

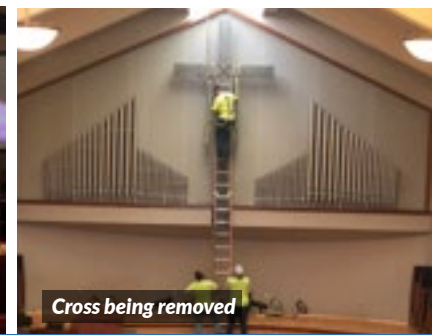
JUNE/JULY



Graduation Sunday



Confirmands 2018



Cross being removed

MAY HAPPENINGS AT COUNTRYSIDE



Cross on the move



New Stephen Ministers



Stephen Ministers

WHY OUR TREASURES MATTER PART 2

In Countryside's move to a new location, much thought and care has gone into the task of taking some of our treasured possessions with us. Each piece has a story to tell and history to share.

Our Windows

With the renovation of the Sanctuary in 2000 it was decided by the Building Committee, under the leadership of John S. McCollister, to commission local glass artists, Mark and Kristi Lambrecht, to create new rock glass windows. Extensive research was undertaken by the committee. It was decided that each window would have a theme using Christian symbolism to inspire the imagination, tell a story or cast light on an idea found in Scripture. Our stunning windows engage all ages in an aesthetic and learning adventure in theology and practice.

"...it is not only their beauty that attracts me, it is also the Gospel stories they tell, and the congregational memories they hold. God's light has streamed through this colored glass and given radiance to countless sermons, Christmas concerts, children's musicals,

weddings, baptisms, funerals and more. They are inspiration for our prayers and container for our deepest connections with each other and with God."

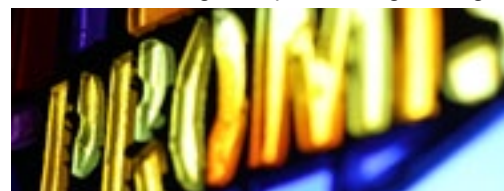
Rita Otis

**Letting God Speak Through Light, 2014*

Each window was underwritten by members to honor or memorialize loved ones. The windows will be carefully placed throughout the new church and will continue to illuminate the seeker and inspire the learner.

Countryside's treasures are woven into our history. They symbolize the love that members offer our church family, past, present and future. This is why our treasures matter!

*For more information and reflections on the windows go to blurb.com to purchase Rita Otis's book, *Letting God Speak Through the Light*.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Welcome - Page 2

Pastoral Care - Page 3

Center For Faith Studies - Page 4

Engaging in Worship - 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/Tri-Faith - Page 11

WELCOME TO COUNTRYSIDE



Church Office

8787 Pacific Street, Omaha NE 68114
Phone - 402-391-0350
Email - office@countysideucc.org
Website - www.countysideucc.org
Facebook - 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@countysideucc.org

Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander
Associate Minister, ext. 130
chrisa@countysideucc.org

Executive Administrative Assistant

Robyn Hubbard
Executive Administrative Asst., ext. 103
robynh@countysideucc.org

Business Office

Dan Loven-Crum
Dir. of Admin. & Communication, ext. 102
danl@countysideucc.org

Shari Garder
Financial Secretary, ext. 123
sharig@countysideucc.org

Steve Gomez
Administrative Assistant, ext. 101
steveg@countysideucc.org

Kris Hill
Administrative Assistant, ext. 100
krish@countysideucc.org

Debbie Vihstadt
Communication Assistant, ext. 125
debbiev@countysideucc.org

Bonnie Buckland
Church Clerk
bonnieb@countysideucc.org

Brian Palmer
Building/Property Coordinator
brianp@countysideucc.org

Audio/Visual

Ben Semisch
Videographer
bens@countysideucc.org

Minister of Spiritual Direction

Rita Otis
Minister of Spiritual Direction, ext. 129
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. 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.

Countryside Email list - If you would like to be on Countryside's weekly email list, please contact the church office at office@countysideucc.org or call 402-391-0350.

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES BEGINNING SOON!

Are you interested in the possibility of joining Countryside Church or learning what Countryside may have to offer for you? Then consider joining us for membership classes from 12:30 to 2:30PM in the Chapel on Sundays June 3 and 10. These classes will help you learn more about the church, the church staff, and the many church programs. New Member Sunday is June 24 at 11 AM. Indicate your interest by signing up at the Information Station on Sunday morning or contact Robyn Hubbard at 402-391-0350 ext. 103 or robynh@countysideucc.org. We'd love to have you join the Countryside family!



New members class, Easter, April 11 - , Laura and Dan Pasko, Cherine Bishara with Eilah, Cheryl, Cartie and Gaylord Clark with Michael. Not pictured; Senait Fisseha and Tewodros Fesseha, Sarah May an Matt Waters.



STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATES AND GRATITUDE

Thank you, Countryside, for your ongoing support and trust in our Stephen Ministry program. Much gratitude to our dedicated leaders, Knolan Hudson and Linda Bannister, and how they organized quality speakers, curriculum and an inclusive, caring atmosphere. We've recently commissioned 17 new Stephen Ministers whose names are listed here:

From Countryside: Jim Gilbert, Sheila Hargreaves, Deb Hernandez, Juliana Johnson, Cary Sharkey, Beth Stenger, Mary Sutton, Rita Troutd, Claudia Walker and Matt Waters.

From First United Methodist: Carol LaCroix, Terri Mahoney and Vince Lindenmeyer.

From St. Paul United Methodist: Ellis Roussell and Jeanne Roussell.

From Temple Israel: Stacie Brodkey and Gretchen Radler.

June 4 – Welcome Social, 6:30 PM for new and all current Stephen Ministers at Linda Bannister's home. See your email for further details.

July and August – No Peer Support meetings; contact Jan with any questions or need for supervision.

August 25 – Our (tentative) date for the fall workshop, Countryside Commons, 9 AM-1 PM. See your email for updates and confirmation of the date.

BIRTHS

Jasmine Hermanek and John Gilbreath welcomed a baby boy, **Oliver Michael Gilbreath**, on April 25.

Mary and Jerry Gray's newest great grandchild, **Marley McKenney Gray**, was born on April 25.

Cary and Jerry Sharkey's first grandchild, **Eve-Marie Sharkey Ulrich**, was born on April 28.

IN MEMORIAM

Lila McChesney, 88, died of natural causes in the Seattle area; the family celebrated her life at an Omaha memorial service on April 28.

Don (Amy) Luckenbill's father **Lynn Luckenbill** passed away in Pennsylvania, and the family traveled there in early May to honor his life.

Grace Wetterberg, 92, died on May 9 in Omaha after a battle with Alzheimers; Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes officiated at her Countryside funeral on May 12.

Marsha Oakson's (sister of Mary Windle) service to honor her life was at Countryside on May 19, with Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes officiating.

DAYS OF OUR LIVES: THE VOICES OF COUNTRYSIDE

Our church's video project is taking shape, and we think you're going to like it! But wait....do you have a story to share and haven't yet been recorded? No worries; there are two more opportunities to do just that. On July 22 between services, come to Amy Luckenbill's office. Or, at Oktoberfest on Sept. 22, we'll also have a video room set up for you. Remember that this project allows us to literally "take you with us" to our new building.

Thank you to the special group who recently told their interesting stories of the history of our current church at 8787 Pacific: Rev. Lea Marshall, Maria Gaebler, Chris Gilmore, Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander, Shirley Crites, Ann Burdette, Jill and Tom Eilers, and David Link.

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.

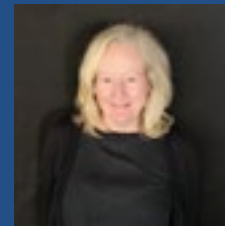
Office Phone: (402) 391-0350 ext. 117

Email: janb@countrysideucc.org

MEET OUR COUNTRYSIDE OFFICE STAFF



From left to right, Kris Hill, Administrative Assistant, Shari Garder, Financial Secretary, Steve Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Courtney Holiday (front center), Center For Faith Studies Administrative Assistant, Debbie Vihstadt, Communications Assistant, Brian Palmer, Building and Property Coordinator and Dan Loven-Crum, Director of Administration and Communication.



Robyn Hubbard,
Executive
Administrative Assistant



CFS UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date: Kimberly Krhounek - Thursday, August 7, 7 PM - First in the new lecture series, *Seeds of Acceptance: Conversations on Diversity & Inclusion*



**Kimberly Krhounek
Cross-Cultural Communication;**

Navigating Through Multicultural Barriers

Kimberly Krhounek is a U.S. diplomat who has lived and worked in countries with very different languages, religions, cultural mindsets and norms (including postings in Haiti, Egypt, France, Czech Republic, Iraq and Afghanistan). Her experience has

brought her back to Washington D.C. to the Foreign Service Institute, where she uses her insight to train foreign affairs professionals to navigate through multicultural barriers in order to operate successfully in radically different cultural environments.



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.

Adult Ed Brown Bag Lunch

Mondays at 12:15 PM in the Chapel. Bring a lunch.

Books Bible and Beyond

Wednesdays at noon in the Chapel. Last meeting May 2, will resume September 5.

Sunday Adult Forum

Meets at 10:10 AM in the Pilgrim Room. Currently studying 'The Holy Land Revealed'.

Convergence University

If your group is interested in Convergence University curriculum and would like access to additional resources provided from This We Affirm Website, please contact Chris Alexander at chrisa@countysideucc.org for login information.

Darkwood Brew Membership

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.
Username:CCCUCC Password: tryside8787

ADULT EDUCATION

Books Bible and Beyond

Wednesdays at Noon in the Chapel

The group will break over the summer and will resume September 5.

Racial Justice Book Group

Mondays at 7 PM in the Commons

New book starting in June, *The Hate You Give*, by Angie Thomas.

Sunday Adult Forum

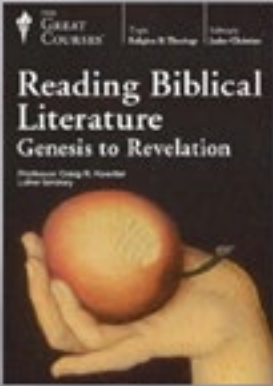
Sundays 10:10 AM in the Pilgrim Room

Currently studying *The Holy Land Revealed*, an archeological exploration of the rich history of the Holy land from Jesus's time.

Adult Ed Brown Bag

Mondays at 12:15 in the Chapel

On break over the summer.



Interested in a Summer Bible Study?

Join us for a book-by-book analysis of the Bible from a literary perspective and explore the rich dialogue and narrative within it.

Wednesdays, starting June 20, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Contact Chris Alexander chrisa@countysideucc.org or visit the Information Station for more information

Journey Groups

Worship Series: "Holy, Horrid and Hilarious Meals of the Bible" May 27 - July 22

Contact Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander at chrisa@countysideucc.org for more information on how to connect to Journey Groups.

QUESTIONS?

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

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

Email: chrisa@countysideucc.org

or **Courtney Holiday**, CFS Admin. Assistant

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350 ext. 119

Email: courtneyh@countysideucc.org

Website: www.centerforfaithstudies.org

Face book: Center-for-Faith-Studies



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Current Worship Series: Holy, Horrid, and Hilarious Meals of the Bible - May 27 - July 22

Summer Fun Dinner Groups Forming

Have you joined a Nine To Dine Group for the summer? Two reasons why: (1) Summer is a great time to kick back, turn on the grill (or go to a Grill), make new friends, and deepen old friendships; (2) Our present worship series "Holy, Horrid, and Hilarious Meals of the Bible"! is all about experiencing the Bible's most famous (and infamous) meals in worship, then gathering in dinner groups that either:

1. Dine at a restaurant.
2. Create a potluck meal featuring foods related to the scriptures! Recipes for meals based on our series, and many more biblical means, may be found here: <https://goo.gl/rkF1wb>.
3. Or a "Neighbor to Neighbor" group that includes members of our Tri-Faith partners.

Groups may discuss the biblical story as part of their experience or be purely social. Get more information and sign up at the Information Station or by emailing the office at office@countrysideucc.org.

Next Worship Series: Everyday Sunday - July 29 - September 2

Everyday Sunday, Spiritual Practices for Everyday Life

In worship on Sunday mornings we come together to intentionally focus on our relationship with God and one another. But what happens on Monday? Does our intentionality for these relationships get lost within the demands of our weekly schedules? How might we consider taking on a couple of practices each day to keep us focused on the relationships that are the core to our well-being throughout the week?

This series explores five practices that are intentional and engaging, and help us to focus on recognizing God's presence with us in the midst of our daily living. Being aware of God's presence calms our anxieties and directs our steps into an abundant way of living in the world, while celebrating the lives of all those who participate together with us in seeking God's activity all around us.

WORSHIP

Worship Planning team meets 9-Noon on Wednesdays in the Conference Room

For more information about Worship contact Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350 ext. 113

Email: erice@countrysideucc.org

Tube Down the Elkhorn River

Saturday, July 14 at 12:30 p.m. (3-5 hours)
\$25 includes tube rental - ADULTS ONLY
Supper to follow - place to be determined
Sign up at the Information Station

Holy, Horrid and Hilarious Meals of the Bible

Sign up at the Information Station

9 to DINE

2018 Summer

Get all the details on page 9!

HELLO

New Members Class

Sundays: June 3 and June 10
12:30 - 2:30 PM

Are you new to Countryside and want to learn more about the church, staff and programs?

Contact Robyn Hubbard at:
robynh@countrysideucc.org to register

or sign up at the Information Station

Your family is invited to join our Family Activities Committee,

Friday, June 22

JUMANJI

under the stars at **Sumtur Amphitheater**

11691 S. 108 St.
Papillion, NE

Movie is free/concessions are not no outside food or drink

see page 10 for details



YOUTH MINISTRIES

COYO SR HIGH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Follow the COYO Sr High Mission Trip to New Jersey

11 students and 4 adults will go to Wall Township, New Jersey to work with SBP and Americorps volunteers to help families get back in their homes after 5 years. You can follow them at <http://facebook.com/coyosrhigh>

Follow the Faith Singers Tour

11 students and 7 adults will tour a couple of National Parks and circle through Salt Lake City, performing at churches and nursing homes and for the wildlife. You can follow them at <http://facebook.com/cccfaihsingers>

COYO Sr High, Jr High and Faith Singers Post-Garage Sale Family Party Thursday, June 21 at 6:00 PM

Cookout in the courtyard by the Youth Room. Bring a side to share. Burgers and dogs will be provided. All COYO Sr High, Jr High and Faith Singers Families are invited. Bring your favorite item you got at the garage sale for the show and tell.

Faith Singer Welcome Home Dinner - Sunday, July 15 at 5:00 PM

All COYO Sr High and Faith Singers Families are invited to a Welcome Home Dinner for the Faith Singers as they come back from tour. After eating out for a week, they love a home-cooked meal. Dinner prep will begin at 4:00 PM and be served dinner at 5:00 PM, before the Home Concert at 7:00 PM. Let Will know if you want to help prepare the

COYO Sr High Worlds of Fun Trip to welcome new Freshmen Monday, August 6, 8:00AM-11:00PM

Come to Worlds of Fun for a great time with COYO Sr High friends, meeting new Freshmen friends, and saying goodbye to our graduated seniors. Cost is \$40 and includes lunch. Bring money for games or food in the park or save it for the ride home.

COYO JR HIGH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Follow the COYO Jr High Hiking Trip

12 students and 4 adults will be backpacking for 5 days in the Lost Creek Wilderness of Pike National Forest in Colorado. You can't really follow them during the trip as they will be well out of service, but you can see pictures after the trip at <http://facebook.com/coyojrhigh>

COYO Sr High, Jr High and Faith Singers Post-Garage Sale Family Party Thursday, June 21 at 6:00pm

Cookout in the courtyard by the Youth Room. Bring a side to share. Burgers and dogs will be provided. All COYO Sr High, Jr High and Faith Singers Families are invited. Bring your favorite item you got at the garage sale for the show and tell.



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.

COYO Jr High

COYO Jr High meets during the school year on Sunday afternoons from 4:45 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

Confirmation meets Wednesdays 6:30 -7:30 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.

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.

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.

Choirs

Faith Singers (high school) meets 4:45- 6:00 PM Sundays and sings twice a month in church. They also go on tour every summer.

Confirmation Singers (7-8 grade choir) meets Wednesdays 5:45 - 6:30 PM and sings once a month in church.

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

www.countrysideucc.org/coyo

2018 COYO GARAGE SALE
DROP OFF DATES AT CHURCH

Monday - Wednesday
June 4 - 6
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Go to countrysideucc.org/garagesale to schedule a pick up.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING FOR JUNE/JULY WORSHIP SERVICES

JUNE

June 3 - Family Worship

Our children remain in the Sanctuary for the worship service! Books and worship bags are available to borrow from a cart in the Foyer.

June 10 - Children's Church

Children will proceed together to the Chapel for child-centered worship.

June 17 - Family Worship

Our children remain in the Sanctuary for the worship service! Books and worship bags are available to borrow from a cart in the Foyer.

June 24 - Children's Church

Children will proceed together to the Chapel for child-centered worship.

JULY

July 1 - Family Worship

Our children remain in the Sanctuary for the worship service! Books and worship bags are available to borrow from a cart in the Foyer.

July 8 - Children's Church

Children will proceed together to the Chapel for child-centered worship.

July 15 - Family Worship

Our children remain in the Sanctuary for the worship service! Books and worship bags are available to borrow from a cart in the Foyer.

July 22 - Children's Church

Children will proceed together to the Chapel for child-centered worship.

July 29 - Family Worship

Our children remain in the Sanctuary for the worship service! Books and worship bags are available to borrow from a cart in the Foyer.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - JULY 9 - 13

Countryside's Vacation Bible School will be held July 9 through 13 and our theme this year is Peace Lab! Our VBS students will explore scripture stories and activities to cultivate and practice peacemaking techniques and skills. VBS is offered for our students in Pre-K through 4th grade (based on the grade just finished this past 2017-2018 school year) and will run from 9-Noon each day, with a little extra time on Friday so that we can share what we've done with family and friends! Registration starts June 1. You can register online at www.countryside.org/vbs.

VBS is always in need of volunteers to make the days run smoothly. If you have the time to give and want to have some fun with a great group of people, contact Rebecca at rebeccam@countrysideucc.org.



CORE 56

Core 56 - Our Core 56 group will continue to meet in the summer on Wednesday nights beginning June 6. Our incoming 5th graders (those who have just completed the 4th grade) are welcome to join us during our summer sessions.

Nursery

Our nursery staff is available on Sundays from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM. In the interest of keeping everyone in the nursery safe, we want to remind everyone that the Nursery is reserved for infants and children up to age 2. We can usually accommodate a 3 year old pretty easily, but if you have older children that require care during normal nursery hours, please contact Rebecca at rebeccam@countrysideucc.org to make other arrangements. Thank you!

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 staff is trained and have passed background checks.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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. Dates for 2018 VBS are July 9-13.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about Children's Education contact **Rebecca Morello**.

Email: rebeccam@countrysideucc.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith Singers Tour

Faith Singers will tour locations in Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, and Colorado during the second week of July, with a special emphasis on visiting some of our country's breathtaking national parks. Always a highlight of the year for our young singers, the summer tour is not only an opportunity to grow closer to each other, but to grow in relationship with God, while sharing a message of peace and love with the many people who hear their concerts. Please help us welcome the Faith Singers back from the tour by attending the Homecoming Concert.



Faith Singers Homecoming Concert
Sun. July 15
7:00 PM

Visual Arts Team

The Spirit was definitely in motion at the 11:00 AM service on Pentecost! All of the Arts Affirmation kiddos worked together to present a flag corp routine representing Spirit movement in our midst. The routine was designed by Kelsey Kern and taught by her and Charlie Dukes, friends of Countryside. The kids had a blast learning how to swing flags and they hope you enjoyed seeing it as much as they enjoyed performing for you!



The kids' final art installation is also on display in Common Grounds. In production for nearly two months, RISE is a reflection of the sermon series teaching from Living with Courage and Resilience (Spring 2018.) It represents successful ascent over adversity, through the Seven Lively Virtues: humility, gratitude, faith, mindfulness, generosity, hope, and love.

Adults and kids alike had their phones at the ready for this photo opportunity! When you get your chance, be sure to tag your shot on social media using #countrysideRISE. Then, search the hashtag to see everyone else's shots! RISE will be on display through the middle of June.



Mirabel says, "I love you this much!"



Mark Stursma can't figure out why the coffee is so good!



MacGuire Hornacek is a little angel!

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.

Arts Affirmation

Children in Pre-K through 6th grade will have opportunities to explore all types of performance and media arts in a project-based arts curriculum. All projects are designed around the twelve Phoenix Affirmations. Sunday afternoons 4:30 - 6:00 PM. Currently on summer break.

Confirmation Singers

Confirmation Singers is for youth in grades 7 and 8. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings 5:45-6:30 PM in the Junior Choir Room. The choir sings monthly in worship. Currently on summer break.

Faith Singers

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

Spirit of Grace

Spirit of Grace choir for adults explores a variety of contemporary choral literature and sings twice per month. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:45-7:45 PM. Currently on summer break.

Chancel Choir

The adult Chancel Choir sings selections from the Classical Choral Repertoire weekly in worship. Regular rehearsals are Wednesdays, 5:30-6:40 PM. Currently on summer break.

QUESTIONS?

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

Amy Luckenbill
Office Phone: 402.391.0350 ext. 115
Email: amy@countrysideucc.org
www.countrysideucc.org

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH



THE BOX FOR JUNE/JULY

The Box for June is socks, sock, t-shirts and underwear for all ages and genders which will be donated to area homeless shelters.

The Box for July is school supplies for Indian Hills Elementary School, 3121 U Street, Omaha. Rulers, pencils, back packs, scissors, glues sticks, crayons, anything a kid needs to help make their school year successful!

A BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH (BOCO) MOMENT....

Countryside Community Church has been instrumental in the creation and development of four major outreach opportunities both in Omaha and abroad. The four agencies are Asian Rural Institute, our 2018 Easter Offering recipient, Together, Inc., and Countryside's Community Cupboard Food Pantry. This month, BOCO would like to introduce you to the Los Chavalitos Clinic in Managua, Nicaragua.

Los Chavalitos Clinic is the outreach of APUSAN, a Spanish acronym meaning "Association of Pediatricians United for the Health of the Children." APUSAN was founded by a small group of ambitious Nicaraguan medical residents in the early 1990s. The doctors, who saw a multitude of children with advanced stages of diarrhea, knew that diarrhea can be prevented and should not be a major cause of childhood death. Educating the parents was the key to prevention so they formed APUSAN, a legal corporation in Nicaragua. However, they had no funding to put their dreams of preventive measures into action. Through unpredictable, but fortuitous circumstances, a UNO social work professor on sabbatical in Nicaragua, learned of the aspirations of the APUSAN physicians and engaged her Rotary Club, back in Omaha, to support the mission of the Nicaraguan MDs. One of the Rotary members brought the cause to his church, Countryside Community Church. Subsequently, between the active support of the district Rotary Clubs and Countryside Community Church, a small structure in an impoverished Managua community was purchased and Los Chavalitos ("little kids") Clinic opened in 1994. From the beginning, and to this day, the front of the building has both the Rotary Club emblem on it and the words "Countryside Community Church" emblazoned on it. It is truly an Omaha product in the heart of this Nicaraguan capitol city, Managua. There is no government funding and the clinic provides primarily free care, with a small proportion of patients paying on a sliding scale. Private donations sustain the clinic on an ongoing basis.

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

LOOK WHAT IS HAPPENING!

Here are the latest photos of our new church. *Photos courtesy of Project Advocates.*



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.



LIFE MINISTRIES



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Share a meal. Meet new people. Extend the table! Sharing a meal is one of the best ways to establish and renew relationships with one another. It helps us by putting a name to the face that you see at church. All Countryside adults are welcome to join in Nine to Dine! It's simple and FUN... every month, one of your group members is in charge of planning an outing for your entire group. Everyone is asked to choose a month in which they would like to host. When it is your month, it is totally up to you as to how or where they want to meet. For instance, you may host your group at dinner in your favorite restaurant, OR if you want to go totally out of the box... plan a picnic in a park, attend a movie together, attend a church function together, be creative, the sky is the limit! Depending on how many people sign up, your group may also be known as Treats for Ten, Eats for Eleven or Dining with a Dozen. There are lunch groups, dinner groups, home groups and restaurant groups! Which speaks to you? Stop by the Information Station today and register for Nine to Dine, or contact Mary Beth marybethl@countysideucc.org or at 402-391-0350 ext. 112.

Photo Directory Update... Throughout June, Countryside's Board of Life Ministry is collecting photographs of our church family for a new on-line photo directory. There will be photographers available to snap your picture on Sundays, June 3 & 10. They will be available BETWEEN SERVICES ONLY (10:00-11:00 AM). Should that time frame not work for you, we ask that you find a photo, scan and email it to the church OR bring it into Countryside's Main Office.

Movie Night -Join your Countryside friends and family on Friday night, June 22 to enjoy the 2017 movie, Jumanji, under the stars at Sumtur Amphitheater, 11691 S. 108 Street, Papillion. The movie is FREE....but concessions are not and NO SNACKS can be brought into the space. Visit the Sumtur website at sumtur.org for concession prices and offerings.

Tubing down the Elkhorn River- On Saturday, July 14, 12:30 PM, bring sunscreen, towels, and your hat/sunglasses as we go on a three hour cruise down the Elkhorn River. Cost for this event is \$25/ person and signups are now being taken. This is an ADULT event. For additional information contact Ashley Bender at Ashv03@aol.com. This is a first time event and one that is sure to become an annual event! See you there!

Paint-A-Thon (August 11 and August 18) Tom Korth has stepped up to organize and lead this year's group in August - Saturdays, August 14 (prepping the house) and 21 (painting the house). If you would like to register to help or would like additional information on this outstanding, heartwarming and necessary ministry, please contact either Tom Korth at tkorth2@gmail.com or Mary Beth at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

SOCIAL GROUP UPDATES

Family Activities Committee members will meet on Sunday, June 24, 10:00 AM in the Family Life Office to discuss upcoming summer events.

ETC will meet on Wednesday, June 20, at 6:00 PM. Be watching for our location. RSVP to Mary Beth at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

Tai Chi Chih classes will NOT be held on July 19 or 26.

Lunch Bunch Circle will gather at Brother Sebastian's, 1350 S. 119 Street, on Monday, June 11, at Noon. Jean Stewart will be the June hostess. This will be the last meeting of the summer. Resumes Monday, September 10. Should you like additional information, please contact Gloria Ried at 402-333-3115.

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

VOLUNTEER CORNER

The Community Cupboard Food Pantry

Folks are needed to help set up and distribute food at the pantry on Saturday, June 2 and July 7. Hours are 7:45-11:30 AM. Contact communitycupboard@countysideucc.org.

Handyman's Group

We are putting together a group of men/women who are capable of fixing, repairing, painting and other general "handyman" type of tasks. Dan Loven-Crum is the contact person for this group. Stop at the Information Station to learn more about this task-oriented fellowship group or give Dan a call at 402-391-0350.

Paint-a-thon needs your help

We are looking for a truck that can be borrowed on two consecutive Saturdays in August. The truck will be used to transport ladders, paint and tarps needed at the job site. Please contact Tom Korth for additional information regarding this specific need. ALSO, volunteers are needed to paint the home of our chosen family. These families are elderly, disabled and live east of 72nd Street in Omaha. Be watching for additional information or contact Tom Korth or Mary Beth Link for more specifics.

The Annual Tri-Faith Picnic

The Annual Tri-Faith Picnic is quickly approaching. Check your calendars to see if you are available to help at this AMAZING event on Sunday, August 12, at Temple Israel.

Family Activities Committee (FAC) and E.T.C. Social Group

Countryside's two social committees dedicated to family life are always open to new, adventuresome folks! If you are a good organizer, enjoy working with a wide variety of folks, enjoy a good party or just like being around a delightful group of folks then one of these groups is for you. Stop by the Information Station to learn more about both of them by talking with Mary Beth.

Thanks to the **Community Cupboard Focus Group** for hosting coffee hour throughout the month of June and to the **Board of Arts and Music** for hosting coffee hour throughout the month of July. Be sure to stop one of the board members to learn more about what that Board is responsible for and how you might help.

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 marybeth@counttrysideucc.org.

Events that are Totally Cool (ETC)

This multigenerational 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 marybeth@counttrysideucc.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.

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 marybeth@counttrysideucc.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 marybeth@counttrysideucc.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 Gloria Ried at g-g.ried@cox.net or 402.333.3115.

Yoga Classes

Yoga classes, facilitated by Cheryl Richards, are held on Monday afternoons, 5:45 PM in the Junior Choir Room. Suggested donation for the class is \$10/class. For additional information or should you have questions, please contact Cheryl at yoga.energy.oils@gmail.com.

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 marybeth@counttrysideucc.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.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

See counttrysideucc.org/about-us

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.

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 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 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.



trifaith.org
americanmusliminstitute.org
templeisraelomaha.com

TRI-FAITH NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR MEET AND GREET

Sunday, June 24, 4-6:00 PM at AMI

We are eager to connect with and more deeply know our Tri-Faith neighbors!

Neighbor to Neighbor offers a chance for members of our three faith communities to regularly get together in small groups for a meal, dessert, coffee, or an outing to develop friendships and just have fun together!

Who is this appropriate for? Singles and couples, young and old, children with their families, retirees, and anyone interested at heart to discover more of the "other" and themselves in the process.

We want to hear from you! Please join us for a Neighbor to Neighbor Meet and Greet on Sunday, June 24 from 4:00-6:00 PM at AMI to meet new friends, enjoy some appetizers, and explore the best ways for YOU to participate!

RSVP by Monday, June 18 to: jenniferfitchett@yahoo.com

TRI-FAITH MEMBERSHIP

Membership Information

All members of Countryside Community Church are invited to opt in for a FREE 2018 membership to the Tri-Faith Initiative. You can join by visiting www.trifaith.org/join-us, selecting "Believer" level, and using discount code COUNTRYSIDE18.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS LISTENING SESSION

Sunday, June 17, 7:30 - 9 PM at UNO Community Engagement Center

As a young professional in Omaha, your involvement and engagement in the Tri-Faith Initiative is vital to the success and growth of the project. The staff and board of Tri-Faith are eager to work with young professionals to develop engaging, thought-provoking, and relevant programming to meet the needs of all members of our community.

Join us for a Young Professionals Listening Session to give your feedback and share your ideas! This session is open to ALL young professionals, regardless of religious affiliation or membership of our three faith partners, so invite your friends to join in the discussion!

Food and refreshments will be provided. RSVP by Wednesday, June 13 to Amanda Ryan, amanda.ryan.09@gmail.com
 Questions? Contact info@trifaith.org or call 402.934.2955



facebook.com/TriFaithInitiative/
facebook.com/AmericanMuslimInstitute/
facebook.com/templeisraelomaha/

HOLIDAYS

Jewish

Tishah B'Av July 21-22

Tishah B'Av, observed on the 9th (tishah) of the Hebrew month of Av, is a day of mourning the destruction of both ancient Temples in Jerusalem. In modern times, Jews understand Tishah B'Av as a day to remember many tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people throughout history. Today, Tishah B'Av stands as a day to reflect on the suffering that still occurs in our world.

Muslim

Eid Al Fitr June 15-June 17

To mark the end of Ramadan, many Muslims wake up early in the morning and pray Salat ul-Fajr, or the pre-dawn prayer. After brushing their teeth, taking a bath and wearing perfume, they have breakfast before heading off to perform special congregational prayers known as Salaat al-Eid. Many Muslims recite the takbir, a declaration of faith, on the way to the prayer ground and give special charitable contributions known as Zakat al-Fitr.

Eid al-Fitr is a day of great merriment and thanksgiving. Muslims celebrate by gathering with friends and family, preparing sweet delicacies, wearing new clothes, giving each other gifts and putting up lights and other decorations in their homes.

A common greeting during this holiday is Eid Mubarak, which means, "Have a blessed Eid!"



Holy, HORRID & Hilarious
MEALS OF THE BIBLE



WORSHIP SERIES

MAY 27 - JULY 22

Worship Series



EVERYDAY SUNDAY

Spiritual Practices for Everyday Life

July 29 - September 2

TRI-FAITH INITIATIVE®
NEIGHBOR TO
NEIGHBOR



NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR
MEET AND GREET

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

4:00-6:00 PM

AMERICAN MUSLIM INSTITUTE

RSVP by Monday, June 18 to:
jenniferfitchett@yahoo.com

see details page 11



GARAGE
SALE

THURSDAY

June 7

6 PM - 8 PM

Preview night for
Countryside members

FRIDAY

June 8

8 AM - 4 PM

SATURDAY

June 9

8 AM - 2 PM

See page 6 for details

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



July 9 - 13

9 a.m. - Noon

Pre-k thru 4th grade

details on page 7

Registration starts June 1 at
countrysideucc.org/vbs