



July 7th, 2024  
Medina UCC

**Speak truthfully.  
It will set you free.**

A Bold Path to Ferocious Courage  
and Rule-Breaking Kindness That  
Can Heal the World

# *Fierce Love*

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

IT'S TIME  
TO GROW



# 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 10:30 service, Summer Sunday School is available for ages 3-3<sup>rd</sup> 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*

~ ~ ~

*“Telling the truth is an act of love, an act of resistance, an act of courage.  
Its end is liberation, freedom, and, if possible, reconciliation.  
But there can be no reconciliation without truth.”*

*Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis*

### RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE “America, the Beautiful” – arr. John Carter

Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

### WELCOME

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

### \*GATHERING HYMN

### “Enter, Rejoice, and Come In”

ENTER, REJOICE 7.7.8.7.

*Louise Ruspini; alt.*

*Louise Ruspini; harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1993*

1 En - ter, re - joice, and come in. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.  
2 O - pen your - self to the song. O - pen your - self to the song.  
3 O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one. O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one.  
4 Don't be a - fraid of some change. Don't be a - fraid of some change.  
5 En - ter, re - joice, and come in. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.



### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

We worry a lot about who might be offended by the truth.

**What about the ones who might be liberated by it?**

Speaking the truth takes courage, and we aren't always heard the first time.

**But living with lies is costly too. The truth can set us free!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Heal Our Land" – Michael Card

Nick North, soloist

*If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. - 2 Chronicles 7:14*

**SCRIPTURE** 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 (N.T. pg. 171)

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** "Grow By Speaking Truthfully"

Rev. Meghan Malone

### **COMMUNION HYMN**

**"As We Gather At Your Table"**

Carl P. Daw, Jr.; 1989. Words © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D.  
The Sacred Harp, 1844. Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1992



1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.

Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.  
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

## 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**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

## 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!*

Let our hearts and minds be stirred today, to give what we can to God's work in the world, with gratitude for all that has been given to us. Please rise in body or spirit to 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**

God, your presence is truth, breaking forth like the light of a new day. Thank you for the liberation you bring to all people. Help us to find our place in your freedom song. Amen.

**\*SENDING HYMN**

**"The Church of Christ In Every Age"**

Fred Pratt Green, 1969 © 1971 Hope Publishing Company

WAREHAM L.M.  
William Knapp, 1738

1 The church of Christ, in ev - ery age be -  
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the  
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a  
set by change, but Spir - it led, Must  
vic - tims of in - jus - tice cry For  
car - ing church that longs to be A  
claim and test its her - i - tage and  
shel - ter and for bread to eat, and  
part - ner in Christ's sac - ri - fice, and  
keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
nev - er live be - fore they die.  
clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.



**\*ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*BENEDICTION**

May God grant you the courage to speak the truth in love.  
**Let us grow in authenticity and honesty!**  
Speaking truthfully for yourself empowers others to do the same.  
**God, make a way for freedom and reconciliation!**  
Go from this place as truth seekers.  
May the strength of God, and  
The boldness of Christ, and  
The reassurance of the Holy Spirit, accompany you along the way.

**\*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      “Trumpet in Dialogue” – Louis Nicolas Clerambault** Cathy Fafrak, Organist

**“MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY”**

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# THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

## JULY 7, 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](http://www.uccmedina.org/live)

### July 7 thru July 14, 2024 WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>Sun</b>	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship

**Mon**

<b>Tues</b>	7:00 pm	Bible Study
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<b>Wed</b>	10:30 am	Quilters
	6:00 pm	Gathering Band Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	DELT Meeting

<b>Thurs</b>	7:00 pm	Hobby Horse Team Meeting
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**Fri**

**Sat**

<b>Sun</b>	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship

**Pastor Luke is on sabbatical  
May 27<sup>th</sup> – September 2<sup>nd</sup>  
He will return on September 3<sup>rd</sup>**

### UPDATED VISITATION LISTS

For anyone who would like one, we have updated visitation lists for you. This is a list of our homebound and people who are in nursing facilities. If you would like to visit any of them, you need to call first to arrange a visit, or you may use this list to simply reach out and send a card or make a phone call. This is a way to keep them connected to our church family! You can find these lists in the rack outside the church office.

### LITURGIST SIGN-UP

Check out the bulletin board in the East Room hallway to sign up to be a liturgist during the 10:30 Sanctuary service. The new sign-up sheets are up for July through September.

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

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Sermon: “Grow By Speaking Truthfully”  
Rev. Meghan Malone

**Communion Table:** The communion table flowers are given by John & Joan Walschon in memory of John’s mother, Bette Robertson.

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Maker Space and Jesus Vibes will be taking a break for the summer. Summer Sunday School will be available for children ages 3 through those entering the third grade in the fall. Older children will be in worship for the summer.

### SPEND YOUR SUMMER WITH LUKE & MEGHAN!

**Podcast - Rev'd Up! With  
Luke & Meghan**

**New episodes every Wednesday**

Join hosts Meghan and Luke as they take you on a transformative journey through the world of faith, spirituality, and social justice. Each episode, Meghan and Luke, both ordained ministers in the UCC, bring their depth of knowledge, experience, and contagious energy to deliver an enlightening show that will leave you charged. So, whether you're a Christian seeking inspiration, questioning traditional beliefs, or simply interested in exploring a more inclusive spirituality, this is your place for transformative conversations.

Podcast Link: <https://open.spotify.com/Revdup>

## **OPERATION HOMES UPDATE:**

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### **JULY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Recent program changes have streamlined volunteer roles for this crucial initiative. Our church will be delivering dinners to participants staying at a local hotel during the week of July 15<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. If you're interested or have questions, please contact Patrick Acurio at [pha312@gmail.com](mailto:pha312@gmail.com) or 330-391-1684. Sign-up sheets are available on the table near the parking lot entrance. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated!

### **AED & CPR TRAINING**

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**The church is offering AED & CPR training for anyone who wants to be trained.**

The staff will be updating their certificates and be recertified in CPR & on the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) machine. When you become certified, you need to recertify every 2 years to stay current.

**Final Testing for training will take place on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.**

**You must attend in person for this test.**

The training itself will be just like the last time. You will need to complete your training online along with a test, prior to the final in person testing on the 15<sup>th</sup>. **Anyone interested in being trained in these areas should contact Cindy in the church office.** There is no cost for members to take this class and we urge anyone in a volunteer position to consider the class (Team Leaders, Committee Leaders, Volunteers with the youth, Choir members, etc.). Ushers and Safety Team members are strongly encouraged to attend. Once we have everyone signed up, we will be sending out a link to take your online class.

**Space is limited**, so don't delay! Because we will need time to do the online testing first, **the deadline for signing up for this class will be Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>.**

## **JULY MONTHLY DONATION**

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### **July's Donation of the Month is School Supplies**

The Mission Team is collecting school supplies to donate to local schools in the fall. We're looking for: 24 packs of crayons, cleaning wipes, folders, glue sticks, boxes of tissues, scissors (safety and school size right and left-handed), colored pencils, markers (washable) and # 2 pencils. Please place them in the donation box next to the mission table, across from the elevator!

### **COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS**

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Three Sundays remain in October and December to sponsor communion table flowers. Check out the chart in the East Room hallway to sign up. Please fill in your name and **write "Church" or "Self"** to let us know if you would like the church to order the flowers for you or if you will be ordering them yourself. The cost of the flowers ordered through the church office is \$25.00. **Also, please write what you would like printed in the Messenger and if you want to claim your flowers after the 10:30 service.**

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

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#### **Alive on the Square is Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>**

Our annual church service on the square will begin at 10:30 am around the gazebo on the square. Bring your own lawn chairs and come hungry! Lunch will be served by our neighbors from Medina Creative Housing. They're bringing a variety of sandwiches and side salads to show off the food from the Grande Café, featuring ingredients grown in the Creative Living Produce greenhouse. Donations towards the cost of the meal are appreciated, and the suggested amount is \$10 per plate. We hope you will join us for this unique outdoor worship experience and fellowship!

### **JUNE MISSION UPDATE**

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This month your mission dollars and donations in kind supported Medina Personal Care Pantry, SPARK Medina, Juneteenth, and Prospect Pantry. How very appreciative these groups were for the outreach your mission dollars were able to supply. Thank you for your ongoing care and support of our greater community.



## SUMMER SERMON SERIES

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

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.

## COOKING FOR CUPS

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Please consider signing up to provide a free meal to youth and families in need. Plan on enough food to serve 60-80 guests. Bring all supplies needed i.e. (If it's hot dogs, include hot dog buns.) You can also bring supplemental items for snacks or dessert too! Food can be dropped off when they open Monday-Friday (9:30-9:45) or the day before, between 10 am - 4 pm.

Open dates include **August 5<sup>th</sup>, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, October 7<sup>th</sup>, November 4<sup>th</sup>, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. These are Mondays.** Please let Dan Daubner know if you or your team would like to cook for one of the open days. You can cook individually or have a few people from your circle of friends/team split the workload. Dan can assist bringing the food to Cups on the drop off dates, if needed. Just let him know [ddaubner@zoominternet.net](mailto:ddaubner@zoominternet.net) Thank you all again for taking care of the people in our community!

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

Mark 6:1–13

**"Sent with Power"**

Mark 6:7-9 tells us that *(Jesus) called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. (from the NRSV)*

Some folks in the United Church of Christ jokingly refer to evangelism as "the e-word." Evangelist simply means "messenger of good news." And yet, the word has become associated with the most damaging aspects of Christian experience. Even the the idea of evangelism can call to mind uncomfortable or even traumatizing past experiences. And yet, as Jesus called those early disciples to a life of evangelism, he calls followers today.

Take some time today to consider the word evangelist.

Do you think the idea of United Church of Christ evangelism can be refreshed and renewed for a new generation? How might that be accomplished?

How do you feel when you hear the word evangelism? Pay attention to where the word settles in your body. Do you feel quite comfortable? Very uncomfortable? Why do you think you have that response?

What do you think the role of an evangelist is? How does the role in modern times echo the call that Jesus made to his original disciples?

What are some ways that your faith community engages in evangelism now? What are some ways that your community could evangelize that it does not yet?