

THE COMMUNICATOR

September 2022



From the Pastor's Keyboard

“Bounce Back to Fall – Fall Back Into Church”

There is a palpable buzz in the air! Area schools are back in session. Universities and colleges have resumed fall classes. Here at Columbia United Church of Christ, the staff of LODO (“Little Ones Day Out”) will welcome their preschool youngsters back to the program. That can only mean one thing: It is also time for Rally Day at the church! The weather is also cooperating, giving us a taste of the fall season.

Sunday, September 11, is the date. The theme is “Bounce Back to Fall - Fall Back Into Church!” We shall begin with Sunday School for all ages at 9:00 a.m. (This includes two options for adult classes—bible study and a contemporary issues class.) Worship will be at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be at noon – provided by the Fellowship and Hospitality Team.

Children entering the 3rd grade will receive their Bibles during worship. During the Rally Day events, there will be activities and moments for celebration for all to share.

It would be great to have YOU join in person on Rally Day! If you cannot, please worship with us online at columbiaucc.com

Hopefully, your summer has been a time for some rest, renewal, and recreation. Perhaps you are planning a few more summer-styled events and travel. It is always good to get away from routines and tasks to enjoy God’s creation and the company of loved ones.

But there is something about fall that beckons us back to church and to re-discover the call to discipleship and service. Many of us need to recharge our “spiritual batteries” and engage in practices that keep us spiritually fit – ready to use our gifts and lives in Christian service as we seek to build God’s beloved community.

Rally Day is, of course, an invitation to re-commit to the life of faith through involvement in the church. You are welcome here – “no matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome.” You belong. You are valued. You are needed.

During Pastor Rick’s sabbatical leave, church leaders are working faithfully and tirelessly to keep the ministries of the church moving forward. As Sabbatical Pastor I am here two days a week. I try to keep up with the energy, commitment, and vision that is part of our common life. It is an honor to serve with you during this creative and adaptive time!

To that end, let me remind you that I am typically in the office following Sunday worship and all day Monday. This schedule does allow for some time to meet with folks about whatever. You may contact me by phone (816) 806-0499 or e-mail fdparson@sbcglobal.net.

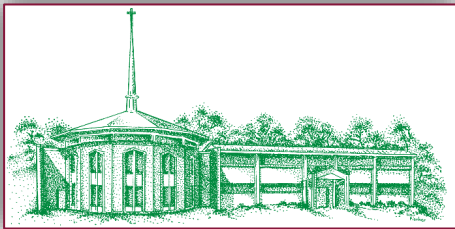
Your daily prayers for all in the church, including Pastor Rick and family, will be most appreciated.

Blessings and Peace to you in this fall season! “Bounce Back to Church” and more fully receive God’s blessing.



Blessings and Peace.
Rev. Dale Parson
Sabbatical Pastor
816 806-0499 (cell)
816 257-2091 (home)
fdparson@sbcglobal.net





On the Calendar in SEPTEMBER

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 Maltzberger](#)

Director, Little One's Day Out

[Raj Tolani](#)

Financial Secretary

[Caleb Berry](#)

Custodian

**Fall/Winter Worship
Schedule Returns**

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



COME JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER!

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

There will be time for lively discussions during each lesson. 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 first gathering is September 8.* All women are invited to attend.

As of now, we do not have anyone who has expressed an interest in leading the **Lunch Bunch Fellowship Group**. The group usually meets the fourth Thursday of the month at noon for a carry-in meal and a guest speaker. If you are interested in taking on the logistics of this monthly Fellowship Group, please contact [April in the Church Office](#) or phone, at 573-445-7931.



back to Sunday School on Rally Day!

Rally Day is September 11. We will “Bounce” back to Sunday School for all ages at 9 a.m. and “Fall” back into worship service at 10:30 a.m. You’ll want to be sure to come (and invite some friends) as there will be lots of fun following Church service:

- ⇒ A Bounce House
- ⇒ Food and Fellowship—more specifically, a Fish & Chicken Fry

SAVE THE DATE – PRIDEFEST



Pridefest in Columbia will be September 24 this year, and CUCC has a booth! We will be handing out CUCC pop sockets, candy, and other information about our church to Pridefest attendees. We have a message of Inclusion and Affirmation that many need to hear. Join us as we share God’s love!



We will be needing volunteers to staff the booth in shifts. There is a sign up genius link in this Communicator on page 9, and in the Friday emails. For more information, talk to [Tricia Price](#) or [Alisa Lau Sieckmann](#) or another member of the Inclusion Team. Save the date, and be sure to attend!

THANK YOU TO THE HELPERS.

#helpers

ADDRESS CHANGES

Adam & Kristin Veteto
501 Hulen Dr. | Columbia, MO 65203

David Martin (mailing address only)
205 Amador Ave. | Jefferson City, MO 65109



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff of **Eden Theological Seminary**, thank you for your donation in support of the Annual Fund. Your financial gifts help us continue to innovate and thrive, even during current shift in the Church and the world.

As many of you know, Eden has become fully accredited to offer all our degrees as distance education, as well as the ongoing campus model. Your support has made curriculum expansion and technological innovations at the seminary not only possible, but have allowed us to enhance programming that reaches a myriad of audiences and communities.

We remain grateful for your support and commitment to helping train leaders equipped with tools necessary for God's redemptive work in the world. Thank you again for helping Eden remain a resource for the forming and re-forming of the church we are called to be for this day and into the future.

In Gratitude,
Mary Schaller Blaufuss,
VP of Institutional Advancement

CUCC,

Thank you for your recent donation to the **Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry**. We appreciate your support!

Blessings, Sally Robinson

Dear friends,

Thank you so much for your support of our pull tab program.

On January 1, 2023, St. Raymonds Society will take ownership of our current home. We are moving into temporary space during construction of our new **Ronald McDonald House**. If you've been collecting pull tabs, please drop them off before November 18. Otherwise, please hold onto them until our permanent move in 2024. We cannot wait to show you our new House and see how many pounds of tabs you've collected!

Keep up with us on social media @rmhcmidmo or at rmhcmidmo.org for future announcements on progress toward the move.

Dear Rick and friends at CUCC,

Thank you for your gift to the **Voluntary Action Center**. Your generosity makes an impact in the lives of the individuals that VAC serves daily through our **FISH Fund**.

The FISH Fund stands for Faith in Service to Humanity. FISH is a partnership between VAC and local faith based organizations. Funds donated to FISH are designated for additional services that an individual or household may need if they have already reached the VAC limit. Here is a snapshot of the top three services the FISH Fund helps our clients with for 2022:

482 Identifications	\$8,853
213 Medical Copays	\$12,902.21
859 Gas Vouchers	\$16,522.53

Your support is directly impacting our neighbors who struggle to bridge the gap between crisis and stability. We are so appreciative of your support.

With thanks and appreciation,
Heather Stewart, Director of Development

Dear Rev. Oberle and CUCC,

The **Food Bank's** vision is to end hunger in the communities we serve. It is an immense challenge, but we know it to be worthwhile. Generosity like yours gives us the confidence to believe it is possible. Your recent gift for a **new Central Pantry** will help us build a healthier community together by providing a better place where people can seek help with food.

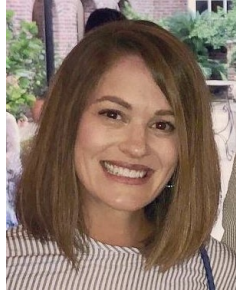
The new Central Pantry will mean expanded storage and more nutritious food getting to those who need it. It will mean more access to resources that will help people improve their lives and educational opportunities on how to eat healthfully. As a donor, you are an invaluable part of sharing food and bringing hope.

Gratefully,
Lindsay Young Lopez, President and CEO

MODERATOR'S MOMENT

September is an exciting month in the life of CUCC! We start the Sunday school year and change to our later worship time (starting September 11th). Our LODO teachers and students are back in the building and engaged in early childhood learning. We also have important events such as the CROP Walk and Pridefest. This is always an exciting time for us!

This year, we are also navigating a new experience with Pastor Rick on sabbatical. In the month of September (as well as October), we will continue to focus on coming together in new ways and realizing our gifts. Additionally, we will have some great opportunities to learn and grow spiritually. With the guidance of Pastor Dale, the leadership of our ministry teams and the amazing time and talents of all of our members, we will continue to do the great work of CUCC.



I am excited about all we have to look forward to this Fall and grateful to be part of this faith community, always focused on how we can serve in God's world.

Kristy Odneal,
Moderator

Thank you to everyone who helped nibble away at the "Cheese" board for August. All the jobs on the cheese board for August were taken and covered by volunteers. Thank you to all of our August cheese nibblers:

Mahree Skala	Jolene Kirchoff	Alisa Lau-Sieckman
Connie Loveless	Carolyn Malicoat	Helen Schultz
Sue Ann Schaefer	Mona Dachroeden	Barry Kirchhoff
Randy Schnell	Llona Weiss	Lena Muench
Linda Evans	Corinne Remeika	Doug Privitt
Ginny Van Hove	Darla Privitt	Lloyd Viehland
Judi Privitt	Mike Pierson	Kristy Odneal



"While the cat's away, the mice will play"

Be sure to checkout the "cheese" board in the narthex and the video on the website for more information!

Our Sabbatical is Underway

- ⇒ We have said good bye to Pastor Rick for 3 months.
- ⇒ We have welcomed Dale Parson as our Sabbatical Pastor through October 31, 2022.
- ⇒ You plan to attend worship regularly to stay in touch with other church members.
- ⇒ You will be praying for rest and renewal for Pastor Rick.
- ⇒ You dedicate time for yourself to reconnect with God, and rediscover God's purposes for our lives.
- ⇒ You have looked at the Cheese Board in the Gathering Area, and committed to help again in September so our church continues running smoothly.
- ⇒ You are wondering: Who do I go to with a question?
 - ↳ Pastor Rick always did this. Who is going to do it now?
 - ↳ Who can I go to with a concern about our church?
 - ↳ Who can help me with a task I need done for the church?

There will be many questions as we maneuver through our first Sabbatical together. For ANY AND ALL QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS you may have during our Sabbatical, please talk to, call, or email the members of the SABBATICAL TEAM. This is why this committee was formed.

Mike Pierson	mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com	573-819-6055
Judi Privitt	judiprivitt811@gmail.com	573-819-4584
Kristy Odneal	kristyodneal@gmail.com	573-819-4584
Jolene Kirchoff	barrykirchoff@gmail.com	573-825-0239
Pat Forward	pdfoward@msn.com	573-999-3992



Pat Forward, Sabbatical Team Member

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator:	Kristy Odneal	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	
Fellowship & Hospitality:	Stefanie Zimny	stefanie.zimny@gmail.com
Finance & Stewardship:	Keith Birkes	kbirkes4@gmail.com
Inclusion & Affirmation:	Tricia Price	tricialprice@gmail.com
Little One's Day Out:	Lorry Dreier	llhd01@gmail.com
Membership & Care:	Jessica Lucas	jlucas@cpsk12.org
Nurture & Education:	Lydia Whitacre	lydiaaawhitacre@gmail.com
Outreach & Advocacy:	Mark Duncan	markduncan2@mchsi.com
Worship & Music:	Mike Pierson	mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com

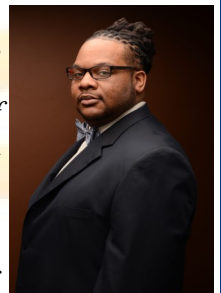


WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

Welcome our new alto section leader Caitlin!



Caitlin Kenney, soprano, is from Kansas City, Missouri. She is a Senior at the University of Missouri-Columbia working towards earning her Bachelor of Arts in Music, as well as Minors in Education and Human Development and Family Sciences. She is a vocal student studying under Professor Kyle Stegall. She has spent three years as a member of the Show-Me Opera with roles including Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Miss Wordsworth in a scene from *Albert Herring*, Flora in a scene from *The Turn of the Screw*, Beth in a scene from *Little Women*, and Isabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*. Her choral work includes several opera choruses and the Mizzou Treble Choir. We are delighted to welcome Caitlin to CUCC!



Brandon Brown, M.M.
Music Coordinator

FELLOWSHIP AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY TEAM

SUNDAY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Below is the Sunday Volunteer Schedule for September. 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
09/04	Jolene Kirchhoff	Mark & Jane Duncan	Audrey Lasley	NEED	Carissa Graves John Graves	Helen Schultz
09/11	Jessica Lucas	Llona Weiss	Pat Forward	Trevor Pierson	Ted Dachroeden Doug Privitt	NEED
09/18	Helen Schultz	Llona Weiss	Seth Smith	NEED	Matt Lucas Kennedy Lucas	Stefanie Zimny
09/25	Susan Dunham	Phillip & Linda Neale	Kennedy Lucas	Aidan Pierson	Mike Pierson Lorry Dreier	Sue Ann Schaefer

CHURCH COUNCIL

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES FOR AUGUST

- Tricia Price discussed the book “Bigger Table,” by John Pavlovitz.
...the source of the greatest dissonance in the modern Church is the belief that there are clearly defined insiders and outsiders; that God is somewhere up there keeping score like a cosmic Santa Claus, and that we all need to figure out how to separate people into allies and adversaries, lest we align ourselves with the damned and not the saved, and guarantee our damnation.
- Worship/Sanctuary: Carpet has been selected. We are now looking for bids for carpet, paint, and window coverings.
- Building Project: Two HVAC systems have been replaced. A third one is on order. The sealing and striping of the parking are completed. The floors are done.
- Sabbatical Team: The cheese board was a success and will continue in the coming months. April will be on vacation for two weeks in September and is currently lining up volunteers to cover the office while she is away.
- The 100th Anniversary committee: The committee is looking for more volunteers from all walks of life within the congregation to help with this project. Ideas were discussed.
- Vision Team: The Vision Team meeting will be August 21 after church. Each Ministry Team needs to consider what projects they will work on this year to help reach the five-year plans.
- Budget: All budgets are due to Sue Ann Schaeffer by August 31. She would prefer them by August 28.
- Snow Removal: We are looking for suggestions on who we can contract to do the snow removal for the church this winter.
- We are please to announce that Ted Dachroeden has agreed to accept the position as Building and Grounds Ministry team leader.
- There was discussion concerning personnel issues.
- Pastor’s Report: Pastor Dale said that he had enjoyed his first two weeks with us and was looking forward to the rest of his time with us.
- Financial Reports: Reports submitted.

Ministry Team Reports:

- Fellowship & Hospitality: There will be a fish fry on September 11. Trunk and Treat will be Saturday, October 29. We will recognize our veterans on November 13.
- Inclusion & Affirmation: Looking for help during Pridefest – 4 shifts of 2 hours each. September is Spanish Heritage Month.
- Nurture & Education: Looking for adult education classes for next year. If anyone has any interest, please let Lydia know. Some are setup, but we are still looking for more help. Confirmation class will be taught by Judi Privitt, Pat Forward, and Lydia Whitacre. They still need one more volunteer to help.
- Outreach & Advocacy: We raised \$1250 for mobility worldwide. Food Bank resumes on Tuesday. We are working with Alpha Hart Lewis to make their school year successful.

Pastor Dale closed the meeting in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alethea Tennill, Secretary



A BIG “THANK YOU” TO ALL OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!

Something that never ceases to amaze me is the continual support and generosity of the CUCC church congregation. What a wonderful family we have here at CUCC!

I want to thank everyone who has grabbed a “piece of cheese” to help with weekly duties while Pastor Rick is away on Sabbatical. There is a lot going on behind the scenes and you are making it a lighter load! I am grateful to work at a church that not only meets needs, but radically exceeds them. Each of you are an important piece of the puzzle and you are appreciated!

April Rothweiler, CUCC Administrator

LODO MINISTRY TEAM

LODO NEWS

Our LODO students and staff returned on August 29 and are all excited to be back at school! We start every year with learning about school rules and routines, practicing sharing, and beginning to make new friends. It's a thrilling time in our classrooms as children meet new friends. We can't wait to make wonderful memories with our LODO families this year!

2022-2023 LODO Staff

Director:	Erika Maltsbarger
Lightning Bugs Teacher:	Charlotte Underwood
Lambs Teacher:	Avis Kim
Lions Teacher:	Lena Muench
Leopards Teacher:	Skyler Sachtleben
Leap Frogs Teacher:	Ashley Mills
School Aides:	Meredith Burgio, Christine Bell, & Emme Driver

Volunteer Opportunities

We have many family events throughout the school year and often need assistance to help those events run safely and smoothly. Our first opportunity for volunteer assistance is on Friday, October 21, from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. for our Annual Pumpkin Fun Day. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Erika at littleonesdayout@yahoo.com.

LODO Amazon Wishlist

LODO now has an Amazon Wish List that will be updated throughout the year. This list includes items to replace those that have been well-loved and items that will add to our learning activities. If you are interested in contributing to the LODO Ministry, please consider purchasing an item from our list. Monetary donations can also be made, which we will use to purchase needed supplies and learning activities.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1W697Q43SG2QR?ref=wl_share

Erika Maltsbarger, Director



LODO CELEBRATES 20 YEARS AT CUCC

It is so exciting that Little One's Day Out is celebrating its 20th year as a CUCC ministry! I have been blessed to be part of the LODO ministry in many capacities, and I am celebrating my 15th year as part of the program. I started off as a parent of preschoolers, three years later I became a classroom teacher, and four years later was offered the director position. Expressing the joys that LODO has brought to my life could fill a book!

As a parent of preschoolers at LODO, I watched as my children gained a strong foundation and love for learning. My daughter made her first non-family friend at LODO, and both of my children gained social/emotional skills necessary for success in later school years. I love that LODO not only prepared my children emotionally and academically, but also strengthened their faith through Bible stories and songs. I will always be grateful for the values LODO instilled in my children and the love they felt from the LODO staff. My son still refers to frozen waffles with cinnamon sugar as "Ms. Betty" waffles as that is how Betty Smith prepared them during his years at LODO. I'm sure that I could come up with a long list of great memories as the staff made a lasting impression on my now teenage children.

Moving in to my teaching years, I was given the opportunity to work with the younger students at LODO. Being a part of those children's lives was such a blessing. Teaching with love and making sure that there was lots of laughter in my classroom was an important part of each day. I loved watching children not only grow in my classroom, but seeing them mature through later years, as well.



Becoming the director of LODO has been a wonderful step in my career. Working with the staff of LODO to create a caring environment for preschoolers brings such joy to my life. I have worked with many amazing early childhood educators, children, and families during my time here. I am thankful for the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people through the LODO ministry. I look forward to LODO continuing to provide a foundation of love and learning for many years to come.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

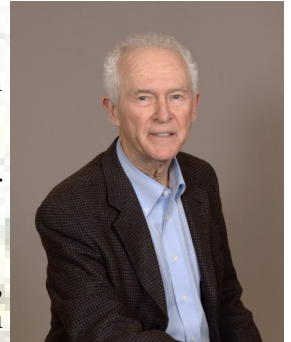
CUCC members and friends,

As September arrives we are settling into the end of summer and the beginning of fall and all that brings. At CUCC the chairs begin to fill with members and friends who have been traveling and otherwise enjoying summer. The church calendar gets much busier, and CUCC is on our minds.

The Finance and Stewardship Ministry Team monitors our finances year round, and we always get a bit concerned about Joyful Giving which traditionally lags behind a bit in the summer. This year has been no exception, and giving is behind schedule.

Our congregation always supports CUCC in all ways with time, talent, and treasure. This year will be no exception and this article is a very gentle reminder that your church needs you in all ways.

Thank you to everyone involved in the activities of our church. 2022 will be another great year, and your contributions are always deeply appreciated!

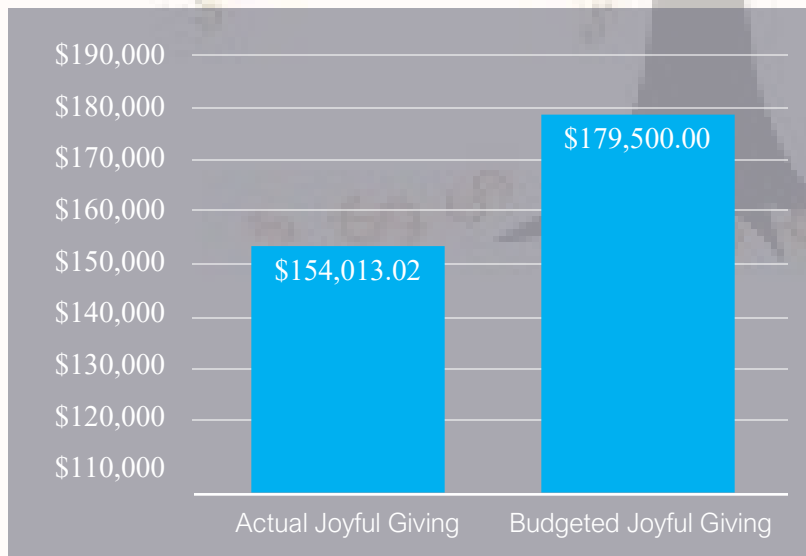


Keith Birkes,
Member of the Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team

TREASURER'S REPORT — Brent Marcks

Financial Update			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)
July Income	\$35,359.87	\$25,000.00	\$9,859.87
YTD Income	\$154,013.02	\$179,500.00	(\$25,486.98)
July Expenses	\$32,041.11	\$29,483.70	\$2,557.41
YTD Expenses	\$208,304.20	\$215,041.23	(\$6,737.03)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$50,224.64)	(\$31,457.89)	(\$18,766.75)
July Attendance	337		

Date	Attendance	Received	Budget
08/07/22	61	\$4,798.42	\$6,009.47
08/14/22	63	\$2,857.00	\$6,009.47
08/21/22	73	\$4,629.00	\$6,009.47
08/28/22	80	\$2,594.51	\$6,009.47
Total	277	\$14,878.93	\$24,037.88



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



As part of our focus on Hispanic Heritage and our continued support of the people of Chiapas, below are a few facts about southern Mexico that you may or may not know:

Chiapas is the southernmost province in Mexico. It is also the poorest and has the highest population of indigenous people. Chiapas has some beautiful vistas, impressive Mayan ruins, and charming colonial architecture.

However, there is much unrest in areas of Chiapas. It is the gateway into Mexico for immigrants from South American. In turn, Mexico is the gateway for immigrants to enter the United States. Immigrants are moving north to try and escape the increasing temperatures in their native lands, corrupt officials, poverty, violence, famine, drug wars, and gangs. This movement through Chiapas puts a further strain on the limited resources available to residents there.

CUCC is one of several denominations, along with international organizations that lend their time, talents, and financial and other support to this area. The hope is to improve educational opportunities, provide clean water supplies, implement sustainable food sources, stabilize local government, etc., to try and improve family life in this area. Some of these organizations also work to support the immigrant migration in order to relieve some of stress on local establishments.

Pastor Rick will have much to share with us when he returns from Sabbatical. In the meantime, special prayers for the health and safety of Pastor Rick and the people of Chiapas.



The Inclusion and Affirmation Committee met in August and discussed the following:

- ◆ Review of CUCC five-year plan with the focus on Open and Affirming (ONA).
- ◆ Plans for our booth at Pridefest. A sign-up sheet for two hour shifts will be made available.
- ◆ Highlighting several individuals for Hispanic Heritage Month.
- ◆ A fun and informative book study for October.

We continue to have monthly inclusion discussions. If you have a subject you would like to see highlighted, please let us know. We would love congregational input on future inclusive focus areas!! We are also looking for a couple more committee members. Our discussions are lively, and we would love to add your voice. Contact [Tricia P.](#), [Tricia S.](#), or myself, [Alisa](#).



In Gladness:
Alisa Lau-Sieckman, Member, on behalf of Tricia Price, Chair



PrideFest in Columbia is BACK! Save the date: September 24-25. Booths will be set up along Park and Orr Streets. As we have in the past, CUCC will have a booth on Saturday only, from 11:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Having a booth at PrideFest is a great way to get the word out about our church. We will need lots of volunteers for two hour shifts that afternoon. You can sign up [here](#).

Columbia UCC

PrideFest booth staffing

Having a booth at PrideFest is a great way to get the word out about our church. We will be handing out goodie bags to people walking by, along with booths sponsored by other churches, organizations, and vendors. Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. We are hoping to have at least two or three volunteers in the booth at all times. Thank you for volunteering!

Date: 09/24/2022 (Sat.)

Time: 11:30am - 6:30pm CDT

Location: Park and Orr Streets

Created by: Tricia Price

Available Slot	Sign Up
set up & staff the booth 11:30-1:30 (3)	Sign Up
staff the booth 1:00-3:00 (3)	Sign Up
staff the booth 2:30-4:30 (3)	Sign Up
staff the booth 4:30-6:00 and pack up after (3)	Sign Up

NURTURE AND EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM

“Bounce Back to Sunday School!”

It is an exciting time of year here at CUCC! We are just a couple of weeks away from RALLY DAY on September 11 – a day that encourages us all to come back together at church and Sunday school after a lovely summer full of vacations and fun!!!

The Nurture and Education Ministry Team will be celebrating this return with the theme of “Bounce Back to Church” and, aptly, providing a bouncy slide to be enjoyed by ALL during the fish fry on Rally Day! We will kick off Youth Sunday School that morning with an “opening” in the Sanctuary from 9 to 9:15 AM before dismissing to classrooms! Our youth classes will be combined into two groups this fall (unless attendance rises): Pre-K through 5th grade and 6th grade through 12th grade. We will be presenting bibles to third grade students during worship this day—families of third grade students will receive an invitation in the mail!

But it’s not just the youth who get to “bounce back”: adult Sunday school classes also commence that morning! We have an EXCITING fall calendar for adult classes—filled with provocative topics and fresh faces for teachers! The Adult Bible Study will be taught on rotation by Phillip Neale, Barry Kirchoff, Shelly Dunham Adams (Seminary Student), and Rev. Dale Parson (Sabbatical Pastor). To see the schedule (or sign up yourself to teach), visit this link: [Adult Bible Study](#).

We will have three Contemporary Issues classes this fall:

“**Living the Question: Questioning Capital Punishment**” led by Rev. Dale Parson
September 11 through October 9.

“**You’ll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey Book Study**” led by Tricia Price
October 9 through October 30.

“**Why Believe in the Bible?: Reestablishing Your Faith**” led by Autumn Lear
November 6 through November 27.

To see the full Adult Sunday School Calendar, click [here](#).

We are in need of volunteers for the following positions: Nursery Helper (see below), Confirmation Second Adult, and Sunday School Greeter. Please contact Lydia Whitacre if you are interested.

Our next Nurture and Education Ministry Team Meeting will be held after church on September 25. Welcome back to church and Sunday School!!!

CUCC In Need of a Nursery Supervisor for Sunday Mornings

Columbia UCC is looking to hire a Nursery Supervisor for Sunday mornings during worship. The hours are 10:00 a.m.– 12:00 Noon each Sunday. Compensation is \$35/ Sunday. Qualifications include:

- Experience with children.
- At least 18 years of age.
- Will need to pass the Family Care Safety Registry Background Screening.

If interested, please contact me by phone at (660) 349-0422. or email me at lydiaawhitacre@gmail.com



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



IT'S TIME FOR THE CROP HUNGER WALK!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
STEPHENS PARK at the GORDON SHELTER
REGISTRATION at 1:00 STEP-OFF at 1:30

Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty Hunger Walk is an annual fundraising event organized and sponsored by Church World Service (CWS) and local groups. Funds raised fight hunger in Columbia, across the USA, and around the world. CWS also has programs addressing the need for clean water, a safe place to live, education, and disaster relief. During the recent floods in Kentucky, CWS was there helping those in crisis. CWS receives 75% of the funds raised from the CROP Walk to support these programs.

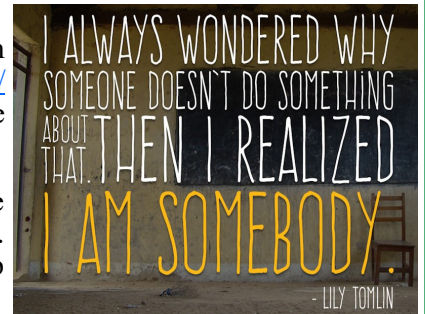
Local recipients of 25% of the funds raised by the Columbia CROP Walk are:

Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen which serves an average of 120 meals each evening 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year; Russell Chapel Community Food Pantry that distributes food to approximately 75 families twice a month; Destiny Worship Center Food Pantry provides food and offers a 24/7 hotline for families in crisis; Fifth Street Christian Church Monthly Community Meal serves homeless and transient children and adults.

Last year the Columbia CROP Walk raised a record \$20,555.61, ranking 90th of the top 100 Walks in the nation. CUCC was the top fundraiser in Columbia. Good job! Let's try to keep the trophy. Our goal this year is \$4,000.

How can you be a part of this event?

1. **Plan to walk** with us on the 18th, either at Stephens Park or wherever you are in solidarity with those around the world who have to walk long distances for water or food. A new goal this year is a total of 300 accumulated miles of all walkers. The Stephens Lake Trail is .6 miles. If we have ten walkers, that will be 6 miles toward the 300-mile goal. Miles walked will be celebrated on CROP Walk day.
2. **Make a donation.** [CLICK HERE](#) to make a donation or join/create a team. In addition to raising funds, through this website, emails and other social media, you can spread the word about the need around the world, about the work of CWS, and about the organizations that are helping to alleviate hunger locally. Of course, donations can be made through Kindred Giving on the church website or a check to the church, payable to CWS.
3. **Eat pizza.** Shakespeare's Pizza is again donating 15% of your order on CROP Walk day, September 18th. Get the required coupon on line at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo>. There will also be coupons in the Sunday bulletin.



All the 500 CROP Walks and all the tens of thousands of walkers nationwide have one goal – BUILD A WORLD WHERE THERE IS ENOUGH FOR ALL. Our participation in and support of the CROP Walk makes a difference. Lace up your sneakers and join us to WALK THE WALK!

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.

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY MINISTRY TEAM

Loaves & Fishes

The 8/15 evening meal at L&F consisted of a variety of dishes. Tater tot casserole was made with tater tots leftover from VBS. Mexican casserole was made with food left from the taco bar on Sabbatical Sunday. Also provided were spaghetti, lettuce salad, and cookies. Cookies were made and provided by Jolene Kirchoff and PB&J's were made and provided by Jessica Jenks. Servers were Doug Privitt, Tom & Mary Lorber-Solt, Keith Birkes, Barry Kirchoff, and Whitney Wipfler. Thank you so much for everyone's hard work!! We passed out approximately 168 servings! We served outside since it was a beautiful day! Let Audrey Lasley know if you are interested in helping out in any way.

Food Bank News

Food Bank Team in Full Swing--Next Date is September 27.

We had a great group to fill Harvest Boxes for food pantries on August 23. It was a fun task and a very productive evening. Ten folks participated: Mark and Jane Duncan, Connie Loveless, John & Brenda Muench, Doug & Judi Privitt, Mahree Skala, Tricia Soncasie, and Llona Weiss. Be on the lookout for the signup link for September!

Outreach has decided to engage with the local group **Race Onward**. Their Facebook page offers this description: "Race Onward is a group of people of various faith organizations who have come together to learn and act on racial injustice issues in Columbia and elsewhere." Items that have come up in the meetings I've attended have included:

- **CoMo Youth for Peace** talked about their work against community gun violence.
- Broadway Christian Church announced a **Columbia Area Justice/Mercy Trip** this summer.
- A planned tour of three local churches including an ice cream social at First Baptist was announced.
- Planning for a 10-bus tour following the **Trail of Tears** was announced.
- A documentary film on social justice will be screened at Broadway Christian in September.

We will see where this leads.

Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary Partnership Friend Update

I met with new Principal Amanda Minear, Assistant Principal Kelly Isenogle, and new Assistant Principal Jamie Lazechko at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School (AHL) on Thursday, August 11, 2022 as a meet and greet and to discuss the upcoming school year and our partnership. AHL has CUCC as its Partner Friend and U.S. Bank as its Partner-in-Education for support, as well as their PTA. Also, AHL has a new Home School Communicator, Thel Sargent.

AHL is partnering with MU this year on a program called Positive Behavior Supports (PBS) where they are working with teachers and students to focus on utilizing words and statements to reinforce positive behaviors in everyone.

CUCC might be able to assist AHL with future school assemblies to honor students and teachers by providing food or "something" for the honorees. CUCC could provide Volunteers to help with upcoming AHL events, such as a school dance and their fall festival. Possibly, CUCC Volunteers could come during the school day, any time between 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. to eat lunch and hang out with the students by modeling good behaviors during their lunch periods and/or recess breaks, but any CUCC Volunteer would need to contact AHL and get approval beforehand. CUCC looks forward to an opportunity for the new Principal, Amanda Minear, to come speak to CUCC's Lunch Bunch, like when we had former Principal Moore and Principal Regg in the past. We also talked about somehow coordinating music/choir opportunities with our Music Coordinator, Brandon Brown and AHL's Music Teacher, Jared Smith.



We plan to keep communications open by putting AHL items in the CUCC Friday e-mails and/or the monthly Communicator, and by CUCC sending invitations or news to AHL regarding CUCC events which AHL can include in its newsletters.

Llona Weiss, CUCC Liaison for Partner Friend AHL

Hello CUCC,

My name is Amanda Minear, and I am the new principal of **Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary**. I want to start by thanking you for your partnership with our school. Our current admin team has a goal to increase our presence in our community. Your support will help us achieve that!

I'd like to introduce myself and our admin team this month. We will be the main ambassadors for our partnership to start. Then as the year goes on, I'd like to highlight our most important people: our students and staff. They are at the heart of everything we do!

This is my 12th year in education. I taught mathematics at the middle school level for six years. I have also been a K-12 principal and an assistant principal for five. I am looking forward to this new role as an elementary principal. I have a degree in math and art education, as well as my masters, specialist, and doctorate in educational leadership and policy analysis. All my degrees are from the University of Missouri. My husband, Dan, owns a business in town. We have two dogs at home and love to travel!

Kelly Isenogle is starting her third year as an assistant principal at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary. She has taught at Parkade, Two Mile Prairie, and Rock Bridge Elementarays. Kelly has her undergraduate degree in elementary education, a masters in curriculum and instruction, and a specialists in educational leadership and policy analysis all from the University of Missouri. Kelly and her husband, Spencer, have a sweet nine month old daughter named Hattie.

Jamie Lazechko is starting her first year in administration as an additional assistant principal. She previously taught English and social studies at Lange Middle School for six years. She earned her undergraduate in middle school education and masters of educational leadership and policy analysis degrees from the University of Missouri. Jamie's husband, Nick, also works in our public school system through an outside agency.

We appreciate you all welcoming us into your community! We look forward to getting to work more closely with you this school year. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at any time. We also invite you to follow us on Twitter!

Amanda Minear
aminear@cpsk12.org
@A_MinearAHL

Kelly Isenogle
kisenogle@cpsk12.org
@MrsIsenogle_AHL

Jamie Lazechko
jlazechko@cpsk12.org
@jlazechko



Dr. Amanda Minear

PRINCIPAL
ALPHA HART LEWIS ELEMENTARY

5801 Arbor Pointe Parkway, Columbia, MO 65202
(573) 214-3200

Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary
@AHLHuskies

Alpha Hart Lewis PTA
@AHLPTA

“Think Globally, Act Locally”

This mantra is familiar to many in the church! What's more, Columbia United Church of Christ folks seem to structure their faith, lives, and priorities around “**Think Globally, Act Locally.**” Indeed, our pastor, Rev. Rick Oberle, gives embodiment to this reality in his sabbatical time. There is abundant evidence of this lived truth throughout the decisions and programs in our common life. Here are just some ways that we “**Think Globally, Act Locally:**”

The CROP Walk

Prayers for Missionaries and Global Ministries Partners

Partnership with local school and educators

Awareness of cultural differences and norms

Concerns for the environment

Providing food for the hungry in our community & globally

Efforts to curb Human Trafficking

Generous support for our Church's Wider Mission

The list goes on. In fact, every activity in the church is an opportunity to “**Think Globally and Act Locally.**”

MOBILITY WORLDWIDE

The recent CRAFT BEER & CARTS fundraiser for MOBILITY WORLDWIDE was a complete success. A total of 115 carts were sponsored, and that means 115 people are up off the ground, and they all thank you. We sponsored and beautifully decorated one of those carts through a collection of \$1250. Thank you for your generosity!

MOBILITY WORLDWIDE is in need of fabric for its SEWING PROJECT. Any fabric that is at least 1/2 yard and suitable for clothing in a warm climate can be used. The fabric is sent with the refurbished sewing machines and used to teach sewing skills and to make skirts. A laundry basket will be in the coat room for donations. Time to clean out your sewing room a bit??!!

MEMBERSHIP AND CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Calling CUCC CARES Volunteers! We would love to add more members to our Card Writing Ministry and Meal Train Ministry. If you would like to volunteer for these ministries, please contact Jessica Lucas, Judi Privitt, or Jolene Kirchhoff.



During Pastor Rick's Sabbatical Leave, you can contact a member of the Membership & Care Team with concerns for congregation members: meal train needs, visits or phone calls, transportation to church, celebrations or transitions to be recognized with cards, prayer ministry requests. Please contact Anne Heine, Judi Privitt, Jolene Kirchhoff, or Jessica Lucas.

Jessica Lucas,
Membership & Care Ministry Team Leader

CALLING ALL NURSES

CUCC is starting a new **Care Ministry Team - Health and Wellness**. If you are curious or interested in serving, please contact Anne Heine. Our congregation will benefit from the care this team provides.

Do You Know Your Numbers?

CUCC Health and Wellness Team will be available in the Fellowship Hall to take your blood pressure. This will happen during the Rally Day lunch celebration on September 11. Keep up with your health and stop by for a reading.

September Birthdays to Celebrate

Kaden Lucas 09/01	Kim Oberle 09/03	Matthew Baker 09/04
Bea Gordon 09/04	Lance Markway 09/04	John Bracke 09/05
Beth Walker 09/08	Diane Privitt 09/09	Walter Schroeder 09/09
Roselynn Lentz 09/11	Kieran Piersee 09/11	Ryan Schoeneberg 09/11
Lily Jaberg 09/11	Ace Devenney 09/14	Doug Privitt 09/14
Ember Piersee 09/15	Shelby Oberle 09/18	Sheryl Oncken 09/19
Glenn Duermeyer 09/21	Becky Gordon 09/23	Carol Williams 09/23
Ted Dachroeden 09/24	Yvonne Piersee 09/24	Don Privitt 09/24
Micah Bredehoeft 09/25	Dennis Froeschner 09/25	Mike Hall 09/25
Ally Jaberg 09/25	Sue Beckman 09/26	Melissa Bernhardt 09/27
Llona Weiss 09/29	Lea Marienfeld 09/29	Lola Lee 09/30

Happy Anniversary to:

Ted & Ramona Dachroeden 09/04

Bounce!

back to Sunday School!

Sunday, September 11

- Classes for all ages starting at 9:00 (meet in Sanctuary)
- Bounce House!
- Worship at 10:30 a.m.
- Fish & Chicken Fry after worship

SEE YOU SOON!





Child and Elder Sponsorship Program: Global Ministries

[Family Village Farm](#) in Kasam, India was founded by Dr. Pauline King in 1969 to meet the needs of at-risk children and elderly. Dr. King grew up hearing stories about medical missionaries who offered themselves in the work of healing among some of the poorest in the global village. At age 6, she committed herself to ministries of healing, providing food, homes, and families to some of India's most in need. That call and commitment resulted in Family Village Farm.

Through the Global Ministries "Child and Elder Sponsorship Program," Family Village Farms care for children from difficult circumstances, some having no parents or one parent who is unable to support them. There are ten to twelve children, a mother, and grandparents living in each cottage in a family-type group. The mothers and grandparents living with the children are also poor, who come from difficult circumstances. This is a life-giving ministry for children, but it also provides a home for elderly adults. These adults provide families for the children and help to care for them while benefitting from the housing and support.

Global Ministries supports children and elders living at the Family Village Farm through its Child and Elder Sponsorship Program, which provides food, clothing, education, and training for each sponsored child. The Family Village Farm also includes staff housing, a bakery, poultry farm, a feed mixing unit (where the cattle poultry feeds are prepared), and a dairy for the supply of milk to the residents. Young boys are trained to tend crops and fruit trees, and the girls are trained in sewing. Girls are given training and the opportunity to make school uniforms, hospital linen, and garments for other local schools.

Through our denominations' Global Ministries, individuals and groups have the opportunity to sponsor a child or family. A gift of \$30 per month would support a child through the Sponsorship Program. Contact Linda Lawrence toll free at 1-866-822-8224, Ext 3222 or e-mail her at lawrencl@ucc.org. A gift of \$50 could help provide food for one of Family Village Farm's family groups.

Pictured here: Ezekiel
Sponsored by Rev. Dale and Debra Parson



STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

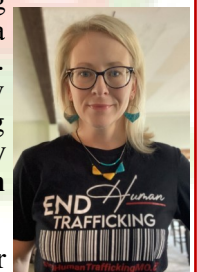
COALITION OF CENTRAL MISSOURI

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 thirteen years. Visit our [Facebook page](#) to see upcoming meetings, events, and volunteer opportunities.

As schools have resumed for the 2022-2023 academic year, we give thanks for the teachers, staff, and volunteers that make each student feel welcome, safe, and loved.

Although school is a fun and safe place for many young people to flourish, for others it is a sheer veil covering a nightmare. It is a place where some come to continue the pretense that everything in their lives is "normal." It is a place where some come to escape their own homes and realities. Throughout the last couple of school years, dealing with the COVID pandemic, this dark reality has been brought into the light. Even though many teachers and staff already knew some young people dealing with less than ideal situations, many more have discovered the brutal truth and depth of this reality. Reports of physical, mental, and sexual abuse of children and young people skyrocketed. New cases of these various types of abuse, including sex trafficking, flooded the phones and offices of local police departments, the Family Support Division Offices, and various organizations that provide safe housing and services, including the STOP Human Trafficking Coalition of Central Missouri. This dark secret has now become public knowledge and more people are stepping up to fight this horrible injustice.


As members of this community, the responsibility rests on all of us—to take action in gaining knowledge, advocating, reporting signs, and educating others. It truly does take a village to raise a child, and we are that village. The young people in our community will be our leaders some day. They are talented, innovative, generous, world changers, and they need all of us to help them grow into adulthood so they can become productive and thriving members of society. Every single young person deserves this chance—the chance to be and do something great. Let's help them get there by rallying around them with support, protection, love, and example. **Remember, change starts with YOU!**



April Rothweiler

ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR IN



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
					2	
4 9:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our CUCC Website	5 April on vacation CPS & Church Office CLOSED 	6 April on vacation 10:30am Quilters	7 April on vacation 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers 7pm Confirmation	8 April on vacation	9 April on vacation	10
11 RALLY DAY 9am Sunday School 10am Fellowship 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our CUCC Website 11:30am Fellowship Meal	12 April on vacation 10:30am Staff Meeting	13 April on vacation 10:30am Quilters	14 April on vacation 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers 7pm Confirmation	15 April on vacation	16 April on vacation	17
18 9am Sunday School 10am Fellowship 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our CUCC Website 1pm CROP Walk	19 10:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Loaves & Fishes	20 10:30am Quilters 6:30 Church Council Meeting	21 LODO & CPS CLOSED 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers 7pm Confirmation	22 5:30-7:30pm LODO Back to School Night in Fellowship Hall	23	24 10am-6pm Pridfest
25 9am Sunday School 10am Fellowship 10:30am Worship Worship Livestreaming on our CUCC Website	26 10:30am Staff Meeting	27 10:30am Quilters 6:30pm Membership & Care Ministry Team Mtg	28 6pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Celebration Singers	29	30	1

THE COMMUNICATOR

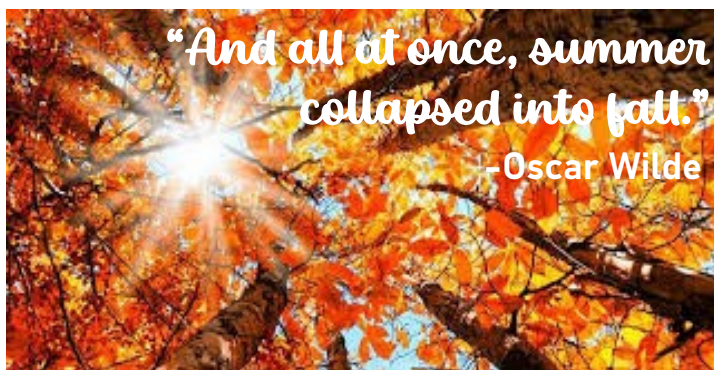
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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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.