



January 24, 2021 -10:00 am Live Stream Only

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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

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 “Come, Now is the Time to Worship” – arr. Carol Tornquist 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 (Psalm 62:5-8)

Leader: Yes, my soul, find rest in God;

People: my hope comes from God.

Leader: Truly God is my rock and my salvation;

People: God is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

Leader: My salvation and my honor depend on God;

People: God is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Leader: Trust in God at all times, you people;

People: We shall pour out our hearts to God, for God is our refuge.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Ave Maria” – Bach/Gounod

Pam Branscome, cello & Harry Buch, piano

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:14-20

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

"Tone"

Rev. Luke Lindon

HYMN

"Jesus Calls Us" (vs. 1, 2 & 4)



1 Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 4 Je - sus calls us— by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thine o -

sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 pleas - ures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

WORDS: Cecil F. Alexander (1818-1895)
 MUSIC: William H. Jude (1851-1922)

GALILEE
 8.7.8.7.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offering Invitation

Thank you for being the church! Thank you for allowing us to worship here. To coordinate and collaborate in local missions that make an impact here in Medina and beyond. Thank you for strengthening the ties that bind. These are all gifts you give to God and your neighbor.

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 *(based on Psalm 62:9-10)*

**Surely the lowborn are but a breath,
the highborn are but a lie.
If weighed on a balance, they are nothing;
together they are only a breath.
Yet with you, all things are possible, oh God.
You tell us to not trust in extortion
or put vain hope in stolen goods;
These gifts of time, talent, and treasure come honestly and freely offered.
And though our riches increase, we will not set our hearts on them.
Only you, our Strength and our Redeemer. Amen.**

BENEDICTION *(based on Psalm 62: 11-12)*

Leader: One thing God has spoken, two things I have heard:

People: "Power belongs to you, God, and with you, Lord, is unfailing love";

Leader: and,

People: "You reward everyone according to what they have done."

Leader: May you go from here and commit brazen acts of love.

May you find the strength to forgive those who don't deserve it.

May you repent and believe the beloved community has come near.

May you commit random acts of kindness.

May you create senseless acts of beauty.

And may our Triune God reward you with the same. Go! For this service has ended,

People: And our service 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" – Walther/arr. Janet Linker Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

+++++

Music in this bulletin reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-605137. All rights reserved.

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister - email: luke@uccmedina.org

Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor

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

Laura Garcia, Assistant Director of Hobby Horse Preschool

Jack Sharpe, Maintenance

Jack Manhoff, Custodian

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

JANUARY 24, 2021

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

January 24, 2021 thru January 31, 2021

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun 10:00 am Online worship only
BLANKET SUNDAY

Mon

Tues

Wed

Thurs 7:00 pm Congregational Council
Zoom Meeting

Fri

Sat

Sun 10:00 am Online worship only

ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING

The Annual Budget Reports will be ready to view and posted online **Friday, January 22nd** at www.uccmedina.org/report. You may also pick up a printed copy in the welcome area or call the church office and we can get a copy to you.

The PROPOSED budgets will not be available to view until Friday January 29th. We will be voting by phone and or email as well as having paper ballots available. All votes will need to be in by **Friday, February 5th**. You should have received a mailing with full details on how to vote.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you requested offering envelopes, they are now available on the table in the New Library. If you have not yet turned in a pledge card, please consider doing so as soon as possible. Thank you!

Worship Highlights: 10:00 am Live Stream Only

Scripture: Mark 1:14-20

Sermon: “Tone” - Rev. Luke Lindon

Altar Flowers: We have lots of Sundays available if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Please call the church office to sign up.

BLANKET SUNDAY 1/24/21

Have you ever been through a big storm? The kind where you're glued to the weather channel, getting that terrifying text alert or hearing community sirens as you strategize the safest place in your house? Families in western Ohio experienced that gripping fear when 15 tornadoes touched down overnight. And after the tornadoes finally let up, neighbors stepped out to a world that was broken. The destruction left a traumatic mark; even now, many families haven't been able to move back into their homes. But they aren't alone, and they aren't forgotten. Your gift to CWS Blankets today proves it, as did the gifts of thousands like you last year. In a matter of days, they were distributing blankets and supplies to those who lost everything. It signaled to a hurting community that someone cared about them. That Christ's love comforts and heals. That we find light together in our darkest times. Will you give generously to CWS Blankets on January 24th to set that in motion for future needs? You'll signal your love to families who are desperate for a healing embrace.

FORECASTING 2021

In order to best forecast 2021 budgets the church is still in need of at least 15 more pledges. Thank you to the 158 people who have already turned in their pledge cards for 2021! Blank cards are available on the table in the Welcome Area or on the website. Click on “Give Online Here” and download your own copy.

ENDOWMENT GIVING TREE

The holidays may be over, but our spirit of giving is very much alive! Folks are encouraged to contribute to the Endowment Fund so that the generosity shown by many of you continues forward. You are invited to be a part of the growth of dollars that allows projects within the church to grow. A recent project recipient was the HOBBY HORSE PRESCHOOL. Let us keep our spirits up and our dollars working for good. Visit the *Giving Tree* located in the Welcome Area and take a heart off the tree as a reminder.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

Would you like to join our church family!? Join us for our next virtual new member class! The next class will be held: **Monday, February 1st. Class will be held through a zoom call beginning at 7 pm.** New members will join the church on **Sunday, February 14th.** Contact the Church Office if you are interested at 330-725-4559 or office@uccmedina.org.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Living the life of your dreams starts with a solid financial plan. Join our virtual *Financial Peace University class* and learn to dump debt and build wealth. You won't even have to leave home. Visit fpu.com/1127951 to sign up for our class and start your 14-day free trial of Financial Peace. Class starts **Thursday, January 21, 2021.**

FIDGET BLANKETS OF LOVE MINISTRY LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

FBOLM is looking for volunteers to help sort and pack donated items. If you'd like to help, we will gather in the Welcome Area on **Friday, January 29th from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.**

We are also looking for people to create, machine sew and construct Fidget Blankets. Interested? Have questions or want more information? Contact Alice Metzloff at 330-242-3602 or iamalsblugown@gmail.com. Interested in a Fidget Blanket for a loved one? Please call the church office and leave a message for our Visitation Pastor, Karen Brocco-Kish.

TIME TO DELIVER CRAFTS

Help is needed delivering St. Valentine Day crafts to members at home and in residential care facilities. **Pick up for delivery is scheduled Monday thru Friday 1/25 – 2/12 during office hours of 9am – 3pm.**

Please sign out a craft from the table in the Welcome Area and sign your name next to the recipient's name so that there's a record of it being taken and delivered. Make sure to call the recipient ahead of time to let them know that you'd like to make arrangements for a convenient day/time to drop off their craft, or to leave it at the facility's front desk. Don't forget to wear your mask when at the church and when delivering the craft!

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM

A Black History program will be presented via Zoom on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The topic this year will be "Driving while Black". This program is sponsored by the Medina Chapter of AAUW. To attend, please register at artkathy@zoominternet.net prior to 2:00 pm Thursday, February 18th.

INFORMATION???

Someone has dropped off a white TV in the welcome area and we have no idea who it was or what it is to be used for. Also, there are some baby items that were left in the new library and again, we have no idea who dropped them off or what they are to be used for or where they are to go. If you have any information about these items, please call the church office so we can get them where they need to be. **Also, Please call the church office BEFORE you drop things off to see if there is a need.**

Thank You

We give our heartfelt thanks to our church family for the many expressions of sympathy, love and concern in the passing of Carol Brenneman. Her church life meant so much to her. Your words brought comfort and strength when needed.

Love to all in Christ,
Arnold and Cheri Ingraham and family.

HOBBY HORSE PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION for 2021-2022

Our church owned preschool will begin Registration for the 2021-2022 school year on Monday, January 25, 2021. You may review our curriculum, classes offered and fees by visiting our website at <http://www.hobbyhorsepreschool.org/> . If you are interested in scheduling a tour or receiving registration information, please contact our Director, Jennifer Vilimonovic, at 330-722-1445.

Families that are members or friends of our church may register prior to January 25th by emailing Mrs. Vilimonovic at director@hobbyhorsepreschool.org.

Families currently enrolled in Hobby Horse may register beginning January 25 at 9:30am.

Siblings of former students may register beginning January 25 at 10:00am

Open Community registration will begin on January 25 at 10:30am.

Please feel free to share this with others who may be interested in our school.

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

Mark 1:14-20

Follow Me

Last summer, the killing of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis, Minnesota galvanized the nation and sparked urgent protests in many cities. Although the Black Lives Matter movement was not new, it was newly urgent for many as marchers took to the streets, chanting, "Say their names" and "No justice, no peace." For the first time for many Americans, our eyes were lifted to the role of policing in our communities.

Calls for change in policing include plans to shift financing to other social services and methods of protection. Activists invited us to imagine a 911 call resulting in response by the right person to help with a social service or mental health need. Those who called for changes in policing noted how seldom police are able to interrupt crimes in progress, and how inefficient the bureaucracy of policing has become. They drew a line from modern police forces back to slave times, when police forces were established to control enslaved African Americans.

It can be very hard to imagine a new way of organizing ourselves and our society. Even though modern policing is a relatively new idea, it can seem as if things were "always this way."

When the men who became the disciples were called by Jesus to follow him, they could not imagine any other way of living. Their fathers and grandfathers and all the many generations before had been fishermen. Everyone they knew in their villages were fishermen. Yet, Christ called them to imagine something completely new. And once they did, they initiated a way of life that literally changed the world.

We are a resurrection people. This means that as Christians we understand as the most important tenet of our faith that something old must pass away in order for something new to be born. With the introduction of a movement to change policing, we have a unique opportunity to see our resurrection belief transformed from theological idea to lived reality.