we will show you everything you need to know. Being a greeter is a wonderful way to get to know people and welcome them to worship.



CHURCH OFFICERS 2025

**Elected January 26, 2025 ** appointed by Official Board*

Moderator: Greg Dickson **Vice-Moderator**: Jen Barry
Treasurer: Sally Herzog **Clerk**: Judy Gaumer

Sunday School Superintendent: Linda Elkins

Board of Trustees

Karen Bates** Bill Giuliano Chris Goff* Mike Elkins
Les Fox Herb Hampson Cathy Hawk*
Sandy Pogozelski Cheryl Sobek*
Alex Tomoff* Mike Willis* Rachel Zielinski

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson* Dave Williams*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish Jean Bittinger* Elaine Coffey*
Bobbi Cook* Wayne Cook* Judy Davis*
Judy Fox Pam Heimburger* Lynne McCray*
Linda Ponstingle* Lora Rung* Cherie Teagno

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Rob Toth Sarah Toth* Dave Williams*

Mission and Outreach Committee

Gina Cathcart* Bobbi Cook** Myron Costin*
Diana Creecy Cathy Hawk* Sarah Hayes
Lora Rung* Peter Smith Mary Willis*
Mary Ellen Zimmerman

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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. We also have a Life-vac choking device to assist in the event that someone is choking. It is located just beneath the AED.

CHURCH FAMILY CARE TEAM

If you like to cook or bake or reach out to others in love . . . as winter and circumstances continue to make it hard to stay connected, your Diaconate would LOVE to have you be a part of our team! (You don't need to be a member of the Diaconate to participate, and you may come and go as you are led.)

YES! I'D LIKE TO BE PART OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY CARE TEAM.

NAME_____

PHONE _____

EMAIL_____



I AM INTERESTED IN:

_____ OFFERING OR RECEIVING COMMUNION AT HOME

_____CALLING FOLKS WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN PRAYER CHAIN, BUT DON'T USE EMAIL

_____ PREPARING AN EXTRA MEAL AND DELIVERING IT TO SOMEONE WHO'S HOMEBOUND

_____ HELPING COOK A DISH AND OR SERVE MEALS AT FUNERAL LUNCHEON

_____ BECOMING A "PHONE BUDDY" AND PERIODICALLY CHECK IN WITH SOMEONE WHO'S HOMEBOUND

_____ OFFERING AN OCCASIONAL RIDE TO TAKE MEMBERS TO APPOINTMENTS

_____ OFFERING AN OCCASIONAL RIDE TO OUR CHURCH SERVICES

_____BE PART OF A CARD CREW TO SEND CARDS TO FOLKS ON HEIDI'S PRAYER LIST AND OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

_____ I WOULD BE WILLING TO…