

First
Congregational Church

MEDINA --:-- OHIO

THE MINISTRY OF THIS CHURCH

The Pulpit

REV. WM. FLAMMER, Pastor

Foreign Representatives

HAZEL BAILEY, Peking, China

MR. and MRS. H. H. KREIDER
Constantinople, Turkey

The Music

JOHN F. BECK

Choir Director and Organist

FRED BOHLEY, Soloist

FLORENCE THATCHER, Soloist

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Order of Morning Worship

10: 30 O'clock

For our 2024 Founder's Day, we're going back to the earliest bulletin we could find. We have adapted the order of worship from Sunday, May 15, 1927 which had a 10 a.m. and a 7:30 p.m. worship services with a Bible School at 11:15 and "Christian Endeavor" at 6:30. This is less a straightforward following and more of an artistic blend.

Prelude "Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether" Alleluia Ringers

***Call to Worship** (inspired by the Announcement of the 1927 bulletin)

We are assembled for worship and religious instruction.

Let each one make it an hour of profound significance.

May we lend ourselves to God's Spirit.

Here may be found rest for the weary, strength for the weak, hope for the hopeless and abiding joy for all.

Come, let us worship!

*** Hymn No. 152** "The Church's One Foundation" Stone/Wesley

***Prayer of Invocation**

Holy One, may we like our ancestors follow your urgings. May we look upon each other and ourselves as you see us. You see not sin, but kin. May the mind of our Christ be within us and the fire of your Spirit burn within our soul. Ours is a great task requiring the best of which we are capable. No other line of activity can mean so much to the world. A satisfying reality is the heritage of the Christian. Amen.

Doxology*

***Responsive Reading** (Psalm 133, The Message)

How wonderful, how beautiful,

when brothers and sisters get along!

It's like costly anointing oil

flowing down head and beard,

Flowing down Aaron's beard,

flowing down the collar of his priestly robes.

It's like the dew on Mount Hermon
flowing down the slopes of Zion.
Yes, that's where GOD commands the blessing,
ordains eternal life.

Anthem "God's Love Is Everlasting" Choir

Children's Moment

Pastoral Prayer

Reception of Offering

Offertory Solo "Trio (Op. 49 No. 1)" Rheinberger

Hymn No. 143 "Christ Is the World's True Light" Briggs/Fritsch/Bach

Scripture Mark 9:2-9

Sermon by the Pastor

***Hymn No. 266** "How Firm a Foundation" Early American

***Benediction and Response**

*God be with you till we meet again; By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.*

***Postlude** "How Firm a Foundation" Scott

The Ushers are kindly asked not to seat anybody after the Prayer of Invocation until the conclusion of the Responsive Reading.

*Please rise in body or spirit

***this misprint was in the original bulletin, so we have preserved it here.*

*****Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service*****
Coffee Hour is hosted this week by the Endowment Team

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 Fafarak, Organist & Office Assistant – cathy@uccmedina.org

Jennifer Vilimonovic, Director of Hobby Horse Preschool – jen@uccmedina.org

Jack Sharpe, Maintenance

Nick Brlan, Custodian

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 11, 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

February 11 thru February 18, 2024 WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	FOUNDERS DAY
	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 3 rd Grade Bible Class
	11:45 am Mission Team Meeting
	3:00 pm Confirmation Class
	6:00 pm Temple Israel Visit
Mon	2:00 pm "Life As We Know It" Study
	7:00 pm "Life As We Know It" Study
Tues	7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting
Wed	ASH WEDNESDAY
	10:30 am Quilters
	6:00 pm Gathering Band Rehearsal
	7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
	7:00 pm DELTs Meeting
Thurs	6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
	6:30 pm Women's Bible Study
	7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
Fri	
Sat	
Sun	1st SUNDAY OF LENT
	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 3 rd Grade Bible Class
	4:30 pm Youth Group

ASH WEDNESDAY

All are welcome to this service at 7 pm, which includes the imposition of ashes, as we begin the Lenten journey together. **DRIVE THRU ASHES** will be available in the church parking lot from 1-2 pm with Pastor Luke and Pastor Meghan.

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

Scripture: Mark 9:2-9

Sermon: Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given by Syd & Pete Benson in honor of their 59th anniversary.

ENDOWMENT FUND CELEBRATES 30 4 30

The church family is invited to celebrate a milestone marking the success of the Endowment Fund. Founded in 1994, the Fund is celebrating thirty years of giving! Endowment dollars have financed special projects and activities within the church. Now, we are asking our church family to consider a \$30 donation to the Endowment Fund to celebrate 30 years of giving. These dollars send folks to Costa Rica, upgrade our beautiful building, and strengthen our mission. All who donate are welcome to a copy of a Fred Graff print of the church by stopping in the church office. You can donate to this fund online here: [Give Now \(onrealm.org\)](http://GiveNow.onrealm.org) (select 30 4 30 in the dropdown menu).

HOBBY HORSE SUNDAY 2/18

Everyone is invited to Hobby Horse Preschool Day on February 18th at the 10:30 service. Hobby Horse Preschool wants to thank everyone for their past and continued support with a new church banner, a song sung by some of our Hobby Horse children along with our Children's Choir, and a Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall with delicious treats. We would also like to help Miss Stacie (aka Mrs. Yates) fill a noisy can with coins for our friend Innocent in Africa so bring your loose change. We hope to see many of you there!

DONATION OF THE MONTH

February's donation of the month is period products!

Period poverty (lacking access to menstrual products) affects millions of people, and stigma about menstrual hygiene makes it taboo for us to talk about. The Mission Team will distribute your donations to local charities to reduce period poverty here in Medina! Thank you!

HOPE RECOVERY COMMUNITY DINNER DONATIONS

Our church will be serving the Saturday night dinner at Hope Recovery Community on February 24th. Sign-ups to donate items and help serve dinner are located in the Welcome Area. Donations can be left in the baskets below the sign-up table by Thursday, February 22nd. Thank you for considering this community outreach.

COFFEE HOUR

Please consider hosting coffee hour one Sunday. Signups for March through May 2024 are available in the East Room hallway. Never hosted before? No worries! You'll receive a letter and a call from a Hospitality Team member should you have any questions. Hosting is to be simple, so would you please consider hosting Coffee Hour one Sunday?

SONshine MEALS

Did you know we have a ministry that provides meals for members in need? If you're ill, expecting or have fallen on hard times, please let us help! If you know of a need or would like to help fulfill a need, please contact Becky: beckybauer@zoominternet.net or 216-288-6877.

We will be refreshing our list of volunteers so if you'd like to be (or continue to be) on the list of people we call to possibly provide meals, please text or email Becky.

NEW PODCAST HOME

Heads up if you listen to our worship podcast: We have a new look and name! Search for "Medina UCCC Sermons," currently on Spotify and Apple podcasts. Look for this graphic. Listen to the Scripture and sermon while you cook, walk the dog, drive, or sip your hot cocoa...it's up to you!



LADIES AND GIRLS TEA

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.

SAVE THE DATE

The 2024 Worship Beyond Walls Conference is coming to Heartland Community Church on April 12th and 13th. Join with other women to hear special guests and women from across the Midwest in praise and worship to our Lord. Share stories and experiences and build meaningful connections that impact our regional and local communities. Go to www.neowomen.org to sign up.

SCHOOL LEVY Q&A

Medina City Schools will have an operating levy on the ballot on March 19th. Representatives from the district will be sharing the most up-to-date information and answering your questions in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, February 15th at 1 p.m. Congregationalists have long advocated for public education and an informed electorate, so please join us and invite a friend!

-Pastor Luke

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS PRICE CHANGE

We just received notice from Flower Gallery that they have raised their prices for our Sunday Flowers. We have been lucky enough for them to keep the price down for several years without an increase. **The new price for sponsoring the Sunday Communion Flowers will be \$25 effective immediately.** As always, you may [pay for these either online through REALM](#) or submit a check to the church with Sunday Flowers in the memo line.

TEAM TITLE CHANGE

The Caring Team has changed their title to “**Hospitality Team**” to provide a more accurate and clear account of the team’s functions in the church. “Hospitality” revolves around the warm, generous, and friendly reception and entertainment of guests, visitors or strangers. The Hospitality Team is an outreach about bringing our congregation at large together in fellowship. This team plans, oversees, and supports receptions/coffee hour, bereavements, dinners, and special events in the life of the church. Some of the annual fellowship events most of us are familiar with include 50+ Membership Luncheon, Ladies Lenten Luncheon, Ladies & Girls Tea, Ice Cream Social, Alive on the Square Picnic, and the Chili Cook Off.

MEDINA ICE FESTIVAL ON THE SQUARE

Don’t forget to check out the church’s and Hobby Horse’s ice festival sculptures at the Medina Ice Festival next weekend!

THE 2024 JUNK DRIVE IS HERE!

This fundraiser takes broken and unwanted electronics and turns them into funds for our high schooler’s summer mission trip! We’re accepting Laptop and Desktop Computers, DVD/VHS players, Cords, Cables, Mice, Keyboards, Cellphones, Tablets, Smart Watches, Gaming Consoles, Games, Stereos, Radios, Mp3 players, iPods, old power tools, and small metal appliances.

There will be four drop-off windows in the church parking lot:

Saturday, Feb. 24 (9:00am-1:00pm)

Tuesday, Feb. 27 (5:00pm-8:00pm)

Saturday, March 2 (9:00am-1:00pm)

Tuesday, March 5 (5:00pm-8:00pm)

A huge shout out to Tracy Gabrielsen for setting us up with a storage truck from Penske! Please see the posters that are all around the building for answers to FAQs and reach out to Logan Malone with any other questions you may have. Thank you to Logan for leading this fundraising effort!

MISSIONS UPDATE REPORT FROM DECEMBER

The Mission Team is so pleased to share the bounty of your generosity for the month of December. With your wonderful support our church made a positive impact on:

Hope Recovery

Operation Homes

The Juvenile Detention Center

Garfield Families and Prospect Closet through the Giving Tree and our ongoing fund to eventually fully fund a home for Habitat for Humanity.

So many benefited from individual kindnesses combined to create big outcomes. Thank you for continuing to reach out into the community and for being believers of action and love.

“SHORT STORIES BY JESUS” – A LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Jesus was a skilled storyteller and perceptive teacher who used parables from everyday life to effectively convey his message and meaning. Life in first-century Palestine was very different from our world today. In this wise and entertaining series, Amy-Jill Levine offers a fresh, timely reinterpretation of Jesus' narratives. She analyzes these “problems with parables,” taking readers back in time to understand how their original Jewish audiences understood them. Levine reveals the parables' connections to first-century economic and agricultural life, social customs, and morality, Jewish scriptures and Roman culture. With this revitalized understanding, she interprets these moving stories for the contemporary reader, showing how the parables are not just about Jesus, but are also about us – and when read rightly, still challenge and provoke us 2,000 years later.

We are partnering with our friends at St. Paul's Episcopal and St. Matthew's Lutheran for this companion study to our worship series!

We'll meet Wednesdays at 7 pm at the following locations:

February 21: St. Matthew's, 400 N. Broadway St., Medina

February 28: St. Paul's Episcopal, 317 E. Liberty St., Medina

March 6: UCC, Congregational

March 13: St. Matthew's, 400 N. Broadway St., Medina

March 21: UCC, Congregational

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

OFFICIARY

Phone 1290

Church Phone 3151

William Flammer, Pastor

Miss Hazel F. Bailey, Peking, China; Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Kreider, Constantinople, Turkey.—(World Friendship Representatives).

John F. Beck, Choir Director and Organist.

Gail T. Abbott, Treasurer.

Miss Effie Gates, Church Clerk.

Rendon Hoff, Head Usher.

Board of Deacons

N. H. McClure, W. H. Sipher, E. W. Nettleton, Carl Abbott, Harry Wideman, R. E. Hart, C. B. Branch.

Deaconesses

Mrs. W. E. Griesinger, Mrs. W. C. Thomas, Mrs. R. R. Strong, Mrs. Harry Wideman, Miss Helen Vader, Mrs. Eva Warner.

Pastoral Committee

Pastor, Clerk, Deacons, Deaconesses, Sunday School Superintendent. R. E. Hart, Chairman.

Missionary Committee

Mrs. D. H. Knisley, Chairman, Harold Clark, Mrs. C. B. Lowe, Miss Clara Steeb, Dr. Will Nichols, J. T. Calvert, Mrs. Gail Abbott.

Board of Trustees

W. R. Clark, Chairman; W. H. Cole, Secretary; Fred Hostettler, Howard Rickard, A. P. Bartholomay, (repair, heat and light); Harry Adams, Howard Rickard, (music); E. B. Spitzer, (rentals); W. R. Clark, (pulpit supply).

Committee on Grounds

L. H. Randall, Chairman.

Committee on Finance and Promotion

Harry Adams, Chairman; J. T. Calvert, D. S. Longacre, Gail T. Abbott, Rev. William Flammer.

The Ladies' Benevolent Society

President, Mrs. L. H. Randall; First Vice President, Mrs. Claude Hatch; Second Vice President, Mrs. C. B. Lowe; Secretary, Mrs. H. C. West; Treas., Mrs. Helen Aylard; Pianist, Mrs. Eva Warner.

Bible School

L. H. Randall, General Superintendent; Harold Clark, Assistant Superintendent; Rendon Hoff, Treasurer; Donald Chase, Secretary. Primary Dept. Supt., Mrs. N. S. Kellogg; Junior Dept. Supt., Mrs. W. A. Nichols; Kindergarten Supt., Mrs. Dayton Eddy; Intermediate Dept., Mrs. Harry Clark; Home Dept. Supt., Miss Dora White; Cradle Roll Supt., Mrs. Sidney Lance; Missionary Supt., Mrs. R. E. Hart; Orchestra Leader, Mrs. D. C. Babcock.

Christian Endeavor

stanberry Nichols, President; Louise Wideman, Secretary.

Custodian

H. A. Horn, 116 North Broadway, Phone 3106.