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# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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

[www.uccmedina.org](http://www.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 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” – arr. by Linda Scholes

Youth Bells

### \*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: The word for today is “Integrity.”

People: **Integrity. Noun. The state of being whole and undivided.**

Leader: Something with integrity is stable,

People: **All parts support the whole.**

Leader: Jesus said (and Lincoln quoted),

People: **A house divided cannot stand.**

Leader: May the Spirit unite us in our worship.

People: **And may our worship lead to acts of kindness, peace, and love.**

### \*OPENING HYMN

**“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”**

WORDS: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776  
MUSIC: Thomas Hastings, 1830

TOPLADY  
77.77.77



1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me  
2. Not the la - bors of my hands can ful -  
3. Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply  
4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine



hide my - self in thee; let the wa - ter and the blood,  
fill thy law's de - mands; could my zeal no res - pite know,  
to the cross I cling; na - ked, come to thee for dress;  
eyes shall close in death, when I soar to worlds un - known,



from thy wound - ed side which flowed, be of sin the  
could my tears for - ev - er flow, all for sin could  
help - less, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the  
see thee on thy judg - ment throne, Rock of A - ges,



dou - ble cure; save from wrath and make me pure.  
not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

#### OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Ancient of Days, you have stood the test of time. You are our Rock of Ages. You can be trusted. Your word is true. We thank you that you have shown us love in and through the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, our savior. To you be the glory, now and forever. Amen.

#### \*PRAISE RESPONSE

#### "This Little Light of Mine"

*The texts of these two spirituals may be used interchangeably with the tune This Joy. For an alternate version, this melody may be sung with the accompaniment of "Glory, Glory Hallelujah." A more traditional setting of "This Little Light" is provided with the tune Lattimer.*

Tune: THIS JOY Irr.  
African-American spiritual  
Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993  
See also LATTIMER

1 This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine. . . . .

This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.

This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,

let it shine, . . . . let it shine, . . . . let it shine, (oh let it shine.)

ANTHEM

"Hope in Me" – Terre Johnson

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stacie Yates

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Leader:** God of surprises, you call us from the narrowness of our liturgy, to new ways of being. From the captivities of our culture, to creative witness for justice. From the smallness of our horizons to the wideness of your vision.

**People:** **Let our light shine for the world, so that through us, your radiance might guide all on the path to freedom and renewed faith.**

**Leader:** Jesus, wounded healer, you call us from the preoccupation with our own histories and hurts to daily tasks of peacemaking, from privilege to pilgrimage, from insularity to inclusive community.

**People:** **Keep us salty, so that we might preserve your vision and call each other to wholeness and integrity.**

**Leader:** Holy, transforming Spirit, you call us from fear to faithfulness, from clutter to clarity, from a desire to control to deeper trust, from the refusal to love to a readiness to risk.

People: Make us like a watered garden, quench our thirst, so that we might be empowered to respond to your call with our whole selves, in every part of our lives. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Make Me a Servant"

Make me a ser- vant, hum- ble and meek; Lord, let me lift up those who  
are weak. And may the prayer of my heart al- ways be: Make me a  
ser- vant, make me a ser- vant, Make me a ser- vant to - day.

TEXT: Kelly Willard  
MUSIC: Kelly Willard  
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SERVANT  
Irregular meter

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 58: 1-12 and Matthew 5: 13-20 , Liturgist

SERMON "Salty Living" Rev. Luke Lindon

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offering Invitation

You are invited to salt the earth with love. Give not out of guilt, but out of an intention to spread more good in the world.

Offertory Music "Hymn" – Caleb Simper/arr. Michael Ryan Cathy Fafrak, Organist

\*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

We aspire to welcome, love, and serve. To be a city on a hill. A lamp on a lampstand, giving light to all in our community. May these gifts help love shine out, and your love be known, O God. Amen.

\*SENDING SONG "We Are Called to Be God's People"

TEXT: Thomas A. Jackson  
MUSIC: Franz Joseph Haydn  
Text © Copyright 1975 by Broadman Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

AUSTRIAN HYMN  
8.7.8.7.D.



1. We are called to be God's peo - ple, Show - ing by our lives His grace,  
2. We are called to be God's ser - vants, Work - ing in His world to - day;  
3. We are called to be God's proph - ets, Speak - ing for the truth and right;



One in heart and one in spir - it, Sign of hope for all the race.  
Tak - ing His own task up - on us, All His sa - cred words o - bey.  
Stand - ing firm for god - ly jus - tice, Bring - ing e - vil in - to light.



Let us show how He has changed us And re - made us as His own;  
Let us rise, then, to His sum - mons, Ded - i - cate to Him our all,  
Let us seek the cour - age need - ed, Our high call - ing to ful - fill,



Let us share our life to - geth - er As we shall a - round His throne.  
That we may be faith - ful ser - vants, Quick to an - swer now His call.  
That we all may know the bless - ing Of the do - ing of God's will.

**\*BENEDICTION** (Celtic Benediction: Morning and Night Prayer by *J. Philip Newell*)

Leader: In the busyness of this day

**People: grant me a stillness of seeing, O God.**

Leader: In the conflicting voices of my heart

**People: grant me a calmness of hearing.**

Leader: Let my seeing and hearing, my words and my actions

**People: be rooted in a silent certainty of your presence.**

Leader: Let my passions for life

**People: and the longings for justice that stir within me**

Leader: be grounded in the experience of your stillness.

**People: Let my life be rooted in the ground of your peace, O God,  
let me be rooted in the depths of your peace. 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** "Carillon Toccata" – Douglas E. Wagner Cathy Fafrak, Organist

**MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"**

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\* Those who are able are asked to please stand

***Ushers:*** Darlene Fazekas, Julie Gilliland, Pete Benson, Dick Christy

***\*\*\*Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service\*\*\****

***Today's coffee hour is hosted by Elaine and Bill Lamb.***

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**PASTORAL STAFF**

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister – email: [luke@uccmedina.org](mailto:luke@uccmedina.org)

**OFFICE STAFF**

Cindy Korecky, Office Manager – email: [office@uccmedina.org](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)

Kelly Charnley, Financial Manager – email: [financial@uccmedina.org](mailto:financial@uccmedina.org)

**PROGRAM STAFF**

Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education

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

Rich Sisson, Custodian

# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## FEBRUARY 9, 2020

**“WELCOMING, LOVING, SERVING, WHERE GOD HAS NO LIMITS.  
MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY!”**

February 9, 2020 thru February 16, 2020

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>Sun</b>	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class</b>
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Safety &amp; Security Meeting</b>
	2:00 pm	“Lousy Bowlers” League
	3:00 pm	JMM @ Brookdale N. Hymn Sing
	3:00 pm	Youth Group Valentine Delivery to Medina Meadows
<b>Mon</b>	6:30 pm	Women’s Bible Study
<b>Tues</b>	8:00 am	Men’s Fellowship @ P.J. Marley’s
	2:00 pm	Tuesdays @ 2:00 pm Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Worship Team
<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>	<b>MEDINA ICE FESTIVAL WEEKEND</b>	
	1:30 pm	JMM @ Evergreen
<b>Sat</b>	9:00 am	Brass Rehearsal
<b>Sun</b>	Return from Costa Rica	
	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Class</b>
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Soup/Chili Fundraiser</b>
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Caring Team</b>
	<b>11:45 am</b>	<b>Mission Team</b>
	2:00 pm	JMM @ Medina Meadows
	3:00 pm	Confirmation Class

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

Scripture: Isaiah 58:1-12 and Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon: “Salty Living”  
Rev. Luke Lindon

**Altar Flowers:** The altar flowers are given this week by Jane & L.B. Schaefer in memory of their loved ones.

### Upcoming Youth Events:

\*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

### BOOK SALE TODAY!

Stewart Jones will be selling his newest book “More Simple Thoughts” on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. You may catch him following all three services. The cost of books is \$10 and you can even have him personally autograph one for you!

### WANTED: SOUP

**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!

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**The church office will be closed on  
Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> in observance of  
President's Day**

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**POTLUCK BRUNCH  
February 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 11:00 am**

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COME JOIN US FOR POTLUCK BRUNCH  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>  
FOLLOWING THE 10:00 AM SERVICE.  
**YOU MUST RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND.**  
Stop by the table set up in the East Room to sign  
up for what you would like to share. Good eats,  
good fellowship, good times!

**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).

**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.

**BOARD GAME NIGHT**

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**Friday, February 21, 2020 – 6-9 pm  
in Rooms 9 & 10**

Come challenge fellow board game enthusiasts  
for a Friday night of fun, skill and strategy. Bring  
your favorite game or come and try a new one.  
Pizza & drinks will be provided... bring a snack to  
share! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin  
board. If you have any questions, please see Jim  
Kiser.

**NEW ADDRESS**

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Leonard Machles has moved!  
His new address is:  
7900 Creedmoor Rd., Apt. 254  
Raleigh, NC 27613-1679

**CORRECTION TO NEW MEMBER  
LISTING FOR DIRECTORY**

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If you picked up one of the additional sheets with  
new member contact information on it, please be  
sure to make note of one correction:

Mary Dagostino  
**550** Miner Dr.

Currently, Rm. 201 (subject to change soon)

**JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT:**

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	JAN	YTD	Annual Budget	YTD as a % of Budget
<b>Income:</b>	\$26,078	\$26,078	\$358,252	7.3%
<b>Expense:</b>	\$30,504	\$30,504	\$372,383	8.2%
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>				
	(\$4,426)	(\$4,426)	(\$14,131)	

- Blanket Sunday Offering was \$960.00
- Automatic Withdrawal Options are available  
for your weekly, monthly or even quarterly  
contributions; contact Kelly for form to  
complete.

**GIFT CARD ORDERS**

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Plan ahead now for Special Occasions and  
place your Gift Card order soon. Please see the  
Yellow Retailer List in the rack outside the  
church office or visit [www.glscrip.com](http://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 in the rack by the church  
office and return to Kelly or Stacie with payment.

**The next order will be due a day later on  
Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.**



## **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.

## **A BIRTHDAY GIFT TO THE CHURCH**

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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.

## **ADD YOUR NAME TO OUR BICENTENNIAL CONGREGATIONAL PORTRAIT**

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Many of us will recall Sunday, May 19 as the day we gathered after worship for a Bicentennial “family photo.” That congregational portrait has shown up in various places including the church’s website and the cover of this year’s pictorial directory. An archive quality print of this portrait will be placed in the Bicentennial Time Capsule, and we want to make sure that those who open the time capsule many years from now will be able to identify everyone pictured. In the East Room is a copy of the portrait on which each participant has been labeled with a number. A corresponding “roll-call” book will list the name of those present. The next time you visit the church, please stop by the East Room, take a moment to locate yourself in the portrait, and add your name to the roster.

**“A CHILD OF THE KING”**

I was just a little boy that was very tired. I had been helping my big brother, Jesus, all day and was ready for bed. I put on my pajamas and was about to crawl into bed when I remembered I hadn't said good night to my Father. I opened the bedroom door and headed down a very long hallway. My Father has a very big house. Some would even call it a palace. I knew Dad would still be in His throne room. I approached the big doors and two of the angel guards drew their swords and asked what I wanted. I told them I was a child of the King and wanted to say goodnight to Him. They immediately put down their swords and flung the great doors open. I trotted into a huge room with many strange sights. But, I wasn't worried because I knew Dad was here. I waved hello to Uncle Peter who always was near the door. I picked up some of the golden crowns that were on the shore of the great glassy sea and skipped them like rocks across it. I stopped for a minute to listen to the heavenly choir saw a large group of people dressed all in white who just kept saying "how long". I walked carefully past several large beasts that kept repeating "Holy, Holy, Holy" in very loud voices. I then saw Dad sitting on a large throne with my brother, Jesus, sitting on another throne at His right hand. They were both flanked by twelve very old elders with long white robes. But, I wanted to see my Father. I got close and He reached down and lifted me onto His lap. I hugged Dad and told Him how much I loved Him. He hugged me close and asked how my day had gone. I told Him all of the good things I had done today. I also had to tell Him of the bad things I had done and how I would try and do better tomorrow. He hugged me close to Him and said He was sure that I would. He said Jesus had told Him how hard it was sometimes. I was having trouble keeping my eyes open and fell asleep in my Father's arms with Him tenderly stroking my brow. The next morning I awoke in my own bed with a glorious light streaming in the window. I was ready for breakfast and starting a new day working and playing with Jesus. I knew I had a lot to do today because...I am the child of the King!

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

**Pick one question to answer:**

(or all three, you're Congregationalists! You can do what you want!)

What is our next right step?

What do you love about this church?

What do you want to know more about?

What is your gift that you are looking to add to our gatherings but you're unsure how to get started?

Matthew 5:13-20

### **Restoring Beauty**

In the approximately 5,000 churches across the denomination, thousands of church members have been impacted in the past decade by the adult education curriculum, *A Sacred Conversation on Race*, which has had an immeasurable impact on many church members' thinking about race and white privilege.

While the conversation continues, some are discovering that action can move their congregations beyond merely talking, and into action. *Sacred Conversations to End Racism (SC2ER)* is a restorative justice curriculum which builds on the work that has been done and takes it a step further under the guidance of trained facilitators. Unlike its predecessors, *Sacred Conversations to End Racism* is not a self-guided resource, with trained facilitators key to the success of the program.

"The United Church of Christ remains committed to being an anti-racist church. However, we are facing a resurgence of tactics and behaviors in America that call for a deeper commitment to eradicate the ongoing practices of oppression, hate speech, individual bigotry, and overt violence against communities of color," said the Rev. Velda Love, UCC Minister of Racial Justice and curator of this new resource. "SC2ER provides new language and strategies to move people beyond anti-racism conversations to active engagement. SC2ER seeks to restore humanity, eliminate myths and stereotypes, and engage in deep truth telling about the construction of whiteness and white supremacy."\*

To find out how you can take the next step from conversation to action, visit <https://www.ucc.org/sacred-conversations-to-end-racism>.

*\*Larkman, Connie. UCC launches 'Sacred Conversations to End Racism' curriculum in commitment to racial equity in America (Accessed July 24, 2019)*

[https://www.ucc.org/news\\_ucc\\_launches\\_sacred\\_conversations\\_to\\_end\\_racism\\_curriculum\\_in\\_commitment\\_to\\_racial\\_equity\\_in\\_america\\_04062018](https://www.ucc.org/news_ucc_launches_sacred_conversations_to_end_racism_curriculum_in_commitment_to_racial_equity_in_america_04062018)