

Everything Old is New Again
A TRANSFORMED VIEW



February 28, 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 “Give Me Jesus” – spiritual, arr. by Douglas E. Wagner 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: We Come to you, Lord
People: The poor and the weary
Leader: We come to you, Lord
People: The sick and the hungry
Leader: We come in faith
People: To be changed, renewed, enlightened
Leader: Transform our faith
People: Bring us to a deeper understanding of your love
Leader: Lead us to your grace
People: Show us your vision of Love, kindness and mercy

SPECIAL MUSIC “River God” – Nichole Nordeman Ann Nagy, voice

SCRIPTURE Mark 9:2-9

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

"A Transformed View"

Rev. Luke Lindon

HYMN

"O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair"



1. O won - drous sight! O vi - sion fair
 2. From age to age the tale de - clares
 5. And faith - ful hearts are raised on high



of glo - ry that the church shall share,
 how with the three dis - ci - ples there
 by this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y;



which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah meet,
 for which in joy - ful strains we raise



where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 the Lord holds con - verse high and sweet.
 the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offering Invitation

We pray for the mountain top, transcendent reminders of God’s love. We pray for the kind gestures in the valleys of our lives. Be with us. Transfigure our sight. Keep us on your narrow way. Let us offer our gifts to our God.

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

Almighty God,

We celebrate the power of your Love and its ability to transform our lives.

Nurture our spirit.

Bring us to a deeper understanding of our ministry.

Help us to be the loving, serving, welcoming people you want us to be.

We remember all of our joys and concerns.

Bring healing to the sick, comfort to the grieving, and peace to those who need it.

Jesus, you showed the way to love, and you led the disciples to a new understanding of what it means to love God and one another.

Lead us onto the path to Light. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Leader: God of Light

People: **Both Particle and Wave**

Leader: You keep us moving

People: **When we’re rather build dwelling places and stay.**

Leader: You have blessed us with the ability to adapt and change

People: **Our perspectives. Our thinking. Ourselves.**

Leader: Thank you for giving us new visions.

People: **For helping us make a way out of no way.**

Leader: We shall go from here blessed by you to be a blessing,

People: **For this service has ended 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 “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” – W. Schütze & Ben Logan Cathy Fafrak, Organist

“MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY”

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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

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

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

February 28, 2021 thru March 7, 2021

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun 2nd SUNDAY IN LENT
10:00 am Online worship only

Mon

Tues

Wed 7:00 pm Lenten Journaling Series
Weekly Zoom Call

Thurs

Fri World Day of Prayer

Sat

Sun 3rd SUNDAY IN LENT
10:00 am Online worship only

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND

As we know, dear Christians went before us to establish this Church on the Square and we continue to honor their efforts.

Part of the celebration includes an opportunity for you to honor your dear one who guided your foot on the path to Christ. Memorial and Honorarium gifts will help the Endowment Fund grow to new levels. Please make your donation with checks made payable to UCC-Congregational and put “Endowment Fund” on the memo line. Know that our gift today will seed faith ministries for the future.

We always welcome Endowment Gifts, **but February is Endowment Month**, so we highlight giving to the future of the church. Thank you to those who have already given to the Endowment Fund!

Worship Highlights: 10:00 am Live Stream Only

Scripture: Mark 9:2-9

Sermon: “A Transformed View”
Rev. Luke Lindon

Altar Flowers: The flowers are given by Kellie & Crell Johns in celebration of their 17th wedding anniversary.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sunday, March 14th

One Great Hour of Sharing is the Lenten Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports disaster, refugee, and development activities. Our gifts become part of a loving legacy in ways we can't foresee. Our gifts become blessings to people we don't know and blesses in ways we can't expect. We can make a difference beyond what we can imagine. Donations also accepted through the on-line giving option on our website. March 14th give with thanks and joy!

EASTER LILIES

It's time to order your Easter Lily! You may donate a lily in honor or memory of someone to decorate the altar for Easter and claim it afterward, or have it delivered to a shut-in by the Flower Committee. The cost is \$8.00. Deadline for ordering is **March 22nd**. Please fill out a yellow lily order sheet (available online and on the table in the Welcome Area) and turn it in to the church office. **Since we are not having in person worship right now while the County is in the red, you may also call the church office to place your order.**

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 continues **Thursday, March 4, 2021.**

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!

FIDGET BLANKETS THANKS

Today, February 28th, closes the collection of items for Circle of Caring Fidget Blanket Ministry. THANK YOU for donating. It is appreciated very much.

Interested in a Fidget Blanket for a loved one? Contact the church office at 330-725-4559 to leave a message of request with Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor.

EASTER BAG PROJECT

Our annual Easter Bag outreach for the children of incarcerated parents is fast approaching. Last year we provided 40 children with Easter Bags and are looking forward to another great year! We are now signing up volunteers to help this project be another success. We will need a few people to make a few short phone calls to the family to verify details, drivers to deliver the bags, and of course volunteers to decorate and fill the bags with goodies. The very first thing we will need are callers to start contacting families the week of March 1st. Please contact Ryan Collins via call or text at 330-321-7028 or via email at rpcollins1@gmail.com to sign up. Thank you!

A fond farewell...

After many years of faithful dedication to her role as Finance Manager for our church and Hobby Horse Preschool, Kelly Charnley is retiring. Her extraordinary attention to detail, her fabulous memory, and her no drama approach to church finance will be greatly missed. Kelly, thank you for all your hard work! We look forward to many years of fellowship with you!

COSTA RICA “NON-MISSION TRIP”

This past year has been difficult on all of us. For many it has meant the loss of a loved one. For all of us it has meant the loss of a significant or special event. Perhaps you missed a birthday or graduation. Maybe you had to cancel that long-awaited-for vacation. Probably you had to cancel your weekly in-person meetings or get-togethers. Humans have an amazing capacity for ingenuity, and we have found all kinds of ways to overcome many of the “covid hurdles”. We’ve had “drive by” birthday and graduation celebrations. Online virtual travel has allowed us to continue our meetings and cocktail hours while still remaining safe in our homes. For the Costa Rica Mission Team covid has meant that we could not travel to Nosara and build homes. This also means that a family in need will not have a home to “remain safe in”. But...just as we have overcome the other “covid hurdles”, Mercy Homes has overcome this one as well. The local teams have continued to build homes without mission teams coming down. The work is harder and it takes longer, but they are committed to continue building. If we can't be there to build a home, we have committed to financing one for the local team to build. The cost of a home is \$6,500. With a \$3,000 donation from the church's Mission Team and \$2,200 in donations from past Costa Rica Team members, we are almost at our goal to finance a home. On March 21st, we will be collecting donations to fill the gap. We'll provide more info in the coming weeks but please keep this wonderful mission in mind and consider if you are able to help us close the gap.

WEEKLY LENTEN JOURNALING SERIES HAS BEGUN!

Wednesdays @ 7pm – 3/3 – 3/31

Missed the first week? Still need a journal?

There are still journals left and you can hop in on the series any time!

We'll have a Zoom call each Wednesday during Lent where we will **read** the upcoming scripture. We'll **reflect** together in community on the scripture. On Sunday, we'll **receive** the sermon. Then we'll **respond** as a community by putting our faith into action in some way. The journals will help us in this process.

They are in the New Library at church for everyone to pick up. We have plenty of these left and they will be available throughout the series.

We hope they will aid you and be an additional tool to provide a solitary place for you to pray and to find the Beloved Community of God within and among us all this Lenten Season.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#) Or go to our website under Upcoming Events and register through the link there. You may also call the church office for help registering. **You must be registered to receive the zoom link.**

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

Psalm 22:23-31

Always Close

Do you feel that you are called to ministry, but are unable due to time or finances to receive a traditional theological education? Take a look at the PATHWAYS program. According to their website (<https://www.pathwaystheological.org/>), "PATHWAYS offers you a program for progressive theological engagement that values the past without being limited by it, moving intentionally into the present while looking boldly towards the future. We provide a welcoming online space to bring your questions, doubts, and desire to deepen your understanding...Whether you are on the path to authorized ministry, want to hone your current skills, or just want to explore your faith more deeply, we have a program for you.

PATHWAYS welcomes students from a wide variety of denominational and faith backgrounds. PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc., is a registered independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It began as a program of the Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ (UCC). PATHWAYS continues to be affiliated with the Southeast Conference, works with UCC participants across the nation, and is a respected member of the Regional Theological Education Consortium. Participants also come to us from several other denominations and from non-denominational communities.

PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc. exists to offer a range of stimulating, accessible, and affordable online progressive Christian resources for church leaders, faith explorers, pastors, and those discerning various vocations and callings within and outside the church community.

PATHWAYS staff members work with representatives from Conferences and Associations to support the educational needs of UCC Members in Discernment (MID) pursuing an alternative pathway to ministry.

As part of the UCC's vision for multiple pathways to authorization, the entire PATHWAYS program of thirty plus courses can be used as an alternative route to fulfill the academic requirements for becoming an authorized minister."

To find out if PATHWAYS might be right for you, visit [pathwaystheological.org](https://www.pathwaystheological.org).