

Columbia United Church Of Christ

August 30, 2026
"Identity"



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 30, 2026

10:30 a.m.

"Identity"

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

*"Sing to God; sing praises to God!
Tell of all God's wonderful works!" -Psalm 105:2*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

Allegro

Tim Guillaume
Wolfgang Mozart

Carrying in the Light of Christ

***Call to Worship**

(based on Psalm 105)

Judi Privitt

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!**

We speak of how God's love can bring salvation to the world;
Let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice!

**All of Creation expresses God's powerful presence;
Who are we to try to bind God's love?**

We seek God continually and rely on God's strength!
We seek the Peace that God offers in all our ways!

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

***Hymn**

"Bring Many Names"

#11

***Opening Prayer**

Judi Privitt

God of many names; You come to us often when we least expect it. You call us to service and challenge us to do great things in Your name. Forgive us for the times we turn a blind eye to Your call. Forgive us for the times we ignore Your children in need. Forgive us for the times we allow worldly distractions keep us from serving You. Help us to open our hearts and our minds to new ways of serving and sharing Your love. Keep us focused on Your Good News and the eternal joy that it brings us; and give us the courage to share that joy with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God gifts us each with many blessings, and calls us to use them in Their service. But even when we fail to do so, 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

“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!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“This Little Light of Mine”

#524

(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!***

Mission Moment

“CROP Walk”

Barry Kirchhoff

Blessing the MO Reading & Writing Kits

Pastor Rick

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

Judi Privitt

God speaks to Moses through a burning bush. They challenge Moses to be the voice of liberation for the people of Israel. Moses doubts his ability, but God places confidence in him. When Moses seeks justification for God's presence, God proclaims Their identity: “I AM WHO I AM.”

Page #44

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 16:21-28

Judi Privitt

Jesus proclaims his identity and his call; but Peter does not understand. The sympathies and sorrows of the world keep Peter from understanding Jesus' true identity. Jesus continues his proclamation, and the disciples continue to be confused. Page #798

Anthem

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Celebration Singers
arr. Howard Helvey

Sermon

“The Name of God”

Pastor Rick

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.

*Hymn

“Here I Am, Lord”

(insert)

Sharing our Announcements

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

Tim Guillaume

*Prayer of Dedication

Judi Privitt

Gracious God, bless our offering that it may reach and touch those who hunger, who hurt, who seek new hope. As stewards of Your Creation, we pray that this offering may work in that regard to heal a hurting world and bring Your Kingdom closer to fruition in this time and place. 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

Tim Guillaume

CROP WALK 2026

Did you know 25% of the funds raised will stay locally? They will support Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen, Fifth Street Christian Community Food Programs, Russell Chapel Food Pantry, and Destiny Worship Century Food Pantry.

The Columbia CROP WALK will be September 20 at The Gordon Shelter in Stephens Lake Park. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m. The walk will start at 1:00 p.m. At 1:30 p.m. a reception will begin.

Join the Columbia UCC Team by scanning the QR code below or going to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/cucc-office>. Select "Join our Team" and follow the instructions from there. You are also able to donate directly to the CROP Walk on this site—showing in real time how much Columbia UCC is raising for our local and global neighbors!



For help or if you have any questions, contact Barry Kirchhoff or the church office.

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.

***The United Church of Christ:
"United in Christ's Love, A Just World for All"***

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Columbia United Church of Christ

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LODO Director: Sara Koenig	lodo.sara.koenig@gmail.com
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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Judi Privitt
Song Leader:	Sarah Young
Ushers:	John & Brenda Muench
Greeters:	Kitty Rogers
Technology:	Doug Privitt & Lorry Dreier
Council Stewards:	Aimee Andersen & Judi Privitt

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Tricia Soncasie
Song Leader:	Mike Pierson
Ushers:	Dorothy Williams & Yvonne Williams
Greeters:	Mary Lorber
Technology:	Brent Marcks & Lorry Dreier
Council Stewards:	Kitty Rogers & Mahree Skala

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator:	Jerry Kiesling
Vice Moderator:	Corinne Remeika
Secretary:	Tricia Soncasie
Treasurer:	Aimee Andersen
Recording Treasurer:	Christine Staelens
Building & Grounds:	Allen Posz
Fellowship & Hospitality:	Mary Lorber
Finance & Stewardship:	Sue Ann Schaefer
Inclusion & Affirmation:	Ashley Ramirez
Little One's Day Out:	Darla Privitt
Membership & Care:	Judi Privitt
Nurture & Education:	Jessica Lucas
Outreach & Advocacy:	Mahree Skala
Worship & Music:	Kitty Rogers
Pastor:	Rev. Rick Oberle



Online Giving

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

YOUNG ADULT/COLEGE MINISTRY BEGINS - 8/30

A new CUCC Young Adult/College Ministry faith formation program will be starting up on 8/30! We will gather on that day for a backyard BBQ at Rev. Mike & Lilly Williams' house. For info, talk to Rev. Mike Williams!

TIDES COLLEGE COLLECTIVE- 9/1

TIDES College Collective is a group of progressive, inclusive college ministries at local churches working together to live out our love for everyone. This fall, we are coming together once a month for worship, rotating among our different churches. The first worship gathering is 9/1 at 7:00 p.m. at Missouri United Methodist Church. Questions? Talk to Pastor Rick.

LABOR DAY OPEN HOUSE AT THE OBERLE'S - 9/7

You are invited to a Labor Day open house on Monday, 9/7, 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 dish, fruit, or dessert if you wish. We will have yard games along with food. 3905 Snow Leopard Drive.

YOUTH GROUP BINGO AND MIDWAY- 9/12

Our next CUCC Youth Group adventure will be BINGO at The Bluffs and Miniature Golf at Midway on 9/12. We will meet at church at 9:30 a.m., travel to The Bluffs to help the residents play BINGO, then off to lunch and games at Midway. Watch for emails from Pastor Rick for more information!

CROP HUNGER WALK 2026 - 9/20

This year's CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday September 20 at Stephens Lake Park in the Gordon Pavillion. We will be collecting canned food and cash donations starting on August 30. To donate on behalf of Columbia UCC and/or walk in the event, scan the QR code on the previous page. If you have any questions, contact Barry Kirchhoff or the office.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	8/30	Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Young Adult/College Ministry BBQ	5:00 p.m.
Mon	8/31	Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	9/1	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:00 a.m.
		Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team	5:00 p.m.
		TIDES Worship Service at MUMC	7:00 p.m.
Wed	9/2	Membership & Care Ministry Team	10:00 a.m.
		Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
		Confirmation Class	7:15 p.m.
Sun	9/6	Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Jan (Donna's friend)... health issues

Gary Ehrhardt... recovering from surgery

Becky Wilson... health issues

Alethea Tennill... recovering from broken leg

Fred Wilke... on hospice (Alethea's Father)

Cassandra Gartner... health issues (Edie's friend)

Rev. Carolyn Held.... Health issues (Edie's Niece)

Joyce Andersen... health issues (Aimee Andersen's Mother-in-law)

Kenny Holtgrewe... recovering well from surgery (Marsha Posz's Father)

Mary Jane Johnson... health issues (Joe Remeika's Sister)

The people of Colombia... recovering from disaster

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

All those whose lives are affected by state sanctioned terrorism including:

Owen Ramsingh and family,

The families of Renee Good, Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado, Sebastian Guerrero,
Jack and Claudia (Pastor Rick's friends), and so many others

Our US Military... deployed in the Middle East

Health Issues:

Jeff Kies, Barry Kirchhoff, Glenn Duermeyer, Evie Marcks,

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter),

Kenny & Jane Holtgrewe (Marsha Posz's parents),

Mark & Connie Fairley, Cody Kile, Dr. Ryan Link;

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

Marilyn Coronado & Beverly Wilcox (Corinne Remeika's friends)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Assisted Living Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Julie Roper, Dean & Jan Barry

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Sue Beckman, Linda Evans, Walter & Patty Schroeder

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Garrett Holtgrewe... (Marsh Posz's Nephew)

Pregnancies in our Church Family:

Kristin & Adam Veteto

*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@gmail.com
or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com*

Exodus 3:1-15

1 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God.

2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed.

3 Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up."

4 When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

5 Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

6 He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings,

8 and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

9 The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them.

10 Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

12 He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

13 But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?”

14 God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”

15 God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’: This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

Matthew 16:21-28

21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised.

22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.”

23 But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

25 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

27 “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.

28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Unison

Ruth Duck, 1992

1 Col - or - ful Cre - a - tor, God of mys - ter - y,
2 Har - mo - ny of a - ges, God of lis - tening ear,
3 Au - thor of our jour - ney, God of near and far,
4 God of truth and beau - ty, Po - et of the Word,

thank you for the art - ist teach - ing us to see glimps - es of the
thank you for com - pos - ers tun - ing us to hear ech - oes of the
praise for tale and dra - ma tell - ing who we are, strip - ping to the
may we be cre - a - tors by the Spir - it stirred, o - pen to your

mean - ing of the com - mon - place, vi - sions of the
Gos - pel in the songs we sing, sounds of love and
es - sence strug - gles of our day, times of change and
pres - ence in our joy and strife, ves - sels of the

1-3 4
ho - ly in each hu - man face.
long - ing from the deep - est spring.
con - flict when we choose our way.
ho - ly cours - ing through our life.

This hymn was written for the 1992 installation of Linda Clark as Houghton Scholar of Sacred Music at Boston University, where Ruth Duck earned her Th.D. degree. It praises the Artist who inspires our creativity.

Tune: HOUGHTON 11.11.11.11.
Carlton R. Young, 1992

Bring Many Names

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

*Unison*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them, they turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Harmony

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will

hold your peo-ple in my heart. heart.
 heart, in my heart.
 heart,in my heart.

SEPTEMBER

20

2026

**CROP
HUNGER
WALK**

**Collecting food can donations
September 6 - 20.**

Bring cans to church on Sundays to give to Church World Service's CROP Hunger Walk. Columbia's walk will be at Stephens Lake Park at Gordon Shelter. Registration opens at 1:00 p.m. and the welcome program begins at 1:30 p.m. After the walk, there will be snacks, activities, and celebration!

Sign up here to walk!



CWS

Church World Service