

Columbia United Church Of Christ

August 31, 2025
"Turn Around"



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**



August 31, 2025

9:30 a.m.

"Repentance"

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

*"Sing aloud to God, our strength;
Shout for joy to the God of Jacob!"
-Psalm 81:1*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Morning Has Broken"

Steve Jannetti
Phillip Keveren

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 81)

Pat Forward

Sing aloud to God, our strength!
Shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

**Raise a song, sound the tambourine,
Blow the trumpet and play the harp.**

With instruments and voice, proclaim God's glory;
For God has made covenant with us.

**God has relieved us in times of distress;
God carries our burdens and rescues us.**

God feeds us the finest wheat;
With honey from the rock, God satisfies us.

**Listen to God's voice, calling us to repent;
Listen to God's voice, calling us to restoration!
Come, let us worship God together!**

*Hymn

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

#86

*Opening Prayer

Pat Forward

God of eternal presence; we know that You offer us hope, joy, and peace when we put our faith in You. We confess that often we turn away from You, turning instead towards the ways of culture and prosperity. Forgive us for these actions. Inspire us with Your wisdom and challenge us to turn back to You. Give us faith to remember that You lead us even in times of famine and darkness to plenty and light. Help us to put aside our fears and embrace the joy You offer us; that we may, in turn, glorify You with our words and deeds. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God chooses us to be Their vessel for peace, love, and justice in the world. But even when we forget this 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

“Seek Ye First”

***Seek Ye first the kingdom of God
And God's righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!***

***Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek and you shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“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.
Words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,
All in the love light of Jesus' face!***

Mission Moment

“Food Bank”

Mahree Skala

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Pat Forward

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of God's disappointment in God's people, who have rejected Them in favor of worldly ways. They have put their faith in cracked cisterns that can hold no water. This is a call to repentance for the Kingdom of Israel, and to us today as well.

Page #610

Gospel Lesson

Luke 14:1,7-14

Pat Forward

Jesus is the guest of honor at the house of a distinguished Pharisee; but Jesus deflects the honor to choose humility instead. He advocated humility in this passage, telling his followers that true blessing comes when one takes on the role of servant.

Page #849

Anthem

“They'll Know We are Christians”

Celebration Singers
arr. Lloyd Larson

Sermon

“Turn Around”

Pastor Rick

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.

*Hymn

"Let All Things Now Living"

(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

"Andante"

Steve Jannetti

Anton Dvorak

*Prayer of Dedication

Pat Forward

God, we know that by giving to others we build a closer relationship with You. Take these gifts and use them to serve, that we might be reconciled more fully with one another and with You; and that Your Kingdom may be realized more fully here on earth. 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

"Bagatelle"

Steve Jannetti

Ludwig van Beethoven

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
STEPHENS LAKE PARK – GORDON SHELTER

1:00 P.M. REGISTRATION | 1:30 P.M. WELCOME AND STEPOFF
| 1:45-3:00 P.M. WALK

“BUILDING A BETTER WORLD FOR ALL” is the theme of this year’s CROP Hunger Walk. For 30 years, the Columbia CROP Walk has provided another opportunity for our community to respond to the needs of the poor, the hungry, the unemployed and those dealing with disaster, both locally and around the world.

Four Columbia ministries that provide hunger relief will receive 25% of the money donated. They are: Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen, Russell Chapel Community Food Pantry, Destiny Worship Center Food Pantry, and Fifth Street Christian Church “Feed the Community” Program. In 2024 these programs received over \$6,713 from the CROP Walk. Church World Service (CWS) receives 75% of the donations. CWS is a collaborative ministry of 30+ faith organizations, working to provide customized, innovative and sustainable solutions to hunger and poverty in the USA and around the world.

We will also be collecting canned goods the day of the walk. Bring your canned goods to Stephens Lake Park on Walk day, or bring them here to church and we will make sure they reach the CROP destination!

As in past years, all locations of Shakespeare Pizza will donate 15% of all sales on Walk Day. That is a good excuse to eat pizza, put a few in the freezer and buy gift cards for your early holiday shopping!

Last year, the total raised by the Columbia community was \$26,854. This year, in honor of the 30th anniversary of the CROP Walk, our goal is \$30,000. Can you help us reach this goal?

For these last 30 years, CUCC has been an avid supporter of the CROP Hunger Walk. The goal this year is \$4,000. How can you help achieve this goal? Donations can also be made through Kindred Giving on CUCC website or by check in the Sunday offering or to the church office. Donations can also be made on the following link or during the actual CROP Walk Day at the event. Want to participate? Go to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/columbia-united-church-of-christ>. Select the blue “Join The Team” and sign up. Then contact family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc. asking for support of the CROP Walk.

Mark your calendar for September 21 to lace up your shoes and join us for a walk to help in BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES one step at a time through the 2025 COLUMBIA CROP HUNGER WALK.

Back to the academic year schedule next week!
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. | Fellowship at 10:00 a.m.
Worship at 10:30 a.m.; Pot Luck/Fish Fry after worship

Columbia United Church of Christ

3201 1-70 Drive NW; Columbia, MO 65202

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Pastor's cell: 573.241.2027

Website: www.columbiaucc.com

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Organist/Accompanist: Steve Jannetti	steve.jannetti@yahoo.com
LODO Director: Sara Koenig	lodo.sara.koenig@gmail.com
Custodian: Caleb Berry	calebprenticeberry@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Pat Forward
Ushers:	Llona Weiss & Phillip Neale
Greeters:	Donna Marsh
Technology:	Josh Muench & Brent Marcks
Council Stewards:	Mary Lorber

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Llona Weiss
Ushers:	Charlie Marcks
Greeters:	Pat Forward
Technology:	Doug Privitt & John Graves
Council Stewards:	Lena Muench & Mary Lorber



Online Giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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Worship & Music:	Edie Diel	edie@thedandegroup.com
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!

NEW NAMETAGS

The Membership & Care and Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Teams have worked together this summer to roll out new nametags for the congregation! If you do not have a nametag, or if there are any changes needed on your nametag, fill out a form by the nametags in the coatroom. We have many “new” folks in our community, so it is more important than ever to wear your nametag!

LABOR DAY OPEN HOUSE AT THE OBERLE’S- 9/1

You are invited to a Labor Day open house on Monday, September 1, from 12:00-4:00 p.m. at Pastor Rick and Kim’s house! We will be grilling brats and chicken, and will have a few sides. Feel free to bring a side or sweet if you wish; but don’t feel obligated to do so. Your presence is welcome enough! We will have yard games along with our food. 3905 Snow Leopard Drive 65202

MARSHALL MO PRIDEFEST- 9/6

Pastor Rick and members of the Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Team will be participating in Pridefest in Marshall, MO on 9/6 from noon until 4:00 p.m. If you would like to be part of the fun, talk to Ashley Ramirez!

RALLY DAY WILL BE HERE SOON- 9/7

Mark your calendars- Rally Day will be Next Sunday, September 7! We will kick off the new program year with Sunday School Classes, a return to our Academic Year Schedule (Sunday School/Bible Study at 9:00 a.m., Worship at 10:30 a.m.) communion, and a Fish Fry/Pot Luck meal after church!

RELEASE STRESS WITH EFT TAPPING

Learn how to use EFT Tapping to manage stress, calm your mind, and feel more at ease! Join us on 9/18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a presentation on EFT Tapping, led by a local expert and practitioner of this technique

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	8/31	Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
		Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	9:30 a.m.
Mon	9/1	Church office closed - Labor Day	
Tue	9/2	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
		Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
Wed	9/3	Celebration Singers Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.
Thu	9/4	Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team	5:30 p.m.
Sat	9/6	Marshall Pridefest	12-4:00 p.m.
Sun	9/7	Bible Study & Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Fish Fry/Pot Luck Meal	12:00 p.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Jim Posz... health issues (Allen's father)

Dr. Ryan Link... health issues; prayers for him and his family

Cody Kile... recovery from accident

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our Partner in Education

The people of Palestine, Israel, Iran, and Ukraine

Health Issues:

Tiffany Greene, Harold Hackman, Glenn Duermeyer, Lloyd Mickelson,

Marsha Posz, Barry Kirchhoff, Ruth (Edie's Cousin),

Mark Fairley & Connie Hackman Fairley, Rachel Demand,

Kristan Whelihan (Russell Eveler's teacher),

Fred & Ann Wilke (Alethea's parents)

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

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter),

Martha (friend of the Veteto family), Ken (Adam Veteto's Cousin),

Linda Hancik and Beverly Wilcox (Corinne Remeika's friends),

Lortisha Powell (Dorothy Vetter's friend)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families, Kieran Piersee

Living in Care Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Harold Hackman,

Walter & Patty Schroeder

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Cliff & Sue Beckman, Linda Evans

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

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Ps. 5:3; 59:16–17

Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828
Transl. Edward Caswall, 1854; alt.

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries,
2 New strength comes night or day when from the heart we say,
3 Dis - cor - dant hu - man - kind, in this your con - cord find,
4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let sin and e - vil fear,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round song,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song,

one pur - pose I de - clare: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
when this sweet chant they hear: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

This anonymous German Catholic hymn was translated to English by Edward Caswall, an Anglican—and later, Roman Catholic—priest. Among the scripture references is Psalm 5:3, “O God, in the morning you hear my voice. . . .”

Tune: LAUDES DOMINI 6.6.6.6.6.6.
Joseph Barnby, 1868

Jeremiah 2:4-13

4 Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

5 Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves?

6 They did not say, “Where is the LORD, who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?”

7 I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination.

8 The priests did not say, “Where is the LORD?” Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit.

9 Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children’s children.

10 Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look; send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing.

11 Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.

12 Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked; be utterly desolate, says the LORD,

13 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

Luke 14:1,7-14

1 On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

8 “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host

9 and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place.

10 But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.

11 For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.

13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.

14 And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

7

*William Kethe, 1561**Ps. 100**Adapt. Thomas H. Troeger, 1992*

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains four vocal parts with lyrics. The second system continues the vocal parts with lyrics. The third system concludes the piece with a final cadence in the vocal parts and a sustained bass line.

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing
2 Know that there is one God, in - deed, who
3 En - ter the sa - cred gates with praise, with
4 Pro - claim a - gain that God is good, whose

out your faith with cheer - ful voice; De - light in God whose
fash - ions us with - out our aid, Who claims us, gives us
joy ap - proach the tem - ple walls. Ex - tol and bless our
mer - cy is for - ev - er sure, Whose truth at all times

praise you tell, whose pres - ence calls you to re - joice.
all we need, whose ten - der care will nev - er fade.
God al - ways as peo - ple whom the Spir - it calls.
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

Old Hundredth is perhaps the best known and most widely used of all psalm tunes. It came into English use in 1561 with Kethe's paraphrase of Psalm 100 and has been associated with it ever since.

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH L.M.
Attrib. to Louis Bourgeois (c. 1510–c. 1561)
Trente quatre Pseaumes, Geneva, 1551

Let All Things Now Living

Descant



2. Ah, _____ O

Unison



1. Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
 2. By law God en - forc - es. The stars in their cours - es, the



sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine. Ah, _____

God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise; who fash - ioned and
 sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; the hills and the



the depths of the o - cean pro -

made us, pro - tect - ed and stay - ed us, by guid - ing us on to the
 moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the depths of the o - cean pro -



claim God di - vine. Re - joice, re-

end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, pure light goes be -
claim God di - vine. We, too, should be voicing our love and re -

joice! With glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise.

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night: till
joic - ing with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise: till

Ah, to

shad - ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness ban - ished, as
all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing, to

God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to Light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.

A MESSAGE FROM FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

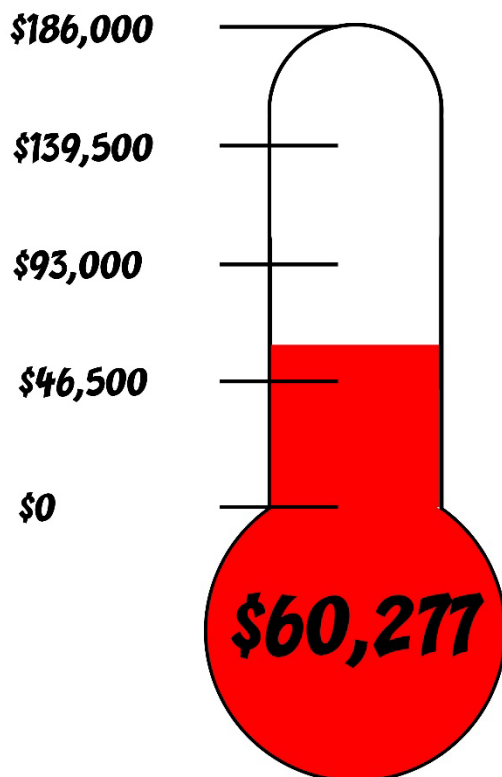
We have previously been members of a number of other churches and CUCC in our experience is the most effective church in fulfilling its Christian purposes that we have experienced. We are truly an open and affirming church which welcomes every person regardless of where they are in their human and spiritual journey!

CUCC has a beautiful sanctuary and facilities. We have a dedicated Minister and Staff. We have a dependable and faithful membership and friends. Our Ministry Teams are committed to the service of our church and our extended community. We exemplify Christian values and activities in all respects. We do all this with a very small budget which is used with very efficient love and concern for all we serve.

HOWEVER, WE HAVE A FINANCIAL EMERGENCY

Our Joyful Giving is seriously behind its necessary level to support all the things we do so efficiently and lovingly. At the end of July, we are \$77,049 behind our budgeted Joyful Giving and in order to meet our third quarter budget we must receive \$154,697 by the end of September.

The Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team is planning to do everything possible to communicate the importance and impact of your financial support. We know some of you are giving all you can. We also know many of us can help more. Many CUCC leaders have pledged to increase their Joyful Giving by 20%. If all of us who can make that pledge do so, our financial problems will be reduced to a manageable level. Deborah and I have made that pledge.



CUCC has always met every challenge we have faced. Together we can overcome this financial shortfall. Thank you for all you do with your Time, Talent, and Treasure!

-Keith Birkes

"Shine Bright" this Rally Day!

September 7, 2025

Join us as we return to weekly Faith Education for all ages!

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. – Faith Education

Adult Bible Study meets at the far end of the Education Wing.

Sunday School ages 3–5th grade meet in the Education Wing.

Sunday School grades 6–12 meet in the Youth Lounge.

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. – Fellowship Time

Mingle with others over coffee and snacks.

10:30 a.m. – Worship

Worship in the Sanctuary led by Pastor Rick. Nursery care is available for children aged Kingergarten and younger.

12:00 p.m. – Lunch and Games

Celebrate the end of summer and the start of our academic year with a fish fry meal (prepared by Fellowship & Hospitality) and potluck. There will be yard games out on the hillside.