

Columbia United Church Of Christ

May 25, 2025
Memorial Day



C U C C

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**



May 25, 2025

9:30 a.m.

“Stay Joyful”

**indicates that all are invited to stand, if comfortably able*

“Let the people celebrate and shout with joy!

Let al the people thank God!” -Psalm 67:1

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“Prelude in E Minor”

Steve Jannetti
Frédéric Chopin

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship *(adapted from Psalm 67)*

Llona Weiss

God’s grace is our delight;

God’s blessings are showered upon us!

God’s face shines upon us,

Showing us the way and bringing us Salvation.

Let the people shout praises to God!

Let all the people praise God!

God has brought us great joy,

Bringing us equity and guidance.

The earth brings forth bounty and beauty

All of Creation reflects God’s diversity and glory.

Let all the people praise God!

All of Creation joins together proclaiming God’s glory!

Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

(insert)

*Opening Prayer

Llona Weiss

God of blessings; You shower us with abundance and call upon us to steward that abundance to Your Glory. Forgive us for the times we neglect to act in ways that exemplify Your call to compassionate stewardship. Remind us of the story of Lydia and her abundant discipleship; and inspire us to live this in our lives as well. We open ourselves to Your power and grace, knowing that all things are possible when You are in our hearts. Be with us as we share Your love, glorifying You in all we do. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

Jesus calls on us to be examples of his love; God calls us love in abundance. But even when we forget these mandates, God loves us and forgives us. Through our repentance and God's grace we are forgiven, beloved, and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

“Sanctuary”

***Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy; tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you.***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“Halle, Halle, Halle”

(Sung as children return to their seats)

***Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!
Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!
Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

Memorial Day Reflection

Llona Weiss

New Testament Lesson

Acts 16:13-15

Llona Weiss

The story of Lydia and her faith. Lydia was a rich woman, a dealer in purple cloth. When Paul and the other Apostles came around, God opened Lydia's heart to believe in what Paul was teaching her about Jesus. She opened her home to them, and her whole household was converted. She became a great supporter of The Way.

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Gospel Lesson

John 14:25-31

Llona Weiss

Jesus offers a message of peace to his friends as they celebrate their last meal together and implores them to stay true to his teachings. He also promises them that the Holy Spirit will come upon them and fire them up, helping them to be true to the Word.

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Anthem

“Build Thee More Stately Mansions”

Casey Wood
Mark Andrews

Sermon

“The Gift of Peace”

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

“God Loved the World”

(insert)

*Memorial Day Prayer (from UCC “Worship Ways”)

Gracious God; on this Memorial Day weekend, we remember and give thanks for those who have given their lives in the service of our country. When the need was greatest, they stepped forward and embraced the role of servant leadership to defend the freedoms we enjoy, and to win the same for others.

O God, You Yourself have taught us that no love is greater than that which gives itself for another. These honored saints gave the most precious gift they had, their very lives, for loved ones and neighbors; for people they did not even know; for us.

Help us honor their memory by caring for the family members they have left behind, by ensuring that their wounded comrades are properly cared for, by being watchful caretakers of the freedoms for which they gave their lives, and by demanding that no other people follow them to a soldier’s grave, unless the reason is worthy and the cause is just.

Holy One, help us to remember that freedom is not free. There are times when its cost is, indeed, dear. Never let us forget those who paid so terrible a price to ensure that freedom would be our legacy.

Though their names fade with passing generations, may we never forget what they have done. Help us to be worthy of their sacrifice; in Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

The LORD’s Prayer

In an effort to encourage inclusion, we suggest using “Creator God” in our recitation of The Lord’s Prayer. You are welcome to say “Our Father” or “Our Mother” instead of “Creator,” “Trespases” instead of “debts,” or “Thy” instead of “Your,” if you prefer.

Creator God in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Meditation Hymn “For the Healing of the Nations” (insert)

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

Invitation to the Offering

To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041

You can also give online by visiting our website: www.columbiaucc.com

Offertory

“Menuet”

Steve Jannetti
Jean-Philippe Rameau

*Prayer of Dedication

Llona Weiss

God of compassion and service; as Lydia dedicated her life to You, we also dedicate our lives. These gifts we offer today are indicators of that dedication. Use these offerings to bring Your Good News of justice, righteousness and Shalom to all the 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

“March”

Steve Jannetti
Henry Purcell

***Summer Time Change:
Worship starts at 9:30 a.m. May 25 - September 7***

SCOUTING AMERICA AND CUCC

CUCC is the Charter Organization for four Scouting America units, over 150 children, youth, and adult volunteers. These units are:

- **Cub Scout Pack 5183** – The younger group of Scouts, with boys and girls from kindergarten age through 5th grade. They meet every other Monday.
- **Scouting America Troop 4475** – The girls troop. They are a very active troop of girls from 6th-12th grades. They meet every Monday.
- **Scouting America Troop 708** – The boys troop. They are from 6th-12th grades and are very active. They meet every Monday, too.
- **Venture Crew 5334** – This is a focused co-educational group of older youth, from High School through college age.

As the Charter Organization for these four units, they are a part of us and we are a part of them. “They are our scouts, and we are their church.” Working together, in covenant, we will share the joys of common life and enhance one another’s mission, all to the glory of God.

Columbia United Church of Christ

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caseyseanwood@gmail.com

Organist/Accompanist: Steve Jannetti

steve.jannetti@yahoo.com

LODO Director: Sara Koenig

littleonesdayout@yahoo.com

Custodian: Caleb Berry

calebprenticeberry@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Llona Weiss

Ushers: Mary Lorber

Greeters: Susan Dunham

Technology: Carissa Graves & John Graves

Council Stewards: Kristin Veteto

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Judi Privitt

Ushers: Keith & Deborah Long Birkes

Greeters: Carol Duermeyer

Technology: Doug Privitt & Ted Dachroeden

Council Stewards:



Online giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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rollzierp50@gmail.com

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Nurture & Education: Lena Muench

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Outreach & Advocacy: Vacant

Worship & Music: Edie Diel

edie@thedandegroup.com

Pastor: Rev. Rick Oberle

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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!

BIBLE STUDY THIS MAY/JUNE– THE BOOK OF ACTS

Tuesdays in May/June (May 27 & June 3), from 12:30-1:30 p.m., Pastor Rick will be hosting a Bible Study on the Book of Acts. We will talk about Peter, Paul, Stephen, Lydia and the other early disciples who expanded the message of Jesus into the first century world. Feel free to bring your lunch!

WORSHIP TIME CHANGE– 9:30 a.m. 5/25-9/7

We are currently observing our summer hours; Bible Study will be at 8:30 a.m. and Worship at 9:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School for the younger ones, but the nursery will be staffed from 9:00-11:00 a.m. We will observe this schedule thru Labor Day weekend, and resume our academic year schedule starting on Rally Day, September 7.

FOOD BANK FUN

Our next shift for Food Bank Fun is this Tuesday, 5/27 at 5:30 p.m. Many hands multiply the fun; come be part of it! To sign up, talk to Mahree Skala or follow the link in the Friday email.

COMPOSTING WORKSHOP- 6/1

Stick around after worship on June 1 for a composting workshop! We are partnering with the City of Columbia to offer this workshop at 11:00 a.m. on that day. All who attend receive a free composting bin!

SCOUTS SUNDAY– 6/8

As the Scouting year ends, we will be celebrating here in worship! Our Scouts will be here on June 8 to share what they have done this past year and develop our relationship further. We will have a BBQ after worship in honor of the Scouts, hosted by the Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	5/25	<i>Worship moves to 9:30 a.m. - Outside</i>	
		Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
		Worship (in person)	9:30 a.m.
Mon	5/26	<i>Memorial Day– Church office closed</i>	
Tue	5/27	Alpha Hart Lewis Assembly	9:00 a.m.
		Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
		Bible Study	12:30 p.m.
		Food Bank	5:30 p.m.
Wed	5/28	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Sun	6/1	Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
		Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	9:30 a.m.
		Composting Workshop	11:00 p.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Rachel Demand... health issues

Cody Kile... recovery from accident

Sharon Elliott... on hospice

Kieran Piersee... challenges in life

Glenn Duermeyer... healing from broken hip

Debby Duermeyer... healing from knee replacement

Martha... health issues (friend of the Veteto family)

Ken... health issues (Adam Veteto's cousin)

Linda Hancik and Beverly Wilcox... health issues (friends of Corinne Remeika)

Lortisha Powell... health issues (Dorothy Vetter's friend)

Joan Grout... health issues (Sue Ann Schaefer's cousin)

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

The people of Palestine, Israel, and Ukraine

Health Issues:

Lloyd Mickelson, Lauren Helmreich, Barry Kirchhoff, Walter Schroeder

Mark Fairley & Connie Hackman Fairley

Kristan Whelihan (Russell Eveler's teacher), Ann Wilke (Alethea's mother)

Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece), Jennifer (Edie Diel's niece),

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter), Joanne Good (Sue Beckman's friend),

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves, Sharon Elliott, Harold Hackman

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Alice Moon

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Did you know we have a Prayer Team here at CUCC, lifting up the prayer concerns of our congregation? If you are interested in joining our Prayer Team or have a prayer request for our team to lift up please contact

Melba Shaffer (573) 474-2997 melbamaes@google.com

Or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com

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

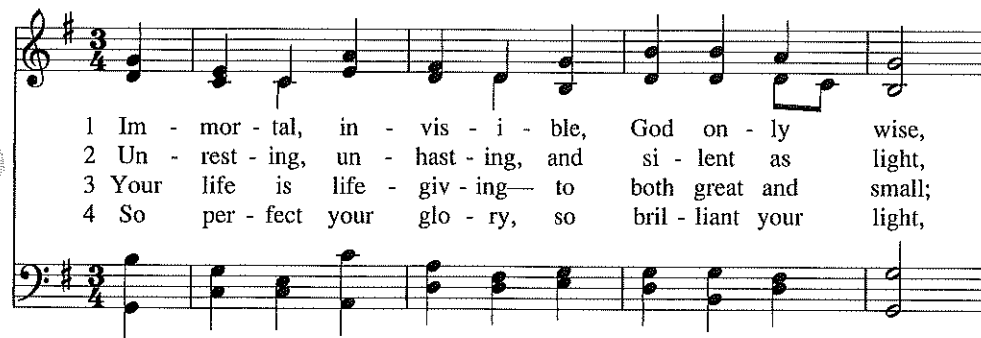
through service and outreach

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

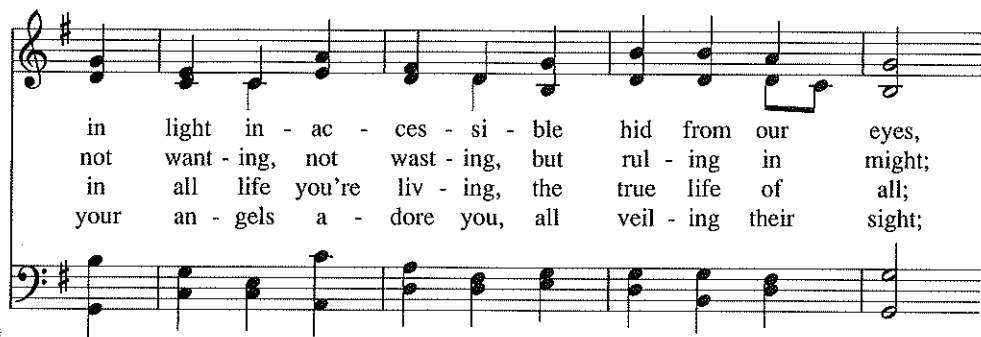
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Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.

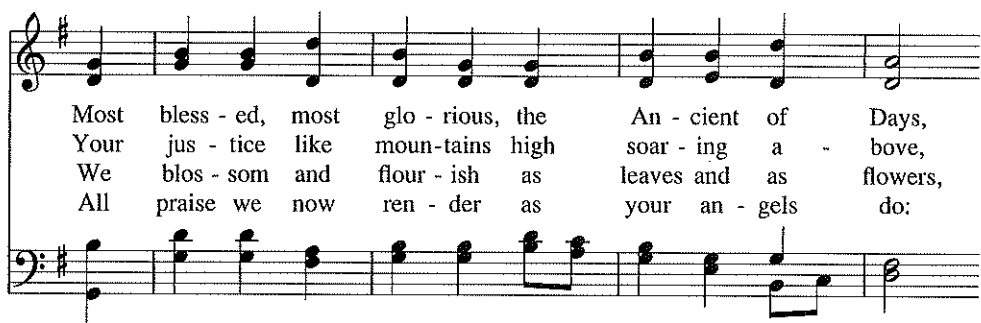
1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6



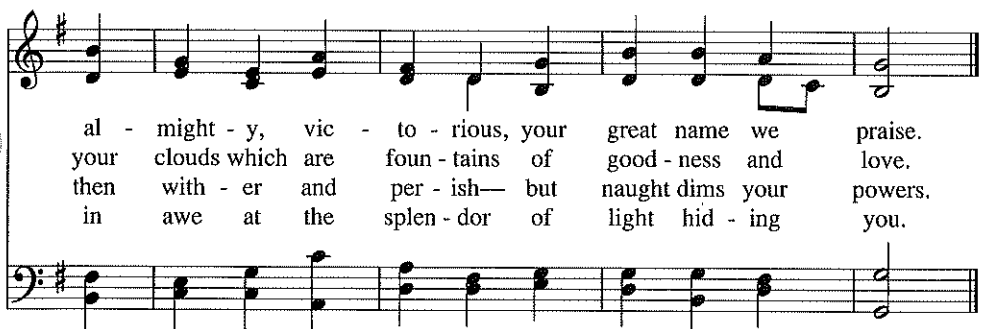
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 Your life is life - giv - ing— to both great and small;
 4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;
 in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;
 your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,
 We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,
 All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do;



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.
 your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish— but naught dims your powers.
 in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.

Walter C. Smith, minister of the Free Church of Scotland and later moderator of the Assembly, wrote poetry as a retreat from work and to say what could not be fully expressed in the pulpit.

Tune: ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11.
 Adapt. from a Welsh ballad in John Roberts' Caniadaeth y Cysegr, 1839

God Loved the World

John 3:16-17

Heiliges Lippen und Herzens Opfer, Stettin, 1778

Transl. August Crull, 1845; alt.

1 God loved the world, and lov - ing gave
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith,
 3 If you are sick, if death is near,
 4 Be of good cheer, for God in Christ

a won - drous gift, the lost to save,
 who was made flesh and suf - fered death;
 this truth your trou - bled heart can cheer;
 for - gives the flock, by sin en - ticed,

That all who would in Christ be - lieve
 All who con - fide in Christ a - lone
 Christ Je - sus saves us all from death;
 And jus - ti - fied by Je - sus' blood,

should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 your bap - tism grants the high - est good.

Edward Miller, a skilled flutist in G. F. Handel's orchestra,
 adapted Rockingham from the tune Tunbridge. Miller named it
 for the Marquis of Rockingham, a patron and friend, and prime
 minister of Great Britain.

Tune: ROCKINGHAM L.M.
 Anon.

Adapt. Edward Miller, 1790

For the Healing of the Nations

Fred Kaan, 1965

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, God, we pray with
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,
 earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

Fred Kaan's most widely published text was first sung at Pilgrim Church in Plymouth, England, at a service of worship marking Human Rights Day in 1965. It has been used for many subsequent occasions, including the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY 8.7.8.7.8.7.

Henry Purcell, c. 1680

Arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1842

Acts 16:13-15

13 On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

14 A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.

15 When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

John 14:25-31

25 "I have said these things to you while I am still with you.

26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

28 You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.

29 And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

30 I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me;

31 but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.

TEAM EARTH – ENDANGERED SPECIES

From Endangered Species Coalition, success stories (2021):

1: **Bald Eagle** By the early 1960's, the count of nesting bald eagles plummeted to about 480 in the lower 48 states. Today, with some 14,000 breeding pairs in the skies over North America, the bald eagle endures as a testament to the strength and undeniable moral correctness of the Endangered Species Act.



2: **American Alligator** By the 1950s, the American alligator had been hunted and traded to near-extinction. Captive breeding and strong enforcement of habitat protections and hunting regulations have contributed to its resurgence. Alligators now number around 5 million.

3: **Green Sea Turtle** In 1990, fewer than fifty green sea turtles were documented nesting at the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge on Florida's east coast. This 20-mile stretch of beach hosted more than 10,000 green sea turtle nests in 2013, making this one of the greatest conservation success stories of our time.



Others include: Piping Plover bird, Peregrine Falcon, Channel Island Fox, Humpback Whale, Puerto Rican Parrot, Whooping Crane, Brown Pelican and the California Condor.

HOME COMPOSTING 101

June 1, 2025 @ 11 am

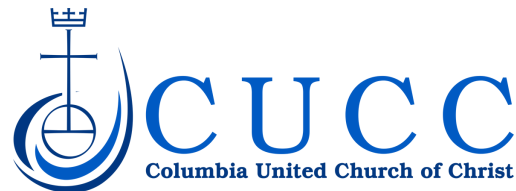
Columbia United Church of Christ

3201 Interstate 70 Dr NW, Columbia, MO 65202

Up to 34% of the materials that go into Columbia's landfill are compostable. Learn how to turn kitchen scraps and yard waste into a nutrient-rich soil amendment at this free workshop, hosted at the Columbia United Church of Christ.

City of Columbia residents will receive a Geobin Composter.

Sponsored by:



REGISTER HERE!
WALK-INS WELCOME



For more information email volunteer@como.gov or call 573-874-6271.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 28-30
5:15-8:15 PM

ATTENDEES:
AGES 3 THROUGH
FINISHING 5TH GRADE

**WE'LL
TAKE
CARE OF
DINNER!**

VOLUNTEERS:
FINISHING 6TH GRADE
THROUGH ADULT

T-SHIRTS!!!
(REGISTER BY 7/1)

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