

# SPURRED



MORE THAN CHURCH  
MEDINA UCC  
ON SUNDAY





# 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”

### RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE “Prayer” from *Suite Gothique* - Leon Boëllmann/ed. Janet Linker Cathy Fafrak, organ

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### \*INTROIT

#### “Visioning Prayer”

Sharon Alberson for Medina UCC © 2013

God, help us to be wel-com-ing.

8

God, help us to be lov-ing God, help us to see that

15

ser-ving you can lead us to a place full of grace with no li-mits where we can be free...

20

to o - pen our hands, wel-com-ing to o - pen our hearts,

27

lov-ing to be more than church on Sun-day, to live in the light from a - bove; to

33

cel - a - brate in ser - vice and love.

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

When the way is difficult and dangerous,  
**let us still choose what is good and just.**  
When evil comes to break us down and break us apart,  
**let us spur one another on with hope and mutual care.**  
When power from on high strikes fear in our hearts,  
**let us still choose the courage to persist.**  
For we know that the love and power of God,  
**which abides in us, will not be overcome.**

## \*OPENING HYMN

### "What Is This Place"

KOMT NU MET ZANG 9.8.9.8.9.6.6.

*Huub Oosterhuis, 1967; tr. David Smith, 1970*

*Nederlandsche Gedenckclanck, 1626; arr. B. Huijbers, 1967*

*Text and arr. © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, bv; all rights reserved; OCP Publications exclusive agent for English-language countries.*



1. What is this place where we are meet-ing? On - ly a house, the  
2. Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in  
3. And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor, walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple, win - dows for  
us like seed. Names for our God, dreams, signs, and won - ders sent from the  
liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing, we are each



light, an o - pen door. Yet it be - comes a bod - y that lives when  
past are what we need. We in this place re - mem - ber and speak a -  
oth - er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive what



we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.  
gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem - ing word.  
we need to in - crease: God's jus - tice and God's peace.

## OPENING PRAYER

God is friendship.  
God is not you or me but you and me and more.  
God has no pronouns and every pronoun.  
They are an authentic apology.  
God is grassroots organizing.  
He is a good story.  
She is in the feeding, the clothing, the welcome.  
God is vulnerability that is true compassion.  
God is profoundly mysterious and wildly unpredictable.  
But also, right here. Right now.  
Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Deep Within" - David Haas

Colleen Rice, voice

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 10:24-25 (N.T. pg. 211)

Deb Waldron, Liturgist

## 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 "Spurred"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

## HYMN "One Bread, One Body"

John B. Foley, S.J., 1978

ONE BREAD ONE BODY 4.4.6 with refrain  
© 1978 John B. Joley, S.J., and New Dawn Music

### Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless. And

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain: 'One bread, one body, one Lord of all,'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: 'one cup of blessing which we bless. And'. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

we, though man-y, through-out the earth,  
we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

Verses

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,

wom - an or man no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

D.C.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. You do not need to be a member of the United Church of Christ to partake in the Holy Sacrament. All bread served is gluten free.*

**Invitation to the Table**

**The Words of Institution**

**Distribution of the Elements**

**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**

May what we offer,

**Spur the world towards the Kingdom of God.**

May we stamp our envelopes with the return address marked:

**The City of God.**

Let us rise in body or spirit and sing out our praise!

\*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

Holy One, may what we humbly offer and intend be used by you. Grant us the courage to forge our pain into a creative offering for the healing of the world. Grant us the audacity to turn our dreams into a reality. May we continue to meet, and be spurred on by your love for us, to which we are dedicated. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN

"I've Just Come From the Fountain"

*African-American Spiritual*



I've just come from the foun-tain, I've just come from the



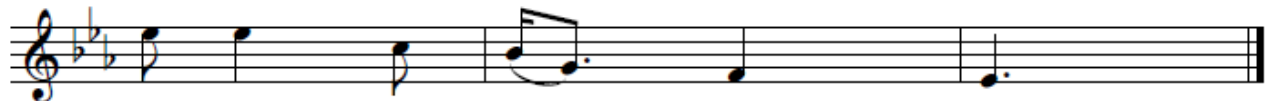
foun - tain, Lord, I've just come from the foun - tain, His



name's so sweet. O broth - ers, I love Je - sus, O  
O sis - ters, I love Je - sus, O  
Been drink - ing from the foun-tain, Been



broth-ers, I love Je - sus, O broth - ers, I love  
sis - ters, I love Je - sus, O sis - ters, I love  
drink - ing from the foun - tain, Been drink - ing from the



Je - sus,  
Je - sus, His name's so sweet.  
foun - tain,

\*ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*BENEDICTION**

We have been blessed by our time together.

**We thank God that we showed up.**

Whether you were here, here;

**Or on the livestream, the cloud of witnesses that surround us.**

God has blessed us with one another.

**In the billions of years that have passed, we are blessed to exist at the same time.**

We have been blessed to be a blessing!

**We are more than church on Sunday. We Are The Church.**

To bend the world toward blessing. Go! 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      "Praise the Lord on High" - Rachel Sawyer**

Cathy Fafrak, organ

**"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"**

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# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## SEPTEMBER 3, 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)

**September 3, 2023 thru September 10, 2023**

### **WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Sun** 8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
9:45 am Children's Choir rehearsal  
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship

**Mon** **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**  
Cook for Cups

**Tues** 8:00 am Men's Breakfast  
7:00 pm Bible Study

**Wed** **FIRST DAY OF HOBBY HORSE  
PRESCHOOL**  
10:30 am Quilters  
6:15 pm Bell Choir rehearsal  
6:30 pm Gathering Band rehearsal  
**7:00 pm Evangelism Team meeting**  
7:30 pm Choir rehearsal

**Thurs** **7:00 pm Hobby Horse Team meeting**

**Fri** 7:00 pm Mental Health Support Group

**Sat**

**Sun** **FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY**  
8:15 am Chapel Worship  
9:00 am Gathering Worship  
9:45 am Children's Choir rehearsal  
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship  
11:30 am Theatre Group meeting  
**11:45 am Mission Team meeting**  
3:00 pm Confirmation Class

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

Scripture: Hebrews 10:24-25

Sermon: "Spurred" - Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

**Communion Table:** The communion table flowers are given by John & Joan Walschon in honor of their anniversary.

### **NEW MEMBER CLASSES**

Join us for our upcoming New Member classes! We believe anyone is welcome to gather with us, but there is something special about making a deeper commitment to contribute to what God is doing in and through Medina UCC – and these classes are a great place for us to cast this vision, hear your story, and help you take the next step to commit to calling UCC your church home. The next New Member class will be on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the new library. New members will join the church on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you wish to participate, you may contact the church office at 330-725-4559 or register here though [REALM](#).

### **50 + YEAR MEMBERS SAVE THE DATE!**

If you've been a member of our church for 50 years or more, please save **Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>  
IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY**



## **COFFEE HOUR RESUMES**

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The Caring Team will start off hosting the first Coffee hour on September 10<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 service. Signups are available in the East Room Hallway. Never hosted before? No worries! A week prior to your coffee hour date, you will receive a letter specifying your hosting responsibilities, plus a Caring Team member will call you to ask if you should have any questions. Hosting is to be simple with coffee, tea, water, punch, and your choice of pastries, donut holes, or cheese and crackers. So, would you please consider hosting Coffee Hour one Sunday?

## **HELP ELIMINATE PERIOD POVERTY**

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One aspect of Period Poverty is the lack of access to menstrual products, and we can make an impact on this very present problem in our county schools. In addition to collecting boxed products to distribute, we are placing a bigger emphasis on collecting period underwear and mini detergent bottles with hand wash instructions. Every pair of period underwear we can provide can save each menstruator as much as \$100 a year in products. We have a list of desired products to make purchasing (and direct shipping if desired) easier. Links to this list can be found on the Church social media pages or printed out on the Mission table. In addition, we plan to distribute product bags to area Little Free Food Pantries.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, feel free to donate cash, write a check, or electronically transfer and include in message line "Period Products." Monetary donations can also be accepted in the church office.

## **DONATION OF THE MONTH**

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For September, we will be working in conjunction with the nonprofit group SPARK Medina to help eliminate period poverty. Please see that article for more details.

**We will also continue to collect vegetables from your gardens! Please place them in the basket down by the Mission Team table.**

## **MEDINA FALL FESTIVAL HELP**

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The Evangelism Team is looking for volunteers to help at our booth at the Medina Fall Festival on September 16<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm. Signup to volunteer can be done on REALM. We hope to see you there!

## **TREKKING THROUGH AUTUMN**

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Hike with your church friends this fall on Sunday afternoons at various Medina County Parks! Hikes leave promptly at 2 pm. No RSVP required, rain or shine except if storming. Most hikes are under 2 miles. Contact Kate Lindon with questions: [katewlindon@gmail.com](mailto:katewlindon@gmail.com).

**9/10:** Chippewa Inlet Trail North, 5803 Lafayette Rd., Medina

**9/17:** Killbuck Lakes West, 7996 White Rd., Burbank

**9/24:** Mugrage Park, 4985 Windfall Rd., Medina

**10/1:** Plum Creek Park North, 2390 Plum Creek Pkwy, Brunswick

**10/8:** Hubbard Valley Park, 8600 Hubbard Valley Rd., Seville

**10/15:** Allardale Park lodge entrance, 141 Remsen Rd., Medina

**10/22:** Chippewa Inlet Trail North, 5803 Lafayette Rd., Medina

**10/29:** Alderfer-Chatfield Wildlife Sanctuary, 6100 Ridge Rd., Medina (no pets; turn in award sheet here)

## **CONNECTION OUTREACH CIRCLE (COC) MEETING**

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*(Formerly known as Circle of Caring)*

**Sunday, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 at 11:30am**

This meeting will kick-off our 2023-2024 year of outreach ministry to our most Senior Adults (80+years old) church membership who are homebound, shut-in, and in residential care facilities. Interested? Come join us, meet our teams, and see what Connection Outreach Circle is about. All are welcome!

## **QUESTION FOR OUR YOUTH**

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Do you want to create a youth service all your own and once a month lead everyone in praise? **Bring ideas and let's chat about it at Youth Group on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6 pm.**

## PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

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Jen Cockrell's photography work will be on display in Beck Center for the Arts' Cultural Heritage Exhibition & Experience, a FREE visual arts exhibition in the main building at 17801 Detroit Ave, Lakewood. Please stop by Beck Center starting Sept 8 to see her work! And mark your calendars for a FREE reception with the artists on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. No RSVP needed. More details here at <https://www.beckcenter.org/events>.

## LET'S START A UCC THEATER COMPANY!

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Jenny has some great ideas for a Medina UCCC production during the Candlelight Walk weekend! How would you like to hone your acting skills while creating our own version of a Dickens classic we'll call "A UCC Christmas Carol"? Our very own version of Scrooge will be visited by three spirits and brought to his/her senses! Members of the Chancel Choir will add Christmas Caroling to the mix! If you are interested come to a meeting in the Chapel on **Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 service.**

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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**

Romans 12:9-21

## Spirit-Led Living

*A Labor Day litany in the wake of pandemic, based on Romans 12:9-21*

Holy God,

On this Labor Day, we give you thanks. We thank You, for those whose work brings them to the front lines of caring and curing. We thank you for doctors and hospital janitors, nurses and nursing assistants, office workers who keep hospitals running smoothly, scientists who continually quest for vaccines and cures that will keep us safe.

On this Labor Day, we recall Paul's urging in the letter to Romans, to "Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor." May we do so now.

On this Labor Day, we mourn. We weep with those who have lost loved ones who served on the pandemic's front lines. We recall other areas where safety is compromised and lives are lost, and we vow to continue to make work a place where no one needs fear for their health or safety.

On this Labor Day, we recall Paul's urging in the letter to Romans, to "Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor." May we do so now.

On this Labor Day, we remember. We remember those who have labored long and given much so that all workers may be safe and fairly compensated. We ask to be reminded that our faith's call to simplicity does not mean that working families should have to sacrifice basic needs like food, housing, and medical care. We pray for the wisdom and the courage needed to create your reign on earth, where all experience plenty, ease, and abundance.

On this Labor Day, we recall Paul's urging in the letter to Romans, to "Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor." May we do so now.

On this Labor Day, we pray that the love, affection, and honor that Paul impressed upon his friends may also fill our hearts and overflow into all places we live and work. In your holy name we pray, Amen.