

# THE COMMUNICATOR

October 2021



“All Hallows Eve”

## From the Pastor’s Keyboard

Did you know that Halloween is actually a Christian holiday?

This may surprise some. There are some extremist Christian denominations that denounce Halloween as a celebration of evil. The anti-Halloween movement started in the 1970s by people such as Jerry Falwell, as fundamentalism grew in power and popularity in the United States. This movement used bias-confirmation tactics to generate false fear and paranoia around the holiday. But the reality is, Halloween is a Christian celebration.

The origins of Halloween go back to Pope Gregory IV. In 835, Pope Gregory designated November 1 as “All Hallows Day” (which we now call “All Saints Day”) and October 31 as “All Hallows Eve.” The Holy Day of Obligation was November 1, when churches were called to honor all the canonized Saints (all Hallows = all Holy), and the day before, All Hallows Eve, became the day of preparation for the Holy Day of Obligation.

To prepare, different communities adopted diverse customs. There were some communities who believed that on All Hallows Eve, the dead rose from their graves to ascend to Heaven on All Hallows Day. So on All Hallows Eve, the living would wear masks to disguise themselves from the dead and to distinguish themselves from the dead. There are other communities who thought one way to honor the Saints was to dress up as their favorite Saint. They would do this on All Hallows Eve, to prepare for All Hallows Day. There are other communities who adopted a tradition of going door to door on All Hallows Eve, begging for food, then bringing that food to church on All Hallows Day to present as alms for the poor. Houses that did not give a treat for the poor often received a trick in retribution.

To round out the festive season, Pope Gregory designated November 2 as All Souls Day. While All Hallows Day (All Saints Day) was designated for Canonized Saints, All Souls Day was for everyone who had died. This created the Christian Hallowtide Triduum; a three-day mini season for remembering the dead. The Hallowtide Triduum followed a familiar formula for religious observances at the time, extending beyond just one day, to three. Often religious holidays began at sundown on day one, continued the second day, and ended at sundown on the third.

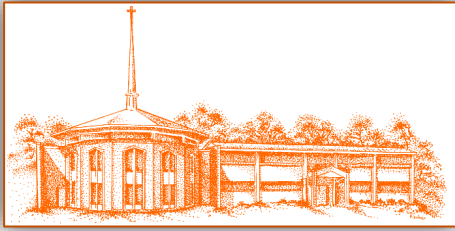
There is an argument about a pagan influence on Halloween, and that is true, but that is true of most Christian holidays, including Christmas and Easter. Pope Gregory did not pick the date for Hallowtide by accident. Samhain was a Celtic Pagan festival celebrating the end of harvest season and the beginning of the season of darkness. Samhain had been celebrated on November 1 for centuries. In the early middle ages, as Christianity was spreading, few people considered themselves “100% Christian.” Many people went to Christian Mass daily, but celebrated Celtic Pagan rituals at home. Both Christian and Pagan holidays were observed culturally. Church leaders such as Pope Gregory IV addressed this issue by overlaying Christian holidays on top of Pagan ones. Christians were forced to give up their Pagan rituals in order to be faithful to their Christian expression of faith. So October 31, November 1, and November 2 were originally Pagan holidays, but Hallowtide was not. Hallowtide replaced them. (This happened with our date for Christmas as well. Christmas replaced the Pagan holiday of Saturnalia, which was originally on that date.)

In our current culture, the Christian origins of Halloween have been eclipsed by the Hollywood spin on it. Very few people dress as Saints any more; but there sure are a lot of cowboys, pirates, clowns, and ninjas. Protestants combined All Saints Day and All Souls Day into one day, celebrating all the Saints on November 1. The holidays have evolved over the years, but their origins are still Christian.

This year, Halloween falls on a Sunday. We have a unique opportunity to really celebrate on Halloween! So I am inviting everyone (if you choose) to dress up for church that Sunday morning as your favorite Saint, Biblical Character, Church History Character, or religious theme. Get creative with it and come to church that Sunday all decked out! A Sunday Halloween is very infrequent; let’s make the most of it and celebrate the Christian origins of Hallowtide!

*(We will also be celebrating All Saints Day on November 7, remembering those who have died this past year. If you have anyone you want added to the remembrance service, please contact the church office.)*

-Pastor Rick



# News and Events

**COLUMBIA  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**  
3201 I-70 DRIVE NW  
COLUMBIA, MO 65202

[Rev. Rick Oberle](#)

Pastor

[Rev. Fred Brandenburg](#)

Pastor Emeritus

[April Rothweiler](#)

Office Administrator

[Amy Crousore](#)

Organist/Accompanist

[Erika Maltsbarger](#)

Director, Little One's Day Out

[Raj Tolani](#)

Financial Secretary

[Jeremy Sturm](#)

Custodian

## Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 Sunday School for all  
ages

10:00 Fellowship Time  
10:30 Worship

**Office Hours:**  
Monday through Friday  
9am- 3pm

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

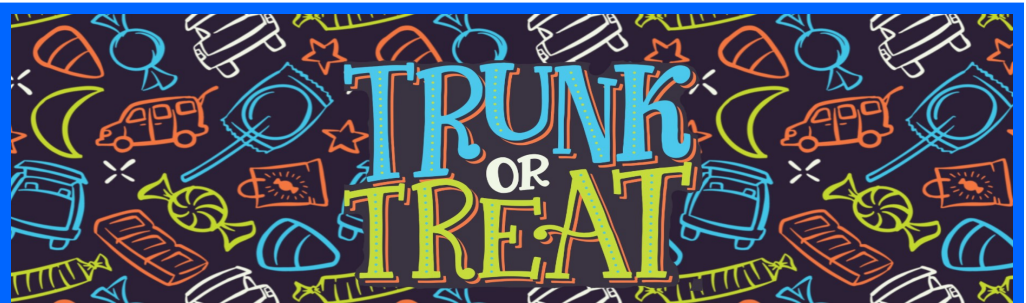
**Email:**  
[office@columbiaucc.com](mailto:office@columbiaucc.com)

**Website:**  
[www.columbiaucc.com](http://www.columbiaucc.com)

## Bring a Friend Sunday is October 3!

We are encouraging members of CUCC, all ages, who will be present at church on Sunday, October 3, to invite a friend or family to join them.

- Who do you know that needs a church home/family?
- Do your children have friends they'd like to invite, maybe the whole family will come along?



Games, Trunk-or-Treating, and Goodies of all sorts!  
Costumes welcome for kiddos of all ages!

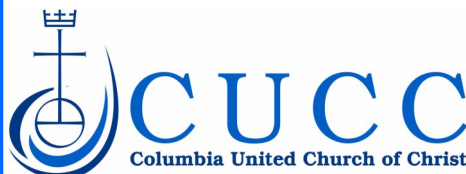
**Saturday October 30**  
1:00-3:00 p.m.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49ADA72FAAF49-trunk>



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49ADA72FAAF49-trunk1>



**An Open and Affirming Congregation**  
3201 I-70 Drive NW, Columbia  
573-445-7931  
[office@columbiaucc.com](mailto:office@columbiaucc.com)





## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

Women's Fellowship will meet on Thursday, October 14, at 9:30 a.m. in the Gathering Area at CUCC. We will continue the Bible Study, "What My Grandmothers Taught Me" learning from the women in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus. It is very interesting, and includes Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, Mary, and more!

A light brunch is provided on a rotation basis. The Women's Fellowship Gathering is open to all women. Join us and invite a friend! If you have any questions, please contact [Linda Evans](#), [Melba Shaffer](#), or [April Rothweiler](#) for more information. Hope to see you in October!

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP PANCAKE BREAKFASTS RETURN

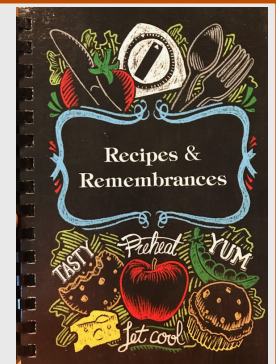
It has been a while since the CUCC men gathered in-person for Breakfast. This month they will meet in person on Sunday, October 17, at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Men will gather for pancakes, sausages, coffee, and juice, while discussing upcoming plans for mission work and ministries. All men of the church are welcome to attend! The meeting is usually finished by 8:30, so you have plenty of time to go to Sunday School or prepare for worship. For more information, or if you have any questions, contact [Doug Privitt](#) or [Brent Marcxs](#).

## Recipes & Remembrances Cookbook

Christmas is just around the corner, and what better gift to give to your loved ones than the CUCC Recipes and Remembrances Cookbook!

You can get yours for \$15 while at Sunday service (just outside of the sanctuary) or through the week by contacting the [Church Office](#) or [Melba Shaffer](#). Proceeds go back into the local community through investment in various organizations. Thank you for helping support your neighbors!



## LUNCH BUNCH—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

Join us for Lunch Bunch on Thursday, October 21! Our guest speaker will be the new Principal at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary, Brian Rehg.

Mr. Rehg will be talking about his plans for this school year (and beyond) and how we can come along-side him and the rest of the staff at AHL through our Partnership Friend program. Come to Lunch Bunch and hear about the AHL students, the future leaders of our community, and how the communities investment (including CUCC) in them can make a brighter future for all!

Bring a dish to share for the community meal or, if you prefer, bring a sack lunch. We gather at noon, and our speaker starts at 12:30. It is always a great time for fun, fellowship, and education! All are welcome!

## CUCC YOUTH ACTIVITIES THIS FALL

There are several great youth activities happening this fall for 6-12 grades. For COVID, supervision, and transportation issues, RSVPs are required for all of them. Be sure to RSVP yes or no for all!

**Monday October 11:** 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. FOOD BANK- (Meet @ Food Bank- 2101 Vandiver Drive) Please be sure to wear closed-toed shoes. Masks ARE REQUIRED by the Food Bank. We will work together to help with whatever's needed. Parents pickup at 7:30. [RSVP](#)

**Sunday October 17:** 11:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. SHYROCK'S CORN MAZE- (Meet in CUCC Fellowship Hall) We will eat lunch at church and then head to Shyrock's Corn Maze for an afternoon of fall fun! Admission will be taken care of by the Nurture/Ed Ministry Team. Depending on interest, we may need additional drivers/adult chaperones. We'll keep you posted! [RSVP](#)

**Saturday October 30:** Time 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. TRUNK-OR-TREAT- (Meet in CUCC Fellowship Hall) Our youth will be helping with all sorts of games and activities! [RSVP](#)

# CHURCH COUNCIL

## CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

The Church Council met on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, with Pastor Rick Oberle, Kristy Odneal, Kurt Heine, Jessica Jenks, Brent Marcks, Linda Neale, Mark Duncan, Trisha Price, Jessica Lucas, and Mike Pierson in attendance.

Brent Marcks gave a summary of Chapter 7 of Piloting Church by Cameron Trimble. The author asked the reader to consider questions that revealed how their upbringing shaped how they view money and handle it. These views and habits may carry over to how they look at the finances of the church. A church itself also has a history of how finances are handled. There are a variety of ways it can increase its income.

- Opening and closing stewards and communion stewards volunteered for the Sundays in October.
- Pastor Rick reported there are two very good candidates for the Music Coordinator position. A second interview will be set up for both.
- Council approved a bid of \$2,663.87 to add additional lighting to the chancel with funds from the Worship & Music Designated Fund. Mike will purchase lighting online. Installation will be completed in house.
- Council approved accepting Pastor Rick's written sabbatical proposal. The proposal includes a timeline, projects, clergy coverage, sabbatical team, and expenses. He and the Council will work to put together a Sabbatical Team.
- Pastor Rick provided a Frequent Guest List update. He anticipated as many as seven new members joining the church on September 26.
- Kristy Odneal presented a draft of the Council Member job description developed at the Council retreat. Additions, clarifications, and corrections were suggested.
- Council approved to accept a bid presented by Pastor Rick of \$1,911.25 from Tiger Security to add remote access security on the south basement door, with funds coming from the Building & Grounds Designated Fund.
- Council approved to accept a bid presented by Pastor Rick from Eskew Mechanical Contractors for \$7,829.75 to replace one A/C unit. Funds will come from the Building & Grounds Designated Funds.
- Brent Marcks presented the revised Financial Policies and Procedures from the Finance & Stewardship Team. Minor changes include change in bank and fund names and minor language changes. The Financial Policies and Procedures will be considered again at the October Council meeting to give Council Members an opportunity to review the document.
- Pastor Rick distributed the Time & Talent sheets to Team representatives. He stressed the importance of contacting people who expressed an interest.
- Congregational Meetings will be the Planning & Assessment Meeting (Vision) on 10/24 and the 2022 Budget meeting on 11/7.
- Brent Marcks reported the church is still about \$30,000 behind in Joyful Giving.
- Mark Duncan reported the Outreach & Advocacy Team is discussing where to designate the \$5,000 special mission funds. One possibility is giving to support Afghan refugees. Another is to support environmental stewardship.
- Next Council Meeting – October 19 at 6:30 p.m.



Jessica Jenks, Secretary

## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

<b>Moderator:</b>	Kristy Odneal	kristyodneal@gmail.com
<b>Vice Moderator:</b>	Kurt Heine	heinekurt@gmail.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jessica Jenks	Jessica.jenks@yahoo.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Sue Ann Schaefer	ssas3307@aol.com
<b>Recording Treasurer:</b>	Brent Marcks	brentmarcks@hotmail.com
<b>Building &amp; Grounds:</b>	John Bullerd	jbullerd51@gmail.com
<b>Fellowship &amp; Hospitality:</b>	Stefanie Zimny	stefanie.zimny@gmail.com
<b>Finance &amp; Stewardship:</b>	George Zimny	gzimny@pbfirm.com
<b>Inclusion &amp; Affirmation:</b>	Tricia Price	tricialprice@gmail.com
<b>Little One's Day Out:</b>	Lorry Dreier	llhd01@gmail.com
<b>Membership &amp; Care:</b>	Jessica Lucas	jucas@cpsk12.org
<b>Nurture &amp; Education:</b>	Linda Neale	lnealej@aol.com
<b>Outreach &amp; Advocacy:</b>	Mark Duncan	markduncan2@mchsi.com
<b>Worship &amp; Music:</b>	Mike Pierson	mpierson@cpsk12.org





## MODERATOR'S MOMENT

It has been an exciting time at CUCC, Falling Back into Church together! Rally Day was a great success and brought a great resurgence of energy to Sunday School and Worship. We have enjoyed getting to know all our guests and are thrilled to welcome new members to the congregation!

Council and Ministry Teams have been working diligently on creating new goals and endeavors to move us into the coming year and beyond. The Vision Team continues to meet and will be excited to present the culmination of the vision work at the Congregational Meeting for Planning and Assessment on October 24. The 2022 budget is also in the works and will be ready to present to the congregation on November 7. Council members will also serve as delegates at upcoming UCC Association and Conference meetings.



Ministry teams are currently reviewing the results of the Time and Talent sheets. It is exciting to see how much interest exists among the congregation to be involved in the activities of the church. This active participation is what allows us to continue to celebrate God's love, support each other, and reach out to all God's people across our community and beyond.

Kristy Odneal, Moderator

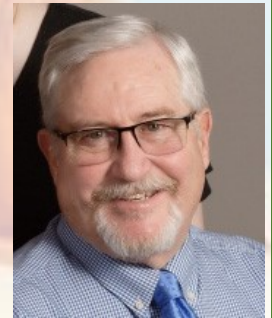


## CLERGY PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING

The Clergy Personnel Committee, consisting of Judi Privitt, Pat Forward, and John Graves met with Pastor Rick on September 13, 2021.

First discussed was the success of Rally Day, which was held on 9/12/21. There was also feedback on the congregation's feelings about the current COVID situation and mask wearing policies of the church. The discussion then turned to wider church settings, specifically, the ongoing situation with MoVal and the conference views concerning it. Under relational issues, Pastor Rick reported on the two new Sunday adult education classes and that they were both well received. He reported on the positive results coming from the church's participation in Pridefest. He also reflected on future expectations with positive thoughts on new membership and growth. Some concerns were with youth and parents in the youth programs of the church and with some ongoing staff issues. Pastor Rick then presented the committee with his preliminary Sabbatical proposal for 2022. There was some discussion and thoughts on how this committee would be involved in its future implementation. He then presented his 2022 salary suggestions which will be given to Council for their budget information and decision. The committee planned their next meeting for December 6, 2021.

Submitted by John Graves



## MEMBERSHIP AND CARE

### We have a place for your talents and passions! Join a CUCC CARES Ministry!

We're still looking for people to join one or more of our CUCC CARES (Compassionate Actions Reward Everyone) Ministries! These are task-oriented, hands-on ministries that provide care for our congregation members in times of celebration and need. They include Note Writers/Cards, Handy Helpers, Visits to Church Members, Bereavement, Flowers, Meals, Shawls, Transportation, and Prayer Ministries.

Sign-up [here](#). If you'd like a paper copy of the sign-up, ask Jolene Kirchoff, Judi Privitt, or Jessica Lucas. Share your love and care through a CUCC CARES Ministry.



Jessica Lucas, Chair

## October Birthdays to Celebrate!

Laura Lentz (10/01)	Ali Schupp (10/01)	Noah Bredehoeft (10/02)
Eric Dreier (10/04)	Gina Pierson (10/05)	Hugo Wilmsmeyer (10/05)
Dean Barry (10/11)	Lindsey Beckmann (10/12)	Grace Evans (10/12)
Jane Duncan (10/13)	Chris Tennill (10/13)	Tez Wells (10/13)
Rebecca Holley (10/14)	Alicia Wilson (10/15)	Ed Kaiser (10/15)
Pete Jaberg (10/16)	Charlie Marcks (10/16)	Connor Kespohl (10/18)
Aaron Beckmann (10/18)	Hannah Wedemeyer (10/18)	McKinzie Arms (10/22)
Norah Schultz (10/22)	Ron Tennill (10/22)	Doug Oncken (10/24)
Caleb Muench (10/25)	Dorothy Vetter (10/25)	Dale Vetter (10/25)
Carissa Graves (10/26)	Mariann Bullerd (10/27)	Brayden Beckmann (10/28)
Jessica Jenks (10/28)	Hazel Keithahn (10/28)	Samantha Schupp (10/30)

Happy Anniversary to Chuck and Sheila Sheller on October 11!

## FELLOWSHIP AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY TEAM

### SUNDAY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Below is the Sunday Volunteer Schedule for October. We need some spots to be filled, and we'd 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 welcome. If you can fill the needed role or a role in the future, please let one of the leaders know. We appreciate you!

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Worship Leaders	Acolyte	Tech Booth	Hospitality
10/03	Carol Duermeyer	Jo Ellen Grace	Pat Forward	NEED	Carissa Graves Brent Marcks	Stefanie Zimny
10/10	Jessica Lucas	NEED	Lena Muench	Danielle Dreier	John Graves Carissa Graves	Brent Marks
10/17	John & Brenda Muench	Jason Schoeneberg	Confirmation Class	Abby Dennis	Judi & Doug Privitt	Audrey Lasley
10/24	Jim Loveless	Don Helmreich	Judi Privitt	Aidan Pierson	Josh Muench James Melton	Judi Privitt
10/31	Tiffany Brookshire Jessica Lucas	NEED	Isaiah Jackson-Post	Trevor Pierson	Mike Pierson Doug Privitt	Mark Duncan

### UPCOMING CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

**Congregational Planning and Assessment Meeting:** October 24 @ 11:30 a.m. – the Vision Team will be presenting our five-year plan for 2021 - 2026, and our Ministry Teams will discuss their implementation of this plan.

**Budget Meeting:** November 7 @ 11:30 a.m. – the Church Council will present the 2022 proposed budget for Congregational Approval. Budget will be distributed on October 20 for Congregational Review.

# LODO MINISTRY TEAM

## LODO NEWS

The LODO Ministry is off to a wonderful start for the 2021-2022 school year! Our students have settled into the routines of preschool and are busy learning! Friendships are blossoming as we learn what it means to make safe choices and be a kind friend to others. We will review green/safe choices throughout the year to give students a foundation of positive school behavior.

We need many CUCC volunteers to help during our Pumpkin Fun Day on Friday October 15 between 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Assistance is needed to help run the game/activity stations. LODO staff will be responsible for student supervision. If you are able to help out, please contact [Erika](#) as soon as possible.

### Important LODO Dates:

Mon 10/4 – LODO CLOSED

Tue 10/5 & Wed 10/6 – School Photos by Johnson Photography

Fri 10/15 – Pumpkin Fun Day 9:30-11:30am (CUCC North Hill/Shelter House)

Tue 10/26 & Wed 10/27 - Classroom Halloween Celebrations

Thu 10/28 & Fri 10/29 – LODO CLOSED

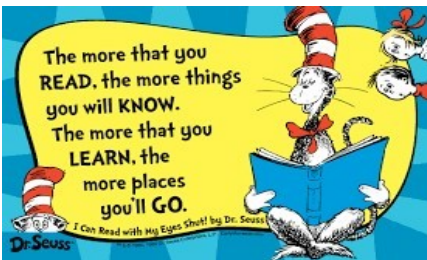


With Love and Laughter,  
Erika Maltsbarger, Director



### October Themes

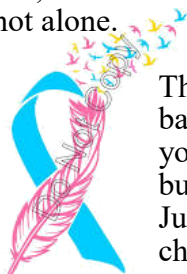
Creation  
Apples  
Pumpkins  
The World God Made  
(Camping/Forest Animals/Nature)  
Halloween



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.

### October is National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month.

Did you know that one in four women experience pregnancy or infant loss? For too long, this subject has been avoided, because of shame, guilt, or not knowing how to approach someone whose suffered such a loss. The truth is, we need to talk about it. It is a reality that many women have experienced, and they need to know they are not alone.



The mental toll can last for months or years, even after many have their “rainbow babies” (the birth of a child after a miscarriage or stillbirth), symbolizing renewal and hope. If you know someone who has lost a baby, you can be a support system for them as they heal, but never forget. It’s okay if you don’t know what to say, you cannot take away their pain. Just sit with them and let them know you are there and that you care. Provide some meals and check in with them. Ask them how they are feeling. They will never forget your kindness.



# INCLUSION AND AFFIRMATION MINISTRY TEAM

I love fall. It is the gateway season to cooler weather, pumpkins, and holidays. Fall is also when we observe Down Syndrome Awareness, specifically in October. I would prefer to say it is the month we celebrate those with Down Syndrome, along with their families. As with all families, there are struggles, but also infinite joys. Some thoughtful quotes below:

WE WELCOME  
EVERYONE



“Cherish the children marching to the beat of their own music. They play the most beautiful heart songs.”  
Fiona Goldsworthy

“There needs to be a lot more emphasis on what a child can do instead of what they cannot do.”  
Temple Grandin

“Bless those who see life through a different window, and those who understand their view.”  
Unknown

We at CUCC celebrate all God’s diverse creation!

This ministry has several goals for the church calendar year. Many of them are continuations from 2020, as movement was hampered by the pandemic. Here are a few of those goals: we want to host more inclusive community events both within our church body, as well as with the public (as COVID precautions allow); we want to make inclusion initiatives part of the essential identity of the church; and we would like to explore the possibility of having an “Adult Day Out” as respite for caregivers of special needs adults.

If anyone in the congregation has suggestions for implementation, wishes to participate, has topics that are close to your heart to suggest, or would like to know more, please contact any of our team members: Isaiah Jackson Post, Peter Jaberg, Edie Diel, Pastor Rick, Steve Keithahn, [Alisa Lau-Sieckman](#), or [Tricia Price](#) (chair).

A scripture to ponder: 2 Corinthians 13:11  
“Finally, brethren, rejoice, be made complete, be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”

In peace and Joy,  
Alisa Lau-Sieckman, Member  
Tricia Price, Chair



## 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.



## INCLUSIVE THEOLOGICAL EXPRESSION THROUGH GRAPHIC ARTS

Have you ever looked at a reproduction of the classic painting of “The Last Supper” by Leonardo da Vinci and wondered where the Bible says that Jesus and his friends were all white Italians? Most people do not think about it, and take the painting at face value. When the artists of the Renaissance, most of whom were white Europeans, interpreted their faith through art, they painted through their white lenses. There is nothing wrong with that, but just as we are diverse in our identity as God’s Children, there is a diversity of artistic theological expression, as well. One of the programs of the Inclusion and Affirmation Ministry Team is to bring that diversity of expression to Columbia United Church of Christ so that our artwork may more fully represent our inclusive identity. We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, and our artwork should reflect that identity.

To that end, one of our projects was to commission Lisa Jaberg to come up with three paintings capturing our identity as an Inclusive Congregation. After discussion with her last May, she came up with three project ideas which amazed our team. We gave her the green light to go ahead, and she spent this summer working on the projects, which you see represented below. These were presented as a gift to the congregation in worship on August 22, when we celebrated our Time and Talents.

These will hang in the Gathering Space for all to see and appreciate our identity as an Open and Affirming Congregation, celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with all who gather in our midst.

### **Inclusion and Diversity Art** — *created by Lisa N. (Koch) Jaberg*

The art consists of three acrylic paintings, 36"x48" on canvas, at the request of the Columbia United Church of Christ Inclusion and Affirmation Ministry Team. The goal of the requested art was to convey CUCC's commitment as an Open and Affirming congregation. I hoped to capture the spirit of community, growth, transformation, and rebirth. The stained glass in the paintings are intended to represent the traditions and majesty of the church. The window theme invites the viewer to either "look in" or "look out."



#### **'Community'** **[Hands interlocking]**

The interlocking hands and arms represent unity in Christ, across diverse peoples, demonstrating our commitment to welcoming all.



#### **'Joy'** [Flowers and butterflies]

The iconic UCC "still speaking" symbol is featured alongside images of birth, growth and transformation. The painting is a celebration of the joy that comes with life.



#### **'At the Foot of the Cross'** **[Tree and Pride Flag]**

Although the fall season can represent harvest and death, the tree represents the cross and the promise of new life that comes with the changing of the seasons. The painting was intended to capture the feeling of solemn worship.

## FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

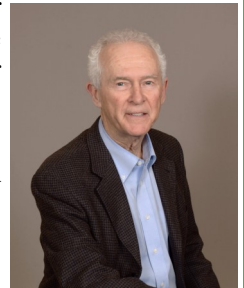
The last several weeks, our members and friends have been completing and returning time and talent sheets. The sheets allow everyone who is part of our church community to indicate ways they can serve our church with their time, skills, and enthusiasm. If you have not returned a sheet and need a form, please let April in the church office know and she will make one available to you. Your active participation is essential, and there is a ministry team or service that everyone can select, and CUCC will benefit.

Church finances are an important part of this Ministry Team's responsibility and an essential part of virtually all that occurs at CUCC. The last year and a half has been challenging because of the pandemic which has altered normal giving patterns and practices. Our congregation has always been generous, and we virtually always end our fiscal year with adequate funds to accomplish our goals. At the end of August, we were behind in our joyful giving, but I know our congregation will fulfill its commitment, and our important goals and objectives will be met in the months to come.

Some projects related to our church property you should notice this fall are the resealing of our parking lot and replacement of several of our air conditioning units. While not exciting, these are essential infrastructure improvements and will allow the continuing comfortable use of our church building and parking lot.

The Finance and Stewardship Ministry Team thanks you for your generous support of time, talent, and treasure. Everyone does their share, and we are very grateful. Thank you very much!!

Keith Birkes



### TIME AND TALENT SHEETS

On August 22, we celebrated our Time and Talents in worship at CUCC. Members of our Ministry Teams came forward and talked about the work they are doing, presenting examples and inspiring gifts of service. Part of that worship time was an appeal to the congregation to look for ways that you may be interested in serving on a Ministry Team or other area of service. At Children's Time, Pastor Rick showed a "CUCC Puzzle" and talked about how each of us is a piece of that puzzle. It is not complete unless all the pieces are there.

Where would you like to serve? Music & Worship? Building & Grounds? Fellowship & Hospitality? Nurture & Education? Each of these teams and the tasks associated with them are part of the puzzle that is CUCC. You are an integral part of that puzzle.

Have you filled out your Time & Talent Sheet yet? You can get one by [emailing April](#) in the church office. We encourage you to fill it out and figure out how you can be part of the ministries of this community of faith!

### PARKING LOT PROJECT TO COME FROM INVESTMENT FUND

Have you noticed the wear on our parking lot at CUCC? It is time to repair cracks and seal the whole lot. At the last Church Council Meeting, we approved a bid from Christensen Construction Company to do just that. The cost will be just over \$15,000. We plan to do this project October 28 & 29.

We also have 17 HVAC units that are 22 years old. Several of them are falling into disrepair, and it is getting harder to maintain them. The Building and Grounds Ministry Team is working on a plan to replace two of these each year, at an approximate cost of \$10,000 each. We will start with the first two this fall.

Where is the money coming from for these projects? Out of our Building & Grounds Designated Fund, one of our investments with United Church Funds. We currently have \$113,000+ in this investment account, but with \$170,000 in HVAC units needing replacement in the years to come, this fund could be depleted quite quickly. When an HVAC unit goes out, the need for replacement is urgent. We hope to increase the balance of this fund in the next year, so we can have funds ready for emergency situations. Currently, three percent of our Joyful Giving is put in this fund every month to help increase its value.

If you would like to contribute to the Building and Grounds Designated Fund to make ministry happen at CUCC, talk to [Sue Ann Schaefer](#), [Brent Mareks](#), or [Kristy Odneal](#)! Many projects are coming up and we need you to help make them happen!





## TREASURER'S REPORT

Brent Marcks, *Treasurer*

### Financial Update

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)
August Income	\$22,788.38	\$23,223.11	(\$434.73)
YTD Income	\$215,083.75	\$216,783.09	(\$1699.34)
August Expenses	\$30,388.94	\$27,818.07	\$2520.87
YTD Expenses	\$220,366.61	\$228,407.74	(\$8041.13)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$5282.86)	(\$11,624.65)	\$6341.79
Aug. Attendance	251		

Date	Attendance	Received	Budget
09/05/21	101	\$4,973.00	\$7,787.79
09/12/21	80	\$5,336.00	\$7,787.79
09/19/21	126	\$10,696.96	\$7,787.79
09/26/21	47	\$2,475.00	\$7,787.79
<b>Total</b>	354	\$23,480.96	\$31,151.16

As of 9/26/2021 we are **\$36,543.75** *behind* in Joyful Giving for 2021.

### CUCC HAS 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](http://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.

#### **Christian Stewardship:**

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

  
**Together we give.**  
 Nov 30, 2021  
**GIVING TUESDAY**

### DESIGNATED FUNDS AT CUCC

Did you know there are Ten Designated Funds at Columbia United Church of Christ? Each of these funds was created to enhance our ministry programs, reaching out to the community to share God's Love. Several of these funds are invested with United Church Funds, and have shown tremendous growth in 2021. All of these funds are open to contributions and are great places for stock donations or to be the recipients of estate planning.

**Building and Grounds Fund:** Invested with United Church Funds. This fund is the source for Building Improvements and repair. Replacement of our HVAC units will come from this fund.

**Scholarship Fund:** Invested with United Church Funds, provides \$1,000 college scholarships to CUCC members.

**Transportation Fund:** Invested with United Church Funds, enables our transportation/van ministry.

**Chiapas Mission/Mayan Ministries Fund:** Works to enable our mission with our ministry partners in Chiapas.

**Memorial Fund:** Receives donations in memory of friends who have died, for ministry programs of CUCC.

**Nurture & Education Ministry Fund:** Pays 1/2 camp fees for our youth to attend Camp MoVal.

**Outreach & Advocacy Fund:** A "fund of funds," this is the pass-thru fund for our monthly mission work.

**Worship & Music Ministry Fund:** Enables worship upgrades, such as our new sound system and Livestreaming.

**Young Adult/Campus Ministry Fund:** Provides ministry opportunities for CUCC Young Adults.

**Youth Ministry Fund:** Used for mission trips and other opportunities to enhance our ministry with our youth.

All of these funds are open to donations. To donate, talk to [Sue Ann Schaffer](#) or [Brent Marcks](#).

# OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY MINISTRY TEAM

## LOAVES & FISHES

The September 20 meal at L&F consisted of spaghetti, green beans, salad (provided by Patty Beeson), and brownies. The spaghetti and green beans were leftover from VBS, and the brownies were left over from the Rally Day luncheon. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches were provided by Jessica Jenks. Servers for the evening were Patty Beeson, Muko (one of Patty's students), Judi Privitt, Anne Heine, Keith Birkes, and Tiffany Brookshire. We handed out approximately 120 first and second servings. Thank you to everyone for your hard work!

## JOIN THE FUN AT THE FOOD BANK!

The Central Missouri Food Bank provides food to over 100,000 people every month in 38 Missouri counties. They do this through unique partnerships with food pantries all across the region. They rely on volunteer labor to do their work, and CUCC has committed to helping the fourth Tuesday of each month. Our next serve date is October 26. To volunteer, talk to [Mahree Skala](#) or [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up. See you at the Food Bank on October 26!

## COUNCIL FOR AMERICAN INDIAN MINISTRIES

The [Council for American Indian Ministry \(CAIM\)](#) is the voice for American Indian people in the UCC. CAIM provides Christian ministry and witness to American Indians and to the wider church. Justice issues that affect American Indian life are communicated to the whole UCC by CAIM. CAIM is funded in large part by donations to Neighbors In Need, our October 3 special offering.

*Neighbors  
in Need*

Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

We will be taking up an offering on October 3 in support of NIN. This year's theme is "Unfailing Love." Please give generously!

## HELP FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

As an end finally comes to 20 years of war in Afghanistan, an estimated 75,000 Afghan refugees are coming to the United States to rebuild their lives. They are fleeing retribution or persecution from the Taliban and have one goal in mind: to live in safety. It is within our power to help them achieve this goal.

[The United Church of Christ](#) and [Church World Service](#) are both very active in helping Afghan refugees who are migrating to the US. If you would like to contribute to their efforts, click on the blue links above! Both agencies are very low overhead, and the money donated goes directly to the cause.

The Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team is looking at how we can be a help here in Columbia. We have been looking at the work done by [Catholic Charities](#) and [City of Refuge](#) to aid in the Afghan situation. Both are working to address the basic needs of these refugees, including food, clothing, shelter, and household items, as well as navigating the complex paperwork involved.

For more information about what we can do here in Columbia to welcome these refugees, talk to [Mark Duncan](#).

**GIVING TUESDAY**

Give Life, Give Hope

 **CoMoGives.com**

*Human Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of people through force, fraud, or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit.* The STOP Human Trafficking Coalition of Central MO (CMSHTC) has been working in the local and surrounding communities, combatting Human Trafficking, for over a decade. Visit our [Facebook page](#) to see upcoming meetings, events, and information.

[Giving Tuesday](#) and [CoMo Gives](#) are right around the corner. CMSHTC has been awarded tax credits from the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). Tax credits are worth 50% of your gift, in addition to standard state and federal deductions. The higher the income tax bracket, the lower the final cost of the gift to you, our donor. NAP credits are available to anyone who pays taxes on business income. If you haven't decided who to give to this year, please consider us!

**STOP  
HUMAN TRAFFICKING**  
COALITION OF CENTRAL MISSOURI



## CUCC—AHL Partnership Friend

As Partnership Friends, Columbia United Church of Christ (CUCC) and Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School (AHL) held our first meeting together this public school year on September 7, 2021 at AHL School. Pastor Rick and Llona Weiss attended as CUCC Liaisons and representing the Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team, as well as the new Principal, Brian Rehg, Assistant Principal Kelly Isenogle, Home School Communicator Natasha Johnson, and CPS Community Relations Specialist Molly Delgado. AHL's 2021-2022 Goals relate to welcoming new students and families, supporting new teachers, along with specific goals for their school building relating to student proficiency, problem solving, and student support.

It was agreed that our CUCC-AHL Partnership meetings will occur every other month, with our next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at AHL. In future CUCC Communicators you will see bios of AHL staff to help CUCC members get to know and feel a relationship with AHL folks. Principal Rehg was also invited to speak to CUCC's Lunch Bunch at a future gathering.

One of AHL's teachers, Ashley Wegner, was killed in an accident at the end of last school year, and we discussed the possibility of CUCC donating a book or books that were her favorite to read to her students or children as a memorial.

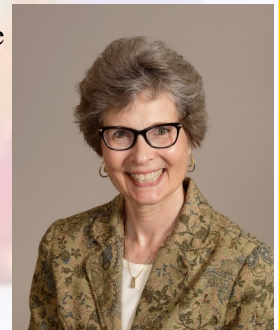
We also discussed upcoming dates where opportunities occur for CUCC to support AHL, and for AHL to support CUCC. Some of those included "dine to donate" events where CUCC members could participate by buying meals at locations working with AHL to provide a percentage of the sales funds to AHL. (AHL will send us flyers.) AHL is also having a "Trunk or Treat" event on October 27 where CUCC could provide some non-perishable foods to help feed the students and their families, and CUCC invited AHL to come to CUCC and participate in our "Trunk or Treat" at CUCC on October 30. There may also be future opportunities for CUCC to assist AHL with their volunteer work in their neighborhoods with clean-ups, community gardens, block parties, etc. to continue building trust relationships, and where AHL could assist CUCC with the ecumenical "Festival of Sharing" and/or "CROP Walk."

Lastly, CUCC was invited as a partner to attend AHL's PTA meetings with the next PTA meeting scheduled for September 28 at 6:00pm via Zoom.

Ms. Delgado, from CPS Administration, stated that in order for CUCC to volunteer and participate with AHL functions, we would need a pre-arranged "invitation" from AHL, where there is always at least one CPS employee present. This change was made from last year's requirement for completion of volunteer forms and background checks because of the change in laws.

AHL is so thankful for our Partnership with them, and we are really looking forward to this ministry together in 2020-2021!

Llona Weiss,  
Liaison for CUCC with AHL Partnership



# KINDNESS

*is the* COOLEST

# Costume

### DINE TO DONATE FOR ALPHA HART

Would you like to have a nice dinner out, and help our Partnership Friend School in the process? Several local restaurants have teamed up with Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary to donate a portion of their proceeds on given days through the "Dine to Donate" program. Here are a few upcoming opportunities:

**October 19:** Wendy's – 3001 Clark Lane location only  
They will donate 30% of all total sales to Alpha Hart Lewis.

**November 16:** Shakespeare's – any location;  
They will donate 15% of all total sales. Gift cards included!

**December 7:** Freddy's – 100 Brickton Road location only (off Conley Road)  
They will donate 15% of all total sales to AHL.

## NURTURE AND EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM



### Meet Amanda—Serving the CUCC Nursery on Sundays!

Hi, my name is Amanda Dwyer, and you can find me in the CUCC nursery on Sunday mornings! I have a bachelors degree in Early Childhood Education and currently work as a daycare teacher at Mary Lee Johnston. I am also a professional photographer, so if anyone needs any photos, I am your girl! I am recently married and I have one dog named Linus who is a Boston Terrier. I love meeting new people and making connections, so stop by anytime to have a chat!

We will be starting up the CUCC Prayer Group again on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. in the Church library (Adult Sunday School classroom upstairs). If you are interested in joining, please contact [Donna Marsh](#) at 573-881-4740.

### Living Your Strengths – A Clifton Strengths Program

“Churches in the US are experiencing a power shortage, as people are not harnessing the power of their innate gifts” say the directors of the Clifton Strengths program. “But it does not have to be this way. Living Your Strengths shows all members of a congregation how to use their innate gifts to enrich their congregations– right now. It teaches you how to identify and affirm your talents and how to use them for growth and service.”

What are your strengths? Connectedness? Individualization? Strategic? Responsibility? Belief? Or another assortment of 34 Signature Themes? How can you use these strengths to enhance the church, and your life in general?

For 10 weeks this fall, Clifton Strengths Certified Coach [James Melton](#) will lead members of CUCC on an assessment of their Clifton Strengths (Signature Themes) and discuss how they all connect together as parts of Christ’s body. Join us each Sunday at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall!

### Confirmation

Confirmation Class (9<sup>th</sup> graders) resumed on August 23, 2021. They will be meeting the first three Mondays of each month and will be confirmed on November 28. They are currently working on their testimonies, which they will present in worship on November 21.

### Confirmation

The 2022 Confirmation Class (8<sup>th</sup> graders) begins on Wednesday, October 6, 2021. We have an exciting group of youth beginning this program! They will be confirmed on November 27, 2022. Keep them in your prayers as they journey through Confirmation!

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

### JUSTICE AND PEACE

*by Connie Loveless, Banner Team member*

Diversity, unity, and personal responsibility! You have probably noticed the new banner in our Sanctuary. If not, please take a moment to check it out as we begin an uplifting new season at CUCC. The design for the banner arose out of Pastor Rick’s challenge in January to members of the worship team to come up with a new banner which would honor the vision of Martin Luther King, Jr.

To respond to the challenge, we attempted to come up with an idea that would speak to Dr. King’s words, such as “Now is the time to make **justice** a reality to all of God’s children.” We looked for an image showing a diverse group of individuals raising their hands to volunteer to help build a just & peaceful world.

Each Sunday as we conclude our services, we sing “Let there be Peace on Earth and Let It Begin with Me.” We hope that this banner gives enhanced meaning to the words of that song as we sing it together once again — in perfect harmony!





# Festival of Sharing 2021 Quilt Auction



**NOVEMBER 7 - NOVEMBER 13, 2021**

The quilt auction proceeds benefit the Church World Service Blankets Program which helps people rebuild after disasters.

## **2021 Online Quilt Auction**

Join us Sunday, November 7th - Saturday, November 13th, 2021 for an online auction. Quilt photos, details, and bidding directions will be accessible from our quilt auction webpage one month prior to bidding going live at [www.festivalofsharing.org/quilts](http://www.festivalofsharing.org/quilts).

Send quilt donations to the Festival address (below) before August 20, 2021.

**We accept checks and major credit cards.**



3601 Amron Court  
Columbia, MO 65202

(573) 474-3332  
[festival@socket.net](mailto:festival@socket.net)





## CUCC IS WORKING IN THE DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo)

The Church of Christ of the Congo (ECC) is the Protestant ecumenical church organization in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Many congregations in the DRC are located in communities that face many socio-economic problems. They cope with the effects of brutal colonial government, civil war, malicious interference by other countries and systemic corruption, all of which have negatively impacted health care, education, and other development programs. The formation of microcredit and savings projects among member churches have been a source of hope. Church Women have rallied during COVID to produce masks and other PPE for essential workers. They have also distributed soap to communities in need to help combat COVID-19 through proper hygiene. Through the ECC, church women have helped the communities stay healthy and ECC initiatives have helped women in the sewing programs generate an income.

The Church of Christ of the Congo (ECC) is a Global Missions Partner of Columbia United Church of Christ through Global Ministries, our shared mission agency with the Christian Church/Disciples of Christ. Global Ministries provides foundational support for these organizations, and support for their ongoing efforts.

**In October, please keep these UCC/DOC Global Ministries missionaries in your prayers:**

**October 3-9**  
**Jeffrey Mensendiek**  
**Working in Japan**



**October 10-16**  
**Leda Zakarison**  
**Working in Lebanon**



**October 17-23**  
**Bryan Parrish**  
**Working in DRC**



**October 24-30**  
**Maria Bakalian**  
**In Lebanon**



## HONORING Rev. JIM ELLIOTT– 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION

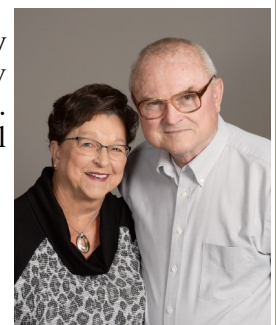
Jim Elliott was born in Aurora, IL on November 23, 1936. His family included one older sister and his parents. Three older siblings died before Jim was born. Jim grew up on several different farms in Northern Illinois during World War II and the Korean Conflict eras. These farms consisted of grain, hay, and livestock.

Jim attended Aurora College (now Aurora University) with the goal of becoming a mechanical engineer. Jim did not have much exposure to faith growing up, but in college his friends kept bugging him to attend the college church with them on Sunday mornings. He finally agreed. After two years of pre-engineering studies, Jim felt a call to ministry. Jim's mother discussed Jim's call with her Aunt Bessie. Bessie's advice helped Jim accept his call. He was baptized, and switched majors to sociology and theology, earning a BA in sociology and a BTh in 1959.

On December 22, 1957, Jim married Lila Ricketts. They were married for 51 years, until she died of cancer in 2008. They had four children; Mark, Jeff, Kathy, and Julie, nine grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. In 2012, Jim married Sharon Meyer, and is thrilled to include her three daughters; Kristine, Daneen, and Angela, and two granddaughters in his family.

After graduation from Aurora College, Jim enrolled in Evangelical Theological Seminary (ETS, now Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary) in Naperville, IL. He received his MDiv degree from ETS in June, 1961. He has served eight churches since ordination, including, St. Paul's UCC in Minonk, IL (9 years), St. Paul UCC in Hermann, MO (28 years), Immanuel UCC in New Franklin, MO (2 years), and St. John's UCC in Billingsville, MO (8 years).

*We will be celebrating Jim's 60th anniversary at CUCC in worship on October 10, with a light luncheon afterward. Jim's family will be joining us, as well as a few guests honoring Jim. We hope you can make it, too!*





**ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR IN OCTOBER**

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our <a href="#">CUCC Website</a>	4 LODO/CPS CLOSED	5 WORLD TEACHERS DAY 10am Quilters LODO Picture Day 6:30pm Outreach & Advocacy Ministry	6 LODO Picture Day 6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Chapel Ringers 7:30pm Choir	7 6pm CUCC Young Adults	8 Church Office Closed—April gone	9
10 CELEBRATION FOR REV. JIM ELLIOTT 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our <a href="#">CUCC Website</a>	11 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE DAY 5:30pm Youth to work @ Food Bank	12 10am Quilters	13 6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Chapel Ringers 7:30pm Choir	14 9:30am Women's Fellowship	15 BOSS'S DAY LODO Pumpkin Patch 	16
17 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our <a href="#">CUCC Website</a> 12pm Youth @ Shryocks	18 6pm Confirmation 7:30pm Membership & Care Ministry Team Mtg	19 EVALUATE YOUR LIFE DAY <i>(Reflect on your life and make positive changes)</i> 10am Quilters 6:30pm Church Council	20 10am Pastor Rick @ The Bluffs Communicator Articles Deadline 6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Chapel Ringers 7:30pm Choir	21 12noon Lunch Bunch, Alpha Hart Principal to speak	22	23 MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY Neighbors helping Neighbors
24 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our <a href="#">CUCC Website</a> 12pm Vision Team/ Congregational Meeting	25	26 10am Quilters 5:30pm Food Bank	27 6:30pm Chapel Ringers 7:30pm Choir	28	29 LODO/CPS CLOSED	30 TRUNK OR TREAT 1-3PM @ CUCC

# THE COMMUNICATOR

Columbia United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Congregation- ONA #1575  
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Columbia, MO 65202-3296  
573-445-7931

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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](mailto:rick@columbiaucc.com)

**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

**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.