

# Columbia United Church Of Christ

March 8, 2020  
Lenten Vision: Rebirth



**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*



*March 8, 2020*

*10:30 Worship*

*“Faithful Stewardship”*

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

*“...I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where will my help come?  
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth...”  
-Psalm 12:1-2*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“Hymn of Promise”

Amy Crousore  
John Carter

Carrying in the Light of Christ

Riley Hayward

\*Call to Worship *(adapted from Psalm 121)*

Jessica Lucas

We gather, God, singing praises to You!  
You, O God, are the Rock of our Salvation!

**We will come into God’s presence with thanksgiving;  
We will bring joyful songs of praise to God!**

In Your hands, God, are the seeds that bring life;  
In Your hands are the bulbs that flower into new promises!

**All of Creation belongs to God;  
Established and evolved, guided and loved!**

You are our God and we are Your people;  
Sheep of Your pasture, flock of Your hand!

**Come, let us bow down and worship God, our Creator!  
Come, let us worship God!**

\*Opening Hymn

“Gather Us In” verses 1,2,4

*(insert)*

\*Opening Prayer

Pat Forward

**God of all Creation; we have appreciated the snow and the storm, the long, dark days of winter and the time for reflection they bring; now, as your time turns to spring, we see hope and promise all around us; the bulbs releasing their flowers, the tress beginning to bud. At times, like Nicodemus, we forget about the promises you offer, and try to fall back into our wintry shell. Help us to spring forward and open our eyes to the promises you reveal in every bud in our life; and help us, like the flowers of your promise, fully reveal your beauty. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.**

\*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

In the bud there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free! God's blessings are all around us this springtime; and God's promises belong to us. Born from above, we are all God's beloved children, blessed and free. Praise God!

*(you may be seated)*

Prayer Response

Ecumenical Women's Dance Choir

"In the Bulb There is a Flower" (adapted)

Dancers:

Emma Gingrich; Belinda Davis; Lea Marienfeld; Katie Marienfeld

Linda Neale; Donna Walter; Genevieve Howard; Heather Harlan

Terry Overfelt; Jenny McGee; Maria Eichenberger

Children's Time

"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!**

Living our Mission

"Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary"

Llona Weiss

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 12:1-4a

Jessica Lucas

*In another Creation story, Abram is called from his homeland to create new life for him and his family and a new nation, devoted to God.*

*Page #8*

Gospel Lesson:

John 3:1-10

Jessica Lucas

*Nicodemus visits Jesus under the cover of darkness, proclaiming his faith. Jesus tells him that he must be born from above, born of water and the Spirit. Nicodemus does not have the vision to understand what Jesus is talking about.*

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Sermon:

"Hide it Under a Bushel?"

Pastor Rick

\*Meditation Hymn

"Hymn of Promise"

#433

*Ushers will collect prayer cards during the hymn*

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

The LORD's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Prayer Response      “Grant Us Peace”  
**Hear our Prayer, O Lord!**  
**Hear our prayer, O Lord!**  
**Hear our Prayer, O Lord!**  
**And Grant us Thy Peace! A-men!**

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Stewardship Moment

George Zimny

Presenting our Gifts

“Allegro Innocente”

Amy Crousore  
*Josef Haydn*

*To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041 and follow the prompts  
You can also give online by visiting our website: [www.columbiaucc.com](http://www.columbiaucc.com)*

\*Response

“We Praise You, O God”

#420

**We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;  
We bless your Holy name, glad praises we sing!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

Jessica Lucas

**God of all Creation, we give these gifts back to you realizing that all we have and all we are is a gift from you. Help us to live lives realizing this, reflecting our understanding that we are blessed and called to be blessings. May our allocation of time, talent and treasures always reflect your presence in our lives. Amen.**

Brief Congregational Meeting

James Melton

*(James will convene a brief Congregational Meeting to vote on electing Stefanie Zimny as Chair of the Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team)*

\*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

“Allegro Energico”

Amy Crousore  
*Christian Cappelen*

## NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH ALPHA HART LEWIS ELEMENTARY

The Church Council has approved the opportunity for Columbia United Church of Christ to be a Columbia Public Schools “Partnership Friend” with Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School! De’Vion Moore is the Principal and Kyra Yung is the Assistant Principal for a population of 405 students. The Principal is very interested in service learning opportunities for the students, and teaching them to be helpers, learners, and leaders. We are planning the announcement of our “Partnership” at their PTA meeting on Tuesday, 3/31/20 at 6:00pm at the school. All CUCC members are invited to attend!

The Outreach Committee is starting off our partnership with a “CUCC Drive for Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School” by collecting:

- *Kleenex*
- *Clorox/Lysol wipes*
- *Hand sanitizers (Germ-X), and*
- *Shoes and boots for the Kindergarten through 2nd grade students*

The Outreach Committee will bring our total collected donations to Alpha Hart at the Partnership kickoff on 3/31.

We have a display in the Gathering Space to collect these items. Please consider picking up a few of them the next time you are at the store. These items fill one of the greatest needs at this time in the school year with all the colds and germs, and snow/rain.

Also, Alpha Hart has a Carnival Event night scheduled for **May 8** and would like volunteers from CUCC to help with the booths and handing out items. That way, the parents can spend more time with their students doing the carnival events together. There are short forms that our congregation volunteers need to complete and sign if you are going to work with the students. These volunteer forms are available at the display in the Gathering Space, or from Llona Weiss, or in the church office. This requirement for signed volunteer forms is similar to what is already done when volunteering in the Columbia Public Schools, our CUCC Sunday School program, or working with LODO students. We have a number of interested CUCC congregants who want to volunteer with our Partnership Friend, and if you have not already talked with Llona or Pastor Rick, please do so. We are very excited about this wonderful outreach opportunity with our youth and the public schools!



# Columbia United Church of Christ

3201 1-70 Drive NW; Columbia, MO 65202

**Phone:** 573.445.7931

**Pastor's cell:** 573.241.2027

**Website:** [www.columbiaucc.com](http://www.columbiaucc.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Richard Oberle **email:** [rick@columbiaucc.com](mailto:rick@columbiaucc.com)  
**Admin. Assistant:** April Rothweiler [office@columbiaucc.com](mailto:office@columbiaucc.com)  
**Moderator:** James Melton [jwmelton@gmail.com](mailto:jwmelton@gmail.com)  
**Music Director:** Kristin Veteto [kristinnoelveteto@gmail.com](mailto:kristinnoelveteto@gmail.com)  
**Organist/Accompanist:** Amy Crousore [amycrousore@gmail.com](mailto:amycrousore@gmail.com)  
**LODO Director:** Erika Maltsbarger [littleonesdayout@yahoo.com](mailto:littleonesdayout@yahoo.com)  
**Building Monitor:** Lloyd Viehland [lwviehland@gmail.com](mailto:lwviehland@gmail.com)  
**Financial Secretary:** Raj Tolani [finance.cucc@gmail.com](mailto:finance.cucc@gmail.com)  
**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Fred Brandenburg

## TODAY IN WORSHIP:

**Greeters:** Donna Marsh & Judi Privitt  
**Ushers:** Llona Weiss & Jan Barry  
**Worship Leader:** Jessica Lucas  
**Acolyte:** Riley Hayward  
**Sound Booth:** John Graves  
**Hospitality:** James Melton  
**Council Steward:** James Melton

## NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

**Greeters:** Keith Birkes & Anne Heine  
**Ushers:** Hugo Wilmsmeyer & Christine Staelens  
**Worship Leader:** Matt Lucas  
**Acolyte:** Abby Dennis  
**Sound Booth:** Dennis Froeschner  
**Hospitality:** Jane Duncan  
**Council Steward:** Jane Duncan



## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

**Moderator:** James Melton [jwmelton@gmail.com](mailto:jwmelton@gmail.com)  
**Vice Moderator:** Kristy Odneal [kristyodneal@gmail.com](mailto:kristyodneal@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Jane Duncan [markduncan2@mchsi.com](mailto:markduncan2@mchsi.com)  
**Treasurer:** Sue Ann Schaefer [ssas3307@aol.com](mailto:ssas3307@aol.com)  
**Recording Treasurer:** Brent Marcks [brentmarcks@hotmail.com](mailto:brentmarcks@hotmail.com)  
**Building & Grounds:** John Bullerd [jbullerd51@gmail.com](mailto:jbullerd51@gmail.com)  
**Fellowship & Hospitality:** Stefanie Zimny [stefanie.zimny@gmail.com](mailto:stefanie.zimny@gmail.com)  
**Finance & Stewardship:** George Zimny [gzimny@pbfirm.com](mailto:gzimny@pbfirm.com)  
**Membership & Care:** Jessica Lucas [jlucas@cpsk12.org](mailto:jlucas@cpsk12.org)  
**Nurture & Education:** Pat Forward [pdforward@msn.com](mailto:pdforward@msn.com)  
**Outreach & Advocacy:** Mahree Skala [skalamahree@yahoo.com](mailto:skalamahree@yahoo.com)  
**Worship & Music:** Pete Jaberg [petejaberg@gmail.com](mailto:petejaberg@gmail.com)

**WELCOME GUESTS!** If you are a guest visiting with us this morning, please fill out a green card found in your chair pocket and leave it in the offering plate when it is passed. Be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Rick! We would love to get to know you better!

**NAMETAGS** We strive to be a friendly and welcoming church! Members and frequent guests, please wear your nametag each Sunday so we can greet each other most effectively and become an even friendlier church!

**ALL MUSIC** ...photocopied in the bulletin and reproduced on the video screen is done so using onelicense.net: License #A-727757

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATIONS** If you are a graduating Senior or are attending college currently, applications are available in the church office for scholarships from the NEW SCHOLARSHIP FUND! Applications are due in the church office by April 1. *(Contributions to this Fund are welcome also, so we can continue this ministry!)*

### **BOOK STUDY**

Pastor Rick will be hosting a daytime Book Study on the book “Transgender and Christian” in March, as a follow up to Austen Hartke’s presentation last month. The time for the Book Study is Wednesdays at noon, and we will utilize Zoom technology so people can participate from home or work using their laptop or cell phone. Copies of the book are available in the church office.

### **YOUTH FUNDRAISER MEAL NEXT SUNDAY**

The Youth will be serving a meal after worship next Sunday– Baked Chicken with all the trimmings! Stick around after worship for a great meal! This is a fundraiser for their July Mission Trip to Indiana, and participating in the National Youth Event.

### **THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR**

Sun	3/8	Men’s Breakfast	7:30am
		Fellowship Time/Sunday School	9:00am
		Worship	10:30am
		Nurture & Education Ministry Team	11:30am
		High School Second Sunday at Lauren’s	5:00pm
Mon	3/9	Building & Grounds Ministry Team	6:30pm
Tue	3/10	Quilters	9:00am-2:00pm
		Staff Meeting	10:00am
		Food Bank	6:00pm
Wed	3/11	Book Study- “Transforming” by Austen Hartke	12:00pm
		Bells/Choir	6:30/7:30pm
		Confirmation	6:30pm
		Confirmation 2.0	8:00pm
Thu	3/12	Women’s Fellowship	9:30am
		Inclusion Team meeting at Oasis UCC	7:00pm
Fri	3/13	LODO Closed– Professional Development Day	
		Council Retreat	6:00pm
Sat	3/14	Fellowship Hall in use– Girl Scouts	9:00am-3:00pm
Sun	3/15	<b><i>PLEDGE CARDS/TIME AND TALENT SHEET DEDICATION</i></b>	
		Fellowship Time/Sunday School	9:00am
		Worship	10:30am
		Youth Group Chicken Dinner	11:30am

# **Columbia UCC Prayer List**

*Please keep in your prayers this week...*

All who are suffering from seasonal viruses  
The family of Nicholas Johnson ... on their loss  
Mari Ann Keithahn... healing from broken arm  
For Harry Besleme's sister Kate in South Korea going thru a divorce  
For the Alvis Family and Baby Lachlen, all suffering from the flu  
Gladys Koepke... health issues after a fall (Gene's mother)  
Rev. Dr. David Beebe... living with cancer (Oberle's friend)  
Jo Ellen Grace's brother... living with cancer  
For improved family relationships (2/16)  
For all who need healing from grief, loss, challenges (2/23)  
Friend recovering from bilateral mastectomy (2/23)  
Dale Gregory; Christine Mseke, Bea Gordon;  
Gary Ehrhardt; Lasley Family; Joe & Corrine Remeika  
Sheila... challenges in life and faith  
Amy Koerkenmeyer & the Malicoat Family  
The Williams, Piersee & Marsh Families...going through tough times

## *Health Issues:*

Deborah Heather (Edie Diehl's niece); Kathy Kindrick; Christie O'Very;  
Nathan Schnell (Isaiah's friend); Sharon Elliott; Rev. Jim Elliott; Shirley Lawler;  
Finn Price (Tricia's nephew); Sue Beckman; Wayne Gartner (Laura's brother)  
Pat Enos (Alisa's brother-in-law)

## *Pregnancies in our church family:*

Makayla Smith and Joey Oberle

## *Congratulations to:*

Coleen & Tim Williams on the birth of their baby boy (Bullerd's daughter)

## *Serving us in the military:*

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson  
James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)  
Thomas Zumalt (Shirley Lawler's grandson)  
Tim Isom, Tyler Gibson, Chuck Sheller (Oberles' friends);  
Daisia Baker (Isaiah's cousin); Cole Long (Vena's grandson)

## *UCC/DOC Global Ministries Missionary of the Week:*

Karen Campbell-Nelson, serving in Indonesia

## *2020 Confirmation Class:*

Lilly Jaberg, Hazel Keithahn, Brandon Lavelly