

Columbia United Church Of Christ

September 14, 2025
"Ministry Teams Fair"



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**



September 14, 2025

10:30 a.m.

“Community”

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

“Fools say in their heart, ‘there is no God.’”

-Psalm 14:1

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“Come, All Christians, Be Committed”

Connie Loveless

Arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome

Nurture & Education

Lena Muench

Worship & Music

Edie Diel

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 14)

Lena Muench

Fools say in their hearts, ‘There is no God.’

They are corrupt; there is no one who does good.

In a world of corruption, God offers Salvation.

We strive to connect with God’s acts of Salvation!

God looks for wisdom within humanity

God searches for those who seek God’s presence.

In a world of corruption, we strive for Salvation.

We strive to be repentant, and reconcile with God!

God’s provision is our restoration;

Deliverance from our troubles comes from God!

God’s people rejoice; for God is their refuge.

God is with the company of the righteous!

Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

#495

*Opening Prayer

Lena Muench

God of unity, You call us into Your church to do the work of proclaiming the Good News through word and through deed. Forgive us for the times we neglect to let our light shine. Teach us to come together, doing Your work and calling Your children to love and to serve. Open our hearts to the joys of serving You. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God chooses us to work in unity with one another 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

“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

May God’s Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children’s Time

Pastor Rick

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”
(Sung as children return to their seats)
I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
No turning back, no turning back

Mission Moment

“CROP Walk”

Llona Weiss

Ministry Teams:

Outreach & Advocacy

Mahree Skala

Inclusion & Affirmation

Ashley Ramirez

Little One’s Day Out

Kristin Veteto

Anthem

“This Little Light of Mine”

Celebration Singers
arr. Mark Hayes

New Testament Lesson

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Lena Muench

In Paul’s letter to Timothy, he speaks of how he, a sinner and persecutor of Christians, was saved by Jesus’ individualized blessing. He calls on Timothy to exemplify this grace as well, showing mercy to those in need in his community.

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Gospel Lesson

Luke 15:1-10

Lena Muench

Jesus tells a parable about the importance of community; even one lost sheep is important to the community. Care for one another is not limited to the majority, but often falls on the one who is most vulnerable.

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Ministry Team: Membership & Care Judi Privitt

Fellowship & Hospitality Mary Lorber-Solt

*Hymn “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” #400

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 “Blest Be the Tie that Binds” #393

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life Pastor Rick

Ministry Teams: Finance & Stewardship
 Building & Grounds Ted Dachroeden

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 “Be Thou My Vision” Gina Pierson
 Mary E. Byrne

*Prayer of Dedication Lena Muench

Thank You, God, for all of the gifts you have given us and for consecrating us to be Your servant leaders in the world. Take the talents that we offer You; may they be used to embrace Your children, to change Your world for the better, and to bring about Your Kingdom of hope, peace and love. 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

“To God be the Glory”

Gina Pierson

Fanny Crosby/William Doane

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

STEPHENS LAKE PARK – GORDON SHELTER

1:00 P.M. REGISTRATION | 1:30 P.M. WELCOME AND 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?

**Next Sunday- 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.**

Columbia United Church of Christ

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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:	Lena Muench
Ushers:	Llona Weiss & Mary Lorber
Greeters:	John & Brenda Muench
Technology:	Brent Marcks & Ted Dachroeden
Council Stewards:	Lena Muench & Judi Privitt

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Mahree Skala
Ushers:	Jim Loveless & Pat Forward
Greeters:	Anne Heine
Technology:	Josh Muench & Lorry Dreier
Council Stewards:	Kristin Veteto & Ashley Ramirez



Online Giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator:	Jerry Kiesling	rollzierp50@gmail.com
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Outreach & Advocacy:	Mahree Skala	skalamahree@yahoo.com
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!

PAUSE TO COLOR– 9/16

Come join us for a few hours of meditative fun! We will be coloring in the gathering area for a few hours starting at 1:00 p.m. on 9/16. Bring your own coloring supplies, or just bring yourself– we have supplies to share!

RELEASE STRESS WITH EFT TAPPING– 9/18

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.

COMO PRIDEFEST - 10/4 & 10/5

As usual, we CUCC will have a booth at COMO Pridefest, offering words of affirmation and letting the attendees know that God cares about them and that they are blessed and beloved. Can you help staff the booth? We have two hour slots to fill from 11:45 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on each day. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary; or talk to Ashley Ramirez.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	9/14	<i>Ministry Teams Fair</i>	
		Bible Study & Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
Mon	9/15	Loaves & Fishes	4:00 p.m.
		Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	9/16	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
		Pause to Color	1:00 p.m.
		Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Wed	9/17	Good Dads at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary	7:00 a.m.
		Celebration Singers Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.
Thu	9/18	EFT Stress Relief Class	6:00 p.m.
Sun	9/21	Bible Study & Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		CROP Walk	1:00 p.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Tom Solt... health issues

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

The family of Mabel Posz... on their loss (Allen's grandmother)

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

Cody Kile... recovery from accident

Phillip Neale's Niece... awaiting liver transplant

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 Duermeier, 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),

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***

1 Timothy 1:12-17

12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service,
13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,
14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
15 The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost.
16 But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life.
17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Luke 15:1-10

1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.
2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” 3 So he told them this parable:
4 “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?
5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.
6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’
7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
8 “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
9 And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’
10 Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

A MESSAGE FROM FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

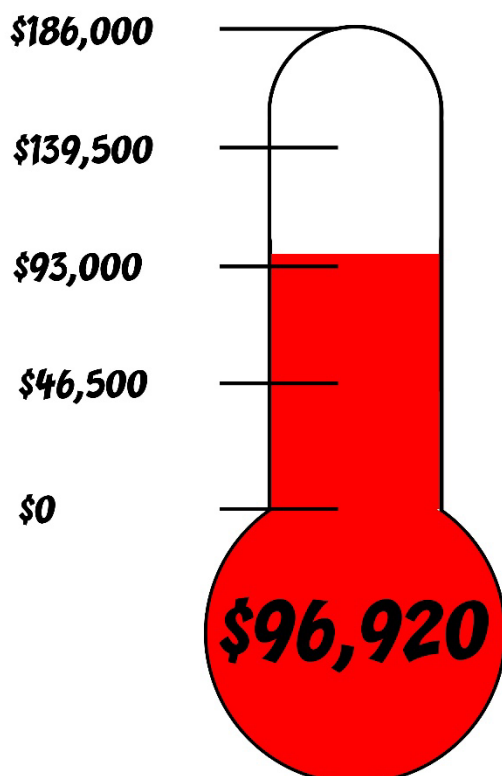
We have previously been members of a number of other churches and CUCC in our experience is the most effective church in fulfilling its Christian purposes that we have experienced. We are truly an open and affirming church which welcomes every person regardless of where they are in their human and spiritual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

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD FOR ALL

Columbia CROP Hunger Walk - 2025

Celebrating 30 Years of Walking & Working Together

Sunday, September 21, 2025

Stephens Lake Park – Gordon Shelter – off E Broadway



- ♥ Our local partners provide food and meals to persons in need: Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen, Russell Chapel Community Food Pantry, Destiny Worship Center Food Pantry, 5th St Christian Church Feed the Community meal program & food pantry.
- ♥ Church World Service works with partners around the world to fight hunger and create practical, sustainable solutions to poverty – customized to each community.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: 2024

Raised \$26,854.32
Enjoyed 131 Walkers, plus more in spirit
Miles Walked (including week before): 1,198
Collected 542 canned food items
2nd CROSS MO CROP WALK Hike & Bike
CREAM OF THE CROP: #62 out of top 100 WALKS
Participating Teams: 17

GOALS: 2025

Raise \$30,000
Recruit 150 WALKERS, plus more in spirit
Walk 1,500 miles (including week before)
Collect 750 canned/boxed food items*
3rd CROSS MO KATY Trail CROP WALK
CREAM OF THE CROP: rank #60 in top 100 WALKS
Participating Teams: 20

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD FOR ALL ... TOGETHER

1:00 – Registration opens. Turn in monetary donations & canned/boxed food items*.

1:30 – Welcome Program ... meet our local partners. Walking begins.

Return to Gordon Shelter for snacks, activities, initial donations tally and music.

2:30 – Celebration Concert energizes us to Build A Better World for ALL!

* Food items will be distributed to our local partners at the end of the day. Preferred items: canned tuna, chicken, pork, beef, peanut butter, baked beans, pork & beans, chili beans, canned chili, beef stew, chicken & dumplings. Boxed items: mac & cheese, hamburger helper, potatoes.

Donate at the Park on CROP WALK Sunday or securely online:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo>

<https://www.facebook.com/comocrop>

Shakespeare's Pizza CROP Fundraiser – September 21 – All Day – All 3 locations.

Get required coupon to earn 15% for CROP at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo>

INFORMATION: Letitia DenHartog, WALK Coordinator, teenlibrz@gmail.com

Marilyn Bettenhausen, WALK Secretary, marilynbettenhausen7@gmail.com

TREASURER: Linda Reed Brown, lreedbrown@hotmail.com

Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty fundraising walks are community-wide events – sponsored and organized by Church World Service and local religious/community groups, like our Columbia CROP Hunger WALK Planning Team. Funds raised fight hunger in our community (25%) and across the US and around the world (75%). Learn more at <https://cwsglobal.org/>

RELEASE STRESS

with EFT Tapping

JOIN OUR GROUP SESSION

Learn how to use EFT Tapping to manage stress, calm your mind, and feel more at ease in just one session!

BENEFITS

Calm Your Mind

Stress can make your thoughts race like crazy. Tapping helps clear your mind, making it easier to think straight and find solutions.

Boost Your Mood

Tapping can help you shift away from frustration and stress, so you can feel better.

Regain Control

Stress can make you feel like everything's out of control. Tapping helps you feel more in charge, allowing you to handle whatever comes your way with greater ease.

SIGN UP HERE

bit.ly/UCCtapping



September 18, 2025



6 pm



Columbia UCC
3201 Interstate 70 drive NW
Columbia, MO



Disclaimer: EFT Tapping is a supportive tool for managing stress, but it is not a replacement for medical or psychological care.