



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, July 7, 2024– 10 A.M.

Hymn Sing



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 "Agnus Dei" Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Greg Dickson

INTROIT "Eye Has Not Seen" Haugen

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: You awaken the sun, O God, to guide us into the new day:

People: Your name, O God, like your praise, sings in every person.

Leader: You speak your Word, O God, to guide us into your kingdom:

People: Your hope, O God, like your joy, echoes in every soul.

Leader: You guide us to those who are looking for you:

People: Your love, O God, like your name, fills the emptiness of every heart.

† HYMN "Gather Around, for the Table is Spread"

Gather around, for the table is spread,

Welcome the food and rest!

Wide is our circle, with Christ at the head,

He is the honored guest.

Learn of His love; Grow in His grace;

Pray for the peace He gives;

Here at this meal, here in this place, know that His Spirit lives!

Once He was known in the breaking of bread,

Shared with a chosen few; Multitudes gathered and by Him

were fed, so will He feed us too.

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 123

(New International Version)

I lift up my eyes to you, to you who sit enthroned in heaven.

As the eyes of slaves look to the hand of their master,

as the eyes of a female slave look to the hand of her mistress,

so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till he shows us his mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy on us,

for we have endured no end of contempt.

We have endured no end of ridicule from the arrogant,

of contempt from the proud.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMNS REQUESTS FROM THE PEWS (1st & last verses)

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS Elaine Coffey

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 "Lead Me, Lord" Wesley

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Irene Joyce

OFFERING Elaine Coffey

OFFERTORY "Softly and Tenderly" Thompson

† 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

FIRST READING FROM THE GOSPELS Mark 6: 1-6

(New International Version)

Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his

disciples. When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the

synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

HYMNS REQUESTS FROM THE PEWS (1st & last verses)

SECOND READING FROM THE GOSPELS Mark 6: 7-13

(New International Version)

These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—

no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra

shirt. Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. And

if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and

shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them."

† HYMNS REQUESTS + HYMN 404 "Faith of Our Fathers"

† BENEDICTION

Go forward this day, ready to find God in the world in small, surprising ways

and places. Be willing to see God at work, in intriguing and unexpected

ways and places. Be eager to join God in service in the world, where you

are, just as you are, and as God calls you to love. Amen.

† POSTLUDE "May the Mind of Christ My Savior" arr. Schrader

SERVING

TODAY – JULY 7 **NEXT SUNDAY – JULY 14**

Judy & Roger Davis **Greeters** Carole Kapcar

Judi Pavisich **Liturgist** Dave Williams

Tom Foley **Director of Music** Tom Foley

Mike Elkins **Associate Director of Music** Mike Elkins

Sharon Heinrich **Organist** Sharon Heinrich

Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich **Video/Sound** Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich

Cindy Smith **Special Music** Brittany Fernandez

Ingrid Dickson **Summer Sunday School** Cathy Hawk

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**, click on **Service Videos**.

A NOTE OF THANKS—We thank our special guest, **Cindy Smith** and of course, **Mike Elkins**, **Tom Foley**, and **Sharon Heinrich** for today's music!

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 10th.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Are you interested in joining our congregation? We will be offering a membership class following worship today

and next Sunday, **July 14th** and receiving new members into our church family on **July 21st**. Please join us in the parlor following the service if you would like to become a member of the Strongsville UCC.



The altar flowers are given—

Happy Birthday to Teri Barbish (yesterday)!

Love, Mom & Dad



A 2024 SIGN-UP SHEET FOR ALTAR FLOWERS IS POSTED IN PILGRIM HALL. Please note: the cost of flowers is \$18 for 1 vase and \$36 for 2 vases. We still have a few Sundays left!

Our steeple will light the sky this week—

Happy Birthday to Bev Wehr on July 9th

and to Susann Lerch on July 10th!



Happy Birthday today to Sara (Grega) Springhetti!

ATTENDANCE CARDS ARE IN YOUR BULLETIN! Please take a moment to complete the card that is in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate. You may write prayer requests on the reverse side, if you wish to have us pray for someone and add a name to the prayer chain.



IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY



Our most heartfelt condolences go out to **Dorothy Ritchie** and

the family and friends of long-time member, **William J. (Bill)**

Ritchie. Bill died on June 30, 2024 at the age of 92. He and

Dorothy were married for almost 72 years and they joined our

church more than 70 years ago. Bill was active in the

community as well as the church and was the president of

Cleveland Tool & Cutter. He was the father of **Gina (Chris)**,

Cathcart, Lisa (Brian) Bird, Bill (Lynn) Ritchie, Jr., Sharon Ritchie, and a beloved grandfather and great-grandfather. The funeral service is private.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Board of Trustees will have an email meeting in July.
- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **July 16th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor
- The Official Board will meet via email this month.





IT'S HAPPENING! CHURCH GARAGE SALE

FRIDAY, JULY 12th
from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M. AND
SATURDAY, JULY 13th
from 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

Donations will be accepted now through July 11th.

We accept household items, home décor, sporting equipment, craft supplies, books, games, toys, small electronics, furniture, kitchenware and dishes, plus clothing & shoes (for the Thrift Shop) **We DO NOT accept liquids of any kind, hazardous materials, or large televisions.**

Please keep in mind: "If you wouldn't buy an item in the condition it's in, please don't foist it on the church." Also, please plan to carry your items yourself or bring a helper (or two). Thanks!

We'll need lots of volunteers, too—Please stay after church for a little while to set up Pilgrim Hall for the Sale.

On the days of the sale and every evening the week before, beginning around 6 p.m. and sorting until about 8 p.m.

Please see Rachel Zielinski or Irene Joyce if you can give a couple of hours of your time to help sort donations either day or evening this week (or just show up)!



WE ALSO NEED LARGE SHOPPING BAGS! (Marc's Bags) If you can spare some, please bring them to the church office anytime.

BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

At the Garage Sale

Please bring your wrapped/bagged baked goods on **Friday, July 12th** before 6 p.m. or **Saturday, July 13th** before 9 a.m.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Summer Sunday School continues! We are still looking for folks to teach a summer Sunday with our children. All lessons and materials will be provided in advance.

Start thinking about which Sunday you're available for this special ministry! A sign-up sheet is posted in Pilgrim Hall.

PENNY SUNDAY--THANK YOU!

Last week, our Penny Sunday collection to benefit St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral in Cleveland, which was severely damaged by fire in May brought in \$406.03. Please save your coins, dollars, and checks (to UCC) for our next Penny Sunday on **August 25, 2024.**



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.

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS: DEODORANT DRIVE!

Mission Outreach will be collecting **OLD SPICE** and **DOVE** deodorant for **Snow School in Berea.** The students who attend that school are in foster care, transitional care, or wards of the county and



while Ohio Guidestone provides hospital grade deodorant, having a name brand product makes a big difference to these young people. (These brands are the ones recommended by the school.)

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please provide updates for this list to the church office.



Long-Term Care or Homebound: Laurie Meister, Karen Rak, Connie Rebar, Maggie Struhar

Church Family: Serena Abruzzino, Judy Carte, Jennifer Cockrell, Sam Cuyler Jr., Sue Hawk, Irene Jansohn, Bruce Keenen, Sarah Keenen, Kay Konicek, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Jim Maresco, Jan Meier, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfitz, Gary Paul, George & Joyce Reed, Dorothy Ritchie, Ember Schneider, Peter Smith, Linda Stepan, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch, Mary Ellen Zimmerman

Extended Church Family: Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Amy Carroll (Marty Winch's sister), Barbara Davis (Don & Sandy Gleichauf's friend), John Dickson (Greg's dad), Keana Dickson (Greg & Ingrid's daughter), Allison Emerson (Colette's sister), Kim Filiatraut (Sarah Keenen's friend), Elizabeth Fulford (Lora Rung's friend), Joanne Gariepy (Sally Herzog's friend), Kathy Ghetti (friend of Ginger Rothel), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel's parents), Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Donna McDonald (the Ritchies' friend), Linda McNabb (Ginger Rothel's sister-in-law), 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), The people of Ukraine, Gaza, and Israel, 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

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,617.01
Last Week's Offering Received \$ 4,424.00
Difference +\$ 806.99

Thank you very much for your support.
PLEDGES RECEIVED: 51



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 28th

On our church grounds following outdoor worship. Please bring a lawn chair, and a salad, side dish, or dessert—the main dish and beverages will be provided. Sign up with your side dish in Pilgrim Hall.



FREE LUNCH FOR ALL-- Wednesdays

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

Thank you to all our faithful volunteers!

PLEASE NOTE: THE FREE LUNCH WILL BE TO-GO ONLY ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 10th. LUNCHES MUST BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE BY CALLING BETTY CRAIG AT 440-479-5308.



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY BAND:

Grab your lawn chair and come to our free concert on **Friday, July 12th at 7:30 p.m.** on the Strongsville Middle School lawn (In case of rain, outdoor concerts will be at the Ehrnfeltd Center). On **Friday, July 19th**, the Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band will play **at 7:30 p.m.** at Strongsville United Methodist Church (13500 Royalton Road).

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is **OPEN every Thursday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.** 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.



The Thrift Shop will be open during the Garage Sale on July 12th & 13th with a special Garage Sale preview on Thursday, July 11th.



DO MORE IN 2024! 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.



TELLERS NEEDED!

If you have less than 30 minutes to spare after worship periodically, we are in need of tellers. No experience is necessary. Please see Gary Zielinski or Rachel Zielinski if you can help.

NO MORE RIVER VALLEY PAPER RECYCLING

River Valley Paper company is reducing its routes and has removed our paper/cardboard recycling bin. We will be contacting other companies to see about getting another bin. In the meantime, please bring your cardboard and paper elsewhere. Thank you to everyone who has supported this program.



BOOK STUDY--A YEAR OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

Continuing on **July 15th**, Pastor Heidi and Linda Elkins are leading a monthly book study based on Rachel Held Evans's wonderful book, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*. The group will meet on the **third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.**, for one hour. It's not too late to join us!



CHURCH OFFICERS IN 2024

**Elected January 28, 2024 **Appointed by the Official Board*

Moderator: Greg Dickson* **Vice-Moderator:** Jen Barry*

Treasurer: Sally Herzog* **Clerk:** Judy Gaumer*

Sunday School Co-Superintendents

Linda Elkins Mary Densmore

Board of Trustees

Bill Giuliano* Chris Goff Mike Elkins* Les Fox*

Herb Hampson* Cathy Hawk Sarah Hayes* Sandy Pogozeleski*

Cheryl Sobek Dan Winrod Laura Winrod Rachel Zielinski*

Endowment Fund Subcommittee

Greg Dickson* Dave Williams*

Diaconate

Teri Barbish* Jean Bittinger Elaine Coffey* Bobbi Cook Wayne Cook

Judy Davis Judy Fox* Carole Kapcar Susann Lerch* Cherie Teagno*

Barbara White Mary Ellen Zimmerman

Christian Education Committee

Serena Abruzzino Mary Densmore Linda Elkins*

Colette Emerson* Sarah Hayes** Amanda Marshall* Lora Rung

Music Committee

Karen Bates* Ingrid Dickson*

Pam Keenen Ken Mehalko Mike Willis

ex officio: Sharon Heinrich Tom Foley Mike Elkins

Stewardship Committee

Sue Gigliotti* Judi Pavisich Bill Schneider Rob Toth* Mary Willis

Mission and Outreach Committee

Diana Creecy* Sarah Hayes* Lora Rung

Jennifer Sekorky* Peter Smith Bev Wehr* Mary Ellen Zimmerman

2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN --M.A.P.L E.

M- Making and moving

A- Accepting and Acknowledging

P- People

L- Learning and Loving

E- Encompassing

Strongsville United Church of Christ 2024 Estimate of Giving



In recognition of God's many blessings to me, I am happy to join with others in the following commitment for 2024:

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/savings account.

Signed _____ Date ____/____/____