



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 18, 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 "Sheep May Safely Graze" Bach, arr. Howe

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elaine Coffey

INTROIT "Jesus Stand Among Us" Whitworth

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather together to celebrate the joy in our lives.

People: God's love fills our hearts to overflowing with laughter.

Leader: We gather, in God's presence, to find comfort and hope for our pain.

People: God's grace wipes away our tears and knits us together as one people.

Leader: We gather together, in God's presence, to worship God in faith and truth.

People: Alleluia! Amen!

† HYMN 225 "Come, Christians Join to Sing"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 98:1-5
(New International Version)

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things;
his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The Lord has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;
make music to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing.

Leader: The Word of God, for us, the people of God;

People: Thanks be to God.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS Irene Joyce

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 "Fly Away Medley" arr. Hayes

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Tom Foley

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 "Be Still My Soul" Sibelius

† 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 John 3: 13-17
(New International Version)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

SERMON Linda Ponstingle

† HYMN 589 "Here I Am, Lord"

† BENEDICTION Herb Hampson
Just as God's Word was sent into the world to heal and redeem, so God sends you into the world this day to be light and love, healing and hope. Go now to be light for the world! And may the grace and peace of God the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer come upon you this day and remain with you always. Amen.

† RESPONSE "Shaker Parting Song" arr. Purdum

† POSTLUDE "All Depends on Our Possessing" Löner, arr. Culli

SERVING	
TODAY – SEPTEMBER 18	NEXT SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 25
Judi Pavisich	Greeters Elaine Coffey
Herb Hampson	Liturgist Pam Keenen
Judi Pavisich	Ushers Elaine Coffey, Roz Fotos
Oliver & Matilda Sekorky	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	Special Music Carol Foley, Chancel Choir

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**.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR BEGINS TODAY!

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.)



A NOTE OF THANKS—

Today we thank the **Chancel Choir**, and extend special thanks to **Tom Foley, Mike Elkins**, and **Sharon Heinrich** for sharing their music with us today.

The altar flowers are given—

Happy Birthday to Dale Hawk on September 23rd
Love, your family

Special Happy Birthday to our Grandson Weston's 11th and Great Granddaughter Quinn's 1st Birthdays both on September 24th!
George and Joyce Reed



Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy Birthday to Abby Craig on September 21st!
--With love, Grammy

Happy Birthday to Sally Herzog on September 22nd!
Happy Birthday to Erik Joyce on September 23rd!
Happy Birthday to Dale Hawk on September 23rd!

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

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

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, Bob Heddleson, Paul Hirt, Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Len Lane, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mihlack, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfitz, Gary Paul, Sandy Pogozeleski, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, Tracey Seneff, Peter Smith, Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Sharon Wilson, Janis Williamson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Mary Ellen Zimmerman

Extended Church Family: Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Mary Ann Csory (Judi Pavisich's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joyce Glasgow (friend of the church), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Ed Kuhn (Sandy & Don Gleichauf's friend), Andrew Majoros (Michele Mihlack'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 (Steve & 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 \$4,141.00
Difference +\$ 491.63

Thank you very much for your support.



PLEDGE CARDS RECEIVED TO DATE: 65

ATTENTION ELECTRONIC GIVERS:



We are discontinuing our use of myEoffering and switching to a free donation service called

Zeffy. If you have a recurring gift set up through myEoffering, please sign in at <https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing> and cancel all donations. The church will be establishing a new online donation system within the next few weeks. Please see Mike Elkins with any questions. Thank you for giving.

PROJECT UPDATE:

On Sunday, September 11th, the congregation, with the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, voted to approve a bid for purchase and installation of vertical blinds for all the windows in the church building (except the sanctuary). Budget Blinds will begin work in a few weeks.



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.



Insider tip: On October 12th, we will be serving everyone's favorite: Gourmet Grilled Cheese Sandwiches!

PENNY SUNDAY

Keep saving those coins, dollars, and checks (to SUCC). The next Penny Sunday will be **September 25th**!



It's not too late! Special Rally Day offering envelopes are in the pews; any special donations will be used to offset the cost of Sunday School curriculum.

THRIFT SHOP

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



COMING SOON...

Mark your calendar for October 9th when our church will celebrate our 205th ANNIVERSARY!

We will recognize our newest 50 year members during worship and enjoy cake and refreshments following the service.

If you would like to help with:

- Setting up
- Centerpieces for the tables
- Providing a finger food/snack item
- Clean-up

Please contact Jennifer Barry at jenbarry425@gmail.com



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **September 20th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **September 27th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



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*

The Stewardship Committee will meet immediately following the worship service today.

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.**

DON'T FORGET!

Are you shopping online? If so, why not benefit the church while you make your purchases from Amazon? It's incredibly easy! Here's what you do:

1. Instead of typing amazon.com into your search bar, type in **smile.amazon.com**.
2. Select United Church of Christ Congregational Strongsville by clicking this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-1298100>
3. Shop as you would normally—that's it!



Your addresses, billing information, and shopping cart are still saved and your Prime membership privileges still apply. A small percentage of your purchase price will go toward supporting the church.



DO YOU LIKE TO PARTY? ARE YOU A WHIZ AT ORGANIZING EVENTS?

The church is looking to form a committee to oversee our many celebrations. If you're even a little bit intrigued, please indicate your interest on the back of your attendance card and place it in the offering plate.

IDEAS WANTED!



The Long Range Planning Committee is interested in your ideas on ways to make improvements for our Church. Some feedback already provided includes an extension of our parking lot and a new structure on the Royalton Road lot that could house outdoor gatherings. If you have any ideas, please email them to Sandy Pogozeleski at pogoze5@gmail.com. All ideas will be discussed at the Board of Trustees meeting for feasibility, funding and prioritization. Projects exceeding \$5,000 require approval by our Congregation.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

WE'D LIKE TO INCLUDE ALL LADIES

Women's Fellowship wants to include all interested ladies of the church in its activities, and plans to offer additional day and time options for its programs. If you'd like to participate but cannot attend the current weekday, daytime programs, please complete this form; and you will be contacted with more information.

Name _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

Thank you for your interest in Women's Fellowship. Please turn in this form to the church office.