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# 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

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

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

### RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

### GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE “Come, Now Is the Time to Worship” – arr. Carol Tornquist 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: From Jerusalem.

People: **You mean Medina!**

Leader: Sure. But from Medina, to Samaria.

People: **Where’s that?! We just got here and you want us to move?**

Leader: No. I’m speaking metaphorically.

People: **Okay. Continue.**

Leader: From Medina to our country to the ends of the earth.

People: **Do we have to?**

Leader: Work where you are. Follow the Spirit’s lead.

People: **In faith, hope, and trust, we follow God’s lead in this worship.**

### \*OPENING HYMN

“The Church of Christ In Every Age”



1 The church of Christ, in ev - ery age be -  
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the  
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a  
 set by change, but Spir - it led, Must  
 vic - tims of in - jus - tice cry For  
 car - ing church that longs to be A  
 claim and test its her - i - tage and  
 shel - ter and for bread to eat, and  
 part - ner in Christ's sac - ri - fice, and  
 keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
 nev - er live be - fore they die.  
 clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.

Post Fred Pratt Green has been a chaplain, parish minister, administrator, and playwright. Since retiring from parish responsibilities in 1969, he has been an active hymnwriter and makes his home in Norwich, England.

Tune: WAREHAM L.M.  
 Wilton Knapp, 1738

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

Leader: Lord, reveal to us all that makes itself an enemy to the life you want for us.

People: **Help us hunger so deeply for the freedom of all your people that we risk. Risk walking among enemies who pervert justice. Risk going from our home into the unknown. Risk ourselves for the sake of your beloved community. You who shine in all that's good. Season our lives with your love. Amen.**

**\*PRAISE RESPONSE**

**"Come Now, Almighty God" (vs. 4)**

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 6.6.4.6.6.4.  
 Felice de Giardini, 1769

4 To you, great One in Three, e - ter - nal  
 prais - es be prais for ev - er - more.  
 Your sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,  
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

**WELCOME AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Emily Fargo, Ryan Collins,  
 Unable to be present: Kristin & Jared Zabrosky

**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.

**ANTHEM** "Will You Come and Follow Me" – arr. Susan T. Nelson Alleluia Ringers

**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** "Freely, Freely"

WORDS: Carol Owens, 1972 (Mt. 10:8; 28:18-20)  
 MUSIC: Carol Owens, 1972  
 © 1972 Communiqué Music, Inc.

FREELY, FREELY  
 99.99 with Refrain

He said, "Free - ly, free - ly you have re - ceived,  
 free - ly, free - ly give. Go in my name, and be -  
 cause you be - lieve, oth - ers will know that I live."

**SCRIPTURE**                    Matthew 28: 16-20 and Acts 1: 6-11                    Pete Metzloff, Liturgist

**SERMON**                    "From Here to There"                    Rev. Luke Lindon

**OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory Invitation**

We have heard of the call to build homes in Costa Rica. We give thanks to all who have participated in this mission! We give thanks for this current mission trip. All loose offerings will go toward this trip. Let us now freely give as we are led.

**Offertory Music**            "Trio – Op. 49, No. 1" – Josef Rheinberger                    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 of the 2020 Mission Trip to Costa Rica**

**Leader:** Lord, may the clouds part and may we see you. It is often through giving that our spirits open to receive your teachings and strength, both here and there. Be with our siblings who are about to embark on a great journey.

**People:** **May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ go with you; wherever he may send you;  
 May he guide you through the wilderness: protect you through the storm;  
 May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you;  
 May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.**

**In the name of the Gracious Mystery, of Jesus our Lord and Savior, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit we dedicate you, your path, and your gifts to the building of God's beloved community. Amen!**



1. "Go make of all dis - ci - ples." We hear the call, O  
 2. "Go make of all dis - ci - ples," Bap - tiz - ing in the  
 3. "Go make of all dis - ci - ples." We at your feet would  
 4. "Go make of all dis - ci - ples." We wel - come your com -



Lord, That comes from you, our Fa - ther, In  
 name Of Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it— From  
 stay Un - til each life's vo - ca - tion Shows  
 mand. "Lo, I am with you al - ways." We



your e - ter - nal Word. In - spire our ways of  
 age to age the same. We call each new dis -  
 forth your ho - ly way. We cul - ti - vate the  
 take your guid - ing hand. The task looms large be -



learn - ing Through earn - est, fer - vent prayer, And  
 ci - ple To fol - low you, O Lord, Re -  
 na - ture God plants in ev - 'ry heart, Re -  
 fore us— We fol - low with - out fear. In



let our dai - ly liv - ing Re - veal you ev - 'ry - where.  
 deem - ing soul and bod - y By wa - ter and the Word.  
 veal - ing in our wit - ness The Mas - ter Teach - er's art.  
 heav'n and earth your pow - er Shall bring God's king - dom here.

**\*BENEDICTION**

Leader: Church! You have been blessed to be a blessing! From Jerusalem.  
People: **To Samaria. To the ends of the earth!**  
Leader: Go in the many names of God! For this service has ended.  
People: **And our service now begins! Amen!**

**PLEASE REMAIN SEATED FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**\*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** "In Christ There is No East or West" – arr. Gilbert M. Martin Cathy Fafrak, Organist

*\*\*\*Please join us for All-Church Potluck immediately following the Annual Meeting.*

**"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"**

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\* Those who are able are asked to please stand

*Ushers: Pete Benson, Julie Gilliland, Dick Christy, John Sandora*

**PASTORAL STAFF**

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Pastor – 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  
Nicole Rubino, Co-Director of Youth  
Jim Kiser, Director of Music  
Cathy Fafrak, Organist  
Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor  
Xanthe Phillips, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool  
Jack Sharpe, Maintenance

# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## JANUARY 26, 2020

**“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)

January 26, 2020 thru February 2, 2020

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Blanket Sunday Special Offering</b> <b>New Members Join</b> 8:15 am Chapel Worship 9:00 am Gathering Worship 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Traditional Worship <b>11:30 am ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING</b> <b>12:00 pm ALL CHURCH POTLUCK BRUNCH</b> 2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows Sing-a-long 7:00 pm JMM @ WRMC
<b>Mon</b>	
<b>Tues</b>	<b>2:00 pm</b> Tuesdays @ 2:00 pm Bible Study
<b>Wed</b>	10:30 am Quilters 6:15 pm Youth Bell Choir practice 6:45 pm Adult Bell Choir practice
<b>Thurs</b>	Garfield Deliveries 7:00 pm Financial Peace University
<b>Fri</b>	1:30 pm JMM @ Evergreen
<b>Sat</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>“SOUPER” Bowl Sunday</b> 8:15 am Chapel Worship 9:00 am Gathering Worship 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class 10:30 am Traditional Worship 11:30 am All Youth Groups Cook for Cups Café 2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows Sing-a-long 3:00 pm Confirmation Class

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

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20 and Acts 1:6-11

Sermon: “From Here to There” - Rev. Luke Lindon

**Altar Flowers:** The altar flowers are given this week by Jerry & Laverne McGuire in memory of all their lost loved ones.

### TODAY IS BLANKET SUNDAY

Church World Service (CWS) has distributed thousands of blankets around the world in 2019. Your congregation can be part of an even greater response in 2020. You will reach families fleeing their homes, recovering from disaster and more. Share blankets, warmth and comfort with your neighbors. Your contributions go a long way to help families in need so please be generous in your support for Blanket+ Sunday. Thank you!

### ANNUAL MEETING TODAY!

Our Annual Budget Meeting will be held immediately following the 10:30 service. Please plan to stay after worship or come back if you worshipped earlier!

### POTLUCK BRUNCH

**TODAY, January 26, 2020 – 12 pm**

Good eats, good fellowship, good times! Come join your church family for our inaugural Potluck Brunch following the church's annual meeting.

## **Upcoming Youth Events:**

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- \*January 26 – NO Confirmation Class
- \*February 2 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class 9:30-10:15
- \*February 2 – Cooking for Cups: All Youth Groups 11:30
- \*February 2 – Confirmation Class 3:00-4:30
- \*February 9 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class 9:30-10:15
- \*February 16 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class 9:30-10:15
- \*February 16 – Soup Cook-off 11:30
- \*February 16 – Confirmation Class (with Parents) 3:00-4:30

## **“SOUPER” BOWL SUNDAY**

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**February 2, 2020**

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 participate in every year. Everyone is asked to bring a can of soup and \$1 on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The money collected will be going to help feed our Garfield Families. The soup will be given to the food pantry at the Medina Methodist Church. Please help support our youth and this mission project on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **WANTED: SOUP**

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**Soup Cook-off ~ Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

The youth will be hosting a Soup Cook-off on February 16<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 on the bulletin board in the East Room hallway. We hope you will plan on joining us on this day for some yummy soup, great fellowship and friendly competition!

## **HAVE WE OVERLOOKED ANYONE?**

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Do you know any older church member or friend of the church who might enjoy visits from a Circle of Caring member? If so, please call the church office (330-725-4559) or Syd Benson (330-725-5540).

## **GARFIELD STUDENT NEEDS**

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We are working to support the Garfield students. The following items have been requested: **Full size toothpaste and deodorant.** Please help us to meet their needs. Place items in the bin at the bottom of the staircase marked Hygiene Items. (Do not place in the Garfield food bins, this is a separate ministry)

## **HELP WITH GARFIELD FAMILIES FOOD SIGNUP**

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We are looking for a few good souls to man the Garfield Families food table on Sunday mornings. You should be there from 10:00 to 10:25 am to assist those signing up for donations. There will be a sign up list on the Garfield table by the elevator. Thank you, Kathy Goodwin.

## **CALLING ALL LOUSY BOWLERS!!!**

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It doesn't matter if you bowl a 200 or a 20. We need 20 people or 5 teams to start! A team consists of 4 people, sign up yourself or with a friend and you can be assigned to a team.

We will bowl on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays opposite the youth group meetings @ 2pm in Medina Lanes. The league will start January 26<sup>th</sup> for 8 sessions.

Pricing is \$10-\$12 per person and will include a Lousy Bowler T-shirt and free games to bowl during the week. **Signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the East Room hallway.** If you are interested or have questions please contact me at [pedesario@gmail.com](mailto:pedesario@gmail.com) or text me at 330-591-5868.

All ages are welcome; no bumpers. An official email will be sent out with fees and other details when we meet our goal of teams.

## **SUGGEST HOW WE CLOSE OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR**

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Our 365 days of celebration began on Founder's Day 2019, and concludes on Founder's Day, February 23, 2020. On that Sunday our choir will premiere a specially-commissioned anthem with an easy-to-learn melody (hint, hint) and we will place a time capsule in a very well-remembered location as our fond bequest to a future generation who unlocks it 25 years from now.

What will they discover in that time capsule? For starters, a stack of archive-quality "Memory Cards" currently being collected by Jan Coleman, also a copy of our most recent photo directory, along with our congregational portrait taken last summer.

What else will our descendants discover? You are invited to submit your suggestion for that *One Item* which will lead them to being delightfully-flabbergasted and react with some familiar utterances: "Oooh..." and "Ah-ha!" and "Huh??" and [*gasp/sigh...*] "Awww..."

In early February we will post the results and conduct a congregational poll to prioritize your ideas. The "Bicentennial Time Capsule Suggestion Box" now in the East Room, is ready and waiting to receive your suggestions. -Harry Buch (Mr. Bicentennial Guy)

## **BICENTENNIAL "TIME CAPSULE"**

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The yearlong observance of our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary will culminate on Founders Day with the ceremonial dedication/deposition of the Time Capsule. Memory Cards are available near the drop off collection box (not the actual time capsule box) in the East Room. Members are asked to fill out this form with pertinent family information, as well as favorite memories, stories, or experiences that connect you to this church. They are printed on non-acetone paper so that the ink will not fade after the first 25 years. Please do not simply discard this form. Fill it out and drop into the box. Cards will be collected through the last week of January.

## **CIRCLE OF CARING MEMBERS PLEASE HELP WITH THE TIME CAPSULE PROJECT**

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Please take a Time Capsule form with you when you make your visits and help the person you visit fill out the form so it can be turned in the last week of January. Crafts will be available for delivery on January 26<sup>th</sup> so you could take a form with you when you deliver the crafts that last week in January.

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## **SENIOR SPOT**

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If you are 60 or are disabled, have your taxes done for free.

To schedule an appointment for help with your taxes please call 330-723-9514 for Brunswick or Medina.

Medina residents may have their taxes done at the Medina Library Monday & Wednesday mornings.

Brunswick residents may go on Tuesday & Thursday mornings.

Trained AARP volunteers will help you complete your tax forms.

## **CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**

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Are you a home caregiver who:

- Is caring for someone with Alzheimer's or another form of memory loss (dementia?)
- Is not sure how to work through behaviors that can be challenging or frustrating?
- Is experiencing stress and/or isolation and not sure who to turn to for help?

Join us for a brief informational presentation followed by a group discussion where you can share and benefit from other's experiences!

WHERE: Brookdale Medina South Assisted Living, 100 High Point Dr. Medina – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of Every Month 6-7 pm. RSVP Suzanne Sparks 330-714-2041 or [suzanne.mcleod@brookdale.com](mailto:suzanne.mcleod@brookdale.com)

“Why go?” and “Why them?”

One of the most common questions I get asked about going to Costa Rica for mission trips is “why aren’t you helping people in the United States?” In my opinion, I think mission work is incomplete if we ignore our brothers and sisters beyond our geographic borders. We should not replace Local with Global mission work, but we need to stretch ourselves to do both. Just looking at the last few Pilgrim Messengers I can see we are supporting CUPS, Garfield Families, Senior Car Repair, Prison Ministry, Rake and Run, Youth Mission Trips, Coin Jars for Mobile Meals, etc. We have also collected Special Offerings for Neighbors in Need and Veterans of the Cross. We have not forgotten our neighbors by going to Costa Rica – going to Costa Rica makes our Mission Program richer, diverse and even more inclusive. The other question I get asked is, “Why spend the money to go on a mission trip – why not just send them the money you spend for travel, etc. That would be more of a help than a group of Americans showing up?” I struggle with this same question and tend to agree with this statement. That is why I love the work we do with Mercy Homes. We are not just building the same school that the last 50 Mission Teams have worked on. We can see the project from beginning to end. We start with nothing and end the trip gifting a new home to a family in need. We can see the results of our work, both a tangible and spiritual Mission Event has been accomplished. It is a great experience for everyone involved!

## Bicentennial Tidbits

Members (especially our youth) were asked to help celebrate the Bicentennial by building models of what they envisioned the original log cabin church might have looked like.



## HOBBY HORSE REGISTRATION

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Our church owned preschool will begin registration online for the 2020-2021 school year on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020. You may review our curriculum, classes offered, and fees by visiting our school website at: [www.hobbyhorsepreschool.org](http://www.hobbyhorsepreschool.org). If you are interested in scheduling a tour or receiving registration information, please contact our Director, Xanthe Phillips, at 330-722-1445.

**Families that are members or friends of our church may register prior to January 26<sup>th</sup> by contacting Xanthe or stopping by the Hobby Horse Preschool office during school hours.**

Families currently enrolled in Hobby Horse may register beginning January 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. Registration for former families and Open Community Registration will begin online at 10:00am on Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. This will be done by going to our website and clicking on the "Register" tab.

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**The deadline for submission of articles for NEXT Sunday's *Messenger* is this Sunday at 11:30 am**

**Please submit articles to the church office at [office@uccmedina.org](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)**

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

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January 26, 2020

Third Sunday after Epiphany - *Health and Human Service Sunday*

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Matthew 4:12-23

### Called Together

#### *Litany for Health and Human Service Sunday*

Wonderful Creator, In the beginning you made the world – rocks and trees, water and animals. You created, and you looked on your creation and called it good. Good, you decided, but not complete. And so you created us. You made people. You created us to be beautifully diverse – with many colors of skin, many levels of ability, many shapes and sizes. In our diversity, you also created us with a common longing – to love and be loved, to grow and thrive, to live lives of meaning and purpose.

Brother Christ, You came to earth to show us how to be both fully human and completely divine. You loved and cried, taught and touched, died and rose again. By your healing touch, you brought others close to you and to your heavenly Parent. You modeled for us how to live lives of sacrifice and service, how to be healers of the ills of body and mind. You encouraged us to be bringers of hope to all we encounter.

Holy Spirit, You are the Advocate. You accompany us day by day, hour by hour, breath by breath. You are the challenger, the encourager and the sustainer. You impel us toward places of need and longing in your world, and infuse us with the desire to be your people. You lift us, giving us energy when our own spirits flag. And you promise to remain with us, no matter what.

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer; you are both one and three. You are both distinct and in relationship. As neither one part of your divine being is complete without the others, so we are called to lives of radical interconnectivity. Create in us a desire to bring hope and healing to all we encounter. In your many powerful names we pray, Amen.

*Today is Health and Human Service Sunday. This is a special opportunity to create awareness of the health concerns of our communities and world, and to learn about the many and various health and human service ministries of the United Church of Christ. It is observed annually in the United Church of Christ and is an opportunity to talk about health in a holistic way, address the issues of justice in our health care systems and learn about how each of us can become involved. The resources for observing Health and Human Service are available throughout the year and may be used for the many opportunities congregations and other organizations have for creating awareness of and responding to the health needs of their communities and throughout the world. To learn more about Health and Human Service Sunday, please visit:*

[https://www.ucc.org/health\\_hhs-sunday](https://www.ucc.org/health_hhs-sunday)