

Columbia United Church Of Christ



July 30, 2023
"Interim Ministry"



CUCC

Columbia United Church of Christ

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.

*Columbia
United Church
Of Christ*



July 30, 2023

9:30 Worship

"Interim Ministry"

*"... Give thanks to God; call upon God's name;
Make God's deeds known to all people..."
-Psalm 106:5*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

Amy Crousore
Henson/Rodriguez

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 105)

Audrey Lasley

Give thanks to God; call upon God's name!
Make God's deeds known among all people!

**Sing to God; Sing praises to God!
Tell all of God's wonderful works!**

Let God's name be glorified;
Let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice!

**We are God's Children;
And we celebrate God's wonderful works!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Gathering Hymn

"Bring Many Names"

(insert)

*Opening Prayer

Audrey Lasley

Great Living God of many names, You call us into relationships that come and go as we commit ourselves to interim ministry in times and places of Your choosing. We give thanks for the relationships we form and the bonds that last across time and space as we focus on Your call. As we gather in worship today, we celebrate the ministries of our past, present, and future and ask Your blessing on all that is to come. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God Creates potential for ministry in each one of us, and as those ministries intersect, we are blessed with beloved relationship and divine covenant. Our lives are enlivened by the relationships we share. As one family of Christ, we know that through our repentance and God's grace, we are forgiven, beloved, and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

“Seek Ye First”

***Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
And God’s Righteousness!
And all these things shall be added unto you
Al-le-lu, Al-le-lu-ia!***

*Sharing God’s Gift of Peace

Pastor Rick

May God’s Peace be with you!
And also with you!

Children’s Time

Pastor Rick

Response:

“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus”

(Sung as children return to their seats)

***Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
Things I would ask him to tell me if he were here;
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
Stories of Jesus, tell them to me!***

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 29:15-28

Audrey Lasley

In another example of “Biblical Marriage,” Laban tricks Jacob into taking Leah as his wife instead of Rachel after working seven years to “earn” her. Jacob desires Rachel, but he must marry Leah. After another seven years of labor, he “earns” Rachel also, and he becomes husband to both.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:31-33

Audrey Lasley

Jesus tells the parable of the mustard seed and the yeast. Both the mustard seed and the yeast “corrupt” their host. What wisdom does this evidence of “corruption” hold for us today?

Anthem

“Faithful Over a Few Things”

Celebration Singers
Glenn Burleigh

Sermon

“Interim Ministry”

Pastor Rick

Recognition of Ministry: A Time of Farewell for Brandon Brown & Amy Crousore

(adapted from Book of Worship: United Church of Christ)

Our church family is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, and new opportunities. It is important that we recognize these times of passages, of endings and beginnings. Today, we share the time of farewell with friends who are leaving.

*Vows of Release

Pastor Rick

Do you, the congregation of Columbia United Church of Christ, release Brandon and Amy from the duties of Music Coordinator and Accompanist in this place? If so, please answer, "We do."

Do you offer encouragement for their continued ministries in their next ministry settings and their continued discernment of God's call in their lives? If so, please answer, "We do."

Do you give thanks for the time our ministries intersected and look forward to the day we are united again? If so, please answer, "We do."

*Prayer

O God, we give thanks for the covenant we share, for times when we have shared our ministry, intersecting with one another to glorify You. We thank You for the moments we have shared with Brandon and Amy in worship, in learning, in service, in devotion to You. We pray they both stay aware of Your Spirit guiding them as they move to new places and new ministries in Your name. Guide us all as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time comes when we are completely one with You and with each other. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray; Amen.

Blessing

Pastor Rick

Creator God, we ask Your Blessing on Amy and Brandon as they move on to their next ministries in Your name. As they go, we ask that You multiply the gifts already present within them, enable them to truly and faithfully maintain their focus on Your call in their lives, and nourish within them the power of Your Holy Spirit, that they may always serve You in the world. God's blessings are upon you both, Brandon and Amy, children of God, disciples of Christ.

*Hymn

"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

(insert)

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

*The LORD's Prayer *(sung by the Congregation, Brandon Brown)*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

“Grant Us Peace”
Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
Hear our prayer, O Lord!
Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
And Grant us Thy Peace! A-men!

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

Mission Moment

“Food Bank”

Mahree Skala

Invitation to the Offering

As we have been blessed, we give to be blessings in God’s World.
To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041

Offertory

“How Can I Keep from Singing”

Amy Crousore
Quaker Tune

*Prayer of Dedication

Audrey Lasley

Creator God, we give these gifts today as symbols of our mutual ministry here in this place. As our gifts entwine with each other we ask Your blessings on them, that they may multiply and be used to glorify You by serving Your world. Amen.

*Benediction

Pastor Rick

*Response

“Let There be Peace on Earth”

Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with me!
Let there be Peace on Earth; the Peace that was meant to be!
With God our Creator, Children all are we!
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony!
Let Peace begin with me; let this be the moment now!
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be Peace on Earth; and let it begin with me!

*Postlude

“Praise to the Living God”

Amy Crousore
Lani Smith

We are on Summer Schedule!

Fellowship Time - 9:00 a.m. Worship - 9:30 a.m.

9:00 Sunday School and 10:30 worship resume September 10

Columbia United Church of Christ

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amycrousore@gmail.com

LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger

littleonesdayout@yahoo.com

Custodian: Caleb Berry

calebprenticeberry@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Audrey Lasley

Ushers: Phillip & Linda Neale

Greeters: Judi Privitt

Technology: Doug Privitt

Hospitality: Judi Privitt

Council Stewards: Mary Lorber

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Pat Forward

Ushers: Jim Loveless & Mahree Skala

Greeters: Susan Dunham

Technology:

Hospitality: Audrey Lasley

Council Stewards:



Online giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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heinekurt@gmail.com

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NURSERY CARE is available for children in kindergarten and younger in room #201 in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

MUSIC THIS SUMMER

The music ministry is seeking your musical talents during Sunday morning worship services through August 20. You can sing or play an instrument during the “anthem” portion of the service or participate as the song leader. If you would like to sign up to either do the anthem and/or be the song leader, scan this QR code, email Brandon Brown. or email MJ!



Summer Worship

RSVP FOR ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND TODAY

Have you registered for our Anniversary weekend yet? All attendees must register ahead of time for catering counts. If you have not done so yet, you can do so today by filling out a card on the table by the door, you can scan the QR code to the right, or call MJ in the church office.



Anniversary RSVP

ORDINATION SUNDAY 8/20

Ordination Sunday is 8/20! We will welcome back to our congregation members who have gone to Seminary and been ordained to ministry in the United Church of Christ: Rev. Joshua Privitt, Dr. Carole Barner, and the Rev. Todd Hackman! We will have a pot luck brunch after worship to celebrate this special bond we share; bring a dish for the potluck!

START COLLECTING FOR ALPHA HART 8/6-8/27

Starting next Sunday and thru the month of August, we will be collecting packages of dry erase markers to be donated to Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School! They have requested the **Expo brand** of dry erase markers. In honor of our 100th anniversary, we would like to collect 100 packages of **Expo Dry Erase Markers** for Alpha Hart! Bring your marker donation to church Sundays in August. See Llona Weiss for more details.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

| | | | |
|-----|------|--|------------|
| Sun | 7/30 | Bible Study | 8:30 a.m. |
| | | Fellowship Time | 9:00 a.m. |
| | | Worship (in person and livestream) | 9:30 a.m. |
| | | Farewell Brunch | 10:30 a.m. |
| | | Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team | 11:00 a.m. |
| | | Vacation Bible School | 5:30 p.m. |
| Mon | 7/31 | Vacation Bible School | 5:30 p.m.. |
| Tue | 8/1 | Quilters | 10:00 a.m. |
| | | Vacation Bible School | 5:30 p.m. |
| Thu | 8/3 | Girl Scouts | 6:00 p.m. |
| Sun | 8/6 | Bible Study | 8:30 a.m. |
| | | Fellowship Time | 9:00 a.m. |
| | | Worship (in person and livestream) | 9:30 a.m. |

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Roger Roskins . . . health issues (Lena Muench's father)

Health Issues:

Glenn Duermeyer; John Adams; Cliff Beckman; Ed Kaiser;
Jessica Raymond; Neal Stumbo (Jean Strothmann's nephew)

Terry & Mike Freeman (friends of the Remeikas)

Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece)

Jessica Jenks . . . recovering from surgery

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our partnership friend

Sheila . . . challenges in life and faith

The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Bea Gordon, Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt,

Vernie Blank

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Helen Graves

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden,

James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:

Welcoming all God's Children;

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



*If you try to fit God into your life, You will
never have time for God.*

*If you try to fit your life into God, You will
always have time for what matters.*

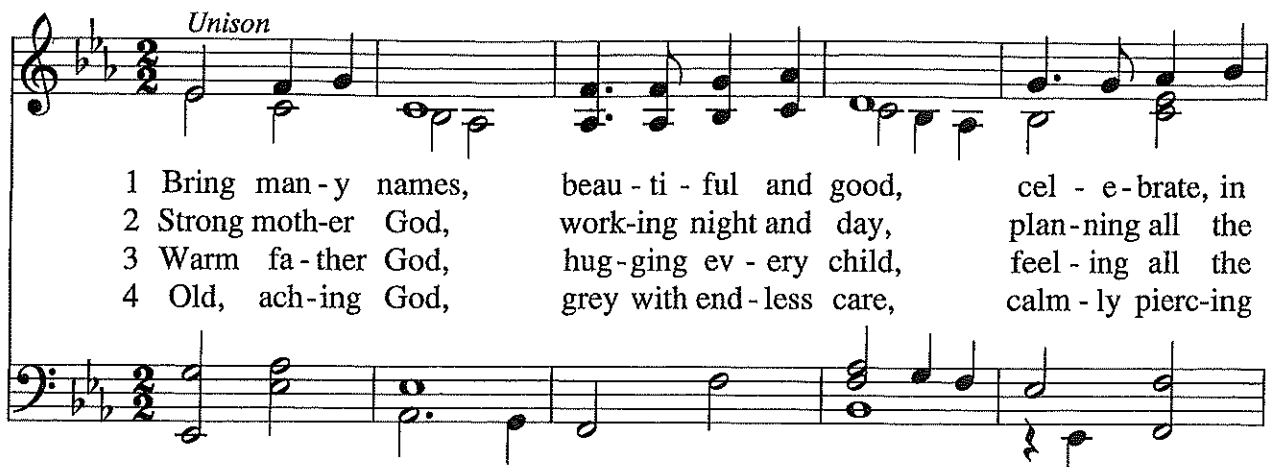
Bring Many Names

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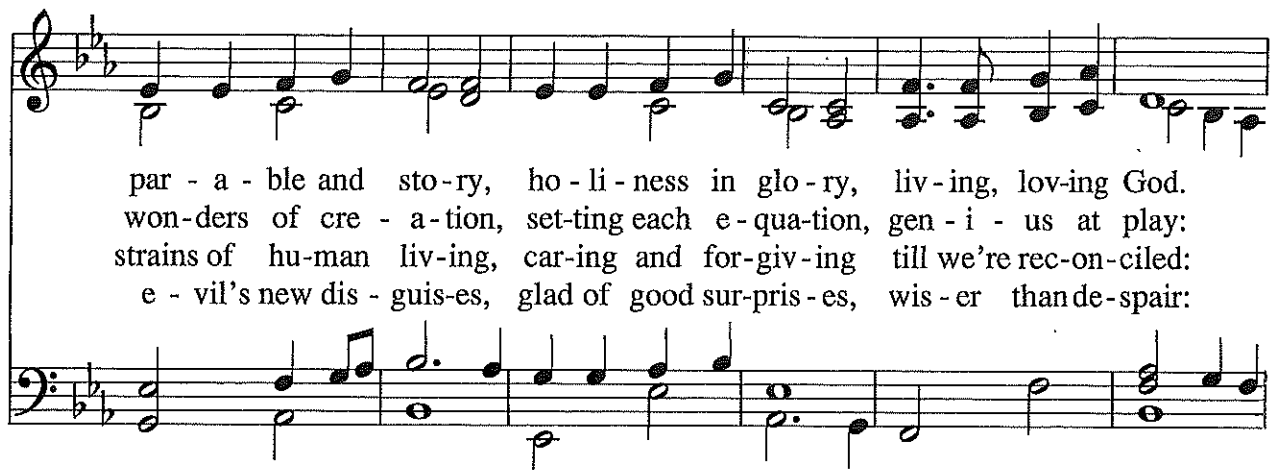
Brian Wren, 1989

Gen. 1:27


Unison



1 Bring man - y names, beau - ti - ful and good, cel - e - brate, in
 2 Strong moth - er God, work - ing night and day, plan - ning all the
 3 Warm fa - ther God, hug - ging ev - ery child, feel - ing all the
 4 Old, ach - ing God, grey with end - less care, calm - ly pierc - ing



par - a - ble and sto - ry, ho - li - ness in glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God.
 won - ders of cre - a - tion, set - ting each e - qua - tion, gen - i - us at play:
 strains of hu - man liv - ing, car - ing and for - giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled:
 e - vil's new dis - guis - es, glad of good sur - pris - es, wis - er than de - spair:



Hail and Ho - san - na! bring man - y names! great, liv - ing God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, strong moth - er God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, warm fa - ther God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, old, ach - ing God!

5 Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger,
 on the move,
 say - ing no to false - hood and
 un - kind - ness,
 cry - ing out for jus - tice,
 giv - ing all you have:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 young, grow - ing God!

6 Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,
 joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing,
 clos - er yet than breath - ing,
 ev - er - last - ing home:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 great, liv - ing God!

The author states that aspects of the divine are revealed in our maleness, femaleness, youth, and age in a moving, growing matrix of life in God. The tune Westchase was composed especially for this text.

Tune: WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9.
 Carlton Young, 1989

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

(How Can I Keep from Singing)

Ps. 46:1-7; 1 Cor. 3:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:17

Anon. in *Bright Jewels for the Sunday School*,
ed. Robert Lowry, 1869; alt.
St. 3, Doris Plenn, c. 1957

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
2 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -

ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
liv - ing. What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A
ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since

hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes

and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All

In various nineteenth-century hymnals this hymn was attributed to different poets, including Anna Warner. The earliest published source credits Robert Lowry as the composer, although Silas Vail later claimed the music. The third stanza was written by

Tune: ENDLESS SONG 8.7.8.7.D.
Attrib. to Robert Lowry in *Bright Jewels*
for the Sunday School, New York, 1869



finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing-ing?
 Love com-mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?
 friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing-ing?
 things are mine since I am Christ's—how can I keep from sing-ing?

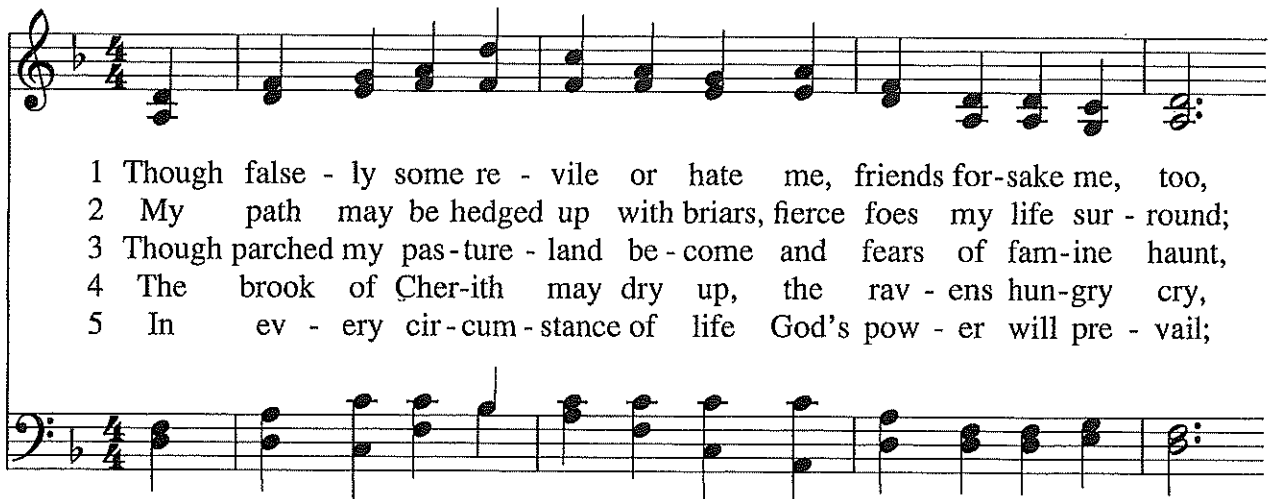
Though Falsely Some Revile or Hate Me

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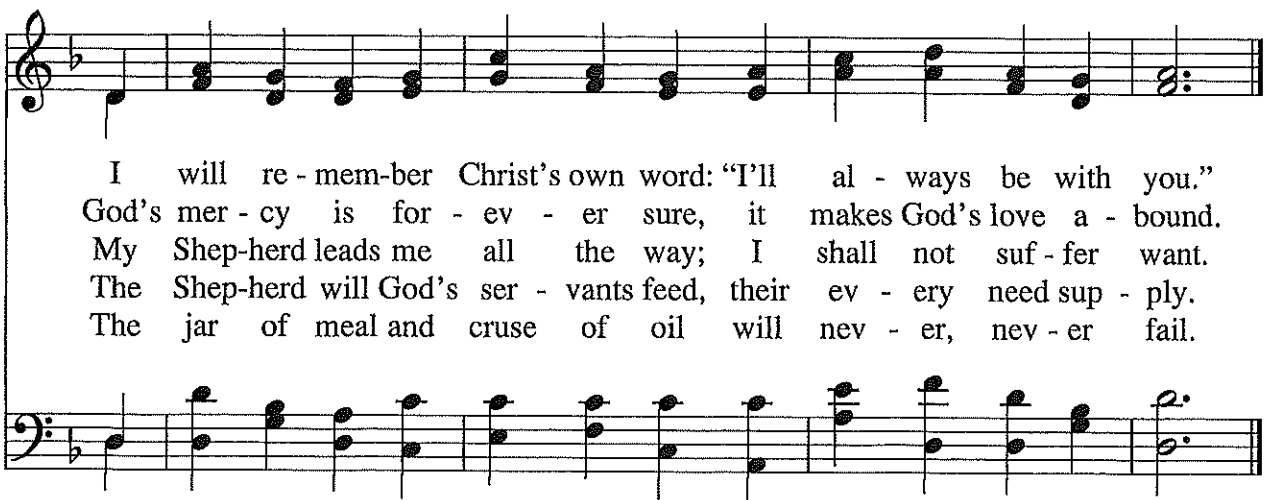
1 Kings 17:1-16; Matt. 28:20

Chi-pi Ni, 1929

Transl. Frank W. Price; alt.



1 Though false - ly some re - vile or hate me, friends for-sake me, too,
 2 My path may be hedged up with briars, fierce foes my life sur - round;
 3 Though parched my pas-ture - land be - come and fears of fam-ine haunt,
 4 The brook of Cher-ith may dry up, the rav - ens hun-gry cry,
 5 In ev - ery cir-cum - stance of life God's pow - er will pre - vail;



I will re - mem-ber Christ's own word: "I'll al - ways be with you."
 God's mer - cy is for - ev - er sure, it makes God's love a - bound.
 My Shep-herd leads me all the way; I shall not suf - fer want.
 The Shep-herd will God's ser - vants feed, their ev - ery need sup - ply.
 The jar of meal and cruse of oil will nev - er, nev - er fail.

With echoes of the psalms and a direct reference to 1 Kings 17, this moving hymn from the East Asia Christian Council hymnal blends imagery from both the Hebrew Scriptures and the New

Tune: THE BROOK CHERITH C.M.
 Maryette H. Lum, 1936



Year after Year, Your Gift Brings Joy

The Advent season of waiting and watching is also a season of preparing. Our generosity prepares the way for hope, peace, justice, and community. United Church of Christ retired clergy, servants of the church, have spent lifetimes baptizing and blessing, teaching and preaching, marrying and burying, comforting and empowering God's people. Now, through the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross, we have the opportunity to sustain and empower them.

Our gifts of gratitude and love bring hope to the hopeless, joy to the sorrowful, and deep love to those who have ministered in God's love for so long. By giving generously to the Christmas Fund, we will help retired clergy, church staff, and their families to pay bills, maintain health insurance, and meet emergency needs. Year after year, our gifts make a difference, easing the anxiety of constant financial worries.

Last year, the Christmas Fund, administered by the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ, provided over \$1.6 million in pension and health benefits supplementation, emergency grants, and thank-you checks to retired servants of the church and their families. Every cent of that money came from the pockets of people like you. Please give as generously as you are able this year!

In 2021, gifts to the Christmas Fund enabled:

- Monthly pension supplementation for 231 retired clergy and lay employees (\$1,104,479)
- Health benefits supplementation for 87 retired clergy and lay employees (\$177,600)
- Emergency grants for 53 individuals and families (\$150,338)
- Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to 509 retired clergy and lay employees (\$254,000)

The Christmas Fund

For the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund