

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)
13740 Pearl Road
Strongsville, Ohio 44136



Church Telephone: (440) 238-6697

Email: StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com

Website: www.strongsvilleucc.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall
Pastor

Worship at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

This is what the LORD says—the One who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters . . .

“See! I am doing a new thing!” –Isaiah 43:16, 19

More than a rubber stamp.

I cannot tell you how much it means to have the official standing to be called your pastor! As you and I have come to know and love one another, to grow in faith and depend on each other when faith wobbles, I am realizing, more and more every day, what a very special place God has led us to.

I truly believe that God is waiting, poised to move in big ways in our church and this community. And it is exhilarating—but a wee bit scary, too. . . .

Over the next weeks, during your quiet time, I invite you to deliberately focus on where God might be leading your heart. Is there a community need you've sensed that you feel called to help meet? Perhaps a new program or class that God is nudging you towards leading? Listen. Listen—and share. Let's cast a vision *together*.

Someone recently asked me what the difference is between a minister and a pastor. My answer: A pastor (me) has special training; we have a strong sense of call to lead a flock as Jesus led. A minister (you) has a strong love for God, but doesn't have the same training.

In other words, *we are all ministers*. Yes, you, too. You are a minister, too. And we are all in this—*together*.

So take a deeeeeep breath; roll up your sleeves. There are things to be done; worship to be raised; souls (and bodies) to be fed. God is with us on this adventure we begin—*together*. Amen.

Peace,
Pastor Heidi

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name. You are mine. . . .Don't be afraid, for I am with you.”
–Isaiah 43:1b, 5a



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 2 – 10:00 A.M.
Outdoor Worship on the church grounds

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Greeter: Linda Plain
Ushers: Bickley/Plain/Winch
Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed
Special Music: Gary Hackett

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 9 – 10:00 A.M.

Sacrament of Communion



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

RALLY DAY

Liturgist: Dale Hawk
Greeter: Lynne McCray
Usher: Volunteers needed
Coffee Hour: Volunteers needed
Special Music: SUCC Chancel Choir returns

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 16 – 10:00 A.M.
Children's Choir begins after worship

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Jim Studer
Greeters: Cathy & Dale Hawk
Usher: Volunteers needed
Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed
Special Music: SUCC Chancel Choir and Band

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 23– 10:00 A.M.
Membership Meeting following worship

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Kelly Bickley
Greeter: Judi Pavisich
Ushers: Volunteers Needed
Coffee Hour: Volunteers needed
Special Music: SUCC Chancel Choir and Band

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 30– 10:00 A.M.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Penny Sunday

Liturgists: Ben Clotworthy and Alysha Rolland
Greeters: Judy & Tom Gaumer
Ushers: Volunteers Needed
Coffee Hour: Volunteers needed
Special Music: SUCC Chancel Choir and Band

OUTDOOR WORSHIP!



On Sunday, **September 2 at 10am**, we will celebrate a casual, but meaningful worship service on our church grounds. **Bring a lawn chair** and join us!

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 on **September 23** in the Parlor for an hour or so. Please let Pastor Heidi or the church office know if you are interested. 440-238-6697.



FROM THE PULPIT SEARCH COMMITTEE

By congregational vote on August 12, Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall was chosen as the settled pastor at Strongsville UCC. The Pulpit Search Committee would like to thank the congregation for its ongoing support, patience and prayers these past thirteen months, as we now complete this important task.

Pulpit Search Committee: Ted Bickley, Judy Carte, Kristen Clotworthy, Jim Dettmer, Ingrid Dickson, Sally Herzog, Bill Schneider

ABOUT REV. HEIDI DENMAN MCDOUGALL

Pastor Heidi came to pastoral ministry later in life. She entered Ashland Theological Seminary at the age of . . . fifty . . . and discovered, with a little coaxing, the brain still worked well enough to complete her Master of Divinity in 2011, graduating With Honors. She became the Minister of Pastoral Care at University Circle United Methodist Church, serving alongside friend and colleague, Rev. Dr. Ken Chalker. After five years there, God saw fit to open a door in a new direction, and Heidi and her husband Chuck followed God's leading to Strongsville United Church of Christ. Together, they are the proud parents of seven grown children and twelve grandchildren. They are excited about what God might have planned next for their lives together and for their church—together.

INTERFAITH FIELD TRIP!



We will be taking a tour of The Grand Mosque on Thursday, September 6th around 6:30 pm. **If you are interested, please write "mosque" on the back of your attendance card**

during worship or notify the church office. Everyone is welcome! More details will follow.



Strongsville UCC extends our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of **Aimee Jannsohn**, who died suddenly on August 12, 2018. Our love

and prayers go out to **Charles, Isabella, and Nina** as well as the **Russ family, Irene Jannsohn, the Joyce family, and the Dickson family.** Aimee was a treasured wife,



daughter, sister, mother, and friend and she will be missed immensely by all who knew her. Memorial contributions may be made to the family: 4246 West 196th Street Fairview Park, OH 44126



Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of **Richard Mack**, pictured here with some of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was father of **Cathy Hawk**, father-in-law of **Dale Hawk**, grandfather of **Sarah Hayes** and **Amanda Hawk**, great-grandfather of **Jack** and **Ella**, **Riley** and **Lacey**. He passed away on Wednesday, August 15, 2018.

Our sympathy also to **Carol Woodward** and family on the passing of her cousin, **Keith Stewart**. Keith died on August 17th after a long battle with cancer. He had been on our prayer list for a while; services were held in Pennsylvania.

So you have sorrow now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. John 16:22

Unsung Heroes

Did you know that church member Sharon Wilson donated 5,655 pennies to the August Penny Sunday collection? Thank you to the Wilsons for the \$56.55, to Ingrid Dickson and Irene Joyce for counting and rolling all those pennies and to Jan Stough for carrying all of those penny rolls to the bank!

Did you know that Rob Toth helped install a new chain pull in the custodian's closet? Thank you for using your height for good, Rob!

Did you know that John and Joyce Glasgow donated a generous gift to the Free Lunch for All Program in memory of their daughter Renee Chesla, who died suddenly on April 30 at the age of 42, leaving behind twin boys, Brandon and Logan, age 15. In their grief, these parents wanted to bring some good to the world through their gift in their daughter's memory. Renee had attended the Free Lunch program as well as some of the meetings of our service groups.

Please submit any suggestions for "Unsung Heroes" to the church office. Our church is grateful for our members and friends who go the extra mile, beyond their regular duties or routine tasks to help the church.

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.



ALTAR FLOWERS

August altar flowers were given

August 5 - *In celebration of our Anniversary*
Bob and Sue Gross
For the Children's Ministry
Doris Soucie

August 12 – *In loving memory of Erik O. Jannsohn*
In celebration of Tom and Suzi Foley's Anniversary
The Jannsohn/Dickson/Joyce Family

August 19 - *Happy Birthday to Riley on the 17th and Amanda on the 19th*
The Hawk Family

August 26 - *In remembrance of our aunt, Rhea Clements, on her birthday August 28th*
Becky and Bill Robinson

You may provide flowers on any Sunday you wish because multiple vases are accepted on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$15 for one vase, \$30 for two vases. As of this printing, below are dates when vases are still needed so that two vases are on the altar for Sunday worship.



October 14 – 1 vase
November 4 – 1 vase

Near the flower chart in Pilgrim Hall are forms for submitting your bulletin information and envelopes for enclosing your payment to the church office. Thank you for placing flowers on the altar.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Strongsville Congregational church for the generous gift in memory of Jeff. He loved his work and the people he worked with. We don't know what we are going to do without him, but we appreciate the support of the people he made an impression on.

Carolyn Thompson and family

Many thanks to everyone who helped to weed and clean up the outdoor worship area on August 11!

Thank you to Irene Joyce for more than a quarter century of service as Sunday School Superintendent. Her caring, creativity, and hard work are sincerely appreciated by all of the Sunday School families throughout the years.

The Sunday School staff

Thank you to everyone at the Strongsville UCC for their love and sympathy in the aftermath of Aimee's sudden death. The outpouring of support has been humbling and it has carried us through this tragedy.

The Jannsohn-Joyce-Dickson Family



Are you an online shopper? 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, Ohio from the drop-down list of charities.
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. **So far, we have earned \$17.46!**

And since you're in a shopping mood...you can benefit the church even more by buying Amazon (or many other) **gift cards** from Jim Joyce in Pilgrim Hall prior to whipping out that credit card.

ARE YOU A FACEBOOK USER?



"Like" our page at Strongsville United Church of Christ and get the latest updates,

links to videos of our worship services, and fun connections to your church family!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to teach a combined Sunday School class this summer. Thanks to Kelly Bickley for putting together the lessons, based on "Fruit of the Spirit." Thank you to our August teachers: Kelly Bickley, Sharon Heinrich, Irene Joyce, Evan Joyce, and Michele Mihlack.

Penny Sunday – Thank you so much to everyone who contributes to our Penny Sunday collections. On July 29, we collected \$90.78 to go toward scholarships and programs, as will the August 26 collection. Start saving that change for our next Penny Sunday collection on September 30. Money will go to **Together We Rise**.

Together We Rise helps children in several ways including three main programs used to support children in foster care: Sweet Cases, Build A Bike, and the Family Fellowship Scholarship Program. Sweet Cases is their largest program, helping to replace trash bags with blue duffel bags to make the foster care transitions a little bit easier for children. When foster youth age out of the system, Together We Rise helps provide them bikes, so they're able to get to their jobs and school classes. For former foster youth, Together We Rise supports them with a scholarship program. Their Family Fellowship is the largest scholarship program in the nation that benefits youth who have aged out of the system.

Due to being hired as church secretary, long-time Sunday School Superintendent Irene Joyce will be stepping aside after a quarter century of service. Kristen Clotworthy has been appointed by the Official Board at their July meeting and will join Jamie Trinckes as Co-superintendent. The Sunday School is truly in good hands!



RALLY DAY, the start of a new, exciting school year! SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9!

ORC UPDATE

Coming soon...the rededication of our historic pipe organ! Watch for announcements about an organ festival on Sunday, October 14th to celebrate the completion of the organ's restoration along with our church's 201st anniversary!



KEEP BUYING THOSE GIFT CARDS! Our organ will need to be maintained and the sale of gift cards provides those funds.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS



Welcome aboard **Thomas M. Foley**, our Music Director. Tom began his service with us on August 19. Tom and his wife,



Suzi, are residents of Strongsville and are members here at Strongsville UCC, with Tom having served as Music Director here from 1998 – 2007. The Foleys have three children: Jimmy, a freshman at Ohio University, Jackie, a freshman at the University of Cincinnati, and Bobby, a junior at Strongsville High School. We joyfully welcome Tom and his family back to Strongsville UCC! **Mike Elkins** has a new role—Associate Director of Music! Mike and his wife, **Linda**, joined the church as members this year and Mike has been playing piano, soprano sax, keyboard, organ, and flute among other instruments. They have two grown daughters, Erin and Emily.

BE A PART OF THE MUSIC MINISTRY!

Singers and ringers are welcome to join in the fellowship and praise!

-If you can read music (even if you're rusty), the Bell Choir has a few openings and their rehearsals will begin 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 Sunday, September 16, immediately following Sunday School classes.

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, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields



Church Family: Betty Babics, Eddy Bond, Lloyd Bridle, Mindy Carte (daughter of Judy), Gordon Cockrell, Joe Craig, Rev. Larry & Christina Craig, Keana Dickson (daughter of Greg & Ingrid), Steve Herzog, Margot James, Bobbie Krisak, Karl Kuhlenschmidt, Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Martha Liebert, Sandra Manos (mother of Eli), Lacey Marshall (daughter of Amanda and John), Laurie Meister, Karen Morgan, Joyce Reed, Leah Tressa Forget, Dave Woodward, Kyle Woodward, family and friends of Aimee Jannsohn and Richard Mack.

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), Diane Mason (friend of Lora Rung), Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), 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)

CALL FOR DONATIONS



We know you've been holding on to your treasures all summer, but it's getting to be time to part with them.

Please donate household items, sporting goods, décor, kitchen items, small electronics, books, toys, furniture, and any usable item that is not a liquid to the

**Saturday, September 8, 2018
9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.**

VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED FOR SET UP on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 and on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, and of course, ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 during the sale and for clean-up afterward. THE THRIFT SHOP WILL BE OPEN!

DONATIONS WILL ALSO BE NEEDED FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL'S BAKE SALE!



Cookies, brownies, cupcakes, pies, breads, and cakes are needed to sell. This is our main fundraiser and everyone's support is appreciated. Please bring wrapped baked goods to the church any time on Friday, September 7th or before 9 a.m. on the day of the sale Saturday, September 8th. Thank you!

Mission Outreach is planning a project for and in honor of Veterans. Look for further information in our Sunday Bulletins and the October newsletter.

From September 6 through May 7, the church office will open at 12:45 p.m. on **Wednesdays**. Please leave a message if you call prior to that time and your call will be returned promptly.

ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The club meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the church.

Please note: We will carpool to these events.



September 14 – Friday

The Platters (Dinner and Show) at Carrie Cerino's

September 16 – Sunday

Jilbert Winery & Brewery in Valley City

October 7 – Sunday

The Ohio Mart at Stan Hywet Mansion

November 13 – Tuesday

A Branson Country Christmas (Dinner & Show)
at Carrie Cerino's

December 12 – Sunday

Downtown Holiday Lights Tour

To make reservations for any of these events,
please contact Linda Plain at (440) 668-4848

For more information please contact Adria or Eddy Bond.
As always, all adults are welcome!

FIT CLUB



We continue to meet every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Our group is small, but enthusiastic and we welcome anyone, of any age or fitness level to join us and get moving.

You do not have to be fit to be a part of Fit Club!

NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Adria Bond

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from

July 22 through August 19, 2018.

This information also appears on a weekly basis in our worship bulletin.

Offering Needed \$18,246.60 for 5 Sundays

Offering Received 14,468.70

Difference (-3,777.90)



FREE LUNCH FOR ALL is in the Newspaper!



Article from the Strongsville Post

The Free Lunch for All Program of the Strongsville United Church of Christ got recent boosts of some \$6,000 from foundations.

The church received \$1,000 from the Roub Family Foundation in honor longtime church member Pearl Roub, who died in 2005. The foundation is administered by one of her sons, Bryan Roub, a Strongsville High School graduate who grew up in the area before moving to Merritt Island, FL several years ago.

He is still a member of SUCC and heard about the church's free lunch program open to the community. In addition, Pearl's great granddaughter decided to forego her birthday present this year and wanted to help a free lunch program such as that run by Strongsville UCC. The two factors influenced his decision to help the Strongsville program.

In addition to the grant from the Roub Foundation, the church received \$5,000 from the local Deaconess Foundation, which is the charitable arm of the United Church of Christ. The foundation has given a grant for several years.

The Free Lunch for All program, headed by Strongsville resident Betty Craig, is served every Wednesday from 11:30 -12:30, closing only when Strongsville City Schools are closed for inclement weather. It began in 2014 and now averages feeding about 80 people a week. The lunch is always free to everyone, is non-denominational and has no income requirement.

STEWARDSHIP

Another option to keep current with your support of our ministry is electronic giving for anyone interested. You can customize your giving based on how, when, and how much through E-Offering. Log on to our church website at www.strongsvilleucc.com and click "Donate Now". You will be taken to the church's myEoffering page. Simply click on the "Sign-up" button and you will then fill in your personal information and "Register". Follow the prompts to set up your payment, one-time or ongoing. You can also set up your giving through Bill Pay on your bank's website.



STEEPLE LIGHTING

Week of August 5, 2018

Happy Birthday to Jim Heinrich on August 5
and Sharon Heinrich on August 8

Week of August 12, 2018

In appreciation of the work and dedication of our Board
members

Week of August 19, 2018

Happy Birthday to Madison Wentz on August 22
and to Joe Craig and Nate Johnson on August 24
Happy Anniversary today to Bill and Pam Craig!

Week of August 26, 2018

Congratulations to Chase Masuga and Lauren Hanna on
their marriage on August 25, 2018

Chase is the grandson of Lola Millhoane
and son of Dan and Vicky Masuga

To light the steeple, the minimum
donation is \$5.00. Donation forms are on
the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall. Multiple
donations for the same week will be
accepted. For questions, please call the
church, (440) 238-6697. Thank you to all
who light the steeple.



SEPTEMBER 2018 DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | | |
|----|-------|---|
| 2 | Sun | Outdoor Worship with Communion, 10am |
| 3 | Mon | Labor Day |
| 5 | Wed | Free Lunch for All, 11:30am-12:30pm
Fit Club, 7pm
Band Rehearsal 7pm |
| 6 | Thurs | Thrift Shop 10am-4pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm |
| 8 | Sat | Garage Sale & Bake Sale 9am-2pm |
| 9 | Sun | Worship 10am
RALLY DAY |
| 11 | Tue | Trustees Meeting, 7pm |
| 12 | Wed | Free Lunch for All, 11:30am to 12:30pm
Fit Club, 7pm
Adult Social Club Meeting, 7pm |
| 13 | Thurs | Thrift Shop CLOSED
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm |
| 16 | Sun | Worship 10am |
| 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
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 10am-4pm
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 |

THE THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop will be open Thursday, September 6th and Saturday, September 8th during the annual church garage sale. Both days we will be having a bag sale, where we supply the bags and our customers may fill them with anything in the shop except jewelry and greeting cards for only \$6. You will be surprised how much will fit in a brown grocery bag! By the way, if you have any brown paper bags please bring them in to the shop. If you attend the garage sale please be sure to stop in the shop.

The Thrift Shop will then be closed until September 29th when it will reopen with everything new! The shop is the place to be for fall and winter fashions, home décor, craft items, holiday items, toys, games, puzzles, and kitchen ware.

CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2018

Officers elected on Jan. 28, 2018, have an asterisk* by their names.

Moderator	Rachel Zielinski
Vice-Moderator	Bill Schneider
Treasurer	Lori Kovatich*
Clerk	Karen Morgan

Sunday School Superintendents

Kristen Clotworthy Jamie Trinckes

Board of Trustees

Tom Gaumer*	Eddy Bond*	Dale Hawk
Mike Clotworthy*	Jim Heinrich	Myron Costin*
Bob Kovatich*	Jim Dettmer	Kenn Oerkfitz
Greg Dickson	Ed Sobek	

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Irene Jannsohn* Joyce Reed *

Diaconate

Serena Abruzzino*	Judy Gaumer*	Jennifer Barry
Cathy Hawk*	Kelly Bickley	Sarah Hayes
Barbara Camp	Linda Plain	Gina Cathcart
Dawn Rolland*	Kristen Clotworthy	Marty Winch

Christian Education Committee

Kelly Bickley Sandy O'Shea
Kristen Clotworthy Lora Rung Jamie Trinckes

Music Committee

Ingrid Dickson Ken Mehalko
Pam Keenen* Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee

Rosemary Bechtel* Sue Gigliotti* Adria Bond
Beth Giuliano * Ed Bond Sharon Heinrich
Laurie Meister

Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte Gary Paul Brandi Garsteck
Lora Rung* Michele Mihlack Bev Wehr