



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor
Sunday, October 23, 2022 – 10 A.M.

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.

PRELUDE "I Need Thee Every Hour" arr. Raney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: Community Rick Taylor

INTROIT "Lord, Hear Our Prayer" Elkins

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lord, in this place, we come to you.

People: We come to you with open hearts and open minds.

Leader: We come to share the burden of our deepest sorrows.

People: We come to celebrate uncontainable joy.

Leader: We feel your presence in the warmth of being surrounded by your people, as we mourn together and as we rejoice together.

People: Together, we will praise you, uphold one another, and give thanks for every one of your children.

† HYMN 1 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 84: 1-7
(New Revised Standard Version)

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young, at your altars,
O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways
to Zion. As they go through the valley of Baca,

they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.

They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

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 "A Choral Blessing" Young

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

Thank you for your continuing commitment to giving freely of your talents and your treasure, as you are able, in service to Christ in the world. You are the Hands and Feet of Jesus in the world.

OFFERTORY Excerpts from "Fantasy & Impromptu" Chopin
Carol Foley, keyboard

† 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 18: 9-14
(New Revised Standard Version)

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

SERMON Rev. Mary Snell Willis

† HYMN 634 "More Love to Thee"

† BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the Lord look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. And the people of God say, All: Amen!

† RESPONSE "Sabbath Prayer" Bock

† POSTLUDE "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" Dykes

SERVING

TODAY – OCTOBER 23		NEXT SUNDAY – OCTOBER 30
Barbara & John Toth	Greeters	Jean Bittinger, Elaine Coffey
Bruce Keenen	Liturgist	Oliver Sekorky
Teri Barbish	Ushers	Elaine Coffey
Aidan Hurtig/Luke Giuliano	Acolytes	Chris Abruzzino/Riley Marshall
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	Organist	Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	Sound	Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Chancel Choir, Carol Foley	Special Music	Chancel Choir, Roger Davis
Rev. Mary Snell Willis	Guest Minister	

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.



A NOTE OF THANKS—

Today we thank the Chancel Choir, and extend special thanks to Carol Foley, Tom Foley, and Mike Elkins for sharing their music with us today and to Rev. Mary Willis for leading us in worship during Pastor Heidi's absence.

The altar flowers are given—

In celebration of Granddaughter Gabbie's 20th Birthday on October 18th and Grandson Grant's 19th Birthday on the 24th!

Grandpa George & Grandma Joyce

Congratulations to "Little k" and Brian on the one day anniversary of their wedding--The Dicksons & the Joyces



Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy Birthday on October 16th to Samantha Wentz

and to Kristina Craig on October 22nd!-With Love, Grammy

Happy Anniversary to Hayley & Joey McKane on October 28th and to Tracey & Natalia Hill on October 29th!-With love, Grammy

IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY



We are profoundly saddened by the death of our "Pastor's Wife," **Chuck McDougall**, on Monday, October 17, 2022 and our heartfelt sympathy is extended to **Pastor Heidi**, their whole family, and all of their many friends. Visitation will be on Tuesday, October 25th from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Jardine's Funeral

Home. A Celebration of Life will be held in late December. Memorial gifts may be given to the church or St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of **Millie Lafave**, who died on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, just a day after her 94th birthday. Our love and prayers are extended to **Gail & Brian Butler**, and to Millie's grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Millie had been a member of our church for 25 years. A Memorial will be held at a later date.



MARRIAGE CONGRATULATIONS

Wishing a long and happy marriage to **Kristen (Burgess)** and **Brian Kohler**, who were married at our church yesterday.



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Diaconate will have a brief meeting TODAY after worship, in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, October 25th at 7:30 p.m. in the Parlor for an abbreviated meeting.



2022
STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: S.O.C.K.S.
Service, Offering, Community, Kindness,
Sanctuary

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Joan Beckwith, Lloyd Bridle, Mary Carey, Gina Cathcart, Kathy Cockrell, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sam Cuyler, Sr., Lidiya Dordzhiyeva, Sue Hawk, Paul Hirt, Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Len Lane, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfitz, Gary Paul, Sandy Pogozelski, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothe, Autumn Schneider, Tracy Seneff, Peter Smith, Maggie Struhar, Sharon Wilson, Janis Williamson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Rachel Zielinski, Mary Ellen Zimmerman



Extended Church Family: Dorene Baldridge, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Tiffany Hassel (Judi Pavisich's daughter-in-law), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Ed Kuhn (Sandy & Don Gleichauf's friend), Andrew Majoros (Michele Mhlack's cousin), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend, Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Zachary McKeever (Pastor Heidi and Chuck's great-nephew), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothe's sister-in-law), Heather Overman (friend of Judi Pavisich), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Jeff Peacock, Terry Robson (Barb & Mark Camp's friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Tina Serrano (Elliott Joyce's grandma), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Vicky Smith (Venner Clarinets), Bruce Unger (Sally Herzog's friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Weston (Chelsea Cathcart's friend's baby), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), The people of Ukraine, victims of violence, those affected by severe weather

Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain. h.e.denman@gmail.com

PHONE A FRIEND!

Are you interested in praying for others, but don't use email? Your Church Family Care Team has a number of folks who are willing to call you, typically once a week, to share with you the prayer requests Pastor Heidi shares via email. Please let Linda Ponstingle know.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed	\$3,649.37
Last Week's Offering Received	\$3,791.00
Difference	\$ 141.63

Thank you very much for your support.



ATTENTION ELECTRONIC GIVERS:

Our new online giving platform, Zeffy, is live! If you would like to give electronically, please go to www.strongsvilleucc.com and click on the donate button. The MyEoffering service has been terminated. Please see Mike Elkins with any questions. Thank you for giving.

GIFT CARDS

GET YOUR GIFT GIVING AND PERSONAL SHOPPING DONE AND BENEFIT THE CHURCH!

You can order gift cards by calling Jim Joyce at 216-267-5043 in advance with your order. Limited stock is available for purchase on Sunday mornings.



CHRISTMAS FOR VETERANS



Our congregation is providing a small gift for our military veterans of Cuyahoga County that are served by Church Street Ministries of Berea, helping

those with needs, especially those transitioning from homelessness. We include two pairs of socks, along with candy bars. Mission Outreach would appreciate your help with donations of **men's crew socks (Med./Lg./XL)** or **regular sized candy bars THROUGH OCTOBER 30th**, deposited in the container in the Gathering Area. Monetary donations may be placed in the offering plate, labeled "VETERANS."



PENNY SUNDAY—NEXT WEEK!

Please remember to save those pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and yes, DOLLARS for our next Penny Sunday collection, **October 30th**, which will go to **UCC Disaster Relief Ministries for hurricane assistance.**

JOIN US FOR SOME FUN WITH OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30th

immediately following Coffee Hour 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!**



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." **Also, if you know of someone in need, please contact Pastor Heidi or the church office.**

FREE LUNCH FOR ALL Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

We have room for YOU! Please join us for a nutritious meal and warm fellowship.

Many thanks to our hard-working volunteers, who make the lunch ministry possible!



A TRIBUTE TO THE GREAT AMERICAN SONG BOOK

to benefit SCT Scholarship Fund
Presented by Strongsville Community Theatre
Friday, October 28th & Sat. October 29th
at the Center for Innovation and Growth at Baldwin Wallace University

Many familiar Strongsville UCC faces will be participating in this event featuring music and food. **Call 440-879-8817 or**

www.strongsvillecommunitytheatre.com
for reservations and ticket purchases.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP--UPCOMING EVENTS

November 2 – 1:00 P.M. – Plan Our Christmas Tea, Plan Programs for Next Year, Elect Officers

December 11 – Sunday – Christmas Tea (Please note change in date.)

All ladies are welcome to attend all our events.



THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is **OPEN every Thursday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.** with freshly stocked fall/winter merchandise. We are once again accepting donations, but please make sure you are able to carry your items downstairs when you donate.



CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2022

Elected January 30, 2022 * = 1 year term
**appointed by the Official Board

Moderator: Greg Dickson **Vice-Moderator:** Jen Barry

Treasurer: Sally Herzog **Clerk:** Judy Gaumer

Sunday School Co-Superintendents

Linda Elkins Serena Abruzzino

Board of Trustees

Myron Costin Diana Creecy Bill Giuliano*

Herb Hampson Dale Hawk Sarah Hayes

Sandy Pogozelski* Dave Sekorky Ed Sobek*

Rachel Zielinski

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson Linda Stepan Joyce Reed*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish Barbara Camp* Elaine Coffey

Cathy Hawk* Linda Kapcar Bobbie Krisak

Sharon Maresco Linda Ponstingle Cheryl Sobek* 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* Rob Stepan

ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee

Sue Gigliotti* Beth Giuliano* Judi Pavisich

Bill Schneider** Richard Taylor Rob Toth

Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte* Sarah Hayes Bobbie Krisak

Lora Rung* Jennifer Sekorky Peter Smith ** Bev Wehr*

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Donations will be accepted for this UCC special offering throughout 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. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities.