



Currents

From the Desk of Rev. Chris Alexander | Associate Minister

Gratitude is a concept that is shared universally among all faith traditions of the world, and this year Countryside has been given a new opportunity for celebrating gratitude at Thanksgiving! We have been invited to participate with 10 other faith communities from the Jewish, Muslim and Christian traditions throughout Omaha in an "Interfaith Thanksgiving" worship on Sunday, November 22, at 5:00 p.m. This gathering is now a 10-year tradition that gets bigger and bigger each year. Each of the 10 communities has been asked to bring a choir (or two) and a few desserts to share, as together we celebrate our unity in God's love.

The participating communities include The American Muslim Institute, Countryside Community Church (United Church of Christ), First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), First Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), First Unitarian Church of Omaha, First United Methodist Church, Hanscom Park United Methodist Church, St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, Temple Israel, and Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church.

This year's host community is First United Methodist Church, and they ask that each of us bring a non-perishable food item to donate as we enter worship. These donations, along with all proceeds from a free-will offering, will benefit *Together*, a non-profit organization specializing in homeless prevention and providing resources for people in crisis.

This is an exciting opportunity for us to celebrate with friends from a wide spectrum of faith traditions and experience how each lends their unique practices of gratitude within a combined worship of thanksgiving. Not to mention how great 10+ choirs will sound in that fabulous sanctuary at First United!

Mary Beth Link is organizing our dessert donations, so if you would like to help out with that part of the celebration, please drop her an email at marybethl@countrysideucc.org, or call the church office at 402-391-0350. Also, please note that child care will be provided so the whole family may attend the celebration.

Because we will be participating in this community-wide Thanksgiving service, Countryside will not be having a service of our own as we have done in the past. So mark your calendars and plan to join our many friends and neighbors as we give our thanks to God, who loves all of us beyond our wildest imaginations!

In gratitude,

Chris Alexander

Interfaith Jewish Muslim Christian THANKSGIVING

"Unite In Thanksgiving"

Sunday, November 22, 2015

5:00 p.m.

Hosted by:

First United Methodist Church
7020 Cass Street
Omaha NE 68132

Child Care Available
Coffee and Sweets
Reception
Following Service



In the spirit of thanksgiving, the offering and non-perishable food items will be donated to:



CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

The **November BOX** will be dedicated to the “**Toys for Pine Ridge**” project. **BOCO is partnering with Countryside Youth (COYO)** to help provide gifts for children/youth on the Pine Ridge Reservation. **We are collecting unwrapped toys/games for 0 to 19 years of age (as gender neutral as possible).** **COYO will see to the delivery of the articles in time for Christmas.** Thank you for sharing in this endeavor to help make Christmas a happy time for Pine Ridge children/youth.

A follow up on our BOX for September: Thank you to all who donated to the BOX in September in partnership with the Covenant Choir to support the Nebraska Humane Society. Your generosity resulted in 12 bags of blankets and towels, 11 bags of pet food, and seven bags of empty medication bottles to benefit their efforts for animals. Awesome!

The Board of Christian Outreach invites the congregation to take part in each of our four core initiatives:

Holiday Offerings (Christmas and Easter) - This year our congregation raised \$11,725 for the Special Easter offering that was given to NAMI, the National Association for Mental Illness. Last Christmas, our congregation raised \$19,957.25 for APUSAN's Los Chavalitos Clinic in Nicaragua, helping them to provide medical services to hundreds of women and children each month. The 2015 Christmas Special Offering recipient will be announced in November.

Community Cupboard - The largest mobile food pantry in Nebraska takes place right here at Countryside on the first Saturday of each month. On average, our pantry provides food for more than 275 families (800+ individuals) in our community each month. Dozens of volunteers from our congregation and throughout the community work side-by-side to make this extraordinary endeavor happen. The next one is on Saturday, November 7, from 7:30-11:30 a.m.;

The Box - Located in the Foyer, just south of the main doors, “the box” is a dedicated drop off area where items addressing specific needs are collected each month. Because of the generous donations from our congregation, BOCO recently distributed more than 1300 pairs of new socks and underwear to children. If you know of an agency that would benefit from in-kind donations like these, we welcome your recommendations.

Small Service Grants (SSG) - Countryside members who volunteer with local groups/events may be awarded small grants (up to \$500) to cover the costs of materials and supplies. SSG recently provided \$300 towards children's books, and another \$300 for Spanish Bibles. We encourage our members to complete the SSG request on the church website under the Ministries tab: <http://countrysideucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/SSG.pdf>

PASTORAL CARE

For more information about Pastoral Care, contact Margie Bolte at the church office or margieb@countrysideucc.org

Congratulations:

Kara and Grant Fifield welcomed daughter, Scarlett Elise, on September 23 in St. Paul, MN. Scarlett joins big sister Adelyn. Proud grandparents are Juliana and Jerry Johnson.

In Loving Memory:

Charles Hoke – Charles passed away on October 7 in Papillion. A memorial service was held at Bellevue Memorial Chapel on October 13, officiated by Rev. Chris Alexander. Countryside member, Mark Hoke, is Charles' son.

Ron Hale – Ron passed away on October 28 here in Omaha. A memorial service was held at Countryside on November 2, officiated by Dr. Eric Elnes. Ron's wife is Marilyn. Ron was father to Jeff and Terri Hale and grandfather to Kelcy, Scott and Amy.

Stephen Ministry Training Starts Soon!

Stephen Ministry is an active lay ministry program within our church that provides confidential Christian support to those who are facing difficulties in their lives. Stephen Ministers receive special training to become good listeners and to provide caring support to others as they work through a difficult transition. At certain times, we all need comfort: family crisis, death, divorce, illness, loss of job, or simply an unexpected lifestyle change. When we open our hearts to the compassion of another, we feel less alone.

A new Stephen Ministry training class will begin in January. If you are interested in being part of this wonderful ministry, or would simply like more information, contact Margie Bolte, Pastoral Care Coordinator, at (402) 391-0350 ext. 117.



LIFE MINISTRIES

For more information about Life Ministries or to register for an activity, contact Mary Beth Link at marybeth@countysideucc.org or 402-391-0350 ext. 112, or sign up on Sundays at the Information Station in the Foyer.

ALL CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Where do your Faith and environment intersect? Are you concerned about climate change and just don't know what to do about it? **FATE** is a dedicated group of Countryside members who are motivated by the love of God's creation to advocate, educate and commit small acts to mitigate the effects of global warming in our church and homes. Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 2, 5:30 p.m. in the COYO Youth Room.

T'ai Chi Chih® is a series of gentle movements that may be done by anyone. Classes are held on Thursday mornings from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Suggested donation is \$10.00 for drop in or \$50.00 for six weeks. As a reminder, there will be no classes held on November 5 or 12. For information, contact Rita at RMOTIS@outlook.com.

InterPlay will be held on Saturday, November 21, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Foyer.

LGBT 101 will meet in Memorial Hall on Thursday, November 12, at 6:00 p.m. For additional information on this educational small group, contact Joni at jws@spsattorneys.com.

Nominating Committee will continue meeting on Monday evenings, 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. If you have any questions concerning the nominating process, contact either Sandy at jasuep@aol.com or France Blanchard at fblanchardh@gmail.com.

EDUCATIONAL GROUPS

Smart Money Smart Kids is a series of six practical, video-based lessons in which Dave Ramsey and daughter Rachel give parents a step-by-step approach to being intentional when they teach their kids about giving, spending, saving, debt, and contentment. You will learn how to help your kids make wise money choices and build character qualities. Be watching for additional information on this class, which will be offered in late January or early February.

SOCIAL GROUPS

Mom's Morning Out group-We are checking to see how many Moms would be interested in coming together for a Mom's Morning Out group once a month. Stop by the Information Station, chat with Mary Beth, and register of your interest.

Mahjong anyone? Mahjong is a game of Chinese origin using 144 small tiles bearing various designs, played by four people around a square table. The winning player is the first one who completes a particular pattern using 13 tiles. If you are

interested in learning how to play or putting a group together, stop by the Information Station.

Family Activities Committee members will meet in the Family Life Office on Sunday, November 22, 10:00 a.m. The agenda revolves around the upcoming Advent Workshop. RSVP regrets only.

ETC members will meet on Tuesday, November 17, 6:00 p.m. at Tanner's.

Men's Breakfast Group meets on Tuesday mornings, 7:00 a.m. at the Garden Café in Rockbrook Shopping Center (108th and Center). This is open to all men of the church.

Lunch Bunch Circle November finds the group going out ---- Lunch Bunch will go to Jack and Mary's restaurant at 114th and Dodge in Mircle Hills, Monday, November 9, at noon for lunch and conversation. Barbara Laughlin is our hostess. You may call Gloria Ried at 402-333-3115 for more information.

Women's Lunch Group will meet on Monday, November 2, noon at First Watch, 1222 S 71st St . Come for lunch, a cup of coffee or just good fellowship. This group is open to all women. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Knit-n-Wit meets on Wednesday evenings at Whole Foods. If you would like more information regarding the group, contact Jeannie Cunningham at jkcunningham@cox.net.

Friend to Friend will meet on Thursday, November 12, at 11:00 a.m. in the Moderator's Room kitchen. If you have questions, contact Pam Kregg at pamgg@cox.net.

Young at Heart- This exceptional group of seniors gathers on the second Thursday of the month for lunch at noon. This month's luncheon will be held on Thursday, November 12, lovingly prepared by Friend to Friend circle and served in the Moderator's Room. We look forward to seeing our regular attendees and welcome anyone else who would like to join us.

The cost for the homemade meal is \$5.00. A sign-up sheet may be found at the Information Station, or you may make a reservation by calling Mary Beth Link 402-391-0350 ext. 112 or Pam Kregg 402-896-3866. Come join us!

Reel Faith will be viewing "City of God" on Friday, November 13, 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. "City of God" churns with furious energy as it plunges into the story of the slum gangs of Rio de Janeiro. The movie takes place in slums constructed by Rio to isolate the poor people from the city center. They have grown into places teeming with life, color, music and excitement--and also with danger, for the law is absent and violent gangs rule

the streets. In the virtuoso sequence opening the picture, a gang is holding a picnic for its members, when a chicken escapes. Among those chasing it is Rocket (Alexandre Rodrigues), the narrator. He suddenly finds himself between two armed lines: the gang on one side, the cops on the other.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Family Activities Committee will host this year's **Advent Workshop** on Sunday, December 6, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Be watching for additional information and ornament samples! This is a family-based event you'll not want to miss.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for 3-4 dedicated volunteers who would take responsibility for Countryside's kitchens on a weekly basis. This would involve putting dishes away, wiping counters, emptying dishwasher and keeping an inventory of necessary supplies. If this speaks to you, stop by the Information Station Sunday morning.

Conscientious Dishwashers Seeking Same. Volunteers are needed to help with dishwashing mugs after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. It is easy and many hands make light work -- but we really need the hands! Contact Mary Beth to be added to the list.

The Community Cupboard Food Pantry is signing up volunteers for the **November 7 pantry**. Any and all age groups are welcome. Ability to lift, bend and stand on your feet for extended periods of time are appreciated. Contact Mary Beth at 402-391-0350 ext. 112 or Andi Lawlor at lalalallawlor@cox.net for additional information.

Thanks to the Board of Pastoral Care for hosting coffee hour throughout the month of November. Be sure to chat with one of the members to learn about the activities and events they provide in for our church families.



Beginning November 29, Rev. Chris Alexander will be conducting a survey open to all Countryside members over the age of 18, as part of her research toward her Doctor of Ministry studies at Luther Seminary in St. Paul MN. The purpose of the research is to evaluate which spiritual practices are actually being utilized by our Countryside community, and which of our practices are most helpful in informing our communal decisions for ministry. To participate in this survey you may either follow the digital link on our website (www.countrysidecommunitychurch.org) or pick up a printed copy of the survey from our church office. All surveys must be completed and returned by December 31, 2015. If you would like to be a participant in a one on one interview regarding spiritual practices and whether or not they are helpful to you in making decisions concerning our ministry at Countryside, please email Chris at chrisa@countrysideucc.org and let her know. These interviews will be done by appointment during the month of January 2016, and you must have completed the survey prior to participating in the interview. Thanks for helping Chris with her research and for helping Countryside to expand our discernment processes in more helpful directions.



ROOTED IN GOD

**Facilitated by Spiritual Director Jen Davidson
Women's Retreat**

Countryside Community Church

Saturday, November 14, 2015, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$50/person, includes lunch

Brought to you by the Board of Life Ministry

COYO (Countryside YOutH)

For more information about Youth Ministries, contact Will Howell at willh@countrysideucc.org or 402-391-0350 ext. 111.
Get Connected! <http://countrysideucc.org/coyo>

Sr High November Event

Video Scavenger Hunt

November 15 * 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

FREE



Meet after church for lunch and to get instructions. Form teams and go around town collecting video footage for points. Ends at 4:00 with a viewing of the videos and awards ceremony. This is a FREE event!

Sign up at: <http://countrysideucc.org/coyo/srhigh>

Jr. High October Event

Lock-In & Haunted House

Nov. 13-14 * 8:00 p.m. - 8:00 a.m.

FREE



Meet at church at 8pm to go to Skinny Bones corn maze in Blair. There's lots of great Halloween stuff to do there that's included in the cost. Bring extra money if you want food. Hot chocolate will be provided. Back by 11:00. Feel free to bring a friend too.

Sign up at <http://countrysideucc.org/coyo/jrhigh>

HONEY SUNDAY

Benefitting Ollie Webb Center, Inc.

Honey Sunday is an annual fundraiser. Proceeds benefit The Arc of Omaha at Ollie Webb Center, Inc., a local non-profit agency serving individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Honey is sold in bear-shaped 12-ounce bottles. \$6.00 for one bottle, \$10 for two, \$15 for three bottles!

COYO students will be selling honey on Nov. 1

COYO Sr High and Jr High will be selling honey to benefit The Arc of Ollie Web Inc., an agency serving those with disabilities and their families. Jars are \$6 each, \$10 for two, and \$15 for three. Students that want to help sell the jars on Sunday, Nov. 1, go here:

<http://countrysideucc.org/coyo/srhigh>

There will be 120 jars for sale, so get one quick.

THE MINISTRY OF AARON'S RAINBOW PROJECT PRESENTS:

"Heartfelt messages of love and unity..."
Times Daily

"Spiritual music in a pop style..."
Chicago Sun Times

"His music is intense [and] empowering."
Stonewall Society

Singer/Songwriter
Worship Leader and Author

Sean Thomas
Live in Concert
Sun, Nov. 1 6:30 p.m.

All COYO Sr High and Jr High are invited!

Shawn Thomas is a contemporary Christian

singer/songwriter and worship leader whose ministry includes an outreach to the GLBT community. His intention is to share the message of God's love and grace through music in order to build unity, understanding, and acceptance while still encouraging personal responsibility, self-reliance, and the development of conviction and values.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

For more information or if you have questions about Music Ministries, contact Bruce Blanchard, Interim Music Coordinator, at bblanchardh@gmail.com or 402-609-0943.

The Music Ministry Search Committee is at work surveying members of various choirs and boards at Countryside, as well as consulting with various professionals in the area of church music and also multiple websites. Work has begun on crafting a job description, as well as researching nationwide sites where we will post the position. Members of the congregation will also be given an opportunity to give the committee feedback in the near future. The committee may be reached at musicsearch@countrysideucc.org.

Upcoming 9:00 a.m. Service — Musical Guests for November:

Sunday, November 8— **Thomas Kluge** is the principal violist of the Omaha Symphony, an active chamber music player, recitalist and soloist. Prior to moving to Omaha, Mr. Kluge was a freelance musician in New York City. He performed with the New York Philharmonic, orchestras in Connecticut, and a number of chamber orchestras.



Sunday, November 29 —**William Ritchie**, Assistant Principal Bass of the Omaha Symphony since 1983, began his professional career as the orchestra director for the St. Joseph Public Schools in his hometown of St. Joseph, Michigan, where he was also the first conductor of the Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra. He has been a member of the Florida Orchestra (Tampa Bay), Grand Rapids Symphony and South Bend Symphony, and has performed with the Atlanta Symphony and the Kansas City Symphony. Bill performed regularly with the Detroit Symphony from 1996 - 2008 at Orchestra Hall in Detroit, and joined the DSO on two European tours in 1998 and 2001, and a tour of Michigan in 2003.



Stewardship 2016

Countryside Community Church is making its 2016 budget and our Stewardship Campaign is upon us. The theme is **ACT** (All Countrysiders Together), and we are asking you and all members to ACT Now!

This year's Stewardship theme echoes our Acts series in its use of the acronym, ACT – which stands for “All Countrysiders Together.” This acronym succinctly states what Countryside must be about this year: joining hands, hearts and financial gifts – all of us together ensuring that the Spirit's will for our congregation and its mission move strongly forward in 2016.

The Stewardship Committee believes the Countryside congregation will always provide the support needed to flourish in the way the congregation has directed, and we respectfully request your financial support now. We hope you will give. Know that any financial support you can give is important, appreciated and respected.

PLEDGING ONLINE

- Go to countrysideucc.org/ACT and select PLEDGE NOW.
- Complete the required informational fields. You may select pay later or setup an electric Giving Made Simple account. If you have previously signed up online, log in and make your pledge.

PLEDGING WITH A PLEDGE CARD

- Complete a 2016 Pledge Card.
- Additional pledge cards are available at the stewardship kiosk in the foyer.
- Return pledge card back to Countryside
 - Drop off at stewardship kiosk in foyer
 - Mail in pledge card

If you would like to setup electronic giving, complete a Giving Made Simple Authorization Form and return with your pledge card. Authorization Forms are also available at the stewardship kiosk in foyer or by calling the church office

countrysideucc.org/ACT or call 402.391.0350

STEWARDSHIP 2016



ALL COUNTRYSIDERS TOGETHER

RELOCATION UPDATE

If you have questions or comments, please see one of the committee members (Rick MacInnes, Tim Kerrigan, Cyndi Kugler, Paul Nelson, Pam Kregg and Nancy Behringer) or email crc@countrysideucc.org.

Update 10/29/15

Thank You!

The Countryside Relocation Committee (CRC) appreciated those that participated in the Open House on Sunday, October 25. During the DISCOVERY PHASE of our Visioning Process, there were many dreams and core requirements shared by Countryside members during listening sessions, workshops, and questionnaires to create a report for what was important in a new church. The Open House, sponsored by the Building + Design Committees, then gave members a chance to prioritize the most important aspects of this shared vision and the future of Countryside. This information is being shared with our architect team of Alley Poyner Macchietto Architects (APMA) and HGA.

Rick MacInnes, Moderator and CRC Chair, shared exciting news during church services prior to the Open House. The land at Sterling Ridge for the Tri-Faith Campus, owned by the Bishop Clarkson Foundation was purchased locally by the Sherwood Foundation and directly donated to Countryside Community Church. Rick said, *"We are certainly blessed to have this very thoughtful and gracious donation made to Countryside. This provides us a wonderful step forward in our plans to relocate our church and join Temple Israel and the AMI on the Tri-Faith Campus."*



COUNTRYSIDE
— RELOCATION —



Members of the CRC and Building + Design Sub-committee Chairs will be attending an architectural workshop in Minneapolis so they can lead us through the next stage in our process to build our new church. The group will tour different churches and see various examples of architectural buildings designed by HGA, as well as discuss initial conceptual ideas for our church. More information will be shared in other Countryside communications. Any questions you have - please email the CRC team at CRC@countrysideucc.org.

Daylight Savings Time ends after 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 1. Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour earlier on November 1 than the day before!



CENTER FOR FAITH STUDIES/ ADULT EDUCATION

For more information about Center for Faith Studies and Adult Education, contact Kelly Keller at kellyk@countysideucc.org or 402-391-0350 ext. 119



November 12, 7 p.m.— Lucianne Walkowicz

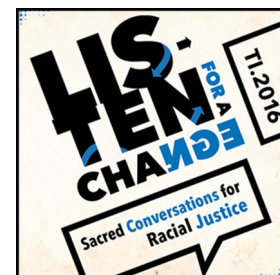
Planet Hunting: Looking Up, Seeking Life, Finding Home

Captivated by the mysteries of the natural world from a young age, Walkowicz is a lifelong explorer who began doing formal research at age 17. She has since been part of several space missions, including the Hubble Space Telescope and NASA's Kepler Mission, and is a leader in the future Large Synoptic Survey Telescope. Walkowicz joined the Adler Planetarium in 2014. She is a TED Senior Fellow, a National Academy of Sciences Kavli Fellow, and has been internationally recognized for her advocacy for conservation of dark night skies. Small groups attending as a group, contact Terri Vincent for discounted tickets. Child care is available—call ahead at 402-391-0350.

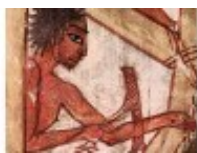


January 21-23 Listen for a Change: Sacred Conversations for Racial Justice

In collaboration with Lutheran Metro Ministries, Sisters of Mercy, OTOC, Nebraska Families Collaborative, Sacred Journey, Church of the Resurrection and Bethel AME, The Center for Faith Studies is proud to host the webcast of the three-day conference of Trinity Institute 2016. Featuring speakers like Anna Deavare Smith, Nicholas Kristof, Michele Norris and Emilie Townes, you can plan to attend all or part of the conference. \$20 registration covers all three days: Thursday at 5:30 p.m. is the Opening: A mass, Reimaginings, featuring the work of Netsayi and preaching by renowned preacher Bishop Michael Curry. Dinner will be served and followed by keynote by Michele Norris. Friday runs from 8:30 a.m. -3:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m. closing with a performance by Anna Deavare Smith.

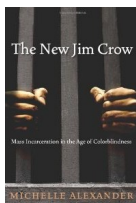
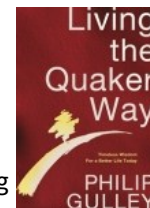


Adult Education Offerings



The Other Side of History: Daily Life in the Ancient World—two groups are currently studying this course of the Great Courses by The Learning Company. *The Other Side of History* gets beyond the abstract dates and figures, kings and queens, and battles and wars that make up so many historical accounts. ***Mondays O'Dell Brown Bag Lunch meets*** at 12:15 p.m. on Mondays in the Chapel. They will be finishing up this class over the next few weeks. ***Sunday Adult Forum***—will meet **Sundays Nov 1, 8 and 15** at 10:00 a.m. in the Moderator's Room. This group will take a break over the winter holidays.

Wednesdays Books Bible and Beyond—Running every Wednesday at noon in the Chapel, this group takes various books of interest and discusses them. The group is currently reading Philip Gulley's *Living the Quaker Way*. Wednesdays at Noon in the Chapel. Contact Nancy Ethington at nethington522@gmail.com.



The New Jim Crow. A new study group has formed, focusing on readings and videos around the topic of race and racism in American life. The group started with Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*, meeting Mondays at 7:15 p.m. in the Commons. This group also plans to attend Omaha Table Talk's roundtable on Mass Incarceration on November 10. Contact Mary Jo Weiss at mjbarbeiss@gmail.com or Kelly at 402-391-0350.



6:30-7:15 p.m. program, 7:15-8:00 p.m. optional fellowship, dialogue and refreshments

“In the Commons” has a double meaning – describing the place and the programming itself. A “commons-based” worldview emphasizes the concept that there IS such a thing as the common good, and that bringing people together in dialogue is essential to the sustainability of the human community. We will begin gathering at 6:30 p.m., with an invited guest presenting at 7:45 p.m. for about 15-20 minutes, and then continue with casual but surely engaging dialogue with the speaker and each other. You can come for the speaker only—but most like to stay for the dialogue!



November 4—Cristen White: Finding Family. Operations Program Manager with Nebraska Families Collaborative. Working with families in crisis brings challenges and rewards. Cristen will tell stories of the surprising sources of strength and support that come forward from within these very families at the moment when you think a child’s life may be hopelessly bleak.



November 11—Veterans at End of Life. Kelly Keller will show a few clips from Deborah Grassman’s CFS talk Vietnam Veterans: Untold Stories at End of Life, and talk about the stories of Omaha –area veterans and their experiences of dying on hospice and coming to terms with their combat service in times of war. Prior to becoming CFS Director at Countryside, Kelly trained hospice volunteers for AseraCare Hospice in Omaha.



November 18—Gary George. Hospice Stories. Gary George, Executive Director of Hospice House and former director of Nebraska Aids project, will present stories from his experiences of working with the dying.

November 25— NO WNA—Enjoy Thanksgiving Service



December 2—Rev. Dr. Cynthia Lindenmyer: Star Wars and the Search for God. The new Star Wars is coming out later this month. Rev. Lindenmyer, a member of Countryside and a die-hard Star Wars fan, will talk about the themes of Star Wars and their relevance to Christian living.



December 9—Dr. John O’Keefe: The Roots of Christian Ecology O’Keefe, Ph.D. is a Professor of Theology and the holder of the A.F. Jacobson Chair in Communication at Creighton University. His academic research has focused on the history and theology of ancient Christianity, especially in the area of ancient interpretation of the Bible. He will discuss early Christian theologies of nature and the Christian theological contribution to the environmental movement.

CONVERGING PATHS MINISTRY

For more information about Converging Paths Ministries or to register for a Journey Group, contact Terri Vincent at terriv@countrysideucc.org or 402-391-0350 ext. 121.

Countryside’s journey continues as we leave the Book of Acts and enter into our next study series: The Way of Jesus – A Journey through Luke. Don’t be left behind! There are several groups welcoming new members. They meet at all different times and days of the week. Or gather a group of people and start your own Journey Group. Contact Terri to join a Journey Group today.





We all know that the best way to guide our children is through modeling the behavior we'd like them to adopt. The same is true for how we'd like our children to interact with church.

If we want them to attend church when they are older, we have to show them that we are willing to do it. If we want them to make time for church development—i.e.—serving on a board, cooking a meal, exploring our individual faith journeys in small groups and study—we have to make the commitment in our own lives.

It also means that we have to let our students come to church. I know, I know...it's loud, you can't concentrate, (insert other reason to exclude children from church). But it is possible that the behavior we are modeling isn't "you, as a child, are not welcome in church" rather "you are not welcome in church". If that's how they feel as children, they will most likely continue to feel that as they grow into adulthood. If you don't believe this, spend some time talking to ANY member of our church about their childhood in church. These early church experiences shape our future just like good nutrition and adequate schooling.

We have an opportunity right now to show our children how we do church. If we are going to claim "All are Welcome," then we have to live it and model it for our students.

**Questions about
Children's Education
Department?**



**Contact Rebecca at
rebeccam@countysideucc.org**

Mark Your Calendar:

- Nov. 1**— Family Worship
 - Nov. 4, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**— WNA
 - Nov. 8**—Sunday School
 - Nov. 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**— WNA
 - Nov. 15**— Children's Church
 - Nov.18, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**— WNA
 - Nov. 22**— Sunday School
 - Nov. 25**— No WNA— Happy Thanksgiving!
 - Nov. 29**— Children's Church
- The [Children's Education Calendar](#) is also available on the CCC website!

**November Nursery
Schedule**



Sunday, November 1:
8:30– 10:30 a.m.—Tim
K, Joe F., & Reagan F.

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.— Beth,
Sammi, & Isaac

Wednesday, November 4:
6:30-8:30 p.m.— Breann & Eric

Sunday, November. 8:
8:30-10:30 a.m.— Breann
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.—Lisa G.,

Sammi

Wednesday, November 11:
6:30-8:30 p.m.—Breann & Eric

Thursday, November 12 (CFS Event):
7:00-9:00 p.m.— Breann

Sunday, November 15:
8:30-10:30 a.m.—Breann
10:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.— Mike and
Maureen

Wednesday, November 18:
6:30-8:30 p.m.— Breann & Eric

Sunday, November 22:
8:30– 10:30 a.m.— Breann &
Sammi
10:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.— Veronica
and Beth

Wednesday, November 25:
NO CHILD CARE

Sunday, November 29:
8:30– 10:30 a.m.— Breann & Eric
10:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.— Marc &
Karen F.



Countryside
Community Church

United Church of Christ | 8787 Pacific Street | Omaha, NE 68114

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OMAHA, NEBRASKA
PERMIT NO. 106

Ministers

Dr. Eric Elnes
Senior Minister, ext. 113
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Rev. Chris Alexander
Associate Minister, ext. 130
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Assistant To The Ministers

Interim Music Coordinator
Bruce Blanchard
bblanchardh@gmail.com

Dir. of Children's Choirs/Pilgrim/Covenant
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Minister of Spiritual Direction
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Drew King
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Jerry Gray, Church Clerk, ext. 119
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Converging Paths Ministry Administrator

Terri Vincent, ext. 121
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Director of Center for Faith Studies
Kelly Keller, ext. 119
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Building & Property Coordinator
Brian Palmer
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Pastoral Care Coordinator
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Life Ministry
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Audio/Visual
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Director of Youth Ministries
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Christian Education
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Breann Lundblad, Nursery Coordinator
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Kindernook Preschool
Stacey Carnazzo, Director, ext. 114
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Return Service Requested

402-391-0350 | countrysideucc.org



Office Hours -

Church office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Only the main office door will be open during that time. For night activities, access to the church after 4:00 p.m. will be through the northwest door (upstairs by the gym) only.



Countryside
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