



...you taught
in our streets

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL – MEDINA, OHIO

Sunday, January 21, 2024

10:30 Service of Worship

This worship is a recreation of the service from August 24, 1986.

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Meghan Malone

(Please sign and pass the ritual of friendship form)

PRELUDE "Come, Now Is the Time to Worship" – Doerksen/arr. Tornquist

Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

CALL TO WORSHIP, No. 431

*OPENING HYMN, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" No. 250

*INVOCATION AND LORDS PRAYER (in unison)

Lord, lots of people and lots of ideas and competing for our attention and our loyalty. Speak through the noise of the street with the Word which is our present and eternal life, and may we bring that word back to the street in ministry. We pray in the name of Christ who taught us to pray...

SPECIAL MUSIC "The Summons" Arranger, Sondra K Tucker

The Chancel Choir

JUNIOR SERMON

Stacie Yates

CALL TO PRAYER

Minister: THE LORD BE WITH YOU

People: AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT

Minister: LET US PRAY IN SILENCE

PASTORAL PRAYER, No. 438

The Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

2 Kings 22:3-13 and 23:1-3 (page 339)

*GLORIA PATRI No. 338

*HYMN, No. 236 "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Offertory, Sentence
Offertory Music No. 349 *"Let Thy World Abide"*
**Doxology and Blessing of Our Gifts*

- *CLOSING HYMN, No. 183 "Renew Thy Church"*
- *BENEDICTION*
- *UNISON RESPONSE, hymnal back cover "God Be With You"*

ORGAN POSTLUDE *"Variations on an American Hymn Tune"* – Gordon Young
Cathy Fafrak, Organist

**denotes congregation stands*

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon, Senior Minister – luke@uccmedina.org
Rev. Meghan Malone, Associate Pastor of Youth & Mission – meghan@uccmedina.org
Karen Brocco-Kish, Visitation Pastor – karen@uccmedina.org

OFFICE STAFF

Cindy Korecky, Office Manager – office@uccmedina.org
Jeff Miller, Financial Director – jeff@uccmedina.org

PROGRAM STAFF

Stacie Yates, Director of Christian Education – stacie@uccmedina.org
Jennifer Cochran, Director of Music – jenny@uccmedina.org
Cathy Fafrak, Organist & Office Assistant – cathy@uccmedina.org
Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool – jen@uccmedina.org
Jack Sharpe, Maintenance
Nick Brlan, Custodian

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THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

JANUARY 21, 2024

**“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

January 21, 2024 thru January 28, 2024 WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	9:30 am	3 rd Grade Bible Class
	9:45 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship
	11:45 am	Caring Team Meeting
	4:30 pm	Youth Group
Mon	1:00 pm	Breadmakers
	2:00 pm	“Life As We Know It” Book Study
	6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 pm	“Life As We Know It” Book Study
Tues	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed	10:30 am	Quilters
	6:00 pm	Gathering Band Rehearsal
	6:15 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Finance/Stewardship Meeting
	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thurs	7:00 pm	Congregational Council
Fri		
Sat		
Sun	9:45 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	ONE SERVICE ONLY
	11:30 am	Annual Budget Meeting
	12:00 pm	Chili Cook-Off
	3:00 pm	Confirmation Class

FAMILY BOARD GAME NIGHT

Bring your favorite board game from home and snacks to share on **Sunday, February 4th, 4:30-6pm!** DELTS will provide the drinks. Everyone is invited to come relax and have fun together in Fellowship Hall!

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

Scripture: 2 Kings 22:3-13 and 23:1-3

Sermon: “What You Can Learn in the Streets
These Days”

Guest Speaker: Rev. Mark Pettis, Ecumenical &
Interfaith Relations Manager, UCC National

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given in honor of our wonderful staff, and welcome back to Cindy!

Coffee Hour Hosts: Join us in Fellowship Hall following the 10:30 service for Coffee Hour hosted by the Mission Team.

ANNUAL MEETING NEXT WEEK

Friendly reminder to ask you to please join us for our Annual Meeting taking place on Sunday, January 28th after the 10:30 service. We need to have a quorum to vote on matters including the change to some team names and amended constitution and bylaw changes.

Annual Reports are available today in the East Room and Fellowship Hall for you to view prior to the meeting.

CHILI COOK-OFF SIGN UP TODAY

Chili Cook-Off Sunday, January 28th following the Annual Meeting.

Bring your favorite Crock Pot of WARM Chili, enough for at least 12 servings. Chili is not your specialty? Feel free to bring a dessert to share. All are welcome (kids and adults) to join and vote on your favorite chili. If you are planning to bring a crock pot of chili and/or attending, please RSVP at the sign up table in the East Room. The last day to sign up is today, Sunday, January 21st. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners!

THIRD GRADE BIBLE PARENT MEETING

There will be a meeting for third graders and their parents about the Third Grade Bible Class on Sunday, January 28th at 10:00 am. We will meet in the library and go over the expectations, calendar, and answer any questions you may have. If you are unable to make the meeting but would still like the information, please email Stacie Yates at stacie@uccmedina.org

SAVE THE DATE

The Ladies and Girls Tea will be held on Saturday, April 27th from 12 pm – 2 pm. Tickets will go on sale on Sunday, April 7th in the East Room following the worship services. The program this year will be “A First Lady Tea” presented by Women in History from Cleveland. MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Contact Beth Hari, Becky Weber or Darlene Bagley-Fazekas with any questions.

STEWARDSHIP STORY

First and foremost, I want to deeply thank each and every person in this congregation for being nothing but welcoming to myself and my family. In the short time we have been members, we have had warm bread delivered to our doorstep twice (once after a tragic loss in our family). I have seen members of this congregation actively work to remove access barriers to our building, such as making rope pulls for doors, changing doorknobs and having streaming services available. You see the church is more than a building, it is a community, and when I was asked if I would be on the Stewardship & Finance committee, I questioned if I was even qualified (I had to Google what a stewardship committee even does). I did learn that the definition of stewardship according to Merriam Webster is the “careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.” However, the reality is that we are all stewards of this church and community regardless of being on a committee or not. As such, we humbly ask that you complete a pledge for 2024. This will offer the ongoing stability that can help us continue to move forward and be good stewards of our community together. – Hannah Magrum

SUPER BOWL SQUARES FUND RAISER

It is time for the Mission Team to travel again to Costa Rica. The Church has been very generous subsidizing much of the cost. However, this year, the cost of the trip is significantly higher than it has been in previous years. Each team member pays for their own flight, transportation, food, and housing. Flights this year are double what they have been in past years, the building materials cost has gone up and the bus rental has increased. To help defray some of the U.S. and Costa Rica Team costs, as well as purchase additional items for the host home family, we are selling Super Bowl Squares as a fund raiser.

The board will have 100 squares with 10 numbers across the top and 10 numbers along the side (0-9). The square that intersects with the last digit of both teams scores will win. Each square will cost \$75 (You may purchase more than one square). If you have the winning square at the end of the 1st or 3rd quarter, you will win \$750.00. If you have the winning square at half time or the end of the game, you will win \$1,000.00.

To purchase squares please either:

Venmo to tamvic1

PayPal to vmiller0723

email to tamvic1@aol.com to arrange to arrange payment by check (or if you have any questions).

Once you purchase your square, please send your name, email address, phone number and your Venmo/PayPal account name to tamvic1@aol.com. This is very important so I can send you your square and pay you your winnings! Also, feel free to email with any questions. The full rules and details will be provided before the Super Bowl.

Thank you very much for your support!! We will be providing more information about our host home family over the next few weeks.

ONA NOTES

Aren't we already "Open and Affirming"? Are all UCC congregations Open and Affirming? Who decides? The decision of whether to become ONA/Open and Affirming is left to each congregation. Within the UCC, congregations are in covenant with one another. As such, the General Synod speaks to, but not for congregations, conferences, associations, and other expressions and settings of the church. When it comes to actions taken by the General Synod, each congregation is called to respond prayerfully; other settings of the church are free to do the same, responding faithfully in accordance to their discernment of the leading of God's spirit. The Open and Affirming Coalition (UCCCOALITION.ORG) has been advocating within our denomination and in the world since 1972. There are currently over 1600 ONA congregations in the UCC out of 4603.

Come hear Mike Sferro tell his story in one worship service at 10:30 on January 28th.

Questions/comments? Email ONA@UCCMedina.org

Your ONA Task Force: *Dan Daubner, Vicki Marty, Lily Wolff, Brad Rice, Pam Branscome, Alan Parkhurst, and Mike Sferro*

THANK YOU

On behalf of Prospect Closet we would like to sincerely thank all who shared hats, gloves, and scarves this holiday season with those who needed them. Your generosity brought not only warmth during the cold of winter but warmth of the heart. We will continue to share outerwear including coats, hats, scarves, and gloves throughout March hoping to assist anyone in need of clothing for the cold months ahead and provide food at Prospect Pantry which runs year-round. If anyone would like to make donations, the Pantry and Closet are located in the first block south of Liberty on Prospect St. Items can be left on the back porch of 431 West Washington St. if weather is wet, or the pantry is full. Thank you for your generous part in making Medina a warm hands/warm heart kind of town.

Most Sincerely, Jan and Chet Simmons

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 am – 3 pm MONDAY THRU THURSDAY; FRIDAY 9 am – 12 pm

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 24, 1986

Luke 13:26

The television program "Sesame Street" features learning that takes place on the street. On Sesame Street, kids learn numbers and letters and Spanish words. But on other streets, kids learn con games and thievery and dirty words. What is taught on our street: cooperation and neighborliness, suspicion and fear, friendliness and good will, destructiveness and hate? Jesus taught in the streets. Can we reclaim our streets as a learning center for Christian life?

Rev. Susan Huffman
Wright Community Congregational Church, UCC
Boise, Idaho

A LAND OF MILK AND HONEY

When the Old Testament speaks of a land of milk and honey, it could be referring to Turkey. Anyone who has tasted baklava, or other sweet Turkish pastries, knows how much the Turks love honey. Of course, honey means bees, hives, and combs—as well as complicated processing, too, if quality is to be controlled and maintained. Until recently, however, many Turkish bee-keepers could not produce honey that competed with foreign imports. And so Turkish bakers bought their honey abroad.

The Development Foundation of Turkey, a private assistance organization, has established a center where Turkish bee-keepers can bring their raw honey for processing by modern equipment, exchange their dirty combs for new ones, and learn the latest techniques in the field. The Foundation is also marketing the farmers' honey nationwide.

Altan Unver, founder and director of the Development Foundation, is a graduate of the UCC-supported secondary school in Tarsus. The United Church Board for World Ministries provided crucial seed money for the Foundation at the start. Now recognition and respect for its work are widespread—and western European governments are providing major funding for new projects in poultry culture, milk processing, and rural development throughout Turkey.

The Development Foundation, by improving the lives of thousands of Turks, is helping to make Turkey truly a land of milk and honey.