

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136



Church Phone: (440) 238-6697  
Email: StrongsvilleUCC@gmail.com  
Website: www.strongsvilleucc.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall  
Pastor

## SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

#### The F-word (*Forgiveness*)

*Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times." --Matthew 18:21-22*

September 11, 2001, was a terrible tragedy. We all remember exactly where we were and what we were doing. Every heart was broken, every soul wept with grief and pain. We all flocked back to church, praying as one for the return of peace. We prayed for justice. We will never forget. And we shall always remember.

We shall always remember those who raced in to help: the firefighters, police and medical personnel.

We shall always remember the brave passengers who sent their own plane into the ground, so other lives might be saved.

We shall always remember the voices. The love. The goodbyes never spoken-- and the goodbyes never to be forgotten.

But what of forgiveness? Have we forgiven? Christ taught us the need for humility. It is a lesson I, for one, am still learning (reluctantly, at times).

Forgiving is not the same as forgetting. It is not erasing the images of terror from our minds-- but it *is* learning to let go of the pain and the anger and the desire for revenge.

Forgiveness is not allowing the one who has hurt you to continue to follow you, pester you, bring out the ugly in you.

Forgiveness is not building a wall around our country, fortifying our borders to keep "them" out so something like this never happens again. (Won't work. Never has. All a wall does is keep me in.)

Forgiveness is allowing the love of Christ to be your anchor in life, even after you have risen from your knees, dusted off and walked out the door of your house of worship, back to your Monday through Friday world.

Every day brings opportunities to ask for forgiveness—and to offer it, as well. Life is too short, and relationships are too precious to allow them to be lost because we are too proud to admit we were wrong or made a mistake.

Where in your life is there a need to speak words of forgiveness and healing? What's holding you back?

Peace, Love, and Healing  
Pastor Heidi

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 – 10 a.m.**

*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sacrament of Communion**

**Greeter: Linda Plain**

**Liturgist: Judi Pavisich**

**Ushers: Jean Bittinger**

**Special Music: Brittany Fernandez**



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 – 10 a.m.**

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Rally Day!**

**Greeter: Barbara Toth**

**Liturgist: Pam Keenen**

**Ushers: Judi Pavisich, Jean Bittinger**

**Special Music: Chancel Choir, Tyler Martin**



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 – 10 a.m.**

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Greeters: Wayne & Bobbi Cook**

**Liturgist: Dave Williams**

**Ushers: Judi Pavisich**

**Special Music: Chancel Choir**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 – 10 a.m.**

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sacrament of Baptism**

**Penny Sunday**

**Greeters: Roger & Judy Davis**

**Liturgist: Bruce Keenen**

**Ushers: Volunteers needed**

**Special Music: 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](http://strongsvilleucc.com), go to **Worship**, and click on **Service Videos**. HERE'S THE LINK TO OUR*

**YOUTUBE CHANNEL:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCynOZfg4uKoX7HMnKORbXfQ/videos> **Thanks to Doug Thorn**

**for posting these each week.**



## ALL ARE WELCOME AT GOD'S TABLE!

As we seek to walk ever more closely with Jesus and welcome all without question or singling anyone out, we will now be offering gluten-free bread to ALL who come forward to the Table for Holy Communion. ALL means ALL at The United Church of Christ (Congregational)!

### IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Our deepest condolences are extended to the family and friends of our former choir director, **Henry (Hank) Klink**, who passed away on July 28, 2023. He was 94 years old. A memorial Service for Hank will be on Saturday, September 2, 2023 at 11:00 AM at the Strongsville United Methodist Church 13000 Royalton Rd.



Our love and sympathy to the family and friends of 54-year member, **Mary Carey**, who died on August 22, 2023. Mary was a long-time helper in the Thrift Shop. She was 90 years old. No services are planned at the present time.

### MARRIAGE CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to church member **Nicole (Giuliano) and Brett Wade**, who were married in our church on August 12, 2023! Nicole is the daughter of **Beth and Bill Giuliano** and the sister of **Luke Giuliano**.



### BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS



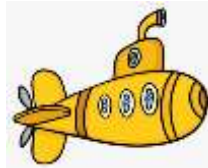
Love and blessings to **Nora Rose Stanislav and Rocco Vincent Stanislav**, who were baptized on August 6, 2023. Nora and Rocco are the children of **Natalie and Nico Stanislav**.

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP



### Become Part of Our Church Family

Are you interested in joining our congregation? Pastor Heidi will be offering a membership class after worship on September 10<sup>th</sup>, with new members being received on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Pastor Heidi or the church office if you would like to become a member of the Strongsville UCC.



### SUB NEEDED!

(Not that kind of sub!) We will soon be needing a substitute camera operator to record our worship services on Sunday mornings. If you are willing to learn how to use the church's video camera, please contact Doug Thorn.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

**Summer Sunday School!**  
Many thanks to everyone who taught a lesson this summer!

### PENNY SUNDAY

Thank you to everyone who contributed to August's Penny Sunday. We collected a record \$640.56 for wildfire victims in Maui through UCC Disaster Relief Ministries. Please save your coins, dollars, and checks (to SUCC) for our next Penny Sunday, **September 24<sup>th</sup>**.



### RALLY DAY IS COMING!

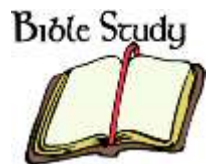
Mark your calendar for September 10<sup>th</sup>, when we begin a new Sunday School year of learning and growing together! **WE WILL HAVE A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR RALLY DAY!**

### BIBLE STUDY

#### A YEAR OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

Beginning on October 16<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Heidi and Linda Elkins will be leading a monthly book study based on Rachel Held

Evans's wonderful book, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*. Based on Old Testament rituals and practices, the book chronicles Rachel's attempts to follow these ancient practices in a modern world. The group will meet on the third Thursday of each month, for one hour. Please let Pastor Heidi or Linda know if you're planning to join us!



## OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.

**Long-Term Care or Homebound:** Joan Beckwith, Laurie Meister, Ruth Milidonis, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Maggie Struhar



**Church Family:** Serena Abruzzino, Barb Camp, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Irene Jannsohn, Carole Kapcar, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Bruce Lerch, Reggie McCray, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfitz, Gary Paul, George Pavisich, Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Bill Schneider. Peter Smith, Robert Sperber, John Toth, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

**Extended Church Family:** Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Angie Colosimo (Judi Pavisich's friend), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Kim Filiatrat (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joanne Garipey (Sally Herzog's friend), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Vic Irelan (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjazic (Judi Pavisich's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothe's sister-in-law), Mae O'Shea (Sandy O'Shea's mom), Thomas O'Shea (Sandy's dad), Sylvia Pakish (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), Jeff Peacock (former member), Zora Roundtree (FL4A volunteer), Mike Rung (Lora's brother), Amanda Shannon (Sarah & Jon Hayes' friend), Vicki Smith (Venner Clarinets), Chris Vozniak (Lora Rung's friend), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), Don Wills (friend of Judi Pavisich), The people of Ukraine, victims of violence, those affected by natural disasters

**OPT-IN:** Please contact Pastor Heidi if you would like to pray for others via the email prayer chain.  
h.e.denman@gmail.com

=====



**COMING THIS MONTH...  
A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY!  
It's time for a new photo-directory.  
Each family that is photographed  
for the directory will receive a free  
8x10 of their photo and a free copy**

**of the directory. So much has changed since our last pictorial directory and this is an excellent opportunity to have a studio portrait of you or your family. We would like EVERYONE to be included!**

Do you know someone who would like their senior or engagement photos taken? There is NO COST except if you would like to purchase photos.

Anyone can sit for portraits, even if they are not a part of the directory. YES--Bring your pets!

**We will have in-person and online scheduling available so that you can come when it's convenient. Dates for photography will be:**

**Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 2 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> 2 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

**We need volunteers to help with the sign-in process for our families. Please see Irene Joyce if you can help.**

## ONLINE SCHEDULING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILY APPOINTMENT SETTING

- ✧ Go to the Universal Church Directories website ([www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com))
- ✧ Click on the box on the right side of the homepage entitled "photography appointment scheduling login"
- ✧ Enter your church code **oh2687**  
Enter your church password **photos**
- ✧ Click on the Enter button
- ✧ Click on the desired photography date
- ✧ Click on the Reserve Time button beside the desired photography appointment time
- ✧ Enter the appropriate information in all required fields (indicated by the asterisk \*)
- ✧ Click on the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the photography appointment time in your family's name
- ✧ If you have more than six family members being photographed, please reserve two appointments consecutively (such as 6:00 and 6:10)
- ✧ Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your family's photography appointment
- ✧ **Contact your church's online scheduling administrator to change or cancel your photography appointment.**
- ✧ **PLEASE NOTE: Online scheduling may be disabled on the weekends to allow for in-person sign-ups.**

=====

## NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES:



Board of Trustees

- Last month, LeafFilter completed installation of leaf filters on the church building and on the house on Royalton Road.
- The Trustees are in the process of onboarding our new Financial Secretary, Gary Zielinski.

**RIVER VALLEY PAPER RECYCLING**  
KEEP RECYCLING YOUR PAPER, MAGAZINES, AND CARDBOARD (Please break down cardboard.) PRO TIP: The bin is usually emptied on Mondays.





Did you know that **Jim Heinrich** repaired the vacuum cleaner after being the only one who noticed it was broken? Thanks, as always, Jim!

Did you know that **John Marshall, Sr.** finished up the painting in the vestibule off the sanctuary? Thank you for your good work, John!

Did you know that **Kathie & Gary Paul** continue to maintain and water the plants on the church grounds? They look terrific!

Did you know that **Dale & Cathy Hawk, Jim Heinrich**, and **Ryan Heinrich**, along with a couple of tractors, gave up a Saturday to dismantle a ramshackle fence, clean up and haul away a bunch of debris, deal with a wasp nest, and plant grass seed at the Royalton Road property? Wow! Thank you all for your hard work!

Did you know that **Bill Craig** stopped by and repaired a toilet in the Ladies' rest room adjacent to Pilgrim Hall—two different times, with two different toilets? Many, many ladies appreciate you, Bill!

Did you know that **Jim Heinrich** and **Dale Hawk** came to the rescue when the Thrift Shop flooded after a violent storm? Along with **Cathy Hawk** and the Thrift Shop crew, they had the water cleaned up in no time! Thank you, hard workers!

**ADDRESS CHANGES/ADDITIONS**

If you move or change your phone number, please be so kind as to let the church office know—thanks!

**Irene & Jim Joyce (no landline)**

Jim's Cell: 216-346-4161  
Irene's Cell: 216-346-7165

**Cathy & Dale Hawk (no landline)**

Dale's Cell: 440-665-6016  
Cathy's Cell: 440-781-7512



**Clay & Jake Williams**

1521 Bridford Pkwy.  
Greensboro, NC 27407

\*\*\*\*\*

**THANK YOU NOTES**



*To my wonderful church family: I want to thank all you for the wonderful card. It was so great to hear from church and all my friends there. I miss church, and all of you; I told Pastor Heidi that I*

*can't find a church here in South Carolina. It's all Baptist—however, I visit the service every Sunday on my computer. Hope you are all well and if I ever get to visit Strongsville, I'll definitely come to see all of you at church. All my love, Betty Yarnell*



**IMPORTANT INFO**—Do you know where the AED and First Aid Kit are located in the church? They are adjacent to the doorway in Pilgrim Hall, just to the right of the confirmation classroom.

**PANERA PALS**

Are you able to give less than an hour of your time on a Monday or Friday morning to pick up and/or sort Panera bread, bagels, and pastries? Please contact the church office if you can help with this worthwhile ministry.



Thank you so much to our faithful bread transporters: **Teri Barbish, Carole Kapcar, Roz Fotos, Maria Graeff, Linda Elkins, Jane Kossin, Cherie Teagno, Wayne & Bobbi Cook, and Sharon Lempner**, who are enabling the Panera Bread ministry to continue!

**MUSIC NOTES**



Many thanks to **Carol Foley, Lisa Heinrich, Carol Konet, Megan Denman, Dave Williams, Clay Williams, Rob Toth, We3Ring/EKCO**

**Ringers (Ed Krzes, Cheryl Onesky, and Nicki Haire), Pam & Bruce Keenen, Sarah Keenen, and of course, Tom Foley, Sharon Heinrich, and Mike Elkins** for their music in August.



**ATTENTION SINGERS & RINGERS: CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS ARE UNDERWAY ON THURSDAY**

**EVENINGS AT 8 P.M. AND BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME SEPTEMBER 7<sup>th</sup> AT 7 P.M.**

Can you carry a tune? There's room in the choir loft for YOU! Can you read music? Come ring with us in Bell Choir! Please see Tom Foley or Mike Elkins if you'd like to be a part of our Music Ministry.

**BEE A BUSY BEE IN 2023**



New sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area are waiting for your name to be added as a greeter or usher. No experience is necessary—we will show you everything you need to know! Everyone is welcome to be a part of our church life.

## GIFT CARDS

PLEASE DON'T FORGET ABOUT THIS EASY, CONVENIENT PROGRAM



THAT BENEFITS THE CHURCH. You can order gift cards by calling **Jim Joyce** at 216-346-4161 in advance with your order. **Limited stock is available for purchase on Sunday mornings.**



**PLEASE DON'T FALL FOR A SCAM!** Pastor Heidi will never ask you for cash or gift cards via text or email. If there is a need, she will approach you in person.

## NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN

Did you know? The "tip jar" you see next to the coffee on Sunday mornings is there for a reason. The "tips" go directly to keeping the coffee, tea, sugar, creamer, etc., supplied. Your generosity is appreciated!



## MISSION OUTREACH NEWS:

250 Pairs of our Bombas socks have been taken to Anton Grdina School in Cleveland to help the students who are really in need. The Mission Outreach Committee is researching ways to help needy school kids in Strongsville as well.



The Strongsville Emergency Food Bank has always been supported by our congregation. Please remember, we do not accept expired goods. The needs for the food bank in September would be cereal, Peanut Butter & Jelly, or Soup.

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **September 12<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **September 19<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **September 26<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.

## FREE LUNCH FOR ALL

**Wednesdays**

**11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Thank you to all our faithful volunteers!



## ALTAR FLOWERS FOR LAST MONTH

The altar flowers are given—

**August 6<sup>th</sup>**

*In Celebration of George Pavisich's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 26<sup>th</sup> --Love, Short Stuff*  
*In Celebration of our 41<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary on August 7<sup>th</sup>*  
--Cathy & Dale Hawk



**August 13<sup>th</sup>**

*In Celebration of the wedding of Nicole (Giuliano) and Brett Wade*  
The Giuliano Family

**August 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Birthday to Ingrid Dickson & Irene Joyce*  
Love, Greg & Jim

**August 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Celebrating our daughter Holly's Birthday on August 30<sup>th</sup>*  
George & Joyce Reed  
*Remembering our aunt, Rhea Clements, on her birthday, August 28<sup>th</sup>! Love ya, Aunt Rhea!*  
Becky and Bill Robinson  
*In memory of Mary Carey*  
--from the Strongsville Cafeteria Lunch Bunch



THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2023 IS POSTED IN PILGRIM HALL. Please sign up for fresh flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one or just for yourself. Cost is \$30 for two vases; \$15 for one vase. WE HAVE A FEW SUNDAYS STILL AVAILABLE!

## STEEPLE LIGHTING

**Week of August 6<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Birthdays to the Heinrichs: Jim on 8/5 & Sharon on 8/8!*

*Happy Birthday to Bryana Hitchens on August 10<sup>th</sup>!*  
Love, the Dickson and Joyce families

**Week of August 13<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Anniversary to Bill & Pam Craig on August 19<sup>th</sup>!*  
With Love, Mom

*In loving memory of Erik O. Jannsohn*  
*In loving memory of Aimée J. Jannsohn*  
The Jannsohn/Dickson/Joyce family



**Week of August 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Birthday to Ingrid & Irene on August 21<sup>st</sup>*  
With Love from the Heinrich Family  
*Happy Birthday to Madison Wentz on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and to Joe Craig and Nate Johnson on August 24<sup>th</sup>*  
With Love, Grammy/Mom

**Week of August 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Lighting the way for our friend and choir member, Clay Williams and his brother, Jake, as they begin the next step on their life's journey*  
The Music Ministry

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



## THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is OPEN every Thursday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., but be on the lookout for some extended

hours on Thursdays.

Come and shop lots of interesting merchandise at amazing prices. Donations are being accepted during those hours, but please try to limit your donations to what you can carry downstairs.

*As always, special thanks to our dedicated volunteers and to everyone who supports the Thrift Shop with donations or by shopping!*

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP—

Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.

Picnic at church with hot dogs—each attendee is asked to bring a dish and we'll play games



Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Potluck Meal at the church or we may meet for dinner at a restaurant!

Everyone is welcome at all our programs!

## INTERDENOMINATIONAL BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Bible Study Fellowship is a global, interdenominational Bible study program that meets in various churches for the studies. The Cleveland West Day Women's Group rents space at Grace Church in Middleburg Hts. on Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Classes start on September 12<sup>th</sup>. The format is that women are placed into discussion groups of about 15 women. Both Zoom and in-person formats are available. Here is a link to info about BSF to learn about the organization and the study: [John's Gospel | Bible Study Fellowship \(bsfinternational.org\)](http://John's Gospel | Bible Study Fellowship (bsfinternational.org))

*Note that there are Monday evening classes for men as well (held at Parma Heights Baptist Church).*

## CHURCH FAMILY CARE TEAM

If you like to cook . . . or bake . . . or reach out to others in love . . . as winter and circumstances continue to make it hard to stay connected, your Diaconate is organizing a Pastoral

Care Ministry Team and would LOVE to have you take part! (You do not need to be a member of the Diaconate to participate, and you may come and go as you are led.)

## ARE YOU GETTING RID OF YOUR LANDLINE?

Have you already done so and neglected to inform the church? Did you move and forget to give us your new address? With the new directory coming up, we would like it to be as accurate and current as possible, so if you have any changes to your contact information, please let us know! (The church's landline is the same: 440-238-6697 or even better, email any updates to [strongsvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvilleucc@gmail.com)).



## CHURCH OFFICERS IN 2023

*\*Elected January 29, 2023*

**Moderator:** Greg Dickson **Vice-Moderator:** Jen Barry  
**Treasurer:** Sally Herzog **Clerk:** Judy Gaumer

### Sunday School Co-Superintendents

Linda Elkins Mary Densmore\*

### Board of Trustees

Diana Creecy Chris Goff\* Herb Hampson  
Cathy Hawk\* Sarah Hayes Cheryl Sobek\*  
Dan Winrod\* Laura Winrod\* Rachel Zielinski

### Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson Linda Stepan Dave Williams\*

### Diaconate

Teri Barbish Jean Bittinger\* Elaine Coffey  
Bobbi Cook\* Wayne Cook\* Judy Davis\*  
Carole Kapcar\* Sharon Maresco Linda Ponstingle  
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\* Mike Willis\*  
*ex officio:* Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

### Stewardship Committee

Judi Pavisich Bill Schneider\* Richard Taylor  
Rob Toth Mary Willis\*

### Mission and Outreach Committee

Judy Carte\* Sarah Hayes Bobbie Krisak Lora Rung\*  
Jennifer Sekorky Peter Smith\* Bev Wehr  
Mary Ellen Zimmerman\*

\*\*\*\*\*

**GIVING OPTIONS**



If you are interested in giving electronically, you can set up your giving through Bill Pay on your bank's website or on our church's website: [www.strongsvilleucc.com](http://www.strongsvilleucc.com). You may also mail a check to Strongsville UCC 13740 Pearl Road Strongsville, OH 44136 or drop it off in the church's mailbox.

**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 6 through August 27, 2023.**



**Thank you to everyone who supports our church and its ministries.**

Offering Needed \$14,468.04 for 4 Sundays  
Offering Received \$24,731.25  
+\$10,263.21

**Pledge cards received so far for 2023: 62**

+++++

**LAST CHANCE! 2024's campaign starts soon.  
2023 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN  
Strongsville United Church of Christ  
2023 Estimate of Giving**

In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2023:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ each

week  month  other \_\_\_\_\_ to be used for

Our Congregation's Ministries and Operations \$\_\_\_\_\_  
Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) \$\_\_\_\_\_



I would like to talk with someone from the Endowment Committee about including the church or church-related institution in my Will.

I would like to talk with someone about using the automatic deduction plan from my checking account.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



**Due to a bank change, all checks to the church should be made out to **United Church of Christ or UCC or United Church of Christ (Congregational).****

**Please do not use**

**"Strongsville" or "SUCC" in the "Pay to the Order of" line. Thanks!**



**IN OUR COMMUNITY**

Girl Scout Troop #71363 is stocking and maintaining a "Hygiene Library," which is located on the lawn near the parking lot facing Royalton Road.

*Autumn Blessing*

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months, may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given and bounty we are to share with others.

May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of your great promise that death is temporary and life is eternal.

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen.



**FROM THE OFFICIAL BOARD:**

- The kitchen is slated for cleaning on September 1<sup>st</sup> and will be professionally cleaned quarterly.
- The Official Board has paid another installment of our Retreat 2024 payment to Temple Hills. Save February 16-18, 2024 and plan to join us for the Winter Retreat.



The United Church of Christ  
(Congregational)  
13740 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, OH 44136  
[www.strongsvilleucc.com](http://www.strongsvilleucc.com)

FALL  
blessings