

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
13740 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136
Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall
Designated Minister



Church Telephone: (440) 238-6697
Email: StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com
Website: www.strongsvilleucc.com
Worship at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday

OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 1 – 10:00 A.M.

*We welcome our Designated Minister,
Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall!
Neighbors in Need Offering will be received throughout
the month of October – please see page 2.*

Liturgist: Betty Craig
Greeter: Linda Plain
Usher: Linda Plain
Coffee Hour: Myron Costin

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 29 – 10:00 A.M.

*Stewardship Campaign continues.
Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets continues (p.2).
Dedication of Memorials
Sunday School Pumpkin Painting Party*

Liturgist: Pam Keenen
Greeters: The Rolland Family
Usher: Roy Merkle
Coffee Hour: Volunteers Needed

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 8 – 10:00 A.M.

*We will celebrate our past during worship.
Please feel free to dress in clothing reflective
of our history.*

Liturgist: Jim Studer
Greeters: The Clotworthy Family
Ushers: Volunteers Needed
Coffee Hour: Ed and Cheryl Sobek

DIACONATE NEWS

The Diaconate announces with great pleasure the hiring of Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall as our designated minister. What is a designated minister, you ask? A designated minister has the opportunity to apply and be considered for the position of our settled minister.

Rev. Heidi begins October 1, 2017. We welcome her and her husband Chuck!

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 15 – 10:00 A.M.

*We will embrace our future in worship.
Please feel free to dress in clothing reflective
of our history.
Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets begins (p.2).
The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated.*

Liturgist: Kelly Bickley
Greeter: Lola Millhoane
Ushers: Volunteers Needed
Coffee Hour: Myron Costin



UPDATE FROM YOUR PULPIT SEARCH COMMITTEE

Your Pulpit Search Committee has completed and submitted our church profile to the association and is receiving profiles from interested candidates. Even though the Diaconate has found Heidi Denman McDougall to be our designated pastor, the work of the Pulpit Search Committee continues. (Heidi, as a designated pastor, is eligible to apply for the permanent, settled pastor position. This is a change from previous ministerial searches, since previously the interim pastor was not permitted to be considered for the settled pastor position.) The PSC continues to request your ongoing support and prayers while we search for the one whom God is calling to lead us long term.

Your Pulpit Search Committee

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



SUNDAY – OCTOBER 22 – 10:00 A.M.

*Stewardship Campaign begins.
Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets continues (p.2).
Mission and Outreach Silent Auction after church (p.4)*

Liturgist: Gina Gigliotti
Greeters: The Bickley Family
Ushers: The Bickley Family
Coffee Hour: Volunteers Needed

HEADLINE NEWS

STRONGSVILLE UCC CELEBRATES 200 YEARS!

The Strongsville United Church of Christ is celebrating 200 years this month. Starting with 8 people who ventured forth from Connecticut, we have grown to over 300 members. We began by praising God in people's homes. Soon we grew to have a minister who was paid in part by produce grown by families to free him of trouble as much as possible. In the early years, women were not allowed to offer public prayer but were an integral part of the church in many ways. Within the past 5 years, we have had 2 women ministers with several other substitute women ministers serving us. We have been through many difficult times: morality, discrimination, wars, and slavery, as just a few examples in those 200 years. Through it all, we have persevered, survived, and thrived. Let us always look back and celebrate our past, but also be ever mindful of embracing our future so generations ahead of us can continue to carry on the spirit of Christ and spread God's love in the world as our ancestors before us have done. God is still speaking.

STRONGSVILLE UCC 200th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON Sunday, October 15, 2017, 1:00 p.m. at the Strongsville Rec Center

A limited amount of tickets are available for purchase in Pilgrim Hall from either Joyce Reed or Dianne Maringer.

Ticket prices are

\$15 for Adults \$10 for Children (6-12 years).



What the Church Means to Me! The Anniversary Committee is asking everyone to fill out a paper with what the Strongsville United Church of Christ means to them. Please pick up a sheet in the Gathering Area. We are planning on displaying these prior to the Anniversary Sunday and at the luncheon. They will also be placed in our time capsule. Please take the time to fill one out and leave it in the basket in the Gathering Area. If you have any questions please speak with Rachel Zielinski. Thank you.

200th Anniversary Cookbooks – We still have cookbooks available for purchase. They make great gifts, and your purchase helps support the Anniversary celebration. 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!



OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY IN CELEBRATION OF 200TH ANNIVERSARY

In celebration of our 200th 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 the history of our church in recognition of our 200th 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 200th Anniversary Committee

NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

NIN is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the U.S. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the 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. NIN grants are awarded to 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. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering. The offering will be received throughout this month.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS



Our goal is to prepare 75 baskets for needy families within our community. Collection begins Sunday, October 15. Each week we will bring to church the following designated items, which will be placed in our sanctuary:

- Oct. 15 cans of green beans, cans of corn
- 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, canned or fresh yams
- Nov. 19 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 complete the information on your attendance card, or tell Rev. Heidi. Thank you for your support of this benevolent project.

MUSIC COMMITTEE NEWS

The Strongsville UCC Music Committee is pleased to welcome Elias (Eli) Manos as our choral accompanist. Eli is a student in Music Composition and Piano Performance at Cleveland State University. He has played piano and celesta in many groups and ensembles, including accompanying the Singing Angels and the Singers Club men's choir.

Also, Eli has played piano and keyboard in a large number of musical theater productions. Eli's passion is piano performance and composing music for film scoring. He has composed a myriad of works and has received the Bain Murray Award for Music Composition numerous times. In 2017, he was awarded Best Original Score for the film, *A Laughing Matter*, from the Viking Film Awards.

We are so excited to have Eli join our ministry of music!

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 parents Amanda Hawk and John, sister Riley, grandparents Dale and Cathy Hawk, aunt Sarah and uncle Jon Hayes, and cousin Jack on the birth of baby girl

Lacey Jane

on Thursday, September 14, 2017!



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 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 August 20, 2017, to September 10, 2017

Offering Needed \$15,460

Received 11,789

Difference (\$3,671)



THANK YOU

On behalf of Betty Bushea, I wish to thank everyone for their beautiful cards, phone calls and visits. The altar flowers were lovely, and she could admire them on the dining room table. Thank you also for keeping her in your thoughts and prayers.

Barb Fraunfelder

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

or

Irene Joyce

216-267-5043 / ij3e@sbcglobal.net

MISSION AND OUTREACH NEWS



Mission and Outreach Committee will be using profits from the upcoming "Around the World" Basket Auction to fund a project in honor of our veterans in November for Veterans' Day. At this point we are planning to focus on a local

homeless veterans project that helps them as they transition to housing. We are considering several ways of doing this and will keep you informed. Several baskets are already displayed on the screen in the Gathering area and others will be added. The baskets will be in Pilgrim Hall on Sundays in October, along with their bidding sheets.

THE THRIFT SHOP

October means fall leaves, cool evenings, warm apple cider and new fashions at the Thrift Shop. The shop was cleaned, all the summer merchandise has been removed, and now the racks are filled with fall clothing and the tables are filled with Halloween décor. Stop in for a Halloween costume...our prices are better than any other store in Strongsville!

We also have a nice selection of collectible, vintage dolls that were recently donated to the shop. We are hoping to find a home for each doll.

A BIG THANK YOU to all volunteers who worked very hard in the Thrift Shop for the changeover to the fall/winter merchandise.

If possible, please hold your donations until further notice. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

The shop is open on Thursdays from 10 to 4, and we hope you can stop in to shop, donate or visit.



IN SYMPATHY

Our love and prayers are extended in sympathy to Jon Hayes and family on the passing of his grandfather, Harry Hayes, on September 4, 2017. The funeral was held on September 11 at Ripepi and Sons Funeral Home in Middleburg Heights.



STEEPLE LIGHTING



Week of September 3, 2017

Happy Birthday to Stacie Sauter on September 9
With love, Grammy

Week of September 10, 2017

Happy Birthday to Eli Sauter on September 12
Happy Birthday to Pastor Becky on September 13
With love, Grammy

Week of September 17, 2017

Happy 16th Birthday on September 20, Rae!
Love, Mom and Dad
Happy Birthday to Abby Craig on September 21
With love, Grammy

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.

ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The Adult Social Club meets the third Wednesday of the month at the church. Their next meeting is Wednesday, October 18, at 7 p.m. All adults are welcome.

Thistledown

Saturday – October 7

Please sign up on the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.

Stan Hywett Mansion

December – Details to follow.

For more information, please contact Adria Bond at (440) 227-8410 or Eddy Bond at (440) 554-7380.

WEDNESDAY FREE LUNCH PROGRAM

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



STEWARDSHIP – CAN DO CUPBOARD

The theme of the 2018 Stewardship Campaign is “Our Church’s Can Do Cupboard.” We will look at the many “cans” that our church offers and the “cans” that we “can” give back to God in gratitude for what He has given us. Brief Stewardship Moments will be presented during worship on the Sundays of October 22, October 29, November 5, and November 12. On November 12, we will dedicate our pledges in worship and then celebrate the campaign’s conclusion with a special coffee hour in Pilgrim Hall. We hope you “can” join us as we organize cans in our church’s Can Do Cupboard!



We again see members using their talents to help in the operation of our church and its facilities:

Lloyd Bridle for his tuck pointing work on the bricks by the steps at the back entrance of the church.

Melinda Slavik and **Kathie Paul** (and sometimes Kathie’s husband **Gary**) for their continued attention to the flowers and landscaping around the church.

All our **Wednesday Free Lunch Program volunteers** for their benevolent, weekly work.

If you know of someone who should be recognized for their efforts for our church, please call the church at (440) 238-6697 or email the information to:

strongsvilleucc@gmail.com

We are very happy to acknowledge those who use their talents to help the ministry of our church.

Stewardship Opportunities

What about you? Do you have a talent that you could contribute to the ministry of our church? If you do not know how to start or to whom to speak, here are some ideas for how you can help:

Every Wednesday our church serves a free lunch to about 100 people in the community. We can always use help--especially in the New Year when many current lunch volunteers go south for a few months in the winter.

Now is the time to learn how the free lunch program operates:

- We can always use more help in prep of things. Right now we have only 2 people preparing food. Some prep can be done earlier or even in the evening.
- We need individuals to set up for the meal and clean up afterward.
- Additional servers are needed at times.

- We also need help to run the dishwasher and to dry and store the dishes.
- Beginning in January will need someone to pick up the donations from Panera in the mall and on Route 82 on Monday, and also pick up from Panera on Route 82 on Fridays.

Ideally we could have volunteers in any of these areas depending on need. Please talk to Betty Craig, Kenn Oerkfitz, or Sharon Heinrich with questions; or better yet, just show up around 10:00 a.m. any Wednesday.

If you have other talents beside these and would like to use them, please call the church, and we will direct you to the person who will help you to help our church. Thank you for serving!

OUR PRAYER LIST

Hospitals no longer provide names of members who are patients. If you or a family member would like a visit, please call the church at (440) 238-6697.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Betty Bushea, Margot James, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Betty Babics, Dan Davis, Tom Gaumer, The Grabski/Williams Family, Lacey (daughter of Amanda Hawk) at Cleveland Clinic, Steve Herzog, Phillis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Martha Liebert, Michele Mhlack at Cleveland Clinic, Eileen Pincomb, Harvey Pincomb, Betsey Santomen (wife of Rev. Joe Santomen), Jan Stough, Rev. Oommen Thomas at Southwest General, Leah Tressa Forget, Shirley Weinhold at Metro, Kyle Woodward

Extended Church Family: Logan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), 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-in-law of Sarah), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga), Karla Wood (daughter of John and Barbara Toth)

Please provide updates to this list. Thank you.



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, the following are dates when vases are still needed so that two vases are on the altar for Sunday worship:



October 15 – 1 vase
October 22 – 2 vases
October 29 – 2 vases
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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Thank you to all who supported the Sunday School Bake Sale on September 9, 2017. The Sale made \$413, which will be used for our Sunday School programs, supplies, and activities.

The Sunday School children will enjoy **pumpkin painting** on Sunday, October 29.

Penny Sunday is October 29. For this month, the collection will be given to Hurricane Relief. Thank you for your pennies! \$73.50 was collected in August's Penny Sunday and that money went to the Houston Food Bank. In July, \$89.73 was collected and sent to the Wink Foundation.



VIEWING CHURCH SERVICES ON THE WEB

To make past services easier to view on the web, we have 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.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Women's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, October 4, at 10:00 a.m. Claire Wills will present a program on dying silk scarves. Each lady in attendance will dye a scarf, which she will take home for herself. As always, all women are welcome. After the meeting, all ladies are invited to enjoy the Free Lunch Program in Pilgrim Hall.



OFFICIAL BOARD

Profits from the church events on September 9 are:

\$2,082.65 – Garage Sale
413.00 – Sunday School Bake Sale
100.00 – Thrift Shop

\$2,595.65 – GRAND TOTAL

Thank you again to all who supported the Garage Sale, Bake Sale, and Thrift Shop in any way!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

All You Can Eat!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

A Fundraiser for Our Pipe Organ Restoration



Sunday – November 12, 2016
9 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

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

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

