

HOW TO DEHUMANIZE YOUR NEIGHBOR COMPLETELY

1

Hint at subpar intelligence or morality of your targeted group

2

Use Infestation analogies

3

Compare to animals

4

Suggest violent solutions to the problem of this group

5

Seek to remove the group from society



BE BOTH



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*
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“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 “All Creatures of Our God and King” - arr. Victor Labenske 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 CONFESSION**

Holy One, we are called to confess when we make a mistake
THEY made us do it.

We are called to do justice,

We’d have justice if THEY weren’t so stupid

To love mercy

THEY don’t deserve mercy, only scorn

And to walk humbly with our God

Do THEY even believe?!

Who are THEY anyway?

We don’t know. Just a disembodied group we target when we get mad.

Then let us confess:

God of all life, save us from the subtle ways we dehumanize each other. How we lump folks into categories and close the door without a second thought. Give us the courage to consider another point of view. Help us remember the fact that our life story is not the only life story. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Francis of Assisi, 1225; tr. William H. Draper, 1925; alt.

LASST UNS ERFREUEN 8.8.4.4.8.8.w/ refrain
Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906



1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
2. O rush-ing wind with voice so strong, you clouds that sail in heav'n a-
3. O flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for your God to
4. And all for-giv-en ten-der hearts, for-giv-ing oth-ers, take your



sing; Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! O burn-ing sun with gold-en
long, O praise God, Al-le-lu-ia! O ris-ing morn, in praise re-
hear, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! O blaz-ing fire who lights the
part, sing prais-es, Al-le-lu-ia! You who long pain and sor-row



beam, O sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam,
joice, you lights of eve-ning find a voice, O praise God,
night, pro-vid-ing warmth, en-hanc-ing sight,
bear, praise God, who knows your ev-'ry care.



O praise God, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God our God, we invoke your many holy names, not because we need to call you here; but because our scattered attention needs to focus on your presence with us; right here. Right now. Make yourself known to us today. Known in the stirring of our spirit, the lightening of our burdens, a laugh or tears. If not now, then in your timing. Thanks be to you, our God, our Christ, our Spirit. One God forever. Amen!

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Stand By Me" – Charles Albert Tindley

Alice Metzloff, voice

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

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 (O.T. pg. 32)

Alice Metzloff, Liturgist

SERMON

“How to Dehumanize Your Neighbor Completely”

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

HYMN

“Blest Be the Tie that Binds”

John Fawcett, 1782; alt.

DENNIS S.M.
Melody by Johann G. Nägeli; adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,
4 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,

The shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

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

Through the giving of our time, talent, and treasure, we make a positive impact on our community. Through our giving, Good News is shared and promoted. **Let us rise in body or spirit and sing praise to our God, from whom all blessings flow!**

*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

Jesus, please use these humble offerings to lift Joseph out of the pit. May these gifts be like Rueben’s words and stave off violence. May we no longer seek to kill the dreamers. May we dream with them. Together with our neighbor, may we build with your Holy Spirit, a more just and compassionate word for all. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

Spiritual BALM IN GILEAD 7.6.7.6. w/ refrain

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole,
there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

Verses

1. Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged, And__ think my work's in vain,
2. If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, If you can-not pray like Paul,
3. Don't__ ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, For__ Je - sus is your friend;

to Refrain

1. But__ then the Ho - ly Spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
2. You can tell the love of Je - sus, And say, "He died for all."
3. And__ if you lack for knowl - edge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BENEDICTION**

The God in Christ has commanded us to love our neighbor
We don't have to like them. We have to love them.
To love and not dehumanize.
To welcome, love, and serve every. Single. Neighbor.
It's an impossible task.
Some have even been killed for it.
Yet through the blessings of the Holy Spirit
We commit ourselves to the love of God and neighbor. In Jesus name. 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 "Be Joyful in the Lord!" - Marc Jordan Cathy Fafrak, organ**

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

AUGUST 13, 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

August 13, 2023 thru August 20, 2023 WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun 8:15 am
Chapel Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship
11:45 am Mission Team Meeting

Mon

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study

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

Thurs

Fri

Sat 9:00 am
Children's Choir Workshop

Sun 8:15 am Chapel
Worship
9:00 am Gathering Worship
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship
11:45 am Caring Team Meeting
4:30 am Men's Group

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

Scripture: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Sermon: Humankind: Be Both:
“How to Dehumanize Your Neighbor Completely”
Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given by Dick & Dorie Christy in honor of their 63rd wedding anniversary.

DONATION OF THE MONTH

For August, we will continue 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!

ALIVE ON THE SQUARE WORSHIP ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AUGUST 27TH @ 10 A.M.

Come one, come all, and bring a friend to "Alive on the Square" for worship **Sunday, August 27th at 10 am!** This will kick off our next sermon series, "More Than Church on Sunday".

Kiwanis will serve a picnic lunch (hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans) after the service for a cash donation.

Don't forget to bring your lawn chair!



Heartland House Build: Register here:
<https://heartlanducc.doubleknot.com/event/the-heartland-house-build/2984804>

TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

We will continue to meet on Tuesdays, at 7 pm except for the second Tuesday of the month.

The second week of the month, we will meet on Thursday to avoid a conflict with the Worship Team Meeting.

50 + YEAR MEMBERS SAVE THE DATE!

If you've been a member of our church for 50 years or more, please save **Saturday, October 14th, 2023 from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm** for a celebration luncheon. Invitations will be mailed out in early September. If you haven't yet been here for 50 years and want to help with the luncheon, put this date on your calendar and contact the church office or Sue Dean at 330-952-1840.

OPERATION HOMES

Our week to welcome guests to our church is Monday, August 21-Monday, August 28. We will need some help with welcoming the guests to our church, meals, and staying at the church overnight. Please sign up in the lobby or contact Maureen Walker at rini72@zoominternet.net if you would like to help!

A few of our guests will be moving into homes soon! This is exciting news! Here is a link to some of the items they need.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4CA9A62BA5FB6-household1>

Please click on the link and sign up to see if you can donate some items!

CHANCEL CHOIR

This is open to anyone in the congregation who would like to join the chancel choir - including youth in grades 9-12

There will be a "getting back in vocal shape" workshop and repertoire sight-singing evening, beginning with a pizza party on **Wednesday, August 30th:**

****5:30-6:30** Dinner & Discourse

****6:00-6:30** Warm up the Warble

****6:30-8:30** Read the Rep!

Please respond no later than Sunday, August 13th to jenny@uccmedina.org so I may prepare for our evening together!

Our first official rehearsal will be on Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30 pm.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR WORKSHOP

Saturday, August 19th from 10:00 AM-12:00

Please join me for a fun-filled Saturday morning workshop to jump start our voices for the year!

**Accepting new members to
the children's choir!!**

Come join us and make a joyful noise!!

*****10:00-10:30** Chat and have some breakfast (mini bagels, donuts, granola bars, fruit, juice)

*****10:30-11:30** Theater and Music Games!
Warm up our voices and bodies for great singing!

*****11:30-12:00** Learn the first song we will be singing this year!

**First official Children's Choir will be
September 10th - 9:45-10:15 am.**

**The first musical offering will be sung at the
10:30 service on September 17th!**

Please respond to my email: jenny@uccmedina.org **no later than Sunday, August 13th**, with your child(ren)'s name(s) and a yes or no. This choir is for K-6 grade.

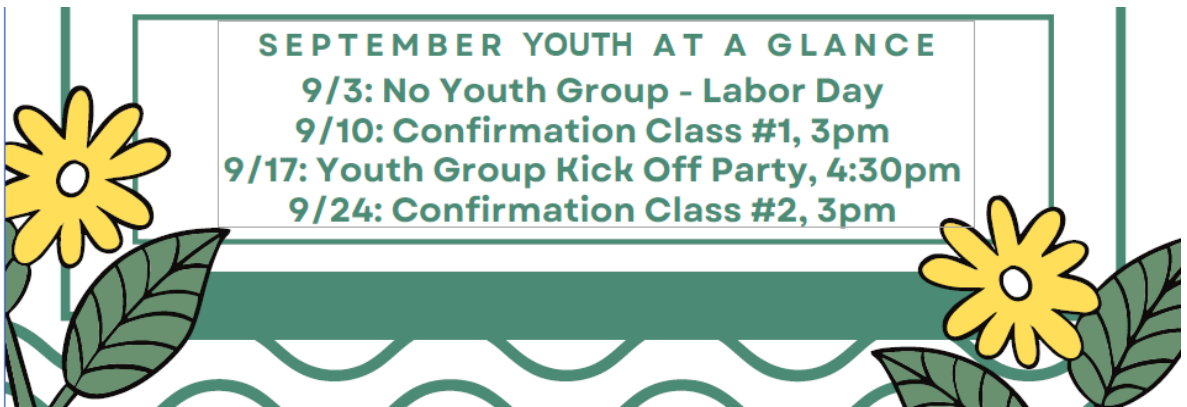
See you all soon!

Peace & Blessings, Mrs. C

Medina Diversity Project

The Medina Diversity Project is partnering with the Medina County District Library to present our third Understanding Christianity Panel at the Brunswick Library, 3649 Center Rd., Brunswick, on Thursday, August 17th at 6:30 pm.

This is a moderated dialogue with four Medina County clergy members. They will share traditions and beliefs within their respective denominations. On the panel are: Pastor Jim Watson from Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Valley City, Father Bob Stec from St. Ambrose Catholic Parish in Brunswick, Rev. Michael Wilson from Fellowship Baptist Church in Medina, and Pastor Meghan Malone from United Church of Christ Congregational in Medina. Robin Hawkins will moderate the program.



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

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

When All Seems Lost

In today's story, Joseph, the youngest and favorite son of Jacob is gifted a beautiful coat by his father. Joseph's brothers are jealous of Jacob's favor, and turn on him, plotting to kill him. One brother, Reuben, softens and suggests instead that they throw him in a pit. He tells his brothers that then they will be spared the blood guilt of killing their brother directly but thinks to himself that he will come back at a later time and rescue him. Then, seeing some slave traders passing by, the brothers decide to sell Joseph instead. Then, they take his coat, which they have torn and bloodied, to their father as proof that his favorite is no more.

This story, and Joseph's adventures in Egypt that follow this capture, was memorably made into a musical by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Weber more than fifty years ago. The musical, which began as a 15-minute cantata, has grown into a full length and often-staged musical, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**. If not the only, it is certainly the most popular staged musical interpretation of a Genesis story, beginning with the lines,

"Way, way back many centuries ago,
Not long after the Bible began.
Jacob lived in the land of Canaan,
A fine example of a family man..."*

and ending with a rousing call to follow your dreams no matter the circumstances.

For many, the musical, like another Rice and Weber production, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, has been a gateway into learning a bible story that they would not have easily walked into another way.

What about you? How have you learned the bible? What songs or chants have helped you to take it to heart and know it by heart? How can we, in our churches, introduce both our members and those in our communities to the stories that form our faith?

*You can find this and all the songs from the musical at this resource: Webber, L.A. (1992). *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Songbook*. Hal Leonard.