



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Congregational)

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StrongsvilleUCC.com

Rev. Heidi Denman McDougall, Pastor

Sunday, May 19, 2024– 10 A.M.

Pentecost 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.

BELL PRELUDE "Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" arr. Wagner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Judi Pavisich

BELL INTROIT "Breathe" Barnett, arr. Bettcher

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, Holy, Spirit, come. Come and move in and through us.

People: Whispers of hope around the corner of despair; shouts of joy at a graduation!

Leader: You are around us in every place.

People: The sweet breath of a baby, the remembrances of the elderly.

Leader: You speak to us through every person. You are with us in every season.

People: Soft breezes on a summer's day; bitter winds through frozen trees; the gentle lullabies of a parent; the birds twittering us awake.

Leader: You sing glad songs to us. You sweep us up in your commitment to transform all lives, all places.

People: In every breath, in every song, in every moment, in every tongue, come, dance, enflame, engulf, transform us! Come, Holy Spirit!

† HYMN 8 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

A READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 104:24-34 (New International Version)

How many are your works, Lord!

In wisdom you made them all, the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the sea, vast and spacious,
teeming with creatures beyond number—
living things both large and small.

There the ships go to and fro, and Leviathan,
which you formed to frolic there.

All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time.

When you give it to them, they gather it up;

when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things.

When you hide your face, they are terrified;

when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust.

When you send your Spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

May the Lord rejoice in his works—

He who looks at the earth, and it trembles,
who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the Lord.

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.

BELL ANTHEM "The Strife is O'er" arr. Wagner

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" Akers

† **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 NEW TESTAMENT Acts 2:1-21 (The Message)

When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.

SERMON "If We Had Only Known. . ."

† **HYMN** "Many Gifts, One Spirit"

**God of change and glory, God of time and space,
When we fear the future, Give to us your grace.
In the midst of changing ways give us still the grace to praise.**
(Refrain) **Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.**

**In our difference is blessing,
From diversity we praise one Giver,
One Lord, one Spirit, one Word known in many ways,
hallowing our days.
For the Giver, the gifts, praise, praise, praise!**

**God of many colors, God of many signs,
You have made us different, blessing many kinds.
As the old ways disappear, let your love cast out our fear.**
(Refrain) **Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.**
In our difference is blessing,

**From diversity we praise one Giver,
One Lord, one Spirit, one Word known in many ways,
hallowing our days.**

For the Giver, the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

**Freshness of the morning, newness of each night,
You are still creating endless love and light.**

This we see, as shadows part, many gifts from one great heart.
(Refrain) **Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.**

**In our difference is blessing,
From diversity we praise one Giver,
One Lord, one Spirit, one Word known in many ways,
hallowing our days.**

For the Giver, the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

† **BENEDICTION** Nathan Nettleton, Laughing Bird Ministries
Go out into the world, and labour to bring forth new life. Dream dreams, pursue visions and speak of God's goodness in the words of those who would hear. And may the God who breathed life into creation be your delight. May Christ Jesus give hope to your dreaming, and may the Holy Spirit, your advocate and supporter, set your hearts ablaze with a passion for peace. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of the Living Christ. Amen.

† **POSTLUDE** "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" Jackson

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**.

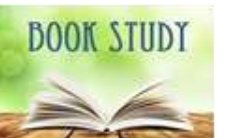
	<u>SERVING</u>	
TODAY – MAY 19		NEXT SUNDAY – MAY 26
Susann Lerch	Greeters	Volunteer needed
Dan Winrod	Liturgist	Cherie Teagno
Laura W., Bill S., Herb H., Mary Ellen Z.	Ushers	Barbara W., Diana C., Les & Judy F.
Tom Foley	Director of Music	Tom Foley
Mike Elkins	Associate Director of Music	Mike Elkins
Sharon Heinrich	Organist	Sharon Heinrich
Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich	Video/Sound	Doug Thorn/Jim Heinrich
Bell Choir	Special Music	Chancel Choir



A NOTE OF THANKS—We thank our **Bell Choir** for their dedication and musical talent all season. The Bell Choir begins their summer hiatus following today's worship. Thanks you also to **Tom Foley, Sharon Heinrich, and Mike Elkins** for today's music!

BOOK STUDY--A YEAR OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

Continuing tomorrow, **May 20th**, 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!



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—

Celebrating our Grandson Tucker Reed's Birthday this month and George and Joyce Reed's 56th Wedding Anniversary.

George and Joyce Reed



With thanks to our dedicated ringers in the Bell Choir!

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 Iris Craig on May 21st!

Happy Anniversary to Ryan Craig & Tracey Hill on May 22nd!

Happy Anniversary to Stacie & Dan Sauter and to Adam &

Kristina Craig on May 25th!—With love, Grammy

With thanks to our dedicated ringers in the Bell Choir!

Congratulations to my granddaughter, Jessica Haney, on her graduation from North Ridgeville High School on May 22nd!

With love, Grandma Barb Fraunfelder & Dennis Smith

In celebration of Gina Cathcart's Birthday that was on May 15th!

Love Mom and Dad

Happy Birthday today to Barbara Bridle!



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 Oerkfitz, Gary Paul, George & Joyce Reed, Dorothy & Bill Ritchie, Autumn 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), Ed Fabian (the Bagley's Grill girls' friend), Kim Filiautraut (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), Rudy Matjazic (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

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Weekly Offering Needed \$ 3,617.01
Last Week's Offering Received \$ 3,906.50
Difference +\$ 289.49

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



UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- The Diaconate will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, **May 21st** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor
- The Official Board will meet on the fourth Sunday of the month, **May 28th** at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.



FROM OUR FRIENDS AT STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY BAND:

Come to our free concert **TODAY** at 3 p.m. at the Strongsville Middle School—featuring Cindy Smith on vocals!



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!

GRADUATES

Our church would like to recognize our graduates, so please let us know if someone is graduating within your family. Send the following information and a **PHOTO** of your high school, college, or tech graduate.

Name of graduate (include middle name): _____

Graduate's address: _____

School: _____

Graduation Date (month at least): _____

Church Family member: _____

Relationship to church member: _____

Activities: _____

Honors and Awards: _____

Diploma / Degree Earned: _____

Future Plans: _____

Parents/Grandparents: _____

Please email the above information, **along with a photo of the graduate**, to the church office at strongvilleucc@gmail.com by **Sunday, May 26th**.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Summer is just around the corner! We will be looking for folks to commit to teaching a single 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.

THANK YOU TO OUR FAITHFUL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AS OUR SCHOOL YEAR COMES TO A CLOSE!

PENNY SUNDAY COMING SOON!

Start saving those coins, dollars, and checks! The next Penny Sunday will be **May 26th**. Money will go to UCC Disaster Relief, which has been greatly impacted by a great influx of need. If we collect \$250, we can receive a matching grant and double our contribution!



MAY IS STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH MONTH!



The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The Heartland Conference and the National setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. Your generosity to

Strengthen the Church (STC) provides the funds that allow The Heartland Conference to Support the development our Ministry Networks and support our General Synod Delegates. In the National setting, funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.



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.

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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 ____/____/____

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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



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.