



HOT GIRL. SUMMER

The story of Rebekah





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

- *During the service, Summer Sunday School is available for ages 3 - 3rd 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 “Come, Now Is the Time to Worship” – arr. Carol Tornquist Cathy Fafrak, piano

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**

Holy One, we give you thanks for Gen Z,

For their way with words.

Today Lord, we focus on the phrase: Hot Girl Summer.

What in the world? Is this okay for Church?

Coined by rapper Megan Thee Stallion to describe being confident, having fun and not caring what others think.

What would Jesus do about this call to worship?

Good people, this describes the story of Rebekah.

We’ll take your word for it. Holy One, give us the sense to perceive this phrase in today’s scripture and the courage to embrace it in this worship. Amen!

***OPENING HYMN**

“When Love Is Found”

GIFT OF LOVE L.M.

Brian Wren (1936 -) © 1983 Hope Publishing Co.

English melody; adapt. Hal H. Hopson (1933 -) © 1972 Hope Publishing Co.

1 When love is found and hope comes home,
 2 When love has flowered in trust and care,
 5 Praise God for love, praise God for life,

sing and be glad that two are one.
 build both each day, that love may dare
 in age or youth, in calm or strife.

When love ex - plodes and fills the sky,
 to reach be - yond home's warmth and light,
 Lift up your hearts, let love be fed

praise God and share our Mak - er's joy.
 to serve and strive for truth and right.
 through death and life in bro - ken bread.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67: 1-9 (O.T. pg. 19)

Brad Rice, Liturgist

SPECIAL MUSIC

"The Prayer" – Carole Bayer Sager & David Foster

Jennifer & Timothy Cochran, soloists

MESSAGE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY OF GOD

Pastor Luke

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

"Hot Girl Summer"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

HYMN**"God of the Women"**

SLANE 10.10.9.10

© 1998 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Ancient Irish ballad



1. God of the wo - men who ans - wered your call,
2. God of the wo - men who walked Je - sus' Way,
3. God of the wo - men long put to the test,
4. God of the wo - men who ran from the tomb,
5. O God of Phoe - be and mi - ni - sters all,



Trust - ing your pro - mi - ses, giv - ing their all,
 Giv - ing their re - sour - ces, learn - ing to pray,
 Left out of sto - ries, for - got - ten, op - pressed,
 Prayed with the oth - ers in that up - per room,
 May we be joy - ful in an - swering your call.



Wo - men like Sa - rah and Han - nah and Ruth—
 Ma - ry, Jo - an - na, Su - san - nah, and more—
 Qui - et - ly ask - ing: "Who smiled at my birth?"—
 Then felt your Spi - rit on Pen - te - cost Day—
 Give us the strength of your Spi - rit so near



Give us their cour - age to live in your truth.
May we give free - ly as they did be - fore.
In Je - sus' dy - ing you show us our worth.
May we so glad - ly pro - claim you to - day.
That we may share in your mi - ni - stry here.

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

For all the strong women in our lives. For those whom you bless and encourage not to bow to the ways of the world.

May this offering go to help the voice of God sound through our women and girls.

***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**

**We arise today
Through a mighty strength,
The invocation of the Three in One:
Creator, Wisdom, Spirit
We bind unto ourselves today the strength of the City of God,
Where Wisdom dwells—God with Us:
Energy of children, memory of elders,
Courage of homeless, aspirations of workers,
Generosity of neighbors, welcome of strangers,
Poetry of youth, sunshine shared in the Square,
Community formed within our walls;
Urgency of sirens, diligence of public servants,
Voices seeking justice, hands building common good,
May what we offer be dedicated to things such as these.
In Jesus Name. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Sent Forth By God's Blessing"

Unison



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con - fess - ing, the
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er liv - ing, the



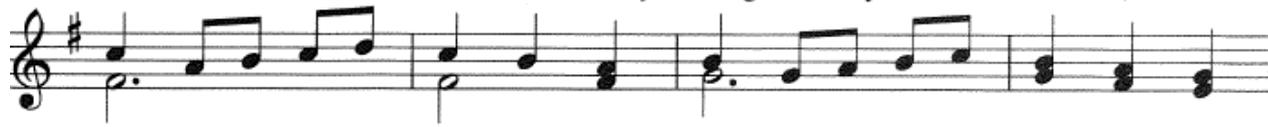
peo - ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave. The ser - vice is
tasks of our ev - ery - day life we will face. Our faith ev - er



end - ed, O now be ex - tend - ed the fruits of our wor - ship in
shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing, em - brac - ing God's chil - dren of



all who be - lieve. The seed of the teach - ing, re -
each tribe and race. With your grace you feed us, with



cep - tive hearts reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for
your light now lead us, u - nite us as one in this



God and for all. God's grace did in - vite us, and love shall u -
life that we share. Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks -



nite us to work for God's realm and to an - swer the call.
giv - ing give hon - or to Christ and that name which we bear.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BENEDICTION** (the garments come to us from Ephesians 6)

From Genesis 24:60, let us say the blessing of Rebekah;

May you, sister, become the mother of millions!

May your descendants conquer the cities of their enemies!

May you conquer through welcoming, loving, and serving your neighbor.

Every single neighbor!

May the belt of truth be fastened around you.

Amen.

May you don the breastplate of righteousness.

Amen.

May you wear the helmet of salvation and wield the sword of the spirit;

To smash chains and witness the ever-lasting peace of Christ.

You, church, have been blessed to be a blessing.

May each of you embrace a hot girl summer of your own making and go from here to heal the world.

Go! For this service has ended,

And our hot girl summer 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 "Praise the Lord on High" – Rachel Sawyer**

Cathy Fafarak, Organ

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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"God of the Women" used with permission of Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.

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THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

JULY 9, 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

July 9, 2023 thru July 16, 2023

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun **YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO
BACK BAY MISSION**
8:15 am Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship

Mon

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study
7:00 pm DELT Team
7:00 pm Worship Team

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

Thurs 7:00 pm Support Group – Keep Talking

About Mental Health

7:00 pm

Hobby Horse

Preschool Team

Fri

Sat **YOUTH RETURN FROM MISSION TRIP**

Sun

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

MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men of the church are invited to the next Men's Breakfast on Tuesday, July 11th at Buehler's Restaurant at 8 a.m. Usual get-togethers are on the first Tuesday of the month.

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

Scripture: Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Sermon: “Hot Girl Summer”
Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given by Josh & Ellen Nolan in honor of their 20th wedding anniversary on July 10th.

DONATION OF THE MONTH

Thank you so much for the personal care supplies collected in June! The bin was overflowing with items, which will be delivered to local pantries and the free little pantries around town. **In July, we will be collecting non-refrigerated protein items, like tuna (canned or pouches), beef stew, canned chicken, peanut butter, canned beans and protein bars.**

We will also be collecting vegetables from your gardens throughout the growing months! Please place them in the basket down by the Mission Team table. Thank you!

LITURGIST SIGN-UP

There are still dates available to be a liturgist during the 10:30 Sanctuary service. Check out the bulletin board in the East Room hallway to sign up for a date in July, August or September.

SPONSORING FLOWERS

If you wanted to sponsor flowers for the communion table and thought all the spots were filled, now's your chance. **There are still 2 open spots on July 16th & 23rd.** This is a wonderful way to honor or remember someone, or to celebrate a special occasion.

Please fill in your name on the chart in the East Room hallway and **check "Church" or "Self"** to let us know if you would like the church to order the flowers for you or if you will be ordering them yourself. The cost of the flowers ordered through the church office is \$22.50.

Also, please write what you would like printed in the Messenger and if you want to claim your flowers after the 10:30 service.

UPDATED VISITATION LISTS

For anyone who would like one, we have updated visitation lists for you. This is a list of our homebound and people who are in nursing facilities. If you would like to visit any of them, you need to call first to arrange a visit, or you may use this list to simply reach out and send a card or make a phone call. This is a way to keep them connected to our church family! You can find these lists in the rack outside the church office.

MEDINA COUNTY LIBRARY

Did you know that Medina County District Library's Outreach Services Department makes free monthly deliveries of regular or large print books, audio books, DVDs and other items to people of all ages who have difficulty coming to the library? The Outreach Librarian offers a personalized selection of materials based on requests or interests. Those materials may be delivered via mail, library staff or the Bookmate Volunteers. This service may be ongoing or short term while someone is recovering from an accident or illness.

Call 330-722-2590 for more information or visit: www.mccl.info/outreach to register for this service online.

GLOW IN THE DARK PARTY

Our friends over at Cups Café will be hosting a Saturday Social for middle and high school students on Saturday July 22nd from 5-8pm. The theme for this party is Glow In The Dark. If you would like to purchase some glow in the dark party favors for them, please bring them into the office labeled for Pastor Meghan, or purchase directly from this amazon wish list!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/16JXNSFEOTCOR?ref_=wl_share

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

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Chosen Journeys

[Jesus said:] "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Dear Jesus, our brother and friend,

Today we pray for all those who are weary, that they may feel the easiness of your yoke and the lightness of your load.

We pray for others who are ill, weary from battling the enemy within their own bodies. And we pray for the healing of our own illnesses of body, mind and spirit. Send your healing power like a balm over all who suffer in this way, and help us all to know that you are always near to comfort and to soothe.

We pray for others who are weary from the demands of overwork or from the worthlessness of worklessness. And we pray for ourselves, that we may remember that productivity is not a Kin-dom value. Send your grace, Holy Friend, upon all of us who suffer from the delusion that we are only as valuable as their work. Remind us that your ease is for all people, and draw them into the shelter of your mercy.

We pray for others who are trapped in cycles of addiction or violence. And we pray for ourselves, that the bonds of our violent and addictive tendencies be loosened bit by bit in the wake of your healing and hope. Shower us with the full confidence and faith to take the next step forward, and the next, then the next after that. Draw into our circles those who can counsel and guide us in new ways and patterns of being.

We pray for those who are pressed down into the cracks of the broken places in our society and culture. And we pray for ourselves when we find ourselves squeezed into the cracks, so heavily burdened by sexism, racism, or homophobia that it feels that we cannot stand. Raise us up, shattering that which keeps us fast and opening the eyes of all to the ease and joy of your justice.

We pray all these things in your name. Amen.