



## BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School, or VBS, is a fun-filled program to connect with the children and families to our Countryside community. This year we will be focusing on The Good Samaritan! Our VBS week will run July 17 - 21. You can register your children ages pre-K through 4th grade starting on June 1. All registration will be done online at [countrysideucc.org/vbs](http://countrysideucc.org/vbs).

The week of VBS will include games, snacks, crafts, skits, and, of course, Bible lessons! There is always a connection between God and the theme, allowing kids to discover God in a creative way. If you have questions or want to volunteer please contact Rebecca at [Rebeccam@countrysideucc.org](mailto:Rebeccam@countrysideucc.org). We look forward to teaching your little ones all about The Good Samaritan while having fun and building memories!



VBS 2016



VBS 2016

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Welcome - Page 2**
- Pastoral Care - Page 3**
- Center For Faith Studies - Page 4**
- Journey Groups - Page 5**
- Youth Ministries - Page 6**
- Children's Education - Page 7**
- Music Ministries - Page 8**
- Christian Outreach - Page 9**
- Relocation Update - Page 9**
- Life Ministries - Page 10**
- Get Connected - Page 11**

# WELCOME TO COUNTRYSIDE



## Church Office

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Email - [office@countrysideucc.org](mailto:office@countrysideucc.org)  
Website - [www.countrysideucc.org](http://www.countrysideucc.org)  
Facebook - [www.facebook.com/CountrySideOmaha/](http://www.facebook.com/CountrySideOmaha/)

## Program Staff

Contact information for program staff can be found on individual ministry pages.

## Ministers

**Rev. Eric Elnes, Ph.D.**  
Senior Minister, ext. 113  
[erice@countrysideucc.org](mailto:erice@countrysideucc.org)

**Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander**  
Associate Minister, ext. 130  
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[bens@countrysideucc.org](mailto:bens@countrysideucc.org)

## Minister of Spiritual Direction

**Rita Otis**  
Minister of Spiritual Direction, ext. 129  
[rmotis@outlook.com](mailto:rmotis@outlook.com)

## WELCOME

We would like to take this opportunity to offer you a warm Countryside welcome. We are a community that places great value on welcoming ALL to an open and affirming community where we celebrate and rest in a God who loves us beyond our wildest imaginations. We invite you to journey with us as we work together with the guidance of the Spirit, seeking those places where we are called to participate with God toward the fullest expression of who we are created to be. As a congregation of the United Church of Christ we believe the greatest expression of the Body of Christ is found in the local congregation, and each person in our community has a unique conversation with God that serves the whole. Countryside is a place where God is still speaking to us and to our community. Each of us is called to discern that voice and act on that discovery. We welcome you and invite you to participate with us in this calling.

## OUR MISSION

We are an inclusive, open and affirming family of faith, welcoming all to God's table of love and acceptance. We are diverse, yet united by Christ's example. We care for one another, support one another and challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be. We work together to nurture our community and to promote peace and justice in our conflicted world.

## I AM NEW TO COUNTRYSIDE

**Sunday Services** - 9 AM Classical Service and 11 AM Jazz Service

**Nursery** - child care (ages 0-2) is available at both Sunday services and for Wednesday evening programs. The Nursery is located on the upper level along the main hallway toward the church's northwest entrance.

**Common Grounds Coffeehouse** - Between services from 10 AM to 11 AM we invite you to the Commons directly off the Foyer for coffee, donut holes and fellowship.

**Information Station** is located in the Foyer. If you have any questions or would like to sign up for any church activities, please stop by the Information Station.

**Amplified Hearing Devices** are available at the Information Station in the Foyer.

**Sunday School/Children's Church** - see Children's Ministries, page 7.

**Free Gift** - If you are a first time visitor at Countryside, we invite you to introduce yourself to one of the pastors in the Foyer after the services so we might offer you a gift of our gratitude for visiting with us.

**Box, Basket and Journey** - The Box, Basket and Journey are three ways that Countryside shares our gifts with one another and our community. The Box is a way to share our material possessions with one another and is located in the Foyer. The Basket is Countryside's way of sharing financial offerings with our community for the support of our ongoing program ministries. The baskets are located at the back of the Sanctuary. And the Journey is the way we share lives together through Journey Groups.

**Restrooms** - Restrooms are available on the main level by the offices and on the lower level by the elevator and by the gym.

**Countryside Email list** - If you would like to be on Countryside's weekly email list, please contact the church office at [office@countrysideucc.org](mailto:office@countrysideucc.org) or call 402-391-0350.

## IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE?

**Rev. Chris Alexander** is now **Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander!** On May 21 Chris received her Doctor of Ministry from Luther Seminary in St. Paul Minnesota. A cake and coffee reception for Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander, hosted by the Board of Deacons, will take place on June 11 between services in Memorial Hall. Then following services, there will be an open house at The Brazen Head Irish Pub, 319 N. 78th St. from 1:00-4:00 PM. You are free to drop in and buy Chris a beer to congratulate her on her impressive achievement!



**Chris Alexander**



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

June 6 – 5:30 PM, Leadership Team in Jan's office; 6-8 PM, Peer Support in the Chapel. This will be our last meeting until August, so please attend.

August 26 – 9 AM-1 PM: Stephen Ministry Fall Social and Mini-Retreat (location TBD).

## JOYS

Kristabelle Denzlinger's lab reports show that there's no more evidence of cancer, and she's completed her chemo treatments.

Connie and Aubrey Fitzke's new grandson Hunter Scott Wilson was born on May 9 to Scott, Megan and big brother Sam.

Rev. Chris Alexander is now Rev. DOCTOR! Chris completed her Doctorate of Ministry through Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, and the ceremony was on May 20.

## IN MEMORIAM

Paul (Donna) Knutson's sister-in-law Denise passed away unexpectedly on May 19 at her home in Minnesota.

## HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT

Remember that Countryside's Pastoral Care Office houses a variety of healthcare equipment for you and your loved ones to use. Non-members are also welcome to check out the equipment, pending availability. A sample of what we have: various types of walkers, wheelchairs, commodes, crutches, braces and canes. There is no charge for this; see Jan Brown for what's available and when you may need it.

## ART SHOW - "JOURNEY TO WHOLENESS"

On June 2, at ArtWorx, 1314 Jones Street, there will be an art exhibit showcasing the healing journeys of survivors of trauma and abuse. The opening reception is 6-9 PM on Friday, June 2. Throughout the month of June, there will be four helpful, healing workshops, free of charge to the public. The Board of Pastoral Care is recommending the exhibit and workshops to anyone who might be interested.

## PASTORAL CARE VIST TO THE ARBORETUM

Rev. Dr. Chris Alexandar and Jan Brown, with organizational help from Marilyn Hale, enjoyed an April 19 afternoon with some long-time Countryside members at the Arboretum. Within that group of wise elders, there were several PhD's and MA's as well as some well-developed humor. We enjoyed catching up with (L to R, back:) Hal Lankford, Pat Galusha, Marilyn Hale, Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander, Lou Way, Jan Brown and (L to R, front) Dick Galusha, Dwain Horn and Betty Parks. We hope to do more group visits like this, so please let Chris or Jan know of your interest! Last fall, we enjoyed a similar visit to Fountain View to see all of our friends there.



*Countryside is a caring congregation that offers support to its members in numerous ways. Along with our pastors, who are always willing to provide you with compassionate direction, care and advice when called upon to do so, we have a wonderful support system with our Care Team and Stephen Ministers.*

### Care Team

*The Care Team consists of thoughtful, generous members of the congregation who provide various types of comfort or assistance to those in our church family experiencing times of hardship.*

### Stephen Ministry

*Stephen Ministry is an active lay ministry program within our church that provides confidential Christian support and hope to those who are facing difficulties in their lives.*

### AGAPE

*The AGAPE group has been a ministry of love and support for many decades, providing a warm and loving fellowship opportunity following memorial or funeral services.*

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about Pastoral Care contact Jan Brown.

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350 ext. 117

Email: [janb@countrysideucc.org](mailto:janb@countrysideucc.org)



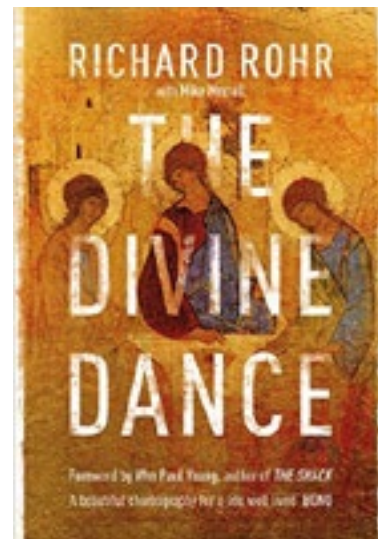
## CFS EVENTS

### **All Church Read - June 18 - September 3**

*The Divine Dance* by Richard Rohr with Mike Morrell

What if changing our perception of God has the power to change everything? The Center for Faith Studies invites you to our all congregation read featuring *The Divine Dance* by Richard Rohr. Join us as we explore the concept of the Trinity and its mysterious foundation in our Christian belief system. Fr. Rohr emphasizes the importance of faith driven by love and respect and provides a new lens for your journey with God. *The Divine Dance* is the ideal book to further address the Ecclesia Spiritus worship series as well as introduce co-author, Mike Morrell who will be our guest speaker September 14.

Copies are available for \$23.99 at The Bookworm or purchase through your favorite book store.



### **Rabbi Aryeh Azriel - Save the Date - Mondays, June 12- July 10, 10 AM**

Save the Dates for Rabbi Azriel's next Class: Monday mornings at 10 AM, June 12- July 10. Also, did you know you can go back and watch any of the CFS events on video at YouTube/Center For Faith Studies, including the previous classes from Rabbi Azriel! Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/CountrysideOmaha/videos>

### **Save The Date: Center for Faith Studies upcoming events:**

#### **Practicing the Presence of People: experiencing the Trinity with Mike Morrell** September 14, 2017

A hands-on workshop, Mike will lead participants into a deep-dive exploration of a genuine Trinitarian spirituality: one of both identity and interdependence.

#### **Celebrating 500 years of the Reformation: Rev. Mark Hanson** October 5, 2017

Serving as the Executive Director of Augsburg's Christensen Center for Vocation, the Rev. Mark S. Hanson leads national and international initiatives to advance interfaith dialogue, inspire peacemaking, and support the College's commitment to vocational discernment.

#### **What You Have Seen Me Do... —Working Miracles in a Modern Age: Jan Phillips** November 9, 2017

What classifies as a miracle today? What does it look like to heal one another, to be our brothers' and sisters' keepers? What does an updated version of the Good Samaritan story look like? Explore what it means to be prophetic in a divided world, how we amplify our powers to love and heal, and why it's important to challenge our thoughts.

#### **Let Me Be Frank- The traitorous turnabout of an evangelical heir apparent.** January 11-12, 2018

Thursday night movie viewing followed by a question and answer session with Frank Schaeffer and Scott Griessel. Friday morning, continued discussion over breakfast, with Frank and Scott.

#### **Prayer 101; Prayer Retreat with Rev. Eric Elnes, Ph.D.** Tentative Dates: March 16-18

Amidst so much personal and collective chaos, few people ever discover the reality of Jesus's central message, "Heaven is already here! Change your whole way of thinking and believe the good news." The good news is that the best forms of prayer and meditation are 20% about technique and 80% about willingness. This prayer retreat will focus on the 20%, realizing that, if you've chosen to attend, you're already 80% of the way toward reshaping your world.

The Center for Faith Studies provides learning opportunities for the faithfully inquisitive Countryside Community. We encourage lifelong learning, growth and deepening understanding utilizing current scholarship through the CFS community lecture series, adult education classes and community partnerships.

#### **Racial Justice Book Group**

Racial Justice Book Group – will be meeting twice monthly, at least for a while. Our next meeting this month is June 15th. We'll meet first and third Mondays at 7 PM in the Commons. Explores books, articles and podcasts around the racial landscape of America. Come anytime, but let us know so we can inform you of last minute changes like field trips. Currently reading *The History of White People* by Nell Irvin Painter.

#### **Adult Ed Brown Bag Lunch**

Mondays at 12:15 PM in the Chapel. Bring a lunch. Currently studying *Living History: Experiencing Great Events of the Ancient and Medieval Worlds*.

#### **Books Bible and Beyond**

Wednesdays at noon in the Chapel. Currently on summer hiatus. Will resume on September 6.

#### **Sunday Adult Forum**

Meets at 10:10 AM in the Pilgrim Room. Currently studying *Native Peoples of North America*.

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about Center for Faith Studies contact **Chris Alexander**.

**Office Phone:** (402) 391-0350 ext. 130

**Email:** [chrisa@countrysideucc.org](mailto:chrisa@countrysideucc.org)

**Website:** [www.centerforfaithstudies.org](http://www.centerforfaithstudies.org)

**Face book:** Center-for-Faith-Studies

# JOURNEY GROUPS



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ***New Worship Series-Nevertheless She Persisted - Listening to Women of the Bible***

Ever wonder who some of the women are in the Bible and what they had to say about their experience of God? This six-week series shares the stories of Sarah and Hagar, Esther, Ruth and Naomi, The Syrophenecian Women who negotiate with Jesus, the Samaritan Woman Jesus meets at the well, and Mary Magdalene. Please join us June 18-July 23.



- June 18: Sarah and Hagar
- June 25: Esther
- July 2: Ruth and Naomi
- July 9: Syrophenecian Women
- July 16: Samaritan Women at the Well
- July 23: Mary Magdalene

### ***Journey Groups for Nevertheless She Persisted***

Consider joining one of our existing Journey Groups, or begin your own. There are groups which meet at a variety of times and locations throughout the week, so let us know your schedule and we'll help you get connected. Contact Rev. Chris Alexander [chrisa@countrysideucc.org](mailto:chrisa@countrysideucc.org)

### ***Journey Groups***

*Journey Groups are small groups that meet weekly to discuss and discover what our still speaking God is calling us to do in our lives, community and the world. In the process, we form deep relationships offering support to one another through life's journey.*

*New Journey Groups are regularly forming that meet to discuss the current sermon series, watch and discuss Darkwood Brew videos or engage in special small group studies. Join in and dig into some provocative theological discussions while developing lasting relationships. Contact Rev. Chris Alexander to get plugged into a Journey Group.*

### ***Free Darkwood Brew Membership***

*Did you know that as a member of Countryside you have free access to the entire Darkwood Brew video library? You can watch any of the 28 series with topics ranging from forgiveness to the environment at [www.darkwoodbrew.org](http://www.darkwoodbrew.org). Use the username: CCCUCC and the password: tryside8787.*

### ***QUESTIONS?***

For more information about Journey Groups contact Rev. Chris Alexander.

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350 ext. 130

Email: [chrisa@countrysideucc.org](mailto:chrisa@countrysideucc.org)

**ALIVE WITH PRIDE**  
**HEARTLAND PRIDE**  
 Saturday, June 24 at Stinson Park  
 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
*see page 9 for details*

**Scholar in Residence**  
 Rabbi Azriel's  
 next class series  
 Mondays at 10 a.m.  
 June 12 - July 10

coyo jr. high  
**Camping**  
 fishing, waterskiing, tubing, disc golf,  
 beach, and much more...\$40  
 July 24 - 27  
 Lewis and Clark Lake  
 Yankton, S.D.  
*see page 6 for details*

**JOURNEY TO WHOLENESS**  
 7th Annual Abuse Survivors Art Show  
 An art exhibit showcasing the healing journeys  
 of survivors of trauma and abuse.  
 June 2 - July 3 1315 Jones St.  
 Workshops throughout duration of exhibit.  
 For questions call Kathleen Keller at (402) 657-8963  
*see page 3 for details*



# YOUTH MINISTRIES

## COYO SR HIGH

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Garage Sale - June 1-3**

Lots of people are needed, so sign up for shifts at [countrysideucc.org](http://countrysideucc.org)

#### **Groundbreaking - June 5, 5:30 PM**

Come support Tri-Faith youth and Kaylee Parmentier as she speaks at the event. Will be on our new property on the S.W. corner of 132 and Pacific.

#### **Jesery Shore Mission Trip - June 10 - June 18**

8:00 AM Leaving church for New Jersey. Returns Sunday, June 18 in the evening. \$8,600 was raised to help families with their homes on the Jersey Shore. You can follow the trip at <http://facebook.com/coyosrhigh>

#### **Faith Singers Tour - July 8, 10:00 AM**

10:00 AM leaving church for Galveston, Texas. Returns Tuesday, July 18. If you would like to help with dinner for the Faith Singers at 4:00 PM on Tuesday contact Will Howell. Home concert is also Tuesday, July 18 at 7:00 PM.

#### **Worlds of Fun - August 7, 8:00 AM**

8:00 AM leave church for Worlds of Fun. This is the first official event for the incoming freshmen and the last official event for the graduated seniors. Returns by 11:00 PM. Cost is \$25. Lunch will be provided. You are on your own for dinner and anything you spend in the park.

## COYO JR HIGH

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Water Park at Mahoney State Park, June 23, 1 - 9:00 PM**

Meet at church at 1 PM to go to the awesome water park at Mahoney State Park. Take a break at 6 PM for a cookout and then back in the water. Cost is FREE! Feel free to bring a friend. There are other activities at the park too!

#### **Camping at Lewis and Clark Lake, July 24 - 27**

10:00 AM leave for Yankton, SD for camping and boating. This is the first official event for the incoming 7th graders and the last official event for the 8th graders. It's a huge lake! There's fishing, waterskiing, tubing, disc golf, beach, and much more. You'll be staying in tents near the lake. Returns Thursday, July 27 in the afternoon. Cost for the four days is \$40. Bring a friend!

#### **Garage Sale Setup**

Come help set up tables and shelves in the rooms. We also need help unloading the truck, setting up and working the sale. Go to <http://countrysideucc.org/garagesale> to sign up for shifts.



Countryside Youth (CoYo) serves students in grades 7-12. Junior and senior high students are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of activities that develop community, encourage spiritual growth, and serve the wider community in Omaha. Monthly events and summer trips are offered to enhance youth experiences.

#### **Confirmation**

Confirmation meets Wednesdays at 7 PM during the school year. It is a two-year program for 7th and 8th graders to explore the Phoenix Affirmations, the Bible, and the church.

#### **Mission Trips**

Mission trips help students get hands-on faith experiences. Mission trips include Pine Ridge, inner city, foreign country, and wilderness trips that explore God's creation.

#### **COYO Sr High**

COYO Sr High meets during the school year on Sunday evenings from 6 PM to 8 PM, including dinner at 6 PM. The purpose is to build strong and welcoming friendships and serve the community.

#### **COYO Jr High**

COYO Jr High meets during the school year on Sunday afternoons from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM, including dinner at 6 PM. The purpose is to build strong and welcoming friendships, serve the community together, and grow in faith.



**Confirmation in May**

### QUESTIONS?

For more information about Youth Ministries contact Will Howell.

Cell Phone: (402) 960-0818

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350 ext. 111

Email: [willh@countrysideucc.org](mailto:willh@countrysideucc.org)

[www.countrysideucc.org/coyo](http://www.countrysideucc.org/coyo)



## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING FOR JUNE/JULY WORSHIP SERVICES

### JUNE

#### **June 4 - Family Worship**

Children are invited to stay in the sanctuary with their families to experience worship with their faith family.

#### **June 11 - Children's Church**

Children will process together to the Chapel for children centered worship.

#### **June 18 - Large Group Sunday School**

#### **June 25 - Children's Church**

Children will process together to the Chapel for children centered worship.

### JULY

#### **July 2 - Family Worship**

Children are invited to stay in the sanctuary with their families to experience worship with their faith family.

#### **July 9 - Children's Church**

Children will process together to the Chapel for children centered worship.

#### **July 16 - Large Group Sunday School**

#### **July 23 - Children's Church**

Children will process together to the Chapel for children centered worship.

#### **July 30 - Large Group Sunday School**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Core 56 Summer Edition 2017**

Our Core 56 group will continue to meet during the summer on Wednesday nights from 6:30 PM until 7:00 PM. We will NOT meet during May but will resume on June 7th. We will meet in the Youth Room and you are invited to drop your students off at the courtyard doors on the northeast end of the building. We will not meet June 14th.

### **Summer Worship Schedule**

Beginning in June, we will move to our Summer Worship Schedule which is as follows: First Sunday—Family Worship, second and fourth Sundays—Children's church, and the third Sunday will be a large group Summer Sunday School class. During these classes, our students will explore prayer practices, scripture stories, and other activities to enhance their faith journeys. The Summer Sunday school classes will be offered during 9 and 11 AM Worships.

### **Nursery Ministry**

Please welcome our Nursery Caregivers—Rachel Tobin and Bayleigh Weibel. Both of these new staff members are dedicated to providing a stable, caring environment for our youngest members!

Parents—we will no longer offer diaper changing while your little one is in the Nursery. Please be sure to leave your cell number when you sign in so that we can contact you for diaper duty. Thanks!

### **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

Visit the CCC website ([countrysideucc.org/vbs](http://countrysideucc.org/vbs)) to register your child for VBS 2017—The Good Samaritan! Our VBS will run from July 17th through the 21st from 9:00 AM-Noon. All children ages 3 through 4th grade are welcome to attend!

Children's Education offers programs designed to inspire, explore, and develop a solid faith foundation. Through story, discussion, and experiential activities, our students embark on a Christian path encouraged by enthusiastic study, adventurous approach to Scripture, and cultivation of a strong faith community.

### **Nursery**

Childcare is available during Sunday worship for infants and toddlers ages newborn to two-year-olds. Our nursery volunteers are trained and have passed background checks.

### **Acolytes**

Our Fireflies bring the light of Worship into the Sanctuary each Sunday morning at 9:00 AM. If you are interested in your child becoming an acolyte, contact Rebecca.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible School is a short summer camp designed to immerse our students in a community experience of scripture stories and activities.

### **Wednesday Night Programming - Holy Moly**

During the school year, K through 4th grade students meet for Holy Moly! A Sparkhouse curriculum teaches Bible stories with multimedia, crafts, activities, and storytelling.

### **Wednesday Night Programming - Core 56**

On Wednesday nights, our 5th and 6th grade group delves into scripture study of Jesus's ministry and work. We also fellowship at lock-ins, movie nights, and group suppers.

### **Sunday School**

Our students and teachers engage with scripture and activities with our in-house curriculum through Countryside's theology and faith practices. Sunday School is offered for students pre-K through 6th grade.

### **Family Worship**

Typically held on the first Sunday of each month, Family Worship offers the opportunity to share scripture, message, and communion as a family! Children's Bibles, books, and age-appropriate activity bags are available.

### **Children's Church**

This child-centered Worship celebrates our faith stories with songs, scripture, and discussion while honoring faith practices like communion, prayer, and stewardship! It's open to children five years old through 6th grade.

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about Children's Education contact [Rebecca Morello](mailto:Rebecca.Morello).

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350, ext. 109  
Email: [rebeccam@countrysideucc.org](mailto:rebeccam@countrysideucc.org)



# MUSIC & ARTS MINISTRIES

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Fall Save the Dates for Choir

Saturday, August 26, 9 AM – Choir Kick-off Breakfast Rehearsal

Regular rehearsals begin the following week:

Wednesdays – Spirit of Grace 6:00 – 7:15 PM (tentative)

Thursdays – Chancel Choir 5:45 – 7:00 PM (tentative)

### Faith Singers

The Faith Singers Homecoming Concert is on Tuesday, July 18 at 7 PM in the sanctuary. Please plan on joining us to welcome them home!



### Visual Arts

The stories of the people of God are made stronger when the Visual Arts Team enhance and enlivens our worship spaces. Symbols make lofty concepts more concrete. Flowing fabric helps to connect disparate elements. Unexpected images help us consider alternative views. If you are intrigued by the visual installations that have graced the sanctuary this year, or if you just love making spaces beautiful, please consider joining the Visual Arts Team. The group meets as needed; no regular meetings required! Let Amy know that you'd like to lend a hand, [amyl@countrysideucc.org](mailto:amyl@countrysideucc.org)



Countryside has one of the most celebrated music and arts ministries in Omaha. We have excellent opportunities for expressing our faith through the creative arts. Our halls are bustling with activity on weekdays and Sundays as everyone brings their unique creative talents to worship services.

### Kids Music

Joyful Noise (Pre-K), Carol Choir (K-3) and Pilgrim Choir (4-6) are designed to allow younger musicians to develop their new music skills for worship. Rehearsals for the Carol and Pilgrim Choirs are on Wednesday evenings 5:15-6:00 PM. Joyful Noise rehearses from 5:15-5:30 PM. Each group sings monthly in worship. Resumes in the fall.

### Covenant Choir

Covenant Choir is for youth in grades 7 and 8. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings 6:15-7:00 PM before Confirmation Class in the Junior Choir Room. The choir sings monthly in worship. Resumes in the fall.

### Faith Singers

Faith Singers, for high school students, rehearses each Sunday from 4:30-6:00 PM. The choir sings most weeks during the school year.

### Spirit of Grace

Spirit of Grace choir for adults explores a variety of contemporary choral literature and sings once or twice per month. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:20-7:20 PM.

### Chancel Choir

The adult Chancel Choir sings selections from the Classical Choral Repertoire weekly in worship. Regular rehearsals are Wednesdays, 7:30-8:45 PM.

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about Music & Arts Ministries contact Amy Luckenbill.

Amy Luckenbill  
Office Phone: 402.391.0350 ext. 115  
Email: [amyl@countrysideucc.org](mailto:amyl@countrysideucc.org)  
[www.countrysideucc.org](http://www.countrysideucc.org)





## THE BOX FOR JUNE

Please bring plain white T-shirts of all sizes to THE BOX at Countryside during the month of June. These T-shirts will be delivered by Countryside's Faith Singers to Micah Ministries in Lawrence, Kansas for use in a special project. The Micah Ministry is a C.U.I.C. mission ("Churches Uniting in Christ") designed to encourage Christian unity, end racism and "feed my sheep." (John 21:15-17)

## COMMUNITY CUPBOARD UPDATE

Countryside's Community Cupboard, referred to by many simply as The Pantry, provides free food to hungry people in our community every month. Can you believe our May 6th Pantry helped 723 people in 216 families?!! Fresh fruit and vegetables were featured among many other items, including 197 jars of peanut butter collected through Countryside's THE BOX. If you are curious about how you could help in the future, contact Andi Lawlor or [communitycupboard@countrysideucc.org](mailto:communitycupboard@countrysideucc.org).

## 2018 SPECIAL EASTER OFFERING

If you are thinking of a nonprofit organization that would be a good community partner for Countryside, please contact Diane Poots, Sarah Miller or send an email to [Christianoutreach@countrysideucc.org](mailto:Christianoutreach@countrysideucc.org) Each organization is to submit a one-page Community Partner Interest Indicator form by June 15 in order to be considered for the next special Easter offering, and invited to make a presentation at Wednesday Night Alive in the Commons.

## SHOW US YOUR SSG FOR 2017!

*This year we have already awarded \$500 towards purchasing discounted multi-lingual books and dictionaries that are to be given away at Countryside's Community Cupboard. If you have an idea for an SSG, please find and print the form on [www.countrysideucc.org](http://www.countrysideucc.org) under Serving Together.*

*Christian Outreach embraces opportunities that reflect appreciation, respect, and love where there was otherwise much neglect - providing funding and service opportunities that nurture lasting change in our congregation, our community, and our world.*

### The Box

*...is where specific items are collected each month to address various needs. "The Suitcase" is where we continuously collect hotel-size toiletries. Both are in the Foyer near the front doors.*

### Community Cupboard

*A large mobile food pantry takes place right here at Countryside on the first Saturday of each month from 9:00-11:30AM. You are invited to come witness this miracle happening!*

### Holiday Offerings (Christmas and Easter)

*Each year the Board of Christian Outreach directs two special mission offerings—the Christmas and Easter offerings. These offerings are given to organizations both locally and internationally.*

### Small Service Grant (SSG)

*Countryside members who volunteer with local groups/ events may apply for a small service grant (SSG) of less than \$500 to cover materials and supplies. Contact us or find the SSG request forms on the church website.*

# RELOCATION UPDATE

## GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

Please Join Us for Our

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2017

13130 FAITH PLAZA (SW corner of Sterling Ridge at 132nd and Pacific)

5:00 Social and Light Refreshments

5:30 Ceremony

Parking at American Muslim Institute and Temple Israel with free shuttle service available

Our guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer, U.C.C. National President.

Our thanks to Groundbreaking Chairmen, Margie Bolte, Cathy MacInnes and Renee Siems who are planning a "not to be missed" celebration! This joyous occasion in Countryside's history beckons our church family, friends and new neighbors to come together to celebrate the promise and commitment of our three faiths to live side

by side in peace and understanding.

The scene at the new property will begin a transformation from grassy field to busy construction site very soon. Watch that space through the next months!



## PLEDGE NOW

[www.countrysideucc.org/pledge](http://www.countrysideucc.org/pledge)

## QUESTIONS?

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



# LIFE MINISTRIES

## ALL CHURCH PARTICIPATION

- Pentecost Brunch will be held on Sunday, June 4 between services. Hosted by Family Activities Committee
- Pride Fest will be held in Stinson Park on Saturday, June 24, beginning at 10:00 AM. Stop by the Countryside Community Church booth for your sticker and to chat with our dedicated volunteers!
- Tri Faith Picnic will be held at the American Muslim Institute on Sunday, August 20 at Noon.

## FALL WNA SUPPERS

Christy Palmer is once again volunteering her time to coordinate the Wednesday Night Suppers that will begin on Wednesday, August 30. Christy is looking for groups who would like to prepare one meal for the year. She will be planning a rotational supper this year; a pasta week, an international supper week, a "group" week and a meatless meal week. On the months where there are five Wednesdays, the meal will be a bring your own brown bag or a catered supper. The cost of meals will remain the same, \$5/person or a monthly family pass not to exceed \$80. If you are interested in volunteering your time to create, prepare and serve a meal, please contact Christy at [christysuepalmer@gmail.com](mailto:christysuepalmer@gmail.com) or stop by the Information Station.

## SOCIAL GROUP UPDATES

**Lunch Bunch Circle** will meet on Monday, June 12, Noon at the Marriott in Regency for lunch. Jean Stewart and Brownie Gass will be our hostesses this month. This is our final meeting as we take the summer off. We will resume on September 11. Have a great summer!

**Classics and Conversation - Johnny Got His Gun** will be featured at Friday June 9, 6:30 PM. in the Chapel at Countryside Church. This film was the winner of the 1971 Cannes Film Festivals Grand Prix. It is a powerful statement against war. It stars Timothy Bottoms, Jason Robards and Donald Sutherland. It is a moving, provocative, and masterfully crafted film that takes you into the mind of a man lost somewhere on the edge of sanity and insanity, life and death. Ed Huddell, host of Classics and Conversation said, "This film is one of the most powerful anti-war statements I have every encountered!" See you there!

**Plant One More** - Plant your garden, add one additional tomato, cucumber or any kind of vegetable plant. Bring the produce from that additional plant to church on Sunday mornings July 16-September 3, 8:45-11:00 AM. Feel great about providing nutritional food to families that might otherwise not receive it. Questions? Contact Vicky Houston at [info@plantonemore.org](mailto:info@plantonemore.org)

**Heartland Pride** - Again this year, Countryside Community Church will be showing support for the LGBTQ community at Heartland Pride. The festival will be held on Saturday, June 24 at Stinson Park in Aksarben Village (67th and Center). Countryside members, coordinated by Diane Scott, will be handing out Countryside stickers with a link to our open and affirming message. If you would like to volunteer at the booth, contact Diane Scott at [Twang56@aol.com](mailto:Twang56@aol.com) or at 402-707-1556.



*Life Ministry supports and improves the quality and "wellness" of family life. Life Ministry strives to engage people in a wide variety of social and educational activities for individuals and families. It is designed to strengthen family bonds and provide outreach in support of family members. Life Ministry also brings strength and continuity to Countryside's volunteer base by advising staff and by serving as a conduit between congregation and Countryside's Life Ministry and Volunteer programs.*

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about Life Ministries contact Mary Beth Link.

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350, ext. 112

Email: [marybethl@countysideucc.org](mailto:marybethl@countysideucc.org)

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

### Sunday Phone Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to field questions and answer the phone Sunday mornings 9-10:30, 10:30-Noon.

### The Community Cupboard Food Pantry

Folks are needed to help set up and distribute food at the pantry on Saturday, June 10 and July 1. Hours are 7:45-11:30 AM Contact [communitycupboard@countysideucc.org](mailto:communitycupboard@countysideucc.org).

### New Women's Fellowship Network

Women interested in being on the ground floor for creating a Countryside Women's Fellowship Network. Contact Mary Beth for additional information.

### Thank You

Thanks to the Community Cupboard Focus Committee for hosting coffee hour on Sunday mornings throughout the month of June and to the Board of Deacons for hosting in July. Be sure to chat with one of the board members to learn all the areas that this board represents.

### Volunteer highlights for June/July

In June and July we spotlight the Countryside Youth and their volunteers. Countryside has many areas in which youth can explore, grow and share in their faith. Two outstanding areas are COYO Jr. and Sr. High(Countryside's Youth Ministry) and Faith Singers (Countryside's High School choir). Be sure to read the "Music" section in this newsletter to learn all the things that Faith Singers will be participating in this summer, none of which could be done without dedicated volunteers. As for COYO, youth ministry is, of itself, a multi-dimensional ministry. Thus, there are many folks to thank. Let's begin with Anji Stanek, Dana Parmentier, Kyle Sorys, Morgan Lenigan. These are the COYO Jr High adults volunteer who assist with youth programming weekly on Sunday afternoons from 4:30-6:30 and help with youth events such as lock-ins, the Urban Plunge, and summer trips.

## SOCIAL GROUPS

### Family Activities Committee

This group offers educational and social opportunities that strengthen family bonds and support all family members. Open to families with children, birth through 12 years old. They meet on the 4th Sunday of each month at 10 AM in the Life Ministries Office. Contact Mary Beth Link at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

### Events that are Totally Cool (ETC)

This group encourages commitment to making church a priority through active participation in fun, faith and fellowship events. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30 PM. Contact Mary Beth at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

### Knit-n-Wit

Join in the fun as you learn to knit, continue an existing project or teach others to knit/crochet. Open to knitters of all skill-levels. Meets every Wednesday from 6 to 8 PM at Whole Foods. Contact Jeanne Cunningham at jkcunningham@cox.net.

### WNA Supper Group

This group consists of volunteers in our congregation. If there is a meal you and your family really love, then share it with the church on Wednesday evenings. Contact Mary Beth at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

### Women's Lunch Group

This multi-generational group, open to all women, meets at noon on the 1st Monday of each month at First Watch, 1222 S 71 St. Contact Mary Beth at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

### Nine-to-Dine

Consisting of 9 individuals, this group meets on a monthly basis at various restaurants in Omaha or sometimes someone's home for a nice home-cooked meal. Contact Mary Beth at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

### Lunch Bunch Circle

This group meets for lunch as well as special programming on the 2nd Monday of each month, September through May. Contact Marilyn Vincent at darellvincent@cox.net.

### FAME (Friday Art & Music Experience)

This group dabbles with watercolor paints and adult coloring books. We listen to music, laugh a lot, share stories and a pot of coffee (or two!) and enjoy being together. Contact Pam Kregg at 402-896-3866.

### Men's Breakfast Group

This group of Countryside men (all ages) share their breakfast at 7 AM every Tuesday morning at Rockbrook's Garden Café. Contact Mary Beth Link at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

### Mahjong

This multi-generational group meets weekly on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00-3:00 PM in the Commons. They teach and play Mahjong with anyone who would like to learn. Jeri Lundblad is the coordinator of this group and you may contact her at jeri62lynn@gmail.com for additional information.

## EDUCATION GROUPS

### Faith and the Environment (FatE)

This group promotes spirituality through environmental education, advocacy and simple acts of kindness within Countryside and beyond. They meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month, 5:30 PM in the Youth Room. Contact Christy Palmer at christysuepalmer@gmail.com.

### Adult Education

See full listing under Center for Faith Studies on page 4.

### Journey Groups

See page 5.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS GROUPS

### T'ai Chi Chih®

TCC is a series of gentle movements that can be done by anyone. This group meets every Thursday at 10 AM in the Countryside Foyer. Contact Rita Otis at rmotis@outlook.com.

### InterPlay

This interactive group meets on the 2nd Saturday of the month, 9:30 - 11:30 AM in the Countryside Foyer. Contact Rita Otis at rmotis@outlook.com.

## BOARDS & COMMITTEES

### Church Council

Between congregational meetings, the Church Council acts upon all issues facing the Church. They establish the overall policy of the Church and work with the staff on the general direction of the activities of the Church: Meets the Thursday after the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Contact Bruce Blanchard at moderator@countysideucc.org.

### Board of Christian Outreach (BOCO)

This board nurtures outreach projects, coordinates efforts within the church to develop mission themes, and selects organizations to receive special offering grants. Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Contact board chairs, Sarah Miller at swaetzig14@hotmail.com or Diane Poots at dianepoots@cox.net

### Board of Christian Education (BOCE)

This board brings strength and stability to Countryside's educational efforts by advising staff and providing both adults and children with educational programs. Meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 PM. Contact board chair Jodi Klein at klein.jodi13@gmail.com.

### Board of Arts and Music (BAM)

This board provides sincere, artful and spiritual experiences for the congregation. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM. Contact board chair Marian Kaiser at mskaiser@cox.net

### Board of Life Ministries (BOLM)

This board oversees all social activities, volunteer coordination and family based educational classes held at Countryside. Meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month, 12:30 PM. Contact board chair Dinah Gomez at dinahann@me.com or Shannon Avard at stamper2k@cox.net.

### Board of Youth (BOY)

This board brings strength and stability to COYO through development, planning and management for our youth programs. Meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Contact board chair Jen Jalbert-King at jenj0702@yahoo.com.

### Board of Trustees

This board oversees the financial and property concerns for Countryside, including stewardship, budgeting process and regular review of the financial position of the church. This board meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM. Contact board chair Tom Korth at tkorth2@gmail.com

### Board of Pastoral Care

This board promotes staff and lay ministry efforts to support, contact and comfort church and community members, focusing on people facing difficult times in their lives. This board meets quarterly at 5 PM. Contact board chair Tom Scates at omahascats@cox.net.

### Board of Deacons

This board is responsible for any church tasks that are related to worship and fellowship as well as communicating with new members and visitors. Meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM. Contact board co-chairs Shelley Boyd at sboyd@mpsomaha.org, or Donna Rhodes at donna.r.rhodes@emcins.com.

### Countryside Community Church Charitable Foundation (CCCF)

The Foundation is an independent organization created by the Church to support and supplement the programs and facilities at Countryside. This board is composed of 7 church members. They meet quarterly. Contact Foundation President, Geoff Kregg at geoffgg1@cox.net.





# Nevertheless She Persisted

Listening to Women of the Bible

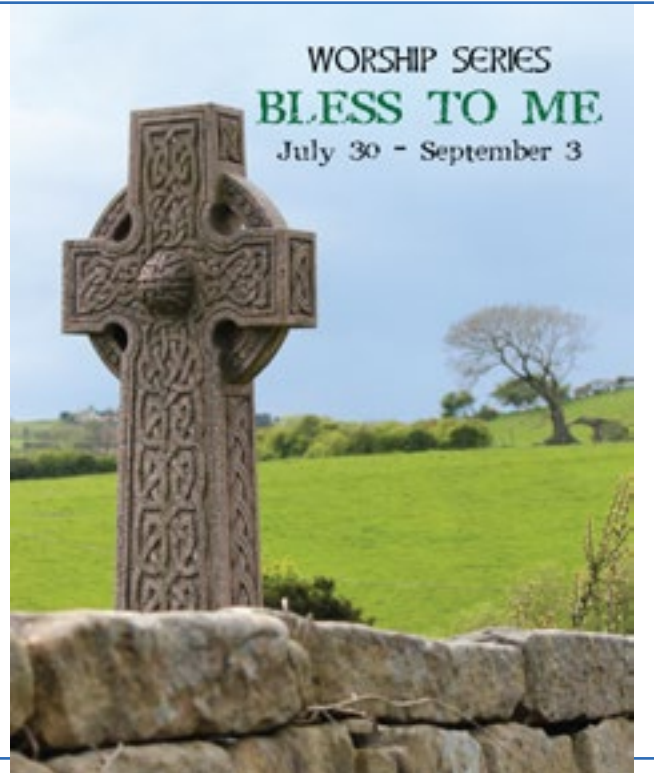
*Sarah and Hagar*  
*Mary Magdalene*  
*Esther*  
*Ruth and Naomi*  
*Samaritan Women at the Well*

Worship Series

June 18 - July 23

## WORSHIP SERIES BLESS TO ME

July 30 - September 3



# GARAGE SALE

THURSDAY

**June 1**

**6 PM - 8 PM**

Preview night for  
Countryside members

FRIDAY

**June 2**

**8 AM - 4 PM**

SATURDAY

**June 3**

**8 AM - 2 PM**

See page 6 for details



# VBS

The Good Samaritan

**July 17-21**

**Pre-K - 4th Grade**

Registration starts June 1

[www.countrysideucc.org/vbs](http://www.countrysideucc.org/vbs)

Questions? Email Rebecca:  
[rebeccam@countrysideucc.org](mailto:rebeccam@countrysideucc.org)

see page 7 for details



COUNTRYSIDE  
— RELOCATION —

## Groundbreaking Ceremony

Monday, June 5, 2017

13130 Faith Plaza  
S.W. corner of Sterling Ridge  
132nd & Pacific

5:00 p.m. Social  
5:30 p.m. Ceremony

Guest speaker  
Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer  
U.C.C. National President

Parking at AMI and Temple Israel  
Free shuttle service available