



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, October 30, 2022 – 10 A.M.

Penny 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 welcome here.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE "Trading My Sorrows" Evans

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Greg Dickson

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: Kindness Bill Schneider

INTROIT "Ask, Seek Knock" Larson

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come and worship.

People: We stand on holy ground in the House of the Lord.

Leader: Come and praise.

People: With music and the Word, we offer our praise.

Leader: Come and be thankful.

People: With gratitude in our hearts, we join together.

ALL: Holy Lord, where two or three are gathered in your name, you are there with them. Amen.

† HYMN 8 "Come Thou Almighty King"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 119: 137-144

(New Revised Standard Version)

You are righteous, O Lord, and your judgments are right.

You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness.

My zeal consumes me because my foes forget your words.

Your promise is well tried, and your servant loves it.

I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts.

Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and your law is the truth.

Trouble and anguish have come upon me,

but your commandments are my delight.

Your decrees are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.

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 "Softly and Tenderly" arr. Raney

Carol Foley and Mike Elkins, duet

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Penny Sunday

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 "Amazing Grace" Traditional 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

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS Luke 19: 1-10

(New Revised Standard Version)

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

SERMON "Don't Get Lost" Rev. Patricia Jefferis

† HYMN 435 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

† BENEDICTION

Remember the songs we sang? They are still blessing you with joy.

Remember the prayers we prayed? They did not stop with "amen."

Remember the scripture words? They'll remain in your heart like jewels.

Remember the offering you put in the plate?

Its generosity is already flowing back to you.

Remember how God was here? God is blessing you right out the door

and into every moment of the days to come. **Amen.**

† RESPONSE "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" Tomer

† POSTLUDE "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" Spiritual

SERVING

TODAY – OCTOBER 30 **NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 6**

Jean Bittinger, Elaine Coffey **Greeters** Roger & Judy Davis

Oliver Sekorky **Liturgist** Elaine Coffey

Elaine Coffey **Ushers** B. Schneider, J. Pavisich, the Winrods

Chris Abruzzino/Riley Marshall **Acolytes** Oliver & Matilda Sekorky

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, Ken Mehalko

Rev. Patricia Jefferis **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. Patricia Jefferis** for leading us in worship during Pastor Heidi's absence.

The altar flowers are given—

Happy Birthday tomorrow to Beth (Fraunfelder) Lewis!

Love, Barb Fraunfelder & Dennis Smith



Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy 16th Birthday to Gabe Sauter--With love, Grammy



ALTAR FLOWERS: Please pray for Marianne Grega-Knotek, our florist. She is experiencing health issues and is unable to provide fresh flowers for a while. We will be using silk arrangements in the meantime. If you have already paid for flowers, please contact the church office. Also, dedications in the weekly bulletins are still welcome.

CHRISTMAS FOR VETERANS—ONE MORE WEEK!



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."

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **November 8th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **November 15th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **November 22nd** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



LAST WEEK FOR 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.

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!



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., Sue Hawk, Paul Hirt, Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Len Lane, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mhlack, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkitz, Gary Paul, Sandy Pogozelski, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Autumn Schneider, Tracy Seneff, Peter Smith, Maggie Struhar, Sharon Wilson, Dave Williams, Janis Williamson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Rachel Zielinski, Mary Ellen Zimmerman



Extended Church Family: Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Jennifer Gleichauf (Don & Sandy's daughter-in-law), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Tiffany Hassel (Judi Pavisich's daughter-in-law), Joseph Hattery (Martha & John's son), 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 Rothel'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	\$1,923.00
Difference	-(\$1,726.37)

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.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR! Immediately following Sunday School classes, students are to report upstairs for a brief rehearsal with Mr. Foley. (Choir is part of the Sunday School curriculum.)



PENNY SUNDAY—TODAY!

Please donate those pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and yes, DOLLARS today, which will go to **UCC Disaster Relief Ministries for hurricane assistance.**

JOIN US FOR SOME FUN WITH OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS TODAY 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.**

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.** Insider tip--if you'd like to purchase a gift card for the Thanksgiving "Basket" project, we have Giant Eagle and Walmart cards for sale through the Organ Preservation Committee. (Monetary donations are used to purchase grocery cards through the OPC as well.)

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP--UPCOMING EVENTS

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



The Women's Fellowship will be making candy in November and selling it to members of the congregation in December. We will make dark and light chocolate candies – chocolate with peanuts or raisins or coconut, pretzel bark, and pecan bark. **If you are interested in helping, we will be making candy on two dates:**

- Friday, 11/18, 10 am – 2 pm (bring your own lunch if you wish)
- Monday, 11/21, 7 pm - ?

We will then package candy:

- Monday, 11/28, 10 am – 2 pm (bring your own lunch if you wish)
- We will sell candy after our worship services:
- Sunday, 12/4/22
 - Sunday, 12/11/22

All women of the church are welcome to join the fun and fellowship!

Please contact **Barb Fraunfelder** with any questions – bfraunfelder@gmail.com or 440-227-9051

December 11 – Sunday – Christmas Tea (Please note change in date.)
All ladies are welcome to attend all our events.



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

Estimate of Giving cards are included in this week's bulletin!

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.



COMING SOON...

LIVE NATIVITY AND OPEN HOUSE:

This year's Open House on **Sunday, November 20th**, will offer an event similar to last year's and celebrate outside with the community. Once again, we will not be offering indoor hospitality but we will have our Live Nativity, complete with animals, including Charlie the Camel! 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. Please see **Dale Hawk** or **Rachel Zielinski** if you would like to help.



The Mitten Tree...

We will collect hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks for the needy this year. From **November 6th through December 4th**, bring your items to the church during office hours and they will be placed on the Mitten Tree.



After the 4th, 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!

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 Pogozeleski* 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*

Strongsville United Church of Christ 2023 Estimate of Giving

In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2023:

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 account.

Signed _____

Date ____/____/____

