



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 17, 2019 – 10:00 A.M.

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 "Word of God Speak" Millard/Kipley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

INTROIT "Here I Am to Worship" Hughes

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today, we will give thanks to God, who cradles and cleanses us in the waters of baptism.

People: Today, we place our trust in the One who strengthens us in times of challenge.

Leader: Today, we dance in the fountain of life, drinking deeply of salvation's goodness.

People: Today, we praise our God for every blessing, telling everyone of God's amazing grace in our lives and in our world.

Leader: Today, we sing God's praises, testifying to all of the majesty of our God.

People: Today, our songs are filled with joy, for God is with us, this day and in all the days to come!

† **HYMN 138** "We Are Standing on Holy Ground" (sing twice)

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 98

SHARING OF 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, Hear Our Prayer" Elkins

ANTHEM "Get On Board, Little Children" Spiritual, arr. Shackley

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "Be Still My Soul" Sibelius

† **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

A READING FROM THE PROPHETS Malachi 4: 1-2a

SERMON "The End is Near!"

† **HYMN 23** "The God of Abram Praise"

† BENEDICTION

† **RESPONSE** "Go Now in Peace" Besig

† **POSTLUDE** "I'm Trading My Sorrows " Evans

SERVING

TODAY –NOVEMBER 17

Bruce Keenen
Elaine Coffey/Teri Barbish
Volunteers needed
Volunteer needed
Tom Foley
Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich

NEXT SUNDAY –NOVEMBER 24

Liturgist Betty Craig
Greeters Roy Merkle
Ushers Roy Merkle
Coffee Hour Volunteer needed
Director of Music Tom Foley
Associate Director of Music Mike Elkins
Supplemental Organist Sharon Heinrich

The altar flowers are given—

*In loving memory of our parents, Harold & Louella Camp
and Warren & Hallie Strine*—Mark and Barbara Camp

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy 11A Anniversary to Ingrid & Greg Dickson November 23rd

Happy actual Birthday today to Doug Thorn, Jack Stephenson, John Marshall and Allan Heinzman!

The Diaconate will meet Tuesday, November 19 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**.



Our deepest sympathy is extended to **Sheri and Dennis Martin, Ross and Brett** and family on the death of Sheri's mom, **Barbara Sommers** on November 8.

FROM THE KITCHEN:

We are in need of gallon pails with lids! If you have any of these buckets, most commonly containing ice cream or sherbet, please consume all the contents (in one sitting, if necessary), and bring the empty container and lid to us!

Profit from our Turkey Dinner on November 9 was \$2,166.98. Thank you to everyone who supported this dinner in any way.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office. 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: Izabella Abruzzino, Serena Abruzzino, Dolores Bail, Jen Barry, Joan Beckwith, Elaine Coffey, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, Kay Konicek, Debbie Krause, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Phyllis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Millie Lafave, Lacey Marshall, Judy Maur, Laurie Meister, Michele Mhlack, Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, John and Maggie Struhar, Josh Trinckes, Sally Vetovitz, Bill Williamson, Sharon Wilson, Marty Winch, Kyle Woodward

Extended Church Family: Ron & Yvonne Adams (friends of Judi Pavisich), Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Lyla Joy Crowley (great grand-niece of Irene Jannsohn), Joanne Gigliotti (mom of Lou), Rebecca Gordon (niece of Irene Jannsohn), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Rev. Kent Knife (retired pastor from MHUCC), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Mae O'Shea (mom of Sandy O'Shea), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Terry Robson (friend of the Camps), Mike Rung (brother of Lora), Amanda Shannon (friend of Sarah & Jon Hayes), Brad Williams (friend of Judi Pavisich), Daphne Wilson (niece of Irene Jannsohn)

Our church has an e-mail prayer chain.

Please see Pastor Heidi if you would like to be added.



OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,522.02
Last Week's Offering Received **\$6,365.25**
Difference \$2,843.23

To date for the Stewardship Campaign, we have received 65 pledges totaling \$141,596.

The next Penny Sunday will be **November 24** for the **National Youth Advocate Program** helping foster children in Cuyahoga County.



Women's Fellowship will host a **Christmas Tea** in Pilgrim Hall on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend, December 1, at 1:30pm. All ladies of the church are welcome. Please sign up (even if you are a "maybe") on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall, for planning purposes. Thank you.

FROM THE MISSION OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

Mission Outreach has a display in the Gathering Area with information about our Veterans. Upon reading the materials and researching websites, we feel the most effective way to assist them is through Church Street Ministries in Berea. They assist them for the entire Cuyahoga County. During the month of November, we will be accepting cash or check donations for them. Those who wish can place them in the Sunday offering collection. Please put them in a pew envelope and mark "Veterans" on it. Checks should be made out to Strongsville UCC with Veterans in the memo line.



THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Our goal is to prepare 50 baskets for needy families within our community. Each week we will bring to church the following designated items, which will be placed in our sanctuary:

It's not too late to bring: cans of green beans, cans of corn, boxes of stuffing (like Stove Top) and jars of gravy, dessert mixes (like brownies, cake mixes, or cookie mixes) and cans of icing, cans of cranberry sauce and boxes of corn muffin mix, boxes of instant mashed potatoes or a 5-pound bag of fresh potatoes, canned or fresh yams
Nov. 17 turkeys or hams

To make a cash donation instead, please make your check payable to **Strongsville United Church of Christ**. On the memo line, write **Thanksgiving Basket**. \$20 covers the cost of the turkey or ham; \$40 covers the cost of a whole basket. All financial donations will be gratefully accepted, whatever the amount. If you know someone who would appreciate a basket, please write the information on your attendance card, or tell Pastor Heidi. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile project.

ARE YOU AVAILABLE ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25 AT 9 A.M.?
WE NEED HELP PUTTING TOGETHER THE THANKSGIVING BASKETS FOR DISTRIBUTION. PLEASE COME FOR AN HOUR OR SO AND HELP PACK THE FOOD!



ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE November 27 at 7 p.m.

This year, First Evangelical Lutheran church (just down Royalton Road) is hosting the community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service. Worship with fellow Christians as we give Thanks for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us. Our own Pastor Heidi will be delivering the message.

Clergy and choir members from our sister churches here in Strongsville will be participating in the service. Won't you join your fellow Christians for a time of gratitude and praise?

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE & LIVE NATIVITY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 5 P.M. – 8 P.M.



Join the Strongsville Community, your church family, and their furry friends for the Live Nativity and Open House. Bask in the glow as the City of Strongsville lights the town square and our church welcomes families and friends into our worship home for cookies and hot cider. There are many ways to be involved in this major event: There is a sheet on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall where you can sign up to be a part of inviting the community into our church with fellowship, warmth, music, and celebration.

DONATIONS OF BAKED GOODS. FINGER FOODS ARE ESPECIALLY NEEDED.

**FROM OUR FRIENDS AT LEEK ORGAN CO.
AND ST. JOSEPH CHURCH:**

**Dedication and blessing of their pipe organ today, November 17 at 6:30 p.m., followed by light refreshments.
12700 Pearl Road in Strongsville**



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, bread/pastry sorter, or nursery helper! Don't know how to do any of those things? No worries—we will show you everything you need to know! No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life. **Help will be needed in January/February/March to pick up Panera bakery donations on Monday mornings. Please see Kenn Oerkfitz to volunteer.** Thanks to Kathie Paul for stepping up to help last week!



MITTEN TREE ~ FAMILY OF FAITH TREE



The **Mitten Tree** will be in the Gathering Area through December 8th for collecting hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless. On December 9th, the hats, gloves, mittens and scarves will be removed, and the tree will become the **Family of Faith Tree**, which we will decorate with Christmas ornaments donated by members and friends. **If you have not yet donated an ornament – or – if you'd like to donate an additional ornament, please bring it to the church office and include your name.** Official Board will prepare a tag with your name, attach the tag to your ornament, and hang the ornament on the Family of Faith Tree. Please know that **your ornament will NOT be returned to you**, but it will become part of the Christmas decorations each year. **Please do not bring expensive heirloom ornaments.**

Thank you for celebrating with your church family in the Mitten Tree, as well as the Family of Faith Tree!

CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT Friday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Join the Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band for an evening of your favorite Christmas tunes with a little toe-tapping swing! Tickets are only \$10, \$5 for kids 6-12 and Free for kids under age 6

Followed by a wine & cheese reception!

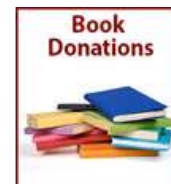
(Donations of finger foods will be needed for the reception. Please see **Ingrid Dickson** or **Pam Keenen** if you can help.)



Our church supports the Strongsville Emergency Food Bank. They are especially in need of **peanut butter & jelly, soup, tuna, and canned fruit**. 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. Thanks, as always, to everyone who donates and especially to **Sharon** and **Karl Kuhlenschmidt** who transport all the food to the Food Bank every week.

WEST PARK KIWANIS CHILDREN'S READING CENTERS IN NEED OF BOOK DONATIONS:

The West Park Kiwanis set up a few children's reading centers in our area and it's been going really well. It's encouraging children to read and they are allowed to take a book with them. The Kiwanis are getting low on books and are looking for anyone who has children's books that would be willing to donate to their reading centers. If you have any to donate, please contact **Herb Hampson** at **216-287-3871** to arrange pick up or delivery! Thank you from our West Park Kiwanis and the kids in our area!



SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2019



The **Southwest Community Chorus** and Chamber Singers will present their 2019 Christmas concert, "Heart of Winter," on **Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m.** in the United Methodist Church at 170 Seminary Street in Berea.

This year's performance features our Music Director, **Tom Foley** as director, accompanist **Carol Konet**, and church singers: **Ingrid Dickson, Gary Hackett, Irene Joyce, Bruce Keenen, Pam Keenen, Sarah Keenen, Sharon Maresco, Dave Williams**, and UCC guest singer, **Craig Hardy**. Tickets are available in advance at a cost of \$12.50 for adults, \$15 at the door and free for children 12 and under. Save a few bucks by purchasing your tickets from any of the above choir members! You'll enjoy the music, and we'll get you in the Christmas mood. We like looking into the audience and seeing our fellow church members. Thank you!

ALTAR POINSETTIA FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Order deadline is TODAY. **This is an earlier date than in the past.** Please complete this form and place it to the Church office with your cash or check payment. The cost is \$7.00.

Wording for bulletin: _____

Given by: _____

Number of plants: ____ x \$7.00 / plant = \$_____

Please make your check payable to **Strongsville 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**

Thank you for placing a poinsettia plant on the altar!

For Church Treasurer's Records 2019 Christmas Poinsettia

Total number of plants: _____

Amount enclosed: \$_____

Offering envelope number: _____

Cash/Check No. _____

Name: _____

Order deadline is Sunday, November 17, 2019.

