

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

JANUARY 28, 2018

**“WELCOMING, LOVING, SERVING, WHERE GOD HAS NO LIMITS.
MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY!”**

Live streaming of the Sanctuary Service is available at uccmedina.org

January 28 thru February 4, 2018

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun BLANKET SUNDAY OFFERING

- 8:15 am Chapel Worship
- 9:00 am Gathering Worship
- 9:15 am 3rd Grade Bible Class
- 10:30 am Traditional Worship
- 11:30 am ALL CHURCH ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING**
- 2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows
Sing-a-long
- 3:00 pm Confirmation Class
- 7:00 pm JMM @WRMC

- Mon 9:00 am Hobby Horse Registration
2018-2019
- 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study
 - 7:00 pm New Members Class

Tues

- Wed 10:30 am Quilters
6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

- Thurs 7:00 pm Four Chaplains Ceremony

Fri

- Sat Super Service Saturday
9:30 am Gathering Band

Sun “SOUPER” BOWL SUNDAY NEW MEMBERS JOIN

- 8:15 am Chapel Worship
- 9:00 am Gathering Worship
- 9:15 am Choir Practice
- 9:15 am 3rd Grade Bible Class
- 10:30 am Traditional Worship
- 11:30 am Hunger Outreach Meeting
- 2:00 pm JMM @ Evergreen

KNOW WHAT YOU EAT

Our speaker, Dr. Clifford Sonnie, MD, chose this topic for the next Healthy Cooking Dinner on February 9th at 6:30 pm. All are invited to select and prepare one recipe, then come and share your dish plus many others followed by Dr. Sonnie's talk. With diet being so important for the prevention of major illness, this is an event you will not want to miss. Sign-up and recipes will be offered in the East Room on January 21st, 28th and February 4th. Plan to enjoy this evening of fine food, fellowship and information.

Worship Highlights: 8:15, 9:00 & 10:30 am
Mark 1:1-28

“Casting Out” - Rev. Luke Lindon

Altar Flowers:

Altar flowers are donated by Joan & John Walschon in memory of Joan's parents, Dr. Charles & Ruth Mackenbach.

ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING TODAY!

Our Annual Budget Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28th immediately following the 10:30 service.

BLANKET+ SUNDAY OFFERING

In 2017, Church World Service (CWS) distributed thousands of blankets around the world. Our church can be part of an even greater response in 2018. We can reach families fleeing their homes, recovering from disaster, and more. Your contributions go a long way to help families in need so please be generous in your support for Blanket+ Sunday on **January 28th**. Thank you!

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

Would you like to become a member of our church family? Join us for our next new member class! The next class will be held:

Monday, January 29th.

Class will be held from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm in the new Library. New members **will join the church on Sunday, February 4th**. Childcare is provided if needed. Please contact the Church Office at 330-725-4559 if you are interested and let us know if you will be in need of childcare.

ALTAR FLOWERS

There are still several Sundays left to sponsor Altar Flowers for 2018! This is a wonderful way to honor or remember someone, or to celebrate a special occasion.

Please fill in your name and write “church” or “self” to let us know if you would like the church to order the flowers for you or if you will be ordering them yourself. The cost of the flowers ordered through the church office is \$22.50.

Also, please write what you would like printed in the Messenger and if you want to claim your flowers after the 10:30 service.

WANTED: SOUP SOUP KICK OFF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18th

The youth will be hosting a Soup Cook Off on February 18th immediately following the 10:30 service. We are now looking for people who would like to enter their favorite soup! A prize will be awarded for the best soup along with the Golden Ladle Award! If you have a soup you would like to enter, please sign up outside of Fellowship Hall. There will also be salad, bread and desserts. We hope you will plan on joining us on this day for some yummy soup, great fellowship and friendly competition!

TIRED OF DARK DAYS AND DISTURBING NEWS?

Pick up a copy of a book which can bring light and hope to this cold season: "Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion." Read the stories between now and Thursday, February 8th, when Pastor Luke will lead a lively review and discussion of how readers were affected. Written by Father Greg Boyle, "Tattoos on the Heart" contains inspiring stories of how ruthless gang members in Los Angeles experienced the transformative power of God's love. Limited number of copies of the book are in the East Room, free and available for checkout/return. The book is also available for purchase on-line in a variety of formats: paperback, e-readers and tablets. This is presented by the "Both Sides of Prison" group.

HOBBY HORSE REGISTRATION

Our church owned preschool will begin registration for the 2018-2019 school year on Monday, January 29th, 2018. You may review our curriculum, classes offered, and fees by visiting our school website at: www.hobbyhorsepreschool.org. If you are interested in scheduling a tour or receiving registration information, please contact our Director, Xanthe Phillips, at the school's phone number, 330-722-1445.

Families that are members or friends of our church may register prior to January 29th by contacting Xanthe or stopping by the Hobby Horse Preschool office during school hours.

Families currently enrolled in Hobby Horse may register beginning January 29th at 9:00am. Siblings of former students may register beginning January 29th at 9:30am. Open community registration will begin on January 29th at 10:00am.

PERSONAL HYGIENE BAGS

We are collecting personal care items to place in hygiene bags for students at Garfield Elementary. Items needed include full-sized shampoo, body wash, bar soap, lotion, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes. In the case of lotion and body wash, please buy unscented or gender-neutral scented products. Items can be placed in a container found next to the BOGO bin opposite the elevator. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Finley at 440-759-3718. Thank you for your generosity in this new endeavor!

MISSION INITIATIVES

There are many ways your small gifts may bring blessings throughout the year. Following are projects our church has in progress:

***Cups Café: Sign up to cook the first the Monday of the month for luncheons serving 60-80 at Cups Café.

***Garfield Seven: Sign up to buy and/or deliver fresh foods to seven most needy families whose children attend Garfield School.

***BOGO (Buy One Give One): Purchase and donate items that the SNAP program doesn't pay for. **The Items for January are Chicken Noodle soup, Laundry detergents, dish washing liquids and bar soaps.** Next time you buy some for yourself, pick up an extra to place in the BOGO box.

MISSION GIVING

At their last meeting, the Mission Team voted to donate \$1000 to the Neumann family for the funeral expenses for their daughter, Cara. This is one of the seven families that our church has been donating food to and recently lost their daughter to cancer. If anyone else is interested in donating to this family for their funeral expenses, please put a check in the offering plate designating it for funeral expenses.

GIFT CARD ORDERS

Plan ahead now for Special Occasions and place your Gift Card order soon. Please see the Yellow Retailer List on the table near Fellowship Hall or visit www.glscrip.com and click on the Retailer List on the left side to view or print your own list. Complete a Green Order Form, also available on the table near fellowship hall and return to Kelly or Stacie with payment.

**The next order will be due on
Monday, February 12th at 10:00 am.**

Upcoming Youth Events:

***Jan. 28** – 3rd Grade Bible Class – 9:15-10:15

***Jan. 28** – Confirmation Class 3:00-4:30

***Feb. 3** – Super Service Sunday for Youth
Groups 9:30 am at Medina Meadows

***Feb. 4** – 3rd Grade Bible Class – 9:15-10:15

***Feb. 4** – "Souper" Bowl Sunday

***Feb. 4** – No Youth Group!

***Feb. 4** – Middle School – Cook for Cups 1-2:30

***Feb. 11** – 3rd Grade Bible Class – 9:15-10:15

***Feb. 11** – Confirmation Class 3:00-4:30

***Feb. 18** – 3rd Grade Bible Class – 9:15-10:15

***Feb. 18** – **Soup Kick Off Fundraiser– 11:30 am**

LENTEN DINNER & WORSHIP SERIES

Lent is almost here! We will continue the tradition of partnering with First Christian and other Medina churches in the ministerial group as we journey together through Lent. **We will share in a light meal at 6:00 p.m. and then worship together.** This year's theme: Parables.

***Ash Wednesday, Feb 14:** Medina UCC,C:
Imposition of the Ashes with First Christian

***Feb. 21:** St. Matthew Lutheran
The Parable of the Great Judgment (sheep and goats) Matthew 25:31-46

***Feb. 28:** First Christian Church
The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector Luke 18:9-14

***March 7:** Medina UCC, Congregational
The Parable of the Sower Matthew 13: 1-23

***March 14:** Medina UMC

***March 21:** Medina Presbyterian
The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

***March 29:** Maundy Thursday
Worship at First Christian Church at 7:00 pm

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

It Promises to be an extraordinary experience!

Founders' Day is an annual Sunday observance when we celebrate that moment in history when, on February 19, 1819, handful of hearty pioneer souls entered into a covenant with God and each other and thus brought this congregation into being.

Founders' Day is also a time to celebrate the lasting benefits of our congregation's Endowment Fund, which was instituted to support the mission and long-term ministry of the Church.

At each worship service on Founders' Day, we will hear grateful testimony from those who benefit from this year's Endowment Fund earnings and learn first-hand how the funds will help further the church's ministry and make this world a better place.

We will also have an opportunity to help shape the celebration of our Bicentennial Year, which begins with a festive worship service on Sunday, February 17, 2019.

The Sunday before Founders' Day, worship bulletins will include an insert that highlights the ideas of the Bicentennial Planning Committee. We invite you to take these ideas home to think and pray about which ones would be most important to undertake and make notes on your insert to that effect,

On Founders' Day, your worship bulletin will have an identical insert that includes ten sticky ballots. Displayed on the wall of the corridor that leads to the Fellowship Hall will be "voting stations" for each of the Bicentennial ideas. Please place your ballots on the ten ideas that are most important to you. Then meander along to the Fellowship Hall and enjoy some special Founders' Day refreshments!



Bicentennial Tidbits

Here is what a real log cabin of the time would have looked like. The first church or "community building" was built in eight hours by 25 men and boys and two teams of horses. It was also used as a school. The Medina village population was 118 persons. The cabin in this photograph was built in 1818 in Wadsworth and was used as a Methodist meeting house.

A second, larger log cabin was used jointly by the Congregationalists and the Episcopalians, who alternated services. The same people usually attended both services. This second cabin was used until it was destroyed by fire. Then, still in the Weymouth/Bagdad area, a third building described as "Deacon Northrup's meeting house" was used from 1825-27.

Worship then alternated between Medina and Bagdad until 1831, when Medina became the prominent town for the County.

GOSPEL GALLEY

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

Reading the article on the back of this past week's bulletin spurred me to reflect, as I do so often, of how blessed I am to be able to enjoy all He has created. When I'm out in the evening walking the dog, crispness is in the air, I can see the glorious, beautiful stars in the sky. And then comes morning, with the snow sparkling in the sunlight accented with feathery friends at the bird feeders. There are the footprints of critters that had visited During the night. Or the deer walking through the yard not having a care in the world. There is so much, everywhere you look. What's not to love and want to protect.

A prayer I say often during the day is simply: **THANK YOU.**

As we ring in the New Year, take a look back at 2017 in the video link: tinyurl.com/UCCMedina2017

Like us on Facebook ([facebook.com/medinaucc](https://www.facebook.com/medinaucc)) and follow us on Twitter and Instagram

([@MedinaU3c](https://twitter.com/MedinaU3c)) for sermons, articles, and general happenings! Happy New Year!

The deadline for submission of articles for NEXT Sunday's *Messenger* is this Sunday at 11:30 am.

*****CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm MONDAY THRU FRIDAY*****