

THE COMMUNICATOR

December 2022



From the Pastor's Keyboard

"Esperanza"

Happy New Year! Yes, you read that right. This is not my January article, it is my December article; yet I am wishing you "Happy New Year!"

This is because in the liturgical cycle of the church, the New Year begins with the first Sunday of Advent. This year, that Sunday is November 27. We begin the year by expressing our desire, our longing for HOPE in our lives, and understanding that God is the avenue to realize the possibility of HOPE in the New Year.

HOPE in the midst of oppression was a constant theme in the lives of the first century people whose lives are the focus of the stories of our traditions. Mary and Joseph and their contemporaries lived in a society plagued by nepotism, hypocrisy, and oppression. (Sound familiar?) The social and religious authorities of their day used religious expression to manipulate the already oppressed, making it very hard to find God's presence in their lives.

But in the midst of this, the Christmas story tells us a tale of HOPE. Joseph and Mary both had HOPE in what was to come after hearing God's messengers tell them "Do not be afraid." Their HOPE is expressed as they journey to Bethlehem, give birth in humble circumstance, and name their child as instructed. The name they give him, in itself, is an expression of HOPE; "Jesus" literally means "Yahweh is Salvation" or, to phrase it in a more contemporary way, "God Save Us."

The HOPE that Mary and Joseph had in their context was based in their faith. The stories of our traditions tell us they both had a rich faith heritage based in Jewish instruction, and were brought up with a knowledge of God and God's commandments. They followed proper religious customs, such as the dedication of Jesus (Luke 2:21) and annual pilgrimages to the Temple to celebrate Passover (Luke 2:41). They knew God as a very real presence in their lives, and their HOPE was based in this faith. Are we cultivating our faith as Joseph and Mary did? If we do not cultivate our faith, is it any wonder when we lose HOPE?

The Spanish word for "HOPE" is "Esperanza." While I was in Mexico, this word came up often. The people of Chiapas are bereft of many conveniences our U.S. culture has to offer, but they are very rich in "Esperanza." Despite the many layers of oppression they endure daily, they have a great sense of HOPE in a better world to come; an "Esperanza" based in their strong faith.

I think our U.S. culture could use a bit of "Esperanza." We have become so overwhelmed by our excess and jaded by tweets of misinformation that we seem to have almost forgotten about strengthening our faith; and certainly, lost our sense of HOPE.

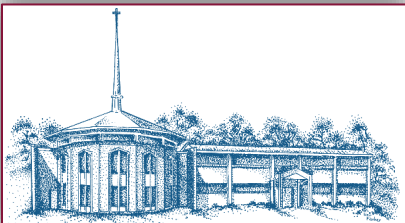
But now, with Advent, a New Year has begun. With the newness of the season, a renewed sense of HOPE is upon us. Advent is about anticipation; and as we anticipate the birth of Christ, we also anticipate the HOPE that he brings us; HOPE for a new world, new relationships, a new realization of God's Kingdom in our midst.

This is the season of HOPE. May a renewed sense of HOPE be kindled in your hearts this Advent Season!

-Pastor Rick

You are invited to an Advent Open House at Pastor Rick & Kim's house on December 17! Come any time between 4:00-7:00pm! We would love to see you!
3905 Snow Leopard Drive, Columbia, MO 65202





**COLUMBIA
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

**3201 I-70 DRIVE NW
COLUMBIA, MO 65202**

[Rev. Rick Oberle](#)

Pastor

[Rev. Fred Brandenburg](#)

Pastor Emeritus

[Shelly Adams](#)

Student Pastor

[Mike Pierson](#)

Interim Office Administrator

[Brandon Brown](#)

Music Coordinator

[Amy Crousore](#)

Organist/Accompanist

[Erika Maltzberger](#)

Director, Little One's Day Out

[Raj Tolani](#)

Financial Secretary

[Caleb Berry](#)

Custodian

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Fellowship Time
10:30 Worship

Office Hours:

**Monday through Friday
9am- 3pm**

**Phone:
(573) 445-7931**

**Email:
office@columbiaucc.com**

**Website:
www.columbiaucc.com**



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Christmas Worship will be a bit different this year! We will have two services on Christmas Eve at 7:00 and 11:00 p.m. Both will feature special music, communion, and "Silent Night" by candlelight. The choir will be singing at the 11:00 service, and we will have special music at 7:00. We will also have a Christmas Day service at 10:30 a.m.! This service will feature several Christmas Carols and a reflection on Christmas traditions. Come and join us this season!

ADVENT CANTATA AND ADVENT BANQUET

The Choir Advent Cantata and the Annual CUCC Advent Banquet will be on December 11 this year. Come and worship as the choir prepares us for the Christmas season to come, and then share in Christian Fellowship with your CUCC family at the Annual Advent Banquet!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Sunday School Children will prepare us for the upcoming Christmas season by sharing the gift of wisdom that is Jesus' nativity on Sunday, December 18, during the worship service. We will also observe the CUCC tradition of cookie sharing at this time. Plan on attending and sharing in the fun with our Sunday School Students!

SUNDAY MORNING SNOW POLICY

In case of inclement weather on Sunday mornings this winter, please keep an eye on the cancellations listed on KOMU and KMIZ Television stations, as well as the CUCC website and Facebook page.

If cancelling worship is in question, the Pastor, Moderator, and Vice Moderator will make that call by 7:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning. They will then notify the media, send out a mass email to the congregation, and put notice on the church's Facebook page and website immediately. This information will be posted by 7:15.

If worship is cancelled at our facility, an abbreviated worship will be livestreamed on You Tube and Facebook; at least the scriptures, sermon, and prayers. The extent of what is livestreamed will depend on who can make it to church that morning. Please join with the congregation worshipping virtually as we livestream and join together in virtual community.

If worship is not cancelled, but you feel unsafe venturing out, please stay home. We will still be livestreaming every Sunday, so you can always enjoy worship from home. You can also view the worship at a time other than 10:30! Past worship services are all on our website.



MODERATOR'S MOMENT

From Your Church Council Moderator...

In a recent discussion of our shared reading book, *A Bigger Table* by John Pavolvitz, our Council members considered the concept of "radical hospitality." We concluded that, in many ways, our church does this quite well. CUCC is a place where warmth and inclusion of people, no matter their background or circumstances, can be felt when visitors walk in the door. And this is reflected in the frequent return of our visitors and new members.

The book chapter also talks about the importance of continuously listening to our existing members, making sure we see and hear everyone in our efforts of Inclusion. The importance of this consideration for the Church Council is striking. Our Council members are different in many ways, but one way we are alike is in our shared love of our Church. And as we know, the Church is the people. Every one of us hopes to guide our ministries in ways that represent the values of our faith and the values of our members.

I encourage each of you who has ideas, feedback, or hopes for our church to share them with Council members or Pastor Rick. This can be done in the upcoming small group gatherings, by joining a Ministry Team, or in simple conversation. As Council members, we will strive to be good listeners and welcome all topics for discussion and consideration.

In his book, Pavolvitz writes, "the simple act of sharing space with people is a sacred offering." Let's continue to strive to share space with those inside and outside our congregation, providing a table big enough for all of us.

With gratitude,
Kristy Hayward, Moderator



FROM THE STUDENT PASTOR - Shelly Adams



Hello, friends! As I write this, I am in St. Louis at Eden Theological Seminary - the place I am earning my Masters of Divinity degree, and where Pastor Rick earned his, too. It's a beautiful place to learn and study.

I enrolled in Eden in January 2021, during the Covid-19 pandemic. I didn't live anywhere near a seminary and wasn't in a position to move near a seminary, so I didn't think I'd ever get the opportunity to attend seminary. My friend and mentor, Rev. Sue Artt, who also is Pastor Rick's friend from their seminary days, is on Eden's board of trustees. In late 2020, she mentioned to me that Eden had taken all their classes live on Zoom. And there it was! An opportunity for me to attend seminary. God is good.

While I learn just as much attending my classes online as I would sitting in a classroom, there's something special about being together with people in person, so every once in a while, I spend a few days at Eden, attending my classes "live" and enjoying being in community with people I otherwise only see in little squares on my computer screen. That's something we can all relate to because of Covid. We all yearned for community during those long months stuck at home during the pandemic, didn't we? And returning to community felt really good.

We are made by our God to be in community, whether we're introverts or extroverts, wallflowers, or the life of the party. Two months ago, when we moved to Columbia, we were in a new city. I had left a community of beloved people who are now 700+ miles away. I came to a new church - your church - and with your warm welcome and open-hearted spirit, you made me feel like a part of your community. What a gift you have given me. I'm grateful to be with you and to be part of a community that cares for God's children inside - and outside - of the walls of the church. Blessings to all of you!

-Shelly

CHURCH COUNCIL

CUCC Council Meeting—November 15, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Kristy Hayward. Pastor Rick opened with a prayer and shared a bit about his sabbatical experience. Present: Pastor Rick, Kristy Hayward, Kurt Heine via Zoom, Sue Ann Schaefer, Mike Pierson, Tricia Price, Stefanie Zimny, Lorry Dreier, Keith Birkes, Mark Duncan via Zoom, Jessica Lucas, Ted Dachroeden, and Alethea Tennill via Zoom.

Mike Pierson made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Tricia Price. The motion passed.

Jessica Lucas made a motion to approve the minutes. Second from Lorry Dreier. The motion passed.

Sue Ann Schaefer discussed Chapters 7 and 8 in the book, A Bigger Table by John Pavlovitz. Chapter 7 talks about radical hospitality. Chapter 8 talks about total authenticity. We all vacillate between certainty and doubt. One of the ways to cultivate this is “Our Life Story” groups, where each person shares with the small group their life story, to feel fully known. Kristy Hayward will report on Chapters 9 and 10 next month.

Unfinished Business:

- Spots were filled for stewardship duties.
- Sanctuary Renovation Updates: 2 of 3 bids have come in for carpet. We have wallpaper samples for the front wall that match the carpet. Mike talked to a local company about handrails for the steps. Two companies have come in to discuss painting the ceiling, and we are waiting on bids. Mike’s goal is to have all of our bids ready for Finance & Stewardship by sometime in December. Then we could have some drawings ready for people to see at the 100th Anniversary kickoff. We also need to eventually replace the part of the roof over the gathering area. It has 3 HVAC units on top of it, and if any of them break, we have to rent a crane to replace it, so it would make the most sense to replace all 3 at once.
- The 100th Anniversary committee: The first event will be a potluck on January 22. There will be one event each month for 10 months, with many focusing on a specific decade of church history. The culminating event will be the last weekend in September, possibly at the MU Health Pavilion (where the farmers market is), which only costs \$250 to rent.
- New Cleaning Service: Ted Dachroeden got a bid from Jan-Pro, and recommends we go with them for our cleaning service. Council voted and approved Jan-Pro unanimously
- Administrative assistant position: discussed utilizing IMKO staffing for this position. Pastor Rick is going to follow up with more information.
- Security plan: A lot of policies in our policy manual are outdated, including our Security Plan. We need to look at many of them in upcoming months, maybe starting in January. Council stewards each Sunday should try to keep an eye out for any problems, including health issues and anything suspicious.

New Business

- Additional alarm for LODO door: There’s a back door off the storage room with no sensor. When the system was installed, they couldn’t put a sensor on the door for some reason, but we think our new security company should be able to add one. Mike will call them and ask them to come look at it.
- A Cub Scout den (just 6-8 kids) wants to use the Fellowship Hall twice a month on Sunday late afternoons. A Girl Scout troop also wants to use the Fellowship Hall on Monday nights. Ted Dachroeden moved to approve both groups. Lorry Dreier seconded. Motion passed.
- Christmas Eve services: Services will be at 7:00 and 11:00 p.m. this year (no 4:00 service).

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Rick’s is looking ahead to the next five years now that he’s back from sabbatical.

Financial Report: We had a good October, but we are still way behind for the year. Our goal for Giving Tuesday is \$25,000, and it will all go into Joyful Giving. Dom Lee is putting together a video to promote it.

Ministry Team Reports:

- Building & Grounds: Ted Dachroeden. LODO had a bench that broke, and Ted took care of it.
 - Fellowship & Hospitality: Stefany Zimny. Advent banquet needs help from people not in bells or choir on Dec. 11.
 - Finance & Stewardship: Report submitted. Giving Tuesday goal is \$25,000.
 - Membership & Care: Report submitted. Small group gatherings are happening. New church directory in spring.
 - Inclusion & Affirmation/Nurture & Education/Outreach & Advocacy/Worship & Music: Reports were submitted
- Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Tricia Price, on behalf of Alethea Tennill--Secretary

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

SANCTUARY REMODEL

Mike Pierson, Worship & Music Ministry Team Chair

Slow strides continue happening toward the goal of an upgrade to many of the physical space aspects of our sanctuary. Design decisions are being made in connection with our designer, Kenna Weber. Bids are being secured for everything from carpet installation, ceiling painting, window replacement, chancel railings, etc. The goal remains to have final bids ready for Finance and Stewardship prior to the end of the year AND a final design presentation for the congregation in January. If all goes to plan, we hope to begin work early next summer and complete the project prior to the end of 2023 to be combined with the celebration of the church's centennial.

One of the aspects of the renovation is the replacement of the smaller square windows that go around the upper part of the sanctuary (45 windows in total!). The textured plastic panes will be replaced with insulated glass panes that will be covered with a special vinyl film to simulate the look of stained glass adding a significant color dimension to the space. The opportunity to sponsor a window (or more) will be presented to the congregation. The details of this plan are still in the works.

There will be several ways in which we plan to utilize our own resources to complete aspects of the project to help keep costs lower. These include wall painting, moving of furniture, railing installation, window film installation, and drapery installation. Be on the lookout for how to signup to help out! It is exciting to visualize the finished product!

Advent/Christmas Worship Schedule

November 27 - First Sunday of Advent (HOPE) & Confirmation

December 4 - Second Sunday of Advent (PEACE)

December 11 - Third Sunday of Advent (JOY) &

Sermon-In-Song by Celebration Singers & Advent Banquet

December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent (LOVE) & Sunday School Program

December 24 - Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m. In-person & Livestreamed Service with Communion

11:00 p.m. In-person Service with Communion

December 25 - Christmas Day

10:30 a.m. In-person Service



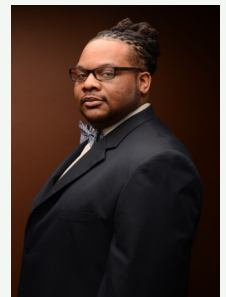
Music in the Holidays

The long-awaited Messiah Sing-along that CUCC is presenting in collaboration with the Columbia Civic Orchestra and Columbia Chorale is on Saturday, December 10 at 5 p.m. at First Christian Church. Come represent our church at this free event and enjoy excerpts from Handel's Messiah. Scores will be available for \$10 for those who wish to sing along.

The music ministry is looking forward to the annual Sermon in Song (Cantata) during morning worship on December 11. A wide range of musical styles will be presented from both the Celebration Singers and Chapel Ringers.

We are looking for anyone who would like to sing a solo or play an instrument at the 7 p.m. or 11 p.m. Christmas Eve services. If you would like to share your musical talents for one of these special services, please contact Brandon at brandon.michael.brown@gmail.com by December 11.

Brandon Brown, M.M., Music Coordinator



FELLOWSHIP AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY TEAM

ADVENT BANQUET

One great tradition of Columbia United Church of Christ is our **Annual Advent Banquet**, and it's almost here! [Please RSVP](#) if you and/or your family/friends plan to attend. To do so [CLICK HERE](#), sign up Sunday before or after church, or send an email to [Stefanie Zimny](#) or the [church office](#). RSVPs are due by Sunday, December 4.

Please inform us of any food allergies when you RSVP. The Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team will do everything they can to provide alternatives for food allergies.

Menu: Pork loin, green beans, scalloped potatoes, applesauce, and dessert.

This is always a great "family reunion" time for CUCC. We look forward to seeing you!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Women's Fellowship will hold their annual Holiday Bazaar on Sunday, December 4. Bean Soup, Jam, Honey, Cookbooks, and more will be available for purchase in the Gathering area prior to Worship Service.

CALLING ALL WOMEN! COME JOIN US IN DECEMBER!

Women's Fellowship has begun a new Bible study called "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight." This study includes passages from the Old & New Testaments that speak to ways that celebrating the Sabbath will affect specific areas of our daily life.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the upstairs Gathering Area. After a delicious brunch, we participate in the current Bible study and then hold a short business meeting. ***Our next gathering is December 8.*** All women are invited to attend. Come join us for lively discussions during each lesson.

100th ANNIVERSARY POTLUCK KICKOFF

Save the date! We will have a potluck dinner after worship on January 22, 2023 to kick off our year of celebrating the 100th Anniversary of CUCC! The celebrations begin next month and continue all year long, culminating with a big 100 year party in September, 2023. This is going to be a year of celebration!

SUNDAY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

Below is the Sunday Volunteer Schedule for December. We would love to see some new faces sharing their time and talents in this capacity. Part of being in the church family is often expressed by sharing the roles that make all of our members and guests feel an extravagant welcome. If you can fill a needed role now or in the future, please let one of the leaders know. We appreciate you sharing your gifts of time and talent with our CUCC family!

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Worship Leaders	Acolyte	Tech Booth	Hospitality
12/4	Susan Dunham	Phillip & Linda Neale	Lena Muench	Aidan Pierson	Lorry Dreier Ted Dachroeden	Sue Ann Schaefer
12/11		John & Brenda Muench	Llona Weiss	Trevor Pierson	Josh Muench	Mark Duncan
12/18		Mahree Skala Llona Weiss	Judi Privitt		Mike Pierson	JoEllen Grace
12/24 7:00		Audrey Lasley & Sue Ann Schaeffer	Lindsey Oberle		Mike Pierson	
12/24 11:00			Judi Privitt		Doug Privitt	
12/25					Brent Marcks	

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

GIVING TUESDAY

All of the proceeds from Giving Tuesday are going to Joyful Giving so that we can continue to make a difference in our community through the work we do on a daily basis.

CUCC does so many good things in our community, and we want to continue to do this in the future. You may not realize it, but our Annual Budget includes over \$30,000 in Outreach Giving, plus many more expenditures related to community transformation. We are doing great work through our Annual Budget, financed by Joyful Giving and Giving Tuesday!

Please consider making a financial contribution toward Giving Tuesday. Don't worry if you are reading this after November 29, 2022. We will not be closing this fund until December 4. Even after Giving Tuesday is over, you can still make a difference by making a contribution to Joyful Giving. Our Giving Tuesday goal this year is \$25,000. We are confident that you will help us reach this goal! Through Giving Tuesday and our Annual Budget, we hope to continue to provide a positive impact in our community.

-Brent Marcks, Recording Treasurer

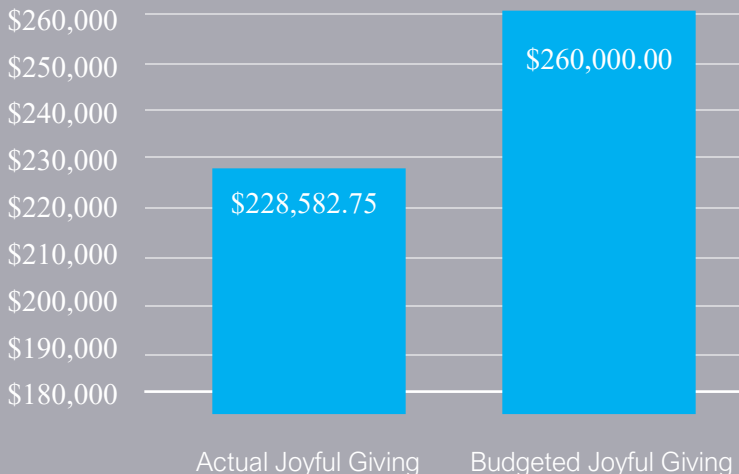


***Christian Stewardship:** The Belief that everything we have is a gift from God; and we are just stewards of it.*
— Rev. David Lewis Beebe

Financial Update			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)
Oct. Income	\$31,022.85	\$29,083.33	\$1939.52
YTD Income	\$234,083.48	\$265,833.34	(\$31,749.86)
Oct. Expenses	\$28,696.97	\$32,387.13	(\$3690.16)
YTD Expenses	\$302,644.71	\$316,551.51	(\$13,906.80)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$68,561.23)	(\$50,718.17)	(\$17,843.06)
Oct. Attendance	379		

Date	Attendance	Received	Budget
11/6/22	108		\$6,176.31
11/13/22	95		\$6,176.31
11/20/22	100		\$6,176.31
11/27/22			\$6,176.31
Total			\$24,705.24

As of 10/31/22 we are behind in budgeted Joyful Giving by \$31,417



CUCC ONLINE GIVING

You can now give online to Columbia United Church of Christ through our online giving partner, Kindrid!

There are several ways to make a one time or recurring gift through Kindrid:

1. Click on this link (or type into your web browser): <https://www.kindridgiving.com/app/giving/cucc>
2. Access the Kindrid giving site through our CUCC website: www.columbiaucc.com and click on the "Donate to CUCC" button.
3. Text "GIVE" to 573-240-4041 and follow the prompts to set up your one time or recurring gift.

INCLUSION AND AFFIRMATION MINISTRY TEAM

A round-about Christmas message....

I have written several Vacation Bible School curriculums. It started when my daughter attended a VBS that used a coloring book for the lesson and the art project was to color a page from the book. The teaching part was a lecture. The children were bored and, I suspect, learned little. So, being of childish mind myself, I volunteered to direct the next year's session and found a very innovative and interactive VBS package. After that year, I started writing them myself with my husband's assistance.

That church had several families with young children and parents who had no fear of trying new things. One of my favorite VBS themes involved time travel via a tunnel. My husband and I made this tunnel out of PVC pipe covered in black plastic with rope lights inside to light the way. There was an adult to guide the children thru, known as the "Time Tunnel Attendant" or TTA.

The students went through the tunnel and 'back in time' to help Abraham and Sarah pack when God instructed them to move. They watched King Solomon discern which woman was the actual mother of the disputed baby. You get the idea. On the final night, the time tunnel 'malfunctioned.' Instead of taking them back into Biblical times, it took them into the future where they met an alien. The alien was a Ferengi (a species known to Star Trek lovers, such as Pastor Rick and myself). When the alien asked where the students were from, a conversation developed. The children explained, in their own words: VBS, the Bible, God, and Jesus. They actually got to 'witness' their faith to someone, probably for the first time.

Why is this story in the December communicator? Because the birth of Jesus changed our world forever, and set an example for our faith in such a wonderful way.

Let's lean into this precious holiday season by remembering to celebrate through witness . . . especially to those who are experiencing sorrow, loss, and pain, no matter *their* religious beliefs. Our belief is that all are God's children. Thus, as you are able, reach out with kind words, cards, tasty treats, a hug –

"Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Creator, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word."

2 Thessalonians 2:16,17 ESV

And . . .



"For unto us a child is born . . . and His name shall be called: Wonderful, Counselor, mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."
Excerpt from Handel's Messiah

In Christmas Joy and Hope,

Tricia Price, Chair;
Alisa Lau-Sieckman, Member

CUCC OPEN AND AFFIRMING/INCLUSION COVENANT

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God's children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;
No matter where you are on your faith journey;
No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression or identity;
No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality or politics;
No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status or family structure;
No matter your social, economic, educational, legal or life circumstances;
You are welcome here!



Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.

LODO MINISTRY TEAM

LODO NEWS

“Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.” —William Arthur Ward

November was a time for giving thanks and feeling gratitude for our many blessings at LODO. After a two-year hiatus, our Thanksgiving Feast returned on Thursday, November 17. Our staff enjoyed our time of fellowship with the LODO families and Ministry Team members in attendance!

We look forward to our annual Christmas Program on Thursday, December 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Each class will perform songs to celebrate Christmas and the birth of Jesus. Our Lightning Bugs will ring rainbow bells, while the audience sings “Jingle Bells.” Our Lambs will celebrate with “Baby Jesus, We Love You” and “Away in a Manger.” Our Lions, Leopards, and Leap Frogs will join together to perform “Don’t Be Scared!” They will sing several songs and tell the story of how the angel of the Lord appeared to Mary, Joseph, and the Shepherds telling them not to be afraid. We will end our evening with a cookie reception in the Fellowship Hall.



Important LODO Dates

Thursday, Dec 15th – LODO Christmas Program at 6:30pm

Friday, Dec 9th—Thursday, Dec 15th 9:20-10:00am – Daily Christmas Program Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, Dec 21st – LODO Pajama Day

Thursday, Dec 22nd—Tuesday, Jan 3rd – Closed for Christmas Break (School resumes Jan 4)

Help spread the word . . .

We have space remaining in our Lions, Leopards, and Leap Frogs classrooms for the 2022-2023 school year. January is a great time for new families to join us for a preschool adventure. Interested families should contact Ms. Erika at littleonesdayout@yahoo.com.

Children must have turned 3 years old before Aug 1, 2022 for our Lions or Leopards class. Children must have turned 4 years old before Aug 1, 2022 for our Leap Frogs Class.

With love and laughter,
Erika Maltsbarger, Director



Did you know that **reading to children** helps develop their brain by improving memory, focus, concentration, social skills, vocabulary, writing, and communication skills, as well as enhancing imagination and decreasing stress and depression? LODO loves to have church members and family come to share in story time. If you would like to read to a LODO class, contact Erika to set up a day and time.

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator:	Kristy Hayward	kristyodneal@gmail.com
Vice Moderator:	Kurt Heine	heinekurt@gmail.com
Secretary:	Alethea Tennill	atennill108@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Sue Ann Schaefer	ssas3307@aol.com
Recording Treasurer:	Brent Marcks	brentmarcks@hotmail.com
Building & Grounds:	Ted Dachroeden	gpadoc4gd@gmail.com
Fellowship & Hospitality:	Stefanie Zimny	stefanie.zimny@gmail.com
Finance & Stewardship:	Keith Birkes	kbirkes4@gmail.com
Inclusion & Affirmation:	Tricia Price	tricialprice@gmail.com
Little One's Day Out:	Lorry Dreier	llhd01@gmail.com
Membership & Care:	Jessica Lucas	jlucas@cpsk12.org
Nurture & Education:	Lydia Whitacre	lydiaawhitacre@gmail.com
Outreach & Advocacy:	Mark Duncan	markduncan2@mchsi.com
Worship & Music:	Mike Pierson	mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP AND CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Reconnect with Pastor Rick!

Join Pastor Rick in small group gatherings to reconnect, hear details of his Sabbatical experience, and talk about where we have been as a church and where we are going. Pastor Rick has been at CUCC 5 years, and it's a great time to reflect on the past 5 years and chart a course for the next 5 years.

Gatherings will be held Dec. 1 at 7 p.m., Dec. 8 at 7 p.m., and Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. Want to sign up? Email the [church office](#) or [Jessica Lucas](#).

Mark your calendars – we will be putting together a new church pictorial directory next year to celebrate our Centennial Year as a congregation! This new directory will have an online feature, with many options to keep our church more connected. More information will be in the January Communicator, but plan on scheduling your setting with our photographers! They will be here March 1-4, 2023.

Jessica Lucas,
Membership & Care Ministry Team Leader



Health Ministry Care Team

Meeting, Request for volunteers, and We're here to serve you!

Calling all health care professionals and those interested in forming a Health Ministry Care Team!

We'd love to have those join us who are interested in helping others in need of transportation to Dr. visits, hospital procedures, or being a resource regarding health issues, and possibly helping with presentations on health topics. We're meeting to create a vision, mission, and goals, and discuss our plan of action on **Nov. 28th from 7-8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**. I may set up a Zoom link if needed. Contact me, Anne Heine, at (573) 529-1543 if interested or for any questions. Also, if you or someone you know need such services, please contact me or the church office. Thanks!



DECEMBER Birthdays to Celebrate

Kelly Smith (12/02)	Josie Arms (12/03)	Diane Oerly (12/03)
Helen Schultz (12/04)	Elaine Trout (12/04)	Brad Marcks (12/07)
Deb Bernhardt (12/09)	Molly Baker (12/09)	Ben Crenshaw (12/10)
Grace Devenney (12/10)	Alethea Tennill (12/10)	Josh Muench (12/11)
Kristin Veteto (12/11)	Scott Webster (12/12)	Mona Dachroeden (12/12)
Lynn Tsapelas (12/14)	Scott Rapp (12/14)	Ira Williams (12/15)
Axel Devenney (12/15)	Lindsey Oberle (12/16)	Kelly Lavelly (12/16)
Paula Wilson (12/16)	Brandon Brown (12/16)	Jean Strothmann (12/17)
Melvin Wilson (12/19)	Brandon Schoeneberg (12/22)	Geri Critz (12/22)
Tiffany Brookshire (12/26)	Darren Lasley (12/26)	Joan Bentlage (12/28)
Sam Tummons (12/30)	Tom Solt (12/30)	Jean Walker (12/30)

NURTURE AND EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2022 CONFIRMATION CLASS!!

Blessing Boxes

On November 7th, Linda, Helen, Paula, Audrey, Lydia, and Pastor Rick assembled 25 Blessing Boxes that we mailed out to current students and military service people!

Sunday School Classes

Just a reminder that we have now wrapped up “the semester” on Sunday School classes! A big “thank you” to all those who have taught this term! We will resume Adult Bible Study, Contemporary Issues, and Youth Sunday School after the holiday season! Please, let me know if you would be interested in signing up to teach a class or to assist next semester! In the meantime, during regular Sunday school hours, the youth students will be rehearsing for the Christmas Program!

Spirit Sunday

Our next “Spirit Sunday” will be January 8th for Epiphany Sunday. The theme will be “All Star Sunday”! Stay tuned for more info in the January Communicator and Friday emails!

Cookies by the Pound

The Nurture and Education Ministry Team Annual “Cookies by the Pound” fundraiser will be hosted on December 11th this year with all profits funding the Nurture and Education Designated Fund! Here’s how you can help:

- Bring donations of delicious **homemade** cookies and candies to the church early the morning of December 11th or the week before
- Purchase cookies and candies on December 11th (starting at 9 a.m.) for **\$8/pound**



Lydia Whitacre
Nurture & Education Ministry Team Chair
lydiaaawhitacre@gmail.com

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

Cookies by the Pound on December 11th, 2022
The Children’s Christmas Program on December 18th, 2022
Christmas Program Rehearsals: Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11, and 18 during Sunday School
Spirit Sunday on January 8th
The next N & E Team meeting will be December 19th at 6:30 p.m.

CONFIRMATION 2022– Aidan, Lawson, Danielle, & Trevor

On Sunday, November 20, this year’s four Confirmation Students presented their testimonies of faith in worship at CUCC. Trevor, Danielle, Aidan, & Lawson all shared a “sermon” reflecting on their journey of faith. They began their faith journey in October 2021, and continued for 40 classes in the past 14 months. On November 27, they were all confirmed and became full members of Columbia United Church of Christ.

Reflecting on their Confirmation Journey, Pastor Rick commented on what he tells every Confirmation Class at the beginning of the year, “You will get out of it what you put into it. If you put forth effort, participate, and do the work given to you, you will find yourself on a fulfilling faith journey. If you put no effort into Confirmation, you will get nothing out of it.” These four students put forth great effort, and their faith grew as a result.

Now their journey begins in earnest. As they live into their role as members of Christ’s Church and active members of Columbia United Church of Christ, they also live into the responsibilities of that role. Welcome to the church, Trevor, Danielle, Aidan, & Lawson!





Cookies by the Pound

Sunday, December 11– 9:00am

The Nurture and Education Ministry Team is hosting the Annual Cookies by the Pound Fundraiser on Sunday, December 11 with all profits going to the Nurture & Education Designated Fund. Here is how you can help:

- Bring donations of *Homemade* Cookies & Candies to church early on December 11 or the week before
- Purchase Cookies and Candies on December 11- \$8/pound

Enjoy a great assortment of cookies and candies this Advent Season with the diverse variety of Cookies– By the Pound!

**All proceeds go to the Nurture & Education Designated Fund*

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY MINISTRY TEAM

LOAVES & FISHES

The 11/21 meal consisted of spaghetti made by Mary Lorber-Solt & Audrey Lasley, lettuce salad provided by Patty Beeson, sliced ham & dinner rolls leftover from the LODO feast and donated Hy-Vee cookies. PBJ's were made by Jessica Jenks. Servers were Whitney Wipfler, Patty Beeson, Doug & Judi Privitt, Tom & Mary Lorber-Solt and Mary's sister, Debbie. We served approximately 151 servings! Thank you to all who helped!

Come Serve at the Food Bank

CUCC volunteers packaged fresh produce at the Food Bank on October 25. Fresh tomatoes and other vegetables provide welcome enhancement for canned and packaged staple foods. Many thanks to Jo Ellen Grace, Connie Loveless, Melba Shaffer, Mahree Skala, and Tricia Soncasie. The next opportunity to help feed the hungry will be on Tuesday, December 27 at 5:30 p.m. To register, [CLICK HERE](#) or talk to [Mahree Skala](#).

CROP WALK SUCCESS!

A heartfelt thanks to all who participated in the 2022 CROP WALK and contributed toward surpassing the \$21,000 goal. Together we raised \$21,944.41. Awesome!

Congratulations to Missouri United Methodist Church on being the top fundraiser with a total of \$3995. We at Columbia UCC came in a close second, raising \$3935. Good job! *Contributions can still be made to the CROP WALK through the end of the year.*

Those locally who benefit from the funds raised are Turning Point, Russel Chapel Community Food Pantry, Fifth Street Christian Church Monthly Community Meal, and Destiny Worship Center Food Pantry. They thank you for supporting their ministries.

Globally, those who suffer from food and clean water shortage, those who are impacted by natural disasters, those who face displacement and need protection, and those who need a voice for advocacy and justice thank you, as well.

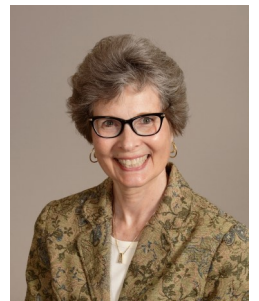
VAC Christmas Reminder

Thank you to everyone helping with the Voluntary Action Center Christmas Program! Please remember that gifts and donations must be turned in by Sunday, December 4, so they can be delivered on Monday. We served over 40 individuals again this year with cash and gifts! However, there are many more "adoptees" available at VAC. The need is great, especially this time of year. If you want to help, talk to [Mark Duncan](#)!

Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary Partnership Friend Update

Woo Hoo! Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School (AHL), our CPS Partner Friend, is a wonderful place to be this year. With the new Principal, Amanda Minear, and our many personal connections with the Assistant Principal, Kelly Isenogle, and other AHL staff, we/CUCC continue to volunteer in their Media Center (Melba, Mahree, Judi) and be involved in a variety of ways.

On November 15, we delivered food items to AHL for their "Stock the Lounge" to provide sustenance for the teachers during the week of Parent-Teacher Conferences. (Thanks to Pastor Rick, Mark Duncan, Jolene Kirchhoff, Llona.) Thanks also to those CUCC members, Cindy Deegan, Jolene and Barry Kirchhoff, Llona, and others, who helped by participating in AHL's past fundraisers by purchasing cookie dough, eating out at Wendy's, etc. Again, CUCC's care and support is amazing, and AHL is so grateful. We look forward to a joyful holiday season, and wish all the best!



Llona Weiss
Liaison for CUCC to Alpha Hart Lewis



Columbia
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

If you would like to donate a poinsettia for the Sanctuary this Advent Season, please email the church office by December 5.

Please include the following information:

- Is it in honor of (living) or in memory of (passed away) the person you are recognizing?
- The name of the person you are recognizing
- Your name (as you want it printed)

Poinsettias are \$10.00 each. We will have them in the Sanctuary by December 11, and will keep them up thru the 11:00 Christmas Eve service. You can pick up your poinsettia on Christmas Eve if you would like, or donate it to a homebound member!



VOLUNTEER FOR ROOM AT THE INN

[Room at the Inn](#) opened on November 28 at the former VFW Hall, 1509 Ashley Street in Columbia. This will be their home all year long, rather than moving from church to church.

They are in need of volunteers for several shifts to help check in clients, serve food, and even transport laundry for their laundry service. Shift details are:

5:00-6:30 p.m. - food prep - preparing the evening meal

5:00-8:30 p.m. - food prep and serving - clean up after

6:00-9:30 p.m. - guest check in - helping to receive overnight guests

6:00-9:00 a.m. - morning crew - preparing packaged breakfasts and lunches and distributing them to guests

Laundry Transport– Monday and Thursday evenings - volunteers pick up laundry and deliver to laundromat

To volunteer or learn more about Room at the Inn, [CLICK HERE](#)



missouri mid south conference of the united church of christ



SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN

After three years of closure, [Camp MoVal](#) is open again, and registration for Summer 2023 opened November 27! It is not too early to sign up for Summer Camp!

NEW IN 2023 – Most of the summer camps will be all ages camps for ages 8-15. Mini-camps are available for ages 7-9. There are specialty camps for Music, Arts, and Drama, and STEM skills, as well as High School Leadership Development.

If you register before February 28, the cost is \$499 (prices raise after 2/28), but CUCC will pay \$300 for each CUCC Camper who wishes to attend! Talk to Pastor Rick or Lydia Whitacre for details on Camper Scholarships.

To register today, [CLICK HERE](#)

Camp MoVal 2023
Summer Program

6/4-6/9 M.A.D.D. (MUSIC/ART/DANCE/DRAMA) (AGES 8-18)

6/11-6/16 ALL AGES CAMP (AGES 8-15) *Mini Camp AVAILABLE (AGES 7-9)

6/11-6/16 HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CAMP (COMPLETED GRADES 9-12)

6/18-6/23 ALL AGES CAMP (AGES 8-15) *Mini Camp AVAILABLE (AGES 7-9)

6/25-6/30 ALL AGES CAMP (AGES 8-15) *Mini Camp AVAILABLE (AGES 7-9)

7/5-7/7 FAMILY CAMP (ALL AGES)

7/9-14 S.T.E.M. CAMP (SCIENCE/TECH/ENGINEERING/MATH) (AGES 8-18)

7/16-21 ALL AGES CAMP (AGES 8-15) *Mini Camp AVAILABLE (AGES 7-9)

7/23-28 ALL AGES CAMP (AGES 8-15) *Mini Camp AVAILABLE (AGES 7-9)

7/30-8/4 ADVENTURES IN COMMUNITY (AGES 18+)

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

CULTURAL IMMERSION IN CHIAPAS

by Pastor Rick



Most of the congregation is aware that I went to Mexico on Sabbatical. You may not be aware of what I was doing there, or the unique relationship our church has with the missions we support in Chiapas. The next few months, I will be using this space to share an aspect of our mission work, and how we are addressing Jesus' prayer for unity.

Chiapas is the southernmost state of 31 states in Mexico. Chiapas is the poorest state economically, but it is one of the richest states culturally. It is home to some very inspiring artistic destinations, a center of religious expression, and home to a diverse group of indigenous people who have incorporated the ancient faith and customs of the Mayan community into our current context.

San Cristobal de las Casas is the city that I visit when I am in Chiapas. San Cristobal was founded in 1528, making it one of the oldest cities in America. However, the indigenous Mayan people have lived there since 1400 BC, around the same time Moses was alive. Spanish (and later US) colonization, beginning in 1492, brought harsh oppression to the Mayan community, fracturing them into various camps, depending on which Conquistador found them first. I heard many stories while I was there about the historic oppression of these people and how the lingering effects of that oppression still resonate with them today.

[The Institute for Intercultural Studies and Research](#) is one of our mission agencies in San Cristobal de las Casas. This is the organization I worked with. [The Institute](#) works with the indigenous Mayan communities to bring reconciliation to them through both implicit and explicit teaching. Many of their workshops deliver explicit instruction, while planting implicit ideals of peace and justice, harmony and unity in their communities. To put it simply, they teach them to get along while teaching them important life skills. At CUCC, we support this mission directly by giving them donations each year, and we support them indirectly through our support of Global Ministries through Our Church's Wider Mission and One Great Hour of Sharing. Visit their website for more information at www.iesiimx.org.

Watch this space for more details about our missions in Chiapas in the months to come!



CUCC IS PROVIDING HOUSING FOR SENIORS IN CHILE

The Pentecostal Church of Chile (IPC) is a denomination born in Chile that has been a partner of Global Ministries for many years. The Bethany House Project was established by the IPC in 1995 in response to the need for safe and adequate housing for many elderly who lived in poverty and solitude in and around the city of Curico, where the IPC has its headquarters and many congregations. The Chilean national social services program for senior adults did not adequately meet the needs of this segment of the population. IPC determined to build a facility that would provide improved and secure standards of living for seniors who needed a place to live out their remaining life with peace and dignity.

The Pentecostal Church of Chile had available to them property in Curicó, south of the capital city of Santiago, that would be a good place for the project. Bethany House was designed as a national project of the IPC, although the local IPC church of Curicó would administer the project. Bethany House offers housing for seniors, both men and women, regardless of church affiliation.

With substantial financial support of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ, the project was completed and provides housing for 15 seniors. The common denominator among the residents was a low self-esteem rooted in loneliness. The project has made a vast difference in the lives of the residents.

IPC is currently proposing an expansion project to build four more dormitories, two full baths, a multi-purpose dining room, a central hall, and a food storage pantry. Expansion will include the hiring of four additional caregivers. The estimated budget for the proposed expansion is \$87,400 for building construction and \$4,220 for furnishings and equipment. Through Global Ministries, the people of Columbia United Church of Christ are making a difference in the lives of these Chilean Seniors!

Thank You!!

Dear CUCC,

Thank you for everything you do for our school. Our staff and students appreciate your partnership.

My class wanted to share some art work and notes.

Sincerely,
Amy Waldron
2nd grade student
Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary



Dear Friends in Christ,

I write to thank you for sending a contribution to the **Grade A Plus Program**. Your gift will be allocated for the benefit and improvement of our program for youth.

We invite you to engage in on-site service should you be looking for another place to serve your local community. We especially need volunteers over the summer months when college students have gone home.

In faith and appreciation,
Dr. Janice Dawson-Threat
Founder/
Executive
Director
Grade A Plus



Dear CUCC Family,

Thank you for your continued uplifting notes, well-wishes, and healing prayers during Levi's cancer treatments. We are thrilled that he is finished with treatments, feeling great, and in remission! We were blessed to have so much support for our family during this time. Thank you!

Erin & Levi Markway

Hello Emmaus Friends,

Emmaus Homes has always turned to our faith community for help, and today is no exception. I want to sincerely thank you for your gift.

Emmaus is proud to be a leader in providing services to people with developmental disabilities, and our standard of care could not be possible without your recent donation. Your support provides the means for Emmaus clients to live in their own homes and communities. Thank you for sharing your blessings.



Lisa Key, Chief Development Officer

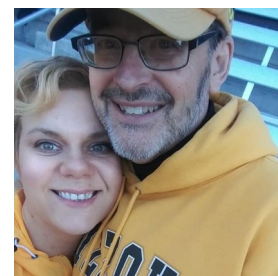
Thank You CUCC

No one ever expects a catastrophic, life-changing event, but when they do happen, it literally takes a village to walk through recovery and healing. The kind people of CUCC are part of an amazing village that has walked through this process with the Wolfe-Rollins clan, and we want to thank you. My recovery is moving at a miraculous pace thanks to your thoughts, prayers, meals, and visits.

I would like to thank several people whose kindness will never be forgotten. Jolene Kirchoff worked with First Baptist and the Columbia Handbells to help organize food, and she provided three delicious meals, each different and each with dessert. Lena Muench helped keep the calendar up to date. Then, we had an abundance of food from so many UCC members - they will receive private notes of thanks, but I can't tell you how meaningful and helpful this was. Pastor Dale was kind to visit on several occasions during Pastor Rick's sabbatical, and he provided a great source of strength.

While Jess was running herd on five kids, three animals, the house, bills, my therapy appointments (just about everything!!), CUCC was there to provide the assistance that helped keep her available to help in my recovery.

God bless you all. Thanks!
Ed, Jess, Liam, Ophelia, Anya, Odin, and Iris



ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR IN DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Confirmation</p> <p>9am - Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Fellowship Time</p> <p>10:30am - Worship</p>	<p>6pm - Chapel Ringers</p> <p>7pm - Celebration Singers</p> <p>7pm - Health Ministry Care Team</p>	<p>10am - Quilters</p> <p>6:30pm - Membership & Care</p>	<p>6pm - Chapel Ringers Practice</p> <p>7pm - Celebration Singers</p>	<p>6:30pm - Inclusion & Affirmation</p> <p>7pm - Small Group with Pastor</p>	<p>9:30am - Church Women United</p>	<p>9am - Decorate the Sanctuary</p>
<p>9am - Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Fellowship Time</p> <p>10:30am - First Communion 2022</p> <p>10:30am - Worship</p> <p>12pm - Heritage Team</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting</p>	<p>10am - Quilters</p>	<p>6pm - Chapel Ringers Practice</p> <p>7pm - Celebration Singers</p>	<p>9:30am - Women's Fellowship</p> <p>7pm - Small Group with Pastor</p>	<p>9am - SHTCCM Christmas Party</p> <p>9am - Choir/Bells Rehearsal</p> <p>5pm - Sing-a-long Messiah @</p>	<p>8am - SHTCCM Christmas Party</p> <p>9am - Choir/Bells Rehearsal</p> <p>5pm - Sing-a-long Messiah @</p>
<p>9am - Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Fellowship Time</p> <p>10:30am - Advent Cantata</p> <p>10:30am - Worship</p> <p>11:45am - Advent Banquet</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting</p> <p>5:30pm - LODD Ministry Team</p> <p>6pm - Girl Scouts in Fellowship</p> <p>6:30pm - Worship & Music</p>	<p>10am - Quilters</p> <p>6:30pm - Finance & Stewardship</p>	<p>6pm - Chapel Ringers Practice</p> <p>6pm - Prayer Shawl Group</p> <p>7pm - Celebration Singers</p>	<p>2pm - Small Group with Pastor</p> <p>6:30pm - LODD Christmas</p>	<p>4pm - Open House at Pastor</p>	<p>4pm - Open House at Pastor</p>
<p>Children's Program</p> <p>7:30am - Men's Fellowship</p> <p>9am - Sunday School</p> <p>10am - Fellowship Time</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am - Worship</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting</p> <p>4:30pm - Loaves and Fishes</p> <p>6:30pm - Nurture & Education</p>	<p>10am - Quilters</p> <p>6:30pm - Council Meeting</p>	<p>10am - Pastor Rick at The Bluffs</p> <p>6pm - Chapel Ringers Practice</p> <p>7pm - Celebration Singers</p>	<p>CPST/LODD Closed</p>	<p>7pm - Christmas Eve Worship</p> <p>11pm - Christmas Eve Worship</p>	<p>7pm - Christmas Eve Worship</p> <p>11pm - Christmas Eve Worship</p>
<p>10am - Fellowship Time</p> <p>10:30am - Worship</p>	<p>LODD/CPST Closed</p>	<p>10am - Quilters</p>	<p>6pm - Chapel Ringers Practice</p> <p>7pm - Celebration Singers</p>	<p>LODD/CPST Closed</p>	<p>LODD/CPST Closed</p>	<p>LODD/CPST Closed</p>

THE COMMUNICATOR

Columbia United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation- ONA #1575
3201 I-70 Dr. NW
Columbia, MO 65202-3296
573-445-7931



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbia, MO
Permit No. 74

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

The Communicator is a publication of Columbia United Church of Christ. The stated purpose is to communicate with the congregation and our friends concerning the organizations and events of the church. It is published once each month. The deadline for articles is the 20th of each month.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM THE STAFF OF
COLUMBIA
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST!**



Interested in Church Membership?

If you are interested in joining,
please contact [Rev. Rick Oberle](mailto:rick@columbiaucc.com).
rick@columbiaucc.com

Columbia United Church of Christ Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God's children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;
No matter where you are on your faith journey;
No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression or identity;
No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality or politics;
No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status or family structure;
No matter your social, economic, educational, legal or life circumstances;
You are welcome here!

Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.

LODO PLAYGROUND RESPECT

Please help us keep our playground safe for all children by following these guidelines:

- ◆ The CUCC playground is designed for, and should be used by, *only children ages 8 and younger*.
- ◆ Adult supervision is required while children are on the playground.
- ◆ Mulch must stay on the ground. When children dig up mulch it creates holes that are tripping hazards. Children should only dig in the sandbox.
- ◆ Sand should stay in the sandbox. Please do not allow sand to be carried and dumped in the playhouse or on play structures.
- ◆ Use playground equipment in the manner it is intended.