



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, October 12, 2025– 10 A.M.
Celebrating our 208th Anniversary



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.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE "Soon and Very Soon" Crouch

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Joyce Reed

INTROIT "Steal Away" Traditional Spiritual

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In places like Gaza and Ukraine, where innocent lives have been lost and desperate voices are silenced,

People: We remember that faith which was passed on to us by our ancestors, that justice which speaks out for all people.

Leader: In border towns and communities walled in by poverty, where fear destroys families and scatters neighbors,

People: We remember that hope which has been passed on to us, that peace and reconciliation will rebuild communities.

Leader: In unknown neighborhoods, in places whose names are never mentioned, where bitter tears are shed and the lonely walk the streets in desolation,

People: We remember the perfect love of the Christ which we can pass on to those who have been forgotten by the world, including us.

† HYMN 404 "Faith of Our Fathers"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 66:1-12
(New International Version)

Shout for joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name;
make his praise glorious.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
So great is your power
that your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you,
they sing the praises of your name."
Come and see what God has done, his awesome deeds for mankind!
God turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot—
come, let us rejoice in him!

He rules forever by his power, his eyes watch the nations—
let not the rebellious rise up against him.

Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard;
he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.
For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver.

You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.

You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us to a place of abundance.

Leader: The Word of God, for us, the people of God;
People: Thanks be to God.

RECOGNITION OF 50 YEAR MEMBERS

Sally J. Bushea (03/20/1975)

Susan L. Gigliotti (03/20/1975)

Deborah Wentz (06/01/1975)

Lawrence Wentz (06/01/1975)

R. William Robinson (10/05/1975)

HYMN 426 "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

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 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Dorsey

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GENEROSITY MOMENT Sue Gigliotti

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" Traditional Spiritual

† 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

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS Luke 17:11-19
(New International Version)

As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him.
They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice,
"Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

REFLECTION "Get Up and Go!"

† HYMN 686 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

† BENEDICTION Moira Laidlaw
*Pray before the Lord in faith, seeking the deep healing God's Love brings.
Rise and go forth, confident in the knowledge of God's steadfast love for you, assured of the healing touch of Jesus upon you and emboldened by the transforming power of the Holy Spirit within you to offer God's healing Love to others. Amen.*

† POSTLUDE "Ain't-a That Good News!" Traditional Spiritual

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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.



SERVING

TODAY – OCTOBER 12	NEXT SUNDAY – OCTOBER 19	
Susann Lerch	Greeters	Serena Abruzzino
Dave Williams	Liturgist	Barb Fraunfelder
Judi Pavisich	Head Usher	Teri Barbish
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	Bell Choir



A NOTE OF THANKS—Thank you to the **Chancel Choir**, and our music team: **Mike Elkins, Tom Foley**, and **Sharon Heinrich** for sharing gospel music today.

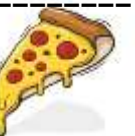
Today's altar flowers are given—
Celebrating our 12th Wedding Anniversary!
Bill & Deborah Schneider
Celebrating October Birthdays in my family: Mark, Paul, and Beth!--Barb Fraunfelder



Our steeple will light the sky this week—
Celebrating our all of 50 year members!
Happy Birthday to Samantha Wentz on October 16^h
With love, Grammy

Happy Anniversary today to Deborah & Bill Schneider!

**TODAY IS OUR CHURCH'S
208th ANNIVERSARY!**



Please celebrate with us at a Pizza Party in Pilgrim Hall following the worship service! Plus, we will have cake (of course)!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Save your coins, dollars, and checks to UCC for the next Penny Sunday, which will be on **October 26th** for our Thanksgiving "Basket" program. On **November 30th**, Penny Sunday will be for G.R.I.N. (Golden Retrievers in Need).

TRUNK OR TREAT IS COMING SOON!



JOIN US FOR SOME FUN WITH OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26th at NOON- 1 P.M. in the church parking lot. Decorate your vehicle, bring some candy to share, and wear a costume, if you'd like! **Don't forget, we'll be decorating pumpkins and doing crafts during Sunday School class time!**





OCTOBER IS BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH TIME!

While friends are always welcome at our church, the Christian Education Committee is suggesting that our children, students, families and members make a concerted effort to invite friends to church any Sunday next month. This is an opportune time to experience all the amazing events that are happening here.

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, Mark Camp, Judy Carte, Elaine Coffey, Betty “Grammy” Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Roz Fotos, Sue Hawk, Bruce Keenen, Erv Koch, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Roy Merkle, Amanda Moulton, Ginny & Kenn Oerkfitz, George & Joyce Reed, Dorothy Ritchie, Ron Rothel, Jennifer Sekorky, Tracy Seneff, Peter Smith, Bruce Sperber, Linda Stepan, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

Extended Church Family: Amorie Acevedo (Dennis Smith’s daughter), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch’s sister), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf’s friend), Allison Emerson (Colette’s sister), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen’s friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung’s friend), Joanne Gariepy (Sally Herzog’s friend), Kathy Ghetti (friend of Ginger Rothel), Jennifer Gleichauf (Don & Sandy’s daughter-in-law), Sarah & David Gleichauf (Don & Sandy’s grandson & wife), Karen Greenway (Judi Pavisich’s friend), Michaelene Hanrahan (Jim Joyce’s sister), Dana Hardy (Craig’s wife), Tiffany Hassel (Judi Pavisich’s daughter-in-law), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel’s parents), George Love (friend of the church), Diane Mason (Lora Rung’s friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel’s sister-in-law), Sylvia Pakish (Don & Sandy Gleichauf’s friend), Mike Pavisich (Judi’s step-son), Jeff Peacock (former member), Natalie Prechtel (Dave Williams’ sister-in-law), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes’ friend), Vicki Smith (Venner Clarinets), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung’s friend), Don & Pauline Wills (Judi Pavisich’s friends), the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Gaza, and Israel, victims of violence, those affected by 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



MARRIAGE CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Evan Joyce & Jennifer Olivarez**, who were married on September 5, 2025 in Cleveland. We wish them every joy and boundless happiness in their marriage.



Congratulations to **Nicholas & Miranda Miller** who were married on September 27, 2025 in Cleveland. We send our profound good wishes and hope that their marriage will long be blessed!

IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Our love and prayers are extended to **Lora Rung, Sam Cuyler**, and family on the death of Lora’s brother, **Michael (Mick) Rung** in Florida on October 6, 2025. He was 78 years old.



THREE WITH GLEE!

Capital Campaign: We currently have \$ 61,087.08 in our capital campaign account. The tuckpointing has a few more areas to be completed. We have chosen the vendor for the automatic door openers for the kitchen and main doors. The Trustees are reviewing the proposals that have been submitted for improving the acoustics in Pilgrim Hall and painting the hall. Please make sure you designate your donation for “Capital Campaign.” Yellow pledge cards are available in the Gathering Area. Thanks for your continuing support.

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS:

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Donations will be accepted for this UCC special offering throughout the month of October.



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

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Now Accepting Donations for our 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.” Also, if you know of someone in need, please contact Pastor Heidi or the church office.



ARE YOU INTERESTED?

The Board of Trustees needs someone to fill an unexpired term on the board. The Trustees oversee the building, property, and finances of the church. The Trustees meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. The Official Board would appoint the willing volunteer to complete the term ending in 2027. The church will be needing a new treasurer at the beginning of the year, as our treasurer, Sally Herzog, will be completing her 3rd term of service. The treasurer position is an elected office and is responsible for facilitating the payment of the church’s bills and working closely with the Financial Secretary. Sally is willing to thoroughly train her successor. Please see Rachel Zielinski or Cathy Hawk if you can serve in either capacity.



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **October 14th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **October 21st** at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **October 28th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



PIG ROAST!

THE OFFICIAL BOARD IS HOSTING A PIG ROAST FUNDRAISER AT THE CHURCH NEXT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH

FROM 5 P.M. – 7 P.M.

\$25 PER TICKET—HOT DOG MEAL IS \$10

(INCLUDES ROAST PORK, SMOKED CHICKEN, CHOICE OF 2 SIDES, ROLL & BUTTER, BEVERAGE, & DESSERT)

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO GET YOUR TICKETS!

We have a sign-up for dessert donations posted in Pilgrim Hall.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed	\$ 4,359.00
Last Week’s Offering Received	\$ 7,428.00
Difference	+\$3,069.00

Thank you very much for your support.

PLEDGES RECEIVED for 2026: 1



SOUP SALE!



Our Youth Group is selling Guy’s Famous Chicken Paprikash Soup! We are taking orders for delivery on October 26th. Warm and comforting, soup is perfect for a fall lunch or supper. Purchase 24 ounces of homemade goodness for only \$10! Please see one of our kids to get your order in! Only 50 containers are available, so hurry!

A NEW GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN FOR 2026--H.E.A.R.T.

Hospitality
Engagement
Activities

Resources

Time, Talent, & Treasure



United Church of Christ 2026 Estimate of Giving

In recognition of God’s many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2026:

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 ____/____/____

For where your treasure is,
there will your heart be also. *Matthew 6:21*

FREE LUNCH FOR ALL--
Wednesdays

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Many thanks to all of our dedicated volunteers and to all who come and enjoy food and fellowship on Wednesdays! **PLEASE NOTE: The Free Lunch for All program will be on hiatus on December 24th and December 31st.**



DISHES, and BOWLS, and PLATES--Oh My!
They're starting to accumulate again.

Many folks have been kind enough to bring dishes and utensils to the church for funeral luncheons or other events. After the delicious food is eaten, the dishes are sometimes forgotten. If you are missing one of your bowls, utensils, or containers, please pick it up from the kitchen right away. Abandoned dishware will be sold at the Thrift Shop.



CHURCH OFFICERS 2025

*Elected January 26, 2025 ** appointed by Official Board

Moderator: Greg Dickson **Vice-Moderator:** Jen Barry
Treasurer: Sally Herzog **Clerk:** Judy Gaumer
Sunday School Superintendent: Linda Elkins

Board of Trustees

Bill Giuliano Chris Goff* Mike Elkins
Les Fox Herb Hampson Cathy Hawk*
Sandy Pogozeleski Cheryl Sobek*
Alex Tomoff* Mike Willis* Rachel Zielinski

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson* Dave Williams*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish Jean Bittinger* Elaine Coffey*
Bobbi Cook* Wayne Cook* Judy Davis*
Judy Fox Pam Heimburger* Lynne McCray*
Linda Ponstingle* Lora Rung* Cherie Teagno

Christian Education Committee

Linda Elkins Colette Emerson Dale Hawk*
Sarah Hayes* Amanda Marshall Lora Rung*

Music Committee

Karen Bates Ingrid Dickson
Pam Keenen* Ken Mehalko* Mike Willis*
ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee

Ingrid Dickson* Sue Gigliotti Linda Stepan*
Rob Toth Sarah Toth* Dave Williams*

Mission and Outreach Committee

Gina Cathcart* Bobbi Cook** Myron Costin*
Diana Creecy Cathy Hawk* Sarah Hayes
Lora Rung* Peter Smith Mary Willis*
Mary Ellen Zimmerman