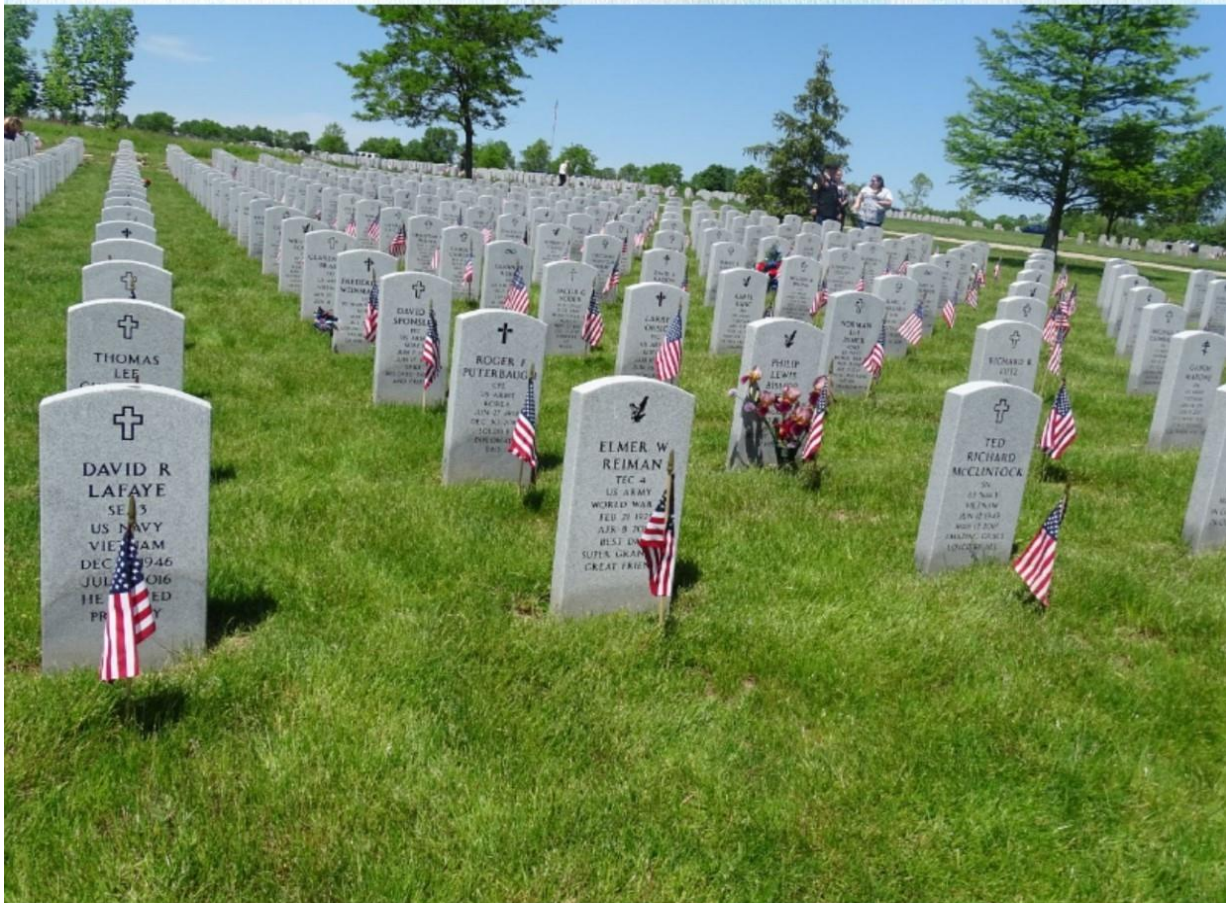


we are
REMEMBERING



MEDINA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL



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, Jesus Vibes Sunday School is available for ages 3-8th grade*

“WELCOMING, LOVING, SERVING, WHERE GOD HAS NO LIMITS”

The cover is a photo of Western Reserve National Cemetery by Jen Cockrell

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

PRELUDES “Here I Am, Lord” – arr. Janet Vogt

Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

“Remembering” – Carrie Newcomer

Chancel Choir

Please join in singing with the choir as you are comfortable



1. We've been scat - tered, - now we're ga - thered. -
 2. mis - sing threads - that we - grieve, -
 3. Now con - nec - tion, and re - va - la - tion. A



What's un - ra - veled, - ma-king whole. Threads are see - king, -
 tan - gled knots - we can-not see. Hearts left bro - ken, -
 thresh - hold - in - to - my - ste - ry. - As we're heal - ing, with

C G C G D

in - ter - wea - ing, voi - ces sing, - a new sto - ry told. - We're
 words un - spo - ken - long - ing for a hint of some - thing sweet.
 love re - veal - ing, A sa - cred ho - ly tap - e - stry,

Em D/F# G G G D C C G

re - mem - be - ring, - We're - re - mem - be - ring. - We're not the - same, we're

1. 2. 3.
 B7/D# Em C D G C D G D.S. al Coda

some - thing new - we're re - mem - be - ring - 2. The re - mem - be - ring. - We're
 To Verse 3

C D G C D G C D G

re - mem - be - ring. - We're re - mem - be - ring. - We're re - mem - be - ring.

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***OPENING HYMN**

"Be Thou My Vision"

*Irish Song (8th century); tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905;
 versed by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt*

SLANE 10.10.9.10
 Trad. Irish melody; harm Carlton R. Young, 1963
 © 1964 The United Methodist Publishing House

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3. Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4. Great God of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

thou my best thought by day or by night,
 thou my re - deem - er, my love thou hast won,
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 Great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from the Lancaster Theological Seminary's Alumni Day 2024 liturgy)

These are the things that you should do:

Speak the truth to one another,

Render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace.

Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.

Learn to do good; seek justice and do righteousness,

for soon God's salvation will come,

and God's deliverance shall be revealed.

Do what is right in the eyes of God by proclaiming liberty throughout the land and to all the inhabitants.

God is spirit, and where the spirit of God is, there is freedom.

Where the spirit of God is, there is love.

Where the spirit of God is, there is renewal and new life.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Celebrate & Sing" – Joel Ramey

Chancel Choir & Alleluia Ringers

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 6:1-8 (O.T. pg. 597)

Nick North, 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 "We Are Remembering"

Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

REFLECTION HYMN

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

African American spiritual

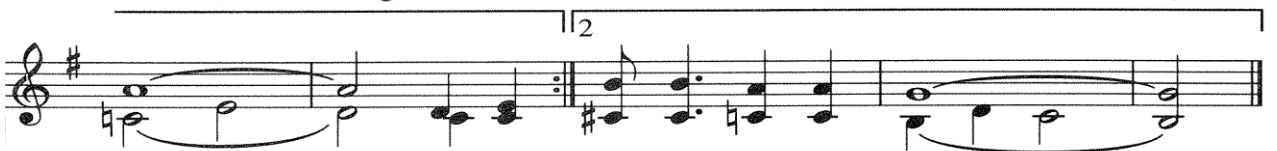
PEACE LIKE A RIVER 7.7.10.D.



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.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

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!

Offertory Invitation

By what we offer of our time, talent, and treasure, we are building the community.

We are re-mem-bering the body of Christ when so many have dismem-bered it.

Have hope, strive toward the goal, and let us rise in body or spirit,

And sing praise to our God!

*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.

*Prayer of Dedication (prayer of St. Francis)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy;

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to

be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

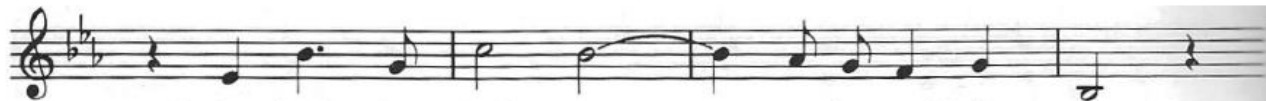
and it is in dying that we're born to eternal life. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Go Forth For God"

John Raphael Peacey (1896-1971) and English Praise, 1975, alt.
© 1985 by Hope Publishing Company

LITTON 10.10.10.10.
Erik Routley (1917-1982)



1 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in peace;
2 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in love;
3 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in strength;
4 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in joy;



be of good cour - age, armed with heaven - ly grace,
strength - en the faint, give cour - age to the weak;
hold fast the good, be ur - gent for the right;
to serve God's peo - ple ev - ery day and hour,



in God's good Spi - rit dai - - ly to in - crease,
 help the af - flict - ed; rich - - ly from a - bove
 ren - der to no one e - - vil; Christ at length
 and serv - ing Christ, our ev - - ery gift em - ploy,
 till in his king - dom we _____ be - hold his face.
 his love sup - plies the grace _____ and power we seek.
 shall o - ver - come all dark - ness with his light.
 re - joic - ing in the Ho - ly Spi - rit's power.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BENEDICTION**

Friends, may you welcome, love, and serve.
 May you seek the Divine,
 find it in the lives of your neighbor,
 and follow the Spirit wherever she leads.

**One God in whose name we go from here,
 seeking to preserve the past and forge the future. 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 Thou My Vision" – arr. Albin C. Whitworth**

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

+++++

****Please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following the service****

Coffee Hour is hosted this week by Vicki & Dan Marty

+++++

Music in this bulletin reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under:

ONE LICENSE, License #A-605137. All rights reserved and CCLI, License #1637380 & #213338

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 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

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

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

6/2 – It's Time to Grow.

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

6/16 – Rev. Nayiri Karjian, Living Water Association Minister.

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 PILGRIM MESSENGER

MAY 26, 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

May 26 thru June 2, 2024 WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	9:45 am	Children’s Choir
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship

Mon OPERATION HOMES WEEK

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY, MAY 27TH
IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY**

Tues 7:00 pm Bible Study

Wed 10:30 am Quilters
6:00 pm Gathering Band Rehearsal
6:30 pm Summer Music Workshop

Thurs

Fri

Sat

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

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.

GATHERING MUSIC SUNDAY

Please join the Gathering Service @ 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 26th to celebrate the Gathering Band. We will be honoring Mary Ann Blosser’s 20 plus years of singing in the band! Continental breakfast provided.

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

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8

Sermon: “We Are Remembering”
Rev. Dr. Luke Lindon

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given by Beth & Craig Hari in honor of Memorial Day.

NEW PARAMENTS

The Worship Team would like to announce the purchase of a set of new paraments for our church. They will be replacing an older set that has seen many years of service and was showing its age. Much thought and research went into the design company that created the paraments and this new set. The motif is a stylized dove image on a deep green silk background with multi-faceted patterns incorporated in the design. These will be used in the sanctuary and chapel. It is our wish that these paraments bring many, many years of use for our congregation, and add a fresh look to our worship.

A huge thank you to the Memorial Gifts committee, who generously purchased the paraments in honor of our loved ones who have passed.



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Stop by the church for FREE popcorn, lemonade, and water before/during the City of Medina’s Memorial Day Parade beginning at 9:30

AM! While supplies last. Parade kicks off at 10. Donations accepted for the Community Engagement Team.

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER

FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It's that time of year again! Vacation Bible School will be held June 3rd – June 6th. This year's theme is "Just Like Me." Come and join us in the garden as we celebrate who we are, learn how to use our voice, and share our gifts with our community. We will meet every day for stories, games, snacks, music, science and crafts. Our week will conclude with a visit from Ohio Bird Sanctuary and some of their amazing birds and, of course, ice cream sundaes! Registration is open now! **Deadline is May 28th!** [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#). If you have any questions, please contact Stacie Yates.

MAY MONTHLY DONATION

This month we will be collecting personal care items! As the summer approaches many of the kids in our community will not have access to personal care items because the schools will not be open to provide such items. We would love to supply the Garfield families with some personal care items for the whole family. Examples: toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss, mouthwash, deodorant, body wash, bar soap and shampoo. We would really appreciate some "kid" personal care items to place in the Garfield care packages. Whatever you feel so moved to place in the donation box will be distributed with love and kindness throughout the community.

GREETING CARDS

RESUPPLY DONATIONS DRIVE LAST SUNDAY

Over this calendar year greeting cards were sent to our congregation-at-large and to our senior adult 80+ year old church members. THE CARD SUPPLY IS VERY LOW OR DEPLETED. Circle of Caring is asking for help with resupplying these types of greeting cards: birthday (women/men), thinking of you, get well and sympathy. A free-will donation is greatly appreciated. A donation drop-off box and a donation can will be available in the East Room each Sunday for the remainder of May. Thank you for your support.

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.

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

CRAFTS READY FOR DELIVERY

Please sign out a craft for delivery on the sheet provided. Please call the recipient to make arrangements for a visit or drop off. Thank you for your help!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL UPDATE

Our church will be the social hosts on the square, Friday, June 7th at 6 pm. The band concert will follow at 8:30 pm so bring your lawn chair.

Current needs include:

- **21 pies** (homemade or purchased)
- 1 bucket of sherbet
- 12/5 lb. bags of ice
- 5 cases of pop
- 3 cases of bottled water
- **Individually wrapped cookies/brownies**

Also, we need **people to help set up at 5 pm**, serve at 6 pm and help clean up at 8:30 pm.

John 3:1–17

“Mysterious Encounter”

Maybe you don't think of friendship all that often, but friendship is a truly radical act. Friendship has no real purpose. Friends choose each other, without blood ties, without, as the scientists say, “the imperative of procreation,” often outside the bounds of geography. And yet even though friendship has a sort of ambiguous status in our culture (we both diminish the relationship of friendship “it's nothing serious: they're just friends” and uphold it, as in “he has many acquaintances, but few friends”), most of us seem to yearn for it.

Theologian Sallie McFague says of the relationships in our lives: “one does not choose one's parents, and even falling in love seems to have a kind of destiny about it, but friends choose to be together...your mother desires your existence, and your lover finds you valuable, but your friend **LIKES** you!”

But don't confuse LIKE with ALIKE. Because the alchemy that brews the mysterious metal of individuals into the pure gold of real friendship is not necessarily commonality. It's not necessarily about looking at each other, so much as it's about looking ahead in the same direction. A lot of times, it's having a task or goal that you can work on together that helps cement a friendship bond – the mission project, the facilities work day, the book club.

Trinity Sunday is today. It is one day when we pause to marvel that our God is both One and Three. It is one day to remind ourselves that our God is a God of relationship, of friendship that creates and flourishes in a dance of delight and Divine love.

What if it's on purpose that everything was created out of this Holy Love Dance? What if how God is created – three, one, whirling, creating, loving - is part of the plan of things? What if friendship is how it all started, how it all is sustained? What if friendship (that ambiguous but somehow important word) is what God wants of us, what God has called us here for now? What if God has that radical friendship love for us, has had it since the beginning?

Look around you. Perhaps you are sitting with friends right now. How do these friends show you more about God's work in the world?