

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

JULY 29, 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

July 29, 2018 thru August 5, 2018

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun 8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
10:30 am Traditional Worship
1:15 pm JMM @ Brookdale North

Mon 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study

Tues 7:00 pm Stewardship Team

Wed 10:30 am Quilters

Thu GARFIELD DELIVERIES

Fri

Sat

Sun 8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
10:30 am Traditional Worship
2:00 pm JMM @ Evergreen

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars now for
the 11th annual

ALIVE ON THE SQUARE

Worship & Picnic

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26TH @ 10:00 a.m.

Plan to join us and bring your family and friends! All are welcome!

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

S.O.S. – Mayday – Help!!

We need volunteers for Coffee Hour after the 10:30 Service for August and September! Please sign up in the East Room. Coffee hour responsibilities are very minimal. The Gathering has the coffee prepared. All that is asked is to present juice, donut holes, mini-cupcakes, cookies, etc. and perhaps some fruit, like grapes. Some volunteers cut up cheese to serve with crackers. You can do a simple assortment or mix of any of these. We are not serving meals – just a light snack to enjoy as you chat with friends. Any questions, please phone Becky Weber at 330-725-8545. Thank you.

Worship Highlights: 8:15, 9:00 & 10:30 am

2 Samuel 11:1-15

“Sex in Church”

Rev. Luke Lindon

Altar Flowers: The altar flowers are given by Dorothy Rossman in memory of her husband, Lou Rossman.

5th ANNUAL BICENTENNIAL GOLF OUTING FUND RAISER

Bunker Hill Golf Course
3060 Pearl Rd. (Rt. 42) Medina, Ohio
SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

Sunday Tee Off Time 1:00 pm
Dinner only at 6:30 pm

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

Registration – 12 pm
Putting Contest – 12 pm
Shotgun Start – 1 pm
Cocktail Hour – 5 pm
Dinner – 6:30 pm

There will also be a silent auction, basket raffle and 50/50 raffle!

Pick up a flyer in the church, call the church office or visit us on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/uccmedina) or our church [website](http://uccmedina.org) for registration and information. If you have more questions please contact the church office at: office@uccmedina.org or 330-725-4559.

Deadline for registration is September 16th.

AED & CPR TRAINING

The church is offering AED & CPR training for anyone who wants to be trained. The staff will be updating their certificates and be recertified in CPR & on the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) machine. We now have 2 of these machines on site; one upstairs and one downstairs. When you become certified, you need to recertify every 2 years to stay current.

**Training will take place on Tuesday,
August 14th at 9:00 am.**

Training will last approximately 2 hours. **Anyone interested in being trained in these areas should contact Cindy in the church office.** There is no cost for members to take this class. Space is limited, so don't delay! **The deadline for signing up for this class will be Monday, August 6th.**

NEEDED: BIKES and DRIVERS

Our Community Outreach Missions, thanks to your many generous contributions, are sailing along this summer. We do, however, have a couple real needs. One is for food delivery drivers on Thursdays. The other is for used children's size bikes for kids wanting to go to the library to spend enriched time during their summer days. Please just stop by our sign up table in the lower entry and we'll answer any questions and schedule your help. Jane Greinke

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS!

August 19th will be the "Blessings of the Backpacks!" Bring along backpacks and we'll bless them and put a tag on the packs. If you can't make it, we'll have tags available to pick up afterwards.

COME JOIN YOUR HEARTS AND VOICES AS ONE

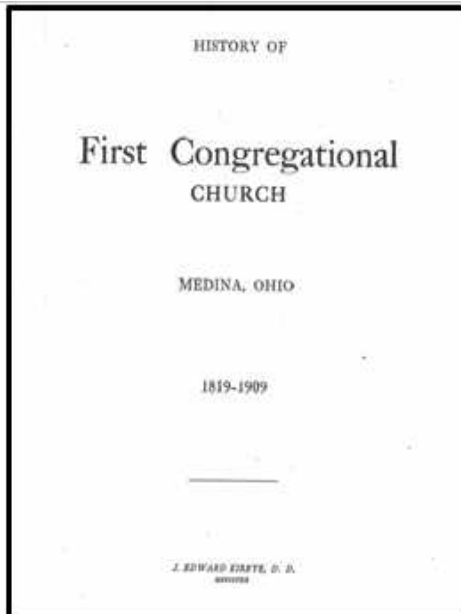
And/or build your upper body strength

Did you know that singing in a choir not only gives individuals a feeling of harmony, both spiritually and musically, but also physically? A recent Swedish study has found that when you sing in a choir both breathing and heart rate variability becomes synchronized when the group is singing together. When the choir members are singing, the heartbeat for the whole group has a tendency to be in the same rhythm and can have the same effect on you as yoga breathing. **Why not try it out on August 26th at 9:00 am in the Chapel? That is when the adult choir begins** rehearsals for the fall and Christmas season. It is also "Alive on the Square" day, but we will be done by 9:40 so we have time to get over to the service. We are not singing for this service.

In addition, if you want to work on your upper body strength, you could try out the bell choir. Ringing can give you a good workout for your arms and upper body, not to mention the spiritual and musical harmony you will enjoy in the group. **The bells will begin rehearsals for the fall and Christmas season at 6:15 pm in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, September 5th.** Note the new starting time as this will allow us to rehearse and also be done in time for the new Wednesday night study that will start at 7:30 pm sometime in the fall.

I encourage you to grow spiritually, musically, and physically by joining one or both of the choirs. If you have any questions, let me know. I look forward to seeing you in the choirs!

Jim Kiser, Music Director



Bicentennial Tidbits

Edward Kirbye

Our 25th pastor, Rev. Edward Kirbye, served three years, from 1908 to 1911. He authored a 122 page history of the Church for its 90th Anniversary, which has been scanned and is now available on the website [About Us > Our History]. Sunday Bulletins during his pastorate had the welcome to visitors shown below.



REV. J. EDWARD KIRBYE, D. D.

Rev. Kirbye was instrumental in working with Protestant Hungarians living in Medina. He invited them to hold their services in our sanctuary on Sunday afternoons with a minister of their choosing, who would conduct the service in Hungarian. Under his leadership, additional land north of the Sanctuary was purchased. The present CE building was built on this land in the 1950's. (Source: Betty Zarnes's 2015 History)

We cordially invite all strangers to our services and shall be grateful if strangers will make themselves known. This church aims to be a church for all the people. We believe that the door to the church should be as wide as the gate of the Kingdom of Heaven.

“Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil...”

As we come towards the end of the prayer Jesus taught us, we are confronted with some difficulties. Why do we have to ask God to *not* lead us into temptation? James says God doesn't tempt people.

But clearly God allows temptation. We see it in the Bible and in our lives. Why? Perhaps that's a good question for Pastor Luke on “Question Day”.

In an interview, Pope Francis said a better translation of the prayer would be, “...please don't let us fall into temptation...”

And how easy it is to fall! The greatest danger to us is not the enemy without. It is the evil we are tempted to allow within our own selves. Our souls.

Jesus warned us that nothing is as valuable as our souls. “What does it profit you if you gain the whole world and lose your soul?” Our souls are the essence of our beings, and that is why genuine salvation is always from the inside out. Always.

It's a work of God that we know we all need. It's a miracle of transformation. It's a matter of God's grace and therefore our prayers.

“Deliver us from evil, O Lord.” Indeed. Amen.



COSTA RICA MISSION

Our church has been building “Mercy Homes” in Costa Rica since 2009 and since that time has built over 20 houses. Other churches and groups, inspired by our example, have built nearly 30 others. We hope to continue building in 2019. The simple houses are constructed in five days and are gifted at the end of the week to a family selected by a local mission team. We invite you to participate with us in building for the poorest of the poor.

No experience is necessary....just a willingness to work with the following benefits:

- A wonderful feeling from helping others
- The ability to bless a family with a safe, comfortable environment to live in
- An opportunity to strengthen your faith by doing God's work
- Establishing relationships, making long-lasting friends with your team and the people of Costa Rica.

We are having an informational meeting in the church library on

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 6:30 p.m.

For more information please call Kent or Judy Daugherty 330-722-5380

An Important Bicentennial Project:

Bringing our congregation's story up-to-date

In early preparations for our congregation's Bicentennial, Pete Metzloff uncovered—and carefully preserved-- a wealth of documents that describe in detail the first 100 years of Medina UCC Congregational. After that, however, the storyline gets a little thin here and there. (Right here, we must again say "Thank You!" to Betty Zarney for her efforts 25 years ago to bring the story up to date for that particular time in our history.)

With that as prelude, I hope we can all understand that one very important facet of our Bicentennial Celebration in 2019 will include the collection of "historical tidbits" from our present-day members. We hope to collect these remembered stories in order to add them to a keepsake book and also a narrated video presentation (think Ken Burns).

To accomplish this, the Bicentennial Committee has enlisted the first members of the "Living Stories" Team. This Team already includes about eight volunteers, but since this could easily become a large undertaking, we hope to expand our Team to include:

- 1.) Anyone who wants to help tell our congregation's story—that is, to share your memories of church life, and . . .
- 2.) Those of us who are willing to visit and interview the folks in #1 above

Now, here's the best part: **These two categories are not mutually exclusive!** You can play both sides of this project at once: 1.) to tell your story to an interviewer, and 2.) to interview and record the stories of others.

Feeling some reluctance? Never fear! Anyone who is uncertain about signing up to conduct interviews can gain confidence by taking part in a session of "basic training" in the art of interviewing. And, potential storytellers, remember that you won't be giving a speech in front of a crowd, but simply conversing with one other person who interested in what you have to say about our church.

You can get involved in one or both ways by adding your name to the sign-up sheet which can now be found in the East Room.

Thank you kindly!

Harry Buch, for the Bicentennial Planning Committee and the "Living Stories" Team

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

Please submit articles to the church office at office@uccmedina.org

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