

# APRIL 2021



COYO nature walk in March.



These two visit Countryside every day.



COYO nature walk in March.



COYO nature walk in March.

## DR. ANNA CREWS CAMPHOUSE JOINS COUNTRYSIDE

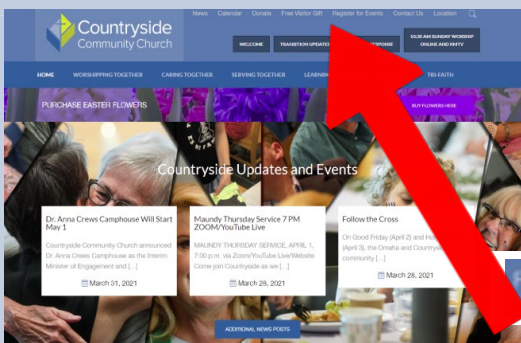
It is official! Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse is heading to Omaha as Countryside Community Church's Interim Minister of Engagement and Formation. Pastor Anna (as she prefers to be called) will be headed to Omaha in May from California. Anna's husband David, twelve-year-old daughter, Sophia and eight-year-old twins Paul and John will follow later this summer. Countryside Moderators and the Church Council are looking forward to introducing the congregation to Pastor Anna and are looking for opportunities to safely have some in-person opportunities to meet her (as COVID-19 numbers in Omaha dictate). Read the letter from the personnel committee on page six to learn more about the position of Interim Minister of Engagement and Formation. You may also watch a video from Pastor Anna at [countrysideucc.org/future](http://countrysideucc.org/future). We are delighted to welcome Pastor Anna and her family to Countryside Community Church!



Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse and David Camphouse



Sophia (12), Paul (8) and John (8) Camphouse



### DID YOU KNOW THERE IS ONE EASY PLACE YOU CAN REGISTER FOR EVENTS AT COUNTRYSIDE?

Ever see something and think, where was I supposed to go to register for that event? Now Countryside has made it easy! On the front page of the website, at the very top you can click "Register for Events" and it will have a list of everything you can currently register for at Countryside in one handy place. You can easily reach this page by going to [countrysideucc.org/register](http://countrysideucc.org/register).

# SUNDAY WORSHIP



## WORSHIP REMAINS ONLINE AND ON KMTV 3

We are still in the RED phase of our opening guidelines. When the new cases are under 500 for two consecutive weeks we will start in-person services at 25% occupancy. There will be one service and it will be by reservation only, masks will be required, seating will be in designated areas only, socially distancing of 6 feet will be in effect and there will be no fellowship gathering. For a detailed explanation of our five-phase approach you can check the website at [countrysideucc.org/covid19](http://countrysideucc.org/covid19). The guidelines are reviewed on a monthly basis at Church Council meetings.

In April and May there are two ways to catch Countryside Community Church on Sunday mornings, the first is online through YouTube live which you can connect with at [countrysideucc.org/live](http://countrysideucc.org/live) or on KMTV Channel 3. Both will begin at 10:30 AM.

## APRIL WORSHIP SERIES

Our Denomination, the United Church of Christ (UCC), came into being in 1957, from the merger of the Evangelical and Reformed churches and the Congregational Christian churches. The UCC is a progressive Christian denomination with a long history of supporting justice. It was the first mainline Christian denomination to ordain an African American minister (1785), a woman minister (1853), and an openly homosexual minister (1972)

The UCC motto, "That they may all be one," speaks to the hope that one day all denominations, will either come together as one, and respect one another.



The UCC slogans, "God is still speaking," and "Never place a period where God has placed a comma," (a quote from comedian and Catholic Gracie Allen) demonstrate an understanding of the continuing unfolding of God's revelation. And the UCC statement, "No matter who you are or



where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here," shows that our denomination believes in extravagant hospitality.

In 2017 the UCC announced a new logo at the 2017 General Synod. The new logo's colors were chosen to work with both 'A Just World for All' and the '3 Great Loves campaign — Love of Children, Love of Neighbor, Love of Creation.' Blue has replaced red to visually and symbolically represent Creation elements of water and earth.



Join us for worship in April as we explore Countryside's United Church of Christ heritage.

Rev. Patrick Messer will continue be our guest preacher through April. Rev. Messer originates from First Plymouth, our sister United Church of Christ church in Lincoln, NE, but has moved and will be joining us virtually from Kentucky. Patrick is committed to God's call to preach the gospel of God's unconditional love for all people, and to shaping the church into the kind of community whose love and inclusivity is capable of capturing the hearts and imagination of a whole city. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in Religion and Philosophy from Georgetown College in Kentucky, and went on to earn a Masters of Divinity degree from Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina.



Rev. Patrick Messer

## COFFEE TALK WITH DIANE AND BILL

Coffee Talk with Diane Scott and Bill Bolte will continue in April at 10 AM on Sunday mornings. You can find the link on [countrysideucc.org/calendar](http://countrysideucc.org/calendar). Come join the fun before Sunday service!

### Interim Executive Team

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### Staff

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**Debbie Vihstadt**  
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# COUNTRYSIDE CONNECTED



## RABBI ARYEH AZRIEL CLASSES CONTINUE ON MONDAY MORNINGS

Rabbi Aryeh Azriel will continue Monday Mornings between 10:00-11:30AM. Classes will be only on Zoom. The link can be accessed through our church calendar and the password is 13130. He will be continuing with his Sermons For Life: a view of Jewish life and tradition from the sermons of Rabbi Aryeh Azriel while serving the Congregation of Temple Israel in Omaha, Nebraska. For more information, please contact Debbie Vihstadt at [debbiev@counttrysideucc.org](mailto:debbiev@counttrysideucc.org).



## MINDFUL MEDITATION SITS WITH CARLOS, WEDNESDAYS AT 6 PM

Mindful Meditation Sits with Carlos Figueroa are continuing Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 PM via Zoom. You can access these sits through the Zoom link on the church calendar. If you have any questions or would like more information about these opportunities, please contact the church office at [office@counttrysideucc.org](mailto:office@counttrysideucc.org).

## COURAGEOUS WOMEN BOOK STUDIES

Diane Scott is starting a Courageous Women book studies, after Easter (in mid- April). If you are interested in participating please email Diane at [dianes@counttrysideucc.org](mailto:dianes@counttrysideucc.org) and she will let you know more about it.

## EARTH UNIVERSITY RETURNS!

Earth University (EU) is back with classes that will inform and inspire you to take whatever steps you can to become a crusader for creation. All EU classes will be on Zoom and the links can be found on the Countryside Calendar, [counttrysideucc.org/calendar](http://counttrysideucc.org/calendar), every week. Classes are from 7:00 - 8:30 PM Thursday evenings beginning April 15 and ending May 20.

FATE, Countryside's creation justice committee, is the sponsoring group for Earth University. We welcome anyone who is moved by the urgency of the climate crisis to join our committee and help us educate, advocate and create hope for a healthy, equitable environment for all living things.

For more information you can contact Christy Palmer at [christysuepalmer@gmail.com](mailto:christysuepalmer@gmail.com) or Ann Naylor at [annnaylor32@gmail.com](mailto:annnaylor32@gmail.com).

### Thursday, April 15, 7:00 - 8:30 PM "A Life on Our Planet"

Celebrated British naturalist, Sir David Attenborough, now 93, has visited every continent on the globe, exploring the wild places of our planet and documenting the living world in all its variety and wonder. Now for the first time, he reflects upon the defining moment of his lifetime as a naturalist and the devastating changes he has seen.

### Thursday, April 22, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Earth's Energy Balance

Dr. Zac Suriano, UNO Geology professor, will be joining us to explain the many factors that influence how energy from the sun hits the planet and is reflected back into the atmosphere.

### Thursday, April 29, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Soil, Carbon and Permafrost

Dr. Ashlee Dere, UNO Geology Professor and soil expert, will return to EU to explain how soil sequesters and releases carbon and why this matters to us. As the Earth warms it causes the Arctic permafrost to thaw releasing carbon and other greenhouse gases in a big way.

### Thursday, May 6, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Nebraska Interfaith Power and Light

Nebraska Interfaith Power and Light is bringing its considerable resources of faith to the table in response to this crisis. Ken Winston, JD, Director of Policy & Outreach for Nebraska Interfaith Power and Light will lay out the why and how people of faith can get in the action of mitigating the climate change crisis.

### Thursday, May 13, 7:00-8:30 PM, Doug Tallamy "Living Landscape" Video

You are not going to want to miss this excellent video on how to create your own "homegrown national park" in your backyard that will sustain insects, pollinators, birds and humans.

### Thursday, May 20, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Eco Friendly Investing

Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG's) investment strategies that invest in sustainable and responsible companies rather than companies that produce fossil fuels or weapons. Trish Hoffman-Ahrens will moderate a panel discussion with local investment advisors on ESGs to help you understand these tools in the work of climate rehabilitation.

For a more detailed explanation of each week's class go to [counttrysideucc.org/learning-together/fate](http://counttrysideucc.org/learning-together/fate).

## THE BOX FOR APRIL TRI-FAITH GARDEN AND ORCHARD

The recipient of The Box donations for April aligns with Countryside's focus on climate change and environmental justice. Our Community Tri-Faith Garden/Orchard, located between Countryside and Temple Israel embodies this mission and will be receiving the donations. The Tri-Faith Garden/Orchard expanded from eight raised garden beds to 16 raised beds and two in-ground beds last growing season. Additional in-ground beds and fruit trees have been added for this year. The Tri-Faith Garden is full of different vegetables, along with a fruit orchard that will start bearing fruit in this next season. The project reduces food insecurity for our neighbors by providing fresh vegetables and fruit for families who couldn't otherwise afford them. It also feeds hungry families by supplying fresh produce to the Countryside Community Church Community Cupboard, Intercultural Senior Center, Clair Memorial United Methodist Church food pantry, Benson Plant Rescue, and Chabad House. Join us in helping supply our community Tri-Faith Garden/Orchard with essential tools and supplies to make this growing year a big success! We have an Amazon link set up to make giving to the Box easy, you can find it at [counttrysideucc.org/give](http://counttrysideucc.org/give) and click The Box.



# TRI-FAITH INITIATIVE



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Women of Tri-Faith Virtual Lunch** **Monday, April 5, 2021 AT 12 PM**

Let's share a meal and check in. It will be good to "see" all of you!

Stay home safe to help our community lower the curve — Invite a friend to the Women of Tri-Faith Virtual Lunch!

Registration required - go to [trifaiith.org/events](https://trifaiith.org/events) to register.

### **Interfaith Allyship in the Workplace with Farah Siddiqui - Online Event** **Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 1 PM**

Allyship is the practice of emphasizing social justice, inclusion, and human rights by one group, to advance the interests of an oppressed or marginalized other group.

Join Farah Siddiqui, co-founder and global president of Faithforce - Salesforce's highly successful interfaith employee resource group (ERG). Together, we will have a conversation about why religious identity matters in diversity and inclusion strategy, the role of allyship, and why employee resource groups are an important step. Time for Q&A will be available.

Registration required - go to [trifaiith.org/events](https://trifaiith.org/events) to register.

### **Food for Thought - Online Event** **Tuesday, April 6, 7:00 PM, via Zoom**

As Spring reminds us of the rebirth of nature after a winter's nap, the spring holidays of Passover, Lent/Easter, and Ramadan remind us of celebration, food and fellowship.

Join Tri-Faith Initiative and The Children of Abraham Coalition for an evening of interfaith storytelling, recipe sharing, and discussion about hunger in our nation.

Six story-tellers will share stories about food, religion, and gathering to build connections between the Omaha-based Tri-Faith community and the Chicago-based Children of Abraham Coalition. Participants will share their own stories around holidays and food in small groups.

Food for Thought participants will also receive a PDF of community recipes, and are encouraged to submit their recipe contribution to [acsilva@trifaiith.org](mailto:acsilva@trifaiith.org) by Friday, April 2.

Registration required - go to [trifaiith.org/events](https://trifaiith.org/events) to register.

### **Making the Familiar Strange: Bathsheba with Rebecca Morello** **Tuesday, April 20, 12:00 PM, via Zoom**

Join Education Director Jeremy Fricke and Rebecca Morello, Director of Youth and Family Ministries at Countryside Community Church, for this special Making the Familiar Strange as we explore the story of Bathsheba.

Read the story: 2 Samuel 11-12

Send your questions and thoughts in advance to Jeremy at [jfricke@trifaiith.org](mailto:jfricke@trifaiith.org).

Making the Familiar Strange is an opportunity for interfaith dialogue that inspires people of different religious and nonreligious backgrounds to read the same text together. Rather than providing answers, creating arguments, or shutting down conversation, Making the Familiar Strange gives attendees an opportunity to investigate and share different perspectives on the same texts.

While not required, the program is best if you have access to the stories, which can be through a physical copy or online copy of a Tanakh, Bible, Quran, or other text.

Registration required - go to [trifaiith.org/events](https://trifaiith.org/events) to register.

## **TRI-FAITH GARDEN CLEAN UP**

The Tri-Faith gardeners invite you to roll up your sleeves, grab your garden gloves and water bottles and join your friends in the Tri-Faith community for a Clean Up The Commons afternoon on April 11 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. We will meet on the lower level of the Tri-Faith Center for a brief orientation. We will schedule an inclement weather date if need be. Special thanks to Lockwood Development for clean up supplies.



## **WOMEN IN ISLAM BY DR. FATIMA "NINA" HAYES**

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021 AT  
7 PM - 8 PM online, hosted

by American Muslim  
Institute (AMI). Many

Americans believe Islam to  
be oppressive to women,

when in fact, Islam is a  
religion that at the onset

recognized women and  
men as equal before God.

Join Dr. Fatima "Nina"  
Hayes live in an exploration

of the history of Arabia at  
the time of the prophet

Mohammad (Pbuh), and  
the divine sanctions clearly

established to provide  
protections for women...

many of which came well  
ahead of women's rights in

the Western world.  
Fatima "Nina" Hayes is a

first-generation Muslim-  
American. She holds a

doctorate in veterinary  
medicine and is also

certified in veterinary  
acupuncture. She practices

here in Omaha. Her  
grandparents immigrated

to the United States from  
Egypt seeking political

refuge, and specifically to  
guarantee the educational

and career opportunities  
for their daughter (Fatima's

aunt). This event takes  
place live on AMI's

Facebook page:  
[facebook.com/  
AmericanMuslimInstitute](https://facebook.com/AmericanMuslimInstitute)

# CARING TOGETHER



## IN MEMORIAM

**Maryllyn (Andy) Smith's** brother Ron Johnson died March 5, and his life was celebrated with full military honors at Fort Logan, Colorado.

**Joyce Vincent** passed away at Omaha's Hospice House on March 9; her daughter and son-in-law **Terri Vincent and Dan** were able to be with her. There was a private family ceremony to honor Joyce.

Charles (Chuck) Miller, former Countryside member, died March 10, and is survived by his wife Carol. Rev. Norman Pavey conducted a private memorial service at Maple Ridge Assisted Living in Omaha.

On March 23, former Countryside member Margaret (Peggy) Phelps died. Rev. Norman Pavey will be conducting a private graveside service.

## BIRTHS

**Kiley Maxwell-Ward and Marc Ward** are proud to announce the birth of their granddaughter Sienna Maxwell Jurick, born March 19, to Chelsea and Dan of Elmhurst, Illinois. Chelsea is the daughter of Kiley Maxwell-Ward and the late Dr. Ken Maxwell.

## COURAGEOUS HOPE VIA "THE MOODY BLUES" FROM JAN BROWN, PASTORAL CARE COORDINATOR

Isn't it a good thing that none of us can see into the future? One year ago we were all thinking that the virus would dissipate by summer 2020. Or maybe by fall. But it's now been 13 months of this alternate reality, and many of us are fraying. With the hope of the vaccine, we dare to believe that life will return in its fullness and that we shall once again gather in larger groups at church and in our own personal lives. But there has been some fallout. Please read from the following two links which I've found helpful. And remember that we are a caring church family. Contact me if you want to talk or possibly be assigned a Stephen Minister. One of the most dangerous secrets to keep is depression, and there is help as long as we know that it's needed.

### Anxiety and Depression Symptoms Have Risen Dramatically During the Pandemic | Psychology Today, Key Points:

1. During one week in June 2020, 9,896 adults age 18 years and older were invited to participate in a web-based survey; 5412 (55%) responded. Standardized self-reported screening instruments were used to assess symptoms of anxiety, depressive disorders, and trauma- or stress-related disorders (TSRD) as a result of the pandemic.
2. Overall, about 26% of participants demonstrated symptoms of anxiety, 24% symptoms of depression, and 26% symptoms of TSRD. About 41% had symptoms suggestive of at least one of these groups of symptoms. The authors estimate that these rates are three to four times higher than those reported in similar surveys one year earlier.
3. The authors found interesting trends related to age, race/ethnicity, income, type of employment, and employment status. Young adults were much more likely to report symptoms than older individuals: 75% of those 18-24 years of age reported symptoms of anxiety, depressive disorder, and/or TSRD. This decreased to 52% in those 25-44, 30% in those 45-64, and 15% in those 65 and older.
4. The data in this survey demonstrate that the mental health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic are dramatic. Over 40% of individuals reported significant symptoms of anxiety, depression, or TSRD. Young adults appear to be particularly susceptible. About 75% of 18- to 24-year-olds reported such symptoms, and over 25% had seriously considered taking their own lives. The elderly appear more resilient with fewer than 15% reporting symptoms and 2% reporting seriously considering suicide.
5. Equally important, everyone should be aware of the impact this pandemic is having on the mental state of those around them, particularly young adults. Reasons for the elevated rates of symptoms including suicidal thoughts in young adults are not certain, but likely reflect multiple personal, economic, and societal factors. The importance of maintaining social ties cannot be overemphasized. Touching base with family, friends, and neighbors can make a difference. Such relationships are important during this acute phase of the pandemic and will remain important long after the virus is tamed by vaccines and better treatments.

### Suggestions for Action and Hope: How to fight depression and anxiety during the coronavirus pandemic (cnet.com), Key Points:

Limit the amount of information you consume. Set a limit of 30 minutes for news and social media combined each day, as well as challenging yourself to take two full days each week with no news or social media.

Focus on the things you can control: mask up, avoid sick people and crowds until vaccinations are the norm, avoid nonessential travel, keep your immune system strong by eating a healthy diet, and try to get enough sleep.

Stay busy with other things. This is a classic tactic for keeping anxiety under control. While you should definitely honor your feelings (more on that in the next tip), try not to allow your thoughts to spiral out of control. Focus on your daily obligations and add in fun activities to your days to keep anxiety to a minimum. Here are a few examples of simple, distracting activities you can try:

- Solve a puzzle or play a board game with your family
- Draw, paint, knit or do something else creative
- Try to bake a masterpiece dessert with ingredients you already have in your kitchen
- Read your favorite novel or watch your favorite movie
- Call someone you love and talk about things other than the coronavirus

Give yourself time to worry. Set a timer for three minutes for worry journaling, Once this is complete, shift your attention to self-care and keep your mind busy.

Vent to a friend who won't judge you. If you're more of a talker than a writer it can help to confide in a friend about how you're feeling. Talk to someone who won't judge you for the way you feel, but try to avoid talking to someone who will fuel your anxiety even further.

And from Jan: Neither of these links mention substance abuse, but they should. Although it's tempting to "self-medicate," both drugs and alcohol can act as depressants and also curb our abilities to cope in helpful ways. Also, neither link mentions prayer and meditation as ways to ease our own burdens. To trust that the Spirit of the living God is near each of us, is accessible to us, and desires relationship with us - these are profound gifts and true resources when we're troubled. If there's breath, there is hope. Please know and trust that. I'm here if you want to talk more, my friends. **Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. -Ephesians 4:2.**

# NEW MINISTER



## MINISTER OF ENGAGEMENT AND FORMATION

During an interim period, Countryside Community Church (CCC) will be served by a Leadership Team consisting of three co-equal leaders (two ministers and one lay leader) who are called to embody and encourage the faith of the Church to live the transformative adventure of God's love. The Leadership Team (LT) is called to be a highly functioning team that is well supported and connected to an engaged congregation and Church Council. The LT is characterized by skill, synergy, creativity, collaboration, and the accomplishment of goals. Each LT member is mentored, well-supported, challenged, and accountable to the team, the Church Council, and to the congregation.

The Interim Minister of Engagement and Formation has lead responsibility for the congregation's relationship with our Tri-Faith Partners and the Tri-Faith Initiative including serving on the Tri-Faith Board. This includes the responsibility of closely aligning our ministries with the Tri-Faith vision. This person also has broad responsibility for the faith formation and engagement of our congregation - children, youth and adults. Faith formation includes congregants growing in their relationship with God, developing an understanding of the Bible and our faith tradition, deepening their spiritual life and practices, engaging in service and mission, and participating in the life and ministries of our faith community. This person will lead our Center for Faith Studies, which engages congregational members and a wider community audience. This person will periodically provide the worship service sermon utilizing the established worship team approach. We welcome Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse into this new position!

## DR. ANNA CREWS CAMPHOUSE JOINS COUNTRYSIDE AS INTERIM MINISTER OF ENGAGEMENT AND FORMATION

Dear Countryside,

Your Moderator Team, with Church Council's approval, is excited to announce that Reverend Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse will be joining our church as Interim Minister of Engagement and Formation on May 1, 2021. Dr. Crews Camphouse comes to Countryside from Eastern Sierra Shared Ministry in Owens Valley, California, where she is currently the Senior Pastor. Dr. Anna has over twenty years of experience in intercultural communication, community organizing, mentoring, political action, church management, and health advocacy. She has a background in ICU nursing, decades of pastoral experience, and a doctorate in pastoral care and counseling, which is a unique combination of attributes the Transition Leadership Committee (TLC) felt would help lead Countryside through the end of the pandemic and into a collective future where our heart for love of God and neighbor shine brightly.

Pastor Anna, as she prefers to be called, impressed everyone with her energy, creativity, and experience. She shared her vision for the first 100 days working within our community. Highlights of that vision included recognizing that a primary need of our congregation is working through our collective grief. When asked why this position interested her, Pastor Anna said, "The thing that gives me life, is the creativity involved in the Engagement Minister. Freedom to be me. This is the thing I like better. I don't usually get to do this because I'm [currently] in the 'senior' pastor role.... It's in my wheelhouse. This sounds like fun to get up and do in the morning." Pastor Anna has a love of small group ministry and believes that this is the best way for members to feel engaged in the congregation--especially in a large church like ours. She will also complement Dan Loven-Crum in his role as the Interim Director of Vision and Stewardship, combining his wisdom of all things Countryside with her fresh look at how we can most fully live into our partnership as the Christian presence on the Tri-Faith Commons.

Pastor Anna grew up in what she calls U.C.L.A.—the unknown corner of lower Alabama. She has spent most of her adult life in California serving churches throughout the central and southern California regions. She is passionate about social justice, climate justice, LGBTQIA+ inclusion, intercultural work, and interfaith collaboration. Anna's husband of 17 years is Rev. David Camphouse. After twenty years of pastoral ministry, David is looking to have a change of career, exploring opportunities in human resources jobs in Omaha. They have three children whom Anna has been homeschooling this year due to the pandemic. Sophia is twelve and in the 6th grade. Paul and John are identical twins who are eight years old. They are in the second grade. "It would be a great joy for my family to have the pleasure of rearing my children in a faith community that shares my values." She will be traveling to Omaha to start at Countryside on May 1 and her husband David and children will follow soon afterwards. We look forward to welcoming Pastor Anna to Countryside Community Church!

The Personnel Committee is also very close to having a candidate to recommend to Church Council for the Interim Minister of Worship and Congregational Care position. Things are getting very exciting for the future of Countryside!

With joy and love,  
Tracey Halvorson, Moderator  
Aubrey Fitzke, Vice Moderator  
Diane Poots, Vice Moderator Elect

Check out the welcome video from Pastor Anna at [Countrysideucc.org/future](https://countrysideucc.org/future).

# COUNTRYSIDE COMMUNITY



## CATCH THE HIDDEN BIAS PANEL DISCUSSION AS WELL AS CONCERTS, ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES AND SERMONS ON COUNTRYSIDE'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL.

The Hidden Bias Panel Discussion is now up on CountrySide's YouTube channel and you can watch it at your leisure. It was a great discussion and included panelists Dr. Cynthia Lindenmeyer from Sacred Activism, Preston Love, Jr. of 4URBAN.org and filmmaker, Nick Beaulieu. The link can be found at



[youtu.be/MewyLlaKu8w](https://youtu.be/MewyLlaKu8w). If you have not had the chance to search our YouTube channel, there is some great content on it. The summer concert series, sermons, adult education classes, guest speakers and so much more! Go to [youtube.com/user/CountrysideOmaha](https://youtube.com/user/CountrysideOmaha) and if you subscribe to our page you will be alerted when new content is added.

## HIDDEN BIAS

### PANEL DISCUSSION

CHECK OUT COUNTRYSIDE'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL TO SEE THE DISCUSSION FROM LAST MONTH - [YOUTU.BE/MEWYLLAKU8W](https://youtu.be/MewyLlaKu8w)



Dr. Cynthia Lindenmeyer



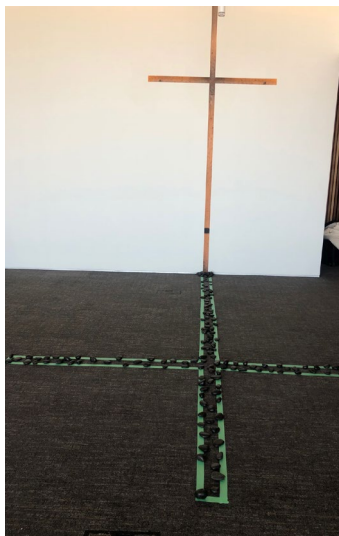
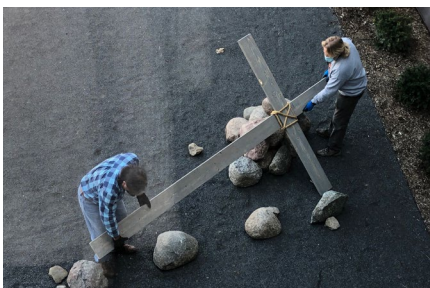
Preston Love, Jr.



Nick Beaulieu

## GETTING READY FOR #FOLLOW THE CROSS

Diane Scott led the large committee that planned the #Follow the Cross event for Holy Week. The week before the event, the church was busy with the comings and goings of committee members, their arms loaded with goodies, signs, flowers, crosses, seed packets, stones, jelly beans. So much creativity went into the event. We hope you were able to come walk through the church and enjoy it. We will have pictures of it in the May newsletter. For now, here are a few pictures from the set up. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event possible. We appreciate you!



## VACCINE SITES GROW IN NUMBER

Opportunities to get COVID-19 vaccination are increasing as the eligible age groups expand. Beginning on Thursday, April 1, the Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) will open appointment scheduling to residents 45 years of age and up, or anyone born in 1976 or before.

No later than 9 a.m. anyone who wants to set an appointment can simply go to DCHD's homepage at [www.douglas-countyhealth.com](http://www.douglas-countyhealth.com). Then look for the big blue box that reads: "Click Here." From there you simply follow the instructions to set your appointment at one of the many clinics in the county.

From the big blue box people can scroll down to a smaller box labeled "Where to Get A COVID-19 Vaccination." Click on that and you will find multiple other options.

Also opening (Thursday, April 1) is the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Clinic at the Fort Omaha Campus of Metropolitan Community College. Options for those appointments appear on the Douglas County Health website listed above.

Another way to find current appointments available through chain pharmacies for those 16+, visit: [VaccineSpotter.org/NE](https://VaccineSpotter.org/NE). From there you put in your zip code and you can choose which vaccine you prefer and which pharmacy you prefer. With this option, you need to check back frequently to find an open appointment. **Hint: Early afternoons seem to return the best results for open appointments at Hy-Vee.**

## YOUTH UPDATE

### Youth and Family Ministries

#### Online Sunday School schedule:

**April 11-** Thomas and Mary Magdalene—Because Jesus knew the hearts of his disciples, he was able to inspire them to carry on his mission in the most effective way. Understanding how deeply Jesus knew them and loved them enabled them to take his message of love out into the world.

**April 18-** Lydia- Lydia, a seller of valuable purple cloth, loved One God. When the Apostle Paul visited her she loved his stories of Jesus and asked to be baptized. And then she shared her money and her home helping to share those stories of Jesus with **many others**.

**April 25—**Dear Friends—Paul wrote letters to small groups of worshipers (Jews and non-Jews) across his world, nurturing these communities so that they could share the good news with more people.

#### Core 56

Our last official Zoom meeting for this spring is April 21!

#### Youth

As COYO continues to meet over Zoom on Sundays at 6:30 PM, we are also introducing opportunities to learn prayer practices, do a book study around *Stamped* by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi, and movie nights! As group size is limited, activities that happen outside of a virtual space will require registration. We will do our best to make sure that everyone who wants to participate has an opportunity to do so!

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## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

### INTERIM MINISTER OF WORSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The Personnel Committee is very close to having a candidate to recommend to Church Council for the Interim Minister of Worship and Congregational Care position. This will be the final person to fill out the Executive Leadership Team and will be joining Dan Loven-Crum, Interim Director of Vision and Stewardship and the newly hired Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse, Interim Minister of Engagement and Formation. This last person will be responsible for: 1) leading the congregation in meaningful, inspiring worship; 2) leading staff and lay members to provide thoughtful and supportive congregational care; 3) co-leading the congregation in the interim discernment process as we determine the future direction of our church and the gifts and skills we will need in a settled minister to significantly contribute to achieving that future.

To keep up to date on all the changes happening at Countryside you can go to [countrysideucc.org/future](http://countrysideucc.org/future).

