

# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL



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

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

### RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

### GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

### PRELUDE

“Aria, Op. 51” – Flor Peeters

Cathy Fafarak, Organist

### \*LENTEN INTROIT

Welsh Folk song, arr. Hugh Davies from Psalm 107

*mf* (unison) (div.)

Praise the Lord, for he is good; for his mercies ever sure

from e - ter - ni - ty have stood, to e - ter - ni - ty en - dure.

(unis.) (div.)

Let his ransomed people raise songs of their Redeemer's praise. A - men.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In this holy gathering for worship, together as the constituted body of Christ,

People: **We have confidence that not one of us is incompatible with Christian teaching.**

**We are all made in the image of God. We are beloved Children of God. No one is an issue to be debated or a problem to be solved. We have confidence that God can forgive our failings, that God's grace is sufficient. We are chosen, claimed and called by the God who loves us and is love and whom we worship here and now.**

\*OPENING HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory" (vs. 1-4)



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
 2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the  
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that  
 5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;  
 Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—  
 your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,  
 they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,  
 we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.  
 in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.  
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

*Harry Emerson Fosdick, a prophetic preacher and writer, taught at Union Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1946. This hymn was written for the opening service and dedication of Riverside Church, New York City, which he served for twenty years.*

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.  
 John Hughes, c. 1907

**\*OPENING PRAYER (unison)** (by Thomas a Kempis c. 1380-1471)

Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraven,  
That no Prosperity, no adversity, shall ever move me from your love.

Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, a very present help in trouble, and a guide to heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life. Amen.

**\*PRAISE RESPONSE** "God of Grace and God of Glory" (vs. 5)

**ANTHEM** "When Jesus Wept" – William Billings; Edited by Don Gustafson 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, Morning Prayer

**PRAYER RESPONSE** "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

From Psalm 143 George Whelpton (1897)

The musical notation is for a prayer response in 4/4 time, marked *p* (piano). It consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single line with a soprano clef. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; in -". The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "cline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. A - men." The piece ends with a double bar line.

**SCRIPTURE** Psalm 27, a Psalm of David Dorothe Edinger, Liturgist

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation;

**People: whom shall I fear?**

Leader: The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

**People of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: When evildoers assail me

**People to devour my flesh—**

Leader: my adversaries and foes—

**People they shall stumble and fall.**

Leader: Though an army encamp against me,  
**People my heart shall not fear;**  
Leader: though war rise up against me,  
**People yet I will be confident.**  
Leader: One thing I asked of the LORD,  
**People that will I seek after:**  
Leader: to live in the house of the LORD  
**People all the days of my life,**  
Leader: to behold the beauty of the LORD,  
**People and to inquire in his temple.**  
Leader: For he will hide me in his shelter  
**People in the day of trouble;**  
Leader: he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
**People he will set me high on a rock.**  
Leader: Now my head is lifted up  
**People above my enemies all around me,**  
Leader: and I will offer in his tent  
**People sacrifices with shouts of joy;**  
Leader: I will sing and make melody to the LORD.  
**People Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!**  
Leader: "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"  
**People Your face, LORD, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.**  
Leader: Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.  
**People Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!**  
Leader: If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.  
**People Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.**  
Leader: Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,  
**People for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.**  
Leader: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD  
**People in the land of the living.**  
Leader: Wait for the LORD;  
**People: be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!**

**GLORIA PATRI**      **Glory be to our Maker, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**  
   **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,**  
   **world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**SERMON**            "Not the Same Old Psalm and Dance: Confidence"

Rev. Luke Lindon

#### **OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS**

##### **Offertory Invitation (unison)**

Let us offer our gifts to God and to our beloved community.

Offertory Music "Offertorium" – Gordon Young

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)

May these gifts we dedicate now help others see your goodness in the land of the living.  
Amen.

\*SENDING HYMN

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"



1. What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev - er -  
2. O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev - er -  
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,  
last - ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
last - ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

*Refrain*



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing,  
Lean-ing on Je - sus,



lean - ing,  
lean-ing on Je - sus, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean -  
lean-ing on



ing, lean - ing,  
Je - sus, lean-ing on Je - sus, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

**\*BENEDICTION** (Based on an old Irish Blessing)

Leader: May the roof over our heads,

**People: Never fall in.**

Leader: And the friends gathered beneath,

**People: Never fall out.**

Leader: Go from here in the confidence in the love of God,  
The good news of Christ, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

**People: One God, forever and ever. 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 "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" – arr. Robert Thygerson Cathy Fafrak, Organist**

**"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"**

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\* Those who are able are asked to please stand

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

*\*\*\*Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service\*\*\*  
Today's coffee hour is hosted by **Ken and Sue Dean.***

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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

## MARCH 17, 2019

**“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)

March 17, 2019 thru March 24, 2019

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>Sun</b>	<b>2nd SUNDAY OF LENT</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> 8:15 am Chapel Worship 9:00 am Gathering Worship 9:15 am Choir practice <b>9:15 am 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class</b> 10:30 am Traditional Worship <b>11:45 am Mission Team</b> 2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows <b>2:00 pm "TETELESTAI"</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>10:00 am GIFT CARD ORDERS DUE</b> 1:00 pm Breadmakers
<b>Tues</b>	<b>2:00 pm Bible Study: Book of Luke</b>
<b>Wed</b>	10:30 am Quilters <b>6:00 pm Lenten Dinner &amp; Worship</b> <b>"The Beatitudes"</b> <b>@ St. Matthew Lutheran Church</b> 6:00 pm Youth Bell Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm DELT Meeting
<b>Thu</b>	<b>Garfield Deliveries</b>
<b>Fri</b>	1:30 pm JMM @ Evergreen
<b>Sat</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>3rd SUNDAY OF LENT</b> 8:15 am Chapel Worship 9:00 am Gathering Worship 9:15 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Traditional Worship 2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows Sing-a-long 7:00 pm JMM @ Western Reserve

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

Psalm 27, a Psalm of David

"Not the Same Old Psalm and Dance:  
Confidence" - Rev. Luke Lindon

**Altar Flowers:** are donated by Dottie Edinger in memory of her husband, David Edinger.

### SECRET PAL REVEAL TODAY!

The secret pal project has been so much fun!  
**The big reveal will take place at a special coffee hour Today, March 17<sup>th</sup>.** Please join us!

### Upcoming Youth Events:

\***March 17** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class 9:15-10:15

\***March 17** – Special *Secret Pal* Coffee Hour 11:30

### NEW BIBLE STUDY

#### THE BOOK OF LUKE

Our daytime Bible study of the book of Luke continues on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm in the new library. No experience necessary! Come & join us!

### NEW "WEEKLY" STORIES

Hopefully you have seen our "Cabin" diorama and listened to the narrative of our Church's beginnings. Each week we plan on providing a new "story" narrative that can be heard on the diorama. Stop by in the East Room and listen to learn something new of our Church heritage each week.

## LENTEN SOUP DINNER PLAN AHEAD NOW

**Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm** in Fellowship Hall. Service will follow in the Sanctuary. Please sign up to bring a dessert (cookies/brownies, pie, cake), soup and/or a salad topping. We need your food donations by 5 pm on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Watch for opportunities to sign-up!

## FEEDING MEDINA COUNTY FOOD DRIVE

Everyone has been so generous! In commemoration of our Bicentennial we had hoped to have 200 boxes of mac and cheese donated. You have been most successful and we have a total of 241 boxes donated! That is wonderful and will assure that many more families will be able to have dinner for their families.



"Not the Same Old Psalm and Dance"

Pastor Luke normally preaches on the Gospel, but for Lent, he will preach on the Psalms. There is also a 40 Day

Challenge sheet to help you add a few new dance steps to your routine and see what works. Check out the next few bulletins or email the church office to get your copy of the Lenten Challenge! You will also find it on our website at: <https://www.uccmedina.org/> under "Upcoming Events".

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing is the Lenten Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports disaster, refugee, and development activities. Our gifts become part of a loving legacy in ways we can't foresee. Our gifts become blessings to people we don't know and blesses in ways we can't expect. We can make a difference more than we can imagine. On March 31, 2019, give with thanks and with joy. Donations also accepted thru the on-line giving option on our website.

## TICKET SALES... TICKET SALES... TICKET SALES... LADIES AND GIRLS TEA

Please plan to **purchase your ticket(s) for the Ladies and Girls Tea** which will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 12-2pm. The luncheon will begin in the Fellowship Hall and will be followed by a Tea Talk. The World of Tea program will be presented by certified Tea Specialist, Sue Swain, of Secret Tea Society. You will learn about the origins of the world's most consumed beverage, tea. It will also be fun to learn the difference between tea categories – white, green, oolong, black, and herbal blends. Join us to enjoy the aroma of tea as it will surely brighten up your lovely April day!

Tickets are \$10 and \$5 for girls under 10 years of age. Sales will begin on Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> in the East Room after the services. You may also purchase a ticket from the church office after March 31<sup>st</sup>. **Tickets must be purchased by April 15<sup>th</sup>.** Please contact Beth Hari, Becky Weber, or Darlene Bagley-Fazekas if you have questions.

## ALL CHURCH MEMBERS INVITED TO HEAR REV. WENDLING

**Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30  
In the East Room**

Circle of Caring is sponsoring Rev. Dennis Wendling, full-time Chaplain at Medina Hospital, as a speaker who will talk about how to support people in the hospital and what he does as a hospital chaplain. Bring your own questions about hospital visitations or Circle of Caring. Refreshments will be served. Call Syd Benson with any questions at 330-725-5540.

## CROSSROADS

Fifteen additional crosses have been added to "COMPLETE" our beautiful Crossroads Wall. Thank you to everyone who contributed these special and unique pieces to enhance our Hallway to fellowship. WE truly have created a visual "WOW" Factor to behold!!



## **ANNUAL LENTEN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON**

The Annual Lenten Women's Fellowship Luncheon will be held Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon in Fellowship Hall. Please come and join us for this special event and bring a dish to share. Rev. Pam Branscome will be our speaker and will extend communion. Please sign up on the sheet on the table outside the kitchen.

## **HELP! PHONE CALLERS NEEDED**

The Easter Bag Project provides Easter Bags for children who have a parent or caretaker in the Medina County Jail. The "Both Sides of Prison" group is preparing to put bags and children's names out on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. But before that happens, we in the "Both Sides of Prison" group could use a few helpers for a necessary task:

- We call the children's families or caretakers to verify the accuracy of addresses and children's information
- We supply a short script for each caller
- The more helpers we have, the fewer calls for each volunteer
- In past years, our callers have had fewer than 6 phone calls to make
- It's an easy job and quickly done!

Please look for the sign-up sheet in the downstairs lobby, near the elevator. Or email Jeannine Murray at [Jmw597b@yahoo.com](mailto:Jmw597b@yahoo.com)

## **EASTER LILY ORDERS**

It's time to order your Easter Lily! If you would like to place a lily on the altar in honor or memory of someone, please fill out a yellow order form found on the table near the kitchen (or you may ask an usher for a form) and return it to the church office no later than April 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **LENTEN SCHEDULE 2019**

March 13<sup>th</sup> – April 10<sup>th</sup>

### **WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT**

6:00 PM Dinner & Lenten Worship  
**"BEATITUDES"**

March 20<sup>th</sup> - St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
400 N. Broadway

March 27<sup>th</sup> - First Christian Church  
4797 Sharon-Copley Rd.

April 3 – UCC, Congregational Church  
217 E. Liberty St.

April 10 – United Methodist Church  
4747 Foote Rd.

April 10<sup>th</sup> – **Women's Fellowship Lenten  
Luncheon 12pm – 2pm**

April 14<sup>th</sup> – **Palm Sunday** – Palm Parade –  
10:30 am

April 18<sup>th</sup> – **Maundy Thursday**

UCC, Congregational – 7:00 pm

April 19<sup>th</sup> – **GOOD FRIDAY** – OFFICE CLOSURE  
@ NOON

April 19<sup>th</sup> – **Good Friday Service** – 7:00 pm  
UCC, Congregational, Fellowship Hall

April 20<sup>th</sup> – **Easter Egg Hunt**

First Christian Church – 1:00 pm  
4797 Sharon-Copley Rd.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> – **Easter Monday** – OFFICE CLOSED

## **Easter services: April 21, 2019**

7:00 am Sunrise – **Spring Grove Cemetery  
Chapel**

8:15 am – **UCC Chapel**

9:00 am – **Fellowship Hall**

10:30 am - **Sanctuary**

## GARFIELD FAMILY FOOD DONATIONS

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Thank you all for continuing to purchase food for our Garfield Families. Please remember when you bring in your **produce to place it in the refrigerator**. Also, if you purchase bread or anything in advance be mindful of the use by date. Some of the things that have come in early have gone bad very quickly. Thank you again for your continued support.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER UPDATE

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Michelle Lamar from the Community Services Center sends her heartfelt thanks to all who have so generously provided peanut butter and jelly these past weeks. Now the Center has managed to arrange buying these basics from the Akron Canton Food Bank at a price the Center can afford. Currently, the Community Services Center's most needed items are TOILET PAPER and BAR SOAPS. Please place your kind donations in the BOGO bin across from the elevator. Thank you. -Community Outreach Ministry

## GOSPEL GALLEY

### "Felled with Hope"

by Alice Metzloff

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What is a GIANT? (1) Legend & Folklore say a "GIANT" is a being of human form with supernatural size and strength. (2) Any person or thing of great size, strength, and/or capability.

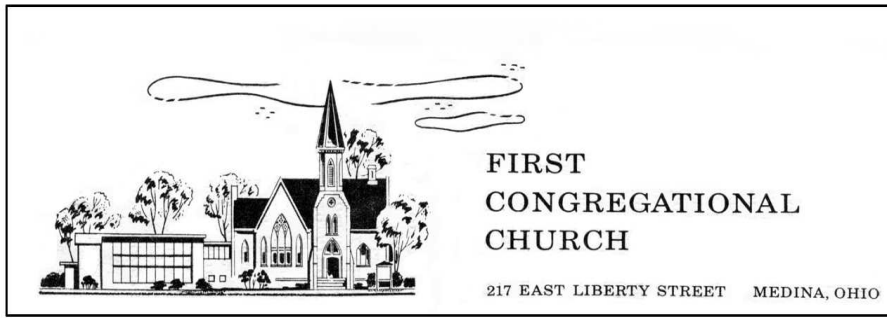
Back in October, an old GIANT Maple tree that **grew** in our backyard woods fell over due to high winds.

Keyword...GREW...**past-tense**. It was 85-90 years old...110 feet tall...6 feet diameter...with a main root 14 feet long-12 inches thick. YEP...I measured it. The scary part was my family and I were indoors at the time, when we HEARD and FELT it hit the ground. Another scary part...it fell only 25 feet away from the house! We had no prior knowledge it was so DECAYED, INSECT-RIDDEN, and ROTTEN on the inside! Though it looked very STRONG on the outside...however, all it took was a few good gusts of HIGH WINDS to fell it.

**What does this felled tree have to do with us?** LOADS! We are beset by trials and tribulations that sorely test our mettle, our faith, and love for one another! DECAY of reason, ideals, and faith. "INSECT-RIDDEN THOUGHTS" that "eat" away at our core till we are left hollow. Inset of ROT which threatens to loosen our hold! **But there is hope!** Isaiah 40:31-1 states... "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength."

With Jesus' help, we can overcome anything that seeks to fell us. Rely on Him!

CHRIST IS...**M**agnanimous! **A**live! **R**esurrecting! **C**omforting! **H**ope!



## Bicentennial Tidbits



In 1957, our church printed up new letterhead, showcasing the new CE building. But long serving pastor Ormund Schultz retired upon completion of the building project. Sidney Fenn (pictured at left) is head of the pastoral committee and is active in selecting Truman Whitaker as our 32<sup>nd</sup> pastor. He will serve for 12 years, from 1957 until 1969. His first year saw 89 new members join the church.

We recently received the originals of the some 260 sermons Rev. Whitaker preached while serving as our pastor.



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March 17, 2019  
Second Sunday of Lent  
*St. Patrick's Day*

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Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36 (37-43a)

### **Strong and Tender**

Lent is the season for uncomfortable questions and hard truths. Exactly what is needed to open our eyes and our hearts, and set our feet on the path of faithfulness? In today's Scripture, the petty tyrant Herod's vision of how things should be clashes with what Jesus is teaching as he travels around, right there on Herod's home turf. But Jesus brushes aside the warnings about Herod's evil scheming as only words that are insignificant when viewed in relation to the plan of God. Those in official positions of power, whether it's Herod in Galilee, Pilate in Jerusalem, or the mighty Roman Empire itself, can cause havoc.

During these six weeks of Lent, we take a hard look at the obstacles between us and God (obstacles that God didn't put there), not just on our own personal spiritual path, but also on the road toward a new world of justice, wholeness, and peace. Consider these three questions this week:

1. How can we reflect the selfless, unconditional love of Jesus in the world?
2. How can we embody "love of neighbor" in our public life?
3. How would Jesus be perceived in the halls of power today?

### **One Great Hour of Sharing**

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. One Great Hour of Sharing also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Through One Great Hour of Sharing, lives are literally changed daily. Your support provides clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more. In 2017, the OGHS offering received over \$2 million. Nearly sixty-five percent of UCC congregations participate annually.

On March 31st, members and friends of the United Church of Christ will have the opportunity to respond to all of these needs through One Great Hour of Sharing. Let's all give generously.