



The New Normal
Pentecost



May 23, 2021

10:30 am service

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

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

www.uccmedina.org

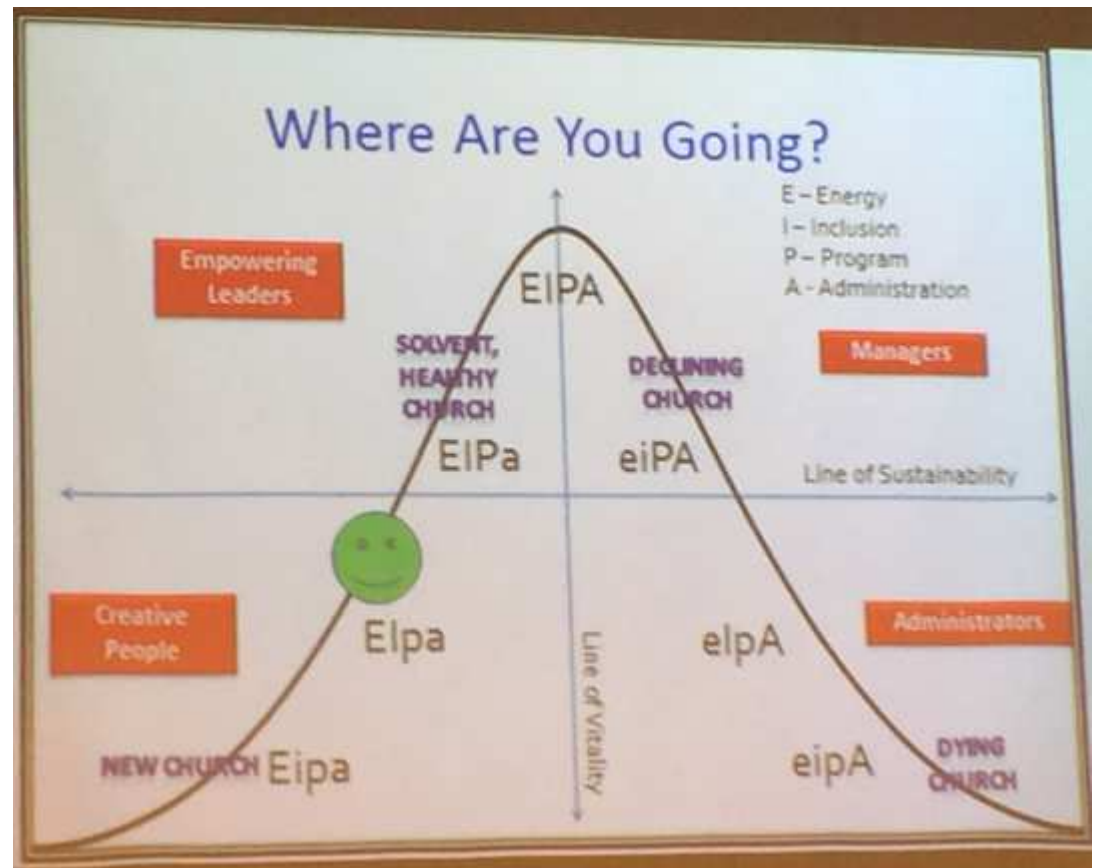


Assisted Listening Devices Available – Please Ask Your Usher

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

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

The cover art, “Pentecost” is from Ohio Artist, Sharon Durkin Charmley, used with permission by the artist. Check out more of her work at <https://sharoncharmley.com/>. A donation has been made to one of Sharon’s favorite nonprofits, Remember Nhu, which seeks to end human trafficking through prevention. Read more about it here: <https://remembernhu.org/>



**Those who are able please stand*

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" – Doris Akers/arr. Don Wyrzten

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*OPENING HYMN

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D.

American Folk Tune, John Wyeth, 1812

Robert Robinson, 1758



1. Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2. O to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est praise.
Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;



Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, Mount of thy re - deem - ing love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for thy courts a - bove.

*OPENING PRAYER (A PRAYER FOR PENTECOST 2013, from Godspacelight.com)

Leader: God, your Spirit fell like tongues of fire,
The seal of your ownership is on us,

People: You have breathed your Holy Spirit into our hearts.

Leader: God, your spirit fell like tongues of fire.

People: It filled those who were empty,
It empowered those who were weary.

Leader: God, your spirit fell like tongues of fire.

People: **It brought together those who were divided,
It reassured those who were afraid.**

Leader: God, your spirit fell like tongues of fire.

People: **By its power we can walk together as one,
By its power we can find strength to share.**

Leader: God, your spirit fell like tongues of fire.

People: **By its power we can find freedom in loving each other,
By its power we can find life in you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Spirit of the Living God"

Colleen Rice, voice

-Audrey Assad & Henry Hallam Tweeny, arr. Dan Galbraith

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:1-21

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**

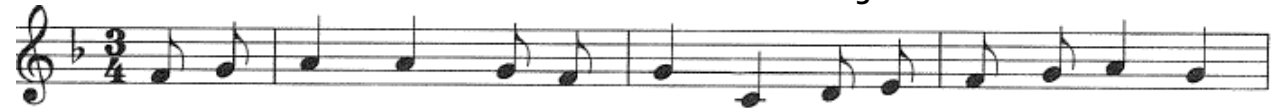
SERMON

"Pentecost"

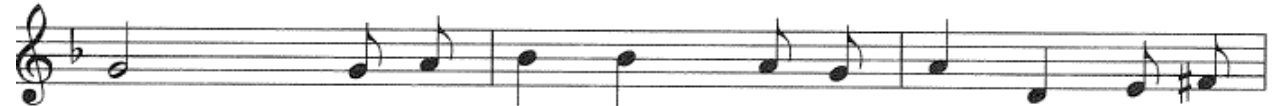
Rev. Luke Lindon

HYMN

"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch - es of the
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the
Vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our
prayer, with the power to love and wit - ness, with the



new flame's ea - ger might:
midst as gift and sign: Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
peace be - yond com - pare:

Carl P. Daw, Jr., wrote this text for The Hymnal 1982 (Episcopal), and expressly for the tune Bridegroom. Born and educated in England, composer Peter Cuts has served as music director for churches in Massachusetts and on the faculty of Andover Newton Theological School.

Tune: BRIDEGROOM 8.7.8.7.6.
Peter Cuts, 1969

Words Copyright © 1982 by The Hymn Society
Music Copyright © 1989 by Hope Publishing Company

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Offering Invitation (From <https://liturgyoutside.net/pentecostsunday/>)

Leader: The Spirit comes with fire of justice
and we offer the extinguisher of complacency.

People: Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy upon us.

Leader: The Spirit comes with the rain of love
And we offer an umbrella of reserve.

People: Christ have mercy,
Christ have mercy,
Christ have mercy upon us.

Leader: The Spirit comes bearing fresh winds of change
and we close the windows.

People: Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy upon us.

***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**

Leader: Hear the great good news of our faith:

People: **The Spirit is alive!**

Leader: Breathe, children of God,

People: **breathe the fresh winds of the Spirit.**

Leader: Taste, children of God,

People: **taste the quenching waters of God's love.**

Leader: Touch, children of God,

People: **touch the heat of God's passion for justice.**

**We dedicate our very lives to our God, our Christ, and the Spirit,
One God forever and ever. Amen!**

***BENEDICTION** (by Rev. Nora Vedress, Calvary United Church in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada)

Leader: So now we leave this space of worship
And while so much of the road ahead is uncertain,

People: the path constantly changing,

Leader: we know some things that are as solid and sure

**People: as the ground beneath our feet,
and the sky above our heads.**

Leader: We know God is love.

People: We know Christ's light endures.

Leader: We know the Holy Spirit this there,

**People: found in the space between all things,
closer to us than our next breath,**

Leader: binding us to each other,
until we meet we again,
Go in peace.

People: 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 "Recessional for a Joyful Day" – Dale Wood**

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
Jeff Miller, Financial Director - 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

MAY 23, 2021

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

Live streaming of the Sanctuary service is available at www.uccmedina.org/live

May 23, 2021 thru May 30, 2021

WEEK AT A GLANCE

<u>Sun</u>	PENTECOST	
	STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING	
	8:15 am	Chapel Worship (in Sanctuary)
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship
<u>Mon</u>	4:00 pm	Youth presentations on future events
<u>Tues</u>	6:30 pm	Bible Study
<u>Wed</u>	10:30 am	Quilters
<u>Thurs</u>	7:00 pm	Congregational Council
<u>Fri</u>		
<u>Sat</u>	10:00 am	Choir Practice (in Sanctuary)
<u>Sun</u>	TRINITY SUNDAY	
	8:15 am	Chapel Worship (in Sanctuary)
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, MAY 31ST IN OBSERVANCE OF
MEMORIAL DAY**

COOKING FOR CUPS

The first Monday of each month the Church has been cooking meals for Cups Café. Cups Café is a café just off the Square that offers food and hope to those in need. Would you like to provide a meal? We need individuals or teams to volunteer for a Monday that can cook one hot meal for 60 people. Please contact Dan Daubner at DDaubner@zoominternet.net or 330-283-2742 if you would like to help out.

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

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

Sermon: “Pentecost” - Rev. Luke Lindon

Communion Table Flowers: The flowers are given by Lori Price in memory of her father, Robert Hall.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING – MAY 23RD

Paul addressed two very specific ways to care:
(a) Care by encouraging one another. Hurting and dying churches need encouragement. They need folks who will come along side and help. I'll never forget the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain. During the 400-meter race, a runner named Derek Redmund tore his right hamstring. He didn't want to quit and began hopping along toward the finish line on one leg. Suddenly, a man jumped over the wall separating the stands and ran onto the track. It was Derek's father, Jim, who came alongside his son and helped him across the finish line. We need to care enough to encourage.

(b) Care by building each other up. Unhealthy churches are made sick by discouragers, always telling what can't be done or shouldn't be done. Like Nehemiah's discouragers, there are always those who will criticize from the sidelines. A healthy church is marked by those who care for one another more than criticize one another. Encourage one another. Build up one another. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

LITURGIST SIGN-UP

Check out the bulletin board in the East Room hallway to sign up to be a liturgist during June, July and August at the 10:30 Sanctuary service. Questions? Talk to Pastor Luke or call the church office.

GREETERS NEEDED

The Evangelism Team could use your help in providing a socially distant friendly face at the door when people enter church before the 10:30 service. You can stand with your mask on by the downstairs entrance or you can stand outside, waving “hi” and “welcome back.” Please review the available slots and sign up here <http://tinyurl.com/uccgreeter> or call Kate Lindon at 330-663-1801. Thank you!

SUMMER MUSIC SIGN-UP

Please consider providing special music for our Sunday 10:30 am worship via video or in person (depending on your comfort level). Piano, violin, voice, trumpet, flute, guitar, etc.! Dates are now open through Labor Day. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/UCCCMusic> or contact the office. Thank you, and we can't wait to hear your musical gifts!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Pastor Karen is starting a grief support group lasting 8-12 weeks which will meet Wednesday evenings at 7 pm beginning June 2nd. Adults who have lost someone (spouse, parents, child, friend, etc.) and are willing to be a part of a support group are welcome. Members must commit to attend as many sessions as possible. We will be using a book for journaling which each member is encouraged to buy and a text which each member can borrow for the duration of the group. Anyone interested please contact Karen at 330-273-4752 or email her at karenb7777@aol.com.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Frank Kish is bringing back the Tuesday evening bible study group and all are invited! We will be continuing our study of Ephesians. Please join us on **Tuesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.** in the new library. See you there!

**We will NOT be meeting on
Tuesday, May 25th.**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

We are thrilled that we will be able to offer Vacation Bible School in person this year. There will be some differences to keep everyone as safe as possible, but we are excited to be able to have the children in the building. This year VBS will be offered for 2 weeks in June. The first week will be June 7-10 and the second week will be June 21-24, with the exact same curriculum at each. So you can choose which week you would like to have your children attend. Our theme this year is “Discovery on Adventure Island” and it will be tons of fun! As always, many hands make light work. We are in need of people to help make sure it is a success. If you are interested in helping out with VBS, please see Stacie Yates.

MADE WITH LOVE

Fidget Blankets help reduce stress and anxiety in both kids and adults. It can help those who are on the autism spectrum stay calm, increase focus, reduce restlessness, and manage anxiety.

It is also the perfect gift idea for a loved one with Alzheimer's or other dementias.

Prayer Shawls convey healing, strength, community and love. They can be used as a comfort after a loss, in times of stress, during bereavement, or when undergoing a medical procedure.

Both Fidget Blankets and Prayer Shawls are hand crafted by church members. If you are interested in either one for your family or relative, contact Karen Brocco-Kish at the church office or karenb7777@gmail.com.

BEATITUDES GO TO THE MOVIES! - Worship Series

Jesus gave us some blockbuster teachings. They've been a hit ever since they came out.

The worship team has missed going to the theatre, so we'll decorate the building like a movie theatre! They have chosen eight films – from classics to recent award-winners – to gain a better understanding of each of the eight blessings imparted by Jesus in Matthew's Gospel.

We'll explore the Beatitude concepts through popular movies. We'll even gather and watch a few at our pergola (or Fellowship Hall if the weather is bad) at 8 p.m. See below for specific dates.

As the late theologian Rachel Held Evans wrote in her book *"Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again"*,

"The kingdom, Jesus taught, is right here--present yet hidden, immanent yet transcendent. It is at hand--among us and beyond us, now and not-yet. The kingdom of heaven, he said, belongs to the poor, the meek, the peacemakers, the merciful, and those who hunger and thirst for God. It advances not through power and might, but through missions of mercy, kindness, and humility. In this kingdom, many who are last will be first and many who are first will be last. The rich don't usually get it, Jesus said, but children always do. This is a kingdom whose savior arrives not on a warhorse, but a donkey, not through triumph and conquest, but through death and resurrection. This kingdom is the only kingdom that will last."

Date	Beatitude	Movie	Pergola	Streaming
June 13	Blessed are the poor in spirit	Back to the Future		Netflix
June 20	Blessed are those who mourn	Up	Showing on 6/13	Disney+
June 27	Blessed are the meek	Sandlot	Showing on 6/20	Hulu
July 4	Blessed are the those who hunger for righteousness	To Kill a Mockingbird		\$3.99 Prime/Youtube
July 11	Blessed are the merciful	Just Mercy		\$9.99 Prime/Vudu
July 18	Blessed are the pure in heart	Forrest Gump		\$2.99 Youtube/Prime
July 25	Blessed are the peacemakers	Brave	Showing on 7/18	Disney+
August 1	Blessed are those who are persecuted	Hidden Figures	Showing on 7/25	Disney+, Hulu, Sling TV

The summer is a wonderful time to head to the movies, so come out each Sunday or join us on the livestream as we change our attitudes to the beatitudes! You can also pick these movies up at the Library!

COLLECTION OF BREAKFAST FOODS FOR A.I. ROOT

We have an amazing opportunity to expand the help we give to students in the Medina City Schools by joining with a group of parents and other community organizations to provide breakfast items to a small group of in-need students at Brookdale Park. The food donations will be available for students to pick up daily as they walk to their bus stop. The food items should be durable and non-perishable and suggestions include: **6-packs of boxed apple juice and orange juice, packs of fruit cups, large boxes of poptarts, granola bars, fruit breakfast bars like Nutrigrain, and boxes of yogurt pouches, applesauce pouches.** Please **no food that requires refrigeration**, including fresh produce. Our next delivery is this coming Friday the 28th. We will continue to take donations for future deliveries as well. Thank you for helping these students!

GOT CRAYONS?

All those broken-down colored crayons can result in being gathered, melted, and turned into new crayons of many colors. This is the mission of The Crayon Initiative started by Bryan Ware several years ago. After consulting with an occupational therapist, he created large three-sided, not round, paper free crayons so that hospital kids can easily grip them, and they cannot roll off hospital trays.

Recycled crayons are distributed free to children's hospitals in all 50 states to brighten the lives of young patients during their stay. This is a multi-faceted mission project to save millions of pounds of used crayons from landfills AND to bring smiles to hospitalized children.

The Mission Team is placing colorful boxes by the church entrance and at our Hobby Horse location. After collecting these boxes, the donated crayons will be sorted by color and shipped to The Crayon Initiative in California. Because of the pandemic, further expansion of this project is limited for now but hopefully could involve more schools, churches and anywhere crayons are distributed. For further information, contact Dottie Edinger.

**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**

May 23, 2021
Pentecost Sunday
Strengthen the Church Offering

Acts 2:1-21

Spirit for All

Today is Pentecost, sometimes called the church's birthday. Every church was a new church start at one time and this is the day we recall and celebrate the day we were a new church. In that spirit, many churches receive the Strengthen the Church offering on this day.

"The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults." (ucc.org/stc)

Your congregation's offering provides the financial resources for the United Church of Christ to be a Spirit-inspired and world-changing Christian movement. Strengthen the Church funds ministry that allows us to benefit from best practices, insights, and innovations across the life of the UCC. Because of your support, new church starts have emerged, congregations have been revitalized, and leadership skills have been enhanced.

To find out more about how your church can Strengthen the Church, visit: <https://www.ucc.org/stc>