UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

217 E. Liberty St. Medina, Ohio 44256 330-725-4559
www.uccmedina.org

Assisted Listening Devices Available – Please Ask Your Usher

LIVE STREAMING OF THE SANCTUARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT UCCMEDINA.ORG

"Welcoming, Loving, Serving, Where God Has No Limits"

Please take a moment to sign the attendance pads, (located at the end of each pew) so that you know who is worshipping near you and you may greet them by name.

SERVICE OF WORD I, *BOOK of WORSHIP UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST*

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

GREETING

Leader: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PRELUDE "Just As I Am" – arr. Richard Huggins Cathy Fafrak, Organist

***INTROIT** **VISIONING PRAYER** by Sharon Alberson

God, help us to be welcoming. God, help us to be loving.
God, help us to see that serving you can lead us to
A place full of grace with no limits where we can be free…
To open our hands, welcoming. To open our hearts, loving
To be more than church on Sunday, to live in the light from above;
To celebrate in service and love.

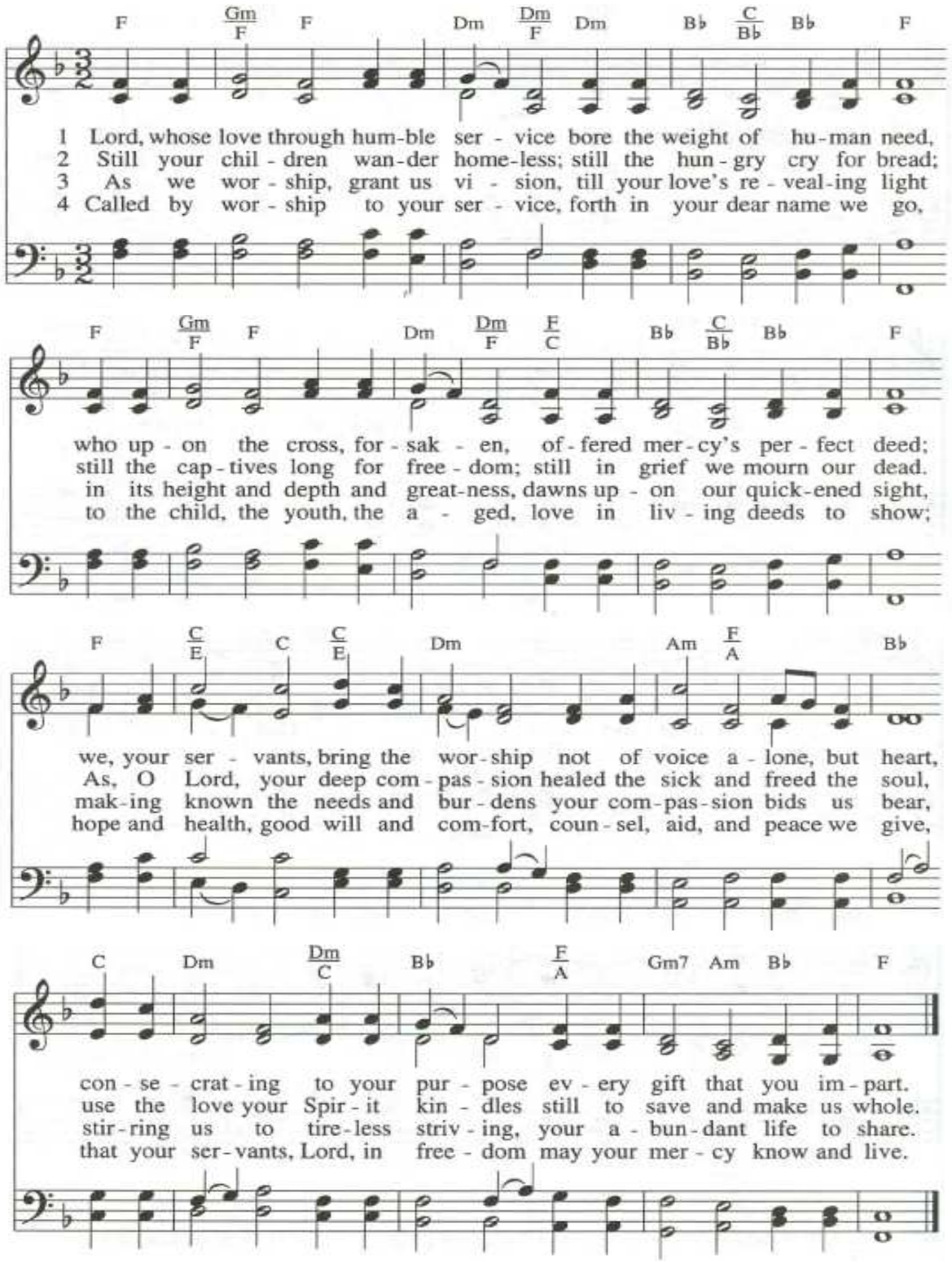
***SENTENCE OF ADORATION**

Leader: God's love has been poured into our hearts

People: through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

***OPENING HYMN** **"Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"**

WORDS: Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984)
MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White (1800-1879); *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. Ronald A. Nelson (1927-) BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D.

Words © 1961 Oxford University Press
Music Harm. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (Admin. Augsburg Fortress)

F Gm/F F Dm Dm/F Dm B♭ C/B♭ B♭ F
1 Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,
F Gm/F F Dm Dm/F F/C B♭ C/B♭ B♭ F
who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, of - fered mer-cy's per - fect deed;
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness, dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;
F C/E C C/E Dm Am F/A B♭
we, your ser - vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a - lone, but heart,
As, O Lord, your deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good will and com-fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,
C Dm Dm/C B♭ F/A Gm7 Am B♭ F
con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - ery gift that you im - part.
use the love your Spir - it kin - dles still to save and make us whole.
stir - ring us to tire - less striv - ing, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and follow your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

PRAYER FOR MERCY

Leader: Lord, Have mercy

People: Christ, have mercy.

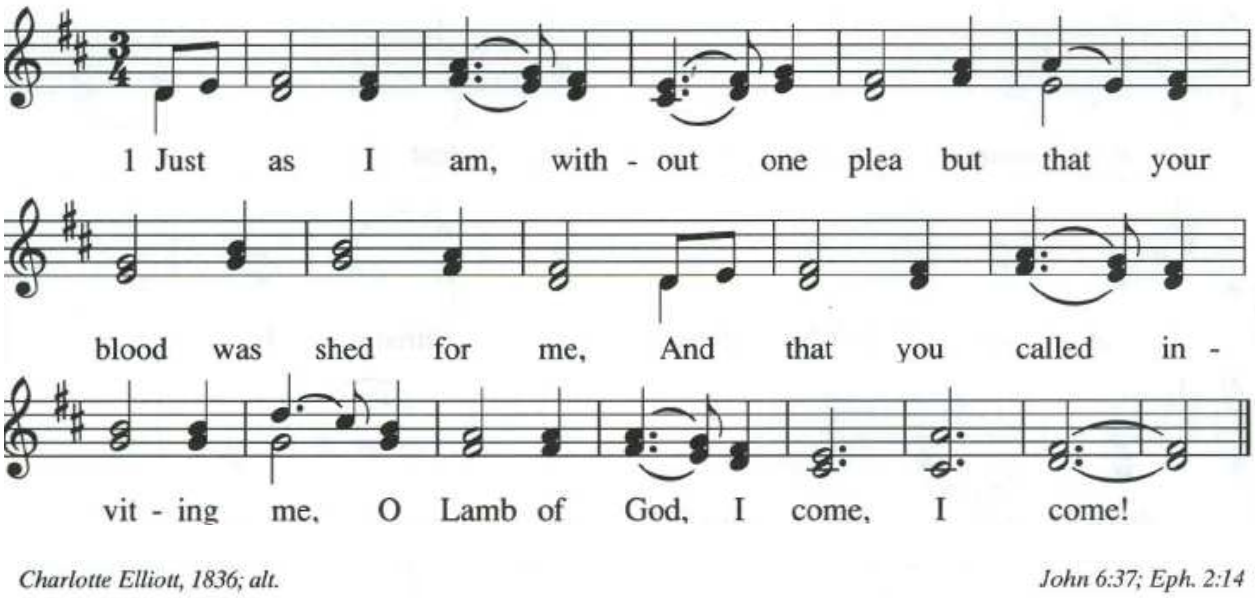
Leader: Lord, Have mercy.

ASSURANCE

Leader: Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether; the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***PRAISE RESPONSE** **"Just as I Am"**



Charlotte Elliott, 1836; alt. *John 6:37; Eph. 2:14*

ANTHEM "Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling" – arr. by Cathy Moklebust Alleluia Ringers

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Stacie Yates

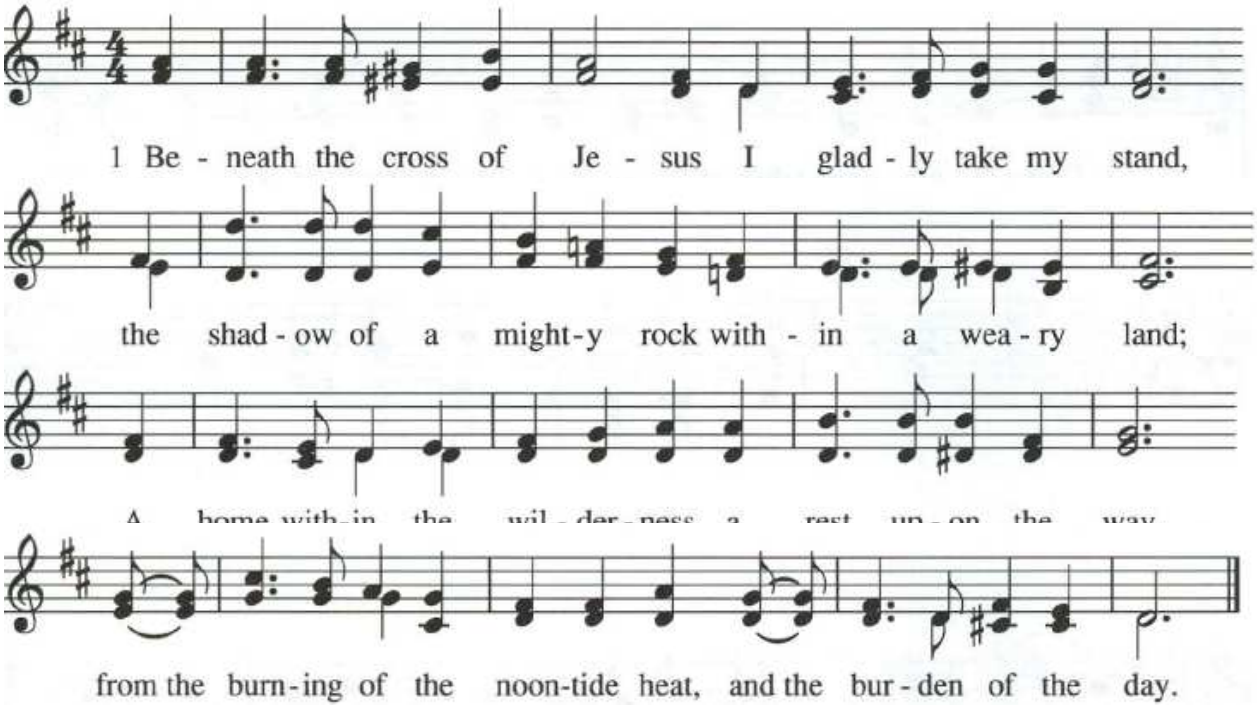
The Lord's Prayer

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns, Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE **"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**



Isa. 32:2; Gal. 6:14 *Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1872; alt.*

SCRIPTURE Mark 9: 38-50 Deb Waldron, Liturgist

SERMON "re: Church. Confession" Rev. Luke Lindon

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offertory Invitation

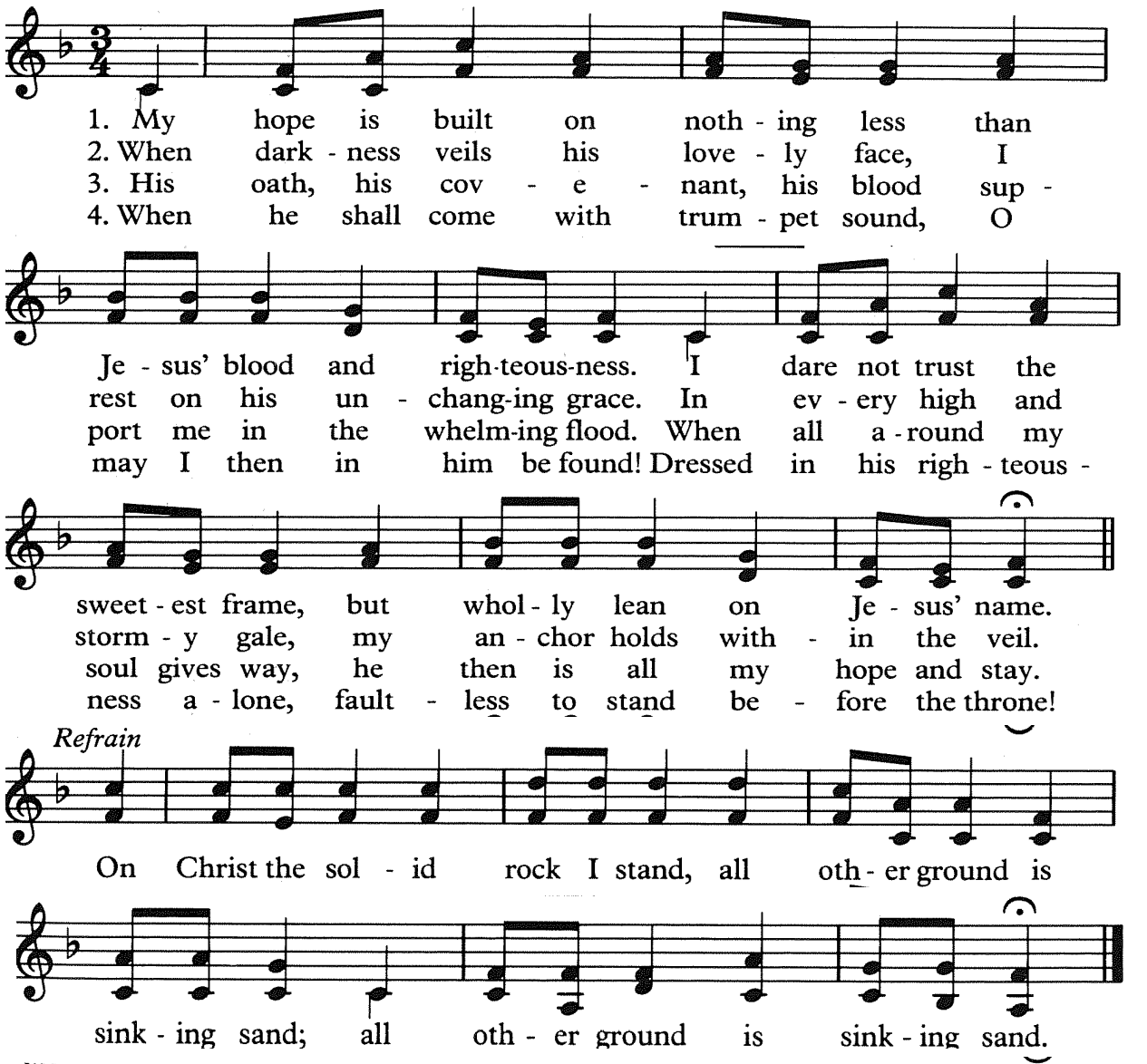
Let us present with joy our offerings of commitment and support for the work of Christ's church.

Offertory Music "Create in Me a Clean Heart" – arr. Phillip Keveren Cathy Fafrak, Organist

***Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**
The gifts of God for the people of God. We dedicate these offerings to God's work. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN "My Hope Is Built"**



WORDS: Edward Mote, 1834
MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1863

THE SOLID ROCK
LM with Refrain

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: The blessings of God Almighty: the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sanctifier, be with you all.

People: Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be With You"**

God be with you 'til we meet again; By His counsels guide, uphold you;
With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you 'til we meet again.

***POSTLUDE** "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" – arr. Gayden Sikes Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"More Than Church on Sunday"

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*Those who are able are asked to stand

Ushers: *Dick Christy, Darlene Bagley-Fazekas, Pete Benson, Ron Greinke*

**** Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service ****
Coffee only today due to the Golf Outing.

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Pastor – email: luke@uccmedina.org

OFFICE STAFF

Cindy Korecky, Office Manager - email: office@uccmedina.org
Kelly Charnley, Financial Manager - email: financial@uccmedina.org

PROGRAM STAFF

Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education
Michelle Lisco, Co-Director of Youth
Jim Kiser, Director of Music
Cathy Fafrak, Organist
Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor
Xanthe Phillips, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool

Sermon Questions:

1. Did the sermon focus on the whole passage or just a verse? _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

2. What was the main theme of the sermon? _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

3. How shall we live in response to the message? _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER
SEPTEMBER 30, 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

September 30, 2018 thru October 7, 2018

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun **NEW MEMBERS JOIN**
8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Bell Choir practice
10:30 am Traditional Worship
11:30 am Pastor's Bible Study for All
12:00 am BICENTENNIAL GOLF OUTING TODAY
2:00 pm JMM @ Brookdale North

Mon Cook for Cups
7:15 pm Evangelism Team

Tues 7:00 pm Worship Team

Wed 10:30 am Quilters
6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study for All

Thu Garfield Deliveries
1:30 pm Circle of Caring

Fri

Sat

Sun **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**
8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Choir practice
10:30 am Traditional Worship
11:30 am Hunger Outreach Meeting (Project Leaders Only)
11:30 am Pastor's Bible Study for All
2:00 pm JMM @ Evergreen
3:00 pm Hymn Sing @ Brookdale North
4:00 pm Youth Group – 1st meeting
7:00 pm World Communion Sunday Service on the Square

Congratulations to our Hobby Horse Preschool for once again achieving a 100% on their State Inspection!!!

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

Scripture: Mark 9:38-50

"re: Church: Confession" - Rev. Luke Lindon

Altar Flowers: The altar flowers are given by the Johns family in honor of Katherine's 10th birthday.

Upcoming Youth Events:

***October 7** – Youth Group (4:00-6:00)
***October 14** – Confirmation Class (3:00-4:30)
***October 21** – All Church Hayride at Boyert's 5:30-9:00 pm
***October 28** – Confirmation Class (3:00-4:30)

NEIGHBORS IN NEED (NIN)

"Neighbors in Need" is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. The NIN offering at UCC Medina is on October 7, 2018. This year's theme is "Love of Neighbor".

One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. "Neighbors in Need" grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

CHURCH SERMON SERIES

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CIRCLE OF CARING MEETING

Thursday, October 4th - 1:30 in the East Room

All members and anyone who would like to find out more about Circle of Caring, please come and share refreshments and ideas for growing our outreach.

What is Circle of Caring? It is a group of friendly visitors who enjoy calling on older members in their homes or in residential facilities. It is also a resource group for those who are already visiting older friends and family members. We visit, share ideas and offer encouraging words and ways to help everyone to continue to feel valued. If you have any questions about our group or suggestions about adding names to our visitation list, call Syd Benson 330-725-5540.

COIN JARS NOW AVAILABLE

It is time again for our change collection that provides funds to Mobile Meals (county wide) to benefit the seniors in our community. It is truly amazing how all those coins can add up to provide some much needed food for our food insecure seniors. Coin jars are due by Sunday, October 28th.

PLEASE CHECK OUT THE KITCHEN! LAST CHANCE!

We are getting quite a collection of dishes and pans! Thank you so much to all who have prepared food for these meals. **Please take a look in the kitchen and see if you may have left anything there that belongs to you**. The counter space is getting covered up again! **Anything left in the kitchen by the end of September will be donated. Thank you!**

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to work with children on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 at the Medina County Library in the Children's Section of the library. You would help with homework, serve a few snacks, play games and create a bond with children in our community! Please contact Maureen Walker at 330-321-1192 for more details! Thanks for all you do!

THANK YOU!

Thanks to all who attended, cooked and helped make the **2018 50 Year Luncheon** a success! We were pleased to serve 35 guests and took lunch to 3 members who couldn't attend. Confirmands Chloe Morgan and Julie Harbath and Stacie joined the committee members as servers and kitchen help. A big **Thank You! f**or those who baked delicious cakes and made applesauce: Lois Tampson, Carol Mitchell, Lynn Leckie, Elizabeth Palmquist, Carole Fawcett, Kate Lindon and Pam Branscome and for the great committee members who worked together to serve our 50 year members: Becky Weber, Lori Price, Cynthia Kasten, Nancy Livengood, Tammie McGivern, Vicki Miller, Syd Benson, Diane Howard, Fran Largen, Rita Anderson, Dottie Edinger, Sue Dean, Pete Benson, Dave Weber, Lou Livengood, and Ken Dean. Guests were entertained by Gary Komjati and singers and a group photo was taken by Ken Smith. **The "fruits of your labor" were delicious and appreciated by all!**

PRAYER CONCERNS

SUPPORT

Mike Andrews	Strength and healing
Jake Brent (USAF)	Strength and healing
Ellen Daiber	Strength and healing
Stephen Domchick	Strength and healing
John Fleming	Strength and healing
Marcia Gerhardt	Healing
Monica Geschke	Healing
Ralph Greinke	Strength and healing from Parkinson's
Kathleen	Strength and healing
Emersyn Korecky	Strength and comfort
Judi Terrell Linden	Strength and healing
Kathleen Murray	Strength and healing
John Root	Strength and healing from Parkinson's
Dave Sinclair	Strength and healing
Jeff Sparks	Strength and healing
Steve Wotring	Strength and healing

MILITARY SUPPORT

CDR Eric Bader	Coast Guard, Buzzard's Bay, MA (Nancy Bader's son)
E2 Joe DeSario	Army/National Guard, OH (Paul & Kelly DeSario's son)
LT Patrick Donnelly	Navy, Virginia Beach, VA. (Joe & Lori Donnelly)
RCT Travis Dunn	Marines, Parris Island, S.C. (Ruth Dunn's grandson)
SSG Edwin Kay	Army, Columbus (Suzi Kay's nephew)
CPL Vincent Lupica	Marines, Camp Pendelton, CA (Jim & Karen Repas)
SSG Greg Swayer	Army, Ft. Bliss, TX (Stacie Yates' cousin)
PVT Tyler Walschon	Army/National Guard, OH (John & Joan Walschon's Son)
Kyle Weekley	Army (Dan & Tammy Daubner)
Brendan Wolf	National Guard, Ft. Jackson, SC (Dale & Cindy Korecky)

GOSPEL GALLEY

by Dave Weber

"…Be still and know that I am God…" Psalm 46:10

"Be still and know that I am God," is a popular verse for comforting ourselves and others---most of us think this verse means to rest or relax in who God is. It is encouraging us to reflect on who God is. There are many ways to enter into this state of reflection and prayer. Perhaps for you, it is a walk in the woods, or sitting by a pond or ocean shore, or laying on your back looking into blue skies and clouds, or up at the stars of God's amazing cosmos. The key to being 'still' is in opening ourselves up and listening for God's voice. There is more to this psalm than one verse. This is a wake-up call to be in awe and wonder rather than a simple gentle call to rest. Taking time out of our day to meditate on Scripture, entering prayer, being silent and open.

Yes, "be still" can be a gentle suggestion, but at the writing of the Psalms, the people lived in a time of stresses, similarly today. The meaning may actually be to stop striving or stop fighting, or just plain 'stop'. Yes, 'stop'…'snap out of it,' 'wake up,' 'stop fearing'---acknowledge who your God is---be in awe! When was the last time, you simply stopped, sat still, reflected, listened, closed your eyes and opened your spirit!? Imagine if we all included the practice to follow all the meaning of Psalm 46:10 in our daily living. Now that would be living in the Spirit of God.

A Sunday School "scrapbook" project, circa 1950's.

Bicentennial Tidbits

CHURCH SCHOOL REPORT

This year we have been chosen as one of the thirty-five church schools in the state of Ohio to use and evaluate the new Pilgrim Series curriculum. Pilgrim Series is group graded material which unifies the entire work of the church school and unites the church and the homes in a common program. In recognition of the parents' responsibility, which is extremely important, for Christian training in the home, we are distributing attractive booklets for the family's use which reinforces the church school materials. Our State and National Offices of Christian Education are interested in our progress as a church school and are working closely with us as we proceed in this great opportunity of being an "Experimental School" for the year.

Every available space is being utilized to accommodate our Church School children and young people. Other than the Beginners and Kindergarten departments which continue to meet as separate large groups, we have five classes in the Primary department, four classes in the Junior department, and four classes in the Youth department. The total enrollment, exclusive of the adult class, is 208. We have had an average weekly attendance of 151 for the past four months.

It has been said that "Curriculum is 90% teacher" and our excellent staff of twenty-five teachers and leaders is responsible for making the church school such a vital part of our children's Christian development. The enthusiasm, devotion, and cooperation of the teachers is most commendable.

Source: the Annual Report for 1950

BRIGHTEN SOMEONE'S DAY!

Could you find 15 to 30 minutes a week or month to reach out to older members or friends of the church? Circle of Caring has a list of people who would like someone to visit or phone them in their homes or residential facilities. These contacts can be done at any time that is convenient for you and the person you visit. It is a really rewarding experience and much appreciated. Call the church (330-725-4559) or Syd Benson (330-725-5540) to be matched with someone with similar interests or who lives near you.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Our last breakfast meeting until spring of next year will be on Tuesday, October 9th. Please join us at 9:00 am at Eat-n-Park for our final breakfast of the season!

2nd BAPTIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship at 2nd Baptist Church on 451 Bronson St. is sponsoring a program to benefit Breast Cancer.

Their Event is **October 27th from 11am to 1pm**. Robin Svoboda, television personality, will be the program speaker.

The cost is $10.00. Check made out to The 2nd Baptist church to assure your reservation. Deadline for reservations is October 6th. The proceeds will benefit breast cancer research. For more information call Debbie Newsome 330-952-2055.

GARFIELD HYGIENE PROGRAM

We are continuing our programs to supply Garfield students with needed hygiene products. Presently there is a need for ankle socks to fit kindergarten thru 5th grade. There is also a present need for deodorant.

Please put donations in the box marked "hygiene supplies" by the bottom of the stairs.

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*******

September 30, 2018
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
American Indian Ministry Sunday/United Samoan Ministries Stewardship Sunday

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Courage for Community

What if we should lose our saltiness? What if we should lose our taste, or our ability to make the world taste good, at least better than it does? In a way, our vision of a Just World for All is also of a world that tastes good, or a world that has not lost its saltiness. Jesus said we should be salt among ourselves and be at peace with one another. There are those in this world who salt it by their presence. Such a one was Juanita Helphrey ("Maaodagabagi Oxhaadish" White Flower)

In 1997, Juanita and five others were arrested for burning a Wahoo ("Chief" Wahoo is the mascot of the Cleveland Indians baseball team) effigy outside the gates of the World Series. The charges were dropped but she was indefatigable when it came to speaking up for Native American peoples, especially for the people of North Dakota. She herself was a member of the Mandan-Hidatsa-Arikara Nation and a member of the National Staff of the United Church of Christ from 1991-2004.

She died in January, 2018 leaving a legacy of commitment and leadership for all of us in the UCC. That legacy began in 1970 when she worked with the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). In 1975 she became the Executive Director for Indian Affairs of North Dakota. After representing North Dakota at the International Women's Year Event in Houston, she was one of the women chosen to present their resulting resolution to President Carter. She salted us all both in her work and in those she inspired.

After leaving her work with the National Staff she became a licensed minister and the licensed pastor of the Independence Congregational United Church of Christ on the Forth Berthold Reservation. When she finally retired, she stayed there in Fort Berthold with her family–her three boys and grandson, sisters, nieces and nephew and her beloved dogs.

We are all connected one to the other, even with those we've never met. Somehow, on this planet, in this universe we are what makes the world what it is. *Thank you, O God who has knit us together, thank you for the life of this woman who fought for remembrance and education and inclusion of all people. Her life has added salt to our world.*