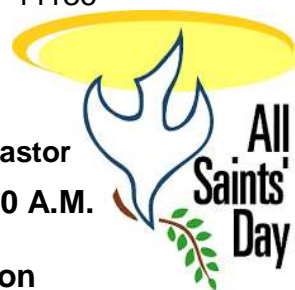




**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136  
(440) 238-6697

[StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com](mailto:StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com)  
[StrongsvilleUCC.com](http://StrongsvilleUCC.com)



**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor**

**Sunday, November 5, 2023 – 10:00 A.M.**

**All Saints Sunday**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**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.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

<b>PRELUDE</b>	"Sunrise"	Mehalko
<b>WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>		Joyce Reed
<b>STEWARDSHIP MOMENT</b>		Bill Schneider
<b>INTROIT</b>	"Come Before His Presence with a Song"	Whitworth

**† 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 "Come to the Table of Grace"**

**Come to the table of grace\*; Come to the table of grace\*.**

**This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.**

**Come to the table of grace\*.**

\*Verse 2: **peace**, Verse 3: **love**, Verse 4: **joy**, Verse 5: **hope**

**READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 34:1-8**

(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 his 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.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

**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.

John Brandt, Jr. (son of the late Shirley Brandt) 10/31/2022

Charlotte (Char) Mickovic (sister of Roz Fotos) 10/31/2022

Joseph Cook (grandfather of Brandi Garsteck) 11/13/2022

Christina Craig\* 12/31/2022

Paul Hirt\* 1/4/2023

Lloyd Bridle\* 2/1/2023

Leonard Lane\* 2/3/2023

Laura Urbanic (mother of Lynne McCray) 2/6/2023

Don Meister (husband of Laurie Meister) 2/7/2023

Steven Carte (son of Judy Carte) 3/16/2023

Grace Koch\* 3/18/2023

Muriel McKeever (mother of Pastor Heidi) 4/5/2023

Linda Kapcar\* 4/8/2023

Barbara Cook (Grandmother of Brandi Garsteck) 5/18/2023

James Burgess (great-grandfather of Kristen Kohler) 6/10/2023

William Luca (husband of Marianne Luca) 6/25/2023

Henry Klink\* 7/28/2023

Mary Carey\* 8/22/2023

Barbara Camp\* 10/24/2023

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

**PRAYING IN SILENCE**

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

**ANTHEM** "In Remembrance" Koepke

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** Bill Schneider

**DEDICATION OF MEMORIALS** Greg Dickson

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** "Andante Tranquillo in A Major" Mendelssohn

**† 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 NEW TESTAMENT Revelation 7:9-17**

(New International Version)

Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

**SERMON** "Saints Among Us"

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

Pastor: Here in this community of those who seek God, we realize we are not saints. We find ourselves wrapped up in a tangle of

words, of thoughts, of actions which would separate us from God. But our God has promised us new hope, new life, fresh mercy, if we will but turn back to God. I invite you to join me, as we pray together:

**UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**People: Holy Loving God, we come to you, our hands soiled with the pain we have caused, our ears stuffed with the words of those who speak falsely, our hearts stained with those lusts and hungers we would be embarrassed for others to know. Forgive us and have mercy on us, God who dries our tears. As we seek to journey from the baptismal waters towards the feast you prepare in glory, may we listen for your words in the depths of our hearts as we strive to 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 gone, your hands once full of foolishness are now empty. God has clothed you with garments of joy to wear to the feast.

**People: Our former life is past; our new life in Christ has begun. All things are new, including us! Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

**A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP** "Lamb of God" Paris

**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** Bruce Prewer

*Go on your way rejoicing, surrounded as you are by such a great cloud of witnesses. Take courage as you face each new challenge, and comfort when you pick yourself from a fall. In whatever good you choose to do, precede it with hope, accompany it with prayer, and follow it with thanksgiving. And may the blessing of God Most Wonderful, whom the saints have trusted as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you all, now and forever more. Amen.*

**† RESPONSE/POSTLUDE** "When the Saints Go Marching In"

**SERVING**

**TODAY – NOVEMBER 5** **NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 12**

Linda Plain	<b>Greeters</b>	Barbara Toth
Elaine Coffey	<b>Liturgist</b>	Lynne McCray
Bobbi & Wayne Cook	<b>Ushers</b>	Volunteers needed
Tom Foley	<b>Director of Music</b>	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	<b>Associate Director of Music</b>	Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	<b>Organist</b>	Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	<b>Sound</b>	Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Chancel Choir, Ken Mehalko	<b>Special Music</b>	Chancel Choir

**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), 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.

### A NOTE OF THANKS—

We thank **Ken Mehalko**, and our **Chancel Choir**, along with **Mike Elkins, Tom Foley**, and **Sharon Heinrich** for their music today.

The altar flowers are given—

In honor of **Chris & Karen Morgan's wedding anniversary** on November 7<sup>th</sup>—The Zielinski family



In loving memory of my dad, **Ron Cogley**—Denise Ashforth

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

In memory of a good and faithful servant, **Barb Camp**  
The members of the Diaconate



Happy Birthday today to **Mike Willis, Jackie Foley, Jimmy Foley**, and **Trevor Kuzmickas!**

### FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL: SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

#### THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IS COMING!

Rehearsals will take place during and after Sunday School classes each week prior to

December 17<sup>th</sup>—OUR PAGEANT DAY, when we will have our pageant during the worship service!



#### PENNY SUNDAY THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who contributed during last week's Penny Sunday! We collected \$313.29 for our church's **Thanksgiving Basket Project**. The next Penny Sunday will be November 26<sup>th</sup> and the money will go to the **Strongsville Emergency Food Bank**.



The **Strongsville Community Band** and the **Strongsville Rotary Club** cordially invite you to a special **"Music for Maui"** Benefit Concert **Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 7pm** in the **Ehrnfelt Event Center**.

All proceeds will directly benefit the people impacted by the Maui wildfire disaster, one of the world's deadliest natural disasters on record. The Strongsville Rotary will match all donations up to \$2,000. Please make any checks payable to the Strongsville Rotary Foundation.

#### HELP WANTED!

Volunteers are needed to serve as tellers on Sunday mornings after church (usually less than an hour of your time). Please indicate on your attendance card or speak to **Gary Zielinski, Financial Secretary**, if you can help.



### NOW COLLECTING...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, please give the gift cards to the church office or place a check in the offering plate, labeled "THANKSGIVING" through **November 12<sup>th</sup>**. 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 5<sup>th</sup> through December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, bring your items to the church during office hours and they will be placed on the Mitten Tree. After the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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!

#### LIVE NATIVITY AND OPEN HOUSE:

For this year's Open House on **Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**, we will offer an event similar to last year's and celebrate outside with the community. Once again, we will not be offering indoor hospitality but we will have all the favorite live animals, including **Charlie!** 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.



#### MISSION OUTREACH NEWS:



This year, the Mission Outreach committee has decided to team up with the Strongsville Community Food Bank as well as many other churches and local businesses. From **November 5<sup>th</sup> – November 26<sup>th</sup>**, you will find a tree with "ornaments" in the Gathering Area. Each ornament is paired with a child who could use a little help this holiday season. If you would like to participate, simply take an ornament, purchase one \$25 gift card to any of the stores listed on the ornament. Gift Cards will be available for purchase from **Jim Joyce** right at church (which helps our program, too—win/win!). Then, simply hand the ornament and gift card into **Jen Sekorky** or **Irene** no later than **November 26<sup>th</sup>**.

#### GIFT CARDS

IT'S TIME TO ORDER CARDS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING!

You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-346-4161 in advance with your order. **Limited stock is available for purchase on Sunday mornings.**



The Strongsville Food Bank is searching for a coordinator for the Food Bank. It is a compensated volunteer position. The coordinator is paid for 20 hours per week, however it may entail 30+ hours to fulfill the duties of the position, therefore the volunteer designation.

Qualifications for this job include organizational skills, effective communication skills, and Word/Excel knowledge for record keeping.

If you are interested or want more information about this position, please ask for a complete job description or send a resume at [strongsvillefoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvillefoodbank@gmail.com).

#### OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,617.01  
Last Week's Offering Received \$ 3,358.00  
Difference -(\$259.01)  
**Thank you very much for your support.**



#### 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 being accepted during

those hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry downstairs. **Thanks, as always, to our dedicated volunteers!**

**SPECIAL BAG SALE (+ Jewelry Sale) on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.!**



#### OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Joan Beckwith, Laurie Meister, Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Maggie Struhar

**Church Family:** Serena Abruzzino, Jennifer Cockrell, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Irene Jannsohn, Carole Kapcar, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Bruce Lerch, Jim Maresco, Reggie McCray, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfztz, Gary Paul, George Pavisich, Dan Ponstingle, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Peter Smith, Robert Sperber, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

**Extended Church Family:** Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Ron & Yvonne Adams (Judi Pavisich's friends), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Angie Colosimo (Judi Pavisich's friend), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joanne Garipey (Sally Herzog's friend), Kathy Ghetti (friend of Ginger Rothel), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Sylvia Pakish (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Jeff Peacock (former member), Zora Roundtree (FL4A volunteer), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Vicki Smith (Venner Clarinets), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), Don Wills (friend of Judi Pavisich), The people of Ukraine, victims of violence, those affected by natural disasters

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



**Are you interested in learning more about the UCC?** The Living Water Association Annual Meeting is Saturday, November 18, from 9:00-12:00, in Hudson, Ohio. We can send two lay delegates (along with Pastor Heidi). If you're interested, please ask Pastor Heidi for more information.



**PLEASE BE AWARE:** Due to a bank change, all checks to the church should be made out to **United Church of Christ or UCC or United Church of Christ (Congregational)**. Please do not use "Strongsville" or "SUCC" in the "Pay to the Order of" line. Thanks!



**FREE LUNCH FOR ALL—**  
Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Our Free Lunch for All Program welcomes everyone to enjoy a nutritious meal and warm fellowship.

**BE A BUSY BEE IN 2023—November - March**

New sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area are waiting for your name to be added as a greeter or usher. No experience is necessary—we will show you everything you need to know! Everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.



**THANK YOU NOTE**

Thank you to all of my church friends for the prayers and cards.--  
Betty "Grammy" Craig

**2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN --M.A.P.L.E.**

- M- Making and moving**
- A- Accepting and Acknowledging**
- P- People**
- L- Learning and Loving**
- E- Encompassing**

**Strongsville United Church of Christ  
2024 Estimate of Giving**



In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2024:

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 the church or church-related institution in my Will.

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**ALL SAINTS DAY REMEMBRANCE**

In Loving Memory

- Betty and Donald Babics  
Lloyd Bridle
- Betty and Donald Bushea  
Barbara Camp  
Steven Carte
- Michael E. Dickson
- William A. Fraunfelder, Jr.  
Judy Green
- Aimee J. Jannsohn
- Erik O. Jannsohn
- Mildred "Millie" LaFave  
Beverley Lane  
Leonard Lane  
Linda Kapcar  
Grace Koch
- Charles Angus McDougall II  
Pearl Roub  
Bob Watson

2022-2023 Donors

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Anonymous                   | Susan Batt                  |
| Yvonne D. Blanchard         | Donna Buehrer               |
| Butler Family               | Mark and Barbara Camp       |
| Judith Carte                | The Clymer Family           |
| Wayne and Roberta Cook      | Valerie L. Craig            |
| Diana Creecy                | Greg and Ingrid Dickson     |
| Alice I. Dunn               | Barbara Fraunfelder         |
| Kathy Gall                  | Ralph and Patricia Gessler  |
| Gigliotti Family            | Craig Gordon and Beth Kean  |
| William and Marijane Halley | Karen Hollo                 |
| Irene A. Jannsohn           | James and Irene Joyce       |
| George Kapcar               | Kathleen A. Keefe           |
| Bruce and Pamela Keenen     | Erwin R. Koch               |
| LaFave Family               | Thomas and Sandra Lemasters |
| Marianne E. Luca            | Margaret O'Brien            |
| Kenn and Virginia Oerkfitz  | Judith L. Pavisich          |
| George of Joyce Reed        | Beverly J. Riehl            |
| William and Dorothy Ritchie | R. William Robinson         |
| Roub Family Foundation      | Ronald and Debra Russell    |
| Eleanor E. Sifford          | Robert and Linda Stepan     |
| Marty and Laura Swartz      | Richard and Judith Taylor   |
| Michael and Mary Willis     | Robert and Kathryn Wolters  |
| Mary Ellen Zimmerman        |                             |

Dedicated to the Glory of God

- Church Camera
- Gathering Area Chairs
- Leaf Filters on the Church Building



**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

- Date Change: The Diaconate will meet on **November 7<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **November 14<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will have an email meeting in November.

**PANERA PALS**

Are you able to give less than an hour of your time on a Monday or Friday morning to pick up and/or sort Panera bread, bagels, and pastries? Please contact the church office if you can help with this worthwhile ministry.



**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.

**CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2023** \*Elected January 29, 2023

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

**Sunday School Co-Superintendents**

Linda Elkins Mary Densmore\*

**Board of Trustees**

Diana Creecy Chris Goff\* Herb Hampson Cathy Hawk  
Sarah Hayes Cheryl Sobek\* Dan Winrod\*  
Laura Winrod\* Rachel Zielinski

**Endowment Fund Subcommittee**

Greg Dickson Linda Stepan Dave Williams\*

**Diaconate**

Teri Barbish Jean Bittinger\* Elaine Coffey  
Bobbi Cook\* Wayne Cook\* Judy Davis\*  
Carole Kapcar\* Sharon Maresco Linda Ponstingle Cherie Teagno  
Barbara White\* Mary Ellen Zimmerman\*

**Christian Education Committee**

Serena Abruzzino\* Mary Densmore\*  
Linda Elkins Amanda Marshall Lora Rung

**Music Committee**

Richard Densmore Ingrid Dickson  
Pam Keenen Ken Mehalko\* Mike Willis\*  
*ex officio:* Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

**Stewardship Committee**

Judi Pavisich Bill Schneider\* Richard Taylor  
Rob Toth Mary Willis\*

**Mission and Outreach Committee**

Judy Carte\* Sarah Hayes Bobbie Krisak Lora Rung\*  
Jennifer Sekorky Peter Smith \* Bev Wehr  
Mary Ellen Zimmerman\*

**BOOK STUDY**

**A YEAR OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD**

The next meeting of our book study will be on **November 20<sup>th</sup>**. Pastor Heidi and Linda Elkins are leading a monthly book study based on Rachel Held Evans's wonderful book, A Year of Biblical Womanhood. Based on Old Testament rituals and practices, the book chronicles Rachel's attempts to follow these ancient practices in a modern world. The group will meet at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of each month, for one hour. It's not too late to join.



**ALTAR POINSETTIA FOR CHRISTMAS EVE**

Order deadline is **Sunday, December 3, 2023**. Please complete this form and give 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 **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 Treasurer's Records 2023 Christmas Poinsettia**

Total number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Envelope number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash/Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Order deadline is Sunday, December 3, 2023.**

