



# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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

[www.uccmedina.org](http://www.uccmedina.org)

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**LIVESTREAMING 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.*

### **SCOUT SUNDAY**

#### **RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL**

#### **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**PRELUDE** "Morning Prayer" - Laura Berquist 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.

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 71)**

Leader: God alone is our refuge and hope.

People: our shelter and protection. From our very first breath to our last, God's love and compassion never fails.

Leader: So come, lift your voices in praise to God. Bear witness to God's acts of mercy and love. Proclaim God's glory to all who listen.

People: Let's worship God together.

**\*OPENING HYMN** "Jesus Shall Reign" (vs. 1-4)

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 72)  
MUSIC: John Hatton, 1793

DUKE STREET  
LM

1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 2. To Je - sus end - less prayer be made, and end - less  
 3. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his  
 4. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns; all pris - oners  
 5. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom spread from  
 prais - es crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
 leap and loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -  
 cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men!

\*OPENING PRAYER (an opening prayer from Grace Church in Ealing, London)

God who made all things and is beyond our imagining, thank you for the gift of life, the gift of today, the gift of this space. Jesus Christ, who came into our world to be with us, thank you for your healing presence, your life, your friendship. Spirit of God, who animates us with the resurrection life of God, breathe on us, be in our midst, animate our worship. We're here. You're here. May that be enough. Though we see dimly. Though we know in part. Though you are a mystery. We long for you. We look for you. We wait for you. Amen.

**\*PRAISE RESPONSE****"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739

MUSIC: Carl G. Gläser; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1839

AZMON  
CM

1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my  
great Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my  
God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing". It is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/2 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!".

**ANTHEM****"I'm Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger"**  
American Folk Tune; arr. by Tammy Waldrop

Alleluia Ringers

**WELCOME AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**Ryan & Melissa Bilikam, Frank Kish, Barbara Michal, Mark & Diana Muranko,  
Jeff & Ellen Nutter, John & Carol Sandora, Sam & Kait Stevenson

**Congregation:** We welcome you with joy in the common life of this Church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the Church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

**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, People's Prayer

## PRAYER RESPONSE

### "Lord, Speak to Me"



1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in  
liv - ing ech - oes of thy tone; as thou hast sought, so  
let me seek your wan - dering chil - dren, lost, a - lone.

WORDS: Frances R. Havergal, 1872 (Rom. 14:7)  
MUSIC: Adapt. from Robert Schumann, 1839

CANONBURY  
LM

## SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 1:4-10  
Luke 4:21-30

Deb Waldron, Liturgist

## SERMON

"My Kind of Prophet"

Rev. Luke Lindon

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

### Offering Invitation

Leader: We confess, O God, that we don't often want the call.

People: **The call to share our time, talent, and treasure with others.**

Leader: Help us enter into this time and be fully present.

People: **To give without looking for the reward. May we seek to do unto others as we would have done unto us.**

Offertory Music "Lento, Op. 55, No. 15" - Flor Peeters

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

God of the Prophets, send us an uncomfortable word. Help us see those we have ignored.

Help us welcome, love, and serve and help other people at all times. Take and use our gifts to nurture your creation and your people. All for your glory. Amen.

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. You do not need to be a member of the United Church of Christ to partake in the Holy Sacrament*

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

## \*SENDING HYMN

### "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"



1. Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da-vid's great-er Son!
2. He comes with suc-cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong;
3. He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit-ful earth;
4. To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend;



Hail in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!  
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth.  
his king-dom still in - creas - ing, a king-dom with-out end.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap-tive free;  
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark-ness turn to light,  
Be - fore him, on the moun - tains, shall peace, the her-ald, go,  
The tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.  
whose souls, con-demned and dy - ing, are pre-cious in his sight.  
and righ-teous-ness, in foun - tains, from hill to val-ley flow.  
his name shall stand for - ev - er; that name to us is love.

WORDS: James Montgomery, 1821 (Ps. 72)  
MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkapelle*, 1784, alt;  
adapt. and harm. by W. H. Monk, 1868

ELLACOMBE  
76.76 D

#### \*BENEDICTION

Leader: The God who called the worlds into being and spoke through the prophets is with you and for you.

**People: Holy God, you knew us before we knew ourselves.**

Leader: Go to where God is sending you,

**People: and speak the word given to us.**

Leader: Through the power of the Holy Spirit,

**People: place your words upon our lips and your grace upon our hearts.**

Leader: So that we might pluck up and pull down,

**People: destroy and overthrow,**

Leader: build and plant,

**People: as God has commanded.**

Leader: Go, for this service has ended,

**People: And our service now begins! 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 "Toccata in e minor" - Johann Pachelbel

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

### "MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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\*All who are able please stand.

**Ushers:** Dick Christy, Darlene Bagley-Fazekas, Julie Gilliland, Pete Benson

\*\*\*Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service\*\*\*

Today's coffee hour is hosted by the **Metzloff family**.

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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

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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\*\*\*\*\*

# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## FEBRUARY 3, 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)

February 3, 2019 thru February 10, 2019

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

#### Sun “SOUPER BOWL” SUNDAY

##### Scout Sunday

##### New Members Join

- 8:15 am Chapel Worship
- 9:00 am Gathering Worship
- 9:15 am **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class**
- 9:15 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Traditional Worship
- 11:30 am Hunger Outreach Meeting**  
(Project Leaders only)
- 11:45 am Costume Fitting Rm. 9 & 10
- 12:00 pm Elementary Youth  
Cook for Cups

#### Mon Cook for Cups - Delivery

##### **7:00 pm Evangelism Team**

#### Tues **2:00 pm Pastor’s Bible Study – “Theological Worlds”**

#### Wed 10:30 am Quilters 6:30 pm Youth Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

#### Thu **Garfield Deliveries 6:00 pm Pastor’s Study - Marriage Series**

#### Fri 1:30 pm JMM @ Evergreen

#### Sat

#### Sun 8:15 am Chapel Worship 9:00 am Gathering Worship **9:15 am 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class** 9:15 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Traditional Worship **11:45 am Caring Team** **11:45 am Mission Team** 3:00 pm Confirmation Class with Mentors 3:00 pm JMM @ Brookdale North Hymn Sing 3:00 pm Youth Group –Valentine Delivery

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

Jeremiah 1:4-10, & Luke 4:21-30

“My Kind of Prophet” - Rev. Luke Lindon

Altar Flowers: are given by Betty Zarney. “In loving memory of my husband, Elmer Zarney and in gratitude for the 63 wonderful years we had together”.

### Upcoming Youth Events:

- \***Feb 3** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class (9:15-10:15)
- \***Feb 3** – “Souper” Bowl Sunday–No Youth Group!
- \***Feb 10** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class (9:15-10:15)
- \***Feb 10** – Confirmation Class (3:00-4:30) with Mentors
- \***Feb 17** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class (9:15-10:15)
- \***Feb 17** – Soup Cook Off – 11:30 am
- \***Feb 24** – Confirmation Class (3:00-4:30) with Parents

### “SOUPER BOWL” TODAY

#### Sunday February 3<sup>rd</sup>

Are you ready for some football? Well, it's not the actual Super Bowl, but it is time again for “Souper” Bowl Sunday. This is a mission project that our youth do every year. **If you forgot to bring your can of soup, please consider donating \$1 Today.** All donations will be given to Community Services. Please help support our youth as they do this important mission project.

New Bible Study  
**TWOSDAY**  
Tuesdays at 2 p.m.

A new Bible Study for those who don't like to drive in the dark! Continuing on Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, Pastor Luke will host a Bible Study in the new library.



## **LAST DAY! SPIRITUALITY OF MARRIAGE**

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Thursdays at 6:00 pm, all couples are invited to explore the Spirituality of Marriage. Part Bible study, part couples exercise, part discussion with other couples; we'll explore what it means to be married and what it takes to sustain the covenant promise made at the wedding date. Childcare will be provided. Topics are as follows:

February 7: The Unfolding Mystery

## **WANTED: SOUP**

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### **SOUP COOK-OFF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup>**

The youth will be hosting a Soup Cook Off on February 17<sup>th</sup> 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 in the Crossroads Hallway. 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!

## **SECRET PAL**

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The Secret Pal Project is when a child/youth in the church is paired with an adult from the church and for four weeks they secretly exchange letters. At the end of the project there will be a special coffee hour when all the secret pals will be revealed. Sign-ups to take part in this fun, whole church activity will be on Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be a table set up in the Crossroads Hallway where I will be sitting to help with sign-ups. The exchanging of letters will begin on Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. Complete instructions will be provided at the time of sign-up.

This is a wonderful way for the youth of the church to get to know the members of the congregation. I hope you will be a part of this fun project. If you have any questions, please contact Stacie Yates at 330-723-7344 or [yatesmsla@zoominternet.net](mailto:yatesmsla@zoominternet.net).

## **FOUNDERS DAY 2019**

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They say that too many cooks spoil the broth, but today we are asking folks to be a part of making the broth! Yes—that means every foodie person that wants to help with a Founders Day celebration. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, a special shared luncheon will be a part of the activities of the day. We need volunteers to sign up to bring the “fixings” for a hearty stew to be served at noon on that day. Deadline for food donations is Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. A sign up list is available in the East Room. Items can be brought to the church kitchen. Please check the sign up list for an item that you can donate to the kettle! Thank you in advance!

## **VINTAGE DRESS-UP FOR A VINTAGE DAY**

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The Bicentennial Committee has planned a creative day of celebration as part of our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, our one worship service at 10:00 am will feature a recreation of our worship as it would have been in 1919. Old time Scripture and hymns will be featured. As part of that day, we are inviting the congregation to “dress for the day” by wearing costumes of the period. Our ushers will be in period costume. Ladies will wear a hat and gloves in addition to a longer skirt and, perhaps, a shawl. Gents may wear a bow tie, bowler-type hat, or a vest. If you have a 1919 vintage clothing item in family storage, please consider bringing it to church, wearing it, or bringing it for display. This is optional, of course, but it is a wonderful way to enter into the spirit of the Bicentennial. This could be a really fun day!

## **HAVE WE OVERLOOKED ANYONE?**

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Do you know an older member or a shut-in that may enjoy a visit from a Circle of Caring member? If so, please call the church office (330-725-4559) or Syd Benson (330-725-5540) so they can be added to our list.

## VALENTINE VISITS

Make someone's Valentine season special! The Craftmakers have created a special Valentine's craft for our older members and friends of the church. Please pick up one or more of the crafts displayed in the East Room. Each craft has the name, phone number and an address of an older member or friend of the church. Please call the person to arrange your visit sometime before February 14<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please call Syd Benson at 330-725-5540.

## LADIES & GIRLS TEA SAVE THE DATE

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 12:00-2:00 pm for the Ladies and Girls Tea. The program will be a special one featuring Angela Strach-Gotthardt from the Secret Tea Society of Hudson, Ohio. Join this certified Tea Specialist to share the flavors of the tea leaf and learn the wonderful traditions of sharing tea and conversation with moms, daughters, family and friends. You will learn about the world's most consumed beverage, tea! It will surely brighten up your lovely April day. More information will follow but plan on joining us.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Fellowship group has their monthly breakfast the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at PJ Marley's, meeting at 8 am. The next breakfast is Tuesday February 12<sup>th</sup>. All men are welcome. While we don't have formal programs, we do have the opportunity to socialize with each other and share our stories. Please join us. If you wish to be included in our meeting notice emails let Pete Benson know [sydandpete.benson@gmail.com](mailto:sydandpete.benson@gmail.com)

## THE PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY CHURCH OF 2019

Mary Lou, the new Community Services Center director, has advised that peanut butter and jelly are the most critically needed foods for its Medina County clients. PB&J are distributed every service day at the Center. We can become their PB&J angels this year by regularly buying a jar or two and placing it in the grey BOGO bin across from the elevator. Thank you for your ongoing support of this and all our Community Outreach projects!



## Bicentennial Tidbits

Every four years, the Boy Scouts of America hold a Jamboree. In 1950, Medina Troop 504, which was sponsored by our church, sent ten scouts to the National Jamboree in Valley Forge. A total of 47,163 scouts attended. By 1955, the scouting activities we sponsored had expanded so that an explorer post with eight scouts was also part of the program.



## STEPHEN MINISTERS

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AFTER the funeral, the divorce, the diagnosis, the job loss, the tragedy, Stephen Ministers can help. How can our congregation provide care for all the “afters” in life? After being trained, Stephen Ministers can give Christ centered care and support to hurting people in an effective and biblical way. Do you want to learn more about Stephen Ministers and their wonderful caring ministry?

Come to a half day introductory workshop on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 am–1:00 pm at the United Methodist Church of Berea (170 Seminary St., Berea, Ohio 44107). The cost is \$15 per person or \$50.00 per congregation (four or more). Registration forms are available in the office or call Stephen Ministries at 314-428-2600 between 8:00-5:00 Central Time or visit [stephenministry.org/workshop](http://stephenministry.org/workshop)

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## GOSPEL GALLEY

by Dave Weber

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### Jesus of Nazareth: The Greatest Quarterback of All Time

Yes! Who would have thought it back in Jesus’ day that a humble son of a carpenter would be God’s #1 draft pick! And, God’s most important Hall of Faith Fame honoree!

Jesus was tasked with putting together a solid team who would set out to remake the world. Did he turn to the top Scribes, Pharisees, or Kings of the time? No, his team selections were men from ordinary backgrounds - fishermen, a tax collector, a couple of tradesmen, Judas Iscariot (who Jesus named treasurer) and of course, Jesus’ brother, James (important to bring the family in on the game plan).

Jesus then started laying out the game plan to his team. They would do much of their work, not on the home field, but far afield on away trips. Jesus’ basic game plan was to convert the hearts of Israel’s people to do two basic things: Love God (the team owner) and Love your neighbors (even if they gave you a rough go against your game plan).

In many instances, Jesus’ message went out throughout the land. Crowds gathered when they learned he and his team were in the area. They sat and listened intently.

They watched him treat everyone with gentle respect. They were awed by some of his miraculous plays. On one occasion, he laid out the whole life game plan from a Mount. There, he shared how everyone, no matter their position in life, could share in the success of God’s plan for them. Sadly, they didn’t always get it. This was true of the disciples. Jesus tried explaining some of the intricacies with game day parables. They had so many questions. But Jesus, as ever the skilled quarterback teacher, let them ponder his stories and lessons.

Over time, his disciple team became great receivers. They opened their minds, hearts and souls to Jesus. And although it is lost on some followers today, Jesus recruits some very faithful women. They played then and play now, key roles in the advance of the plan.

Just think from those days forward to our own times, Jesus game plan has brought millions to the most amazing team ever. Sure, there will be questions of the game plan, dropped passes, fumbles and penalties. But mostly, the word is spreading. We are a part of that first team’s legacy. It will take serious effort. We will be met by opponents who try to change the rules, put up ferocious defense and try to bribe the refs.

So we live our lives trying daily to live by his two basic commands. We aren’t always with it every hour. We can pray and ask for support and direction. We can do the most vital work of spreading the word and recruiting others.

Perhaps one day, we will hear him say, “Well done, good and faithful team mate.” And there we will be, a member of the greatest team ever assembled under the loving guidance of the Most Famous Quarterback ever in God’s great universe.

\* (Tom Brady - perhaps one day an honorable mention)

Luke 4:21-30

### **Prophet on the Edge**

Jesus, the young Jesus, has just returned home and preaches his first sermon in his home synagogue. He reads scripture and says little. Yet, something he says makes the people in that synagogue that day so angry that they want to throw him off a cliff. What made those first century worship attenders so enraged that preacher-cide was on their mind?

What Jesus did was suggest that their God, the God of the Old Testament, often spoke to non-Israelites, like the Syrian Naaman and the widow of Zarepath. His listeners were not happy to think that God was God to others as well as themselves. Of course, this is not just a first century idea. We humans have often fashioned God into ourselves. We are heirs of a tradition that has historically claimed God as Western European. Imagine a God that speaks Spanish, or Urdu, or Quechua. That is God – still speaking and not necessarily in English. How do we, as congregations, open ourselves to a multilingual God? How do we deepen our relationship with that God of all people? One way is become an Immigrant Welcoming Congregation.

Just as churches became Open and Affirming and grew spiritually in their understanding of who God includes; welcoming those culturally different from us and listening to how God speaks to them in their traditions expands our understanding of God and of ourselves as human beings. It all begins in the Bible, a book that some have called the immigrants handbook because so many of its stories are about immigrants. Its stories teach about welcoming strangers and foreigners and how such relationships deepen people's connection with God.

Your church can do more than Bible study on this issue. Some churches reach out to immigrant communities and churches and plan programs to share food, and culture and ministries. Some congregations read books, take trips, watch videos and listen to the stories of immigrants in their communities. Getting to know this changing world and letting in those who are different is all part of God's plan for the world. A world made of many kinds of people from many nations. All of us are born a life created by the same God. All of us trying to make a Just World.

If you want to know more go to [ucc.org](http://ucc.org) and search for becoming an Immigrant Welcoming Congregation. It's time we all did this. God has called to open our hearts to the stranger. God has called us to welcome the foreigner in our midst. It's part of being the church. It's yet another way to show your love of neighbor.