



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Congregational)
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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor
Sunday, October 24, 2021 – 10 A.M.



WELCOME!

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the best interests of others. – Philippians 2:4

For the safety and comfort of everyone, please continue to wear a mask in the Gathering Area and when entering or leaving the Sanctuary. When you are seated in the pews, you may lower your mask if you wish, while maintaining social distancing. **If you are not yet fully vaccinated, we ask that you continue to wear a mask at all times. Thank you.**

† *Please stand as you are comfortable.*

PRELUDE "Prelude and Fugue in D" Handel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Joyce Reed
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.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT **God's Work...Our Hands**

INTROIT "This Little Light of Mine" Spiritual, arr. Raney

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: With our lips and with our hearts:

People: We will bless God in every moment of our lives.

Leader: With our ears and with our hearts:

People: We will hear the cries of our sisters and brothers, in every painful moment, in every broken place.

Leader: With every gift and with our hearts:

People: We will serve God and all of God's children, with every moment of our lives. Amen.

† **HYMN 210** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
(If you wish to sing with us, please have your mask in place.)

A READING FROM THE PSALMS **Psalms 34:1-8**
(New Revised Standard Version)

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.
O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.
Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord,
and was saved from every trouble.
The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them.
O taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.

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

SHARING OF 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 "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" Converse, arr. Raney

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. Thank you. To give online, please go to:

<https://www.myeoffering.com/eonline/index.php/dashboard/login/5027>

OFFERTORY "Great is Thy Faithfulness" Runyan

† **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 **Mark 10:46-52**
(New Revised Standard Version)

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

SERMON "Leaving It All Behind"

† **HYMN 779** "I'll Fly Away"
(If you wish to sing with us, please have your mask in place.)

† BENEDICTION

Now may the peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Know that wherever you are, God is with you. **Amen.**

† **POSTLUDE** "Postludio for Full Organ" Zundel

TODAY – OCTOBER 24		NEXT SUNDAY – OCTOBER 31	
Sharon & Karl Kuhlenschmidt	Greeters	Ginger Rothel	
Herb Hampson	Liturgist	Lynne McCray	
Elaine Coffey	Ushers	Volunteers needed	
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley	
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins	
Sharon Heinrich	Supplemental Organist	Sharon Heinrich	
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	Sound	Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	
Richard Densmore	Special Music	Chancel Choir/Ken Mehalko	

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 FRIENDLY REMINDER: COFFEE HOUR IS BACK!
Please stop down in Pilgrim Hall after the service for a hot beverage and warm conversation!

The altar flowers are given—
For all our families. Deceased and living.
Roger & Judy Davis

Our steeple will light the sky this week—
Happy Anniversary to Hayley & Joey McKane on October 28th and to Tracey and Natalia Hill on October 29th!
With Love, Grammy



Happy Birthday today to Marty Ellman!



PENNY SUNDAY

Thank you to everyone who participated in last week's Penny Sunday. \$607.40 (a Penny Sunday record!) will benefit our Free Lunch Program, which is incurring extra start-up costs as they are reopening.

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. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

STEWARDSHIP: GOD'S WORK...OUR HANDS

Our 2022 Stewardship campaign is underway! Please prayerfully consider how you may give of your time, talent, and treasure to help with the mission and ministry of our church.



IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

We recently discovered that church member **Eileen Pincombe** passed away on September 30, 2021. She was 89 years old. Our sincere sympathy goes out to her family and friends.



A NOTE OF THANKS



We thank Richard Densmore, Mike Elkins, and Sharon Heinrich for providing our musical worship today, while Music Director Tom Foley recuperates from his surgery.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Janet Kato, Marge McKinney, Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Joan Beckwith, Eddy Bond, Mary Carey, Elaine Coffey, Kathy Cockrell, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Linda Elliott, Tom Foley, Ramona Glaze, Sue Hawk, Bob Heddleson, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Irene Jannsohn, George Kapcar, Tony Koussa, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Chuck McDougall, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Peter Smith, Autumn Schnieder, John & Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Mary Ellen & Bob Zimmerman



Extended Church Family: Dorene Baldrige, Fred Beba (Theresa's husband), Jackie Berkheimer (Judi Pavisich's friend), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Judy Carte's son-in-law, Ryan, Mary Ann Csory (Judi Pavisich's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Linda Harbison (Jan Meier's sister-in-law), Tiffany Hassel (Judi Pavisich's daughter-in-law), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Diane Gregoire (Judi Pavisich's cousin), Zachary McKeever (Pastor Heidi and Chuck's great-nephew), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Carrol Riley (Marjorie Morrison's dad), Terry Robson (Barb & Mark Camp's friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Sandra Wentz (Debbie's daughter-in-law)

Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain.



A TRIBUTE TO BROADWAY

to benefit SCT Scholarship Fund
Presented by Strongsville Community Theatre
Friday, October 29th & Sat. October 30th
at the Strongsville Rec Center

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.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,649.37
Last Week's Offering Received \$1,838.00
Difference (- \$1,811.37)

Thank you very much for your support.



CHRISTMAS FOR VETERANS

For many years, our congregation has provided 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. Between 60-100 veterans are served. We include two pairs of socks, along with candy bars. Our Bombas Socks annual gift has been delayed until 2022. Mission Outreach would appreciate your help with donations of **men's crew socks (Med./Lg./XL)** or **regular sized candy bars THROUGH OCTOBER 31st**, deposited in the container in the Gathering Area. Monetary donations may be placed in the offering plate, labeled "VETERANS."



MISSION-OUTREACH COMMITTEE



The Strongsville Emergency Food Bank has always been supported by our congregation. We would like to resume having you drop donations off at the church. The

Kuhlenschmidts have agreed to transport the non-perishable food items to the Food Bank for us, which makes this ministry possible. Many thanks to Karl and Sharon. Please remember, we do not accept expired goods. The needs for the food bank in October would be PASTA & SAUCE, JUICE BOXES FOR KIDS!

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **October 26th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



FREE LUNCH FOR ALL IS RETURNING

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

LIMITED RESERVATIONS--Call (440) 238-5389

To-go meals will be available.



JOIN US FOR SOME FUN WITH OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

KIDS ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31st

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!**



THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is **OPEN** on **Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.** with lots of fall merchandise on display. Donations are being accepted, but you must **call** the church first to arrange a time for drop-off.



THRIFT SHOP BONUS HOURS

The 3rd **Thursday** of the month, **November 18, 2021 — 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

(We're still open on our usual Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

Also, the Thrift Shop is still in need of volunteers to help out for a couple of hours—sorting, organizing, and selling on Thursdays. Please call Cathy Hawk (440-781-7512) if you can help!

THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021 UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE is available (large print and pocket size) in the Gathering Area. Pick up your free copy today!



Women's Fellowship will meet Wednesday, November 3, at 10 a.m. in Pilgrim Hall. We will plan our Christmas Tea, make Tea centerpieces, and elect officers. **If you have a glue gun, please bring it for making the centerpieces.** Anyone wishing to

socialize after the meeting, please bring your own lunch and beverage. As always, all ladies are welcome.

COMING SOON...Thanksgiving "Basket" project



Due to the remaining effects of the global pandemic, we will not be collecting food items and putting together actual Thanksgiving packages for those in need. 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.**

And the Mitten Tree...

We will still collect hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks for the needy this year. From November 7th through December 5th, bring your items to the church during office hours and they will be placed on the Mitten Tree. After the 5th, 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!

