

THE COMMUNICATOR

September 2019



From the Pastor's Keyboard

"History and Rebirth"

As we get closer to the 50th anniversary of this building, which we will be celebrating on September 22, my thoughts are turning toward the history of Columbia United Church of Christ, the great legacy of prophecy we have inherited by those who formed this congregation over the years, and the challenge that now rests on our shoulders as we move forward into the next 50 years.

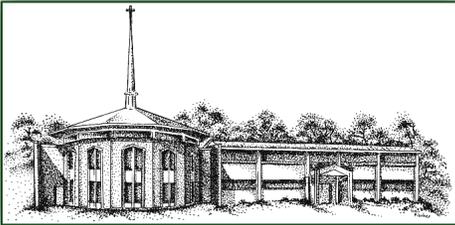
When the congregation of The Chapel moved to this place, their mood was varied. The excitement of a new facility in a new place, built to their design was wonderful; but there was also grief over the identity left behind. The origins of this congregation lie in service to the student body of Mizzou; and moving to this location was met with some grief as that identity would surely shift. That congregation must have experienced a roller coaster of emotions as they moved forward boldly with their plans to establish a wonderful new ministry identity in this location.

And a new identity was born. That early Chapel congregation could not have begun to imagine the ministry identity that would be formed here, as the Columbia United Church of Christ congregation took ownership of this location and began to carve out new missions, new priorities, new ways of being church. Over the last 50 years new traditions have developed, new ministries have begun, joys and opportunities have come our way, as have times of challenge and wait. Through the ebbs and flows of congregational life, the mission church that was the Chapel evolved into a full congregation boldly proclaiming God's love.

There is always danger, when celebrating an anniversary such as this, to look backward wistfully at what was and get stuck there. Author Chuck Palahniuk says, "*Our mistrust of the future makes it hard to give up our past.*" The past was never what we remember it to have been; and when try to turn the present into our flawed memory of the past, we stifle our growth into the full potential God challenges us to become. So as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this location (and begin to make plans for the 100th anniversary of this congregation, which we will celebrate in 2023) we do so remembering and reflecting on the past, but also refocusing and renewing our commitment to the future. The past informs us, but how we live into the future is what truly defines us.

As we live into the history we have inherited, with new ministries just beginning and the hint of new and exciting things on the horizon, we are poised for great things at Columbia United Church of Christ, evolving into an ever more fully expressive representation of God's Kingdom here on earth. This has been an amazing 50 years for this congregation; wait until you see what the next 50 years will bring!

-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

Kristin Veteto
Music Coordinator

Amy Crousore
Organist/Accompanist

Erika Maltsbarger
Director, Little One's Day Out

Lloyd Viehland
Building Monitor

Raj Tolani
Financial Secretary

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. - Coffee and Fellowship

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School

10:30 a.m. - Worship in Sanctuary

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Phone:
(573)-445-7931

Email:
office@columbiaucc.com



HERITAGE WEEKEND AT CUCC

This month is the 50th anniversary of the construction of our current CUCC building! We will be celebrating with two special events:

UNIQUE CUCC EXPERIENCE- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 FIRST EVER CUCC TAILGATE PARTY!

We will begin our Anniversary weekend with a tailgate party either before or after the MU-USC football game. Keep watching the CUCC Website (50th anniversary tab) for specific times which will be determined by the football schedule.

50TH ANNIVERSARY CATERED DINNER & SPECIAL WORSHIP SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT 10:30AM (DINNER AT NOON)

On Sunday, September 22 we will have a special worship service honoring and rededicating ourselves to our current facility; and then a catered meal together at noon with special speakers and events. Rev. Jerry Jordan and Rev. Fred Brandenburg will be speaking, among others.

**PLEASE RSVP FOR THE CATERED MEAL USING THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY TAB ON THE CUCC WEBSITE OR BY
EMAILING THE CHURCH OFFICE!**



On September 8, Sunday School (9:00-10:00 am) will include a get to know you activity with your Sunday School teachers and classmates, followed by FUN and FRIENDSHIP at three rotating stations, including crafts, tattoos and a Bounce House.

Rally Day Fish Fry

Mark your calendars for the first ever CUCC Fish Fry to be held after church on Rally Day, Sunday, September 8. Fred Malicoat has graciously agreed to furnish and fry the fish - I imagine there might be a few "big fish stories" to be shared.

Fellowship and Hospitality will furnish the sides. Please feel free to bring cookies to share.
-Jolene and Val



Celebrating 50 years of walking to end hunger globally and locally.

Save the Date—Sunday September 15
Stephens Lake Park -Gordon Shelter
Registration 1:00 - Welcome and Step Off 1:45

save the date

Celebrating Missouri's Heifer Story
Join us as we celebrate 75 years of good.
Saturday, November 9, 2019
1:30-3:30 p.m.
Broadway Christian Church
2601 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO



for more information, e-mail MOHeifer75@gmail.com

A heartfelt "THANK YOU" for the kind expressions of sympathy and cards received as we grieve the loss of Judi's mother. She always enjoyed worshipping at CUCC when she came to visit.

Your words of kindness will always be remembered. We are very blessed to be a part of such a loving, supportive church family.

Doug and Judi Privitt

Congratulations to these new Grandparents:

Jim & Connie Loveless
Granddaughter; Lily Eloise, born August 8
to Laura Loveless & Jim Mancuso

Tim & Jo Ellen Grace
Granddaughter; Evelyn Xinyu Grace, born August 12
to Nancy Liang & Corey Grace

&
Granddaughter, Chelsey Grace Markway, born August 19
to Levi & Erin (Grace) Markway (& big brother, Lance)

Address & E-Mail Corrections

David Faust & Edie Diel
(new address)
**4110 Watertown Pl.
Columbia, MO 65203**

Helen Schultz new e-mail:
hshultz2017@gmail.com

CUCC Cookbook

It's not too late to submit your recipes for the new CUCC Cookbook! We would love for each family to submit at least one recipe so all of our CUCC families are represented in this Anniversary Cookbook! Please submit your recipes in the pot upstairs, to the Church [Office](#), or to [Mariann Bullerd](#). Thanks!

Dear Pastor Rick and CUCC,

On behalf of Voluntary Action Center (VAC), thank you so much for the generous gift of school supplies. Your gift will make a real difference in the lives of families, through the broad range of assistance programs offered by VAC. Your support is crucial as we continue VAC's important work!

With hope,
Nick Foster, Executive Director



Dear Columbia UCC:

Greetings to you! I am writing today to thank **you for your generous contributions** to Our Church's Wider Mission Fund (OCWM). As you know, with the support of our churches, the Conference is able to support our Search and Call transitions, lead various retreats throughout the conference, participate in the celebration of our ministers' ordinations and celebrations, and continue our work with our various ministries.

OCWM giving funds the work done by UCC of the Missouri Mid-South Conference and the national and global church. The Mid-South Conference has over 48,000 members in 139 local congregations across Missouri, Arkansas, and Memphis, TN. So far in 2019:

- Supported three Members in Discernment to become ordained in 2019
- Guided 27 churches through their search process
- Accompanied 21 delegates to the 32nd General Synod in Milwaukee, WI
- Welcomed two churches, who voted to become Open and Affirming in 2019
- Financially supported Ebenezer UCC, Levasy after the June flooding
- Held monthly video meetings
- Counseled churches threatened by steeplejackers
- Welcomed 225 people to our Conference Annual Gathering

But there is so much ministry left to do in 2019! Please continue your support and generous contributions, and thank you again!

Blessings,
Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel

MODERATORS MOMENT

Moderator's Moment

Fall weather will soon be with us, and with fall comes Rally Day and the return to Sunday School classes. How fortunate we are to have Pat Forward leading our Nurture and Education Ministry Team, and with all the great committee members she has helping her, we are blessed to offer a vibrant Christian Education program for all ages. More blessings are those that volunteer to be teachers and leaders of the different classes and study groups. I'm continually amazed at the generosity of our membership when it comes to offering their time and talents to all the various programs of our church. What's that popular phrase? "It takes a village." It absolutely takes our entire church community to make Columbia United Church of Christ a meaningful and inspirational place to worship and grow in faith. From the leadership and vision of Pastor Rick and his staff, the hard work of our Church Council, the selfless hours of all those who volunteer on committees and in different programs, and to all who show up on Sundays to 'refill their spiritual tanks,' we are each an important part of what makes CUCC the faith community we love.

This month we will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the first service in our current church sanctuary. September 22 will be a very special day. We will reflect on 50 years of worship together and recognize those that helped build the foundation of what CUCC has become today. We will pledge to honor those who left their legacy with us so we may continue the work of our Mission Statement:

CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:
Welcoming all God's People;
Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;
Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;
Building a supportive church family;
Transforming both the congregation and community through service and outreach

Let the next 50 years begin!

In faith,
John Graves
john@downtownappliance.com

SPECIAL MISSION PROJECT PROPOSAL

The Church Council, putting together the 2018 CUCC Budget, decided to dream big with a grand ministry plan and budgeted an extra amount of money to be used for a "Special Mission Project" to be determined at a later date. After some discernment by the congregation last year, guided by the Outreach and Advocacy Ministry Team, that money was given to Camp MoVal to refurbish one of their cabins.

In our 2019 budget, the Church Council decided to repeat this ministry goal and budgeted \$5750 for a "Special Mission Project." The Outreach and Advocacy Ministry Team, after some discernment about possible projects, has decided to recommend to the congregation that we spend this money on our Global Missions Ministries in Chiapas, disbursed as follows:

\$3000 to INESIN for their ongoing programs, including their Reforestation Program
\$2750 to Melel Xojobal for their work with the children of Chiapas

Both of these are agencies we visited and worked with on our last Mission Immersion Experience in Chiapas; and have historic connections with the United Church of Christ. The Outreach and Advocacy Ministry Team is seeking your input regarding this distribution. To share your thoughts, please contact Mahree Skala, Outreach and Advocacy Ministry Team Chair at skalamahree@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your continuing support of our outreach programs!

INCLUSION TEAM

A belated thank you for the wonderful turnout we had for our first Pride Sunday celebration last June. Except for a slightly crooked flag, it seemed to be a perfect worship experience. Our congregation and visitor feedback was very positive.

We were blessed to have members of Oasis UCC in Jefferson City join us for our August meeting. They also joined us at our booth during Pridefest August 24. We will have an update on that event next month!

On October 5, in Kansas City, there will be an ONA Convocation (informational meeting with workshops). The cost is minimal and members of the Inclusion Team plan to attend. This meeting is open to everyone. Pastor Rick will be sharing more information in the coming weeks.

This Team is continuing to develop ideas for focus months. We would love suggestions from the congregation. For instance, Black History month is February, LGBTQ is June, Down's Syndrome awareness is October, etc. We are looking to observe a 'focus on health' month to include physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing. The team would love suggestions from the congregation for a monthly focus. Please give your suggestions to anyone on the team; Pastor Rick, James Melton, Elaine Trout, Tricia Price, Stephen Keithahn, Claire Kespohl, Isaiah Jackson-Post, Lena Muench, Lindsey Oberle, or myself.

On a personal note, I feel so blessed to be a part of this inspiring congregational family!

Peace and Joy,
Alisa Lau-Sieckman

WE WELCOME
EVERYONE



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.

GETTING TO THE HEART OF INCLUSION 2.0

The Heartland Open and Affirming Coalition is hosting an Open and Affirming workshop on Saturday, October 5 from 1:00-5:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Donna Ross, former pastor of Zion United Church of Christ in St. Joseph, MO. She will be speaking on her journey of faith throughout the losses she has suffered in her life and her own experience as the first openly transwoman to become an Authorized Minister in the Missouri Mid-South Conference. Other workshops include "Living into being an ONA Church," "Transgender Understanding and Awareness," and "Learning about the Trans Youth Project." Cost is \$10/person.

If you are interested in attending, talk to Alisa Lau-Sieckman or Llona Weiss. Llona is serving on the Missouri Mid-South Conference Open and Affirming Exploration Task Force, and has forwarded this invitation to the Inclusion Team and the Congregation.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Guest speaker, Herb Willbrand on Estate & Tax Planning—October 20, 2019

A recent study conducted by H&R Block found that the average American has just four hours and twenty-six minutes of free time per week. With meetings and obligations inundating our daily schedules, it can often feel as though somebody with a remote control has set our lives to fast forward.

We must all make sure to get our estate planning in order as soon as possible. Failing to do so may allow our assets to fall into the wrong hands after we are gone.

When working with a local estate planning attorney, an individual must make certain decisions. For example, all individuals must name a fiduciary in each estate planning document. In a will, this person is called an executor or personal representative. In a trust, this person is called a trustee. In a power of attorney, this person is called an agent or attorney-in-fact.

Parents must also name someone in their wills to serve as legal guardian for any minor children. Once parents have considered who they would choose as guardian, they should interview that person to confirm that he or she would be willing and able to take on responsibility of raising their child.

Please join us on October 20 following worship when Herbert C. Willbrand will be answering questions and educating us on this topic. Herb graduated in 1959 from University of Missouri School of Law. He specializes in estate and tax planning including wills and trusts.

This event is sponsored by the Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team. We invite you to enjoy a soup and sandwich luncheon while listening to the speaker, so mark your calendars for this very informative presentation.



The Festival of Sharing- September Mission

by Kim Oberle

The Festival of Sharing is a cooperative response to world hunger, poverty, and injustice. These concerns motivate our actions to raise awareness of the causes and generate solutions. Our goal is to promote and support projects and programs by providing funding and resource goods. When people of faith come together and share, we can make a positive and powerful difference in the lives of people in need.

This year they will be hosting seven regional events throughout September and October. These interfaith gatherings of resources connect the state of Missouri with a common goal: providing resources for our neighbors in need. Join us to experience the joy of sharing!

The Outreach and Advocacy Team has chosen to collect hygiene kits/items this September to help support Festival of Sharing. Here are three ways you can help:

HYGIENE KITS

Our most needed kits! These little kits are jam-packed with supplies to help keep people clean and healthy. From toothbrushes to washcloths, you're making sure that someone's needs are going to be met in the wake of an emergency when even the most basic supplies can be hard to come by.

Supplies needed:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" to 16" x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel, or micro-fiber)
 - One washcloth
 - One wide-tooth comb removed from the package
 - One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package (either one is acceptable)
 - One bath size bar of soap in the original package
 - One toothbrush in the original package
 - Ten standard size Band-Aids
- Enclose all items in a one-gallon Ziploc type bag.



Approximate Value: \$15

DONATE \$15 and we will purchase the items. Make sure memo line or envelope has Festival of Sharing written on it.

ATTEND the quilt auction at the Knights of Columbus here in Columbia, MO on October 26. Quilt viewing begins at 9, with auction beginning at 12:30.

The primary purpose of the Memorial Education Fund is to encourage theological or Christian education in the United Church of Christ. The fund is to provide financial aid in the form of grants to any woman or man in the congregation who is preparing for ordained ministry or other religious vocations. Persons are to be (1) encouraged by the church to pursue their religious educational goals, and (2) will be assisted financially as funds will allow.

Funds may secondarily be used to support youth and college groups within the church and to support the education and training of teachers and leaders of Christian Education within the church as the committee shall determine on a case by case basis.

Over the past 44 years the fund has:

- 1) provided support to five seminary students
- 2) funded church school training
- 3) supported 35 campers, funded the purchase of Bibles for the Sunday School students
- 4) funded the Youth Leader's attendance at the National Youth Event

Please contact the church office to get an application or for more information.

Financial Update

	Actual	Budget	Over/ (Under)
July Income	\$22,002.27	\$23,831.87	(\$1,829.60)
YTD	\$182,174.41	\$176,660.49	\$5,513.92
July Expenses	\$22,262.24	\$23,695.55	(\$1,433.31)
YTD	\$175,654.30	\$182,208.91	(\$7,554.61)
YTD Income	\$182,174.41	\$176,660.49	\$5,513.92
YTD Expenses	\$175,654.30	\$183,208.91	(\$7,554.61)
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$6,520.11	(\$6,548.42)	\$13,068.53
July Attendance	581		

TREASURER'S REPORT *Doug Privitt, Recording Treasurer*

Date	Attendance	Actual	Budget
07/28/19	92	\$10,030.00	\$5,822.38
08/04/19	139	\$3,841.00	\$5,026.59
08/11/19	99	\$5,040.00	\$5,026.59
08/18/19	117	\$4,097.61	\$5,026.59
08/25/19	134	\$2,764.00	\$5,026.59

CUCC NOW 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: <https://www.kindridgiving.com/app/giving/cucc>
(or type it into your web browser)
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 directions on the text you receive back to set up your one time or recurring gift.

Give it a try! Text "GIVE" to 573.240.4041 and check it out!

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY MINISTRY TEAM

Food Bank News

It's Back to the Food Bank on September 10!

The Food Bank has reopened for evening hours, so we'll be back to our regular schedule of work, fellowship, and fun on September 10, 6:00-8:30 p.m. The choirs have signed up for that night, and there's still plenty of room for more people. Please mark your calendars for the second Tuesdays of the next several months. We are needed more than ever, and it's always fun to see what food we'll work with next.



Loaves N Fishes

The August 19 meal at L&F consisted of spaghetti, salad, beanie weenies and a variety of desserts. Patty Beeson donated the salad, and brownies were donated by Anne Heine and Brenda Muench. Servers/dishwashers were David Martin, Brenda & John Muench, Anne Heine, John Bullerd, Patty Beeson, and two of her students, Patrick and Albertine. Approximately 63 firsts and 54 seconds and carry-outs were served.

The Outreach and Advocacy Team thanks everyone who helped with the Voluntary Action Center's (VAC) "Back to School" collection. VAC reported they were able to hand out over 700 backpacks and additional school supplies to children for this school year. They were also able to provide free dental and vision screenings, haircuts, and access to other agencies and organizations.

Thank you, thank you for supporting our youth and our future!

Llona Weiss

"PARTNERSHIP FRIENDS" with COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The CUCC Outreach and Advocacy Team is interested in becoming a "Partnership Friend" in the near future with an elementary school in the Columbia Public Schools (CPS). Being a Partnership Friend is a smaller commitment than being a "Partner in Education (PIE)." We met with a representative from the CPS to discuss what our church might be able to do in this regard. CPS stressed that PIEs and Friends are long-term commitments and there are several Columbia churches who belong to these support groups. Our church could become a CPS Friend with an elementary school to provide something once a school year, or once a semester (2 times per school year). Examples include gift cards and/or food for teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week, or doing a community service project with school students, or something at Christmas/Holiday time with cards or singing, or providing treats for special events or occasions at the school. The CUCC Outreach and Advocacy Team through a designated Liaison would work with the school principal to determine the need.



In order to gauge the support from our congregation for getting involved in this endeavor, we are putting out a short survey. Please complete this survey form from the Communicator, or a survey form offered at Rally Day on Sunday, September 8, 2019. Please return the completed survey form to the church office by Monday, September 16, 2019.

Thank you! These young students are our future!

CPS "FRIEND" – SURVEY

Do you want CUCC to make the commitment to support our public schools by becoming a CPS "Partnership Friend"? Yes No

If Yes, would you be willing to give us your name and contact phone and email to be called upon for future support items/funds, etc. to support an elementary school? The school choice would be a joint decision between CPS and CUCC for the best fit. Yes No
(info) _____

Would you support an annual item in the CUCC Budget for support of being a CPS Partnership Friend, such as \$500 or other? Yes No Other \$ _____

Or, would you support a single annual congregation donation drive to support CUCC as a Partnership Friend (like we do with CROP Walk, Festival of Sharing, etc.)? Yes No

2019 CROP WALK Kick-Off Rally

Sunday, August 4 ~ 6 to 8 p.m.

Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture Farm
Smith & Fay Streets

Get CROP Walk information and resources! Meet local food program partners!

Enjoy a light meal featuring produce from CCUA's farm & a tour!

Please RSVP to ensure enough food for all - or questions - contact cucc.brad@gmail.com

STEPPING UP TO END HUNGER FOR 50 YEARS!

Join us in celebrating the 50-year anniversary of the first CROP WALK.

In October 1969, 1,000 people in Bismarck, ND walked in the "grand-daddy of charity walks" and raised \$25,000 to end hunger at home and around the world.

More than 5 million walkers have participated in 36,000 Walks in the past 20 years alone. In 2018, over 2,000 communities joined in CROP Hunger Walks.

<https://resources.crophungerwalk.org/about-the-crop-hunger-walk-and-cws/>

<https://resources.crophungerwalk.org/50th-anniversary/>

<https://cwsglobal.org/about/history/>

SAVE THE DATE: Columbia CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, September 15 - Stephens Lake Park beginning at 1 p.m.

CROP WALK 2019 50th ANNIVERSARY

September 15 @ Stephens Lake Park, Gordon Shelter, Registration @ 1 p.m.

A light lunch will be available for walkers, near Collins Shelter, courtesy of Broadway Christian Church.

Welcome & Step Off @ 1:40 p.m.

Walk on the web at

www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo

and select our team "CUCC Crop Walkers" to donate or register to walk, or go to

www.columbiaucc.com,

click on "Donate to CUCC" and select CROP Walk from the "Choose a Fund" dropdown.

Over the years many of our congregation have gotten to know and participate in the CROP Hunger Walk. Did you know that it turns 50 this year? Why did those first walkers walk and what does that mean for us? It all started in Bismarck, North Dakota in 1969. A group of young people were hearing stories about famine, hunger, and poverty around the world. They knew they needed to help.

The youth challenged themselves and their neighbors to walk 20 miles as a way to relate to people around the world walking long distances to survive. It wasn't only an act of solidarity. It was an act to shorten that journey for people. For every mile they walked, they asked friends and family to donate to the food and water projects of Church World Service.

Needless to say, that little event was a huge success. From Bismarck, the ideas spread from town to town all over the country, and a little walking event became a national movement to end hunger known as the CROP Hunger Walk. Fifty years later, a few things have changed. We're walking much, much less than 20 miles and not only does the Walk support the global hunger and poverty-fighting work of Church World Service, but a portion of the funds helps families right here in Columbia. And it makes a real difference!

From providing clean water in remote regions of Argentina, or latrines in Vietnam, from houses in Haiti, to schools for refugee children in Serbia, our CROP Hunger Walk helps people in over 30 countries. In addition, the Walk locally supports Loaves and Fishes Community Meal, Russell Chapel Community Food Pantry, Latter House Food Pantry, Fifth Street Christian Church, and Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture (CCUA).

Won't you be a part of the CROP Hunger Walk this year on September 15? Start by making a difference with your own donation; it only takes \$50 to provide an entire month's worth of food for a family who has been displaced. There are multiple ways to donate.

You can go to www.columbiaucc.com, click on "Donate to CUCC" and select CROP Walk from the "Choose a Fund" dropdown, or put your gift into the envelopes that will be in the Sunday Bulletin on 9/1, 9/8, and 9/15. There will be a display in the gathering area with more information.

For us, it's not a hard walk, but for others it's a matter of life and death. Let's take this opportunity to join together as a congregation and community. Let's take this opportunity to walk together for others and to make a difference on this journey. Together, we can carry on in the footsteps of those young people in North Dakota 50 years ago. Together, we can end hunger one step at a time.

CROP - Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty

The Walk is planned and coordinated by a team of representatives from faith communities and local partners.

Local Grant Recipients

25% of the funds fight hunger in Columbia through food and meal programs who make annual application.



Loaves & Fishes Community Meal, operating under the auspices of the St. Francis Catholic Worker Community, is housed in Wilkes Blvd United Methodist Church at the corner of 7th & Wilkes. Each evening more than 100 meals are provided and served by church and community groups to anyone who needs a meal. CROP WALK funds help cover the Soup Kitchen's basic operating expenses such as rent, equipment repair and replacement, meal supplies such as napkins/trash bags, and supplemental food and milk.



Russell Chapel Community Food Pantry, 108 E Ash Street, is open two Saturdays per month and served 3,850 persons last year. People served live in the immediate neighborhood and throughout the County. CROP WALK funds purchase food to supplement food received from the Food Bank of Central & Northeast Missouri and pays for other expenses of the pantry, such as utilities, transportation, and refrigeration.



Latter House Food Pantry, 4914 Prairie Ridge Street, is an outreach ministry of Destiny Worship Center (formerly Latter House Kingdom Ministries) in northeast Columbia. The pantry, open 1 Saturday per month and as needed, served more than 85 persons per month last year – providing food and household items. CROP WALK funds purchase and transport food to supplement that received from the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri and provides emergency assistance to families in crisis.



Fifth Street Christian Church provides a monthly community meal - *Feed the Community* - in their neighborhood on North Fifth Street and delivers meals to elderly who cannot travel to the church building. CROP WALK funds are used to purchase food and supplies for the meals and emergency food for families when needed. Last year, approximately 100 persons per month were served a meal on one Saturday a month. The Church serves a transient population and the needs change from month to month.



Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture (CCUA) provides food and education for the community in a variety of ways. CROP WALK funds support the *Planting for the Pantry* program which provides fresh produce from the Urban Farm to local hunger relief agencies. The *Opportunity Garden* program empowers families living with reduced resources to independently grow, cook and preserve food by providing mentoring services and garden supplies.

Church World Service

75% of the funds are forwarded to Church World Service, the national CROP sponsor.

A collaborative ministry of 30 faith organizations, working to provide innovative, sustainable solutions to hunger and poverty around the world, CWS works with local partners to provide critical resources wherever needed: emergency supplies, blankets, food packets, seeds and gardening supplies, water wells, literacy and community development training, micro-grants and loans and so much more. Learn more at <http://www.cwsglobal.org/>

NURTURE AND EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM

VBS 2019 – A Huge Success!

Thank you to Lena Muench and Gina Pierson for Co-Chairing “ROAR” this year! Forty-six children attended, and over forty volunteers helped in so many capacities.

This year we offered dinner to everyone – children, their families, and volunteers – at no cost.

Thank you to the five groups that volunteered to serve the meals each night; the Nurture & Education Team, Men’s Fellowship, Women’s Fellowship, Youth, and the Church Council. Thank you to Valerie Schoeneberg for planning and preparing the meals each night.

Bible Study 101

You Might Be Interested in this Bible Study. . .

- ⇒ If your Bible Study was Sunday School Class a few years back
- ⇒ If your Bible Study was Confirmation Class
- ⇒ If you don’t go to Sunday School
- ⇒ If you want to learn again what you learned then
- ⇒ If you learned the Bible as a literal rule book
- ⇒ If you just want a place to hang out while the kids are in Sunday School

I invite you to join me in an adventure in reading and understanding the Bible. We will meet at 9 a.m. in an upstairs classroom each Sunday morning beginning September 8 (Rally Day).

Rev. Bryan Crousore



Sunday School

This Fall we will have four Sunday School classes for our children and youth: Preschool/Kindergarten; 1-4 Grade; 5-8 Grade; 9-12 Grade.

If you would like to help lead our young people’s Sunday School classes, contact Pat Forward, Chair of Nurture & Education Ministry Team at pdfoward@msn.com.

Rally Day—Sunday, September 8

Sunday School for Children will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary with Pastor Rick and Kristin Veteto, Music Coordinator.

The children and teachers will then go to their classrooms for a short get-to-know-you activity.

After that, the classes will head outside to three activity stations; a Bounce House, a Tattoo station, and a Craft station, dismissing at 10:00 a.m.

High School Youth will meet in the Youth Lounge, downstairs.



The children and youth are helping Ronald McDonald House by bringing aluminum can tabs to CUCC. Adults can bring tabs too! Please put your tabs in the boxes in the gathering area.

CUCC LUNCH BUNCH

On the fourth Thursday of each month, a hearty group of Columbia United Church of Christ members and friends get together for a noon carry-in meal that we like to call the CUCC Lunch Bunch. This group is open to everyone regardless of age or any other determining factor. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring a dish to share.

After our meal at noon, we have a guest speaker who presents a program from 12:30-1:30 on topical issues in our community.

On September 26, Stefanie Zimny will come speak about the importance of stretching and taking care of our bodies. She will get us up and moving with some relaxing Yoga techniques. Come stretch and learn with us!

Suicide Prevention Workshop

All are
Welcome!
Youth and
Adults!

October 6, 2019

12:30-3:00pm

(Lunch will be served at 11:30am)

Columbia United Church of Christ

Let's face it, suicide is a tough discussion to have with anyone; especially our youth. Unfortunately, it is a very real presence in today's world. From cyberbullying to body shaming or even disenfranchisement of individuals because of sexual orientation or gender identity, suicide is a very real problem facing many in our world; especially our youth. Let's get together and learn how to have a healthy conversation that could potentially save someone's life.

We will:

- Look at suicide in the Bible
- Discuss ways to talk openly about suicide
- Learn how the words we use in everyday conversation matter to people who may be suicidal
- Learn what a PIT crew is
- Practice a discussion you could have with someone you think might be suicidal
- Learn and collaborate with each other as to how to deal with the topic of suicide in your youth groups (and in other social circles)

Please RSVP by October 2, 2019, even if it is a "guesstimate" by visiting www.columbiaucc.com and clicking on the "Suicide Prevention Workshop" tab on the home page. There will be a free will offering collected for the meal (suggested \$10/person), with all proceeds going towards the CUCC Youth trip to NYE in July 2020. Questions? Contact Rev. Rick Oberle: rick@columbiaucc.com

Session Leader: Cindy Birkner

Cindy Gillam Birkner has worked in Youth Ministry for over 15 years and is currently serving as the Youth Resource Coordinator for the Missouri Mid-South Conference. In her years of Youth Ministry, Cindy has curated has volumes of resources in mission trip planning, youth lead worship opportunities, group building activities, and dealing with crisis situations in Youth Ministry. Cindy lives in St. Peters, MO with her husband and several rescue dogs. She is the mother of three grown children.



MEMBERSHIP AND CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Yoga Fitness

Membership and Care would like to extend a way for members and guests to become involved in an activity after church one Sunday a month. Yoga is a great way to stretch, move and feel connected to your body. There are lots of speculations about if one can 'do' yoga or not. I always ask someone if they can breathe, if the answer is yes, you can do Yoga! It doesn't take flexibility, balance or strength, just your breath and an open mind to giving it your best shot!

We will try having it on the first Sunday of the month so you can plan accordingly, but be on the lookout for a few date changes with other things happening in the church. Our first will be Sunday, Sept. 1. Looking forward to sharing yoga with all of you! Please let me know if you have any questions!

Stefanie Zimny,
Chair Membership and Care Ministry Team

*** Stefanie will also be at CUCC Lunch Bunch on September 26 to lead a group exercise session and share about the benefits of Yoga on the mind and body.*

Yoga Fitness For The Whole Family

A 45 MIN-1 HOUR YOGA CLASS FOR ALL LEVELS



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST
11AM- AFTER SERVICE
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Want to try yoga but don't know where to start? Love yoga and would enjoy a great after church exercise? We'd love to have you! Bring a change of clothes or just wear them to church, a mat if you have one or a towel, water bottle, any yoga accessories you would like and a place in your hearts to LOVE and GROW!

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

From Your Music Coordinator

"To everything (turn, turn, turn). There is a season (turn, turn, turn). And a time to every purpose, under heaven." The author of Ecclesiastes and The Byrds had it right when they spoke, or rather sang, about there being a season for everything. A time for rest. A time for change. We are entering a new season here at CUCC. A season of reflection and witness. A season of joy and celebration. And of course a season of cooler weather, falling leaves, and MU football.

As we begin this Fall, we will be joining together in song to help celebrate CUCC's 50th Anniversary on September 22, followed by a season of reflection and thanksgiving as we prepare to enter the season of Advent.

As always, please reach out if you are interested in joining any of the music ensembles here at CUCC. We are always excited to welcome new members! Questions and concerns about the music at CUCC are always welcome.

Blessings to each of you in whatever season you find yourself,

Kristin

kristinnoelveteto@gmail.com

(309) 221-3198

Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m. resumes on 9/8/2019.

We will celebrate Holy Communion on 9/8/2019 and 9/22/2019, but not on 9/1/2019.

The Banner/Visual Team of the Worship and Music Ministry is in the midst of preparing for the 50th Celebration, amongst other projects. If you are interested in working with the Banner/Visual Team, please contact [Peter Jaberg](#).

FELLOWSHIP AND HOSPITALITY MINISTRY TEAM

UPCOMING EVENTS Lots of fun and fellowship is being planned by your Fellowship and Hospitality Ministry Team. Mark your calendars for these upcoming good times—

Sunday, September 8 – Rally Day Picnic/Fish Fry – Fred Malicoat and Mike Rapp will be frying fish and French fries for lunch after church. Fellowship and Hospitality will complete the meal with baked beans, slaw, and watermelon. **The congregation is asked to bring cookies for dessert.**



Sunday, October 27 -Trunk or Treat – We had so much fun last year, we’re going to do it again. Decorate your car trunk and bring some treats for the kiddos. This is a chance for us all to be kids at heart. You’re encouraged, but certainly not required to come in costume. We’ll have trick or treating outside and games inside followed by a chili supper complete with hot dogs and trimmings.

Sunday, November 10 - Veteran Recognition – An all church breakfast honoring our CUCC Veterans. We hope our Veterans will share service mementos and maybe a story or two. Men’s Fellowship will assist with breakfast preparations, and there will be a patriotic theme throughout.

Sunday, November 24 – Hanging of the Greens – Expanded this year to include more kid friendly activities. Please join us for a light lunch after church followed by activities for our young people, and a transformation of the sanctuary and surrounding areas. Many hands make light work, and we can use yours as we ready the church for Confirmation to be held the following Sunday, and ready our hearts for the coming of the Christ child. **If you have an idea or craft that you would like to share, please let Jolene or Val know.**

Sunday, December 8 – Christmas Banquet – Free and open to all – details in the works.

All these activities are better if you’re there. Please make an effort to be a part of them.

KITCHEN UPDATE – Our Church kitchen could use some new items. If you’re interested in purchasing something, but would like to shop from home, please click the attached link:

www.walmart.com/lists/view-events-registry-items?id=f7321ea6-a473-49df-a37d-dcfelca4bf83

The items will be sent directly to the Church. Thanks to Val for setting this up.

Sunday Volunteer Schedule for September

Below is the Sunday Volunteer Schedule for September. As you can see, we are in need of some spots to be filled, and other spots to be shared with new faces. 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 and we’re glad you have chosen CUCC as your church home!

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Worship Leaders	Acolyte	Sound Booth	Hospitality
09/01	Stefanie Zimny Helen Schultz	Mike & Sharon Rapp	Audrey Lasley	Katelin Odneal	Pete Jaberg	Jolene Kirchhoff
09/08	John & Brenda Muench	Doug Privitt Jan Barry	Llona Weiss	Aidan Pierson	Jamie Rapp	Sue Ann Schaefer
09/15	Carol Duermeyer Audrey Lasley	NEED NEED	Pat Forward	Abby Dennis	Matt Lucas	Lena Muench
09/22	Pat Forward NEED	Llona Weiss NEED	Bryan Crousore	Riley Hayward	Brent Marcks	Helen Schultz
09/29	Anne Heine Keith Birkes	Christine Staelens NEED	Andie Rapp	Katelin Odneal	Dennis Froeschner	Elaine Trout

LODO HAPPENINGS

The LODO halls are full of friends laughing and learning! We are so excited to start the 2019-2020 school year and for all the fun things we have planned for the year! Throughout our days we will help children to identify their feelings and guide them through managing emotions in a safe way. Children will build their independence while knowing that staff are available for help. Students will learn how to communicate with peers using kind words and behaviors to share and take turns while playing. We will also introduce concepts of shapes, colors, numbers, letters, and much, much more! Our days are full of learning and growing through the love of God, and our love of God.



August/September Themes:

Back to School/Friendship/Manners

Emotions and Feelings

All About Me/Five Senses

Creation

Apples

We would love to have CUCC members volunteer to share a favorite hobby with LODO students, or visit to be a guest reader. Please contact Erika at littleonesdayout@yahoo.com if you are interested in scheduling a time to contribute to our learning at LODO!

With Love,
Ms. Erika

A TEACHER PLANTS THE SEEDS
OF KNOWLEDGE
SPRINKLES THEM
WITH LOVE
AND PATIENTLY
NURTURES
THEIR GROWTH
TO PRODUCE
TOMORROW'S
DREAMS



LODO SUNDAY AT CUCC

Our Little One's Day Out preschool (LODO) is a special ministry of our church; and on September 29 we will be celebrating that ministry! September 29 will be LODO Sunday at Columbia United Church of Christ. On that Sunday, we will be issuing a special invitation to our LODO children and parents, encouraging them to come and participate in our worship service.

The LODO Children will be offering the music that day. They will be working especially hard this month with Kristin Veteto and their teachers to learn the songs. Come hear them praise God in their wonderful, unique way. We will also have a video presentation focused on our LODO activities and a special presentation from Ms. Erika. Don't miss it!

Thank you to everyone for the thoughts, prayers, cards, and meals after my surgery. Your generosity and love raised my spirits during recovery! I am doing well and I am so excited to be back at LODO doing what I love to do best!

Sincerely,
Erika Maltsbarger





COLUMBIA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IS WORKING IN INDIA

The Durgapur diocese of the Church of North India is involved in a number of ministries that care for all ages and members of the community. These ministries include a thriving medical hospital and eye clinic, a nurse training program, an anti-human trafficking program, homes for children at risk of being trafficked, gardening projects, emergency relief programs, and income generating projects. The anti-trafficking programs of the Diocese continue to grow and the Diocese runs six child development centers and four residential homes. Each center provides a range of opportunities for more than 350 children (many others are awaiting admission).

The Diocese of Durgapur is a Global Missions Partner of CUCC through Global Ministries, our shared mission agency with the Christian Church/Disciples of Christ. Global Ministries provides special support for these projects within the Diocese. Please keep Global Ministries and the Diocese of Durgapur in your prayers in September!

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

September 1-7	Danielle Murry-Knowles	working in Lesotho
September 8-14	Nikotemo Sopepa	working in Fiji
September 15-21	Fiona Kendall	working in Italy
September 22-28	Judy Chan	working in Hong Kong
September 28- October 5	Ignacio Salinas	working in Nicaragua

YOUTH IN MISSION AT HIRAM FARM

From July 21-26, five youth from Columbia UCC and five youth from Peace UCC, Hartsburg participated in a mission trip to Hiram Farm in Hiram, Ohio. Hiram Farm is a working farm providing work and teaching life skills to adults with autism. Our youth participated in several projects while on the farm. Their main project involved renovating the farm house. The front porch, back porch, and front porch roof were in serious need of help, so the youth spent several days cleaning moss and mildew off the roof, cleaning mud and growth out of the gutters and downspouts, scraping, sanding, and painting both decks. When they finished, the house looked much better.

They also spent time working in the barn with the “farmers” (the clients with autism) and on their last day, played a game of kickball with the farmers. Their final day in Ohio was a “fun day” spent at a waterpark in Cleveland, and visiting the National Offices of the United Church of Christ. They even got to meet with our General Minister and President, John Dorhauer!

This was truly a life-changing experience for these youth as they grew closer to each other and developed their faith even more. You will be hearing more from these High Schoolers as the days and months go by as they share with you the lessons of faith they learned working together at Hiram Farm!



Looking For a Place to Serve Locally?

The Central Missouri STOP Human Trafficking Coalition is looking for volunteers who can give rides, deliver groceries, help at events, and more.

If you are over 18, have a vehicle, and a heart for those who have survived the harsh reality that is Modern Day Slavery, contact [Nanette Ward](#) at 573-289-1842 with any questions you may have, or to volunteer.



ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR IN SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Yoga Sunday 9:00am Fellowship 9:30am Worship	2 LODO & Church Office CLOSED	3 9-1 Quilters 4-6pm Chinese Choir 6:30pm Outreach & Advocacy	4 6pm Bible Study 6:30pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Celebration Singers	5 6:30pm Clergy Personnel Committee	6	7
8  RALLY DAY 9:00am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	9 5:45pm LODO Board 6:30pm Music & Worship Ministry Team	10 9am-1pm Quilters 10am Staff Meeting 4-6pm Chinese Choir 6pm Food Bank 6:30pm Nurture & Education Ministry Team	11 11:30am By-Laws Team 6pm Bible Study 6:30pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Celebration Singers	12 9:30am Women's Fellowship	13	14 Fellowship Hall booked
15 9:00am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship CROP WALK 1pm @ Gordon Shelter Stephens Lake Park	16 4:30pm Loaves & Fishes	17 9am-1pm Quilters 1:30pm LODO Staff Meeting 4-6pm Chinese Choir 6:30pm Council	18 6pm Bible Study 6:30pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Celebration Singers	19 6:30pm Inclusion Team	20	21 CUCC 50th Anniversary BBQ Tailgate Party
22 9:00am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12pm 50th Anniversary Dinner	23 11:30am By-Laws Team 6:30pm Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team	24 9am-1pm Quilters 10am Staff Meeting 4-6pm Chinese Choir 6:30pm Membership & Care Ministry Team	25 6pm Bible Study 6:30pm Chapel Ringers 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Celebration Singers	26 12pm CUCC Lunch Bunch	27	28 Tipton Sharefest
29 LODO Sunday 9:00am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 6:30pm Pastor Rick leads Worship @ Lenoir	30 LODO CLOSED	1	2	3	4	5

THE COMMUNICATOR

Columbia United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation- ONA #1575
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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 so, please contact
[Rev. Rick Oberle](#)
for further information

**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**



ATTENTION

If you are in the Church building after office hours and the office staff (or another person) is still downstairs, please let the office (or that person) know so the alarm is not set while you are still in the building. We have had numerous alerts and calls from our security system team due to the alarm going off while someone was still in the building. We are charged if the police show up to check the premises, even if the alarm goes off by mistake.

Also, please make sure you check the building prior to setting the alarm and be sure it is set and all the church doors are locked prior to leaving. Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Dear Teacher

Just another ordinary student
If not for you, I would have been
Ignored, forgotten, lost in the crowd
My potential, if you wouldn't have seen
My student life would be replete
With insignificance and mediocrity
If you didn't make me realize my worth
Making me the best that I could be...

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.