
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL



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

“WELCOMING, LOVING, SERVING, WHERE GOD HAS NO LIMITS”

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

About the bulletin cover: *This picture was taken at Cedar Falls in Hocking Hills by Luke and Kate. Pastor Luke relates: "This was about half-way on the journey and it dawned on us that what we thought was our 6 mile round trip was really 12 miles! The response was joy, laughter and togetherness."*

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE “The Trees of the Field” – Steffi Geiser Rubin & Stuart Dauermann Cathy Fafrak, Organist

***VISIONING PRAYER** by Sharon Alberson

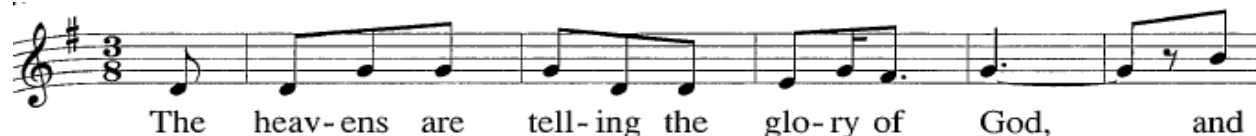
God, help us to be welcoming. God, help us to be loving.
God, help us to see that serving you can lead us to
A place full of grace with no limits where we can be free...
To open our hands, welcoming. To open our hearts, loving.
To be more than church on Sunday, to live in the light from above;
To celebrate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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me,
People: Let us go into the house of the Lord.
Leader: Gathered here in the mystery of this hour,
People: Gathered here in one strong body
Leader: Gathered here in the struggle and the power.
People: Spirit draw near.

*OPENING HYMN

“Canticle of the Sun” (vs. 1-3, 6)



all cre - a - tion is shout - ing for joy. Come, dance in the
 for - est, come, play in the field, and sing,
 sing to the glo - ry of the Lord.

Verses

1. Praise for the sun, the bring - er of day, He car - ries the
2. Praise for the wind that blows through the trees, The seas might - y
3. Praise for the rain that wa - ters our fields, And bless - es our
4. Praise for the fire who gives us his light, The warmth of the
5. Praise for the earth who makes life to grow, The crea - tures you
6. Praise for our death that makes our life real, The knowl - edge of

light of the Lord in his rays; The moon and the stars who
 storms, ♪ the gen - tl - est breeze; They blow where they will, they
 crops ♪ so all the earth yields; From death un - to life her
 sun ♪ to bright - en our night; He danc - es with joy, his
 made ♪ to let your life show; The flow - ers and trees that
 loss ♪ that helps us to feel; The gift of your - self, your

light up the way Un - to your throne.
 blow where they please To please the Lord.
 mys - t'ry re - vealed Springs forth in joy.
 spir - it so bright, He sings of you.
 help us to know The heart of love.
 pres - ence re - vealed To lead us home.

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950
 Tune: Marty Haugen, b.1950
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*OPENING PRAYER (see Mark 9:23-25)

Leader: When Sarah heard she would bear a child,

People: **She laughed.**

Leader: When we hear your voice of grace and promise,

People: **We laugh.**

Leader: Your love for us is often too wonderful for us to bear.

People: **Too surprising to be accepted outright.**

Leader: Help us to say what the wise father said to Jesus

People: **"Lord we believe! Help our unbelief!" Amen.**

***PRAISE RESPONSE**

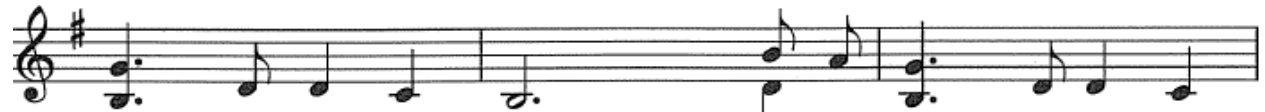
"Borning Cry" (vs. 1 & 2)

John Ylvisaker is the composer of a number of collections of music in the "contemporary" or "folk" idiom, as well as soundtracks for various media productions. This is perhaps his best-known song.

Tune: BORNING CRY 9.7.9.6.D.
John Ylvisaker, 1985



1 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
2 When you found the won - der of the Word, I was
3 In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
4 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be



there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the
old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you



were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.

St. 4, end



I was there when you were but a child, with a
Should you find some-one to share your time and you
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you

faith to suit you well; I'll be there in case you
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
 shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have
 wan - der off and find where de - mons dwell.
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

to beginning

SPECIAL MUSIC "What a Wonderful World" – Weiss & Thiele Carleigh Johns, soloist

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 "Borning Cry" (vs. 3 & 4)

SCRIPTURE Genesis 18:1-15 Dorothie Edinger, Liturgist

SERMON "Joy" Dan & Vicki Marty

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offertory Invitation

Abraham and Sarah offered three strangers amazing hospitality. Help us in this time, offer hospitality to strangers through our giving.

Offertory Music "Blessed Savior of All" – Franklin Ritter Cathy Fafarak, 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)**

God of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac. For daily bread. For forgiveness of debts and debtors. For hospitality in our world, we dedicate these to you. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** "The Trees of the Field"

Unison

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth be -
fore you. There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the
field Will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will
clap their hands, The trees of the
field will clap their hands, The trees of the
field will clap their hands While



Words by
Steffi Geiser Rubin

Music by
Stuart Dauermann

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***BENEDICTION**

Leader: Who am I that God is conscious of me?
People: I am a nobody. Like Abraham.
Leader: Hear the promise of God to you.
People: Everybody is God’s somebody.
Leader: You are blessed and treasured.
People: By the Creator of everybody.
Leader: Go to welcome, love and serve, 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 “Joy Eternal” – Garrett Parker**

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 Fazekas, Julie Gilliland, Ron Greinke

******Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service***
Today’s coffee hour is hosted by John & Kathi Kavouras.***

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister - 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
Jim Kiser, Director of Music; Cathy Fafrak, Organist
Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor
Xanthe Phillips, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

AUGUST 18, 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

August 18, 2019 thru August 25, 2019

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun 8:15 pm Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
9:15 am Choir Practice
10:30 am Traditional Worship
2:00 pm JMM Medina Meadows

Mon 10:00 am **GIFT CARD ORDERS DUE**
1:00 pm Breadmakers
6:30 pm Women's Bible Study

Tues

Wed 10:30 am Quilters
7:00 pm Discipleship & Education
Team

Thu 7:00 pm **Congregational Council**

Fri 1:30 pm JMM @ Evergreen

Sat Medina Fest on the Square
4:00 pm **Jazz Under the Stars**
(ORMACO) Rain Site

Sun 9:00 am Choir Practice
10:00 am **Alive on the Square Worship**
– ONE SERVICE OF
WORSHIP ON THE SQUARE
2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows
Sing-a-long
7:00 pm JMM @ WRMC

ALIVE ON THE SQUARE!

Our annual outdoor worship & picnic will be
SUNDAY, AUGUST 25TH @ 10:00 a.m.
Bring your lawn chair, family and friends!
All are welcome!

Pastor Luke is gone today, August 18, 2019.

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

Genesis 18:1– 15

Sermon Series – “Before I Die”

“Joy” – Dan & Vicki Marty

Altar Flowers: The altar flowers are donated by
Medith & Earle Olson in memory of loved ones.

GREAT FOR ANY SHOPPING

Please support the youth and purchase gift cards. Many vendors and denominations are available. 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 our own list. Complete a Green Order Form, also available on the table, and return to Kelly with payment.

**The next order is due on
August 19th by 10 am.**

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT

Our church will host the judged photographic exhibit “Hope for the Future” from August 24th-September 30th. This show, presented by the Cleveland Photographic Society, is open to the public during church office hours (9 am-3 pm) and on Sunday mornings. Come to the opening reception on Friday, September 6th from 5-8 pm (church member Jen Cockrell's photography has been selected to be on display!). 10% of the sale of each photograph will be donated back to the church. Invite your friends and family to check out the show!

RALLY DAY!

It's hard to believe that school year is starting. When school starts we know that the start of F.I.S.H. will be close behind. We will kick off our year of F.I.S.H. on **Sunday, September 8th**. We will have a special treat, play some games, meet our teachers for the year and see where our classrooms will be. Make sure to mark this important date on your calendar. We are looking forward to another great year.

TEACHERS NEEDED FOR F.I.S.H.

It is time to get ready for F.I.S.H. to start up again. I am looking for people who would be willing to teach the young kids in our church. We have an easy to use curriculum. Are you willing to be part of a team and teach one time a month? That is all you would have to do. If it is something you are interested in or if you have any questions, please contact Stacie Yates.

CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT

Do you like to play corn hole? Like some friendly competition? The youth will be hosting a corn hole tournament during the picnic after "Alive on the Square". There is a \$5 entry fee for each 2 person team that plays. We are hoping to have a lot of participants and a lot of fun! Sign up will be the day of. Contact Stacie Yates with any questions.

YOUTH GROUP KICKBALL KICK OFF

The first day of youth group will be Sunday, **September 15th** from 4:00-6:00 pm. If you are of youth group age (3rd grade-12th grade) mark this day on your calendar. The place is yet to be determined. Bring a friend to join in the fun! You will be getting an email with more detailed information. Looking forward to seeing you there!

NON-PERISHABLES

It was proposed that the Community Hunger Outreach Ministry collect non-perishable food during the summer recess. Kathy Goodwin is the new coordinator for the Garfield menu and church sign-ups. To ensure variety, she will have a list of items to choose from at the Garfield Family table. Contributions can be left anytime on the table under the stairs in the welcoming area. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUMMER NEEDS

With children home for the summer, some of our outreach projects have even greater needs. The Community Services Center has asked us to continue giving **toilet paper** and **bar soaps** but also added **liquid dishwashing gel**, **liquid laundry detergent** and **jellies** (peanut butter and jelly sandwiches—basic for kid survival) to the CSC most needed list. Please put these items in the gray BOGO bin across from the elevator. Yes, kids also keep coming to the library during their summer vacation. There are many blanks in our summer Library Shop and Drop program. Kindly call Maureen Walker if you are able to help with these needs, 330-321-4944. Many thanks for your generous caring and contributions!

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

Women's Breakfast Group will begin meeting again on the second Tuesday of each month at **9:00 am** starting on **September 10th** at **Buehler's on River Styx Rd.**

STAYIN' ALIVE

Our newly-planted trees and bushes need water—especially in hot weather. Sign up at the table by the kitchen to take a turn for a week. Just fill the buckets and water the bushes. Questions? Call the Zuehlke's, Pam Branscome or Harry Buch.

RETURNING AGAIN IN 2020

Friendship Trip to Costa Rica

Our congregation plans to return to Costa Rica next year to build a simple mercy home for the poorest of the poor. We will work again with Maximo, Rebeca, Mauricio, Manuel and our other friends to provide a family in need the security, comfort, and dignity of a simple new house. We are returning to Nosara, the rural village near the beautiful beach along the Pacific Coast. We fly in and out of Liberia, Costa Rica. The dates of the trip are January 31st-February 9th, 2020. No construction skills are needed to participate. Anyone can learn the simple skills needed. Each year, in addition to building houses, we make new friends, deepen our relationships with old friends, gain a new understanding of another culture, think deeply about our own lifestyles and goals, and renew our commitment to serving all of God's people.

Interested or need more information?

Kent/Judy Daugherty	330-722-5380	jad4120@zoominternet.net
Tammie McGivern	330-285-9599	tamohio1@aol.com
Vicki Miller	440-865-1516	tamvic1@aol.com

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

After a refreshing summer break, all choirs will be beginning rehearsal for the fall and Christmas seasons. Adult Chancel Choir practice begins Sunday, August 18th at 9:15 in the Chapel. The Youth Bells will begin rehearsals at 6:15 pm in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, September 4th, followed by the adult Alleluia Ringers from 6:45-7:45 pm. If you have any questions, contact Jim Kiser.

ENTERTAINMENT NEEDED! HOMECOMING PICNIC AT BUNKER HILL

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 at 7 pm

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. **Sign-up sheets are in the East Room and outside the kitchen.**

RESERVE YOUR SPOT AT THE HOMECOMING PICNIC

Come out and join us as we celebrate the church's Bicentennial year with a homecoming picnic at the Bunker Hill Golf Course Pavilion on Sunday, September 8th from 4:30-8:30 pm. Enjoy games, lively conversation, a delicious buffet dinner and cash bar, then stay for the musical extravaganza, campfire and s'mores!

The cost of the dinner is \$20 for adults, \$15 for kids ages 5-11 and free for children under 5. You may call or come in to the church office to reserve your spot, or you may go to the church's website at www.uccmedina.org and click on the Homecoming Picnic link. **Reservations are required by Sunday, August 25th.** Hope to see you there!

Luke 12:49-56

Restore Us

In 2015 a group of youth including Kiran Oommen, the son of a United Church of Christ pastor, filed a constitutional climate lawsuit, *Juliana v. U.S.* against the United States government. According to their website (<https://www.ourchildrenstrust.org/>), "Their complaint asserts that, through the government's affirmative actions that cause climate change, it has violated the youngest generation's constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property, as well as failed to protect essential public trust resources."

"I signed on as a plaintiff because climate change haunts me every day, and all I can think to do right now is speak out," Oommen said in an interview with the United Church News. "We have built a platform to have our voices heard, and I feel pride, honor, and a great responsibility to use it for the betterment of our world...Whether we're protesting in the streets, singing songs of rage, arguing in the courts, or simply talking to each other, I cannot imagine following any other path. When your home is going up in flames and you know why, putting your head down and covering your ears doesn't feel like an option."

Kiran is supported in his activism by his mother, Rev. Melanie Oommen. "My message to the wider church is 'The learning from this lawsuit is what we have been doing as the church for 2000 years,'" Rev. Oommen said. "Building loving and justice-seeking communities of resistance to the Empire has prepared us well for this moment. Draw closer, sing louder, pray more, open the doors and windows and hearts of our communities of faith and let us work together with all people of faith and goodwill. The courts may or may not solve climate change, but a Spirit-led people surely can!"

Jesus' challenging words from two thousand years ago continue to ring in our ears today, mingling with the shouts and cries of our youth. The message our Christ proclaims will sometimes be hard to hear. Those who follow him may sometimes come in conflict with family and friends. But the signs are clear – our beautiful earth is burning. It is not too late. As Christ's followers, how will we respond?

You can read Kiran and Melanie's quotes, and a full story about them at:

http://www.ucc.org/news_delays_dont_deter_young_plaintiff_in_landmark_climate_lawsuit_11112018.