ALIVE ON THE SQUARE
AUGUST 23 2026
UPTOWN SQUARE
MEDINA UCC
CONGREGATIONAL

ALIVE ON THE SQUARE 2026

A sung service led by the Beer and Hymns Band

WELCOME

All Are Welcome

Marty Haugen | © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc. | TWO OAKS

Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where love is found
In water, wine, and wheat
A banquet hall on holy ground
Where peace and justice meet
Here, the love of God through Jesus
Is revealed in time and space
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where hands will reach
Beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve, and teach
And live the Word they've known
Here the outcast and the stranger
Bears the image of God's face
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter
All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place

The Times They Are A-Changin'

Bob Dylan | © 1964

Come gather 'round people
Wherever you roam
And admit that the waters
Around you have grown
And accept it that soon
You'll be drenched to the bone
If your time to you is worth savin'
And you better start swimmin'
Or you'll sink like a stone
For the times they are a-changin'

Come writers and critics
Who prophesize with your pen
And keep your eyes wide
The chance won't come again
And don't speak too soon
For the wheel's still in spin
And there's no tellin' who
That it's namin'
For the loser now
Will be later to win
For the times they are a-changin'

Come senators, congressmen
Please heed the call
Don't stand in the doorway
Don't block up the hall
For he that gets hurt
Will be he who has stalled
The battle outside ragin'
Will soon shake your windows
And rattle your walls
For the times they are a-changin'

Come mothers and fathers
Throughout the land
And don't criticize
What you can't understand
Your sons and your daughters
Are beyond your command
Your old road is rapidly agin'
Please get out of the new one
If you can't lend your hand
For the times they are a-changin'

The line it is drawn
The curse it is cast
The slow one now
Will later be fast
As the present now
Will later be past
The order is rapidly fadin'
And the first one now
Will later be last
For the times they are a-changin'

Sanctuary

John Thompson & Randy Scruggs | © 1982 Whole Armor Music

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true:
with thanksgiving I'll be a living
sanctuary for you. *(Repeat)*

Landslide

Fleetwood Mac | © 1975

I took my love, I took it down
Climbed a mountain
and I turned around
And I saw my reflection
in the snow covered hills
'Til the landslide brought me down

Oh, mirror in the sky, what is love?
Can the child within my heart rise above?
Can I sail through the changin' ocean tides?
Can I handle the seasons of my life? Mm

Well, I've been 'fraid of changin'
'Cause I've built my life around you
But time makes you bolder
Even children get older
And I'm gettin' older, too *(repeat chorus)*

Oh, I'm gettin' older, too

Ah, take my love, take it down
Oh, climb a mountain and turn around
And if you see my reflection
in the snow covered hills
Well, the landslide will bring it down

And if you see my reflection
in the snow covered hills
Well, the landslide will bring it down
Oh, the landslide will bring it down

Be Thou My Vision

Irish song (8th cen.); tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; versed, Eleanor H. Hull, 1912; alt. | SLANE Trad. Irish mel.

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

The Summons

John Bell & Graham Maule

© 1987 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community; GIA Publications, Inc. | KELVINGROVE Scottish trad.

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown?
Will you let my name be known
Will you let my life be grown in you
And you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you
And you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
And do such as this unseen
And admit to what I mean in you
And you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true
When you but call my name
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same
In Your company I'll go
Where Your love and footsteps show
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you
And you in me

I Won't Back Down

Tom Petty | © 1989

Well, I won't back down
No, I won't back down
You could stand me up at the gates of Hell
But I won't back down

No, I'll stand my ground
Won't be turned around
And I'll keep this world from draggin' me down
Gonna stand my ground
And I won't back down

Hey, baby
There ain't no easy way out
Hey, I will stand my ground
And I won't back down

Well, I know what's right
I got just one life
In a world that keeps on pushin' me around
But I'll stand my ground
And I won't back down

Hey, baby
There ain't no easy way out
Hey, I will stand my ground
And I won't back down

Hey, baby
There ain't no easy way out
Hey, I won't back down

Hey, baby
There ain't no easy way out
Hey, I will stand my ground
And I won't back down
No, I won't back down

Will The Circle Be Unbroken?

Ada R. Haberson & Charles H. Gabriel

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by Lord, by and by,
There's a better home a-waiting
In the sky Lord, in the sky.

I was standing by my window
On a cold and cloudy day
When I saw that hearse come rolling
For to carry my mother away. ***Chorus***

Lord, I told that undertaker,
Undertaker please drive slow
For this body that you are hauling
Lord, I hate to see her go. ***Chorus***

I followed close behind her
Tried to hold up and be brave
But I could not hide my sorrow
When they laid her in the grave. ***Chorus***

I went home, my home was lonely
Now my mother she was gone
All my brothers, sisters crying
What a home so sad and alone ***Chorus***

We sing the songs of childhood,
Hymns of faith that made us strong
Ones that our mother, she had taught us
Hear the angels sing along. ***Chorus***

Wonderwall

Oasis | © 1995

Today is gonna be the day that
they're gonna throw it back to you
By now, you should've somehow
realised what you gotta do
I don't believe that anybody
feels the way I do about you now

Backbeat, the word is on the street
that the fire in your heart is out
I'm sure you've heard it all before,
but you never really had a doubt
I don't believe that anybody
feels the way I do about you now

**And all the roads we have to walk
are winding
And all the lights that lead us there
are blinding
There are many things that
I would like to say to you
But I don't know how**

**Because maybe
You're gonna be the one that saves me
And after all
You're my wonderwall**

Today was gonna be the day,
but they'll never throw it back to you
By now, you should've somehow
realised what you're not to do
I don't believe that anybody
feels the way I do about you now

**And all the roads that lead you there
were winding
And all the lights that light the way
are blinding
There are many things that
I would like to say to you
But I don't know how**

**I said, "Maybe
You're gonna be the one that saves me
And after all You're my wonderwall"**

**I said, "Maybe (I said maybe)
You're gonna be the one that saves me
And after all You're my wonderwall"**

**I said, "Maybe (I said maybe)
You're gonna be the one
that saves me (that saves me)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Go now in peace.
Go now in peace.
God has held you from the beginning.
God has held me from the beginning.
God is with you in every season.
God is with me in every season.
When the world changes,
When the world changes,
when we change,
when I change,
when the ground shifts beneath us,
when the ground shifts beneath me,
God will carry us.
God will carry me.
So be brave.
I will be brave.
Be gentle.
I will be gentle.
Keep singing.
I will keep singing.
And may the God of every age hold you,
bless you, and send you out in love.
Thanks be to our God, our Christ, our Spirit. One God forever more! 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 Be Okay

Oh Honey (Mitchy Collins & Danielle Bouchard) | © 2014

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Please Join Us!!!

Medina Creative Housing will serve a picnic lunch after the service. A donation of $10 a plate is appreciated. If you don't have cash, you can scan the QR code below

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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. You can also give through VENMO. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

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UCC Medina
@uccmedina

venmo

ONA Statement

"We, the congregation of Medina United Church of Christ, Congregational seek to be followers of Jesus Christ, taking as our own his example of extravagant welcome and love of all people. As an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ, we welcome into our fellowship persons of all races, ethnicities, nationalities, abilities or disabilities, genders, gender identities or expression, sexual orientations, age, socioeconomic status, marital status or family structure, religious background, physical health, mental health, or any other life circumstance. All are invited to participate in the full life, ministry, leadership, worship, fellowship, and rites and sacraments of the church. In the living of these values, we hope to more fully follow Christ's commandment to love our neighbor and to create a safe space where love abounds."

Approved by unanimous congregational vote May 19, 2024

PASTORAL STAFF

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THE PILGRIM MESSENGER
AUGUST 23, 2026

"Welcoming, Loving, Serving, Where God Has No Limits.
More Than Church On Sunday!"

August 23 thru August 30, 2026
WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	**ALIVE ON THE SQUARE WORSHIP**	
	10:30 am	ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP
	11:30 am	PICNIC TO FOLLOW
Mon	6:00 pm	Spirit Moves Yoga
Tues		
Wed	10:30 am	Quilters
	7:00 pm	Gathering Band
	7:15 pm	Choir rehearsal
Thurs	6:30 pm	Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Capital Campaign Meeting
Fri		
Sat		
Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	9:45 am	Choir Warm-up
	10:00 am	Children's Choir rehearsal
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship
	10:30 am	Teen Church

ALIVE ON THE SQUARE TODAY!

August 23rd @ 10:30 a.m.
THERE WILL ONLY BE
ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Join us on the Square of Medina for worship and a time of fellowship and family with a picnic.
Bring your lawn chair and a friend!
Picnic will be catered by
Medina Creative Housing
Suggested donations of $10 are appreciated.

Worship Highlights: 10:30 am– ONE SERVICE

20th Annual Alive on the Square
Led by the Beer and Hymns band

Communion Table: The flowers on the communion table are given by Cheri & Arnold Ingraham in honor of their wedding anniversary.

DIDN'T GET A BACKPACK TAG?

If you weren't able to attend last week to get your backpack blessed and receive a tag, they are available in the church office.

SIDEWALK PROJECT

The City of Medina will be creating a "multi-use" sidewalk along the Broadway side of our church. The new sidewalk will be twice as wide as the existing sidewalk. The city received a grant for this expansion which they anticipate construction to begin at the end of August. We will lose one parking space near Broadway and it will not interfere with the Meridian Stone. Please be aware of the forthcoming interruptions regarding this expansion. Questions regarding this can be directed to Rex Rickly or Carl Skorepa.

SAVE THE DATE!

MISSION OPPORTUNITY
Step up to Prevent Suicide Walk

Save the Date!

The walk will take place on Sunday, **September 27th** at Medina Public Square. Every year, it is incredibly meaningful to see our community come together to support suicide prevention awareness, honor loved ones and remind others that they are not alone. As a WISE congregation (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged regarding mental health and neurodivergence) we are a proud sponsor of the Walk. Use this link to sign up: STEP UP TO PREVENT SUICIDE COMMUNITY WALK — Alternative Paths

AUGUST MONTHLY DONATION

Join the Mission Team in supporting Cups Collective by donating needed supplies such as: *To-go* containers, 55-60 gallon trash bags, disposable food boat trays (3lb), 6" dinner plates, 9" dinner plates, 12 oz paper bowls, creamers (single cups), sugar, to-go disposable coffee cups, toilet paper, paper towels, and multi-surface cleansing wipes. Please place your donations in the marked bins across from the elevator by the Mission table.

FINANCE UPDATE FOR JULY

Through July we received $223,793 in pledges, contributions, and other receipts. We have had expenses of $278,198, for a deficit of $54,405. Most expenses are consistent or less than the plan. Our actual deficit is roughly $20,000 more than the budget estimate for the first seven months of the year. Our operating reserve of $233,000 continues to be very substantial at 47% of the 2026 operating expenditures budget.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!
LITURGIST AND COFFEE HOUR

Check out the bulletin board in the East Room hallway to sign up to be a liturgist during the 10:30 Sanctuary service or to host a Coffee Hour. The new sign-up sheets are for September thru November.

FAITH FORMATION

This fall, we're diving into some thought-provoking conversations about faith, Scripture, and theology.

October: Hellbent
We'll spend two Mondays at 7 p.m. in the library discussing Brian Recker's book *Hellbent*: *How the fear of hell holds Christians back from a spirituality of love.*

- **Tuesday, October 13**
- **Tuesday, October 20**

Then, on **Sunday, October 25**, Brian will join us for worship and return at **3:00 p.m.** for a special lecture.

NEW YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

MUCC Youth Group
Open to all students in 3rd to 12th grade, an inclusive space to hang out, serve others, and have fun.
1st & 3rd Sundays from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Teen Church
A time for high school students to gather, refill our hearts for the week, and discuss the themes and scriptures from Sunday morning worship.
2nd & 4th Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.

Just Wondering
A new discussion group for high school students to talk about God, the universe, and everything.
Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m.

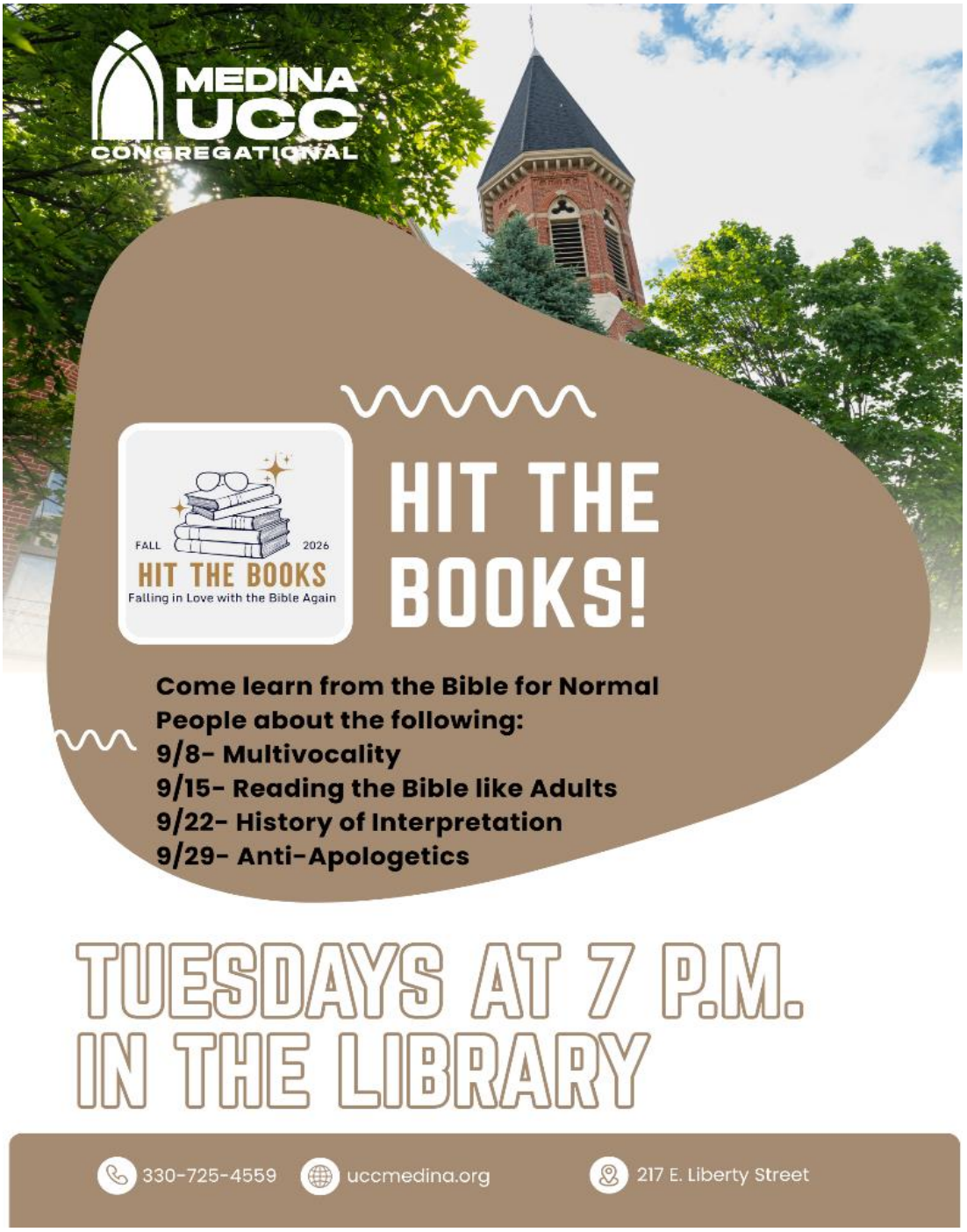
Coffee and Chat
At Cool Beans with Pastor Meghan. You bring the topic, I'll buy the coffee!
1st & 3rd Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.

Give online at www.uccmedina.org/give

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



Be Transformed

This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it! And let us have a pop quiz. I bet you never expected that in church, did you? But here we go.

What was the name of the baby found along the banks of the Nile? Moses. Correct.

That was easy. Now for one a bit harder. Name the two midwives who disregarded Pharaoh's edict to kill all Hebrew baby boys, and who delivered Moses.

Pharaoh gave this horrific order to curtail the rapid growth of the Hebrew population who were enslaved in Egypt. It didn't work. It just made God bless the community more.

But back to the question. What were their names?

They were Shiprah and Puah. Don't worry if you didn't know the answer. I didn't either when this question appeared on the Bible content part of my ordination exams. It had me stumped, and my friends as well.

It's noteworthy that the midwives' names live on in the ongoing story of salvation because women were often written out of the manuscripts by the male authors of the time.

But here in the story of Moses, all we have are women defying authority. We have the midwives as the heroines who prevented a genocide. We have Moses' mother who hid her baby the first few months of life, before putting him in a basket made of reeds and floating him in the Nile. We have Moses' sister watching the basket bobbing on the banks of the Nile to ensure her baby brother is safe. Then we have the daughter of Pharaoh who adopts the babe as her son and gives him the name "Moses," which means "drawn from the water."

Each decisive, risky and faithful act of these women builds upon the next, ultimately transforming the Israelites from the enslaved to desert wanderers to recipients of the Promised Land. And that is how a better tomorrow is created — in stages and with the help of people working together. Bringing about change isn't a solitary act.

The world, which is always in some stage of transformation because God is never done with us, needs your hands this day to deliver hope or weave a basket of safety or raise a child whose voice will say to a pharaoh, "Let my people go."

We all have a part to play in heralding in God's kingdom. May your name be one that is remembered in the who's who of God's children who dared, risked and spoke up.

Gracious God, Your plans for a better tomorrow will never be thwarted. Peace will reign. Justice will prevail. The outcasts and forgotten will be welcomed. And so, Great God, here are our hands. Bless them and use them in transforming Your broken world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's *Sunday Bulletin*.)