

Columbia United Church Of Christ

February 11, 2024
"Black History Month"



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**



February 11, 2024

10:30 a.m.

"Transfiguration"

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

"...the heavens declare God's righteousness"

-Psalm 50:6

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Joyful, Joyful "

Chapel Ringers
Beethoven

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(Based on Psalm 50)

Lena Muench

The splendor of divine glory shines upon the earth,
Fire and wind alert the people to God's presence.

**Out of the wisdom of our traditions, God's glory shines forth;
God does not keep silent; Their presence is made known in us!**

God calls the faithful ones together,
All who have made covenant with God through sacrifice and service.

The heavens declare God's righteousness!

All that moves on the earth belongs to God!

Come, let us worship God!

*Gathering Hymn

"We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" #182

*Opening Prayer

Lena Muench

Creator God, you speak in great voice at Jesus' Baptism and again at his Transfiguration, both times proclaiming him your beloved. We know that you also speak the same words to each one of us in quieter tones, calling us blessed and beloved as well. Often we fail to hear you in our midst, speaking to us, our lives too busy to listen. Forgive us for the times we fail to hear you. Teach us to be open to your guidance in our lives, that we may be prepared to continue the glorious ministry of Jesus Christ. Empower us to take up the mantle left behind by Elisha and dedicate our lives to your righteousness and glory. Speak to us, Gracious God, for your servants are listening. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God is Still Speaking in our world, calling us to continue the ministry of Jesus. But even when we fail to notice the Still Speaking God in our midst and heed Their call, God still loves us and forgives us. Through our repentance and God's grace, we are forgiven, beloved, and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

“Weave”

***Weave, weave, weave us together!
Weave us together in unity and love!
Weave, weave, weave us together!
Weave us together; together in love!***

*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:

“This Little Light of Mine”

#525

(Sung as children return to their seats)

***This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!***

Old Testament Lesson

2 Kings 2:6-12

Lena Muench

This is the story of Elijah's ascent into heaven and Elisha assuming his mantle. This story is about preparing for what comes next, and dedicating oneself to the journey that is to come. Elisha prepares to take over for Elijah, so he is able to assume the duties when the time comes.

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Gospel Lesson

Mark 9:2-9

Lena Muench

The story of the Transfiguration, often seen as a “bookend” to the Baptism of Jesus story. In both stories, God speaks from Heaven. But how is God's tone different today? After today, Jesus sets his sights on Jerusalem and crucifixion. This is the lead-in to Lent.

Page #820

Anthem

“The Lord is My Shepherd”

Celebration Singers

Howard Goodall

Sermon

“Fastnacht- Preparing for the Fast”

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

“Precious LORD, Take My Hand”

#472

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

The LORD's Prayer

In an effort to encourage inclusion, we suggest using the address "Creator God" in our unison recitation of The Lord's Prayer. You are certainly welcome to say "Our Father" 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.

Inclusion Moment "This Day in Black History" Pastor Rick

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 "The Lord's My Shepherd I'll Not Want" Steve Jannetti
Irvine/Keveren

*Prayer of Dedication Lena Muench

God of miracles and transformation; forgive us when we interpret your blessings in such ways that our eyes are obscured and we miss seeing them every day. Teach us to understand that your Love is often worked through us: your people, your church. Take our offering today; and let it be used to transform 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 "O Worship the King" Steve Jannetti
Haydn/Keveren

LENT STARTS THIS WEEK

Easter is a “moveable feast” in the life of the church, because the date for Easter varies. Some years it is as early as March 22, others as late as April 25. The date for Easter is determined by the Paschal Moon. This year, Easter is March 31. Since Ash Wednesday is celebrated 40 days (not counting Sundays) before Easter, it is a “moveable feast” as well. This year, we will celebrate Ash Wednesday on **Wednesday, February 14.**

Ash Wednesday is the kickoff to the Lenten Season. On Ash Wednesday, we begin our journey with Jesus to the cross and crucifixion. For forty days (not counting Sundays) we adopt practices to focus our lives even more intently on Jesus’ ministry and how that ministry is lived in our lives. Some folks choose to give something up for Lent like chocolate, soda, TV, or other enjoyable distractions in life. Other people choose to take something on during Lent like studying the Bible, more focused prayer time, or being intentional about attending church. All of these practices, whether giving something up or adopting something new, should have as their purpose a closer walk with Jesus.

To recognize this turn away from the material things in life and towards Jesus, we begin the Lenten Season with Ash Wednesday worship and the symbolic imposition of ashes and facing our ultimate end with the reflection that “we are from dust, and to dust we shall return.” This is not meant to cause misery, but to reflect on the joy that we are all finite and when our time here is over we will return to God. As finite creatures, we are called to make the most of our time here on earth. We do that by focusing our lives and our journey through that life on God; we do that by walking closely with Jesus.

Join us for worship on Ash Wednesday, February 14 at 7:00pm. We will have the traditional imposition of ashes, we will celebrate communion, and we will even see how Valentine’s Day and Ash Wednesday tie together! We hope to see you in worship on February 14!



*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.*

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Organist/Accompanist: Steve Jannetti

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LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger

littleonesdayout@yahoo.com

Custodian: Caleb Berry

calebprenticeberry@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Lena Muench

Ushers: Jerry Kiesling & Mary Lorber

Greeters: Anne Heine

Technology: Mike Pierson & Trevor Pierson

Hospitality: Sue Ann Schaefer & Mary Lorber

Council Stewards: Sue Ann Schaefer & Mary Lorber

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Mahree Skala

Ushers: Christine Staelens & John Graves

Greeters: Brenda & John Muench

Technology: Brent Marcks & Lorry Dreier

Hospitality: Lorry Dreier & Kurt Heine

Council Stewards: Lorry Dreier & Kurt Heine



Online giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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Outreach & Advocacy: Mark Duncan

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Worship & Music: Mike Pierson

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Pastor: Rev. Rick Oberle

rick@columbiaucc.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!

ROOM AT THE INN

Room at the Inn is open and looking for volunteers! If you would like to sign up, or for more information, talk to Shelly Adams. Thank you for volunteering!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE 4/1

Scholarship applications for active members pursuing higher education are available in the church office for the 2024-2025 academic year. All applications are due by April 1.

DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY DURING LENT

Pastor Rick will be hosting a daytime Bible Study once a week during Lent! We will meet at 12:00, four Tuesdays in Lent– March 5, 12, 19 & 26. Bring your lunch and eat with us! We will be studying several women of the Bible, from both the Old and New Testaments.

FASTNACHT

Fastnacht is Tuesday! There are many volunteer opportunities for you to help. Please indicate how you are willing to serve; sign up sheets are in the Gathering Area by the coatroom. See Mary Lorber for details!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST FOR HABITAT– FEBRUARY 24

The annual Pancake Breakfast to benefit Habitat for Humanity will be February 24 this year, serving starting at 7:00 a.m. There are many opportunities to help serve, and tickets available to sell. See Brent Marcks or Doug Privitt if you would like to help; and plan to bring a crew to eat!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	2/11	<i>Sunday School Party– Heart Sunday! Parents, too!</i>	
		Men’s Fellowship	7:30 a.m.
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		MBSR Class in Fellowship Hall	12:00 p.m.
Mon	2/12	Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall	6:00 p.m.
Tue	2/13	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
		Fastnacht	5:30 p.m.
Wed	2/14	Ash Wednesday Worship	7:00 p.m.
Thu	2/15	Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
Sun	2/18	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		MBSR Class	12:00 p.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Connie Hackman Fairley... recovering from stroke

Ron Jenks... recovering from knee surgery

Barry Kirchhoff... health issues

Mike Rapp . . . recovering from surgery

Shelly Adams . . . recovering from knee surgery

Steve . . . challenges in life (Pastor Rick's Cousin)

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

The People of Israel/Palestine and Ukraine

Health Issues:

Cliff Beckman, John Adams, Cheryl Cobb

Neal Stumbo (Jean Strothmann's nephew)

Terry & Mike Freeman (friends of the Remeikas)

Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece)

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, Don Privitt, Jean Strothman

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden, Jeffrey Sanderson

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 whals@centurytel.net

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***

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

472

Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932; alt.

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the shad - ows ap - pear and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
when my life is al - most gone,
and the day is past and gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall:
At the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

Refrain

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

Thomas A. Dorsey was known as "Georgia Tom" when he played piano for blues singer Ma Rainey. He started writing gospel songs after what he called "a definite spiritual change." This inspirational song, composed following the deaths of his wife, Nettie, and a newborn child, derives from the tune Maitland.

Tune: PRECIOUS LORD Irr. with refrain
Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

82 We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Mat. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1988



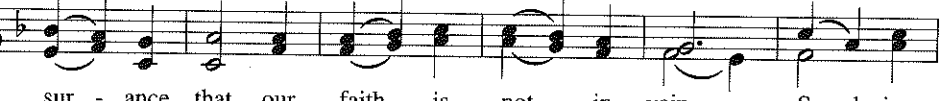
1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the
3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our



ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some
flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the
faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -



to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us



sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing
won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with
cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our



like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.



Old Testament Lesson

2 Kings 2:6-12

6 Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on.

7 Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.

8 Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit."

10 He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not."

11 As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven.

12 Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Mark 9:2-9

2 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them,

3 and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.

4 And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

5 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

6 He did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

7 Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"

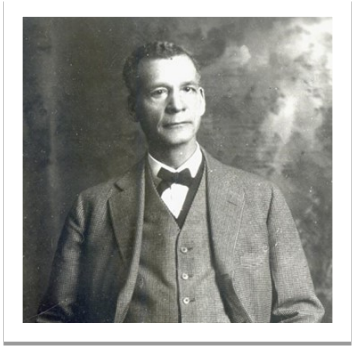
8 Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Tom Bass, the horseman of Mid-Missouri, was born in 1859 in Boone County. He is well known in equestrian circles for the invention of a curb bit known as the 'Bass bit'. It was designed to give the rider control without causing the horse pain. It is still in use today (Tom refused to patent his bit. He wanted it to be free for anyone who loved horses to use).

Tom was born to a teenage slave girl and her wealthy landowner's son. Tom was raised by his grandparents in their brood of 14. He was introduced to horse riding at the age of 4 and developed a great love of horses; he seemed to have a special connection with them. He was allowed to attend horse shows before the age of 10, as the stable cleanup help. During those outings, he paid close attention to what the trainers talked about, how the competitions were set up, care of the horses, etc.



Back at home, he was given the job of exercising the family mule, Mr. Potts. This creature was extremely stubborn, but after a short time, Tom was able to saddle and ride him. One day several white boys thought it fun to tease and challenge Tom and the mule. A crowd gathered around the corral. To everyone's amazement, Mr. Potts followed Tom's every command- even cantered backwards! This young man had a definite gift with horses.



How did he do it? Tom's training never involved punishment; he only used gentle training methods. The time came for one of his trainees, Blazing Black, to be in a local championship. No Black man had ever ridden in a prestigious horse show... until Tom. Blazing Black placed second and from there the equestrian world opened for Tom Bass.

His accomplishments are many. He trained horses for Anheuser-Busch executives, Buffalo Bill Cody, Will Rogers, and President Theodore Roosevelt. He showed horses at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago and won the World Championship on his mare, Miss Rex.

Tom passed away at age 75 in 1934. For his contributions to the state of Missouri, he was posthumously inducted into the Hall of Famous Missourians in 1999.



(Sources: African Americans in Mid-Missouri by Rose Nolen and Wikipedia)



Habitat
for Humanity

The Annual Uel Blank Memorial
**Pancake & Sausage
Breakfast**

February 24, 2024
7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Adults: \$6
Children 6-12: \$3

Columbia United Church of Christ
3201 I-70 Drive Northwest

<https://www.columbiaucc.com>

Tuesday
Feb. 13



Fastnacht Sign-ups

Fastnacht 2024

5:30 p.m.

It's that time again! Fastnacht 2024 is almost here! German Potato Salad, Brats, Fastnachts, Great Music, and the Duck Dance are waiting for you at Columbia UCC! Come join the fun!

3201 I-70 Drive NW
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