



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)
13740 Pearl Road
Strongsville, Ohio 44136
(440) 238-6697

StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com
StrongsvilleUCC.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall
Pastor

Sunday – September 16, 2018 – 10:00 A.M.

WELCOME!

We are grateful you chose to worship with us this morning. No matter who you are and where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

For questions about our church and ministries, you may call the church at (440) 238-6697.

Please complete your Attendance Card and place it into the offering plate. We hope to see you again soon!

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE "Jazz Waltz" R. Foley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Irene Joyce

INTROIT "Open the Eyes of my Heart" Paul Baloche

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Open our ears, O Lord:

People: Give us ears to hear the cries of the hungry.

Leader: Open our hearts, O Lord:

People: Give us compassion to come alongside those who are in pain.

Leader: Open our mouths, O Lord:

People: Give us the words to speak, words of Hope and Peace.

ALL: With each new morning and each new day, teach us, O Lord, to follow your way. Amen.

† **HYMN 563** "Open My Eyes that I May See"

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE "Hear My Prayer, Lord" T. Foley

ANTHEM "Come Home" arr. Page/Shafferman

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "Interlude" Elkins

† **DOXOLOGY** **HYMN 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.

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 8: 27-33

SERMON Identity Crisis?

† **HYMN 38** "Ye Servants of God"

† **BENEDICTION**

† **RESPONSE** "We're So Thankful" T. Foley

† **POSTLUDE** "Shine, Jesus, Shine" Graham/Kendrick

SERVING

TODAY – SEPTEMBER 16 **NEXT SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 23**

Jim Studer	Liturgist	Kelly Bickley
Dale & Cathy Hawk	Greeters	Judi Pavisich
Roy Merkle	Ushers	Volunteers needed
Sharon Heinrich	Coffee Hour	Volunteer needed
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins

The altar flowers are given—

In celebration of our seventh Wedding Anniversary

Gary and Kathleen Paul

Happy Birthday to my darling husband, Gary - Kathleen Paul

Happy 13th Birthday to Nina Jannsohn on September 21!

Love, Oma

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy Birthday to Abby Craig on September 21!

With love, Grammy

The Diaconate will meet this Tuesday, September 18 at 7 p.m.

Music Ministry – We welcome the return of Mike Elkins, Mike Soltis, Gary Hackett, Rob Toth, and the rest of the Strongsville UCC Band this morning. Special thanks also to Bobby Foley for sharing his original piano composition with us. Bobby is a junior at Strongsville High School and studies piano, as well as playing percussion in the marching band.

Happy Birthday today to Maggie Struhar, Mary Mortus, and Lindsay Greenland!

OUR PRAYER LIST

If you or a family member would like a visit, please call the church at (440) 238-6697. Please provide updates for this list. Thank you.

Long-Term Care or Homebound: Betty Bushea at Danbury Senior Living in Brunswick, Janet Kato at Kemper House, Karen Rak at Parkside Villa, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

Church Family: Betty Babics, Eddy Bond, Mindy Carte (daughter of Judy), Rev. Larry and Christina Craig, Keana Dickson (daughter of Greg and Ingrid), Barb Fraunfelder, Steve Herzog, Margot James, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Martha Liebert, Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Laurie Meister, Karen Morgan, Joyce Reed, Linda Stepan, Barbara Toth, Dave Woodward, Kyle Woodward



Extended Church Family: Luke Bazan (friend of Judi Pavisich's granddaughter), Michele Cortese (friend of the Heinrichs), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Joyce Freeman (sister of Carol Woodward), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Karen Greenway and daughters (friends of Judi Pavisich), Sam Harteis (friend of Reeds), Sandra Manos (mother of Eli), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Zachary McKeever (great-nephew of Pastor Heidi and Chuck), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Jeff Stimson (friend of Keana Dickson), Frank Toth (father of Rob), Joe Valli (brother-in-law of Vicky and Dan Masuga)

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$3,649.31
Last Week's Offering Received \$4,606.70*
(Difference \$ 957.39)



*Includes \$480.00 for special Rally Day offering

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Singers, players, and ringers are invited to join in the fellowship and praise!



Basses: **Bruce Keenen, Rob Toth, Frank Toth*, Clay Williams, Dave Williams** Tenors: **Gary Hackett, Craig Hardy,* Evan Joyce*, Chuck McDougall*** Altos: **Barb Fraunfelder*, Sarah Keenen, Irene Jannsohn, Karen Morgan, Sharon Metivier*** Sopranos: **Ingrid Dickson, Connie Gunn*, Irene Joyce, Pam Keenen, Sharon Maresco*, Sandy O'Shea, Sarah Toth**
*New and/or visiting singer

-The Bell Choir rehearsals will begin this Thursday, **September 20** at 6:30 p.m.

-There is room in the loft for you, sopranos, altos, tenors, basses! The Chancel Choir practices every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m.

-Instrumental musicians are invited to join the SUCC Band. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

-Children's Choir will begin today, September 16, immediately following Sunday School classes.



SEPTEMBER 2018 DATES TO REMEMBER

- 16 Sun **Worship 10am**
Children's Choir Rehearsal
Adult Social Club to Jilbert Winery 1pm
- 18 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 19 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm
Fit Club, 7pm
Adult Social Club Meeting, 7pm
Band Rehearsal 7pm
- 20 Thurs Thrift Shop CLOSED
Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm
- 23 Sun **Worship 10am**
Children's Choir Rehearsal
Membership Meeting
- 25 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm
- 26 Wed Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm
Fit Club, 7pm
Band Rehearsal 7pm
- 27 Thurs Thrift Shop CLOSED
Men's Luncheon 11:30am
Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm
- 30 Sun **Worship 10am**
Children's Choir Rehearsal 11:15am
Worship Team 11:30pm

HOW CAN YOU HELP OUT?

Sign-up sheets in Pilgrim Hall are waiting for **your name** to be added as a communion server, greeter, usher, coffee hour helper, or nursery helper! No experience is needed and everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.



ADULT SOCIAL CLUB NEXT SCHEDULED EVENTS

Today, September 16 – Jilbert Winery & Brewery in Valley City: Meet at the church at 1 p.m.

Sunday, October 7 -- The Ohio Mart at Stan Hywet Mansion

Tuesday, November 13 – A Branson Country Christmas (Dinner & Show) at Carrie Cerino's

Please see **Linda Plain** to make reservations.



CALLING ALL KIDS! IT'S TIME TO MAKE OUR OWN MUSIC-- STARTING TODAY!

All students in the Sunday School are to report to the sanctuary immediately following class to meet with Mr. Tom Foley.

Rehearsal will be around 30 minutes or so. It's going to be a terrific time of singing, praise, and fun!

Membership – For folks who are interested in joining our congregation, Pastor Heidi will be offering a one-session class discussing what it means to belong to the United Church of Christ. We will meet after church, next week, **September 23**, in the Parlor for an hour or so.



Become Part of Our Church Family

Already a member? Why not consider becoming a fellowship friend to one of our new members? Come to the meeting after the worship service next week and you can be paired up with someone who is joining our congregation. Please let Pastor Heidi or the church office know if you are interested in either becoming a member or serving as a fellowship friend. Church phone number: **(440) 238-6697**.



Our church extends heartfelt condolences to **Dan Davis**, on the passing of his father, **Jim Davis**, on September 8. Jim was 90 years old and an army veteran. A graveside service was held on Wednesday, September 12.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of longtime church member, **Gordon Cockrell**, who went home to the Lord on September 8. Much love goes out to his wife, **Kathy**, who provided tender care to Gordon in his later years as he struggled with various health problems.

Further prayers of sympathy are needed for **Barbara and John Toth**, whose sister-in-law, **Debbie Miller**, passed away on September 11, just a little over a week after her husband (Barbara's brother), **Charles**, died of a heart attack.

The photographic artwork of church member **Bob Kovatich** is on display at the Rocky River Nature Center through October 31. The exhibition, featuring Bob's photos of northeast Ohio landscapes, is open from 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily at 24000 Valley Parkway in North Olmsted. The exhibition is free.



Thank you so much to the Sunday School students, teachers, and families for the steeple lighting, corsage, card, present, and of course, chocolate cake, celebrating my time as Sunday School Superintendent. It has been my honor and pleasure to watch a generation of kids grow up in our church family. My new position as

church secretary is truly a gift from God and I am filled with gratitude each day as I am blessed to work in a place filled with light—literally and figuratively. I am excited that Kristen Clotworthy and Jamie Trinckes are taking over because I know that the Sunday School is in good hands! With love and thanks,

Irene Joyce

NEWS ABOUT OUR PIPE ORGAN RESTORATION

This week, Leek Organ Company will be wrapping up the final phase of our organ restoration. Please save the date **Sunday, October 14, 2018 at 3 p.m.** for our **ORGAN FESTIVAL**, featuring several area organists playing wide-ranging selections on our refurbished organ, followed by a free wine and cheese reception.



SAFETY FORCES & FIRST RESPONDERS ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

"In support of those who serve"

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at 7 p.m.
St. Joseph Catholic Church
12700 Pearl Road (Strongsville)



All are welcome to gather in offering prayerful support and appreciation to those who serve our communities. Personnel are invited to wear their uniforms and to bring their families. A light reception will follow.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the **Garage Sale or Bake Sale** last week in any way! Whether you donated merchandise, baked something yummy, sorted the treasures, helped set up the room, worked the sale, assisted people hauling their items, bought something special, or cleaned up, your support is appreciated! Money is still coming in, but we are nearing the \$1,600 mark for the Garage Sale and the Bake Sale brought in \$432, with the Thrift Shop earning \$70.



THRIFT SHOP NEWS

Please hold your Thrift Shop donations for **3 weeks** while our little store in the basement gets the floor painted and restocks for Fall/Winter with a new selection of merchandise. Half the floor is already painted and it looks great! Following our service this morning, everyone is invited to help assist moving the racks to the completed side of the basement, so that the job can be finished this week. Thank you!

MISSION OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Watch your bulletins and the October newsletter for details on a project putting together personal kits for needy veterans. Our goal is to put together 100 kits which include toiletries, socks, and personal care items to present to veterans by November 11, 2018.