

June 9, 2024
Medina UCC



*In the bulb
there is a flower...*

IT'S TIME
TO GROW



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 10:30 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 “Prayer” – Fred B. Binckes

Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on Psalm 103)*

We come to praise God’s holy name.

With all our hearts,

we gather in thanksgiving

for all God has done for us.

Bless the Lord.

All that is within us, bless God’s holy name!

*GATHERING HYMN

“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

PROMISE 8.7.8.7.D.

Natalie Sleeth, 1985

© 1986 Hope Publishing Company

Unison



1	In the bulb	there is a flow - er;	in the seed,	an ap - ple tree;
2	There’s a song	in ev - ery si - lence,	seek - ing word	and mel - o - dy;
3	In our end	is our be - gin - ning;	in our time,	in - fin - i - ty;



in co-coons, a hid-den prom-ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn for ev-ery dark-ness, bring-ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.



In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys-ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,



un-re - vealed un-til its sea - son, some-thing God a-lone can see.
 un-re - vealed un-til its sea - son, some-thing God a-lone can see.
 un-re - vealed un-til its sea - son, some-thing God a-lone can see.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (N.T. pg. 13)

Pam Branscome, Liturgist

SPECIAL MUSIC "Lord, Here Am I" – John Ness Beck

Jerry Mason, soloist

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

God of all things, hear our prayers today. We give thanks for the beautiful blooms of life which perfume our days with joy. Help us to grow deeply, reaching our roots towards the waters of your Spirit. Bless those experiencing the pains of pruning and the struggles of being transplanted. May your sunshine and rain help all of us to grow. Amen.

GROWTH HYMN

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Frances R. Havergal, 1874

HENDON 7-7-7-7.
Henri A. César Malan (1787-1864)



1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed,
 2 Take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -
 3 Take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
 4 Take my love, my God, I pour at thy feet its



Lord, to thee; take my hands and let them move
 ful for thee; take my voice and let me sing
 ges for thee; take my sil - ver and my gold,
 treas - ure store; take my - self and I will be



at the im - pulse of thy love, at the im - pulse of thy love.
 al - ways, on - ly, for my King, al - ways, on - ly, for my King.
 not a mite would I with - hold, not a mite would I with - hold.
 ev - er, on - ly, all for thee, ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

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!

Miracles happen in every transition from flower, to fruit, to the seeds of new life. Let us bear good fruit, and plant future seeds by giving what we can as we rise and sing.

***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.**

***Giving Thanks**

Thank you, God, for connecting us through faith. Send us to each other as witnesses to your love. May our gifts bring more light, more hope, and more peace to our world. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

African-American Spiritual

PEACE LIKE A RIVER 7.7.10.D



1 I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an
 4 I've got faith like an an - chor, I've got faith like an



riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean, in my
 an - chor, I've got faith like an an - chor, in my



soul. I've got riv - er in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean in my soul.
 soul. I've got an - chor in my soul.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BENEDICTION**

May the grace of God,
deeper than our imagination;
 and the strength of Christ,
stronger than our need;
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
richer than our togetherness;
 guide and sustain and help you grow...
today and in all our tomorrows. 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.

“MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY”

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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

Pete Metzloff, Interim Financial Director - pete@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 & Custodian

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

JUNE 9, 2024

**“WELCOMING, LOVING, SERVING, WHERE GOD HAS NO LIMITS.
MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY!”**

Live streaming of the 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary service is available at www.uccmedina.org/live

June 9 thru June 16, 2024

WEEK AT A GLANCE

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

Mon

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

Wed	10:30 am	Quilters
	6:00 pm	Gathering Band Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	DELTs Meeting

Thurs	7:00 pm	Hobby Horse Team Meeting
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Fri

Sat

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

GUEST SPEAKER – JUNE 16TH

Rev. Michael Howard:

Michael has been serving as the Minister of Faith in Action since March 2019. From the wooded knobs of Kentucky countryside, Michael is a teacher, community organizer, and prophetic Christian leader. He has taught and served around the world, including Peru, Brazil, India, and Ethiopia; along with Kentucky, Virginia, and New Jersey. In addition to traditional pastoral ministry, Michael has coached and co-founded a number of community organizations, nonprofits, and small businesses. Michael is an ordained minister in the UCC and has an MPA from Morehead State University and an MDiv from Drew Theological Seminary.

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

Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Sermon: “The Soil, the Sower, the Seeds”
Rev. Jeanette Broderson, Guest Speaker

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given by Dorothe Edinger in memory of David Edinger.

SAFE TRAVELS YOUTH MISSION TRIP!

Please pray for a safe and meaningful week for the 17 youth and adults from our church headed to Wise County, Virginia along with friends from Hudson United Church of Christ, through June 15th. Our work will support the Appalachia Service Project, whose mission is making homes warmer, safer, and drier!

GUEST SPEAKER – TODAY!

Rev. Jeanette Broderson:

After starting her professional journey as a high school English teacher in her home state of South Dakota, Jeanette moved to Berkeley, California, to pursue a Master of Divinity at Pacific School of Religion. Jeanette became associate minister at First Congregational Church of Hudson in 2011 after completing a pastoral residency at Plymouth Church in Des Moines, Iowa. She and her husband, the Rev. Jon Dodson, have one energetic daughter, a cranky Siamese cat, and a feisty rescue kitten. Jeanette enjoys reading historical fiction and baking anything with chocolate.

SUMMER MAILING SCHEDULE SAFETY TEAM

Interested in joining the Medina UCC Safety Team? Please consider joining us for our first meeting back together since the pandemic on Sunday, June 9th at 11:30 am in the new library (downstairs by the entry way off the parking lot). If you have questions, please text (or call) Julie Gilliland at 216-990-5767 or Ken Zuehlke at 216-990-3368. We look forward to reigniting this team and bringing some new members into the group.

SUMMER MAILING SCHEDULE FOR THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

The Pilgrim Messenger will only be mailed every other week for the summer months beginning on June 9th and will run through August 22nd. Regular mailings will begin on August 22nd.

JUNE MONTHLY DONATION

This month we're collecting packs of 4-6 toilet paper rolls. Factory sealed please! Donations should be placed in the bins next to the mission table, which is across from the elevator downstairs. This month's donations will be split between the Medina Personal Care Pantry and the little free pantries around town.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Last July, Habitat for Humanity in partnership with the Medina County Office of Older Adults, started an 'Aging in Place' program. The purpose of this program is to serve seniors here in Medina County through completing minor repairs and modifications to their homes which will allow them to remain in their homes longer and safer. They are currently seeking volunteers to help complete these projects. If you're interested, please reach out to their volunteer coordinator, Alexis Freet, at alexis@medinacountyhabitat.org

COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP

The paint isn't even dry on our March 2024 house and it's time to start planning for the 2025 trip. If you are interested in going or have any questions about this amazing mission experience, please email Vicki Miller at tamvic1@aol.com. If we have a large team this year we will need to fundraise for a 2nd home!

VBS THANK YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who helped in any way with Vacation Bible School. Thank you to those who donated artificial flowers and gardening supplies to help with the decorating. Thank you to those who helped decorate throughout the week and for those who stayed on Sunday after church to help. Thank you to those who prepared snacks. A huge thank you to all the volunteers we had to teach the children and lead them throughout the week of VBS. It truly takes a village! *Just Like Me* VBS was a huge success with 90 children attending. The children enjoyed a week full of stories, games, music and crafts. We collected snacks for the Free Pantry on Prospect Street and collected money to donate to the Ohio Bird Sanctuary to adopt a bird and help them purchase GPS equipment for their birds. The week culminated with the Ohio Bird Sanctuary coming with three of their raptors, a concert with the kids singing a couple of songs and ice cream sundaes!

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Sabbaticals aren't just for Pastors. How will you grow in fierce love this summer?

6/9 – Rev. Jeanette Broderson, Associate Pastor of Hudson UCC.

6/16 – Rev. Michael Howard, Minister of Faith in Action.

6/23 – Grow Through Service – Mission Trip Reflection Sunday.

6/30 – Love Yourself. Unconditionally. It All Starts Here.

7/7 – Speak Truthfully. It Will Set You Free.

7/14 – Travel Lightly. Downsize The Burdens You Carry.

7/21 – Show Kindness and Affection Wildly. Make Fierce Love Real.

7/28 – Confront Boldly. Transform Your Circumstances with Moral Courage.

8/4 – Think Inclusively. They're Your People Too!

8/11 – Live Justly. Choose Fairness and Equality Every Day.

8/18 – Find Joy Purposefully. It Is The Water Of Life.

8/25 – Believe Assiduously. Have Faith in Love. Alive On the Square.

During this series we'll decorate with houseplants! Bring a plant from your home to decorate the altar.

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

Mark 3:20-35

“God’s Will”

Jesus is teaching and preaching, telling stories, and inviting listeners to a new way of life. In the midst of the teaching, someone brings word that his mother, and his brothers are waiting outside.

Jesus responds to their presence with what seems like uncharacteristic harshness. “Who are my brothers and mother?” he asks, looking around at the gathered crowd. And he answers himself. It is not Mary and her sons who are his family, but his gathered family and friends.

It may be the first, but it certainly is not the last time that Christ followers are referred to as a family. Many congregations consider one another a family. Is your congregation one of these? What are some of the pitfalls and positives of calling your congregation a family?

First of all, consider the positives. A family at its best is a place of sanctuary, growth, humor, help, joy in its season, and a willingness to weep when grief comes. Some people find such a place in their families of origin. Others find this sanctuary in found families created in adulthood, including church congregations.

What about the pitfalls? Well, it can be difficult to enter a family with its many customs, rituals, inside jokes, and ideas that may take years for outsiders to understand. And, while healthy families are sanctuaries, families that are unhealthy can be containers for toxic secrets and even abuse. Third, the very intimacy that creates a sense of deep belonging in families can also create a sense of being suffocated or constrained into a particular role.

If your church community considers itself a family, this may be a good Sunday for conversation about what that might mean for you. What are the positives of you considering yourself a family? What are the challenges? What are the ways that you can nurture the intimacy of family and still be open and welcoming to outsiders?