

Congregational Church of Birmingham United Church of Christ



Rooted in Love: Our Giving Commitment Sunday

**November 21, 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 11:30 AM Sunday mornings, or email them to the church office (ccbinfo@ccbucc.org) by 3 PM Friday, so they can be included in the Weekly Prayers email.

Get in the Loop! Stay current on CCB-UCC 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 "Where Is Love?" Bart
Matyas Bacsó, piano and David Jaggs, classical guitar

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 live streamed so that those unable to be with us in person can worship online via our YouTube channel (see link below). We are now accessible to everyone. We are grateful to Chris Hiner for creating the technological set up, and to our Media & Communications Specialist, Andre Sigur, who runs that technology during the service. Interested in how it works? Worship in the balcony and learn the ropes!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwfTgUDxKOY9u4KkZbExhpw>

YOUR GIVING COMMITMENT FOR 2022 is dedicated to God and the ministry of this church today. If you are still in prayerful discernment, your Giving Commitment slips can be emailed to ccbtreasurer@gmail.com or mailed by post to CCB-UCC, 1000 Cranbrook Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-2725, Attn: Treasurer.

DECK THE HALLS TODAY! Help us decorate the church for Advent & Christmas. Assemble a tree in the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall. Hang the garland. Fluff the bows. Keep us singing while we work!

ALL CHILDREN & YOUTH ARE WELCOME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL: Pre-K through 8th graders will go to their classrooms after Children's Time in worship each Sunday, to be collected there later at 11:15 AM after worship. The Leadership Club (confirmation students) will meet again on Sunday, December 12, at 11:15 AM in the Library after worship, to explore their own faith in God. Questions? Contact Carmel at: carmelf711@yahoo.com

HAPPY RETIREMENT COLLAGE: You are invited to record a short video or take a picture of yourself, adding a **BRIEF** message to wish Pastor Louise and Elaine a Happy Retirement! Videos, pictures and messages will be collated together in a slide show to be shown at the Benefit Concert on the evening of Saturday, December 4. Please send your items to Margherita Fisher at mzanif@aol.com no later than tomorrow, Monday, November 22. Contact Margherita at 248-761-6780, or by email if you have any questions.

BOOK SWAP! Colder weather is here. Curling up with a good book has a lot of appeal. So that no one runs out of reading material, CCB is hosting a Book Swap during Fellowship Time each Sunday in November. All are welcome to join in and share a book or take a book...the more, the merrier. And the books can all be recycled again during our CCB spring rummage sale! Here are some guidelines:

- Both adult and children's books are welcome
- Newer releases are most desired
- Thrillers, mysteries, romances, current histories and biographies are in highest demand
- If your books are not selected by month-end, please take them back home to save for the rummage sale

TOY BOX COLLECTION FOR TRINITY-ST. MARK'S UCC COMING

SOON: We'll continue our annual tradition of providing toys to children in Southwest Detroit. Trinity St. Mark's UCC (TSM) is partnering with the Bennett Elementary School to identify families in need. Like last year, the pandemic prevents us from collecting and distributing actual toys. Instead, \$50 gift cards will be provided to the identified families. TSM is hoping to provide gift cards for at least 50 families. CCB-UCC's collection will be held beginning next Sunday, November 28, through Sunday, December 12. Watch this space for further details. Contact Greg Panzica with questions at (313) 215-5767.

TIME TO ORDER POINSETTIAS! We invite you to give a poinsettia or two to decorate our Sanctuary and enhance our Christmas spirit. You may also designate your donation for other seasonal decorations in the Sanctuary. Poinsettias can be ordered for \$14.00 per plant. You are welcome to take your plant home after our 9 PM Christmas Eve service. Please find the order and dedication form in this bulletin and return it to the church office no later than Monday, November 29. Thank you!

BENEFIT RETIREMENT CONCERT – ALL ARE WELCOME! Please join us for a benefit concert performed by Dr. Yalan Piao on Saturday, December 4, 2021, to honor Pastor Louise's retirement from ministry. Wine & Cheese reception: 6:30 PM, Concert begins: 7:00 PM. Proceeds of the Free Will Offering will benefit Rippling Hope.

We will also be hosting a small reception after the worship service on Sunday, December 19, 2021, to give the congregation an opportunity to thank Pastor Louise & Elaine for their ministry at CCB-UCC. Pastor Louise's last sermon will be Sunday, December 26th. Please mark your calendar for both events and plan to join us. More information will follow.

THANK YOU HELPERS! The Work Day on November 6th was a huge success. There was a great turnout and a lot was accomplished. Thank you all! John Fitzpatrick and John Benyo

THE 2021 BIRMINGHAM/BLOOMFIELD AREA CROP HUNGER WALK

was held on September 26th. It was a picture-perfect day! Many area walkers returned this year to a familiar Birmingham route with kick-off at First United Methodist and ending at First Presbyterian, celebrating with friends and a dish of Ray's Ice Cream. Our congregation's walkers: Pat Parker, Mary Perrin, Cindy and Eric Hill, and Steve Payer, raised \$1,400 for this important mission. Overall, this year's Walk generated \$31,502. 25% of funds raised through the Walk stay within our community while the remainder will be allocated to Church World Service's global relief efforts. Thank you so very much for your contributions and blessings!

GETTING TO KNOW US 2.0... Pair up and use the video camera on your phone to record each other introducing yourselves. Use our beautiful grounds, the patio, the Memorial Garden, the sanctuary, the kitchen, whatever place makes sense for you and tell us where you are from, how you got here, and what occupies your life! Email that recording right from your phone to Andre – www.uccbirminghammedia@gmail.com

MINISTRY TEAMS SIGN-UP: We will be using the following link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1-SdAgQsKF_zVLNdWYhS-UYS8cuhK1U48_GWqE3PH-Bs/edit#gid=0 for the Google sheets document to sign-up for Ministry Teams throughout the winter. Please check it to see continuing and new opportunities to participate on CCB-UCC teams. You may access the document as many times as you wish and change your choices as needed. Paper sign-up sheets will also be available in the Narthex. Questions? Email Cathy Rupert at cathyrupert@hotmail.com

(Live Streaming Begins Here)

PRELUDE

"Brethren We Have Met to Worship"

Holy Manna,
Moore, arr. Hayes

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD INTO WORSHIP
Pastor Louise

SONG**"Now Thank We All Our God"****Sing Along**

[CH #715]

**Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom the world rejoices,
who, from our mothers' arms,
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us full of grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God
our Father and our Mother,
to Christ and to the One
who binds us to each other,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.**

SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 2:2-4, 6-7 MSG

Cathy Rupert

I want you woven into a tapestry of love, in touch with everything there is to know of God. Then you will have minds confident and at rest, focused on Christ, God's great mystery. All the richest treasures of wisdom and knowledge are embedded in that mystery and nowhere else. And we've been shown the mystery! I'm telling you this because I don't want anyone leading you off on some wild-goose chase, after other so-called mysteries, or "the Secret."

(continued)

My counsel for you is simple and straightforward: Just go ahead with what you've been given. You received Christ Jesus, the Master; now *live* him. You're deeply rooted in him. You're well-constructed upon him. You know your way around the faith. Now do what you've been taught. School's out; quit studying the subject and start *living* it! And let your living spill over into thanksgiving.

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!**

MUSIC OF THE DAY "Our Grateful Song" Besig
CCB-UCC Chancel Choir

TIME WITH CHILDREN Dr. Carmel Tinnes
(Pre-K through 8th grade children may now go to their lessons.)

PREPARATION VIDEO "Growing Up" Macklemore & Lewis,
(stanzas 1-3) featuring Ed Sheeran

OUR CONVERSATION "Where Is Love?" Rev. Louise R. Ott
Matthew 18:1-6 CEB

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

Then he called a little child over to sit among the disciples, and said, "I assure you that if you don't turn your lives around and become like this little child, you will definitely not enter the kingdom of heaven. Those who humble themselves like this little child will be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

"As for whoever causes these little ones who believe in me to trip and fall into sin, it would be better for them to have a huge stone hung around their necks and be drowned in the bottom of the lake."

CONSECRATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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:

- Afghanistan citizens in dire circumstances
- 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
- Barry McBride, in rehab at home with Susan
- Ben Sharpe, with depression challenges
- Calliope, daughter of Melissa Crook, granddaughter of Brenda, and niece of Kristine, as the courts make custody decisions
- David, brother of Paul von Oeyen, in stem cell transplant treatment for leukemia
- Drew Sharpe and family, mourning the death of his mother-in-law, Elizabeth (Gray) Krage
- Greg Peterson and family, mourning the death of his mom, Wilda, and extended family member, Nate
- Jacquie & Cliff Wagoner, both transitioning to new homes at Blossom Springs and Blossom Ridge, respectively
- John Lindstrom, working with his physician and dentist to clear infection and congestion
- Judy, Greg Peterson's aunt, in palliative care with terminal cancer
- Rob, Sue Potter's brother, with metastasized cancer in his bones
- Ruth Biersdorf, in treatment for cancer
- Suzy, Pastor Louise's California cousin, in hospice care
- Victims of war, violence, and natural disasters everywhere
- Youth and adults with mental health challenges

CLOSING SONG "For the Fruit of All Creation"

Sing Along

[CH #714]

**For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God;
for good gifts to every nation, thanks be to God;
for the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor, God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

OUR BLESSING FROM GOD

Pastor Louise

The peace of Christ is 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

"We Shall Behold Him"

Rambo, arr. Hayes

(Live Streaming Ends Here)

Credits: A Sanctified Art LLC, www.sanctifiedart.org; CCLI #741179.

WE THANK our greeters, ushers, reader, choir, 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.

What's Happening @ CCB-UCC This Week

Bold indicates CCB and/or UCC related event. Regular font indicates outside usage.

Sunday	9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal (S)
<u>11/21/21</u>	9:45 AM	Nursery
	10:00 AM	Worship (S and/or YouTube)
	10:15 AM	Sunday School (classrooms)
	11:00 AM	Deck the Halls (S & FH)
Monday	7:00 AM	Sober Morning AA (outside or AR)
<u>11/22/21</u>	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
	12:00 PM	Christmas Candy Cooking (K)
Tuesday	6:00 AM	Madeleine's French Patisserie (K & P)
<u>11/23/21</u>	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
	12:00 PM	Christmas Candy Cooking (K)
Wednesday	7:00 AM	Sober Morning AA (outside or AR)
<u>11/24/21</u>	10:00 AM	New Beginnings Al-Anon (outside or AR)
	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
	12:00 PM	Christmas Candy Cooking (K)
	12:00 PM	Church Office Closes for Thanksgiving
Thursday	6:00 AM	Madeleine's French Patisserie (K & P)
<u>11/25/21</u>	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
	7:30 PM	Nan's Group Women's AA (outside or AR)
		Happy Thanksgiving! Church Office Closed
Friday	7:00 AM	Sober Morning AA (outside or AR)
<u>11/26/21</u>	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
		Holiday – Church Office Closed
<u>Saturday- 11/27/21</u>		Nothing Today
Sunday	9:45 AM	Nursery
<u>11/28/21</u>	10:00 AM	Worship (S and/or YouTube)
	10:15 AM	Sunday School (classrooms)

The complete church calendar is on our website: www.ccbucc.org

Celebrate Christmas in the Sanctuary



We invite you to offer a poinsettia or two to decorate our Sanctuary for Christmas and celebrate that we are back together in worship. Alternatively, you may designate your donation for other seasonal decorations in the Sanctuary. Poinsettias can be ordered for \$14.00 per plant (about 7-10 blooms each). You may take your plant home after our Christmas Eve late night service (on a first come, first served basis).

Please turn in your request by Monday, November 29.

You may put your donation in the offering plate with this form, place it in the mail slot on the church office door, or email it to the church and pay by *myEoffering* as "Sanctuary Flowers." Please write "Sanctuary Decorations" on the memo line of your check.

Thank you for your generous support!
Worship Ministry

***** No need to tear here, just return entire page to Church Office. *****

I'd like to order _____ poinsettia(s) x \$14.00 ea. = \$_____ Total

In lieu of poinsettias, I am donating \$ _____ to keep our Sanctuary festive in every season.

Please complete this dedication for the Bulletin:

Your Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

A Just World for All

Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost..... November 21, 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
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CCB WEBSITE: www.ccbucc.org

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE WEBSITE: www.michucc.org

DENOMINATIONAL WEBSITE: www.ucc.org

CHURCH LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Ministers - The Congregation

Rev. Louise R. Ott, Pastor

Dr. Carmel Tinnes, Director of Christian Education

Dr. Joe Bentley, Choral Director

Dr. Yalan Piao, Accompanist

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