

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

**Worship 10 a.m. (+online)**



**Church Telephone:** (440) 238-6697

**Email:** StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com

**Website:** www.strongsvilleucc.com

**Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall**  
Pastor

# SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### On a deadline here!

How full is your plate right now? How many things do you absolutely *have* to get done before bedtime/ tomorrow/ next week (newsletter . . . sermon . . . bulletin. . . .)?

And how much of that stuff is *seriously* life-or-death important?

Some people don't feel like they're doing their job if they're not really, really busy. All the time. The longer the list, the more successful the world thinks we are. The more we check off, the better we (ought to) sleep at night. Right? (Wrong!)

Life is short. None of us knows how many days we have left, how many beats our heart has left to offer before giving out. All those lists of Stuff to Do become pretty irrelevant in light of our own mortality.

So what *really* matters?

Here's what I think: What really matters is how well we have loved. Not how many hands we have shaken or how many books we have read or written. How many people, at the end of the day, will look in our direction and say, "In this person's life, I experienced the Love of Jesus?"

We are only promised *today*. Twenty-four hours to make a difference. What will you do, *today*, to change your world? Start with prayer. I imagine God might have a few suggestions.

*The butterfly counts not months, but moments, and has time enough.* –Rabindranath Tagore

Peace, Love and Promise,  
Pastor Heidi

## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 – 10 a.m.**

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Special Music: Richard Densmore**

**Greeter: Linda Plain**

**Liturgist: Barb Fraunfelder**

**Sunday School: Serena Abruzzino**

**SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 12 – 10 a.m.**

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sacrament of Communion**



**RALLY DAY & Blessing of the Backpacks!**

**Special Music: Chancel Choir returns**

**Greeter: Serena Abruzzino**

**Liturgist: Carol Konet**



**SUNDAY—SEPTEMBER 19 – 10 a.m.**

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sacrament of Baptism:**

**Kennedy Parker Mustee**

**Liturgist: Tom Gaumer**

**Greeter: Judi Pavisich**



**SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 26 – 10 a.m.**

*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Liturgist: Judi Pavisich**

**Greeters: Elaine Coffey**

**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**, go to **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCynOZfg4uKoX7HMnKORbXfQ/videos>

## WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO BE A GREETER OR AN USHER?

Check out the sign-up sheets in Pilgrim Hall and add your name!

Remember : 4 ushers are needed every Sunday, so please feel free to fill up the line for each week.



### WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE STRONGSVILLE UCC?

Pastor Heidi is hosting two information sessions in the Parlor right after the worship services on **September 19<sup>th</sup>** and **September 26<sup>th</sup>**. Please let Pastor Heidi or the church office know if you are interested in finding out more about membership in our congregation. (Please note: dual membership is accepted). New members will be welcomed into our church family on **World Communion Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Our all ages Sunday School class will continue through **September 5<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you to everyone who has taught this summer!

### RALLY DAY IS COMING SEPTEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>!

Hope to see you for a new, exciting year of Sunday School classes!

Strongsville U.C.C. Sunday School presents

### RALLY DAY & BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS! SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>

It's time to welcome a new school year of learning and growing!

**FAMILIES: PLEASE BRING A BACKPACK, BRIEFCASE, DIAPER BAG, OR ANY BAG FOR BLESSINGS!**



Students, please report to Pilgrim Hall at 9:45 a.m. and we will sit with our classes.

**We can't wait to see you there!**

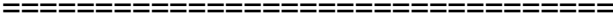
### BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS



Welcome to the family of God, **Brecken David Raymond**, son of **Lauren (Deertz) & Eric Raymond**, grandson of **Lori Deertz and Dave Deertz** and **Sue & Gary Raymond**, great-grandson of **Marty Winch**.

Brecken was baptized on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Congratulations also to **Charlotte Ann Boden**, daughter of **Katelyn (Deertz) & Vincent Boden**, granddaughter of **Lori Deertz and Dave Deertz** and **Desma & Charles Boden**, great-granddaughter of **Marty Winch**. Charlotte, whose godmother is **Rebecca Deertz**, was baptized on the same day as her cousin. We are so happy for these families!



### UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



- **The Board of Trustees** will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **September 14<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **The Diaconate** will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **September 21<sup>st</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **The Official Board** will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **September 28<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

**FREE LUNCH FOR ALL NEWS COMING SOON...**

**Please stay tuned!**



# THANK YOU NOTES

## THANK YOU TO OUR GUEST SPEAKER!

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, our congregation welcomed guest speaker Sharon Lempner, a member of the Pentecostal Church of Christ in Cleveland, who works with the homeless and helps with distributing bread in conjunction with our Panera ministry. Sharon is a retired educator and she and her husband, Dave, live in North Royalton.



Many thanks to **Sharon Heinrich & Lisa Heinrich, Ken Mehalko, Dave Williams, Carol Foley, and We3Ring, EKCO Ringers, Diana Creecy, Rob Toth and Clay Williams** for sharing their music with us in August for our worship services.

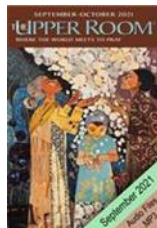


## FROM OUR MEMBERS



We appreciate all your prayers and support during the recent loss of our Mother and Grandma- Joanne Gigliotti. -- Sue Gigliotti and Family

**THE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021 UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE is available (large print and pocket size) in the Gathering Area. Pick up your free copy any Sunday morning!**



## YOU ARE INVITED!

Would you like to be a part of the music program? Instrumentalists and vocalists are needed for

our various music groups. If you are interested in joining us and sharing your talent, please contact **Tom Foley or Mike Elkins!**

**CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS ARE ON THURSDAYS at 8 p.m. with safety measures in place.** We have room in the choir loft for any singers (Tenors, Altos, Sopranos, and Basses are welcome!).

**BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 at 7p.m.**

## OUR PRAYER LIST

*Please provide updates for this list to the church office. Thank you.*



**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Janet Kato, Marge McKinney, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Trish Shields

**Church Family:** Joan Beckwith, Eddy Bond, Mary Carey, Elaine Coffey, Betty Craig, Christina Craig, Sam Cuyler Jr., Linda Elliott, Tom Gaumer, Sue Hawk, Steve Herzog, Paul Hirt, Carole Kapcar, Tony Koussa, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Millie Lafave, Judy Maur, Reggie McCray, Laurie Meister, Roy Merkle, Michele Mihlack, Lola Millhoane, Gary Paul, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ginger Rothel, John & Maggie Struhar, Keith Sullen, Jamie & Josh Trinckes, Sharon Wilson, Sally Vetovitz, Peg Weakley, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Mary Ellen and Bob Zimmerman

**Extended Church Family:** Dorene Baldrige, Fred Beba (Theresa's husband), Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Judy Carte's son-in-law, Ryan, John Dickson (Greg's dad), Kim Filiaut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Linda Harbison (Jan Meier's sister-in-law), Kelly Kling (Strongsville Emergency Food Bank), Julie Kowell (Sarah Cathcart Wilhoit's friend), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Pat Masuga (Dan's mom), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Kay McGinty (Judi Pavisich's aunt), Zachary McKeever (Pastor Heidi and Chuck's great-nephew), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Carrol Riley (Marjorie Morrison's dad), Terry Robson (Barb & Mark Camp's friend), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Sandra Wentz (Debbie's daughter-in-law), Daphne Wilson (Irene Jannsohn's niece)

**Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain.**



## PANERA PALS!



Thank you so much to our faithful bread transporters and sorters: **Judy Carte, Jim Dettmer, Maria Graeff, Mike Elkins, Cathy Hawk, Sharon Heinrich, Sally Herzog, Linda Kapcar, Sharon & Jim Maresco, Pastor Heidi & Chuck McDougall, Sharon Lempner, Rick & Cherie Teagno, John Toth, and Mary Ellen Zimmerman** who continue to make the Panera Bread ministry possible!



**PLEASE NOTE: The church office will be closed from Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>-Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> for the secretary's vacation.**

## ADDRESS CHANGES

To update your Church Directory:

### Elena Joyce

9844 Independence Blvd.  
Parma Heights, OH 44130

### Izabella (Izzy) Abruzzino

304 Kohl Hall  
921 E. Wooster Street  
Bowling Green, OH 43403

### Clay Williams and Jacob Williams

6201 Stone Ridge Circle  
Berea, OH 44017



## UNSUNG HEROES

Did you know that **Roger & Judy Davis, Brandi Garsteck, Herb Hampson, Irene Joyce, Dave, Jennifer, Oliver, & Matilda Sekorky, Rob Toth, Clay Williams,**



**Rachel, Gary, Penny, & Oliver Zielinski** took the time and effort to take down remaining rectangular tables, put tablecloths on our new round tables, and set up chairs in Pilgrim Hall after church on August 1<sup>st</sup>? Thanks for your help, friends!

Did you know that **Jim Dettmer** and his son, **Jeff Dettmer**, donated their printing services for 1,000 envelopes for the church? Thank you very much, gentlemen!

Did you know that **Linda Elkins** and **Herb Hampson** spent a whole morning, risking life and limb, to clean the carpeting on the steps to the Sunday School area upstairs? Many, many thanks for your courageous efforts!

Did you know that **Jim & Sharon Heinrich** cleaned the coffee makers in the kitchen which have been idle for more than a year and a half? Sharon cleaned all of the carafes, the lids, and the dispenser tubes. Jim is pressure washing the pads, as well as cleaning the two fans that face the kitchen—plus attending to various other needed tasks. Wow—thank you!

Did you know that **John Toth** and **Herb Hampson** have begun restriping the parking lot? Thanks for doing this much-needed job, good sirs!



The Strongsville Emergency Food Bank is accepting donations of non-perishable items. **DONATIONS MAY**

**BE TAKEN DIRECTLY TO THE FOOD BANK. It is located on Zverina Lane behind the Strongsville Communications Building.** They are only going to be open Tuesday through Thursday 9:30 a.m. -11:00 a.m. So if you need to drop off...earlier the better...they have to take time now to sanitize the food bank each shift. The needs for the food bank in September would be PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, AND SOUP!

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP THIS MONTH

### OUTDOOR

### PICNIC

Wednesday,  
September 8<sup>th</sup> at  
11 AM\*

East River Park  
Pavilion

7878 Lewis Road in Olmsted Falls

(restroom near pavilion) **\*NOTE TIME CHANGE**

Please bring your own lunch and beverage.

Picnic will be held rain or shine.

If it is raining heavily, we may move to the church parlor; please watch for texts on your cell phone.

Directions to the picnic are at the church.

**As always, all ladies are welcome!**

More info on future dates is coming soon!



## KEEP RECYCLING YOUR PAPER, MAGAZINES, AND CARDBOARD!

The church (and everyone else) benefits any time you recycle. Thank you!

**PLEASE FLATTEN ALL BOXES WHEN RECYCLING CARDBOARD.**



River Valley Paper Company

## GIFT CARDS

### EASY SHOPPING THAT BENEFITS THE CHURCH!



You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-267-5043 in advance with your order. Limited stock is

available, but special orders may be accommodated with advance notice. **Thank you to those who continue to support this project by purchasing gift cards!**

**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 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.

# STEEPLE LIGHTING

## Week of August 1<sup>st</sup>

*In loving memory of Brooke M. Akins  
The Jannsohn-Dickson-Joyce family  
Happy Birthday today to Isabella Jannsohn!*

## Week of August 8<sup>th</sup>

*In Celebration of Sharon Heinrich's birthday today!  
Happy Birthday to Bryana Hitchens on August 10<sup>th</sup>  
With Love, Erik Joyce, Alaya & Elliott  
In loving memory of Erik O. Jannsohn and Aimée  
Jannsohn*

## Week of August 15<sup>th</sup>

*Happy Anniversary to Bill & Pam Craig on  
August 19<sup>th</sup>  
With love, Mom  
Happy Birthday to Ingrid & Irene on  
August 21<sup>st</sup>!*

## Week of August 22<sup>nd</sup>

*Happy Birthday today to Maddison Wentz and to Joe  
Craig and Nate Johnson on August 24<sup>th</sup>  
With Love, Grammy/Mom*

*Happy 88<sup>th</sup> Birthday to George Pavisich on August 26<sup>th</sup>!  
Love, Judi*

## Week of August 29<sup>th</sup>

*Happy Birthday to Pastor Heidi on September 2<sup>nd</sup>!*



To light the steeple, the minimum donation is \$5.00. Multiple dedications are welcomed for each week. **Please email the church at [strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com). Thank you to everyone who lights our steeple!**

## FRESH ALTAR FLOWERS ARE BACK!

**Would you like to commemorate a special occasion, honor a loved one, or celebrate the memory of someone dear? Say it with flowers!**

You may provide fresh 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. Near the flower chart in Pilgrim Hall are forms for submitting your bulletin information or better yet, email the church at [strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleuuc@gmail.com). Envelopes for enclosing your payment to the church office are also available. Thank you!

**The 2021 Flower sign-up chart is posted and there are still some Sundays available for 2021.**

With the return of fresh altar flowers, we are in need of large plastic sour cream/cottage cheese/chip dip containers to transport the flower arrangements home. If you have some clean containers to donate, please bring them to the church.



## ALTAR FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

The altar flowers are given—  
**August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

*Celebrating Ingrid & Irene's birthday yesterday  
Greg Dickson & Jim Joyce  
Remembering our Aunt Rhea  
Clements  
on her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday on August 28<sup>th</sup>!  
Becky and Bill Robinson*

## August 29<sup>th</sup>

*Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Betty Jacobson on August 27<sup>th</sup>!  
Lola Millhoane and Mary Carey*



## THRIFT SHOP



The Thrift Shop is OPEN on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with lots of interesting merchandise.

Donations are being accepted, but you must call the church first to arrange a time for drop-off.

**Special thanks to Cathy Hawk and crew for putting in so many extra hours and muscle power to facilitate the fall changeover! Thank you to: Linda Allwood, Janice Booth, Linda Dettmer, Barb Fraunfelder, Brandi Garsteck, Dale Hawk, Sarah Hayes, Sally Herzog, Irene Joyce, Sharon Lempner, Amanda Marshall, Audrey McQueen, Sandy Smith, Cherie Teagno, and Sarah Toth.**



## THRIFT SHOP BONUS HOURS

The 3<sup>rd</sup> **Thursday** of the month,

**September 16, 2021 — 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

(We're still open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

**Also, the Thrift Shop is in need of volunteers to help out for a couple of hours—sorting, organizing, and selling on Thursdays. Please call Cathy Hawk (440-781-7512) if you can help!**

**MEN'S LUNCH BUNCH meets at 11:30 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at Gourmé Restaurant 15315 Pearl Rd. in Strongsville.**





## GIVING OPTIONS

If you are interested in giving electronically, Here's how: 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](http://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. **You may also mail a check to**

**Strongsville UCC**

**13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136 or drop it off in the church's mailbox.**

## STAFF CHANGES



The Board of Trustees has approved the hiring of **Mike Elkins** as our new Financial Secretary. Mike has been training with **Adria Bond** for the past few weeks to ensure a smooth transition. We

welcome Mike in his new capacity and thank him for continuing as Associate Music Director, as well. Our most sincere thanks to Adria for her excellent work as Financial Secretary for these past four and a half years.

## NEWS FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**Mike Elkins**

Below is a monthly report listing the budget income we need to receive from Pledges and Offerings and the amount received from **August 1 through August 22, 2021**. *Thank you to everyone who supports our church and its ministries.*

Offering Needed \$14,597.48 for 4 Sundays  
Offering Received 16,333.40  
+\$1,735.92



## SPONSORSHIP OF CAROLINE IN INDIA

**Thank you to everyone who signed up for 2021:**

- January—Dale & Cathy Hawk
- February—Ginger Rothel
- March—Judy Carte
- April—Ginger Rothel
- May—Sue Gigliotti
- June—Dorothy & Bill Ritchie
- July—Dale & Cathy Hawk
- August—Dale & Cathy Hawk
- September—Bill Robinson
- October—Dale & Cathy Hawk
- November—Barb & Mark Camp
- December—Gina Cathcart

Reaching The Unreached



## CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2021

Officers elected on Jan. 26, 2020, have an asterisk\* by their names.

\*\* = appointed by the Official Board

**Moderator** Rachel Zielinski  
**Vice-Moderator** Rob Toth\*  
**Treasurer** Sally Herzog  
**Clerk** Judy Gaumer\*

### Sunday School Co-Superintendents

Linda Elkins\*\* Serena Abruzzino\*\*

### Board of Trustees

Greg Dickson Mike Clotworthy\*  
 Myron Costin\* Bill Giuliano  
 Dale Hawk Sandy Pogozeleski  
 Ed Sobek Linda Stepan Rob Stepan

### Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Irene Jannsohn\* Joyce Reed

### Diaconate

Jennifer Barry Barbara Camp Gina Cathcart\*  
 Kristen Clotworthy Elaine Coffey\* Cathy Hawk\*  
 Sarah Hayes Linda Plain Linda Ponstingle  
 Nicole Stevens Dawn Rolland\* Marty Winch  
 Barbara White\* Mary Ellen Zimmerman\*

### Christian Education Committee

Serena Abruzzino\* Kristen Clotworthy Mary Densmore  
 Linda Elkins Suzi Foley Sandy O'Shea  
 Lora Rung

### Music Committee

Richard Densmore\* Ingrid Dickson  
 Ken Mehalko Pam Keenen\*  
*ex officio:* Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

### Stewardship Committee

Serena Abruzzino\* Rosemary Bechtel Sue Gigliotti\*  
 Beth Giuliano Judi Pavisich\*\* Bill Schneider\*\*

### Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte Bobbie Krisak Tony Koussa\*  
 Michele Mihlack Gary Paul Lora Rung\*  
 Jennifer Sekorky\*\* Bev Wehr

## THANK YOU

### GARAGE SALE UPDATE

Whether you donated, sorted, bought, sold, baked, or helped clean up, your efforts are appreciated!



We made **\$2,800.00** for the Official Board. The **BAKE SALE** made **\$629.00** for the Sunday School and the **THRIFT SHOP** made **\$303.00**. Extra special thanks to the hardworking folks who did the baking, selling, heavy lifting, difficult sorting of items, and interacting with unpredictable customers to make our sale a success:



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