THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, Ohio 44136
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StrongsvilleUCC.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, November 8, 2026– 10 A.M.
Stewardship Sunday

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 always welcome here.

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† *Please stand as you are comfortable.*

PRELUDE "Come Thou Fount" arr. Raney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

INTROIT "Ask, Seek, Knock" Larson

† CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: At all times, we are called to bless God's name.
People: Our lips are drenched with praises, our hearts exult in God.
Leader: The proud will bend knees in worship, the humble will lift glad songs.
People: We are free from our fears, we have searched for God and been found.
Leader: Our faces glow with thanksgiving, our spirits overflow with grace.
People: God has wiped away our tears, God has fed us from the storehouses of hope.

† HYMN 97 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

READING FROM THE BOOK OF WISDOM
Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16
Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her
and is found by those who seek her.
She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths and meets them in every thought.
Leader: The Word of God, for us, the people of God;
People: Thanks be to God.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.

ANTHEM "The Lord Desires These Things" Larson

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GENEROSITY MOMENT Stewardship Committee

DEDICATION OF ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS
"Break Thou the Bread of Life" Bourdon
Please come forward as you are led with your Estimate of Giving card.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Be Thou My Vision" Irish tune

† 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 PROPHETS **Amos 5:18-24**
(New International Version)
Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps.
But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

REFLECTION "The Day of the Lord"

† HYMN 757 **"Soon and Very Soon"**

† BENEDICTION Phyllis Tenney
Now, go forth from this place with renewed inspiration to do the work of God. Seek to do good, not evil; love goodness and establish justice. This is the greatest offering we can make; letting justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Go in peace, with love for our neighbors. ***Amen****.*

† POSTLUDE "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" Welsh folk tune

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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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A NOTE OF THANKS—We thank our **Chancel Choir,** and our music team of **Mike Elkins, Tom Foley,** and **Sharon Heinrich** for today's music.

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SERVING

TODAY – NOVEMBER 8		NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 15
Marsha Hemphill	**Greeters**	Lynne McCray
Sharon Maresco	**Liturgist**	Dale Hawk
Wayne Cook	**Head Usher**	Judi Pavisich
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**	D. Williams, Chancel Choir



Today's altar flowers are given—
Happy Birthday to Frank Jefferis on November 10th
Love, Pat

In memory of my brother, Rick Pinkney and my parents, Emerson Pinkney, Wilda Volchko, and Matthew Volchko -Bobbie Krisak

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—



Happy Birthdays to our back row buddies,
Mike Willis and Frank Jefferis! Love, the Choir
Happy Birthday to Zach Craig on November 13th
-With love, Grammy
Happy Birthday to my son, Bill Fraunfelder III on November 14th
Barb Fraunfelder
In loving memory of Tom Gaumer--The Official Board
Happy Birthday to "Jimison" Joyce on November 12th!
Love, Alaya & Elliott

Happy Anniversary today to Isabella Jannsohn & Ergis Mecaj!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please save your coins, dollars, and checks to UCC for **November 29th**, the last Penny Sunday of 2026. Our collection will go to the City Mission.



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	$ 4,155.23
Difference	-($ 1,056.77)

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.

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, Cherie Teagno, 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

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BABY CONGRATULATIONS!



Welcome to the world, **Luka Liu Woodward,** who was born on October 19, 2026 in Illinois He is the son of **Jane Liu** and **Kyle Woodward.** **Carol Woodward** is the proud grandmother! Congratulations to the whole family!

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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!

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UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



- The Mission Outreach Committee will meet TODAY 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 **December 1st** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

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MISSION OUTREACH NEWS:



We are still accepting donations for our Thanksgiving "Basket" project.

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 by November 15th.**

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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Women's Fellowship's annual Christmas Tea is Saturday, December 5th, at 1:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall. Signup sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the hall: pink for all ladies attending the tea and white for Women's Fellowship ladies who are providing food. There is no charge to attend. Detailed Tea information is on the cabinet in the Gathering Area. All ladies of the church are welcome.

After church today Women's Fellowship ladies who would like to do so will assemble Christmas favors in the northeast corner of Pilgrim Hall.

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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.**

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SOUP SALE!

Our Youth Group is selling Guy's Famous Soups! We are taking orders for delivery on December 6th. Warm and comforting, soup is perfect for a fall lunch or supper. Purchase 24 ounces of homemade goodness! A limited number of containers will be available. Please see one of our kids to get your order in.

THREE WITH GLEE!



Capital Campaign: We currently have $37,449.43 in our capital campaign account. 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.

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.

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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.

