

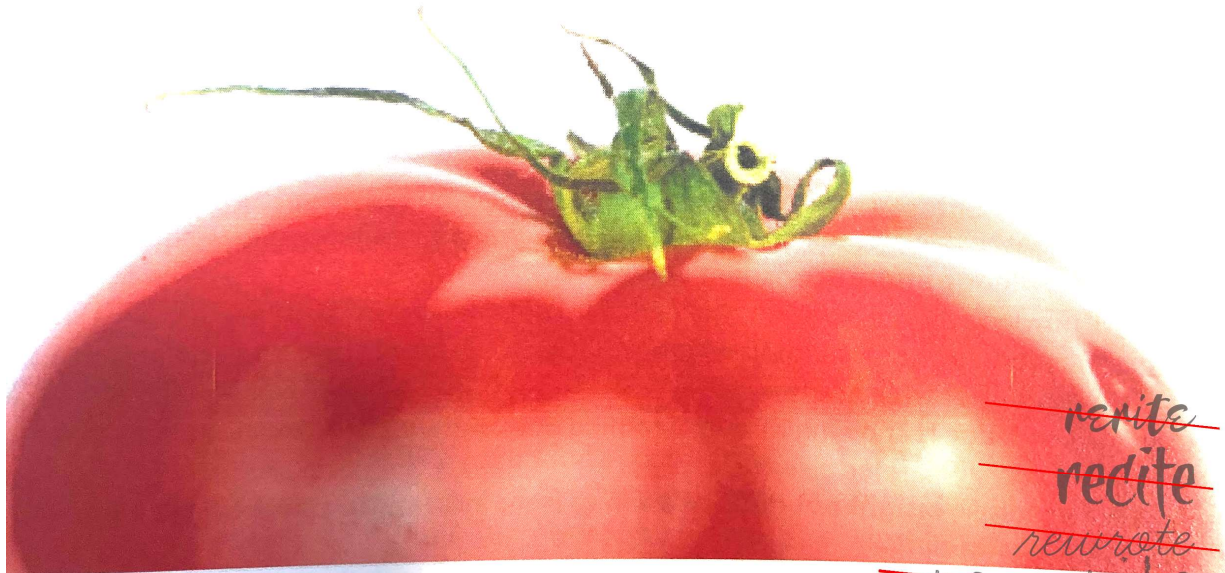
AUGUST 30 2020

~~AUGUST 6, 2017~~

TOMATO

Medina

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL



~~revite~~

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~~re-write~~

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REWRITE

SERMON SERIES



10:30 a.m.

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

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

**Those who are able please stand*

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELL

PRELUDE “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” – arr. Lloyd Larson Cathy Fafrak, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE 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 (generated by a Facebook conversation)

Leader: We gather today seeking the difference between knowledge and wisdom.

People: **Knowledge informs, wisdom edifies.**

Leader: Knowledge is memorizing "the early bird gets the worm" and "haste makes waste."

People: **Wisdom is understanding which situations call for getting up early and which situations require patience.**

Leader: Knowledge is knowing through learning or experience.

Wisdom is being able to know how.

People: **Wisdom is insight not data.**

It's a leap from information to the next step of understanding.

Leader: Knowledge is knowing tomato is a fruit, wisdom is knowing not to put it into a fruit salad.

People: **Let us seek knowledge and arrive at wisdom through our worship today.**

***COMMUNITY PRAYER** (from Kevin Anderson's "Noble Sun," in *Noble Nature; Meditations on the abundant wisdom of creation*. CLB Press, 2014.)

Creator God, you have given us the noble sun, on duty 24/7/365/ 4 billion. Holding great orbs in orbit, but never too preoccupied by the gravity of its responsibilities to ripen a tomato. Teach us how to be in this world. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Who Cares?" by John W. Peterson

Alice Metzloff, soloist

SCRIPTURE Matthew 14:13-21

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 "REWRITE: Tomato" Originally given on 8/6/2017 at Medina UCC,C

Rev. Luke Lindon

HYMN

"Here I Am, Lord" (vs. 1)



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I, who made the
They turn a - way. I will break their
My hand will save. Fin-est bread I

stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
 hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
 will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you
 call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you
 lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Isaiah 6; Dan Schutte, b. 1947
 Tune: Dan Schutte, b. 1947; arr. by Michael Pope, SJ, and John Weissrock
 © 1981, OCP

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS (Inspired by Hafiz, "The Sun Never Says")

For those who are worshipping with us here, there are baskets on either side of the Sanctuary in which to place your offering as you exit. For those who are worshipping via Livestream, you can go to uccmedina.org/give or mail your contribution to the church office.

Let us reflect on what generosity means for us today. Even after all this time, the sun never says to the earth, "You owe me." Look what happens with a love like that. It lights the whole sky. May what we offer today be like sunrays that give light to our world.

Let us now stand and sing the Doxology together.

***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**

Giver of Wisdom, guide this offering to enrich and bless lives. We trust and will follow your guidance in what we have offered. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: Foolish, foolish God, your belly laugh echoes through the world,

People: **We have responded to your invitation to join in the Banquet.**

Leader: Here we have tasted your goodness.

People **May the joy we find in this meal together lift up our hearts,**

Leader: May we carry your laughter to the world around us,

People: **May we live out that foolishness called wisdom wherever we go.**

Leader: We go in your name, seeking to do your will. This service has ended.

People: **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 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" – arr. Wilbur Held Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Pastor – 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
Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool
Jack Sharpe, Maintenance
Jack Manhoff, Custodian

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

AUGUST 30, 2020

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

August 30, 2020 thru September 6, 2020

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun

WELCOME BACK to IN PERSON WORSHIP!

- 8:15 am Chapel Worship (in the sanctuary)
- 9:00 am Gathering Worship
- 10:30 am Traditional Worship
- 7:00 pm Youth Group Kick-off
Under the Pergola**

Mon

Tues

Wed

Thurs

Fri

Sat

- Sun 8:15 am Chapel Worship (in the sanctuary)
- 9:00 am Gathering Worship
- 10:30 am Traditional Worship

PLEASE NOTE:

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day.

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

Scriptures: Matthew 14:31-21

Sermon: Rewrite: "Tomato" - Rev. Luke Lindon
Originally given on 8/6/2017 at Medina UCC,C

Flowers: The altar flowers are given by Arnold & Cheri Ingraham in honor of their wedding anniversary.

YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF

We will be having our annual youth group kick off this **Sunday August 30th** for an outdoor movie! Below are the important details:

Where: Church pergola

When: Sunday August 30th

Time: 7:30 pm-10:00 pm we will meet as a whole and then divide into our groups. Our movie will start at 8:30. Pick up is at 10:00.

What to Bring: Face mask, a water bottle, something to sit on (blanket or beach towel)

We have decided to move forward with our upcoming youth group year. We will try to continue to meet on the 1st and the 3rd Sunday of the month. At this point all our gatherings will be outdoors, weather dependent. We will be taking precautions to ensure the safety of all our youth such as keeping a safe distance, hand washing and sanitizing as well as mask wearing!

We look forward to seeing all our kids this **Sunday August 30th!**

We understand if you are not comfortable with participating in youth group at this time and encourage you to do what makes you comfortable. We are all in this together and are here to love and support each other! If you have any questions and or concerns, please reach out to me!

Nicole Rubino 330-990-2916

REOPENING (REGATHERING) REMINDER

Remember that it is our goal to regather for in-person worship in our building on Sunday, August 30th. Contrary to the original Reopening Covenant, services on August 30 will be open to anyone who desires to attend. We believe we will be able to safely accommodate those that want to attend. Also remember that church will be different when we regather. Please refer to the COVID-19 Reopening Covenant for guidelines for returning to in-person worship. This document can be found in the center of the Home page on our website. Also, a short video illustrating many of the guidelines spelled out in the Reopening Covenant, will be posted on our website and our Facebook page. Be on the lookout for that in the days to come!

Finally, returning to in-person worship on August 30th is dependent on Medina County being a Level 2 – Orange, in the Ohio COVID-19 Alert System. Based on the guidance for Level 3, the Reopening Team and church leadership have decided that we will not gather for in-person worship when Medina County is at Level 3. Keep wearing those masks and keep your distance when in public. See you soon.

GOSPEL GALLEY MEDITATIONS (GGM) SETS SAIL IN SEPTEMBER

Do you like to write inspirational, thought-provoking, emotion-filled, Informational messages? If so, but do not have an outlet to share with others? Then...GGM is the place for you! GGM is looking for volunteers to write for upcoming months of the 2020-21 calendar year, having a 5th Sunday. The Sunday dates are: November 29, 2020, January 31, 2021, May 30, 2021 and October 31, 2021.

The phrase "The pen is mightier than the sword!" comes to mind. Interested? Please contact GGM Coordinator, Alice Metzloff via email at iamalsblugown@gmail.com. Details about writing for GGM, and a 2020-21 Writers Schedule Calendar is forthcoming.

ZOOM DISCUSSION ON "THE CROSS AND THE LYNCHING TREE"

A connection so obvious, we missed it. A past so painful, some deny it. Let's explore together as we read and discuss James Cone's seminal work, "The Cross and the Lynching Tree". The discussion groups will be held Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm via Zoom starting on September 9th then every 2nd and 4th Wednesday following for a total of 5 weeks. Please have the first chapter read by our first meeting!

Contact Ryan Collins by emailing at rpcollins1@gmail.com or text/call 330-321-7028, or go to <https://forms.gle/WW7zUavYjn8ttjmm6> to sign up.

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

Romans 12:9-21

Spirit-Led Living

Imagine a day living as commanded by Paul in today's passage from Roman's 12. What would it be like if his bold and brave commands were as much a part of daily living as your other chores and duties? What would your daily to-do list look like? Maybe something like this:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wake up and brush teeth. | <input type="checkbox"/> Extend hospitality to strangers. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise. | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon desk work. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hate what is evil. | <input type="checkbox"/> Bless those who persecute you. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shower. | <input type="checkbox"/> Grocery store. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hold fast to what is good. | <input type="checkbox"/> Pick up kids. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast. | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not claim to be wiser than you are. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Love one another with mutual affection. | <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do not lag in zeal. | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not repay anyone evil for evil. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catch the train for work. | <input type="checkbox"/> Pay bills. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rejoice in hope. | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch news. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Morning meeting. | <input type="checkbox"/> Live peaceably with all. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch. | |

It can seem absurd or ridiculous to mix up Paul's big commands with our everyday life. But maybe it makes you wonder how would it change your day if you took Paul's list of to-dos from Romans as seriously as you take the rest of your list? How will you know unless you try it?