



Live Stream Worship

June 28, 2020

10:30 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL



217 E. Liberty St. Medina, Ohio 44256 330-725-4559
www.uccmedina.org Email: office@uccmedina.org

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

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

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

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” – arr. Richard Blake Cathy Fafrak, Organist

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Take a moment to think about the people who sit beside, behind, and in front of you in church. Connect with them by phone, email, or text to pass the peace of Christ and offer support and encouragement. Write “Peace” on our Facebook live or turn to someone in your house and offer peace.

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 (based on For Calling the Spirit Back from Wander the Earth in Its Human Feet by Joy Harjo, from *Conflict Resolution for Holy Beings*, pages 4 & 5)

Leader: Put down that bag of potato chips,

People: **That white bread,
That bottle of pop.**

Leader: Turn off that cellphone,

People: **Close all other tabs on your computer.**

Leader: Open the door, then close it behind you.

Take a breath offered by the friendly winds.

People: **They travel the earth gathering essences of plants to clean.**

Leader: Give it back with gratitude.
 Acknowledge this earth who has care for you since you were a dream,
 planting itself precisely within your parents' desire.
 Let the earth stabilize your postcolonial insecure jitters.
 Be respectful of the small insects, birds, and animal people who accompany you.

People: **Ask their forgiveness for the harm we humans have brought down upon them.**

Leader: Don't worry.

People: **Don't hold regrets.**

Leader: Cut the ties you have to failure and shame.

People: **Let go the pain you are holding in your mind, your shoulders, your heart, all the way to your feet.**

Leader: Let go the pain of your ancestors for those who are heading in our direction.
 Ask for forgiveness.
 After all this... Then you must do this:

People: **Help the next person find their way through the dark.**

Leader: For these things, and more undiscovered.

People: **We take the gift that is the present. To take stock.
 To begin the inner journey.**

Leader: To connect with our God and our neighbor and our own forgotten selves.

People: **Let us worship.**

OPENING HYMN

"Jesus Calls Us"



1. Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
 2. As of old the a - pos - tles heard it by the
 3. Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 4. In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in



sweet voice sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me!"
toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more!"
cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these!"

WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1852 (Mt. 4:18-22)
MUSIC: William H. Jude, 1874

GALILEE
87.87

OPENING PRAYER (prayer of a woman suffering from Alzheimer's Disease, from *Prayers Encircling the World*, Page 184)

Dear Lord Jesus,
I don't know who I am.
I don't know what I am.
I don't know where I am.
But please love me. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Fantasie Impromptu, Op. 66"

Ian Morgan, Piano

SCRIPTURES Psalm 13 and Matthew 10:40-42

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

Pastoral Prayer

SERMON "Hospitality"

Rev. Luke Lindon

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offertory Invitation

Thank you for continuing to financially support the work and mission of the church! You can give in many ways of your time, talent and treasure. You can send your offering via mail or online at www.uccmedina.org/give. You can also give of your time and talent of writing and calling one another to strengthen the ties that bind. Let us now sing the doxology to our God, from whom all blessings flow.

Doxology (*Thomas Ken, 1674; adapted*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter: One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication (From Canaan Banana, Zimbabwe, *Prayers Encircling the World* page 108)

Open my eyes that they may see the deepest needs of people.

**Move my hands that they may feed the hungry;
Touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the despairing;
Teach me the generosity that welcomes strangers;
Let me share my possessions to clothe the naked;
Give me the care that strengthens the sick;
Make me share in the quest to set the prisoner free.**

**In sharing our anxieties and our love,
our poverty and our prosperity,
We partake of your divine presence. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Leader: Be with us, Oh God.

People: In our comings and our goings.

Leader: In our explorations of soul and creation.

People: In our doubt and questions, and unchallenged certainties and cherished truths.

Leader: Bless us, Oh Lord,

People: In these thy gifts,

Leader: Which we have received.

People: Are receiving.

Leader: And are about to receive.

People: Afflict our comfort, and comfort our afflictions.

Leader: GO! Being the blessed beings that you are to share God's love,
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 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" – J. Walther/ed. J. Linker Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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Participating in the service

Rev. Luke Lindon, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Pam Branscome
Rev. Harry Buch
Cathy Fafrak, Organist
Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education
Jim Kiser, Director of Music
Matt Yates, Sound & Video Operator

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

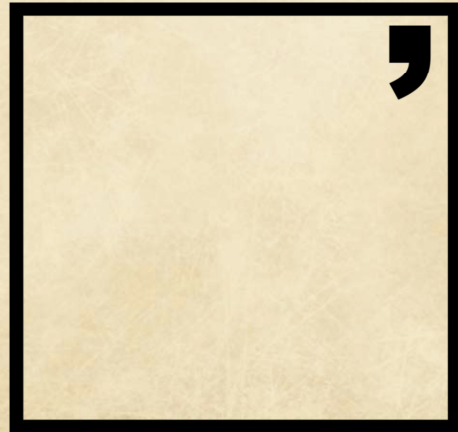
Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education
Nicole Rubino, Co-Director of Youth
Jim Kiser, Director of Music
Cathy Fafrak, Organist
Rebecca Rosen, Nursery Supervisor
Xanthe Phillips, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool
Jack Sharpe, Maintenance
Joe DeSario, Custodian

June 28, 2020

SCAVENGER HUNT

Watch the live stream to spot:

- Flat Jesus**
- Baby Yoda**
- Unicorn**
- Rainbow**
- Wonder Woman**
- Batman**
- Sun**
- Bible**
- Peace Sign**



MEDINA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. CONGREGATIONAL

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

JUNE 28, 2020

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

June 28, 2020 thru July 5, 2020

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun

10:30 am WORSHIP LIVESTREAM

GO TO: www.uccmedina.org/live

You may give online or mail in your offering

7:00 pm Outdoor Vesper Service

Under the Pergola

Weather permitting

Mon

Tues

**Wed 2:00 pm Zoom Book Study
“Unbinding Christianity”**

Contact Pastor Luke or the Church Office for
a link to connect to the meeting

Thurs

Fri CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Sat INDEPENDENCE DAY

Sun

10:30 am WORSHIP LIVESTREAM

GO TO: www.uccmedina.org/live

You may give online or mail in your offering

HAVING TROUBLE EMAILING THE CHURCH OFFICE?

If any of you are having issues with emails bouncing back when you try to email me at office@uccmedina.org please try my alternate email at uccoffice@zoominternet.net It will come through my outlook email just the same as the other email. Thank you, Cindy

Highlights: 10:30 Live Stream Only

Scriptures: Psalm 13 & Matthew 10:40-42

Sermon: “Hospitality” - Rev. Luke Lindon

Flowers: The altar flowers are given by Dick & Joyce Komjati in honor of their 66th anniversary.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED IN
OBSERVANCE OF THE 4TH OF JULY ON
FRIDAY JULY 3RD AND MONDAY JULY 6TH**

“JUST MERCY” MOVIE TALK

Pastor Luke will lead a Zoom virtual discussion about the movie “Just Mercy” on **Tuesday, July 7th at 7:00 pm.** A powerful and thought-provoking true story, “Just Mercy” follows young lawyer Bryan Stevenson and his history-making battle for justice. You can stream the movie for FREE through 6/30 on iTunes, Amazon Prime, YouTube and other platforms. **Email luke@uccmedina.org to sign up/for more info.**

FREE WASHABLE FACE MASKS AVAILABLE

Sue Dean has been making washable face masks. If anyone is in need of a face mask, (one/ two...or whatever) she would be happy to give them away to anyone who needs them. They will deliver them or bring them to the church for anyone who wants to pick them up. Please contact the church office or Sue directly. Sue & Ken Dean are listed in the church directory.

Thanks to everyone who voted in our “electronic” congregational meeting process to receive the reports of the various teams and to elect our moderators for the next year. A total of 108 votes were received during May 29 through the June 16 cutoff by paper or electronically. This is in excess of 10% of the 581 active members, so the requirements for a quorum have been met. The vote to elect the Moderators was unanimous and there was one abstention vote regarding the approval of team reports. Congratulations to Matt Yates as our new Moderator Elect!

Pete Metzloff, Clerk

Kelly Charnley, “Inspector of Election”



VIRTUAL VBS IS HERE!

Ages 3 years old through 5th grade

COVID-19 has changed a lot of what we do and where we go for the past four months (has it really only been four months?☺). These changes have affected us all in one way or another. This past week the church should have been buzzing with children for our annual Vacation Bible School, but that too has been affected. But, never fear, the DELTS have a solution. We will be holding a virtual VBS the week of July 6th. We will be doing it through Google classroom. Here is how it will work, each morning at 9:00 am Stacie will go live with the Bible Story. After the Bible story we may play a quick game, have a science experiment, or some other fun activity. After the bible story the links for the crafts, snacks, science and music will be posted in the Google classroom and you can access those at your convenience during the day. Take home kits will be provided for the crafts and science projects. A list of snack items will also be included in the take home kits so the kids can make the snack if they choose to do so. On Friday, we will have a special parade where the kids will be able to drive through the church parking lot and get their ice cream that we always have and see all the leaders. There will be a \$5 charge per child to help with the cost of the take home kits. We are going to do our best to make it fun, memorable and most importantly, share the love of Jesus with the children. The registration is on the church website and facebook. Go there now to sign up! Registration will end on June 26th.

ZOOM BOOK STUDY - 2 p.m. Wednesdays, May 27th – July 29th

**Join Pastor Luke for a ZOOM book study session! The Book: “Unbinding Christianity”
*Choosing the values of Jesus over the beliefs of the church.***

Why? Let’s discuss a more open-handed way of approaching our faith. What would church look like if we focused not on what you believe, but on how we live like Christ?

Interested? The send an email to Luke letting him know you want the Zoom link! luke@uccmedina.org (Facebook messages, tweets, and texts also will be accepted)

Can’t make the time? We’ll have a recorded archive at your request.



Congratulations to Emily and Erik Fargo on the birth of their son. Noah Robert Fargo was born on May 22, 2020

Congratulations to Leah and Kenny Knapp on the birth of their daughter, Michaela Joy on June 22nd. Grandparents are Dan and Ellen Hunter.

SUMMER MUSIC SIGN UP

Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4fafa62fa3fc1-uccsummer> to provide summer music for the Sunday worship live stream. All instruments are welcome-- piano, violin, vocal, trumpet, flute, guitar, etc! **We have slots left in July and August!** If you are a singer and need piano accompaniment from Cathy, Pastor Luke can record the 2 of you ahead of time in the sanctuary; let him know. Please send a landscape video of your song ONE WEEK PRIOR via <http://wettransfer.com> or Google Docs to Pastor Luke luke@uccmedina.org. Assume worship will be virtual unless you hear otherwise. Thank you, and we can't wait to hear your musical gifts!

SUNDAY EVENING VESPERS

Under the leadership of Matt Yates and Maureen Walker, we've gathered a team of folks who are in the medical field. Suzanne Kanner, Paul DeSario, Stephanie Young, and Rob Wilder. They will draft policies, determine tasks, and staff teams to carry out the tasks to keep us safe during the pandemic.

Because the pandemic is still happening. We're not even in a "second wave" as we're not done with the first. While cases are declining, a friend stated that even in our decline, every 5 days we reach Italy's numbers. That's concerning. Advice comes out only to be rolled back a day later. It's a baffling time. And I know I'm impatient to get back to some sort of normal. I'm sure many of you are, too. I feel like we're on shifting sand and if anyone gets this virus due to my impatience, it would be very hard to forgive myself.

In this time of fear and uncertainty, let us be reminded of the power of community and worshipping together. To give our re-opening team a chance to work (and they've met twice by the time you read these words), I propose a **Sunday Evening Vespers Service**.

Starting on **June 28th at 7 p.m.** we'll worship in the pergola, weather permitting. If it's drizzling or raining, then we won't have vespers.

Come as you are, summer attire of t-shirts and shorts (think summer camp vespers). Bring your own chairs. We'll practice social distancing and wear masks. Tell a friend!

We will have two songs from various musicians in our congregation, a prayer, and a brief meditation. The meditations will focus on the Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23.

Blessings to you. Looking forward to seeing you in real time!

Yours in Christ,

-Pastor Luke

White Privilege: Let's Talk—A Resource for Transformational Dialogue

Have you ever heard of the term "White Privilege" before and wonder what it means? Or maybe you have heard it and understand it but don't know what to do next. Maybe you have never heard it before but are interested in healing racial divides. If you fall anywhere on this spectrum, this class is for you!

White Privilege: Let's Talk—A Resource for Transformational Dialogue is an adult curriculum from the United Church of Christ that's designed to invite church members to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive, and bold conversations on race.

Divided into four focused parts, each one introduces a different aspect of the dynamic of white privilege:

1. The Spiritual Autobiography Told Through the Lens of Race
2. Whiteness as the Norm: Five Loci of Insights on the Binary of Light/Dark and Black/White
3. The Cash Value of Whiteness or Whiteness as a Tax-Exempt Status
4. On Becoming an Ally

Ryan Collins will be facilitating the class online using the curriculum provided by the UCC. Each class should last about 1.5 hours and last 6 weeks, but it is designed to be flexible so we can work to shorten the class and extend the amount of meetings if needed. Please sign up at this link <http://eepurl.com/g8xTy1>

Teen Class will begin Tuesday, June 30th at 7:00 pm

Adult Class will begin Thursday, July 8th at 7:00pm

(Days and times can be changed depending on a majority preference of the attendants)

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*******

Matthew 10:40-42

Holy Welcome

Today, on *Open and Affirming Sunday*, we celebrate the United Church of Christ's "Holy Welcome" to the full diversity of LGBTQ+ people. One of the blessings of this work is that our denomination does not go it alone. Consistent with our motto "That they may all be one," we join the welcoming movements of many other denominations in working for full inclusion of LGBTQ+ people in houses of worship and faith communities across the nation.

You and others in your church community are invited to join this ecumenical movement, by hosting or attending a "Building an Inclusive Church" training.

According to the Institute for Welcoming Resources (<http://www.welcomingresources.org/communityorg.htm>), *"The Building an Inclusive Church trainings help you design and implement a process for your congregation to publicly and intentionally welcome people of all gender identities and sexual orientations. Building an Inclusive Church equips you with ways to create dialogue, deepening relationships throughout the congregation rather than sparking debate and division.

You will have opportunities to engage through a mix of presentation, hands-on practice, and small group discussion. Many of the tools you will learn come from faith-based relational organizing, such as the one-to-one visit and strategic storytelling. Grounded in scripture and discipleship, this training allows you to explore your own Christian call to hospitality and evangelism.

If you are currently in a welcoming process, if you are thinking about starting a welcoming process, or if you fear what would happen if you began openly discussing a welcome to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, this training could be for you! Feel free to invite your clergy and other members of your congregation to attend with you. And because this curriculum is shared across the ecumenical Welcoming Church Movement, feel free to share this with friends from other denominations."

*Accessed January 2020. <http://www.welcomingresources.org/communityorg.htm>