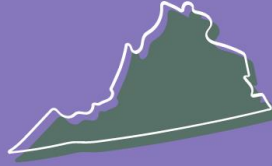


Mission Trip Reflection Sunday



June 23, 2024
Medina UCC





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 “We Are An Offering”-Dwight Liles, H. A. Cesar Malan/arr. Laura Bergquist

Cathy Fafrak, Pianist

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN

“Called As Partners in Christ’s Service” (vs. 1, 2, & 4)

BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.
John Zundel, 1855

Jane Parker Huber, 1981



1 Called as part-ners in Christ’s ser-vice, called to min - is - tries of grace,
 2 Christ’s ex - am - ple, Christ’s in - spir-ing, Christ’s clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ’s mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 Let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 Help us bear each oth - er’s bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 That sur-round each per - son’s sor-row with a calm that con - quers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor-er, all God's peo - ple, young and old,
Words of com-fort, words of vi - sion, words of chal-enge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com - pas - sion to in - crease,



E - qual part - ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
Blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un - fold.
Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
Mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We are members of one body, the hands and feet of Christ.

So do something good with your hands and give to those in need.

Even the gift of your words can build people up, so be kind and compassionate to everyone.

Let us heal the body by forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave us.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Stand By Me" – Charles Tindley

Alice Metzloff, soloist

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 4:25-32 (N.T. pg. 248)

Ashley Bonsell, 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 "Stories of Growth Through Service"

Rev. Meghan Malone, Owen Stepsis, Maggie Bixler, Nora Nolan,
Olivia Miller, Leah Medley, Carmen Wolff, Ruby Gabrielsen, Liz Wolff

GROWTH HYMN

"Come To Tend God's Garden"



1 Come to tend God's gar - den, seeds of hope to sow, plant-ing fields of
2 As we tend God's gar - den, from its fur-rows rise stems of fresh be -
3 May God's gar - den flour - ish, may our toil suc - ceed, may God bless our



jus - tice, watch-ing mer - cy grow! In an ar - id waste - land,
gin - nings, stretch-ing toward the skies! Gra-cious-ness, our mead - ow,
ac - tions, ev - ery word and deed! Serv-ing Christ each sea - son,



spread a ver-dant heath! In a land of tu-mult, cul - ti - vate God's peace!
joy - ful - ness, our root, u - ni-ty, our fo-liage, righ-teous-ness, our fruit!
with God's di - a - gram, chart-ed by the Spir-it, for the task at hand!

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!

Come and tend God's garden. Spread hope. Plant justice. Wait and see what God will grow when we give ourselves to each other. Let us 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**

God thank you for the gifts of service, for the people who show up on the days when we need help, and for all the ways that serving each other can make us grow. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

African-American Spiritual

I'M GONNA LIVE Irr.
arr. Bill Thomas, 1994 © 1995 Chalice Press

1. I'm gon-na live so God can use me
 an - y time and an - y - where
 I'm gon-na live so God can use me
 an - y time and an - y - where.

2. I'm gonna work...

3. I'm gonna pray...

4. I'm gonna sing...

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BENEDICTION** (inspired by <https://asphome.org/2023/12/15/building-kindness/>)

Kindness should be extended to everyone.

Kindness requires us to notice the needs around us and act.

Kindness and forgiveness are deeply intertwined—

to be kind, we must be willing to forgive even when it's difficult.

Kindness is embodied in small, simple gestures that show love and humility.

Kindness is a way of life.

Let us live kindly, giving of ourselves in love, and expecting nothing in return.

***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 "The Work of Creation"- Colin Curtis**

Cathy Fafrak, Organist

"MORE THAN CHURCH ON SUNDAY"

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Jack Sharpe, Maintenance & Custodian

THE PILGRIM MESSENGER

JUNE 23, 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 23 thru June 30, 2024

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship
Mon		
Tues	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed	10:30 am	Quilters
	6:00 pm	Gathering Band Rehearsal
	6:30 pm	Special Music Workshop
	7:00 pm	Finance & Stewardship Team
Thurs		
Fri		
Sat		
Sun	8:15 am	Chapel Worship
	9:00 am	Gathering Worship
	10:30 am	Teen Church
	10:30 am	Sanctuary Worship
	11:30 am	Property & Grounds Meeting

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!

PROPERTY & GROUNDS TEAM

Each year we plant the bedding plants in the urns on the east side of the building as well as in front of the sign on public square. Much thanks to Dick and Dorie Christy for doing this over so many years and this year, to John Sandora and Alan Parkhurst.

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

Scripture: Ephesians 4:25-32

Sermon: "Stories of Growth Through Service"
Rev. Meghan Malone

Communion Table: The communion table flowers are given by Dick & Joyce Komjati in honor of their 70th anniversary

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

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.

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.

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

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

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

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.

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>

AED & CPR TRAINING

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 15th 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 15th. **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 29th.**

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 4:35-41

"Pushing the Boat Out"

The United Church of Christ celebrates our 67th anniversary this weekend. These opening paragraphs of our history describe the ways in which very different faith communities prepared to live into the slogan "in essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." How does your congregation still live out that slogan today?

On Tuesday, June 25, 1957, at Cleveland, Ohio, the Evangelical and Reformed Church, 23 years old, passionate in its impulse to unity, committed to "liberty of conscience inherent in the Gospel," and the Congregational Christian Churches, 26 years old, a fellowship of biblical people under a mutual covenant for responsible freedom in Christ, joined together as the United Church of Christ. The new church embodied the essence of both parents, a complement of freedom with order, of the English and European Reformations with the American Awakenings, of separatism with 20th-century ecumenism, of presbyterian with congregational polities, of neoorthodox with liberal theologies. Two million members joined hands...

A message was sent to the churches from the Uniting General Synod, signed by its moderators, Louis W. Goebel and George B. Hastings, its co-presidents, and co-secretaries Sheldon E. Mackey and Fred S. Buschmeyer. After acknowledging the separate ancestries of the parties to the union and citing ecumenical "relatives" of both denominations, the message stated, "Differences in ecclesiastical procedure, which in sundry places and times have occasioned tensions and disorders, are appointed their secondary place and are divested of evil effect." The union, the message continued, was possible because the "two companies of Christians hold the same basic belief: that Christ and Christ alone is the head of the Church ... From him [we] derive the understanding of God, ... participation in the same spirit, the doctrines of faith, the influence toward holiness, the duties of divine worship, the apprehension of the significance of baptism and the Lord's Supper, the observance of church order, the mutual love of Christians and their dedication to the betterment of the world" ("Report on the Uniting General Synod." Advance, July 12, 1957, p. 22).

You can read more of the story of the birth and early decade of our denomination by navigating to:

<https://www.ucc.org/who-we-are/about/history/#united-church>

