

# hope does not disappoint

A HUMAN KIND: BE BOTH WORSHIP





# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

217 E. Liberty St. Medina, Ohio 44256 330-725-4559 [www.uccmedina.org](http://www.uccmedina.org)

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

LIVE STREAMING OF THE SANCTUARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT [UCCMEDINA.ORG](http://UCCMEDINA.ORG)

- *During the service, Summer Sunday School is available for ages 3 - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

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

*Please take a moment to sign the attendance pads, (located at the end of each pew) so that you know who is worshipping near you and you may greet them by name.*

*\*Those who are able please stand*

### RINGING OF THE BELL

**PRELUDE** “Aria” – Noel Rawsthorne

Cathy Fafrak, organ

### WELCOME

Good morning, Church! We are Medina, United Church of Christ, Congregational, and no matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,

**You are welcome here!**

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Holy in me seeks to see the holy in you.

**We realize that there is always more to be done.**

We are not perfect.

**We are not called to be perfect. We are called to love our neighbor.**

Our attempts at love have gone astray.

**God, draw us closer to access and love.**

Let us rejoice in what we have to learn.

**For knowing you don’t know is the beginning of wisdom.**

We seek your wisdom in this worship Holy One.

**Send your Spirit. Grant us the mind of Christ. Be with us our God.**

**Amen!**

#### **\*OPENING HYMN**

**“This Is the Day”**

*Text & Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950*

© 1980 GIA Publications, Inc.

# Refrain

This is the day that the Lord has made,  
 Let us re - joice and be glad, and be glad.  
 This is the day that the Lord has made, al - le -  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Verses

1. Let us sing un - to the Lord,  
 2. Let the heav - ens be glad,  
 3. Bring your gifts be - fore the Lord,  
 praise God's name with our joy - ful shouts,  
 let the earth now re - joice and sing,  
 bring your of - f'rings in - to his court;  
 en - ter in with our joy - ful hearts, to the  
 let the fields and the trees cry out and the  
 tell God's glo - ry to all the earth and God's  
 D.C.  
 God of our sal - va - tion.  
 o - ceans thun - der praise.  
 won - ders for all time.

SCRIPTURES

Genesis 18:1-15: 7-14 (O.T. pg.13)  
Romans 5:1-8 (N.T. pg. 145)

Nick North, Liturgist

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Finally Free" – Nichole Nordeman

Ann Nagy, Voice

MESSAGE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY OF GOD

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

"Hope Does Not Disappoint"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

*The bulletin cover comes from Carolina Beach, NC where Pastor Luke and his family vacationed two weeks ago.*

*They rested on the beach and thought of you, church.*

*This sermon was inspired by that week of sabbath rest and vacation.*

HYMN

"Lord of All Hopefulness"

SLANE 10.11.11.12.

*Jan Struther (1901-1953); © 1931 Oxford University Press*

*Irish melody; harm. Jack Schrader (b. 1942);  
Harm. © 1989 Hope Publishing Co.*



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like no cares could de - stroy,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,  
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray, your  
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray, your  
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray, your  
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray, your

bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

*There is an offering plate if you feel led to deposit your envelope or an offering there. You can also give through our Realm app or get the link to give by texting UCCMEDINA to 73256. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!*

### Offertory Invitation

Thank you for continuing to financially support the work and mission of the church! Let us now reflect in this time of silence of what we will offer to God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept*

Let us now rise

**in body or spirit and sing out our praise to our God!**

**\*Doxology** (words, Ruth Duck, ©2005, GIA Publications)

**Praise God, the Source of life and birth; Praise God, the Word, who came to earth;**

**Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame; All glory, honor to God's Name! Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Let us celebrate the work we have done.**

**The ramps that connect us.**

**The elevators that uplift us.**

**The conversations that help us know more about one another,**

**how deeply God is present with us,**

**how the divine is reflected in each of us.**

**May these discoveries and more lead us to laugh like Sarah.**

**To offer hospitality like Abraham.**

**Thanks be to you, our God, our Christ, our Spirit.**

**One God forever more. Amen!**

# \*CLOSING HYMN

## "Love Divine, All Love's Excelling"

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.  
John Zundel (1815-1882)



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel-ling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;  
3 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.  
sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.  
let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;  
Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,  
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

# \*ANNOUNCEMENTS



**\*BENEDICTION**

For these bodies we live in,  
**With all their joy and concern.**  
They are created different.  
**They are called very good.**  
We have been blessed to bring life and life abundant in your name.  
**We might laugh at such a blessing, but we are thankful.**  
Having been blessed to be a blessing, go from here to delight in God’s world,  
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      “Postlude in D” - Lemmens** Cathy Fafrak, Organ

**“MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY”**

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# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## JUNE 18, 2023

**“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](http://www.uccmedina.org/live)

**June 18, 2023 thru June 25, 2023**

### **WEEK AT A GLANCE**

#### **Sun FATHER'S DAY**

8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship

#### **Mon CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

1:00 pm Breadmakers

#### **Tues**

**Wed** 10:30 am Quilters  
6:30 pm Gathering Band rehearsal

**Thurs** 7:00 pm Bible Study  
7:00 pm **Congregational Council**

#### **Fri**

#### **Sat**

**Sun** 8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship

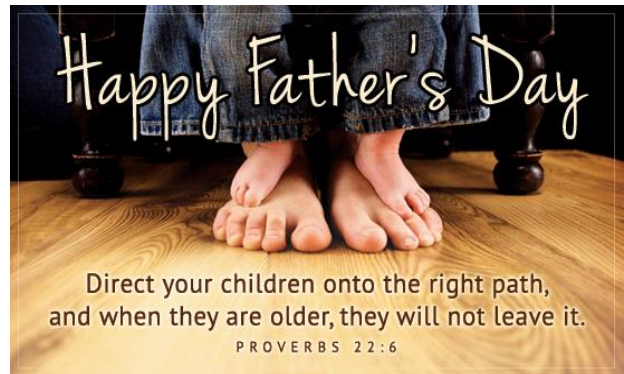
#### **Worship Highlights:** 8:15, 9:00 & 10:30 am

Scriptures: Genesis 18:1-15 and Romans 5:1-8

Sermon: “Human Kind - Be Both: Hope Does Not Disappoint”

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

**Communion Table:** The communion table flowers are given by Dick & Joyce Komjati in honor of their 69<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
MONDAY, JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup> IN OBSERVANCE OF  
JUNETEENTH**

### **HOPE RECOVERY**

Our friends in our community at Hope Recovery are working hard to recover from the impact of addiction on their life. Our Church would like to provide a meal to show we care! On June 24<sup>th</sup>, with your help, and Luke's BBQ smoker grill, we will provide a pork meal to show we care for and support their journey! If you would like to help, please sign up at the table in the Welcome Area. Thank you for considering!

### **DONATION OF THE MONTH**

Thank you for supporting our Donation of the Month! In June we will be collecting personal hygiene items! Some items you might like to donate are soap, shampoo, deodorant, razors, wipes, toothpaste, mouthwash and toothbrushes, etc.!

Thank you for last month's donations!

The response was amazing! A trunk full of craft items will be delivered to *The Society* so they can have a summer full of fun creating and crafting!



# PASTOR'S CORNER

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Dear Church,

I hope your summer is going well. You're getting outside and enjoying the pleasant weather. Nothing like summer in Ohio. Or wherever this finds you, I hope you're doing well.

It has been a while since I have updated you this way. I wanted to go back to our Annual Meeting and Report from May 21<sup>st</sup>. My 3 areas of focus for the next year are as follows along with some updates:

**Help Us Become a WISE Congregation:** WISE is a UCC designation that would mark us as being Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged in the work for Mental Health. Our Heavily Burdened Worship series in January 2023 brought in various experts in the community to help jump start this important work. Ann Nagy has organized an adult support group and is leading the WISE Team to draft a statement. I will continue to work with them. Once we started this work, Alicia Davies became inspired and started a parents' support group. This confirms that the Holy Spirit is indeed working with us on this path.

Update: I hope you're taking care of your mental health. If you would like to attend a WISE Support group, please check the church calendar or call the office for the next meeting.

**Help us Become an A2A Church:** A2A is another UCC designation that stands for Accessible to All. This team has completed an audit of our physical plant and ways it can become more accessible. This team is currently comprised of Hannah Magrum, the Rev. Pam Branscome, Jen Cockrell, Kate Lindon, and Patrick Acurio. I'm excited to work this team as more accessibility is good for all people.

Update: We are currently in the worship series Human Kind: Be Both. A series focusing on A2A through the book of Genesis.

**Take a Sabbatical:** I will be going into my seventh year. It's time for a sabbatical. It is in my contract, and it is a tradition of this congregation to be generous with time away from the daily duties of ministry. With the permission of council and the support of the congregation at our January meeting, I have applied for a Lily Clergy Renewal Grant with the help of Todd Bauer. If I get this grant, my family and I will travel to Scotland and Ireland for three weeks in June 2024 to explore Celtic Christianity as the beginning of my three-month leave. There will be some surprises for you as well! I hope and pray we get the grant. It'll be a grand adventure. If not, then Plan B is to spend June-August of 2024 at Atwood Lake and traveling around this great country of ours.

Update: Rest is restorative. We are human beings not human doings. I hope you are observing the Sabbath. It's so important, it's in the Ten Commandments. I hope you have an epic vacation line up. I'm available for coffee and to review your vacation slideshow. I look forward to that invite. We'll hear if we got the Lily grant in August.

Yours in Christ,  
-Luke

## WHAT A WONDERFUL ICE CREAM SOCIAL ON THE SQUARE!

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A big thank you goes to all who made the Ice Cream and Pie Social a huge success on Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>! Not only was the weather ideal, but great fellowship was enjoyed by all. Our church family was well represented by congregation members who came to set up, serve, and clean up. From selling pies, cookies/brownies, ice cream, popcorn, water, and pop our total sales came to \$1,390.71. This was one of our best years in sales!

## GENERAL SYNOD 2023

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General Synod 34 will be held in Indianapolis, IN from June 30<sup>th</sup> - July 4<sup>th</sup>. You can learn a lot about the United Church of Christ at General Synod 34 in Indianapolis, and not just in plenary.

Wander the exhibit hall and you'll find ministry ideas, 32 workshops, more than a dozen booths staffed by UCC national teams or affiliated ministries, over 50 vendors, items for sale, 20-plus optional dining events and people to visit with.

If you would like to learn more about UCC Synod, click here:

[General Synod - United Church of Christ General Synod 34](#)

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**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](mailto:office@uccmedina.org)**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm MONDAY THRU FRIDAY**

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June 18, 2023  
Third Sunday after Pentecost  
*Father's Day*

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Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)

### **Sarah Laughed**

It is not an official church holiday, but many churches today will celebrate Father's Day. In today's scripture story, Sarah is surprised into laughter to find out that she will be a parent. On this Father's Day, recognizing that family is sometimes a source of pain and rejection as well as a haven of joy and acceptance, we give thanks for the many kinds of families that God has blessed. As you say each line of this prayer, silently or aloud, give yourself plenty of time for reflection.

How are these thanksgivings true for you?

How have they or have they not been realized?

What kind of family has God called you into? Consider this question as broadly as possible.

Dear God,

We thank you for our birth family, the family we are linked to by blood. Some of us are very close to our birth family. Perhaps this family is always on our hearts, or even sitting together this very day in this very place. Some of us are far, far away from our birth family, separated by distance or misunderstanding or time or even violence. Whatever our proximity, today we remember that it is our blood family that brought us forth, and we give thanks that we are here.

We thank you for our faith family, for the generations that stretch back further than we can see, even when we stand on tiptoe, peering into the past. We thank you especially for our parents Abraham and Sarah. We thank you that their curiosity, their faith in You, their willingness to follow Your call and their capacity for joy in moments of surprise.

We thank you for the families we have chosen. Those families we have made through law and covenant, families of lovers and friends, families of children and companions. And at the same time, we thank you for the families who have chosen us, drawn us into circles of sweet understanding and easy companionship, taught us to love and to live.

We give thanks for all the families that bring us to laughter, and all the families that we have called home.

In Your holy name we pray, Amen.