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# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL



217 E. Liberty St. Medina, Ohio 44256 330-725-4559  
[www.uccmedina.org](http://www.uccmedina.org) Email: [office@uccmedina.org](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)

**\*\*\*Assisted Listening Devices Available – Please Ask Your Usher\*\*\***

**LIVE STREAMING OF THE SANCTUARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT [UCCMEDINA.ORG](http://UCCMEDINA.ORG)**

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## **“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.*

### RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

### GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

**PRELUDE** “Blessed Assurance” – Phoebe Knapp; arr. Roger House Jerry Mason, Guest Organist

### \*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.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When God began to create,

**People: All things were formed and called ‘good.’**

Leader: And when human beings arrived on the scene,

**People: We were called ‘very good.’**

Leader: Everything was created in love.

**People: Everything was created in blessing.**

Leader: We worship today to be reminded of our blessing and to bless our Creator,  
Sustainer, and Redeemer with gratitude.

### \*OPENING HYMN

**“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”**

WORDS: Robert Robinson, 1758 (1 Sam. 7:12)

MUSIC: Wyeth’s *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

NETTLETON

87.87 D

1. Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to  
2. Here I raise mine Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy  
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con -

sing thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good plea - sure,  
strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter,

call for songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious  
safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
bind my wan - dering heart to thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I

son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! I'm  
stran - ger, wan - dering from the fold of God; he, to res - cue  
feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O

fixed up - on it, mount of thy re - deem - ing love.  
me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

We try to hoard your love, O Lord. We get jealous of those who do good works in your name. We condemn other types of Christians and other religions to hell, even though that's beyond our pay grade.

You have created us to be a blessing and instead we wound, inflict harm, scar others, rip apart communities, engage in spiritual, emotional, and physical abuse.

Still our warring ways. Correct our wayward hearts. Remind us that we are blessed by you to bless the world. In your many names, we pray assured of your grace. Amen.

**\*PRAISE RESPONSE**

**"Blessed Assurance"**

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!  
O what a fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!  
Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,  
born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.

*Refrain*  
This is my sto - ry, this is my song,  
prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Blessed Assurance". It consists of six staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/8 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first four staves contain the main verses, and the last two staves are marked as a "Refrain". The music is written in a single treble clef line, with chords indicated by vertical stems and dots.

this is my sto - ry, this is my song,  
 prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873  
 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

ASSURANCE  
 9 10.9 9 with Refrain

**ANTHEM** "Forever Blest Is He" – G.F. Handel; Setting by Royal Stanton Chancel Choir

**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** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in  
 Chris - tian love; the fel - low - ship of  
 kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.

WORDS: John Fawcett, 1782  
 MUSIC: Johann G. Nägeli; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1845

DENNIS  
 SM

**SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 45: 1-12

Dorothe Edinger, Liturgist

**SERMON**

"Unfinished"

Rev. Nayiri Karjian, Eastern Ohio and Western Reserve Associations General Minister

**OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory Invitation**

With what we have brought, with the intentions of our hearts, and the work our hands have planned, we offer you our gifts, O God.

**Offertory Music**

"Beach Spring" – arr. Wilbur Held

Jerry Mason, Guest 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)**

Gracious Mystery, may your wisdom guide our actions. May your peace guide our hands. May your love rule these gifts. Consume our life, make us a new creation blessed for blessing, faithful servants in a reign without end. Amen.

**\*SENDING HYMN**

**"Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing"**

1. Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with  
 2. Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for thy gos - pel's

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,  
 joy - ful sound. May the fruits of thy sal - va - tion

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,  
 in our hearts and lives a - bound; ev - er faith - ful,

O re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.  
 ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.

**\*BENEDICTION**

Leader: May you approach God with an open spirit  
People: **not seeking to disguise our faces, or cover the nakedness of our souls.**  
Leader: May you know God not as dispassionate object, a thing to be mastered and controlled,  
People: **but as loving Parent, incarnate Savior, indwelling Spirit, three persons, one God.**  
Leader: And may your heart be opened not only to Heaven, but every person you meet,  
People: **each encounter a revelation, new wisdom, new mystery, unending unveiling, face to face with the Eternal Thou. 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** "Darwall's 148<sup>th</sup>" – arr. Charles Callahan Jerry Mason, Guest Organist

**"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"**

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\* Those who are able are asked to please stand

***Ushers:*** Dick Christy, Max Gabrielsen, Andrew Avalon, Pete Benson

***\*\*\*Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service\*\*\****  
***Today's coffee hour is hosted by Beth Hari.***

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**PASTORAL STAFF**

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister - email: [luke@uccmedina.org](mailto:luke@uccmedina.org)

**OFFICE STAFF**

Cindy Korecky, Office Manager - email: [office@uccmedina.org](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)  
Kelly Charnley, Financial Manager - email: [financial@uccmedina.org](mailto: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

# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## OCTOBER 21, 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](http://uccmedina.org)

October 21, 2018 thru October 28, 2018

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>Sun</b>	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	9:15 am	Choir practice
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Pastor's Bible Study for All</b>
	<b>11:45 am</b>	<b>Mission Team</b>
	2:00 pm	JMM @ Medina Meadows
	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>All Church Fall Hayride @ Boyert's Farm</b>

**Mon**

**Tues**

**Wed** 10:30 am Quilters  
**7:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study for All**

**Thu** Garfield Deliveries  
**7:00 pm Congregational Council**

**Fri**

**Sat**

**Sun Stewardship Sunday**  
8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
9:15 am Choir practice  
10:30 am Traditional Worship  
**11:30 am Pastor's Bible Study for All**  
1:00 pm Youth Group – Family Alien  
Golf Outing  
2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows  
Sing-a-long  
3:00 pm Confirmation Class  
7:00 pm JMM @ Western Reserve  
Masonic Home

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

Scripture: Isaiah 45: 1-12

Sermon: "Unfinished"

The Rev. Nayiri Karjian, Eastern Ohio and Western Reserve Associations General Minister

**Altar Flowers:** The altar flowers are given by Don and Marilyn Canfield in honor of their wedding anniversary.

### NEW DIRECTORIES

We have decided to go ahead and print new directories since we are not doing a pictorial directory until spring. Please contact Cindy in the church office with any updates to your address, phone, email etc. no later than October 28<sup>th</sup>. New directories will be printed on October 31<sup>st</sup> and available for pick up on November 4<sup>th</sup>. [office@uccmedina.org](mailto:office@uccmedina.org) or 330-725-4559.

### Upcoming Youth Events

\***October 21** – All Church Hayride at Boyert's  
(5:30-9:00 pm)

\***October 28** – Youth Group Outing – Alien Golf 1 pm

\***October 28** – Confirmation Class (3:00-4:30)

\***November 4** – Rake-N-Run (1:30-5:00)

### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Our next selection is Lincoln in the Bardo; it is in the office ready for pick up NOW! Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Information on where we will meet will be forthcoming. A cute Tinkerbell tote bag has been floating around the group for some time. It is now in the office, as no one has claimed it. If it belongs to you, hurry on in and claim it before it "disappears". See you in November!

## FALL CRAFT DELIVERIES

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Our craft group has created fall crafts for our homebound and nursing home members and friends. The crafts are on a table in the East Room. Each has the recipients' name, address and phone number on the back. Please call the person and arrange a time for a friendly visit during which time the craft may be delivered. Thank you for taking some time to brighten someone's day. Questions? Call Syd Benson at 330-725-5540.

## CHURCH SERMON SERIES

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## JMM PLANNING MEETING

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Members of the Joyous Message Ministry (JMM) will meet in the Library on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm to make plans for the future. We are also looking for new team members. If you are interested in attending this meeting and learning more about JMM, please join us that day, or see Nick North with any questions.

## “NEW DAY” JAIL CHOIR CONCERT

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**Sat., 11/10, 9:00 – 11:00 am**

Join us for a very special Thanksgiving-season concert, given by our County Jail's one-of-a-kind, 30 member women's choir.

- You will be moved and inspired by the songs and hymns sung by this inmate choir.
- Sign-up limited to an audience of only 30, so sign up as soon as you can.
- Held in the first-floor public room at Medina County Jail, 555 Independence Dr.

We hope to have a full turnout of 30 people to show our congregation's support. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table by the kitchen so we can have an estimate of how many people will be attending. Contact the church office with questions.

## BOOKS FOR MEDINA COUNTY JAIL

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Thank you to those who gave books last month to our collection for the Medina County Jail. About 4 dozen books were delivered to the jail, where Susan Jarvis, Chaplain at the jail, will add them to the library there. “Both Sides of Prison” will continue through the winter to collect your used inspirational or motivational **SOFT-COVERED (i.e. paperback) books**. You can drop them into the box outside of the kitchen by the water fountain. At the end of each month, a volunteer from “Both Sides of Prison” will take them to the jail. Thank you!

## COIN JARS NEXT SUNDAY

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Our change collection that will provide funds to benefit the seniors in our community are **due Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**. A special thank you to all who participated.



## **GOSPEL GALLEY**

by Alice Metzloff

October...What is it about this month that is special? Is it because the fall season is officially here in Ohio? Or that we hold Medina Pioneer Days, October Fest, or Trick-or-Treat on Halloween Night? Or travel distances to see trees in their fall season splendor? Or that it is the tenth month of the Gregorian calendar, and the eighth month (October-November) of the Jewish calendar called Cheshvan [hesh-von]? Yes, to all.

Speaking of feasts/festivals in October...all four Gospels relate two specific Jewish holiday festivals where Jesus traveled to Jerusalem to observe feast days and teach in the Temple. The first feast Jesus observed is The Day of Atonement on the 10<sup>th</sup> Day of Tishri, where priests would make animal sacrifices for the sins of the people. Jesus is our High Priest, who sacrificed himself on the cross for our sins. He will come again to reconcile to himself the righteous forevermore. The second is the Festival of Tabernacles on the 15<sup>th</sup> Day of Tishri lasting for a week. This feast is the commemoration of God's deliverance and protection of Israel when wandering in the wilderness after the Exodus from Egypt.

Jesus has already come as Immanuel, God with us, and dwelled on earth among people. Through Jesus, we will dwell in the presence of God and reign together with Him forever. During this feast, Jesus gave the Holy Spirit, and commissioned his Apostles and disciples to go abroad proclaiming...GOD IS STILL SPEAKING! Jesus was the fulfillment of these two Jewish feasts. How can Christians bring the premises of these feast days of Sacrifice and Atonement into our 21<sup>st</sup> Century? Be...Observant Conected Teachable Officious Benevolent Edifying Resolute!

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**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](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)**

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

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October 21, 2018  
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost  
*Children's Sabbath/Laity Sunday*

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Mark 10:35-45

### Great Service

Much that concerns many churches in mainstream Protestant denominations are these questions: How do we grow? How do we add people in the pews? How do we survive? Trying to answer these questions often leads to reminiscing about when the sanctuary was full or there were 30 confirmands, or the pastor stayed for 30 years in the same church. Back in those days, there wasn't much a church needed to do except have a personable pastor, probably a young man with a wife and two darling toddlers. It was a time when youth had less to draw down their time and fewer places for fellowship. So-called Blue Laws prohibiting many businesses from being open on Sundays thus carving out a space in people's lives for Sunday worship. You didn't have to worry much about what it meant to be church. Church was a part of the world. Today, all that is different. There is so much else to do Sunday mornings, and ways to believe in this world, and pastors don't stay more than 5-7 years anymore. What is a church to do?

In today's scripture, Jesus talks about service. He says the measure of being great is being a servant to all. He says, "For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." (NRSV) In John's Gospel, Jesus says, "If you love me, feed my sheep." Perhaps it's time for us to stop thinking what the world should do for us, but what we should do for the world. Perhaps our worry is not how to grow, but how to serve. That's the whole reason for our "Three Great Loves" campaign. (Participate in the UCC's Child or Elder Sponsorship Program. Keep your neighbors in your prayers. Organize a neighborhood clean-up. Volunteer to serve a community meal. Help a young person learn something new.) *Love of Children. Love of Neighbor. And, Love of God's Creation.*

You can show your commitment to Three Great Loves on a button, a magnet. Display a poster or spread the word by giving away pens. There are many ways to have that message out there, but the one that might be the most biblical response is to pick two or three and do them. Perhaps the church is not a place to simply receive and welcome, but to put people to work. If you are serving others in any way, do not hide your light under a bushel, let the rest of the churches know. Go to [ucc.org](http://ucc.org) and tell your story.