

THE COMMUNICATOR

November 2022



“Sabbatical”

From the Pastor’s Keyboard

Our shared Sabbatical has been an amazing time of growth and reflection for me; I hope it was for you, as well! As we journeyed through the past three months, and as I am preparing for our reunion soon to come, a few thoughts about Sabbath time have resonated with me.

A Sabbatical is a gift. I have been playing with this phrase for a few months now, in order to appreciate the Sabbatical we have shared. Now there are some who would protest this statement right away—they would say that Sabbaticals are earned, by time and effort and contractual obligation. They are not wrong. But I prefer to look at the Sabbath time we have just shared not as transactional, but as a gift. It is a gift that God’s Holy Spirit shares with God’s Beloved people; ***a gift of time.***

If we unpack the idea of our shared Sabbatical as a gift, we come to understand a bit more how special this time has been. Do true gifts have conditions attached? Are true gifts earned, or given from grace? Are you thankful for gifts? How do you respond to gracious gifts? How do you best utilize a heartfelt gift? How did you best utilize the gift of time God gave us during this Sabbatical? How will this gift of Sabbatical inform our shared ministry in the years to come?

A properly utilized Sabbatical is a way of thanking God for this gift. During my Sabbatical, I spent much time in prayerful meditation, conversing with God in places as far away as San Cristobal de las Casas and right here at home. I spent much time reading and contemplating what God was revealing to me. I also spent time resting, getting ready to engage God’s challenges in new and exciting ways. This time spent focused on God’s presence and guidance in my life has led me to a recommitment to being God’s hands and feet in the world in whatever opportunities are presented before me. It has led me to understand that God is not done with me, and God is not done with Columbia United Church of Christ. Exciting things are on the horizon for this church if we listen to God’s guidance and give God back the gift God has given us.

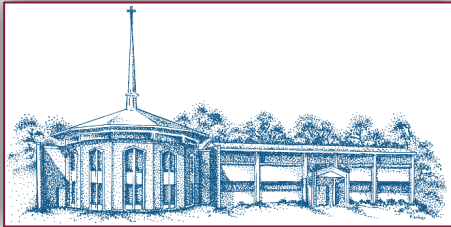
Sabbatical time is important to everyone. All of these lessons and growth came about because I tried to best utilize the gift God gave us, our shared Sabbatical time. Fully utilizing this gift has led me to being a healthier person overall, and it has led me to more fully understand the importance of Sabbath. I would like to encourage everyone to find Sabbath time as they are able, whether it is a three month long Sabbatical or something a bit shorter. Not just a vacation or a “day off,” but true Sabbath; time spent reconnecting with God, with family, and with your own true self. This discipline will benefit every area of your life; but especially your connection with God.

Sabbaticals lead to relational development. The relationship between a pastor and the congregation certainly becomes more effective in the case of Clergy Sabbaticals, but in any professional setting the development of relationships is the key benefit of Sabbatical. As we spend time utilizing God’s gift of Sabbath, we build relationships with God, with each other, and with our own true selves. God is glorified as we build these relationships; and, after all, isn’t that really God’s plan for us?

*I look forward to seeing you all in worship on November 6!
(I will be back in the office, my usual schedule, as of October 31.)*

-Pastor Rick





**COLUMBIA
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

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

[Rev. Rick Oberle](#)

Pastor

[Rev. Dale Parson](#)

Sabbatical Pastor

[Rev. Fred Brandenburg](#)

Pastor Emeritus

[April Rothweiler](#)

Office Administrator

[Brandon Brown](#)

Music Coordinator

[Amy Crousore](#)

Organist/Accompanist

[Erika Maltsbarger](#)

Director, Little One's Day Out

[Raj Tolani](#)

Financial Secretary

[Caleb Berry](#)

Custodian

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 SS – all ages
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**



There are really only three things that need to be said when taking leave of a ministry: “**Farewell!**” – “**Thank You!**” – “**May God’s Blessing Continue with You!**”

As our time together comes to a close, it is important to acknowledge the ending of our relationship. Healthy congregations and pastors are in touch with the importance of healthy transitions. My final Sunday as “Sabbatical Pastor” is October 30. We will express that leave-taking during our worship service. *Adios!*

Further, I am abundantly grateful for this opportunity to serve among Columbia United Church of Christ members, friends, and staff. Thank you, Pastor Rick Oberle, for inviting me to consider this three-month ministry. Thank you church leaders for amazing service, commitment, and vision. Thank you to all in the church for prayers, expressions of support, and presence. *Gracias!*

Finally, may the very blessing of God continue with this special congregation. As you step into the 100th anniversary year, my prayer is that Columbia United Church of Christ will be able to recall the history with joy and thanksgiving, celebrate and re-commit to the future to which God is calling the church. *Vaya Con Dios!*

Grace and Peace to you!

Rev. Dale Parson

Sabbatical Pastor

816 806-0499 (cell)

816 257-2091 (home)

fdparson@sbcglobal.net



As Pastor Dale is taking his leave, I am still saying “**Hello!**” to all of you at Columbia United Church of Christ.

I feel such gratitude for my initial weeks here - for the warm welcome I’ve received, for Rev. Bryan’s theological reflection and guidance, and for Rev. Dale’s mentorship, and of course for Rev. Rick’s welcoming me to intern at CUCC . I left a community and a congregation in Pueblo, Colorado, that had become “home” to me, with people I had grown to love as friends and family.

Leaving a place you love is made easier by landing in a welcoming place with good-hearted people. I can see God at work through the people of this church, in your serving spirits, loving hearts, and faithful stewardship of this congregation and your ministries. Please know how much all of that has made this season of transition easier for me and how grateful I am for it.

My husband John and I have purchased a home in Columbia and are settling in. John just retired this summer. In addition to my studies at Eden Theological Seminary, I have a “day job” that allows me to work from our home.

Serving as a student intern at CUCC is part of my ministry formation. I am so glad to be serving here, among all of you.

Blessings to all of you!

Shelly Adams



MODERATOR'S MOMENT

I have never been able to put my finger on just why October seems to be the busiest month of the year. Shouldn't it be December with all the gatherings of friends and family for the celebration of Christmas? Or perhaps May when the natural world awakens from its winter slumber? Nope, it's always October. With festivals of all manner filling up already crowded calendars, there just doesn't seem to be enough time for it all, and sometimes church can take a back burner or even, dare I say, a hot plate? When we, as a family, can't make it to church due to the October Curse, I just take Pastor Rick's parting sabbatical advice, I pray. I pray for the church and the people in it, that we all weather these difficult economic times with grace and compassion. I pray that those less fortunate will continue to benefit from the ministries that spring forth from our church and surround our community with an open and affirming embrace. And when I'm done praying, I login to Facebook and watch the service online, because now that we have that, there's no excuse to truly miss worship. On that note, thanks to everyone who has taken a piece of cheese, and an extra big thanks to those on the sabbatical team who have each taken on so much cheese. I think I'm going to start calling them "The Big Cheese" collectively to show my respect and admiration at what a fine job they have done keeping everything afloat.



Kurt Heine, Vice Moderator

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 | jilucas@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 |



WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

Music in the Air

Hello CUCC family. Here is a list of upcoming concerts that may be of interest to you and your family:

Tuesday, 11/1 at 7 p.m.
Sankofa Chorale – Inaugural Concert
Sinquefield Music Center
Sheryl Crow Hall

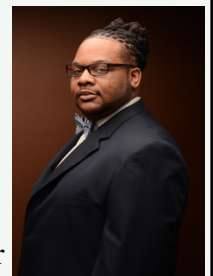
Saturday, 11/5 at 3 p.m.
Concert Chorale Fall Concert
(Brandon Conducting)
First Christian Church

Friday, 12/2 at 7 p.m.
Choral Union with University
Philharmonic Orchestra –
Verdi Requiem
Jesse Hall, ticketed event

Amy will be accompanying Mizzou
Theatre Department presentation of
"The Prom" at Rhynsburger Theatre
7:30 p.m.: Nov. 4, 5, 10-12
2:00 p.m.: Nov. 6, 13
General Admission Tickets \$12-20

Monday, 11/7 at 6:30 p.m.
Outreach Choir
(Brandon Conducting)
Lenoir Woods

Saturday, 12/10 at 5 p.m.
Sing-along Messiah –
CUCC, Civic Orchestra,
and Columbia Chorale
First Baptist Church



Brandon Brown, M.M., Music Coordinator

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 five years, and it's a great time to reflect on the past five years and chart a course for the next 5 years. Gatherings will be held on Nov. 3, Nov. 10, Nov. 17, Dec. 1, and Dec. 8. Want to sign up? Email the [church office](#) or [Jessica Lucas](#).

Jessica Lucas,
Membership & Care Ministry Team Leader



NOVEMBER Birthdays to Celebrate

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| David Martin 11/02 | Lucy Smith 11/02 | Val Schoeneberg 11/03 |
| Megan Schoeneberg 11/04 | Cliff Beckman 11/06 | Patty Beeson 11/06 |
| Brad Boyd Kennedy 11/08 | Emmanuel Kibaro 11/09 | Barry Kirchhoff 11/09 |
| Gus Heine 11/11 | Vernie Blank 11/12 | Lillian Smith 11/14 |
| Luke Wedemeyer 11/15 | Coline Duncan 11/18 | Patty Schroeder 11/18 |
| Landon Muench 11/19 | Mark Wilson 11/19 | Vincent Veteto 11/22 |
| Bryan Crousore 11/23 | James Elliott 11/23 | Karl Skala 11/23 |
| Lloyd Viehland 11/23 | Bonnie Whitmore 11/23 | Mason Jaberg 11/24 |
| Hope Keithahn 11/24 | Esther Kibaro 11/25 | Aubree Touchon 11/25 |
| Erika Maltsbarger 11/27 | Zander Wells 11/27 | Levi Markway 11/27 |
| Dave Forward 11/27 | Alisa Lau-Siekman 11/28 | Shirley Gallaher 11/28 |
| | Ginny Van Hove 11/30 | |

COME JOIN US IN NOVEMBER!

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 November 10.** All women are invited to attend. Come join us for lively discussions during each lesson.

UPCOMING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please mark your calendars for a **Congregational Meeting** right after worship on **SUNDAY**, November 13. We will conduct both our Congregational Planning and Assessment Meeting (Visioning) and our Annual Budget Meeting to approve the CUCC 2023 Budget at that time.

We look forward to **recognizing our Veterans at church on Sunday, Nov. 13** with a breakfast meal. With the increase in members over the last year, we'd love to make sure we have included everyone. Please reply back to the church office email (office@columbiaucc.com) with a name and home address if there is a veteran we should know about. Thanks!



CHURCH COUNCIL

CUCC Council Meeting—October 18, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Kristy Hayward. Kristy opened with a prayer.

Present: Kristy Hayward, Kurt Heine, Brent Marcks, Sue Ann Schaefer, Mike Pierson, Tricia Price, Stefanie Zimny, Lorry Dreier via zoom, Lydia Whitacre, Keith Birkes via zoom, Mark Duncan, Jessica Lucas, Ted Dachroeden, and Alethea Tennill.

Brent Marks discussed Chapters 5 and 6 in the book, “A Bigger Table,” by John Pavlovitz.

Unfinished Business:

- Worship Sanctuary Updates: We are expecting another bid on the improvements to the Sanctuary.
- Sabbatical Team: The team will be looking to have a small event to say good-bye to pastor Dale on October 30 and a welcome back for Pastor Rick on November 6.
- The 100th Anniversary committee: The committee has had one meeting. A second will be October 19.
- Vision Team: Kurt Heine is working on the presentation for November 13.
- Snow Removal: The contract has been signed with Jerome’s company for our snow removal this year.
- New Cleaning Service: Ted Dachroeden is in the process of checking out several leads for a new cleaning service for the church.

New Business:

- Administrative Assistant Position: April has tendered her resignation, effective October 28. The council plans to temporarily fill her position with Mike Pierson until a permanent replacement can be found.
- Security Plan: Please be thinking about ways we need to change or beef up our security plan.
- UCC Conference Annual Meeting: The Missouri Mid-South Conference meeting is Oct. 27 — Oct. 29.

Ministry Team Reports:

- Pastor Report: Pastor Dale Report is attached.
- Building & Grounds: Ted Dachroeden reported that the playground equipment was fixed. There is a part of the parking lot that needs some TLC, which Ted will take care of.
- Fellowship & Hospitality: Stefany Zimny announced that Trunk and Treat has been cancelled. November 13 we will recognize our veterans.
- Finance & Stewardship: Keith Birkes—report submitted. Giving Tuesday will be November 29.
- Inclusion & Affirmation: Tricia Price—report submitted. They NEED more members to join their committee.
- LODO: Lorry Dreier—report submitted and Director’s report submitted.
- Membership & Care: Jessica Lucas — a new directory is in the works. Pictures will occur March 2023. There will be small meetings with Pastor Rick when he returns.
- Nurture & Education: Lydia Whitacre—A nursery supervisor has been hired. They are working on do’s and don’ts of behavior for the nursery.
- Outreach & Advocacy: Mark Duncan—report submitted.
- Worship & Music: Mike Pierson—discussed above.

Jessica Lucas closed the meeting in prayer. Ted Dachroeden made a motion to adjourn. Mark Duncan seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,
Alethea Tennill, Secretary



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

LODO celebrates those who make our ministry wonderful each and every day! We are thankful for our students, staff, families, volunteers, and the CUCC church members who support our program. As a ministry of CUCC, LODO provides an outreach to our entire community that extends into the towns surrounding Columbia. The LODO program provides a loving and intentional learning preschool experience for young children to blossom in all areas of development while also learning of God’s love for all.

Please consider a donation to the LODO program. There are many ways to support the LODO Ministry and invest in the children in our community.

- Purchase an item from our [Amazon Wish List](#) (Updated Frequently). Items can be shipped directly to us.
- Make an online donation via Kindred:
Visit www.columbiaucc.com.
Click donate to CUCC at the top of the page.
Choose LODO as the Fund.
- Donate a gift card to Amazon or Walmart to help with the cost of weekly program supplies.
- Make a cash or check donation.
All cash/check/gift cards should be given to Erika Maltsbarger (LODO Director) for deposit, safe keeping, and allocation of the funds.

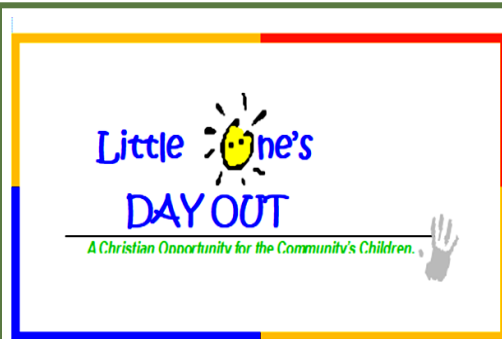


October was full of fun at LODO with school photos by Johnson Photography, Pumpkin Fun Day, and Classroom Halloween Celebrations. We learned about Apples, Pumpkins, Halloween, and the World God Made (Camping/Forest Animals/Nature). Linda Neale provided a music class on October 18 for each of our classes – the students enjoyed having a special guest!

We look forward to a return of our Thanksgiving Feast in November! LODO families and staff will share a meal on Thursday, November 17, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We anticipate great food and fellowship. LODO will be closed November 7 & 8, November 18, and November 23-25.



With love and laughter,
Erika Maltsbarger, Director



up the ball she started rolling and to do what I could to make LODO a reality. I had the privilege of being the first director of Little One’s Day Out.

In the summer of 2002, **Little One’s Day Out** was born. With her clever wit, Carole Barner coined the name and designed this cheery, welcoming logo. As the first director of Christian Education at CUCC, she was inspired to extend the unique ministry Columbia United Church of Christ into the community of Columbia by offering childcare to small children. In actuality, our geographic position brought families from as far West as Pilot Grove and Prairie Home and as far East as Fulton to our church home. At the time, my position at the church was to serve as youth, college, and membership coordinator, and Carole and I worked closely. So as Carole followed God’s call toward new ministry opportunities, God called me to pick up the ball she started rolling and to do what I could to make LODO a reality. I had the privilege of being the

The leadership of CUCC at the time was wise and knew that if this initiative was to be sustainable, it must come through the church as an extension of the church. So the church council approved the LODO Advisory Board be established. The strength and wisdom of the LODO Board is what keeps this ministry viable and in sync with the life of the church. Dozens of congregants have given their time and heart and talents by serving on the Board. But in the first months and years, Darlene Schroeder was instrumental in the solidity of the structure of our program and how LODO relates to CUCC. Before we opened to the public, it was important to me that we have a solid mission statement and policies and procedures, which we did.

In August of 2002, Little One's Day Out began as a part time preschool in operation from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Friday for a tuition of \$16 per day. We opened our doors with fourteen children each day, ages one to four. The teachers were: myself, Elaine Noltie, and Marcy Wedemeyer. We resided in two classrooms, which also served as the nursery classes on Sunday mornings for Sunday school and during worship. We provided hot lunch, which continued for the first few years of our operation. It was important to the LODO Board that the members of the church feel LODO added to the life of the church, and did not take away from it. LODO was a guest in the church. It was also important that we opened with a License-Exempt Status from the State of Missouri Bureau of Child Care, Fire Safety, and Sanitation, which we did.

There are some milestones from our first years of LODO worth mentioning because I believe they paved the way for further expansion and acceptance of the program. As with any new endeavor, there are often several perspectives about how and how far a project should go. In the 1970's, a local playschool used space in the fellowship hall of CUCC for a short time, and there were mixed feelings from members who had experienced that situation. Early on, it was important to the congregation that LODO and the Board be deliberate to ensure that any happenings with the program also benefited the church as a whole, or at the very least, did not detract from it.

Playground Created (August 2002) Under the guidance of CUCC member Deborah Cowell, we applied for and received a grant to establish a playground for LODO. There was great discussion about where this playground would be located. The current location is ideal for convenience and safety, but it completely changed the view of the church as a fenced in play area is the first thing to be noticed upon coming up the hill. It took some careful consideration before this plan was accepted.

LODO Phone (June 2004) LODO applied for a separate, dedicated phone line, 445-2661 and a separate line in the phonebook! Another step toward growth.

Third Classroom Addition (August 2004) LODO expanded from the two classrooms that were already designated for small children to include a third classroom. This room was designed to be the church conference room. It was the first space in the church to be occupied by LODO that initially had a different function.

LODO Plus (September 2005) From the beginning, LODO turned away potential families who needed extended care beyond 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Specifically, parents wanted to have care for their younger children while their school aged children were at school. So LODO Plus began, offering a longer day option, from 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. This change was a bridge from preschool structure to a daycare structure and was entered into with careful thought and discussion.

Lunch moved to fellowship hall (September 2005) To be in compliance with License-exempt status for our increased size, we transitioned from having lunch in our two classrooms to serving lunch in the fellowship hall. This was our first move beyond the Christian Education hallway on a daily basis. This space was used regularly by the quilters and senior luncheon. This shift prompted the Board and congregation to revisit mission and goals and to establish confidence in the decision to grow the ministry. This decision opened the door for more regular use of the fellowship hall for gross motor activities during inclement weather, as well as Tai Chi, which was offered in 2005 - 2006 by Mary Cruise to the preschool II classes once a week for the entire year.

First Playground Expansion (October 2005) This was the first upgrade to commercial grade equipment.

LODOmotion on the web (June 2006) This was the beginning of our presence on the world wide web!! LODOmotion was the title of our monthly newsletter to families that began with the program. We purchased the web address of www.lodomotion.org for \$100 and began our first website that was linked to the CUCC website as it was created shortly after. This is also the time that I began to offer the option of emailing the newsletter to families in addition to, or instead of, a paper copy. In our current digital age, sometimes it's difficult to remember that the internet has only played a role in society for a relatively short time.

LODO Plus Everyday (Sept 2006) Due to popularity, hours expanded 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., five days a week.

LODO Renovation (June 2007) LODO operated with a waitlist from the beginning. But by 2006, the list was over twenty. We decided to expand from 20 to 28 children per day, which required renovations to the educational space. It meant converting the current bathroom between two classrooms to two bathrooms, taking out a shower. Also, all of the flooring in the classrooms was upgraded to vinyl tile, replacing carpet. CUCC had to front the bill for this renovation, and LODO paid the church back. It was a significant validation of CUCC's support of this ministry.

"Little One's Day out is designed to support families in the education and nurture of children in a Christian setting," is the mission statement established in 2002, which is the same mission of the program today. Additionally, the educational philosophy and the principles of child development that guide the program are still the same goals set by the LODO board in August 2002, and all of these are currently on the CUCC website.

Reflecting on the ministry of Little One's Day Out brings such joy to my heart on a personal and spiritual level. My children were among the first to attend LODO. Specifically, my daughter, Anna, was three years old when we opened. The ministry came full circle in my eyes when, as an 18 year old college student, Anna had the opportunity to give back to this ministry and serve as a classroom aide for a year. Needless to say, it is rewarding to be a part of something beautiful and good that lasts. The good people who have been a part of LODO as staff, board members, and parents have carried the spirit of Christian faith, hope, and love from year to year and generation to generation. The ministry of LODO embodies the lesson Jesus teaches, which is to love one another as he has loved us. Bless be this tie that binds us together. Thank you for the honor of telling this story.

Respectfully submitted, Erin (Kespohl) Moore

FELLOWSHIP AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY TEAM

SUNDAY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

Below is the Sunday Volunteer Schedule for November. 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 |
|-------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 11/06 | Jessica Lucas | Charlie Marcks Mike Rapp | Pat Forward | Aidan Pierson | Brent Marcks Dominick Lee | Judi & Doug Privitt |
| 11/13 | Carol Duermeyer | Llona Weiss | Jim Loveless | Trevor Pierson | Mike Pierson Judi Privitt | NEED |
| 11/20 | NEED | Christine Staelens | Audrey Lasley | NEED | Josh Muench Carissa Graves | Stefanie Zimny |
| 11/27 | NEED | NEED | David Meyer | NEED | Matt Lucas Kennedy Lucas | Brent Marcks |

A Season of Change . . .

When I began working at CUCC five years ago, I didn't know the friendships I'd develop and the love I'd feel toward a church I don't even have a membership at. What a blessed surprise this job has been for me! I hope you all know how I care for each and every one of you, and for the direction of this church's future. I'll be eternally grateful for the years of support, kindness, and genuine care I've been given while working for and partnering with this church family. May you be blessed in what's ahead. Although my time working here has come to an end, I look forward to many more years of friendships and partnership.

April Rothweiler



FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

November is here. Thanksgiving is right around the corner. Many of us are thankful for our abundance. Columbia UCC shares some of the abundance that you have shared with the church. The Church thanks you! The people we help thank you!

The church has had to move \$20,000 out of our undesignated investments to meet our monthly expenses. Giving Tuesday is November 29 this year. When you are thinking about to whom to give, consider Columbia UCC. The money we receive that day is going to our shortfall. Please consider giving to the church.

Doug Privitt



TREASURER'S REPORT — Brent Marcks

| Financial Update | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Over/(Under) |
| Sept. Income | \$25,037.07 | \$26,500.00 | (\$1,462.93) |
| YTD Income | \$198,062.58 | \$231,500.00 | (\$33,437.42) |
| Sept. Expenses | \$35,301.79 | \$38,016.49 | (\$2,714.70) |
| YTD Expenses | \$273,947.74 | \$284,164.38 | (\$10,216.64) |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | (\$70,887.11) | (\$47,414.37) | (\$23,472.74) |
| Sept. Attendance | 379 | | |

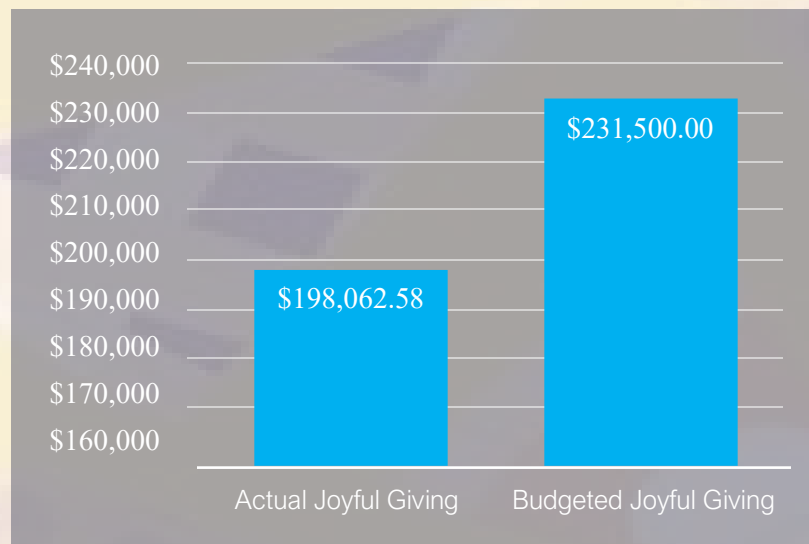
| Date | Attendance | Received | Budget |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 10/02/22 | 83 | \$3,995.00 | \$6,176.31 |
| 10/09/22 | 86 | \$9,923.82 | \$6,176.31 |
| 10/16/22 | 73 | \$8,063.35 | \$6,176.31 |
| 10/23/22 | 66 | \$4,420.00 | \$6,176.31 |
| Total | 308 | \$26,402.17 | \$24,705.24 |

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

CUCC celebrates **Native American Heritage** this November. As with many populations in history, Native Americans have endured persecution and tragedy at the hands of the greedy and powerful. Yet, Native Nations persist and have gained ground, though there is still much that needs to improve.

On the “needs improvement” side of Native American life are the conditions that exist on some reservations. Issues such as substandard housing with no running water or electricity are akin to what can be found in third world countries. Many have poor educational opportunities, inadequate medical facilities, and fewer job options. These lend to higher suicide rates, a much higher rate of diabetes, gang violence, substance abuse, and depression.

Native American women and children are the most abused and trafficked of any population in the U.S. The perpetrators/abusers are often not prosecuted because of complicated tribal vs US laws and jurisdictions.

In upcoming bulletins, we will highlight Native Americans who are taking steps via activism and local and federal government positions to address several of these important issues.

One of the big recent victories for Native Americans (and the environment) has been the cancellation of the Keystone XL Pipeline. This controversial project would have stretched from Alberta Canada through North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas with another arm crossing Missouri into Illinois. It would have disrupted and endangered land held as sacred to several Native American Nations.

Why the concern regarding pipelines? As of 2019, oil and gas pipelines in the US have resulted in the following: 600 injuries, 125 fatalities, 800 fires, 300 explosions, and more than 4 billion dollars in damages with 30,000 people having to be evacuated.

The cancellation of this pipeline was due to a broad coalition of individuals and groups: environmental activists, landowners, ranchers, farmers, and small business owners, as well as Indigenous leaders who saw the project as a threat to their safety, livelihoods, land, and water.



In thankful praise, a quote from Polingysi Qoyawayma, of the Hopi People:

“We do not walk alone. Great Being walks beside us.
Know this and be grateful.”

In peace,
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.

NURTURE AND EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM

WELCOME TO OUR NEW NURSERY SUPERVISOR!



“Hi! My name is Summer Lyons, and I am a sophomore at Mizzou! I am from St. Louis and I’m majoring in Elementary Education and minoring in Human Development and Family Science. I hope to be an early elementary teacher, but I love kids of all ages! I’m so excited to be here at CUCC. Come stop by and say hi!”

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- ◆ Confirmation Sunday on November 27, 2022
- ◆ The Children’s Christmas Program on December 18, 2022
- ◆ Cookies by the Pound on December 11, 2022
- ◆ Christmas Program Rehearsals: Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11, & 18 during Sunday School

Upcoming Sunday School Classes

The Adult Sunday School class will be taught on rotation in November by Barry Kirchoff, Shelly Adams, and Phillip Neale. Click here to check specific Sunday dates: [Fall Adult Classes Schedule](#).

Please join Autumn Lear for a Contemporary Issues class in November titled “Why Believe in the Bible?: Reestablishing Your Faith.” Tricia Price will also be finishing up her book study on “You’ll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey,” by Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar, the first Sunday in November.

Thank you so much to Rev. Dale Parson for teaching both a contemporary issues class and a Bible study unit during his Sabbatical time here!!!

Confirmation Class Substitute Teachers

A big THANK YOU to Judi Privett, Pat Forward, and Lydia Whitacre for serving as substitute teachers for Confirmation during Sabbatical! And another big thank you to all the teacher aides — Lena Muench, Audrey Lasley, and Paula Wilson! We got Confirmation off to a great start after the summer hiatus and kept learning and engagement going strong! We look forward to seeing our Confirmation students finish out their year!

Cookies by the Pound

The Nurture and Education Ministry Team Annual “Cookies by the Pound” fundraiser will be hosted on December 11 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 11, or the week before.
- ◆ Purchase cookies and candies on December 11 (starting at 9 a.m.) for \$8/pound.



Lydia Whitacre
Nurture & Education Ministry Team Chair
lydiaawhitacre@gmail.com
(660) 349-0422

The next N & E Team meeting will be Monday, November 7, at 6:30 p.m.

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY MINISTRY TEAM

Loaves & Fishes

The October 17 meal at L&F consisted of ham & beans (made by Mary Lorber-Solt), cornbread (made by Mary's friend, Val), salad, and assorted desserts. We had several angel food cakes that were donated by HyVee, and brownies and cookies donated by Llona Weiss, Linda Graves, and Carolyn Malicoat. We also provide PBJ's each month for the guests. Servers were Tom & Mary Lorber-Solt, Debby (Mary's sister), Val (Mary's friend), and Doug & Judi Privitt. We served approximately 127 servings. Thank you so much to everyone! Please let [Audrey Lasley](#) know if you are interested in helping to serve or providing food.

Come Serve at the Food Bank

The next Food Bank serve night for CUCC will be on November 29. If you are interested in joining the fun, contact [Mahree Skala](#).

We will again be partnering with VAC for their **Holiday Sponsorship Program**. The names will be available in early November, so be on the lookout for more information in the upcoming Friday emails.

A reminder from **Race Onward** about the new requirements for voter identification.

Here's what's needed:

A Missouri Driver's license, a passport, a military ID or a state issued photo ID from the DMV. *You can get a State Issued Photo ID from the DMV. Contact the state license office for a list of required documents. You can get it free if you ask for a "Nondriver's license photo ID for Voting."*

You will also need to be registered to vote. Call the Boone County Clerk's office 573-886-4375 for help. There will be four amendments on the ballot. Please familiarize yourself with them before the election. There is also a question about Missouri having a constitutional convention. This comes up every twenty years.

Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary Partnership Friend Update

Thank you CUCC members for your continued support, in so many ways, to our Friendship Partner in Education (PIE), Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School (AHL)! Your support and care are amazing! Please continue to enjoy the artwork we received from students at AHL thanking us for helping their school. The artwork is located in the church entryway and in the name tag room.

We have several members who continue to volunteer in the AHL Media Center (Melba, Mahree, Judi). If you are interested in reading to a classroom sometime, please let me know, and/or contact the Assistant Principal, Kelly Icenogle, at the school at 573-214-3200. Be sure to mention that you are a CUCC member.

I attended a breakfast meeting with the CPS Superintendent and the Faith-Based Advisory Committee on October 19. Several other faith entities inquired about PIE after hearing our partnership "story." We may be spotlighted in an upcoming article on the CPS website, after Pastor Rick returns from Sabbatical, and he and I can get together to discuss the opportunity. Thanks to those CUCC members who donated and participated in the various AHL fundraisers. The school and their PTA are so appreciative!




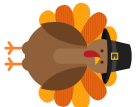
Llona Weiss, Liaison



ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR IN

November



| | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| | | 1 10am Quilters 4:30-7:30pm FH Booked | 2 6pm Confirmation 2022 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers 7pm Confirmation 2023 | 3 | 4 | 5 1pm Girl Scouts Meeting in FH |
| 6 Daylight Savings Time 7:30am Men's Fellowship All Saints Day 9am Sunday School 10am Fellowship 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our CUCC Website | 7 10:30am Staff Meeting CPS & Church Office CLOSED | 8 Election Day 10am Quilters CPS & LODO CLOSED 6:30pm 100th Anniversary Committee Meeting 6:30pm Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team | 9 6pm Prayer Shawl Group 6pm Confirmation 2022 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers 7pm Confirmation 2023 | 10 9:30am Women's Fellowship | 11 Veterans Day  | 12 |
| 13 Veterans Day B-Fast 9am Sunday School 10am Fellowship 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our CUCC Website 11:30am Congregational Mtg | 14 10:30am Staff Meeting 6pm Fellowship Hall booked for Girl Scouts | 15 10am Quilters 5:30pm Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team Meeting 6:30pm Church Council | 16 6pm Confirmation 2022 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers 7pm Confirmation 2023 | 17 6pm LODO Thanksgiving Dinner | 18 CPS & LDOD CLOSED | 19 |
| 20 Testimony Sunday 9am Sunday School 10am Fellowship 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our CUCC Website | 21 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Loaves & Fishes | 22 10am Quilters 5Meeting | 23 CPS & LODO CLOSED 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers 7pm Confirmation | 24 CPS & LODO CLOSED Church Office CLOSED  | 25 CPS & LODO CLOSED | 26 11am Fellowship Hall Reserved |
| 27 Confirmation Sunday 9am Sunday School 10am Fellowship 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our CUCC Website | 28 10:30am Staff Meeting | 29 10am Quilters 6:30pm Membership & Care Ministry Team Mtg | 30 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers | 1 6:30pm Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Team Meeting | 2 | 3 |

THE COMMUNICATOR

Columbia United Church of Christ
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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.



Interested in Church Membership?

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

**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Columbia United Church of Christ Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant

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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.