



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

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**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall**  
Minister



**Sunday – November 4, 2018 – 10:00 A.M.**  
**Sacrament Sunday**

**WELCOME!**

We are grateful you chose to worship with us this morning. No matter who you are and where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

For questions about our church and ministries, you may call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please complete your Attendance Card and place it into the offering plate. We hope to see you again soon!

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

**PRELUDE** "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" Dykes

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Irene Joyce

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT** "God's Pie"

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** "God's Pie" Foley

**God's love is deeper than the ocean, more boundless than the sky.**  
**For everything that God gives us,**  
**Save Him a piece of your pie, save Him a piece of your pie.**

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: With our words and with our hearts,  
**People: We will bless God in every moment of our lives, and give thanks.**

Leader: With our ears and in our hearts,  
**People: We will listen for the cries of our sisters and brothers, and offer hope.**

Leader: With every gift we bring and with all our hearts,  
**People: We will serve you, O God, and all God's children, in every moment of our lives.**

† **HYMN 219** "Surely the Presence" (sing twice)

**FIRST READING** Ruth 1: 1-7

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

**SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE** "Hear Our Prayer, Lord" Foley

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** **Everett Anthony Ashforth**  
Child of Tiffany Violet and Nicole Alexis Ashforth

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY WORDS**

**QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES FROM THE FAMILY**

**CONGREGATIONAL PROMISE**

Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your

love, support and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ? **(We promise our love, support and care.)**

**PRAYER OF BAPTISM**

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

Gracious God, you have filled the world with joy with the gift of Jesus. Bless this child, Everett Anthony; fill him with your strength and courage for life's journey; joy for all to see; freedom of love; hope for a new life. May he never be ashamed to confess his personal faith in you. Bless us, O God, that we, too, may be faithful to your Word, united in the peace of Christ and the company of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**HYMN** "Child Of Blessing, Child Of Promise"

Child of blessing, child of promise  
Baptized with the Spirit's sign  
With this water, God has sealed you  
Unto love and grace divine

Child of love, our love's expression  
Love's creation, loved indeed  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits  
Into joy and laughter lead

Child of joy, our dearest treasure  
God's you are, from God you came  
Back to God, we humbly give you  
Live as one who bears Christ's name

Child of God, your loving Parent  
Learn to listen for God's call  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship  
Trust and love God more than all  
CCLI Song # 1727790 Ronald S. Cole-Turner | Vicar Earle Copes

**ANTHEM** "I Will Make You Fishers of Men" Freed  
Soloists: Bruce Keenen and Evan Joyce

**THE OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** "Blessings" Vocalist Sandy O'Shea Story

† **DOXOLOGY** **HYMN 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**

**SECOND READING** Ruth 1: 8-18

**SERMON** No Strangers in God's Family

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**WORDS OF CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION**

Pastor: Every day, the world teaches us how to love. But the world's ways of loving can leave us empty and discouraged. Jesus came to teach us how to love as God loves, generously and without condition. We try, but so often we fail. Together, let us confess before God just how hard it is to love as God loves:

**People: Holy God, deep in our hearts, we desire to love each other as you have loved us. But when you ask us to love our neighbors, we hesitate when our neighbor doesn't look like us, or talk like us—or worship like we worship. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to forgive ourselves when we fall short. Help us, always, to remember that each day offers each one of us a fresh start to follow, to serve and to love. Amen. (silence)**

Pastor: Listen and believe: When God reigns, all are loved for who we are, not what we do. When God reigns, all are forgiven for what we do (or don't do). When God reigns, all are welcomed and fed by God's unending grace and hope. In the name of Jesus the Christ, you are forgiven.



**People: In the name of Jesus the Christ, your sins are forgiven!**  
**Thanks be to God.**

**RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP** "How Beautiful" Paris  
Vocalist Sarah Keenen

*All are welcome to come forward to partake of the Lord's Supper, or the communion servers will come to you if you wish.*

**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 151** "A Mighty Fortress"

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** "Go Forth in Peace" Whitworth

† **POSTLUDE** "Fairest Lord Jesus" Traditional

**SERVING**

<b>TODAY – NOVEMBER 4</b>	<b>NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 11</b>
Bruce Keenen	Liturgist Michele Mihlack
Linda Plain	Greeters The Costin/Barry Family
Stewardship Committee	Ushers Stewardship Committee
Jim & Linda Dettmer	Coffee Hour Volunteer needed
Tom Foley	Director of Music Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music Mike Elkins

**The altar flowers** are given—  
*Happy Birthday to Lori Deertz on November 2. Have a wonderful year!*  
Love you forever, Mom (Marty Winch)

**The rose is placed in celebration of Everett Ashforth's baptism today!**

**Our steeple** will light the sky this week—  
*With thanks to the Turkey Dinner workers, especially "Grammy" Craig the Dicksons, Joyces, and "Oma"*

**Happy Birthday** today to Clark Winch and Dick Bennett!

**The Board of Trustees** will meet Tuesday, November 6 at 7 p.m..



**ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING EVE  
WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**Wednesday, November 21 at 7 p.m.** Our church is hosting this year! Five Strongsville churches are participating in the service.

Don't forget to sign up for the **November 18<sup>th</sup> OPEN HOUSE and LIVE NATIVITY!** Be a part of our church's extravagant hospitality and keep the Christ in Christmas! **Sign-up sheets are in Pilgrim Hall and there is a place for everyone to help. This is a great event which requires "all hands on deck!" Please volunteer to make our Open House a success!**





## 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 at Danbury Senior Living in Brunswick, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Betty Babics, Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Christopher Dragony, Steve Herzog, Margot James, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Phyllis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Martha Liebert, Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Laurie Meister, Karen Morgan, Joyce Reed, Bill Ritchie, Doris Soucie, Linda Stepan, Barbara Toth, Kyle Woodward, the family and friends of Rita Budd, Leola Higham and David Woodward



**Extended Church Family:** Luke Bazan (friend of Judi Pavisich's granddaughter), Amy Carroll (sister of Marty Winch), Michele Cortese (friend of the Heinrichs), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Karen Greenway and daughters (friends of Judi Pavisich), Sam Harteis (friend of Reeds), Margaret Haught (mother of Jen Barry), Sandra Manos (mother of Eli), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Jeff Stimson (friend of Keana Dickson), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga)



With deep sadness, we extend our most heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of **Rita Budd**, especially her life partner, **Gary Hackett**. Rita passed away on October 24. A

Prayer service at the funeral home will be tomorrow, November 5 at 9 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial to follow at 9:30 a.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, 6750 State Road, Parma. Interment at All Saints Cemetery, Northfield. Visitation is today at the Busch Funeral Home, 7501 Ridge Road, Parma from 3-6 p.m.

Last Sunday's **Penny Sunday**, collected \$218.27, benefiting Together We Rise for foster children. Thank to everyone who donates their spare change each month!



**THE THRIFT SHOP** is open for business on Thursdays, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., with a bonus Free Lunch for All sale day on Wednesdays once a month from 11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **An additional person is needed to work with us for 2 hours on the second Wednesday of the month. Please contact the church office if you can help.**

## ADULT SOCIAL CLUB NEXT SCHEDULED EVENT

Carrie Cerinos: Dinner & Show featuring "A BRANSON COUNTRY CHRISTMAS (with a Special Tribute To Our Veterans)"

When: **Tuesday, November 13 at 6:30 pm**

Cost \$49.75 per person (if we get 16 or more people)

Note: Show Only \$38.50

Own Transportation (let us know if you need a ride)

Reservations to **Linda Plain** (e-mail)

Lindaplain416@aol.com or 440-668-4848 **(We only have seats for 30 people)** Check payable to: Linda Plain **NO LATER THAN NOV. 11th.**



## NOVEMBER 2018 DATES TO REMEMBER

**4 Sun Worship 10am with Baptism and Communion**

Children's Choir

**6 Tues Election Day Trustee Meeting 7pm**

**7 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**

No Fit Club

Band Rehearsal 8:15 pm

**8 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-4pm**

Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm

**11 Sun Worship 10am--Stewardship Sunday, Veteran's Day**

Children's Choir

**13 Tues Adult Social Club to Carrie Cerino's**

**14 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**

Fit Club, 7pm

Band Rehearsal 8:15pm

**15 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-4pm**

Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm

**18 Sun Worship 10am--Dedicate Thanksgiving Baskets**

Children's Choir

**Open House & Live Nativity 5pm**

**20 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7pm**

**21 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm**

**Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service 7pm**

**22 Thurs Thanksgiving Day**

(Thrift Shop Closed)

**25 Sun Worship 10am--Penny Sunday**

Children's Choir

**27 Tues Official Board Meeting 7pm**

**28 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm**

Fit Club, 7pm

Band Rehearsal 8:15pm

**29 Thurs Thrift Shop 10am-4pm**

Men's Luncheon 11:30am

Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm



## THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Our goal is to prepare 50 baskets for needy families within our community. Collection continues today. Each week we will bring to church these items: Previous week items include: 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), cans of icing.

**TODAY:** cans of cranberry sauce and boxes of corn muffin mix

**Nov. 11:** boxes of instant mashed potatoes or a 5lb bag of fresh potatoes, canned or fresh yams **Nov. 18:** 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 Rev. Heidi. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile project.

## TURKEY DINNER

Thank you to everyone who supported the Turkey Dinner by prepping, serving, cooking, dishing, serving, cleaning, or eating!



## IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO...

Please take your copy of your Stewardship letter and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Giving Statement from the box in the Gathering Area. For those of you who receive a paper edition monthly, your November Newsletter is also ready for pick up. Thank you for saving the church postage!

## FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Many offices in the church will be available for the coming year. Please consider saying **YES** when a member of the Nominating Committee asks you to serve. Some of the positions that are available include serving on the:

**Moderator**, who presides over the Official Board and represents the church in the community

**Vice-Moderator**, who works in tandem with the Moderator, serves on the Nominating Committee, and enlists volunteers for dinners and other Official Board events.

**Diaconate**, which oversees the worship operations and church services. The committees of the Diaconate are Acolytes, Altar, Coffee Hour, Funeral, Greeters, Membership, Nursery, Pastoral Relations, Special Events and Ushers.

**Board of Trustees**, which oversees the finances and physical plant of the church. The committees of the Trustees are Building and Grounds, Finance, and Long-Range Planning.

**Mission & Outreach**, which sponsors projects and our church's benevolence in the local, national, and international communities, including the 5 for 5 offerings through the United Church of Christ

**Stewardship**, which administers a yearly campaign to assess and inspire giving of time, talent, and treasure

**Christian Education**, which oversees the Sunday School and Adult Education programs

**Music Committee**, which supervises all aspects of the Music Ministry



## 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, or nursery helper! **Help is especially needed to pick up the donations from Panera on Monday or Friday mornings.** No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.



## MITTEN TREE ~ FAMILY OF FAITH TREE

The **Mitten Tree** will be in the Gathering Area from November 11 to December 8 for collecting hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for Strongsville Food Bank. .

On December 8, 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!

On **Sunday, November 18th, 3:00 p.m. First Lutheran Church, Strongsville** hosts Dr. David Pilgrim for a presentation about race. Call 440-238-7890 or pastorchuck1@gmail.com.