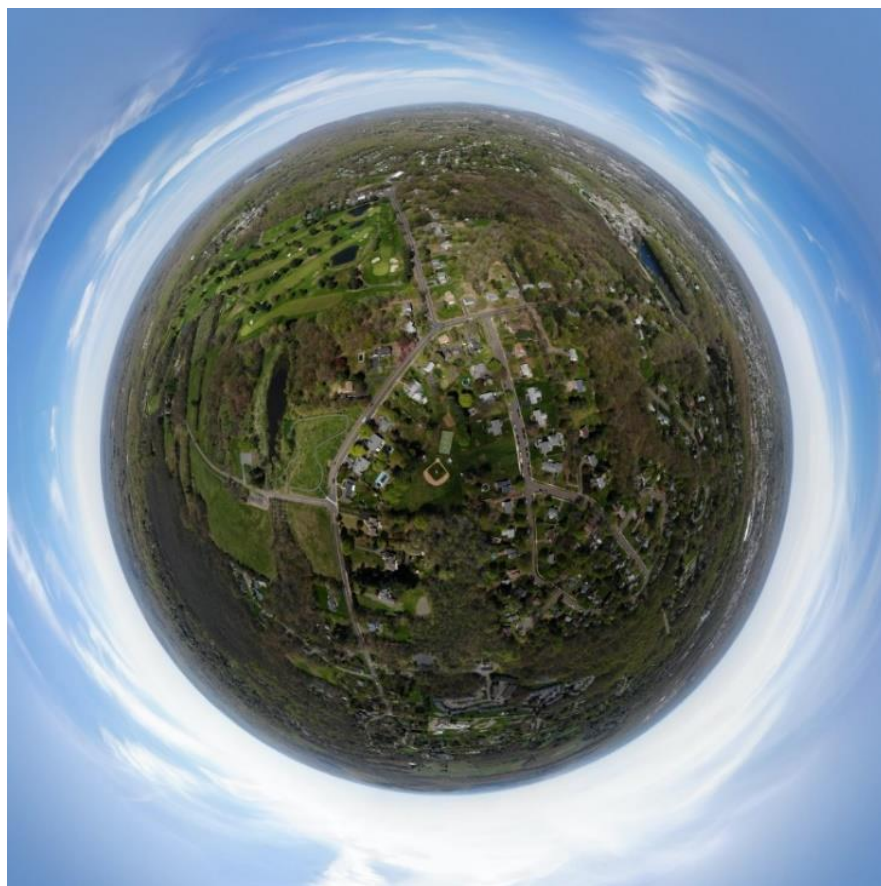


**Congregational Church of Birmingham
United Church of Christ**

A Just World for All



Outside of My Own Little World

**Sunday
September 26, 2021
10:00 AM**

Welcome Visitors! We hope you enjoy this church home. Please take a moment to join us in signing and passing our Ritual of Friendship book. We heartily welcome you to this church family.

Our Nursery is available during worship. An usher can direct you.

You May Contact Rev. Ott for any pastoral request or emergency at 989-245-0092 or REVLRO@aol.com

Prayers? Text them to Rev. Ott (989-245-0092) before 10 AM Sunday mornings, or email them to the church office (ccbinfo@ccbucc.org) by 3 PM Friday so they can be included in the Sunday prayer time and the Weekly Prayers email.

Get in the Loop! Stay current on CCB news. Contact the church office to receive our email communications.

View Sunday Worship Live Streams and all previously recorded services on the "Congregational Church of Birmingham, United Church of Christ" YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwfTgUDxKOY9u4KkZbExhpw>

WORSHIP GUIDE

(**Bold** indicates in unison.)

PRESERVICE MUSIC "My Own Little World" Matthew West

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Louise
(Please sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pad in your pew.)

OUR MINISTRY UPDATES

WELCOME TO CCB-UCC LIVE STREAMING! Worship in our Sanctuary is being live streamed so that those unable to be with us in person can worship on-line TODAY or in the days to come via our YouTube channel. While worship has always been public, we are now accessible to everyone. We are grateful to Chris Hiner who has created the technological set up, and for our new Media & Communications Specialist, Andre Sigur, who will run that technology during the service. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwfTgUDxKOY9u4KkZbExhpw>

THE BIRMINGHAM/BLOOMFIELD AREA CROP HUNGER WALK is TODAY. Register for in-person participation at 1:30 PM at Birmingham First United Methodist Church (1589 W Maple Rd), or become a walker or sponsor (continued)

at: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/congregational-church-of-birmingham-ucc> Questions? See Steve Payer (stevenjpayer@gmail.com)

UNFAILING LOVE - This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. John 15:12

The Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive next Sunday, October 3, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Neighbors in Need helps make *Unfailing Love* possible. For this to occur, it needs your support. Make donations online at www.ccbucc.org, mail checks directly to the church, or place them in the offering bags at the worship welcome area before, during and after worship. Please identify all donations specifically "For Neighbors in Need."

WOULD YOU BE A SOWER FOR CCB? Our Sowers' Society at CCB was founded in 1998 to honor members who've made a provision for the CCB Endowment Fund in their estate plan or have made a lifetime gift of \$5,000 or more to the Fund. The members of this group are recognized on a plaque hanging in Fellowship Hall. We would be honored to acknowledge your gift by adding your name. Next Sunday, October 3, 2021, we will honor our Sowers and celebrate our Endowment Fund for Planned Giving Sunday.

As our other sources of income fluctuate, the Endowment Fund continues its sustaining contribution to our annual budget every year, contributing more than \$150,000 over the last ten years! It's not difficult to add CCB to an existing estate plan. A simple codicil is usually all that's needed. We can help you with that. Please contact Shirley Fogarty, Lucy Benham, or Pastor Louise Ott with any questions. This is an opportunity to Pay It Forward!

CCB-UCC IS (DISTANTLY) HOSTING SOS 2021 – OCTOBER 17-23!

We have supported South Oakland Shelter (SOS) for many years with transportation to and from CCB for our guests; by serving home cooked dinners and scrumptious desserts, hot or cold breakfast and a bagged lunch; providing rooms to sleep in; and equally important through our accepting presence. It has been a once yearly 7-day commitment to those in our community who are transitioning from homelessness to a place of their own.

We cannot host SOS guests at CCB again this year due to COVID, but we can still support them with a financial commitment. CCB and Central Woodward Christian Church (CWCC) have set a goal of raising \$2,100 which will (continued)

provide 2 meals/day for 30 guests for one week.

Make donations online at www.ccbucc.org, by mail directly to the church, or by placing them in the offering bags at the worship welcome area before, during and after worship. Please identify all donations specifically "For SOS."

SAVE THE DATE: FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT - NOVEMBER 12-14, 2021

Begins at Supper on Friday through Breakfast on Sunday morning. A time for relationships, study, spirituality, and nature. Windrise Retreat Center, Metamora, MI <http://www.windrise.com/>

SIGN-UP FOR YOUR MINISTRY TEAMS using the online sign-up sheets, available through the end of the year. Here's the link to the sign up google doc: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1-SdAgQsKF_zVLNdWYhS-UYS8cuhK1U48_GWqE3PH-Bs/edit?usp=sharing See Cathy Rupert for assistance or with questions.

(Live Streaming Begins Here)

PRELUDE

"Be Thou My Vision"

Irish Folk Melody,
arr. Hayes

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD INTO WORSHIP
Pastor Louise

OPENING SONG

"Here Am I"

(stanzas 1 & 2 only)

Sing Along

[CH #654]

**Here am I, where underneath the bridges
of our winter cities homeless people sleep.
Here am I, where in decaying houses
little children shiver, crying at the cold.
Where are you?**

**Here am I, with people in the line-up,
anxious for a handout, aching for a job.
Here am I, when pensioners and strikers
sing and march together, wanting something new.
Where are you?**

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:34-40 ILB adapted Ben Langhorst
The ruler will say to those on the right, 'Come, you blessed of my Abba God! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world! For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me; naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me; in prison and you came to visit me.' Then they will ask, 'When did we see you hungry and feed you, or see you thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you as a stranger and invite you in, or clothe you in your nakedness? When did we see you ill or in prison and come to visit you?' The ruler will answer them, 'The truth is, every time you did this for the least of my sisters or brothers, you did it for me.'

[Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2173). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.]

For the word of God in Scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us, **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Dr. Carmel Tinnes,
Director of Christian Education

(Pre-K through 8th grade children may now go to their lessons.)

MUSIC OF THE DAY

"This Creative Love"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

OUR CONVERSATION

"Not Missing What Matters"

Rev. Louise R. Ott

Video: "Love, Justice & Mercy" featuring Rev. William Barber

www.theworkofthepeople.com

SONG

"Here Am I"

(stanza 3 only)

Sing Along

[CH #654]

**Here am I, where two or three are gathered,
ready to be altered, sharing wine and bread.
Here am I, where those who hear the preaching
change their way of living, find the way to life.
Where are you?**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor & People

ONE: God be with you!

ALL: And also with you!

ONE: Let us pray.

Video: "Your Kindness Pierces Time Through"
www.theworkofthepeople.com

THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER OF JESUS

All People

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

We continue to pray for:

- All at risk in contracting COVID-19
- Ally, Cynthia Martin's granddaughter, whose face was bitten by a dog
- Annabelle, Cindy Kyle's mother, frail and living alone at a distance
- Ben Sharpe, with depression challenges
- David, brother of Paul von Oeyen, diagnosed with aggressive leukemia
- Educators and families in pandemic challenges
- Jackie Wagoner, transitioning to a new home at Blossom Springs
- Suzy, Pastor Louise's California cousin, in hospice care
- Judy, Greg Peterson's aunt, in palliative care with terminal cancer
- Melissa and Calliope Crook, to be reunited permanently
- Nate Ballard, extended family of Greg & Mary Peterson, who is terminally ill following a heart attack; and prayers for Nate's daughters Debra, Susan, Dawn & Lisa
- Ruth Biersdorf, in treatment for cancer
- Sue Potter, recovering from hip surgery; grieving the death of her Dad; and praying for her brother, Rob, with metastasized cancer in his bones
- Victims of war, violence, and natural disasters everywhere
- Youth and adults with mental health challenges

CLOSING SONG

"Sent Out in Jesus' Name"

Sing Along

[TFWS #2184]

**Sent out in Jesus' name,
our hands are ready now
to make the earth the place
in which the kingdom comes.**

(continued)

**Sent out in Jesus' name,
our hands are ready now
to make the earth the place
in which the kingdom comes.**

**The angels cannot change
a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love,
of justice and of peace.
The task is ours to do,
to set it really free.
O help us to obey
and carry out your will.**

CCLI #741179

OUR BLESSING FROM GOD

Pastor Louise

May the peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you! Amen.

OUR GIFTS & SERVICE

Your offering is welcomed in support of our ministry and may be made online at www.ccbucc.org; placed in the offering bags at the worship welcome area before, during, and after worship; or mailed to the church.

POSTLUDE

Lowry, arr. Hayes

"Shall We Gather at the River Near to the Heart of God"

Credits: www.worshipdesignstudio.com./life; www.theworkofthepeople.com,
CCLI #741179.

WE THANK our greeters, ushers, reader, Tech Team: Andre Sigur & Chris Hiner, Worship Design Team: Leslie O'Day-Benyo & Elaine Winter, and Music Team: Joe Bentley & Yalan Piao, for all their help with today's service.

THE COMPLETE CHURCH CALENDAR can be viewed on our website at:
www.ccbucc.org

A Just World for All

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost.....September 26, 2021

Welcome to CCB-UCC an "Open and Affirming" Church

We warmly welcome everyone to worship and into the full life and leadership of the church. Whatever your background - your race, your nationality, your physical or mental condition, your gender, your sexual orientation - whoever you are and wherever you come from, we welcome you in love as Jesus Christ welcomes all. Gathered by the Holy Spirit, may the comfort and challenge of God's presence renew and inspire us all throughout the coming week. Again, welcome!



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Contact a Stephen Minister Leader:

Dr. Paul von Oeyen 248-646-0837

Rev. Louise R. Ott 989-245-0092

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BIRMINGHAM

1000 CRANBROOK ROAD (@ WOODWARD AVE)

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48304-2725



a just
world
for all
ucc.org

PHONE: 248-646-4511

EMAIL: ccbinfo@ccbucc.org

CCB WEBSITE: www.ccbucc.org

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE WEBSITE: www.michucc.org

DENOMINATIONAL WEBSITE: www.ucc.org

CHURCH LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Ministers - The Congregation

Dr. Carmel Tinnes, Director of Christian Education

Rev. Louise R. Ott, Pastor

Dr. Yalan Piao, Accompanist

Dr. Joe Bentley, Choral Director

Jasmin West, Preschool/Early Elementary Teacher

Andre Sigur, Media & Communications Specialist

Beth Prevost, Church Administrator

Office Hours: Open Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM, lunch break 12:30 PM-1:00 PM