



---

# NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

---

## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 5 – 10:00 A.M.

*All Saints Sunday – We will remember those who have passed within the last year. Dedication of Memorials*

**Liturgist:** Pam Keenen  
**Greeter:** Linda Plain  
**Usher:** Linda Plain  
**Coffee Hour:** Jim and Linda Dettmer

---

### SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 12 – 10:00 A.M.

*Stewardship Sunday*

**Liturgist:** Dan Masuga  
**Greeters:** The Clotworthy Family  
**Usher:** Roy Merkle

*ORC Pancake Breakfast – 9:00 A.M. to Noon  
Please see page 3.*

---

### SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 19 – 10:00 A.M.

*Thanksgiving Sunday*

*We will dedicate the food for our Thanksgiving Baskets.*

**Liturgist:** Kelly Bickley  
**Greeters:** The Rolland Family  
**Ushers:** Jim and Linda Dettmer  
**Coffee Hour:** Ted and Kelly Bickley

*Deadline for 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Outreach Project – page 3*

---

## ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

**Wednesday – NOVEMBER 22 – 7:00 P.M.**

**St. John Neumann Catholic Church**  
16271 Pearl Road in Strongsville

*All are welcome!*

---

### SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 26 – 10:00 A.M.

*Hanging of the Greens*

**Liturgist:** Bill Schneider  
**Greeter:** Marty Winch  
**Ushers:** Volunteers Needed  
**Coffee Hour:** Myron Costin

### FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

Greetings!

The seasons are changing, and it's a beautiful time of year! Your pastoral leadership has changed, as well! As the new kid in town, allow me to introduce myself and my family:

- I was born and raised in Colorful Colorado, where my 94-year-old mother and four siblings still live. I am Number Four of five children. Like most families, we love each other (and sometimes have unusual ways of showing it). I am grateful for the (relatively) normal childhood I had.
- My husband Chuck and I have been married three whole years! Between us, we have seven children and an even dozen grandchildren. I am grateful every day for this second chance at love and life.
- Before attending Ashland Theological Seminary in 2008, I was a teacher of young children for eighteen years. I have always felt that in our hearts, we are all children; we just come in different sized packages. We all desire the same things: to be listened to, loved and understood, and are grateful when this happens.
- Chuck and I live in a perfect little bungalow in West Park with two cats. We are close to the Metroparks and enjoy walking, especially this time of year as the seasons change and showcase Creator God's imagination.
- Denominationally, I am a mutt: I have roots in or connections to the Methodist, American Baptist, Brethren, Lutheran and Christian Missionary Alliance denominations, and am truly grateful to have found my new pastoral home in the United Church of Christ, where we seek after Jesus' desire that all may be one.

As Thanksgiving approaches, take a moment to look around you. See the many ways in which God has blessed you-- with family, with friends, with a faith community that's safe and loving. Pause, take a deep breath and give thanks to the One who loves you, just because.

And like the apostle Paul, I always give thanks for you, my Brothers and Sisters in Christ, as we come together to serve Jesus in this community.

Peace,  
Pastor Heidi

## UPDATE FROM YOUR PULPIT SEARCH COMMITTEE

The work of your Pulpit Search Committee continues. We recently met with the Rev. Gary Halstead, the new person at the association office assisting churches with their Search and Call process. He gave us some more insights into the process and the pool of potential ministerial candidates. We will receive more profiles to discern and hope that God will guide us to find the right leader for our congregation. As our Designated Minister, Rev. Heidi is eligible to apply for the Settled Pastor's position, if and when she chooses to do so. The Committee appreciates the ongoing prayers and support of our Church Family.

### Your Pulpit Search Committee

Ted Bickley, Judy Carte, Kristen Clotworthy,  
Jim Dettmer, Ingrid Dickson, Sally Herzog, Bill Schneider



## THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Our goal is to prepare 75 baskets for needy families within our community. Collection began Sunday, October 15. Each week we bring to church the following designated items:

- Oct. 15 cans of green beans, cans of yams
- Oct. 22 boxes of stuffing (like Stove Top) and jars of gravy
- Oct. 29 dessert mixes (like brownies, cake mixes, or cookie mixes) and cans of icing
- Nov. 5 cans of cranberry sauce and boxes of corn muffin mix
- Nov. 12 boxes of instant mashed potatoes or a 5-pound bag of fresh potatoes, or fresh yams
- Nov. 19 turkeys or hams

-----  
Nov. 20 Baskets will be assembled in Pilgrim Hall, 9am

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 call the church at (440) 238-6697, complete the information on the back of your attendance card, or tell Pastor Heidi. Thank you for your support of this benevolent project.



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Women's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, November 1, at 10:00 a.m. Claire Wills will present a program on tie-dyeing silk scarves. Each lady in attendance will dye a scarf, which she will take home for herself. As always, all women are welcome. If you plan to attend and dye a scarf, please inform Claire so there are enough supplies. After the meeting, all ladies are invited to enjoy the Free Lunch Program in Pilgrim Hall.

Women's Fellowship will have a cheese ball fundraiser. Tasting and ordering are on Sunday, November 26; and delivery is Sunday, December 10.

---

## All-You-Can-Eat TURKEY DINNER

Saturday – November 4, 2017

2 Seatings: 5:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M.

Reservations: (216) 598-6198

Adults - \$12 Ages 6-10 - \$5 Under 6 – Free



Tickets are available for purchase on Sunday mornings. Help is needed. A signup sheet is posted in Pilgrim Hall. For safety reasons, no children under age 6 (with or without parent) can be helpers in any capacity during the serving hours of 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Children 6-10 years old must have a parent helping them.

---

## THE THRIFT SHOP

November is the time to shop for the holidays at The Thrift Shop. We have fall décor and clothing, and will have Christmas décor too! Need a new Christmas sweater? Check the Thrift Shop first! Please remember **we will be open during the Turkey Dinner**. Stop in the shop the evening of the dinner to see what we sell, to shop, or just to visit. We have an amazing selection of collectible dolls and of course, clothing for the entire family. We will be open all Thursdays in November except Thanksgiving Day. Hope to see you in the shop soon.



## STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*All You Can Eat!*

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

*A Fundraiser for Our Pipe Organ Restoration*



**Sunday – November 12, 2017**

**9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon**

*Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,  
Coffee, Tea, Milk, Juice*

**\$8 Adults    \$5 Ages 6-12    Free under 6 years**



---

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE and LIVE NATIVITY

**Sunday – November 19, 2017**

**5:00 to 8:00 P.M.**



featuring live animals, music,  
and refreshments! Help and  
bakery donations are needed.  
To help, please mark the back of  
your attendance card on Sunday

morning, sign up on Pilgrim Hall's bulletin board, or call  
the church office at (440) 238-6697.

Thank you for your support as we open our doors to the  
community!

---

## STRONGSVILLE CITY JAZZ SWING BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Friday – December 8, 2017  
7:30 P.M. in Our Sanctuary**



*Fundraiser for Our Music Ministry*



### BLUE CHRISTMAS Service of Remembrance

**Friday – December 15, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.  
in our Sanctuary**

**Blue Christmas is a worship service remembering  
those who have passed away, while seeking hope  
for all of us during the Christmas season. You are  
not alone . . . we welcome you. Come, join us in  
fellowship. After the service, a reception will be held  
in Pilgrim Hall.**

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY IN CELEBRATION OF 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

In celebration of our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
this year, the church is participating in  
an Outreach Opportunity to the  
Strongsville community. After much  
consideration, the Anniversary  
Committee contacted the Strongsville  
Food Bank with the idea of the church providing small  
\$5.00 Christmas gifts for distribution to those who come  
to the Food Bank.



Since the Food Bank has gifts for the children of families  
who come there, the Food Bank suggested we focus on  
gifts for adults. Therefore, from October 15, 2017,  
through November 19, 2017, we are asking your support  
in donating small \$5.00 wrapped Christmas gifts labeled  
for either a man or woman. A large wrapped Christmas  
Box will be in the Gathering Area for collecting all gifts.

During the week of November 20, the gifts will be  
sorted. A holiday greeting message from the church will  
be attached, along with a brief history of our church in  
recognition of our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The gifts will be  
taken to the Food Bank for distribution in December.

Some suggestions for types of gifts to buy are:

- For a man – a small can of shaving cream with a  
few disposable razors.
- For a woman – hand lotion with a brush or comb,  
or a small Christmas pin.

You can find other ideas at the local Dollar Store or  
stores where small samples of products at reasonable  
prices are available. Anything that is personal and  
usable would make a great gift.

We know that in the past our church has been very  
generous in donating items for Tote Bags and the Mitten  
Tree. As this is a one-time special event, we would  
greatly appreciate your support in filling the Christmas  
Box with gifts for adults who come to the Food Bank.  
Just think how special it will be for those adults to know  
they were remembered with a gift that was given with  
love from our church.

Thank you very much for your support of this outreach to  
the community.

The 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

**200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbooks** – We  
still have cookbooks available for  
purchase. They make great gifts. The  
current cookbook costs \$12, but we also  
have some cookbooks from 2006 for \$10  
each. Please contact either Dianne Maringer or Joyce  
Reed if you are interested in purchasing one or more of  
these books. Thank you!



## DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

We will decorate our church for the Christmas season on Saturday, November 18, at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to join the Diaconate in the fun!



---

Don't forget about

### FIT CLUB

Wednesday Evenings from about 7 until 7:45 p.m.!

Our church loves to eat, so we offer a little balance. . . It's important to know that everyone is welcome--we are not already fit, we are trying to get there. Mostly, we do a low impact walk program, no fancy dance moves or complicated footwork, but we do get the heart rate up for a while. Won't you please join our friendly little group?



---

### BIRTH

Our congratulations to grandparents, Chuck and Heidi McDougall, parents, Molly & Patrick Burns, and big brother, Michael "Mac" Burns, on the birth of Padraic ("Paddy") Angus Burns, on October 23, 2017, in Whitefish, Montana!



## NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Adria Bond

**Giving Statements** – If you would like a to receive a year-to-date statement on the status of your pledge, please email Financial Secretary, Adria Bond, at [succfinancialsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:succfinancialsecretary@gmail.com) or call her at 440-227-8410. Otherwise, we are just planning on sending the year-end statements in January.

The following monthly report lists the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount actually received. This information also appears weekly in our Sunday bulletin.

For September 17, 2017, through October 15, 2017



Offering Needed \$19,325  
Received 13,011  
Difference (\$6,314)

---

### UPDATING OUR WEBSITE AND TVs

If you have updates for our church Website or TV screens at church, please inform:

**Michele Mihlack**

216-324-9799 / [m.mihlack@gmail.com](mailto:m.mihlack@gmail.com)

or

**Irene Joyce**

216-267-5043 / [ij3e@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ij3e@sbcglobal.net)

---

### IN SYMPATHY



Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to Linda and Rob Stepan on the passing of Linda's mom and our church member, Shirley Weinhold, on October 2, 2017. The funeral was held on October 7 in our sanctuary.

Our condolences also to the family of Terry Brlas on the occasion of Terry's unexpected passing on October 25, 2017. Family will receive friends on Sunday, October 29, from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M. at Waite and Son Funeral Home, 3300 Center Rd. Brunswick, OH 44212. A service for Terry will be held on Monday, October 30, at 11:00 A.M. at Christ Church, 23080 Royalton Road in Columbia Station. Although Terry was not a member of Strongsville UCC, he came to our special church events, took pictures, and wrote beautiful articles about our church for The Strongsville Post newspaper.



## STEEPLE LIGHTING

### Week of October 1, 2017

*In Celebration of Our Third Anniversary on October 7*  
Heidi and Chuck

### Week of October 8, 2017

*In Loving Memory of Alfred "Jiggs" Graves*  
Roberta and Dan Carpenter

*Happy 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Lola (Banny/Gigi)*  
Love, Valerie, Dale, Vicky, Dan,  
Jake, Lauren, Addy, Pip, Chase, Lauren,  
Kyleen, Joe, Heidi, Keith, Zander, Wyatt,  
Cory, Kelsea, Decklynn, Kyra,  
and 3 more to come great-grandkids!

### Week of October 15, 2017

*Happy 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday on October 16 to Samantha Wentz*  
With love, Grammy

### Week of October 22, 2017

*Happy Anniversary to Hayley and Joey McKane*  
*on October 28*  
With love, Grammy

### Week of October 29, 2017

*Happy Anniversary to Tracey and Natalia Hill*  
*on October 29, and*  
*Happy Birthday to Gabe Sauter on October 31*  
With love, Grammy

*Welcome to the World, Pdraic Angus Burns,*  
*born October 23 in Whitefish, Montana*  
(Grandson of Heidi and Chuck McDougall)

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 for lighting the steeple.

---

## WEDNESDAY FREE LUNCH PROGRAM

Lunch is served every Wednesday in Pilgrim Hall from 11:30 A.M. to **12:30 P.M.**



## ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

*The Adult Social Club meets the third Wednesday of the month at the church. Their next meeting is Wednesday, November 15, at 7 p.m. All adults are welcome.*

The Club will go to Stan Hywet Hall on Thursday, December 14, for "Deck the Hall 2017." We will meet at church at 4:00 p.m. to carpool. Admission of \$18 per person includes:

- Tree lighting at 5:30 p.m.;
- Live music in the Music room – courtesy of area choirs and musicians;
- Self-guided tour of Manor House;
- Freshly baked gingerbread cookies, warm pretzels, cocoa, hot cider, beer and wine for purchase in the Courtyard;
- Animated Gingerbread Bakeshop Window;
- 20-foot poinsettia tree in Corbin Conservatory;
- Shopping for holiday gifts in Molly's Shop.



To attend, please sign up on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. For more information, please contact Adria Bond at (440) 227-8410 or Eddy Bond at (440) 554-7380.

---

## MISSION AND OUTREACH NEWS



Mission Outreach will honor our veterans on the Sunday before Veterans Day, November 5. We plan to have a small display in Pilgrim Hall featuring several programs in our area that are focused on helping local veterans, especially those who have been homeless. In addition to providing you with information on where to provide help, our committee will be making donations from our recent fundraiser, which many of you supported.

**Penny Sunday** – On September 24, our Sunday School children collected \$136.86 for Disaster Relief—plus a \$10 check for Strongsville Food Bank. The Sunday School added \$100, and \$236.86 was sent to the United Church of Christ for their Disaster Response Mission and will aid victims of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. Thank you to everyone who gives their change to Penny Sundays.

## MITTEN TREE ~ FAMILY OF FAITH TREE

The **Mitten Tree** will be in the Gathering Area from November 18 to December 3 for collecting hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for Brookside Center. Brookside is an ecumenical center that provides clothing and necessities to the poor and needy, and is located on Pearl Road in Cleveland.

On December 3 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!



---

## VIEWING CHURCH SERVICES ON THE WEB

To make past services easier to view on the web, we started a YouTube channel. To access it, go to the <http://strongsvilleucc.com/> website. Click on WORSHIP and then SERVICE VIDEOS. Once you get to YouTube, search for the service you wish to see and click on it. Alternately, you can go directly to YouTube and search for "Strongsville UCC". Most services from the beginning of 2017 have already been uploaded. To see an older service, please contact Jim Heinrich to see if it is available.

---

## STEWARDSHIP – "CAN" DO CUPBOARD

The 2018 Stewardship Campaign is finding many "cans" that we "can" do in our church and that we "can" give back to God in gratitude for what He has given us. The campaign will conclude on Sunday, November 12, when we will dedicate our Estimate of Giving cards. Thank you for your support to our church.



## 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.

As of this printing, vases are still needed for these dates, so that two vases are on the altar for Sunday worship:

November 19 – 1 vase    December 10 – 1 vase

The sign-up chart for altar flowers is on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Below the chart are forms and envelopes for submitting your bulletin information and payment to the church office.

Thank you for placing fresh flowers on the altar for worship on Sunday morning.

---

## 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, Margot James, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Betty Babics, The Grabski/Williams Family, Lacey (daughter of Amanda Hawk), Steve Herzog, Martha Liebert, Michele Mihlack, Betsey Santomen (wife of Rev. Joe Santomen) at Parkside Villa, Jan Stough, Rev. Oommen Thomas, Leah Tressa Forget, Kyle Woodward

**Extended Church Family:** The Brlas Family, Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Sue Grunenwald (friend of Sharon Heinrich), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Piper Masuga (granddaughter of Dan and Vicky and great-granddaughter of Lola Millhoane), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Sheena Toth (mother of Dale), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga), Karla Wood (daughter of John and Barbara Toth)

