



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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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 Irene Joyce

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

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

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 "Faithful Curiosity"

HYMN 56 "To God Be the Glory"

BENEDICTION

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

Table with 2 columns: Today - September 18, Next Sunday - September 25. Roles include Greeters, Liturgist, Ushers, Acolytes, Director of Music, Associate Director of Music, Organist, Sound, and Special Music.

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 Oerkfritz, Gary Paul, Sandy Pogozelski, 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 11<sup>th</sup>, 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 12<sup>th</sup>, 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 25<sup>th</sup>**!



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 9<sup>th</sup> when our church will celebrate our 205<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:jenbarry425@gmail.com)

**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

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

**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](mailto: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.