

Columbia United Church Of Christ

September 27, 2026
"Chiapas Mission"



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**



September 27, 2026

10:30 a.m.

"Mission"

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

*"Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
Incline your ear to the words of my mouth."
-Psalm 78:1*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Sarabande" from *Holberg Suite*

Tim Guillaume
Edvard Grieg

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(Psalm 78)

Sue Ann Schaefer

Incline your ears to God's Teaching;
Open your ears to the Wisdom of God's mouth.

**God speaks to us in parable and story;
Bringing Wisdom to us through parables of old.**

Things that we have heard and known;
Wisdom that our ancestors have shared with us;

**We will share this Wisdom with our children as well.
We will tell God's parables to future generations.**

We will tell of God's glorious might;
Speaking of the wonders God has brought forth.

**We share our faith with coming generations
That all might set their hope in God!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Hymn

"De Colores"

#402

*Opening Prayer

Sue Ann Schaefer

God of many colors; we see Your diverse provision reflected in the rainbow colors of creation, and in each one of us. We embrace the inclusive love You exemplify for us. Forgive us for the times we construct human barriers on justice, love, and grace. Teach us that Your divine justice is about building relationship; and inspire us to put aside the divisive worldly understanding of justice in order to embrace Your vision. Remind us that Your grace is for everyone of all colors; even us. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God calls us to celebrate God's joy by bringing hope, justice, and peace to all. But even when we fail to do so, 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

"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

"Neighbors in Need"

Mark Duncan

Old Testament Lesson

Ezekiel 18:25-32

Sue Ann Schaefer

Another story of God's grace. The prophet Ezekiel is comparing God's restorative idea of justice to humanity's retributive idea of justice. God's idea of justice restores; humanity's idea of justice destroys. Which idea of justice should we follow? Page #685

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:23-32

Sue Ann Schaefer

This discourse happens on Monday of Holy Week, when Jesus was preaching in Jerusalem. His outrageous comments were what led to his crucifixion. In this exchange, he is responding to those who question his authority. He then puts before them a parable about two irresponsible sons and their relationship with their father. Page #802

Anthem

"His Grace Will Lead"

Celebration Singers
Mary McDonald

Sermon

"Restoration"

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

"Santo! Santo! Santo!/Holy, Holy, Holy!"

(insert)

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 "Colorful Creator" #30

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 "In Christ There is No East or West" Chapel Ringers
Arr. Anna Laura Page

*Prayer of Dedication Sue Ann Schaefer

Creator of all that is; we know that everything we have is a gift from You, and everything we are is because of Your abundant blessing. In gratitude, we return these gifts to You; praying that they may be used to build the bonds of community with Your children in need, and lift up the sacred blessing that is within each one. 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



"Walk in love, as Christ loved us"
Ephesians 5:2

ADVOCATING FOR GOD'S JUSTICE

In 1999, General Synod affirmed four Special Mission Offerings for the United Church of Christ. Out of the four, the Neighbors in Need offering was highlighted as the offering for justice and compassion. The offering was tasked to help the church "advocate for a society where all people have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives."

Today, this legacy continues as we follow the mandate for the offering to create justice not only through direct aid, but also through advocating for change. These advocacy efforts take place in partnership with the Washington, D.C. Office of Public Policy and Advocacy, the Education for Faithful Action Team, and recipients of the Neighbors in Need grants. Together, folks across the UCC work together to affect policy change guided by our faith.

When you give to Neighbors in Need, you make sure the United Church of Christ continues to be a leader for justice. Two-thirds of the offering supports justice projects across the church, and one-third supports the Council for American Indian Ministries. Thank you for your gifts!

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Columbia United Church of Christ

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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Sue Ann Schaefer
Song Leader:	Mike Pierson
Ushers:	Pat Forward & Phillip Neale
Greeters:	Jessica Lucas
Technology:	Judi Privitt & Doug Privitt
Council Stewards:	Judi Privitt & Tricia Soncasie

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Judi Privitt
Song Leader:	Mike Pierson
Ushers:	Dorothy Williams & Yvonne Williams
Greeters:	Jolene Kirchhoff
Technology:	Brent Marcks & Ted Dachroeden
Council Stewards:	Mary Lorber

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!

HISPANIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL - 10/03

The Cambio Center at Mizzou will be hosting an event to recognize Hispanic Heritage Month on 10/3 at Open Door Church, 4838 Meadow Lark Lane. This is a family-friendly event, and all are invited to come and celebrate! More information was in the Friday email.

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS TRAINING - 10/04

Next Sunday, during the 9:00 education hour, Linda Neale will again be offering Healthy Relationships Training in the Fellowship Hall. This is required training for anyone working with children and youth, according to our “Safe Church” policy. It is also just good information for anyone to have!

BUDGET MEETING - 10/11

The proposed 2027 budget, vetted and approved unanimously by the Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team and the Church Council, will be distributed after worship today (hard copies and email). The congregation will be voting on this, as well as our “Creation Justice Covenant” after worship on 10/11. For more detail on the budget, talk to Aimee Andersen or Sue Ann Schaeffer.

MOVIE NIGHT - 10/16

The Inclusion and Affirmation Ministry Team will be hosting a Movie Night in the Fellowship Hall on 10/16 at 6:30 p.m. showing “The Green Book,” a movie about segregation. This movie contains adult themes and dialogue; childcare will be provided. Popcorn and soda will be available as well. A discussion will follow the movie.

BALLOT INITIATIVES FORUM - 10/18

On 10/18, during the 9:00 education hour, Mahree Skala will present a non-partisan look at the ballot initiatives in the Fellowship Hall. She will have information about each ballot initiative, and what the impact of ratification would be for each one. All are welcome to join in for this important hour!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	9/27	<i>Chiapas Mission Sunday/Pridefest</i>	
		Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		CUCC Booth at Pridefest	12:00-6:00 p.m.
Mon	9/28	Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	9/29	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:00 a.m.
Wed	9/30	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Sat	10/3	Hispanic Heritage Festival	11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Sun	10/4	<i>World Communion Sunday</i>	
		Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Healthy Relationships Training	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 . . .

The Johnson Family... on welcoming their new child

The Frymire Family... on welcoming their new child

Don Privitt... recovering from health issues

Jan Barry... recovering from health issues

Alethea Tennill... recovering from broken leg

Mark Fairley... in hospice care

Fred Wilke... in hospice care (Alethea's father)

Joyce Andersen... in hospice care (Aimee's mother-in-law)

Julie Roper... in hospice care (Alexandra's mother)

The people of China/Nepal... 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), Becky Weston,

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

Cassandra Gartner (Edie's friend), Rev. Carolyn Held (Edie's niece),

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),

Mary Jane Johnson (Joe Remeika's sister)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Assisted Living Facilities:

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

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

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

Serving us in the military:

Aaron Dachroeden, Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson,

Garrett Holtgrewe... (Marsha 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

Ezekiel 18:25-32

25 Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

26 When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die.

27 Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life.

28 Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die.

29 Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.,

31 Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel?

32 For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Matthew 21:23-32

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?”

24 Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’

26 But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.”

27 So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28 “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’

29 He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went.

30 The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go.

31 Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

De colores

(Sing of Colors)

*Mexican folk song**Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1995*

1 De co - lo - res, de co - lo - res se vis - ten los
 1 Sing of col - ors, sing of col - ors that o - ver the
 2 Sing, re - joic - ing! Ev - ery crea - ture that breathes raise a

Chords: A, A7, D

cam - pos en la pri - ma - ve - ra. De co -
 hills in pro - fu - sion are spring - ing; Sing of
 song to the God of cre - a - tion. Sing, re -

Chord: Em

lo - res, de co - lo - res son los pa - ja - ri - tos que vie - nen de a -
 col - ors of the birds that fly out - side my win - dow their can - ti - cles
 joic - ing! Sing to God who so ear - nest - ly cares, who has of - fered sal -

Chords: A7, A9, Em7, A7(#11), A7

fue - ra. De co - lo - res, de co -
 sing - ing; Sing of col - ors, in the
 va - tion. Sing the good news! Sing the

Chords: D, D, A7, D

This Mexican folk song is known by many Mexican-American churchgoers, and has also been popular among the United Farm Workers.

Tune: DE COLORES
Mexican folk song
 Arr. Alfredo Morales, F.S.C.

lo - res es el ar - co i - ris que ve - mos sa - lir, Y por
rain - bow's bright col - ors God's prom - ise of hope we re - call; Sing of
love of the Sav - ior re - flect - ing the col - ors of all. Man - y

Em7 A9 F#m7 B7 Em A7

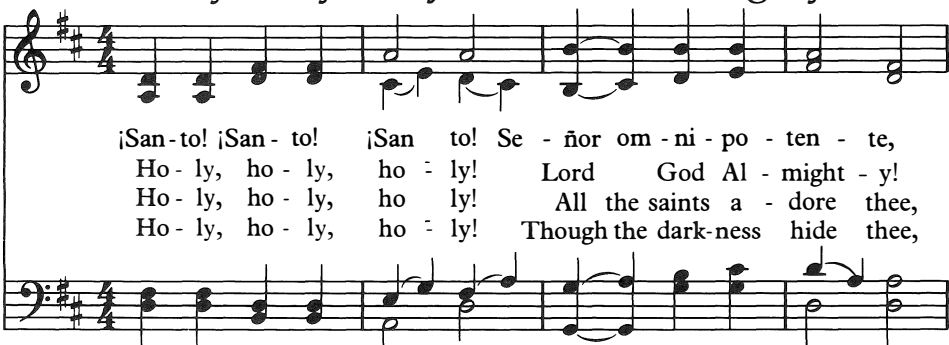
e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co - lo - res me gus - tan a
 col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who cre - at - ed us
 col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that tell us God's love to re -

D D7 G A9 F#m7 B7

mí, Y por e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co -
 all. Sing of col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the
 call. Man - y col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that

lo - res me gus - tan a mí.
God who cre - at - ed us all.
tell us God's love to re - call.

64 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty



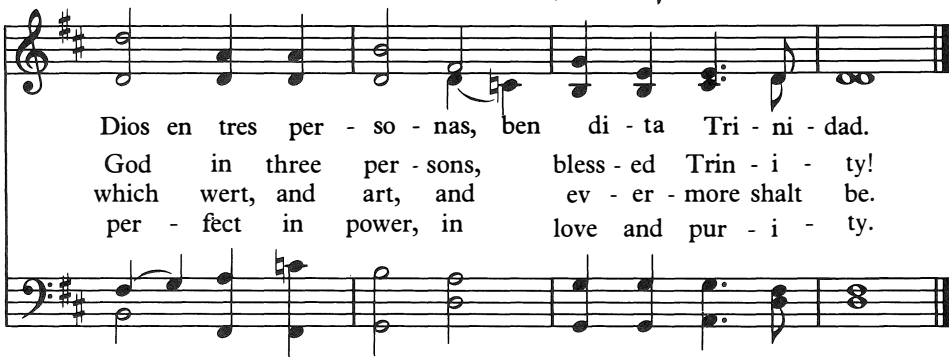
¡San - to! ¡San - to! ¡San to! Se - ñor om - ni - po - ten - te,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,



siem - pre! el la - bio mí - o lo - o - res te da - ra.
 Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,



¡San - to! ¡San - to! ¡San - to! te a - do - ro re - ve ren - te,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,



Dios en tres per - so - nas, ben di - ta Tri - ni - dad.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love and pur - i - ty.

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

MID - MISSOURI



September 26 & 27

12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

@Rose Music Hall

**Join Columbia UCC at this years
PrideFest! We will have a booth
both days from 12-6 p.m.**

**Make sure to swing by and say hi
during the festival.**

**Contact Ashley Ramirez to
volunteer to be at the booth and
spread the love.**