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# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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

www.uccmedina.org



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

**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.*

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*Bulletin cover was created by Lynnea Jodway*

### RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

### GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE “The Summons” – arr. Anne Krentz Organ

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: They are right, those who doubt what we do.

**People: It is purely the product of over-active imaginations.**

Leader: Who but the foolish would look at untamed wilderness,

**People: And imagine a town square. A courthouse. A sanctuary.**

Leader: Who but the foolish would look at the barren ground,

**People: And imagine food for all.**

Leader: Who but the foolish would look back at 200 years of history,

**People: And see the future.**

Leader: So if faith is the terrain of the deluded,

**People: We the foolish faithful will continue the march with this, our worship.**

### \*OPENING HYMN

**“Come, Now Is the Time to Worship”**

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart.  
Come, just as you are to worship.  
Come, just as you are before your God.  
Come

One day every tongue will confess you are God  
One day every knee will bow  
Still the greatest treasure remains for those  
Who gladly choose you now.  
(Repeat)

One day every tongue will confess you are God  
One day every knee will bow  
Still the greatest treasure remains for those  
Who gladly choose you now.

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart.  
Come, just as you are to worship.  
Come, just as you are before your God.  
Come

Come, now is the time to worship  
Come, now is the time to give your heart.  
Oh come, just as you are to worship.  
Come, just as you are before your God.  
Come

CCLI# 2430948  
©1998 Vineyard Songs

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

God of our Mothers and our Fathers, we give you thanks for this day. For the toil and vision that created these walls. For the lives that dwelt within. For the lives changed and enriched by the fellowship created here. For the bold acts of justice. For the simple acts of kindness. For the multitude of prayers lifted to you. For the vision of Christ they were. For how they followed to the best of their ability the movement of your Spirit. For all that have come before us that brought us to this day. For all that has come before that propels us into the future. We give you thanks and praise. Amen.

**\*PRAISE RESPONSE**

**"Faith of Our Fathers" (vs. 2)**

2. Faith of our fa - thers, we will strive to win all na - tions  
un - to thee; and through the truth that comes from God,  
we all shall then be tru - ly free. Faith of our fa - thers,  
ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death.

The musical score is written on four staves in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and ties. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

**ANTHEM**

“God’s Love Is Everlasting” – Words and music by Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir

***Commissioned for the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
Medina United Church of Christ-Congregational, Medina, OH.***

*At our request, Mark Hayes wrote the opening and ending portions of this anthem to also include the congregation. We would like you to listen closely to it so we could do it in the future during worship either as an anthem or a stand-alone response. The following are the words of the entire anthem. The **bold faced** words are the congregational part.*

**Sing with all your heart and soul and voice.  
Let your spirit soar, O soul, rejoice!  
For God’s love is everlasting.  
God’s love is everlasting.  
God’s love endures forever, for all time.**

I’ve loved you just the same.”  
I trust you with my future  
and leave behind my past.  
I rest upon this promise,  
your love alone will last.

**Let the universe resound with praise.  
As glories of our God the earth displays.  
For God’s mercy is forever.  
God’s mercy is forever.  
God’s mercy will endure beyond all time.**

Sing, oh, sing! Rejoice!  
Lift your voice and rejoice!

You are my Rock, my Shield.  
You guide me day to day.  
You are my All in All.  
You are the Truth, the Way.

**Sing with all your heart and soul and voice.  
Let your spirit soar, O soul, rejoice!  
For God’s love is everlasting.  
God’s love is everlasting.  
God’s love endures forever, for all time.**

And when my heart is breaking,  
I hear you gently say,  
“You are my beloved child.  
I’ve called you by your name.  
In ev’ry season of your life

**Let the universe resound with praise  
As glories of our God the earth displays.  
For God’s mercy is forever.  
God’s mercy is forever.  
God’s mercy will endure beyond all time.**

God’s love endures beyond all time!

**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**

**"Dona Nobis Pacem"**

① \*  
Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem. Do - na  
no - bis pa - cem. ② Do - na no - bis pa - cem.  
Do - na no - bis pa - cem. Do - na  
no - bis pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem. ③

*\*May be sung as a canon*

WORDS: Trad. Latin  
MUSIC: Trad.

DONA NOBIS PACEM  
Irr.

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 5:38-46

Pam Branscome, Liturgist

**SERMON**

"Go Beyond"

Rev. Luke Lindon

**OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory Invitation**

For the gifts that sustain our ministries. For the gifts that give life and light. Let us collect this morning's offering.

**Offertory Music**

"The Spirit Sings" – Colin Curtis

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.**

**\*A Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication** (by the Rev. Harry Buch)

Leader: Let us join together with one voice to thank God whom we worship in this time and place.

Eternal God, the constraints of time cannot contain you,

**People: much less this wooden vessel made by mortal hands and humbly offered here.**

Leader: We thank you for the gift of this slender slice of your boundless eternity in which we now dwell.

**People: Because you gifted us with time to be, we bring our moments and our days as gifts again to you.**

Leader: May we fully share with you and each other our grateful wonder at living here and now:

**People: this moment, this hour, this day, this week, this month, this year, this span of [time / life] allotted to us.**

Leader: Gracious Giver of all gifts, in this holy moment make us aware, not so much of what we have given, as of all we have received and so have yet to share.

**People: Let your generosity so flow through us that our lives will be gifts given freely and abundantly in joy and thanksgiving.**

Leader: We offer our very selves, O God, as well as the tokens contained within this reliquary.

**People: We consign them to the relentless flow of time and commend them to a later generation of your faithful people.**

Leader: May the contents of this reliquary provide vibrant testament of our life together in this generation.

**People: May it be acceptable to you and delightfully illuminating to those who will follow us on the pilgrimage of faith through the ages. Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG**

**"The Summons"**



1. Will you come and fol - low me If I but  
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but  
3. Will you let the blind - ed see If I but  
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide If I but  
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true When you but



call your name? Will you go where you don't  
call your name? Will you care for cruel and  
call your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
call your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
call my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know And nev - er be the same? Will you  
 kind And nev - er be the same? Will you  
 free And nev - er be the same? Will you  
 side And nev - er be the same? Will you  
 you And nev - er be the same. In your

let my love be shown, Will you let my  
 risk the hos - tile stare Should your life at -  
 kiss the lep - er clean And do such as  
 use the faith you've found To re - shape the  
 com - pa - ny I'll go Where your love and

name be known, Will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, And ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, Through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown In you and you in me?  
 prayer In you and you in me?  
 mean In you and you in me?  
 sound In you and you in me?  
 grow In you and you in me.

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**\*BENEDICTION** (from "For A Leader" by John O'Donohue)

Leader: May you know the wisdom of deep listening,  
**People:** The healing of wholesome words,  
 Leader: The encouragement of the appreciative gaze,  
**People:** The decorum of held dignity,  
 Leader: The springtime edge of the bleak question.

Leader: May you have a mind that loves frontiers  
People: **So that you can evoke the bright fields  
That lie beyond the view of the regular eye.**

Leader: May you have good friends  
People: **To mirror your blind spots.**

Leader: May leadership be for you  
People: **A true adventure of growth.**

Leader: May God grant us another 200 years of faith, hope, and love.  
People: **And the greatest of these is love!**

Leader: Go from here, blessed to be a blessing! 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** "When, in Our Music, God Is Glorified" – arr. Anna Laura Page Cathy Fafrak, Organist

*\*\*\*Please join us for All-Church Brunch in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.*

**"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, Crell Johns*

**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

## FEBRUARY 23, 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)

February 23, 2020 thru March 1, 2020

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>Sun</b>	<b>FOUNDERS DAY</b> No F.I.S.H. today 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 am Founders Day Worship</b> <b>ONE SERVICE ONLY</b> <b>11:30 am ALL CHURCH BRUNCH</b> 2:00 pm JMM @ Medina Meadows Sing-a-long 2:00 pm Sunday Church Bowling League 7:00 pm JMM @ WRMC
<b>Mon</b>	1:00 pm Breadmakers
<b>Tues</b>	2:00 pm Tuesdays @ 2:00 pm Bible Study
<b>Wed</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 10:30 am Quilters <b>7:00 pm Ash Wednesday service</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	Garfield Deliveries 7:00 pm Financial Peace University <b>7:00 pm Congregational Council</b>
<b>Fri</b>	1:30 pm JMM @ Evergreen
<b>Sat</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	8:15 am Chapel Worship 9:00 am Gathering Worship 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal <b>9:30 am 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class</b> 10:30 am Traditional Worship <b>11:30 am Mission Team</b> 4:00 pm Youth Group

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

Scriptures: Matthew 5:38-46

Sermon: “Go Beyond”  
Rev. Luke Lindon

**Altar Flowers:** The altar flowers are given this week by Kellie & Crell Johns in honor of their 16<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### POTLUCK BRUNCH TODAY

COME JOIN US FOR POTLUCK BRUNCH  
TODAY FOLLOWING THE 10:00 AM SERVICE.

### A BIRTHDAY GIFT TO THE CHURCH

As we conclude our Bicentennial celebration the Endowment Committee is inviting you to consider giving a

#### **BIRTHDAY GIFT**

to the Endowment Fund to honor this special time. We invite you to be a wise builder as we would read in 1 Corinthians 3:10

*“I laid a foundation like a wise master builder...but someone else is building on top of it. Each person needs to pay attention to the way they build on it”*

Won't you consider making a gift to the Endowment Fund? Just as others built this church for us, so we become builders for the future church on the Square.



## **Upcoming Youth Events:**

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- \*March 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class 9:30-10:15
- \*March 1 – Youth Group 4:00-6:00
- \*March 6-8 – Confirmation Retreat
- \*March 13-14 – Elementary Youth Lock-In  
7:30 pm – 9:00 am
- \*March 15 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class 9:30-10:15
- \*March 22 – Confirmation 3:00-4:30
- \*March 29 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class 9:30-10:15

## **SOUP COOK-OFF THANK YOU**

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Thank you to everyone who made a soup and/or dessert for our soup cook-off. They were all delicious! Thank you also to everyone who stayed and enjoyed some yummy food and fun fellowship. After all the tasting was done and the tallying of votes was finished, our winner of the Golden Ladle award for 2020 was Kellie Johns for her Broccoli Cheese Soup. Thank you again for your support. Together we raised \$555.00. This money will help with the youth trip to National Youth Event.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

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Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 25, 2020 from 12 - 2pm for the Ladies and Girls Tea**. The program will be presented by Women in History from Lakewood, Ohio. Tickets will be the same price as last year, \$10 per person and \$5 for those under 10. Ticket sales will begin on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> before and after the 10:30 service in the East Room. If you have questions, please contact Beth Hari or Darlene Fazekas.

## **LENTEN SOUP & SALAD DINNER**

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We are hosting the Lenten Soup and Salad Dinner Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up to bring a crock pot of soup, salad topping and/or brownies/cookies to the event. Please have your crock pot of soup to the church no later than 5 pm. Sign-up sheets are available in the East Room. A service will follow at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

## **LENTEN SCHEDULE 2020**

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- February 26<sup>th</sup> – **Ash Wednesday Service**  
UCC, Congregational – 7:00 pm
- March 4<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>  
**WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT**  
6:00pm Dinner & Lenten Worship  
“HALF/TRUTHS”
- April 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Women’s Fellowship Lenten Luncheon** 12pm – 2pm
- April 5<sup>th</sup> – **Palm Sunday** Palm Parade 10:30am
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – **Maundy Thursday** 7:00pm  
First Christian Church  
4797 Sharon-Copley Rd.
- April 10<sup>th</sup> – **GOOD FRIDAY**  
OFFICE CLOSED @ NOON
- April 10<sup>th</sup> – **Good Friday service** - 7:00pm  
UCC, Congregational, Chapel
- April 11<sup>th</sup> – **Easter Egg Hunt** 1:00pm  
First Christian Church  
4797 Sharon-Copley Rd.
- April 13<sup>th</sup> – **Easter Monday** – OFFICE CLOSED

### **Easter Services: April 12, 2020**



- 7:00 am Sunrise – **Spring Grove Cemetery Chapel**
- 8:15 am – **UCC Chapel**
- 9:00 am – **Fellowship Hall**
- 10:30 am – **Sanctuary**

## **CALLING ALL PEOPLE WITH A HEART FOR KIDS: ANNUAL EASTER BAG PROJECT**

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Our Congregation will continue the beloved tradition of providing Easter Bags to the children of incarcerated people in Medina County and we can only do it with your help. We are looking for volunteers to help make phone calls, organize the supplies and bags, and deliver the bags on April 11th. The family and children have loved this ministry every year. Sign-ups are available and you can contact Ryan Collins for more information: [rpcollins1@gmail.com](mailto:rpcollins1@gmail.com) or 330-321-7028.

# ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

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February 26<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m.

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

Can't make it to worship? Join us via Livestream at [www.uccmedina.org](http://www.uccmedina.org)

The Lenten season begins with the annual Ash Wednesday service. Lent is the 40 day season prior to Easter (not including Sundays) that has been observed by Christians since ancient times. During this season, through prayer and reflection, Christians prepare their hearts and lives to receive the risen Christ on Easter morning.

For several years Medina UCC and First Christian have joined together for the Ash Wednesday worship experience. Medina UCC is hosting the service in our sanctuary this year. During the service participants are invited to receive on their foreheads, if they desire, the mark of the cross in ashes. The ashes are a sign of our mortality and penitence. Holy Communion, as a symbol of God's deep love, is also offered. The service is for the whole family.



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## 2020 LENTEN DINNERS & WORSHIP

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**6:00 pm Wednesdays \*\* March 4<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**MMA Lenten Series: Half/Truths**

Based on the series by Adam Hamilton: They sound Christian—like something you might find in the Bible. We've all heard these words. Maybe we've said them. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways.

Join local area churches in searching for the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés to the message and ministry of Jesus. The clichés include:

**March 4** - "Love the sinner, hate the sin." - St. Paul's Episcopal (317 E. Liberty St)

**March 11** - "God said it, I believe it, that settles it." - Medina UCC (217 E. Liberty St)

**March 18** - "God won't give you more than you can handle." - First Christian Church  
(4797 Sharon Copley Rd)

**March 25** - "God helps those who help themselves." - St. Matthew Lutheran  
(400 N. Broadway St)

**April 1** - "Everything happens for a reason." - Medina Presbyterian (5020 Burgundy Bay Blvd)

**April 10** - Good Friday - Stations of the Cross - **On the Square of Medina**

Free will offering will go to the MMA Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship.

# Bicentennial Tidbits

Music programs – A “Music of Faith” concert was held on June 2, 2019 and a reprise performance featuring Christmas music through the ages was presented on Dec 8, 2019. We also commissioned a new composition from a well known composer for Founders Day on February 23, 2020, to conclude the Bicentennial Celebration year of events.

**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.”

Commissioned for the 200th anniversary of the  
Medina United Church of Christ-Congregational, Medina Ohio

**God's Love Is Everlasting**

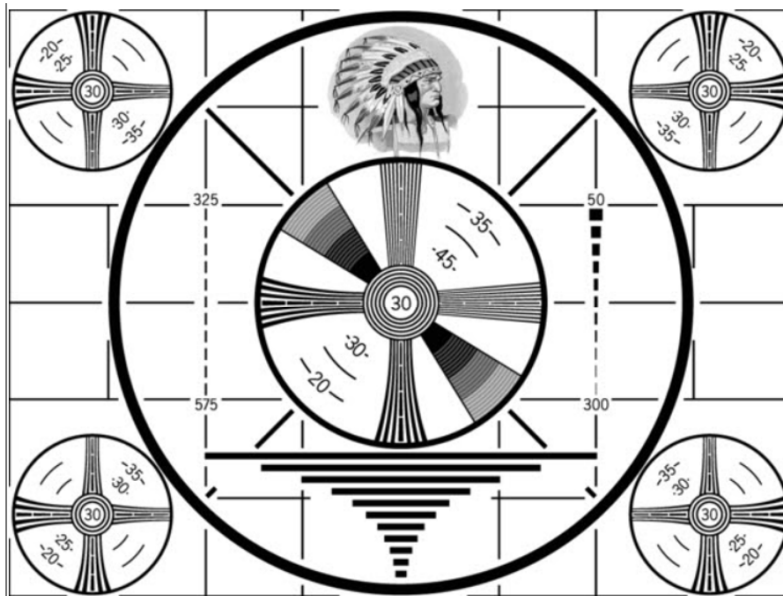
For SATB Choir, Piano and optional Brass Quintet and optional Congregation

Words by  
MARK HAYES  
based on Psalm 136,  
Psalm 18:2, Isaiah 43:1,  
1 John 3:1-2

Music by  
MARK HAYES  
(ASCAP)

Spirited (♩. = ca. 76)

*mf*



## Bicentennial Tidbits

### Signing off ...

I hope you have enjoyed these 106 weekly snippets of UCC history.

We have gathered them into a full color printed book format – one per family, please.

Free will donations are being accepted to help cover the cost of printing, which was roughly \$10 per copy. Please also consider paying for a copy of the Tidbits collection for a FUTURE member.

Since 1976, February has been designated as National Black History month. The month of February was chosen as a symbolic gesture because it includes the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (Feb 12<sup>th</sup>) and Fredrick Douglas (Feb 14<sup>th</sup>). When Gerald Ford implemented Black History Month he urged the nation to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history". All of us are familiar with the Obamas, Oprah Winfrey, Harriet Tubman and Tiger Woods. Some of us are familiar with Maya Angelou, Sojourner Truth, Langston Hughes and Thurgood Marshall. Most of us have never heard of the Rev. Lemuel Haynes, Phillis Wheatley or Sengbe Pieh. I encourage you to look up those names and see how they are connected to our UCC ancestors. As you will learn, the UCC/Congregationalists weave our history solidly throughout Black History Month. I believe the biggest impact we have had comes in the form of education. Many of you know that the Congregationalists started some of our best New England Universities like Harvard and Yale. Did you know that after the Civil War, the AMA (American Missionary Association) of the Congregationalists worked with freed African Americans to found hundreds of schools, colleges and churches all over the South to educate freed slaves and their children? These became the first inter-racial schools in the country, as white New Englanders traveled to the South to teach in the schools attended by both the children of freed slaves and the teacher's own children. Examples of these institutions of higher education are Fisk, Talladega, Berea, Hampton, Atlanta and Howard. All change begins with education – take some time this month and learn about our country's rich African American history and the deep connections with the UCC.

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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\*\*\*\*\***

Matthew 17:1-9

### **Dazzling Reign**

When the disciples went up the mountain with Jesus, they first encountered the past, seeing their transfigured friend alongside the prophets Moses and Elijah. Having glimpsed the past, they were prepared for future ministries and the leadership role they would play in a changing world and a changing church.

Six graduate schools and programs in theology play an especially important role in the preparation of pastoral leaders for the United Church of Christ – both helping student ministers engage with the wealth of our church's tradition and preparing them for ministry of the future. Although there are other institutions where a prospective minister might receive credentialing, these six seminaries of the United Church of Christ have been recognized for their special commitment to and relationship with the UCC.

Today, on Seminary Sunday and Church Vocations Sunday, we give thanks for the generations of new pastors, past and future, who find community, commitment and challenge at these institutions of higher learning.

Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School  
New Haven, CT

Chicago Theological Seminary  
Chicago, IL

Eden Theological Seminary  
St. Louis, MO

Lancaster Theological Seminary  
Lancaster, PA

Pacific School of Religion  
Berkeley, CA

United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities  
New Brighton, MN