



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, June 9, 2024– 10 A.M.

Recognition Sunday



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 "O God of Heaven" arr. Hopson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elaine Coffey

INTROIT "Ask, Seek, Knock" Larson

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: On an ordinary Sunday, we come to worship God.

People: We come, knowing God will speak to us; we come, hoping God will surprise us.

Leader: On this day, like every other day, we seek to follow Jesus:

People: We follow, trusting Jesus will be with us; we follow, hoping Jesus will work through us.

Leader: On this day, we lift our souls to God's Spirit:

People: We open our hearts, believing that the Spirit may fill us; we open our hands, so that we might be a gift to others.

† HYMN 655 "Sanctuary"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 138

(New International Version)

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; before the "gods"

I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name

for your unfailing love and your faithfulness,

for you have so exalted your solemn decree that it surpasses your fame.

When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.

May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord,

when they hear what you have decreed.

May they sing of the ways of the Lord, for the glory of the Lord is great.

Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly; though lofty,

He sees them from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life.

You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes;

with your right hand you save me.

The Lord will vindicate me; your love, Lord, endures forever—

do not abandon the works of your hands.

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 "Go Ye Into All the World" Butler

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/ RECOGNITION OF OUR CHOIRS

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATES

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Oblatio Musica" Elkins

† 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 Mark 3:20-35

(The Message)

Jesus responded, "Who do you think are my mother and brothers?" Looking

around, taking in everyone seated around him, he said, "Right here, right in

front of you—my mother and my brothers. Obedience is thicker than blood.

The person who obeys God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

SERMON "All in the Family"

† HYMN 128 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

† BENEDICTION Dawn S. Cooley

Let us go out into the world singing songs that proclaim freedom. Songs

that turn ashes into garlands. Songs that bind up the afflicted and comfort

those who mourn. Songs that, like the mighty oak, have roots that go deep

and stand strong. We know these songs. They vibrate through time, in our

very souls. They are the songs that give us life, the songs that give us

meaning, the songs that give us hope. Now it is our turn to take these life-

giving songs out into the world. Let us sing these songs with voices deep

and strong. And may the world join us in praise and in celebration and in

love. Amen

† POSTLUDE "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Lutkin

SERVING

TODAY—JUNE 9 NEXT SUNDAY—JUNE 16

Judi Pavisich Greeters Greta Rich & Doug Turnbull

Tom Gaumer Liturgist Herb Hampson

Judi P., Bill S., Carole K., Bobbie K. Ushers Tom G., Karen B., Elaine C., Jean B.

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

Chancel Choir Special Music Karen Bates, Roger Davis

Haley Strnad Summer Sunday School Irene Joyce

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.



A NOTE OF THANKS—We thank our Chancel Choir--Ingrid Dickson, Barb Fraunfelder, Frank Jefferis, Irene Joyce, Bruce & Pam Keenen, Sarah Keenen, Sharon Maresco, Sandy O'Shea, Rob Toth, Sarah Toth, Dave Williams, Mike Willis (+ our supplemental singer Craig Hardy and our Cincinnati dwelling Richard Densmore, and our Thursday "rehearsers" Bobbi & Wayne Cook)—our frequent contributor, Ken Mehalko, our Bell Choir (Elaine Coffey, Linda Elkins, Linda Ponstingle, Sharon Heinrich\*, Ingrid Dickson\*, Sarah Toth\*, Irene Joyce\*, Barb Fraunfelder\*, Mike Willis\*, Roth Toth\* and Cincinnati dweller Mary Densmore + our trusty sub, Mike Elkins), and of course, Tom Foley, Sharon Heinrich, and Mike Elkins for their music this season!



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.

The altar flowers are given—

Wishing Izabella a Happy Birthday!

The Abruzzino Family

With Gratitude to everyone who contributes their talents to our music ministry!



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—

Celebrating my Dad, Bill Ritchie, on his birthday, June 7<sup>th</sup>!

With love, Gina Cathcart

Happy Birthday to Dan Sauter on June 14<sup>th</sup>!

With love, Grammy

Happy Birthday today to Izabella Abruzzino!

RECOGNITION SUNDAY

Please join us for cake following today's worship to celebrate our church family graduates and our dedicated music ministry participants!



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

Please save your coins, dollars, and checks (to UCC) for our next Penny Sunday to benefit St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral in Cleveland, which was severely damaged by fire in May. Please save your coins, dollars, and checks (to UCC) for our next Penny Sunday on June 30, 2024





### 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 Jannsohn, Kay Konicek, Bobbie & Wayne Krisak, Karl & Sharon Kuhlenschmidt, Jim Maresco, Reggie McCray, Roy Merkle, Lola Millhoane, Kenn Oerkfritz, Gary Paul, George & Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Ember Schneider, Peter Smith, Linda Stepan, Sharon Wilson, Claire Wills, Marty Winch

**Extended Church Family:** Edward and Sharon Acton (Sally Herzog's friends), Dorene Baldrige, Ron & Yvonne Adams (Judi Pavisich's friends), 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 Ghatti (friend of Ginger Rothel), Dana Hardy (Craig's wife), Barb & Dale Holmberg (Tiffany Hassel's parents), Anne Holland, Diane Mason (Lora Rung's friend), Rudy Matjzic (Judi Pavisich'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), Tom (friend of Judi Pavisich), Don Wills (friend of Judi Pavisich), 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

### THANK YOU NOTES



To our Church family, Our heartfelt thanks for your many kind thoughts, prayers, cards, and condolences as we grieve the passing of our Uncle Bill who helped our Mom guide us thru life after our father died.

We are also very grateful to Pastor Heidi for preparing and delivering her comforting messages at Uncle Bill's funeral and interment services. Blessings to all from the **Robinsons, Becky, Dave, and Bill**

### OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,617.01  
Last Week's Offering Received \$ 5,209.50  
Difference +\$ 1,592.49



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

### UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS



- The Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, **June 11<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.
- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **June 18<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor
- The Official Board will meet via email this month.



### FREE LUNCH FOR ALL--

**Wednesdays**

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

Thank you to all our faithful volunteers!

### 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.



**MANY THANKS, AS ALWAYS, TO OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS!**

### 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.



### 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.



### IT'S HAPPENING!

## CHURCH GARAGE SALE

**FRIDAY, JULY 12<sup>th</sup>**  
from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M. **AND**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 13<sup>th</sup>**  
from 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

Donations will be accepted starting **June 16<sup>th</sup>** through **July 11<sup>th</sup>**.



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—**

On the days of the sale and every evening the week before, beginning around 6 p.m. and sorting until about 9 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 from July 7 - 12 (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 12<sup>th</sup>** before 6 p.m. or **Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>** before 9 a.m.



**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.

### BOOK STUDY--A YEAR OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

Continuing next week, **June 17<sup>th</sup>**, 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!



**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.



### 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.

### 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 \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY GRADUATES!



### Lauren Shea Bowling University of Virginia

Master of Science in Materials Science & Engineering  
Lauren will continue her studies at U Va leading toward a PhD in Material Science and Engineering. During her undergraduate work at Michigan Technology University she was awarded two summer internships at NASA.

**Parents: Melanie and Cody Bowling**  
**Grandparents: Pat and Frank Jefferis**

### Samuel Caven Bowling Concordia University

Bachelor of Science in Sport and Entertainment Business  
While at Concordia, Sam was Captain of the Lacrosse team for three years. He was named to the All Academic team for his conference, First Team Goalie for the Conference, Athlete of the Year this year at Concordia, and Third Team goalie on the All NAIA team. He is busy pursuing employment.

**Parents: Melanie and Cody Bowling**  
**Grandparents: Pat and Frank Jefferis**



### Owen Burke Dettmer Berea-Midpark High School

Football, Swimming, Varsity Track, Berea Rec Swimming instructor, Orientation leader; Owen is in the top 20 of his graduating class, a member of the National Honor Society, and Outstanding Engineering student.

Owen will attend the University of Cincinnati, majoring in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA in the Ascent Program.

**Parents: Kim and Jeff Dettmer**  
**Grandparents: Linda and Jim Dettmer**



### Violet Skye Fraunfelder Cleveland School of the Arts

Activities: Head of the Yearbook, School fundraising, Senior Activities Committee, Violet plans to obtain her Bachelor's Degree in Communication Arts at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Parents: Brooke King and Mark Fraunfelder**  
**Grandparents: Barb Fraunfelder and Dennis Smith**



### Taryn Rose Halley Solon High School

Activities: Dance Team captain, track, Cross Country, Cello in orchestra, Model UN; Marching Band, National Honor Society,

Taryn plans to attend the University of Georgia and major in Kinesiology

**Parents: Jody and Scott Halley**  
**Grandparents: Jim and Linda Dettmer**



### Makenna Faith Hampson Moody Bible Institute

Bachelor of Arts

Participated in the Alumni Association and served as the Chapel Coordinator

She plans to get married on June 21, 2024. Makenna's fiancé also graduated from Moody.

**Grandparents: Herb and the late Lois Hampson**



### Jessica Ann Haney North Ridgeville High School

Activities: Cheerleading, gymnastics, President Of Student Council, National Honors Society, Key Club, Champions For Life, Prom Committee,

High Honor roll -4 years, Southwestern Conference scholar athlete twice, Cheerleading SWC first team twice Jessica plans to attend the Ohio State University and enter the BSN program to receive her nursing degree.

**Parents: Kelly and Paul Haney**  
**Grandparents: Barb Fraunfelder and Dennis Smith**



### Natalie Grace Hazapis University of Michigan

Graduate Degree in Aerospace Engineering  
Natalie graduated *Summa Cum Laude* with her Master's Degree

**Parents: Annette and the late Lou Hazapis**  
**Grandparents: Mary Ellen and the late Bob Zimmerman**



### Rachel Lindsay Marie Kovatich University of Cincinnati

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry Bachelor of Science in Neurobiology

Rachel will be employed at the University of Cincinnati, Molecular Research Lab., Sr. Research Assistant future plans include working toward further advanced degrees, and eventually a PhD so that she can run her own cancer research lab.

**Parents: Bob and Lori Kovatich**  
**Grandparents: Jack and Beth Remaly; Lois Remaly**



### Jamie Raegan McElwain North Ridgeville High School

Played soccer and was a member of the National Honor Society; Earned a Governor's Merit Scholarship. GPA above 4.0 and scored in the top 3% nationally on the SAT. Jamie's future plans include attending the University of Toledo's Jesup Honors

College for Pharmaceutical Sciences  
**Parents: Lori and James McElwain**  
**Grandparents: Mary and Ron Mortus**



### Kira Kathleen Meloy Theodore Roosevelt High School

Kira had a particular interest in art and participated in choir during her high school years at Kent's Roosevelt High School. She plans on attending a vocational school in the fall.

**Parent: Lora Hansen**  
**Grandparents: Pam and Doug Hansen**



### Jacob Miles Emergency Medical Technician

He is now certified as an EMT in North Carolina and works on weekends as a rescue swimmer in Surf City, North Carolina. He is a 2022 graduate of NC State and works as a Civil Engineer in Raleigh, NC

**Parents: Stephanie and David Miles**  
**Grandparents: Pat and Frank Jefferis**



### Aidan Thomas Moses University of Akron

Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration Supply Chain Operations Management

Dean's List, Supply Chain Student Organization. Aidan plans to seek employment in his field and has been offered a job in Wisconsin, but will decide on his options.

**Parents: Terri and John Moses**  
**Grandparents: Judi and the late George Pavisich**



### Jay Thomas Sander University of Minnesota

Bachelor of Science in Sports Management with a Minor in Leadership

Jay had an internship at Huntington Bank Stadium with the Gophers Football team while pursuing his major. He aspires to further his career in sports management, possibly moving back to the Chicago area to seek employment with the Chicago Cubs baseball team or the Blackhawks hockey team.

**Parents: Julia and Tom Sander**  
**Grandparents: Mary and Ron Mortus**



### Christian James Scott Medina Christian Academy

Activities: AV Tech Lead (4 years), played basketball, took boxing lessons while working a part-time job. Christian went on a mission trip to Costa Rica to build houses. He lettered in Basketball and drama. He's a member of the National Honor Society and has received recognition for community service. Christian is applying to join the Air Force ROTC at the University of Akron, where he plans to major in Aerospace Engineering and International Security Services.



**Parents: Jamie and Josh Trinckes**  
**Grandparents: Mark & Deb Dubrasky, Dan & Chris Trinckes**

### Caleb Davis Toth Washington Liberty High School

Caleb participated in track, French club, Honors, and an After school care program for children, ROTC. He received a 4 year ROTC Scholarship appointment to USMA at West Point and plans to study Data Science and French Caleb's dad, Kevin, is a graduate of West Point Military Academy.

**Parents: Kevin and Kristen Toth**  
**Grandparents: John and Barbara Toth**



### Madison Taylor Wentz University of Mount Union

Bachelor of Arts in Exercise Science with a minor in Psychology  
Madison was on the Dean's List all 4 years, Strength coach, volleyball, All Ohio Athletic Conference Outstanding Academic and received the Rosemarie F. Ilg Crumbley Award for vitality for life, enthusiasm for learning, perseverance, a strong work ethic, and an interest in sports.

Madison plans on obtaining a Master's Degree in Exercise Science at Ohio Dominican University, where she will serve as



a Graduate Assistant for the Women's Volleyball Team.

**Parents: Rob and Sandra Wentz**  
**Grandparents: Larry and Debbie Wentz**  
**Great Grandmother: Betty (Grammy) Craig**

### Kerrigan Adeline Wood Parma Community High School

Kerrigan participated in concert choir while in High School Her future plans include pursuing a career in fashion and modeling.

**Parents: Karla and Chris Wood**  
**Grandparents: Barbara and John Toth**



*Congratulations!*

## 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