
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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

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.

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE “Adagio molto” from 3rd Sonata for Organ – A. Guilmant Cathy Fafrak, 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 (Psalm 67:1-3)

Leader: God, show your faithfulness to us,

People: **bless us, and make your face smile upon us!**

Leader: For then the whole earth will acknowledge your ways,

People: **and all the nations of earth will know of your power to save.**

Leader: May all the nations praise you, O God;

People: **may all the nations praise you!**

*OPENING HYMN “Savior, Again, to Your Dear Name”

John Ellerton, a priest of the Church of England, wrote this hymn for a choral association festival. The final stanza was sung at his funeral. Ellerton edited and contributed to numerous hymnals.

Tune: ELLERS 10.10.10.10.
Edward J. Hopkins, 1869

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
 2 Grant us your peace up - on our home-ward way;
 3 Grant us your peace, as day turns in - to night;
 4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
 stay with us till the com - ing of the light;
 our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;

We join to bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
 Guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
 Keep safe all those who call up - on your name,
 Then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

then, in the si - lence, wait your word of peace.
 that in this house have called up - on your name.
 for dark and light to you are both the same.
 call us, O God, to your e - ter - nal peace.

CONFESSION

Forgive us, God. We ask for signs from you but ignore those around us. Today we will read about Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. A small business owner and a very successful one at that. Yet our society often puts limits on women here in the land of the free. Purple is the symbol of royalty. We gather this Memorial Day weekend to honor those who have died. Yet the cloth of the Confederacy is found around our Union town that was a stop on the Underground Railroad. Forgive us for our short memory. Forgive us for ignoring the symbols.

ASSURANCE

Leader: Your cross is before us, in each and every service.
People: **The cross that is a symbol of your death and your love.**
Leader: Thank you for your grace.
People: **It is sufficient this day and for always.**
Leader: In Jesus name, we take refuge.
People: **To Jesus name, we declare allegiance.**
Leader: Be assured, oh people. Your sins are forgiven.
People: **Halleluiah! Amen!**

PRAISE RESPONSE

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

WORDS: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson
MUSIC: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1987
© 1955. Assigned to Jan-Lee Music, © renewed 1983

WORLD PEACE
Irr.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Kumbaya" -African-American Spiritual

Ron Greinke, Accordion

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

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

Ps. 134:1; Music: George Whelpton, 1897

The image shows a musical score for a prayer response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm.

SCRIPTURE

Acts 16:9-15 and John 14:23-29

Dorothie Edinger, Liturgist

SERMON

Rev. Harry Buch

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offertory Invitation

Jesus said to us, "I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." This is good news!

Offertory Music

"Peace" –Edward Broughton

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**

Bless us, O God, and make us a blessing, that the whole earth may come to experience Your abundant goodness. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

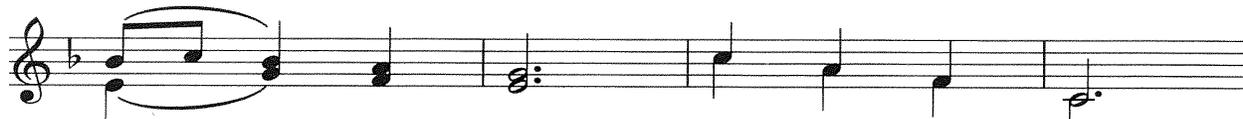
"Come Now, Almighty God"

This anonymous English hymn to the Trinity was first published in George Whitefield's Collection, 1757. This tune was composed especially for this text by Giardini, who was a brilliant violinist.

Tune: ITALIAN HYMN 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.
Felice de Giardini, 1769



1 Come now, Al - might - y God, help us your
 2 Come now, In - car - nate Word, by heaven and
 3 Come, Ho - ly Com - fort - er, your sa - cred
 4 To you, great One in Three, e - ter - nal



name to laud; our songs we raise:
 earth a - dored; our prayer at - tend:
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour.
 prais - es be for ev - er - more.



Rul - er all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 Come, and your peo - ple bless, and give your word suc - cess;
 Your grace to us im - part, now rule in ev - ery heart,
 Your sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,



come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days!
 grant us your ho - li - ness, Sav - ior and Friend!
 nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of power!
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: Creator God,

People: may your peace go with us wherever we will be this day

Leader: May you guide us through the challenges,

People: protect us when in need and inspire us with your love.

Leader: May we acknowledge your presence

People: in all the human goodness we will see.

Leader: May you bring us home rejoicing

People: to our place of rest this night.

Leader: Creator God,

People: we now go into this day in the name of the Creator and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

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** "Song of Praise" – Earl Hazelle Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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*Those who are able please stand

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

****Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service***
Today's coffee hour is hosted by **Don & Marilyn Canfield.***

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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

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

MAY 26, 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

May 26, 2019 thru June 2, 2019

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun **FIRST DAY OF SUMMER F.I.S.H.**

8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
10:30 am Traditional Worship
2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows
Sing-a-long
7:00 pm JMM @ Western Reserve
Masonic Home

Mon

MEMORIAL DAY
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Free Popcorn & Lemonade
@ the Parade 10:00 a.m.



Tues

7:00 pm Gathering Team Meeting

Wed

10:30 am Quilters
7:00 pm Bicentennial Music Program
Rehearsal

Thu

Garfield Deliveries

Fri

1:30 pm JMM @ Evergreen

Sat

Sun **Sr. High Mission Trip to Pipestem, WV**

8:15 pm Chapel Worship
9:00 pm Gathering Worship
10:30 am Traditional Worship
11:30 am Hunger Outreach Meeting
(Project Leaders only)
7:00 pm Bicentennial Music Program

JOIN US FOR THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
WE WILL BE PASSING OUT
FREE POPCORN & LEMONADE
ON THE SIDE LAWN

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

Acts 16:9-15 and John 14:23-29

Sermon: Rev. Harry Buch

Altar Flowers: are donated by Tony & Michelle
Colon in memory of Antonio Colon, Sr.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It's hard to believe, but it is time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School. This year VBS will be June 10-13. Our theme this year is "To Mars and Beyond" and it will be tons of fun! As always, many hands make light work. We are in need of people to help make sure it is a success. If you are interested in helping out with VBS, please see Stacie Yates.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 9

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.

...God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young shall see visions, and your old shall dream dreams...

-Acts 2:17 (NRSV)

SUMMER REINFORCEMENT PROGRAM

During the month of May the United Way is requesting the donation of children's books for the Summer Reinforcement Program. This program works with children during the summer to keep their reading skills from falling behind. It is a very beneficial program for these children. The donated books are given to the children who often own no books of their own. Used books in good condition and new books are welcome. Some of the teacher recommended books are: *Charlotte's Web, Where the Wild Things Are, The Giving Tree, Green Eggs and Ham, Good Night Moon, I Love You Forever, Because of Winn Dixie, Oh! The Places You Will Go, The Little House, The Polar Express.* Other children's book that you may have are also welcome. Let's try for 200 in honor of our bicentennial as we did for the donations of mac and cheese. We did a great job! There is a box for donations next to the Bogo box near the entry. All books need to be donated by Friday, June 7th. To date generosity has been great! At last count, we have 176 books donated.

MISSING TEA CUP!!!

One tea cup and saucer is missing from the Ladies and Girls Tea. It belongs to Tammy Daubner and has blue flowers as the decoration. If you know anything about this tea cup, please let the office now. Thank you!

TWO SUNDAYS LEFT!

Summer is approaching and the choirs will be taking time off from singing and playing for the 10:30 service. We need people who can provide special music during the summer services. If you sing, play an instrument, do interpretive dance, or want to combine forces into a small group to enhance our summer services, we would appreciate it. **There are only 2 Sundays remaining** so sign up on the sheet in the East Room soon! If you have questions, or need assistance, please contact Jim Kiser to make arrangements.

Medina United Church
of Christ, Congregational

**Bicentennial
Worship Concert**
Sunday, June 2
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

"The Music of Faith"

*Where does the music come from?
Where does it go?
Come join us and find out.*

"A splendid time is guaranteed for all."

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Our church will once again host the Ice Cream Social on the Square. Please mark Friday, June 14th on your calendar and plan to help out or just come and have some ice cream!

If you would like to help out or provide any of the needed items, please fill out a yellow slip and return it to the church office. You can ask an usher for a form or find them on the table near the kitchen!

50 YEAR MEMBERS SAVE THE DATE!

If you've been a member of our church for 50 years or more, please save **Saturday September 28, 2019 from 11:30 am to 2 pm** for a **CELEBRATION LUNCHEON**. Invitations will be mailed out early in September.

*If you haven't yet been here for 50 years and want to help with the luncheon...put this date on your calendar and contact the office, Becky Weber or Sue Dean.

WHAT WILL THIS BUILDING PROGRAM INCLUDE?

1. Clearing basement area (both existing and the unexcavated), to provide space of 7,200 sq. ft. as compared to present 6,600 sq. ft. of useable area. New library, supply room, community room and much improved church school rooms.
2. A small addition to provide extra church school room and rest room facilities down; choral room, chapel, large narthex and ramp upstairs. Square footage (up and down) will be 2,600 feet.
3. Renovation of sanctuary, offices, and provision of storage areas upstairs. New roof on older church area, some outside alterations.
4. Increased seating capacity, much improved sound and visual effects in the sanctuary; repair and restoration of windows.
5. Completely new plumbing, heating, electrical and entrance exit facilities which must have immediate attention regardless.

This program will put our facilities in first class condition, cut down on maintenance and utility costs, increase safety factors, and give us the tools to minister here for the upcoming twenty years.....according to our studies.

COST? THE ESTIMATE IS \$350,000.00 *

Plumbing/Heating estimated at	\$85,000.00
Electrical Work no less than	25,000.00
Addition: Chapel, Choir Room, Ramp Entrance, etc. about	50,000.00
Refurbish and refinish sanctuary with modifications, estimated	60,000.00
Remodel offices, provide storage areas upstairs, (approximate)	4,000.00

Much of the rest of the cost factor will be absorbed in excavation, removal, and replacing in the basement area. Remember, we are both "tearing down" and "rebuilding".

Bicentennial Tidbits - 1973

In 1973 the main church was completely gutted (excluding the Christian Education wing which contains the church office). Foundations were rebuilt and walls straightened. The floor of the main sanctuary had been a sloping one, the new was made level and even with the back section and the East Room. The choir loft and organ were returned to the present area and the vacated space was closed to become the sacristy, with doors to the loft and also the hallway. The closed balcony at the rear of the sanctuary was removed, and the library on the main level was eliminated --- leaving the beautiful stained glass windows of the south wall visible to all who are in the sanctuary. The pillars and top partition, which had separated the back section from the main sanctuary, were removed and the round stained glass window which had been in that upper triangular partition was installed on the wall behind the choir and a new cross was added below it. All the woodwork was restored to the dark stain, the walls were refurbished, and new pews and carpeting enhanced the "new" sanctuary. An addition was built at the southeast corner of the building to create a chapel and choir room.

* Actual cost was \$460,000 (\$3,000,000 in 2019 dollars). Retirement of the debt did not occur until ten years later in 1986.

(Above source: *Betty Zarnes's 2015 History*)

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GOSPEL GALLEY

by Vicki Miller

I was going to write a nice meditation about Memorial Day, but the most amazing thing happened today and I wanted to share it. Pam Branscome and I are in China right now- as a matter of fact I am writing this from a hotel right off the beautiful Bund in Shanghai. Our day didn't start out in Shanghai, it started out driving to the mountains about three hours east of here. We were in search of the "mother bush", an ancestor tree to all of the white tea in China. The tree is 800+ years old and is "protected" by the family that lives next to it. We drove up into the mountains, then we found a small village on the side of a mountain, and finally, we climbed the rest of the way up through gorgeous scenery to find our "mother bush." We were the only people there, and I'm quite sure the only Americans that have ever made their way to this particular spot. As we were taking our pictures and looking at the mother bush, a woman came out from her home and was watching us (she is one of the "protectors" of the tree). She started talking to our guide and he explained what we were doing there. She was excited to see us and invited us to rest and let her son make some tea for us. We sat for a while on her deck and she welcomed us into her home. Hanging on the wall, I saw an old 2010 calendar with a cross on it. We asked her about it and she said she was a Christian. I told her that Pam was a retired Pastor (Priest) and the woman quickly moved to Pam and gave her a hug. I showed her my cross I was wearing and she gave me a squeeze too. She had gone from being excited that there were foreigners in her house to being emotional that there were Christians there. There was more visiting and pictures under her Christian calendar. She said we were a family; we were sisters. We were immediately connected and it was palpable. As we started to leave, Pam turned and blessed the woman with a sign of the cross on her forehead. That moment overwhelmed all three of us. I can honestly say that I have never felt more Christian than standing in the last house of a very small village on the top of a mountain in China.

Sunday, June 9: Bicentennial Celebration - Historic Marker Unveiling

On Founders' Day, 2018, our congregation voted on which proposed Bicentennial projects should have priority. The result, by a vast margin, was to place a historical marker in front of the church building. A few weeks later, we undertook the long application process to obtain an official State of Ohio historical marker, and to also apply for a funding grant from the Wm. Pomeroy Foundation. By October, we received news that the marker was on its way, and essentially paid-for. Last week, the 150-pound bronze marker arrived. (Many thanks to Brad Root and Root Candles for their generous support in taking delivery of the marker and transporting it safely to the church.) Soon the marker will stand in its permanent place, concealed (**no peeking!**) until the **Big Day** on June 9, Pentecost Sunday: the birthday of the Church. Upon the conclusion of that morning's 10:30 worship service, we will gather on the Liberty St. lawn for a festive ceremony of dedication (and the "ta-da" moment of unveiling), with perhaps a spot of lemonade and a nosh or two afterwards. This is a "Once-In-A-Lifetime" event (unless you have the fortitude to endure until the Tricentennial in 2119). Please plan to attend.

COLLEGE RIDING TEAM LOOKING FOR SOME HELP! (RIDING FOR CLEAN WATER CRISIS)

My name is Val Cox and I am one of the drivers for this year's Ride for Water team (rideforwater.com). We are a group of 9 college students who are riding our bikes from California to New York City to raise awareness and money for the global water crisis. We are doing this as a charity for Water Supporter, so any money we receive will go to some of their clean water projects.

Our women's team will be biking through the Medina area around June 30th! We are currently looking for housing for that night and wanted to know if you have any church members who would be able and willing to house us while we ride through your city.

***This is an email I received on Monday, at the beginning of their journey. If you would like information on the riders or what it is they are doing, please visit the website above. If you are interested in hosting a rider, please contact the church office and I will give you the contact information.

Thank you!, Cindy Korecky
330-725-4559 * office@uccmedina.org

ORDER YOUR GIFT CARDS TODAY FOR GRADUATIONS, BIRTHDAYS OR EVERY DAY!

Plan ahead now for Special Occasions and place your Gift Card order soon. Please see the Yellow Retailer List on the table near Fellowship Hall or visit www.glscrip.com and click on the Retailer List on the left side to view or print your own list. Complete a Green Order Form, also available on the table near fellowship hall and return to Kelly with payment.

Due date is, Monday, June 17th
The next order will be on Monday, July 15th.

A Limited Supply of \$10.00 Panera, Chipotle and Starbucks Gift Cards are available from Kelly
in the office for Teacher or Graduation Gifts. Checks made out to UCC or cash.

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 MEDINA UCC HOMECOMING PICNIC AT BUNKER HILL

Gathering and Games: 4:00-5:00
Fully Catered Dinner: 5:00-6:00
The Entertainment: 6:00- 7:00 or whenever

And what's the entertainment? YOU! If you have a musical talent to share, join us in a talent show/hootenanny. Cathy is available if you need an accompanist. We will make sure there are mics and speakers so everyone can be heard. Kids and amateurs are welcome! Do you play an instrument? Sing? Can you do a magic trick? Get together with a friend to work up an act or perform on your own. There's no shortage of talent in our congregation, so this will be FUN! Interested? Pam Branscome is coordinating. 440-479-6814. There will be a sign-up sheet later in the summer.

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*******

Acts 16:9-15

Disciples Together

In many early Christian traditions, prayers for the renewal of the earth were offered in the days before Ascension Thursday. Lay folks and clergy walked throughout the parish fields and petitioned God to bless land and seeds. These were called Rogation Days: in Latin, *rogate* means “to ask.”

A Prayer for Planting

Bless the land, Creator God; bless pavement and open field, rocky cliff and desert sands, forest floor and ocean bottom. Hear, O hear our prayer...

Bless the water, Creator God; bless crystal streams and deep blue oceans, dancing waves on the lake and swirling eddies and rising tides. Hear, O hear our prayer...

Bless the air, Creator God; bless gentle breezes and powerful gusts, hurricanes and tornadoes and the silent stillness after a great storm. Hear, O hear our prayer...

Bless the animal kingdom, Creator God; bless house pets and forest dwellers and residents of the desert, bless four legged and many legged and the winged ones, bless the furry and the sleek and the scaly. Hear, O hear our prayer...

Bless our neighbors, Creator God; bless the factory worker and the farmer, the CEO and the waitress, the over-the-road trucker, the computer analyst, the unemployed and all your children. Hear, O hear our prayer...

Bless these little seeds we have planted, Creator God, and all that grows upon the earth. Bless us with desire to care for your earth so that your bounty will increase and all may share it! Hear, O hear our prayer...

Bless us, O God, let appreciation of your creation expand beyond our imaginings. Amen.

Taken from *Outside the Gates: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday of Easter*, written by the Reverend Jill K. Warner, Pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Aberdeen, SD.